

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR FEDERAL PROPERTIES

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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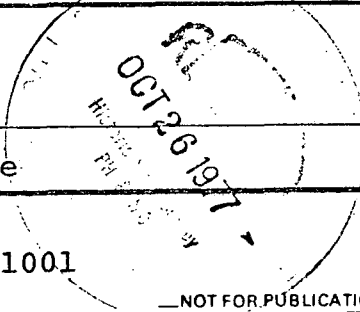
DATE ENTERED

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC PETERS HOUSE

AND/OR COMMON Corner House Antique Store



2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER corner, U.S. 209 and LR 51001

CITY, TOWN

Bushkill

VICINITY OF

10th Pennsylvania

STATE

Pennsylvania

COUNTY

Pike

CODE

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 AGENCY

REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS: (If applicable) U. S. Army Corps of Engineers

STREET & NUMBER U. S. Custom House, 2nd & Chestnut Streets

CITY, TOWN

Philadelphia

VICINITY OF

STATE
Pennsylvania

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Pike County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Milford

STATE
Pennsylvania

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE Historical Architectural Survey of Delaware Water Gap NRA

DATE

1975

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area Headquarters

CITY, TOWN

Bushkill

STATE
Pennsylvania

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Historic Structures Report, Part I: Architectural Data
Section on Historic Buildings in the Delaware Water Gap
National Recreation Area. 1967, Federal, Delaware Water
Gap National Recreation Area Headquarters, Bushkill,
Pennsylvania.

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

EXCELLENT
 GOOD
 FAIR

DETERIORATED
 RUINS
 UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED
 ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE
 MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Peters House is a two story frame house built in two sections, during widely separated historical periods. The earlier section dates from ca. 1746; the addition, with an attached 3-story garage, was built in 1943. The structure is on a fieldstone foundation, and has wood siding. There are two brick chimneys, probably original. The windows are 9/6 and 6/6, original, with no parting bead. There is a main entrance door in the front facade, and an adjacent bay display window, flanked by a twentieth century, one story open porch, with tapered boxed posts. In one end is a later entrance door with four vertical panels, and moulded joinery. The roof is covered with seam metal.

The 1943 wing was built on the foundation of an old commercially operated ice house. It is 2 story, frame, with slate roof, and has details intended to be compatible with the original wing. Despite this fact, it fails to achieve an essential unity, and must be considered an intrusion on the integrity of the whole structure.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Peters House (1746 wing) is the oldest house still standing in the village of Bushkill, Pennsylvania. The house is significant for its association with the activities of the Peters family, who were important contributors to the development of Bushkill as a service center for the farms along the Delaware River between the early 19th century and the mid 20th.

Henry Peters (1787-1857) came to Bushkill shortly after 1819, following his marriage to Sarah Gonzales, grand-daughter of Mathew Gonzales, one of the first settlers on the Pennsylvania side of the river in this area. He lived originally in a log cabin diagonally across the road from the present Peters House, which was then owned by an unknown resident of the village. He operated the first tavern in the vicinity, serving townspeople as well as travellers along the River Road. Peters prospered, and was soon involved in a number of other local enterprises. He opened a general store across the road from his tavern, several hundred feet south of the present Peters House. Peters ran the store in partnership with William Nyce of nearby Egypt Mills, and Solomon Westbrook of Dingmans Ferry. He also came into possession of the gristmill which had stood at the intersection of the Big and Little Bushkill Creeks since about 1790.

Henry Peters' entrepreneurial activities paved the way for his descendants to play an important, and in some ways almost predominant role in the continued growth of Bushkill. As the 19th century progressed, the agricultural economy of the Upper Delaware Valley passed from the subsistence level and achieved its fullest development by mid-to-late century. After this time it lagged, due in large part to the inability of many small farmers to take full advantage of the advances of mechanized agricultural processes. The area which Bushkill serviced was in a relatively greater position to resist this

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decline, because of the fertility of its soil, and because the broad river flats were more adaptable to the technological advances of the period than the smaller fields elsewhere in the valley.

Propelled by these advantages, Bushkill continued to grow while some other regional centers began to decline in the late 19th century. Strategically located on the River Road, it provided some non-agricultural services to travellers, and was well suited to convert part of its energies to the vacation and tourist industry, which began to rival the farming economy as the area's major industry after the turn of the century. As it entered its third generation in Bushkill, the Peters family shared in this general prosperity, and involved itself heavily in the transition of the village's economic base. Charles R. Peters (1822-1867), who was born shortly after his father's arrival in Bushkill, was able to tear down the original cabin and tavern in 1860 and construct a larger frame building with ten guest rooms, which he called the Bushkill Hotel. The place was a favorite stopping place and watering hole for local residents and travellers alike. Charles' sons, Harry and Edwin, enlarged the establishment towards the turn of the century, enabling it to accommodate up to seventy-five guests. The house was a featured item in the annual guides of the Delaware Valley Railroad, which for a brief period after 1900 carried passengers, mostly vacationers from Stroudsburg, and exported the area's agricultural produce. This hotel was demolished in 1972.

The Peters House is perhaps the best preserved example of a mid-18th century frame house on the Pennsylvania side of the river in this area. Despite its initially shabby appearing exterior--which results mostly from the awkward appearance of the modern addition, and the need for a coat of paint--the house preserves an abundance of original detailing, all well conceived and executed. Its tangential association with the history of the Peters family, as the relatively late acquisition of an upwardly mobile, commercially successful family, makes it an architectural document. As such, it

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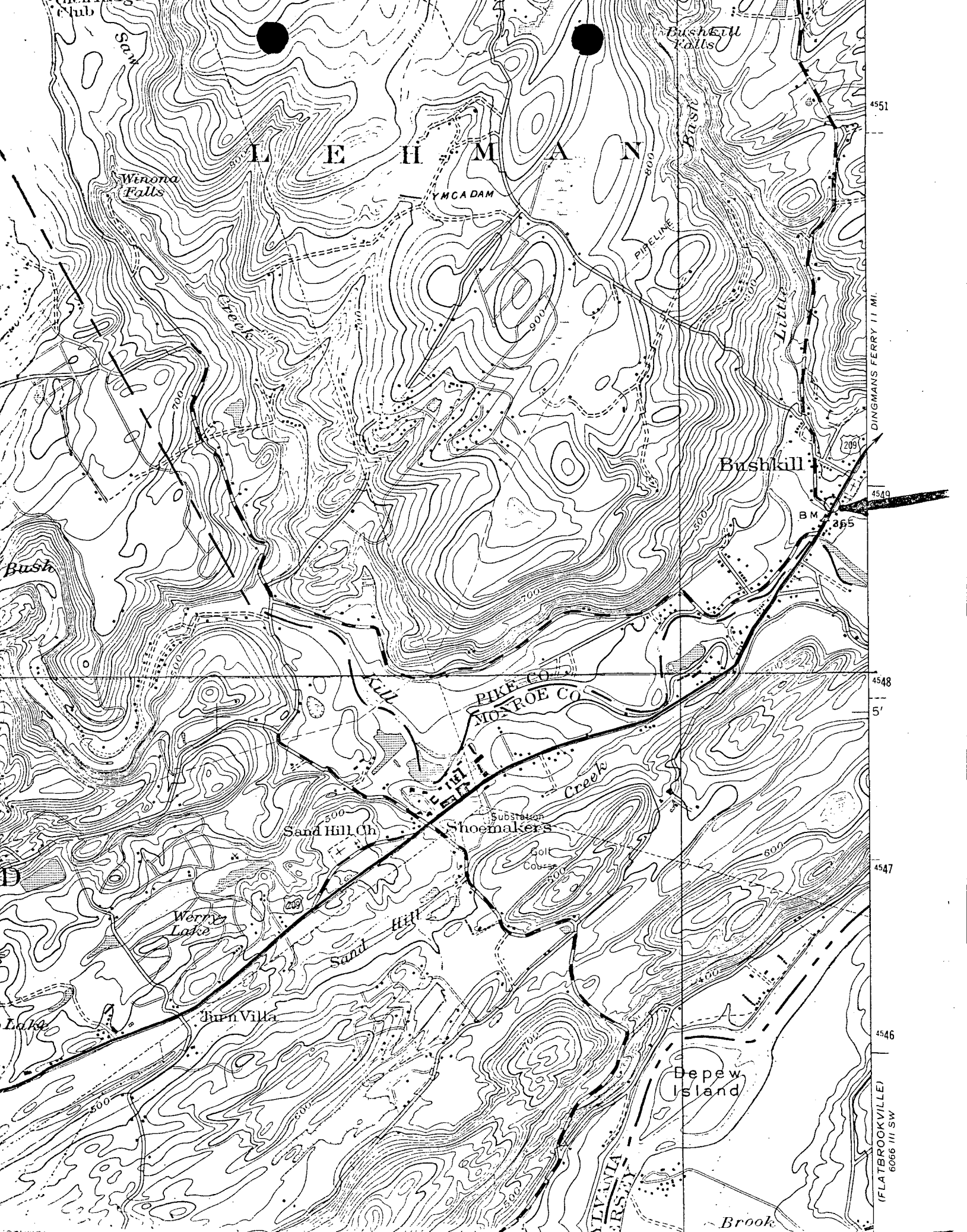
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helps to preserve and reveal an important fragment of the
social history of a now all-but-forgotten settlement.



LEHIGH

Winona Falls

Bushkill Falls

YMCA DAM

PIPELINE

Little Lehigh

Bushkill

DINGMANS FERRY 11 MI.

4549

4548

4547

4546

(FLATBROOKVILLE) 6066 III SW

PIKE CO.
MONROE CO.

Sand Hill Ch.

Shoemakers

Golf Course

Werry Lake

Sand Hill

Turn Villa

Depew Island

Brook

PENNSYLVANIA

BERKSHIRE