

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Pennsylvania
COUNTY: Berks
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE

1. NAME

COMMON:
Henry Fisher House

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
1 1/2 miles north of the junction of Rt. 562 and Rt. 662, on Rt. 662

CITY OR TOWN:
R.D. Oley

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:
Sixth

STATE: Pennsylvania CODE: 42 COUNTY: Berks CODE: 011

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Frank Fisher

STREET AND NUMBER:
R.D.

CITY OR TOWN:
Oley

STATE: Pennsylvania CODE: 42

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Berks County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:
6th and Court Streets

CITY OR TOWN:
Reading

STATE: Pennsylvania CODE: 42

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Catalog of Historical Buildings, Sites and Remains in Pennsylvania

DATE OF SURVEY: 1949 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
William Penn Memorial Museum

STREET AND NUMBER:
Box 1026

CITY OR TOWN:
Harrisburg

STATE: Pennsylvania CODE: 42

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Pennsylvania

COUNTY: Berks

ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Fisher house is five bays across by two bays deep. It is constructed of limestone, 2½ stories high with a steep pitched gable roof, once covered with cedar shingles, and brick chimneys on each gable end. Two gable type dormers with returns encase semi-circular dormer windows. The dormers are set between the first and second bays in from each gable end.

This house illustrates the late Georgian textbook style edifice of the turn of the century (18th). It became somewhat modified as it moved inland. The house was constructed for Henry and Susanna Fisher by Gottlieb Drexel (carpenter) and finished in 1801. It cost \$6,000 to construct.

The five bay front uses dressed ashlar masonry with the remaining walls being done in rough stone. Panel shutters are used on the ground floor windows with louvered shutters for the second story windows. All of the window arches are wooden flat arched heads with a keystone. All of the sash in the windows is twelve over twelve double hung, with the exception of the dormers and the attic windows. The window placement for the facade is two on each side of the door, on the ground floor and five across on the second level. Two windows are on each of three levels of the gable ends. Four partially exposed basement windows appear on the front.

Above the second story level is a pent eave embellished with decorative tapered brackets. An applied circular medallion with four keystones is attached to the stone wall just below the gable peak. The front doorway consists of a recessed panel doorway and six panel door with fanlight. The doorway frame is composed of two pilasters supporting a gable head with returns.

An interior feature worthy of note is the Georgian center hall with its carved stairway. Fireplaces with marble mantels are found on both floors of the house. Wainscoating and chair rail, the use of interior pediments over mantels and windows and doors, and plastered walls and ceilings all indicate the richness of the interior.

To the rear of the house is a two story addition with an almost flat roof. This portion of the house was used as a kitchen and for additional living space. On the ground are some outbuildings as well as a stone wall and garden.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

B. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1801

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Henry and Susanna Fisher house is a fine example of the late Georgian style with some Federal features. It took three years and \$6,000 to build this house. Since the time of its completion, it has been continuously occupied by successive generations of the Fisher family.

Architecturally, the house represents the strict symmetrical design of the Georgian style. Its proportion and composition of the woodwork indicates its being copied from one of the standard books on building. Also the great similarity between the exterior and interior woodwork leads one to believe that, despite its location, the woodwork could have been brought from a metropolitan area and installed. This appears to have been the case more often than believed. The additional gogue work on the wood is indicative of the Germanic style of Southeastern Pennsylvania.

The treatment given to the interior woodwork and the plastered walls, place the house a step above the usual country Georgian structure. It shows the adaptation of the stone Georgian house as a practical and substantial dwelling.

In short, it is a well preserved and little modified vestige of the type of house that signified elegance in southeastern Pennsylvania during the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Croll, P.C. Annals of the Oley Valley (Reading, Pa.: Reading Eagle Press, 1926) pages 33-40

Kennedy, Dean "Century Old Farm Houses in Oley Valley, Berks County, Pennsylvania," Pencil Points, Vol. XIII (August, 1932) pages 540-554

Raymond, Eleanor Early Domestic Architecture in Pennsylvania. (New York: William Helburn, 1931).

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES					
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	LATITUDE			LONGITUDE		
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	0 . "	0 . "	40°	20'	28"	75°	45'	40"
NE	0 . "	0 . "						
SE	0 . "	0 . "						
SW	0 . "	0 . "						

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: one

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Charles Dunlevey

ORGANIZATION: Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission DATE: Jan., 1973

STREET AND NUMBER: Box 1026

CITY OR TOWN: Harrisburg STATE: Pennsylvania CODE: 42

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION **NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name William J. Wewer
 Title Executive Director
 Date 4/19/77

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

 Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date _____

ATTEST:

 Keeper of The National Register

Date _____

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

47°30' 133

9.2 MI. TO U.S. 222
PRICETOWN 4.5 MI

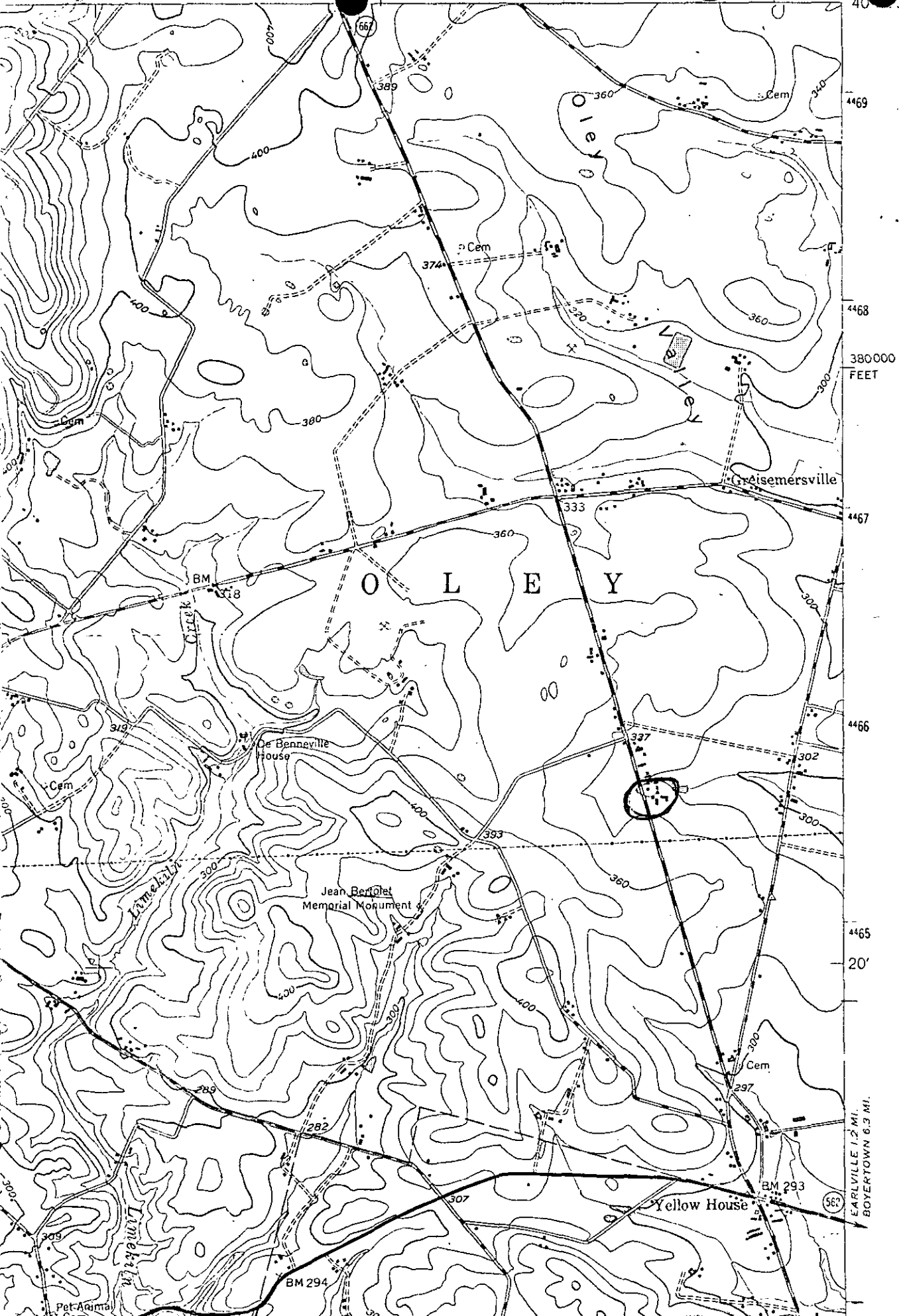
4 2550000 FEET

435

436

75°45' 40

30"



380000
FEET

4467

4466

4465

20'

EARLVILLE 1.2 MI.
BOYERTOWN 6.3 MI.

567

BM 294

BM 293

BM 318

389

374

333

337

393

289

282

307

297

340

4469

4468

4467

4466

4465

4465

4465

4465

4465

Creek

Yonkers

Linnet

Oleto

LEY

O L E Y

De Benneville
House

Jean Beriolet
Memorial Monument

Yellow House

Cem

Cem

Cem

Cem

Pet Animal