

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	Pennsylvania
COUNTY:	Berks
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY DATE	JAN 21 1974

1. NAME

COMMON:  
Mouns Jones House

AND/OR HISTORIC:  
The Old Swede's House

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Old Philadelphia Pike

CITY OR TOWN:  
Douglassville

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:  
Six

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"/> Both	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Comments <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify): <u>Vacant during restoration</u>

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:  
The Historic Preservation Trust of Berks County

STREET AND NUMBER:  
P.O. Box 1681

CITY OR TOWN:  
Reading

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:  
Historic American Buildings Survey

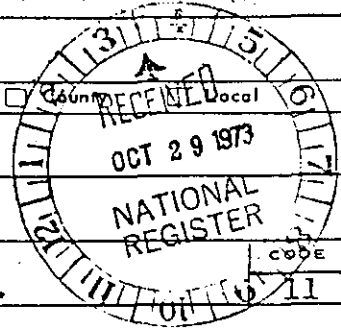
DATE OF SURVEY: 1961  Federal  State  County  Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:  
National Park Service

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Washington

CITY OR TOWN:  
Washington

STATE: D.C. CODE: 11



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Pennsylvania

COUNTY: Berks

ENTRY NUMBER: 13111510

DATE: JAN 21 1974

FOR NPS USE ONLY

## 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input checked="" 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

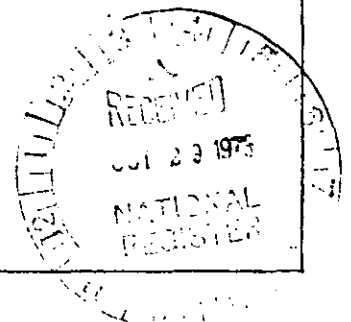
The Mouns Jones House is a small, two and a half story, stone house built in 1716 by one of the early settlers of the area. The three bay house is 24 feet by 30 feet, and is constructed of coursed, squared stone. About one half of the original mud and lime pargeting still covers the walls. A one foot high water table runs around the foundation of the building. The structure has two chimneys. A brick chimney, in the center of the west gable end, serves the large, nine foot kitchen fireplace. The other chimney is of squared stone construction and is located in the northeast corner of the building.

The main elevation is located in the west bay in the south elevation, facing the Schuylkill River. The windows are of various sizes and shapes. A small square window occupies the center bay on the first floor, while a twelve pane, rectangular window occupies the third bay. Two, twelve pane, rectangular windows are located in the second floor. The middle bay is occupied by a carved datestone. The rear elevation has a central door flanked by two windows. The three second story windows are small, four pane, casement windows. Small, six pane windows are the only openings in the gable ends. A roofed-over bake oven is attached to the west gable end. The gable roof is covered with wood shingles.

Much of the original interiors have been destroyed byt the periodic flooding of the Schuylkill. The roof collapsed during a fire in the 1950's and destroyed most of the second floor rooms. Nevertheless, the corner fireplace, the kitchen fireplace, a winding staircase, and some of the paneling and floors are still intact. Originally the floor plan consisted of two large rooms on the first floor and four small rooms on the second. The house has no basement.

The Mouns Jones House has never had modern utilities. Except for the removal of interior partition on the first floor, and the ravages of flood and fire, the house has seen little alterations. It has recently been restored by the Historic Preservation Trust of Berks County.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



6. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1716

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

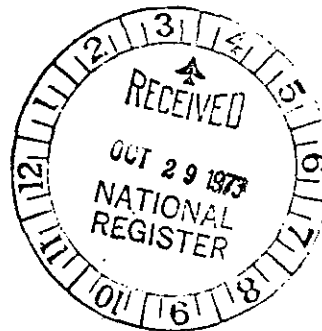
- |  |   |  |   |
|--|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal              | <input type="checkbox"/> Education              | <input type="checkbox"/> Political           | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric             | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering            | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Historic     | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry               | <input type="checkbox"/> Science             | <u>Exploration &amp; Settlement</u>                 |
| <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 Mouns Jones House, built in 1716, is the oldest surviving house in Berks County. The house was built by Mouns Jones, who, in 1701, along with fourteen other Swedes, took up 10,000 acres in what now is Amity Township. The first structure built on the site was a small log cabin, the foundations of which still remain. Mouns Jones had excellent rapport with the local Indians. He often served as an agent for them in their dealings with the provincial government.

The house is one of the few remaining examples of a Swedish settler's house. It has an excellent corner fireplace, small casement windows, and an unusual datestone. There is evidence that some of the windows were side-sliding sash. The house was later used as a ferry house, and for a time was known as the Lamb's Inn.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFEREN 5

History of Berks County, Montgomery 1909.  
 "The Schuylkill River," The Pennsylvania German, 1906.

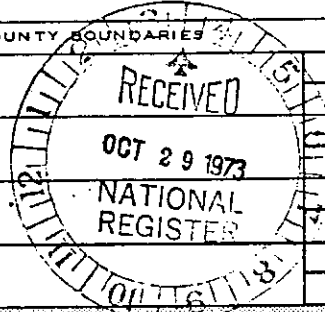
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	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	° ' "	° ' "		40° 15' 12"	75° 43' 41"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 1.20

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: William K. Watson, Historian

ORGANIZATION: Pa. Historical & Museum Commission DATE: April, 1973

STREET AND NUMBER: Box 1026

CITY OR TOWN: Harrisburg STATE: Pennsylvania CODE: 42

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

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  
 Pa. Historical & Museum Comm.  
 Date: 10/24/73

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

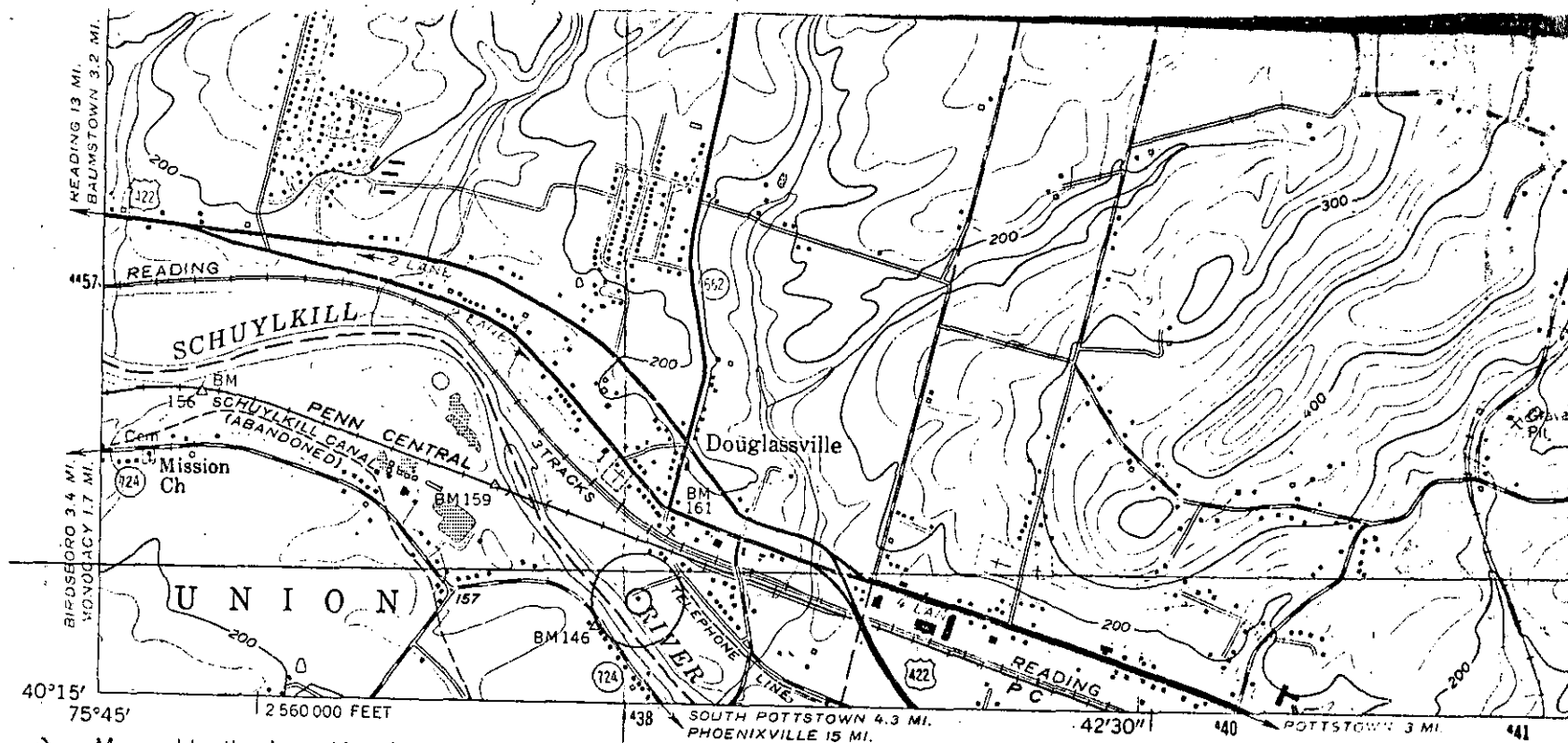
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

A. R. Montrose  
 Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 1/21/74

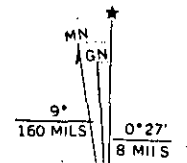
ATTEST:  
Kenneth M. Greenberg  
 Keeper of The National Register  
 Date: 1/18/74

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

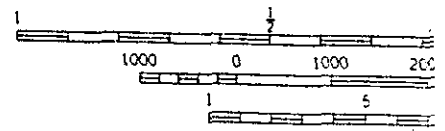


(ELVERSON)  
5506 III NE

Mapped by the Army Map Service  
 Edited and published by the Geological Survey  
 Control by USGS, USC&GS, and USCE  
 Topography from aerial photographs by photogrammetric methods. Field check 1943  
 Culture revised by the Geological Survey 1957  
 Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum  
 10,000-foot grid based on Pennsylvania coordinate system, south zone  
 1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 18. shown in blue  
 Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown



UTM GRID AND 1968 MAGNETIC NORTH DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET



Revisions shown in purple compiled in cooperation with State of Pennsylvania agencies, from aerial photographs taken 1968. This information not field checked  
 Purple tint indicates extension of urban areas

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