

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	
DATE ENTERED	

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

1 NAME

HISTORIC **White Horse Tavern**

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

509 Old Philadelphia Pike

CITY, TOWN

Douglassville

___ VICINITY OF
CODE

___ NOT FOR PUBLICATION
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

6th

STATE

Pennsylvania

42

COUNTY

Berks

CODE

011

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
___DISTRICT	___PUBLIC	___OCCUPIED	___AGRICULTURE	___MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	___COMMERCIAL	___PARK
___STRUCTURE	___BOTH	___WORK IN PROGRESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL	___PRIVATE RESIDENCE
___SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	___ENTERTAINMENT	___RELIGIOUS
___OBJECT	___IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	___GOVERNMENT	___SCIENTIFIC
	___BEING CONSIDERED	___YES: UNRESTRICTED	___INDUSTRIAL	___TRANSPORTATION
		___NO	___MILITARY	___OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME **The Historic Preservation Trust of Berks County, Pennsylvania**

STREET & NUMBER **P.O. Box 1681**

CITY, TOWN

Reading

___ VICINITY OF

STATE

Pennsylvania

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

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

STREET & NUMBER

North Sixth Street

CITY, TOWN

Reading

STATE

Pennsylvania

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE **None**

DATE

___ FEDERAL ___ STATE ___ COUNTY ___ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		DATE <u>1975</u>

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The White Horse Tavern is a 2½ story red sandstone structure in the Georgian style, originally constructed in 1765. The building is symmetrical in shape, 5 bays in width and features cut stone blocks laid in regular courses on the front facade with a gable roof.

On the first floor level, windows flank either side of the main entrance. A transom with 5 lights rests above a double-leaf three-paneled door. The lintel is articulated by a keystone with skew stone blocks. The windows at both the first and second level on the front are 12-over-12 double hung sash. First floor window lintels also feature skew stone blocks with keystone while this feature is absent at the second level.

In 1780, a 2½ story, three-bay addition was built on the west end of the original structure. It also featured cut sandstone blocks in regular courses but lacks the more perfect symmetry of the earlier structure. The addition also lacks the articulation of the lintels over the first floor openings. The addition is a somewhat smaller structure as well and does not extend towards the rear as far as the original building. The window to the rear is 9-over-9 double hung sash.

The side and rear facades of both the 1765 and the 1780 addition feature rubble laid in more random courses. The side windows of the original structure are 9-over-9 double hung sash with the exception of the 2-over-2 window in the east gable. The four windows in the rear are 2-over-2.

In 1870, the tavern was turned into a three-family residence and major alterations took place. Five fireplaces were removed down to foundations in the cellar, small chimneys were put in, and the wooden shingle roof was replaced by a tin roof. Perhaps at this time the horizontal portion of the pedimented cornice in the east gable was removed. It also appears that a pedimented portico above the main entrance may have been removed at this time.

Since acquisition of the property by the Historic Preservation Trust of Berks County in 1971, restoration efforts have been undertaken. To date, many of the window sash have been replaced, original entrances have been restored, and the main facade has been repointed. In addition, interior 19th century partitions and false walls have been removed. It is the intent of the Trust to restore the structure to its 18th century appearance.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

1975-1980 (1980) 1981-1990 (1990) 1991-2000 (2000) 2001-2010 (2010) 2011-2020 (2020)

PERIOD

- PREHISTORIC
- 1400-1499
- 1500-1599
- 1600-1699
- 1700-1799
- 1800-1899
- 1900-

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

- | | | | |
|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING | <input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC | <input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION | <input type="checkbox"/> LAW | <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS | <input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE | <input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION | <input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY | <input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ART | <input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING | <input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC | <input type="checkbox"/> THEATER |
| <input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE | <input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT | <input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY | <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION |
| <input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS | <input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY | <input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT | <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION | | |

SPECIFIC DATES

1765, 1780

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The White Horse Tavern is located in the village of old Morlatton (presently Douglassville), the first permanent settlement within the bounds of what is now Berks County. The Tavern is one of a number of historic buildings extant in the old village, among them the Bridge House and the Mouns Jones House, both located nearby.

Located on the banks of the Schuylkill River, the Tavern was a center of many activities in the area. It was a mustering and training site for Revolutionary War soldiers, and the scene of numerous other meetings and activities.

In terms of architecture, the Tavern is a fine example of 18th century masonry. The coursed cut sandstone of the main facade contrasts sharply with the more random rubble of the sides and rear. The 1780 addition contrasts nicely with the 1765 structure as well. The original 1765 structure remains a fine example of the Georgian style in a rural setting.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Montgomery, Morton L., History of Berks County Pennsylvania, Phila:
 Everts, Peck, and Richards, 1886.
 Montgomery, Morton L., History of Berks County Pennsylvania, Chicago:
 J.H. Beers & Co., 1909.
 Nolan, J. Bennet, "The Schuylkill," Early Narratives of Berks County, Reading:
 J. Bennet Nolan, 1951.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY one

UTM REFERENCES

A 18 43,831,0 445,519,40
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING
 C

B
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING
 D

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE CODE COUNTY CODE

STATE CODE COUNTY CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Mrs. John A. Beard, Executive Director; D.M. Berman, Curator

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Historic Preservation Trust of Berks County; PHMC Feb, March 1975

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

P.O. Box 1681; Box 1026

717-697-9769

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Reading; Harrisburg

Pennsylvania

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

William J. Wewer

3/31/75

TITLE

William J. Wewer
Executive Director

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

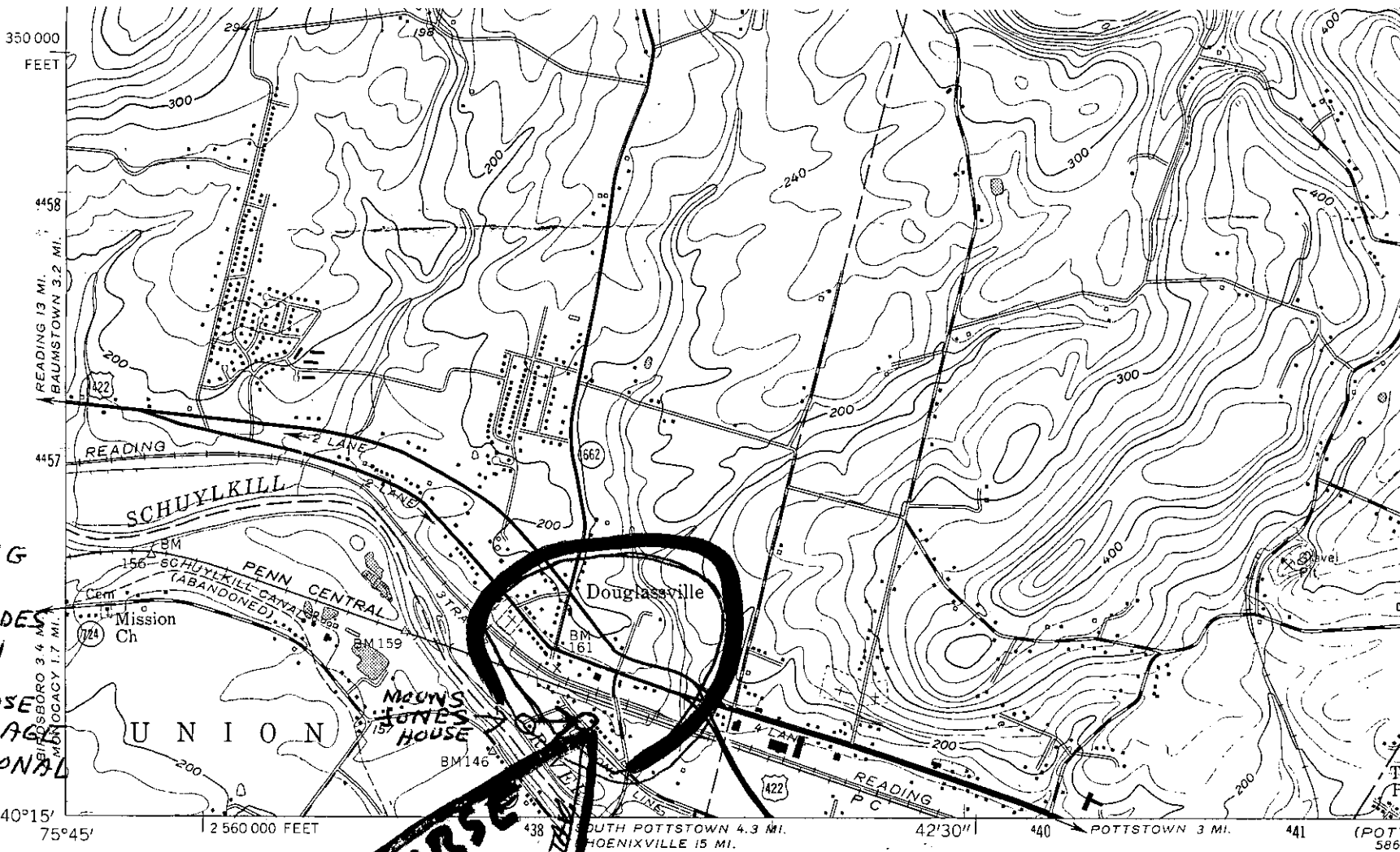
DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER



LARGE RED RING
SHOWS HISTORIC
M LATTON - SWEDES
SETTLED HERE 1701
MOUNDS JONES HOUSE
WITHIN THIS VILLAGE
ALREADY ON NATIONAL
REGISTER

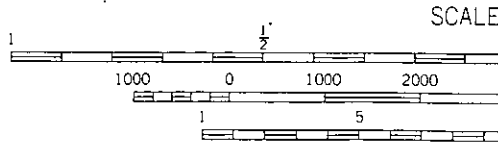
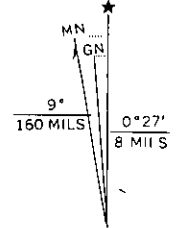
(ELVEYSON)
5864 III NE

WHITE HORSE TAVERN

Mapped by the Army Map Service
 Edited and published by the Geological Survey
 Control by USGS, USC&G, and USCE
 Topography from aerial photographs and photogrammetric
 methods. First edition 1943
 Culture revised by the Geological Survey 1957
 Polyconic projection. 1928 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

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



CONTOUR IN
 DATUM IS M

FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL
 A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MA