

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE Pennsylvania	
COUNTY: Northampton	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

1. NAME

COMMON:
Sun Inn, The Moravian Sun Inn, The Old Moravian Sun Inn

AND/OR HISTORIC:
Sun Inn

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
564 Main Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Bethlehem

STATE Pennsylvania	CODE 42	COUNTY: Northampton	CODE 095
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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"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Being Considered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input checked="" 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 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>Lower or basement level occupied on Main Street by stores; rest of building unoccupied.</u>
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4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
First Valley Bank (Held in Trust)

STREET AND NUMBER:
535 Main Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Bethlehem

STATE:
Pennsylvania

CODE:
42

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:
Northampton County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:
Seventh and Walnut Streets

CITY OR TOWN:
Easton

STATE:
Pennsylvania

CODE:
42

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
HABS Survey -- #1150, August 1970; Historic Center Design Proposals (Christopher Tunnard and Geoffrey Baker), 1968.

DATE OF SURVEY:
See above

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Historic Bethlehem Incorporated and HABS Archives, Washington, D. C.

STREET AND NUMBER:
Main and Church Streets

CITY OR TOWN:
Bethlehem

STATE:
Pennsylvania

CODE:
42

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

<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

ORIGINAL APPEARANCE:

The original Sun Inn (1758) was a two-story stone structure, measuring 66' x 40' with a mansard roof. A major alteration occurred in 1816, when the mansard roof was removed, a third story added, and the entire structure was rough cast.

PRESENT APPEARANCE:

The original cellar has been opened from the west end to accommodate stores on Main Street; the original first floor has been raised to give stores higher ceilings; the original second story floor was correspondingly raised. From this point upward, changes have almost obliterated original construction; only scars remain where major walls once stood.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian 16th Century 18th Century 20th Century
 15th Century 17th Century 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1758 to present

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Political | <input checked="" 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 checked="" 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

ARCHITECTURE:

The handsome appearance and size of the limestone inn caused favorable comment by 18th century guests (see bibliography). The inn was built of the typical Germanic architecture which distinguished the town from its earliest days -- i.e. limestone construction, herringbone doors, shed-roofed dormers, interior chimneys. "Of specific interest is the gable roof with its graceful cant or change of slope at the eave line, as well as the jerkin at either end of the gable." (Murtagh)

COMMERCE:

The Inn represents a successful 18th century hotel, offering fine food and accommodations, as evidenced by comments of satisfied guests (see bibliography). Copies of some period menus are in the files of Historic Bethlehem Incorporated; the organization also has many original guest registers. The erection of the Sun Inn reflects the shrewd thinking of Moravian leaders, who reserved the best accommodations for merchants who had business with the Economy.

POLITICAL:

In 1799, John Fries and followers rescued, from the Sun Inn, 17 opponents of the house tax who had been arrested and held there for having "actively engaged [sic] in preventing assessors from counting window-panes in peoples houses." (Levering)

Because of Bethlehem's location in relation to Philadelphia, and the fact that the Single Brethren's House served as a military hospital, the Inn housed such famous people as: Governor Hamilton, June, 1762; Sir William Johnson, Baronet, June 29, 1762; Governor John Penn and Brother Richard, July, 1765; General Gage, September, 1772; Governor Richard Penn, May, 1773; Governor John Penn, 1774 and 1776; General Gates, December 17, 1777; General Sullivan, December 18, 1777; John Adams and Lyman Hall (Georgia signer of the Declaration of Independence), January 25, 1778; General Armstrong, March 11, 1777; General Schyler, May, 1777; William Ellery, Rhode Island Delegate to the Continental Congress, June, 1777; William Whipple, New Hampshire Delegate to the Continental Congress, June, 1777; General Mifflin, July 25, 1777; Generals Greene and Knox, August 23, 1777; General LaFayette, September 20, 1777; John Hancock, Samuel Adams,

(See Continuation Sheet)

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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(Continuation Sheet)

(Number all entries)

8. Statement of Significance (Cont'd)

James Duane, Nathan Brownson, Nathaniel Folsom, Richard Law, Elyphalet Dyer, Henry Marchant, Henry Laurens, Harnett, Benjamin Harrison, Joseph Jones, John Adams, and William Williams (all delegates to the Continental Congress), stayed and signed the registry of the Sun Inn on September 22, 1777; General Greene, 1778; General Gates and family, 1778; Ethan Allen, 1778; Baron Steuben, 1778; Pulaski, 1778; General Conway, 1778; Generals Lewis and McIntosh, 1778; Governor Morris, 1778; Monsieur Gerard, Minister Plenipotentiary of France, and Don Juan de Mirelles, Spanish Gentleman of Havana, November 25, 1778; General George Washington, July, 1782; The Marquis de Chastellux, December, 1782; Commodore Barry, of the Ship United States, June 7, 1803.

TOWN PLANNING:

The Moravian community attracted many visitors from its earliest years. The Sun Inn represents the town's second inn, built to accommodate the many strangers who came into the community; thus, ensuring that a proper separation between the outsiders and the Brethren was maintained. It was also hoped that the Inn's comfort and cuisine would attract merchants when the town's commercial activities increased in the late 1750's and 1760's.

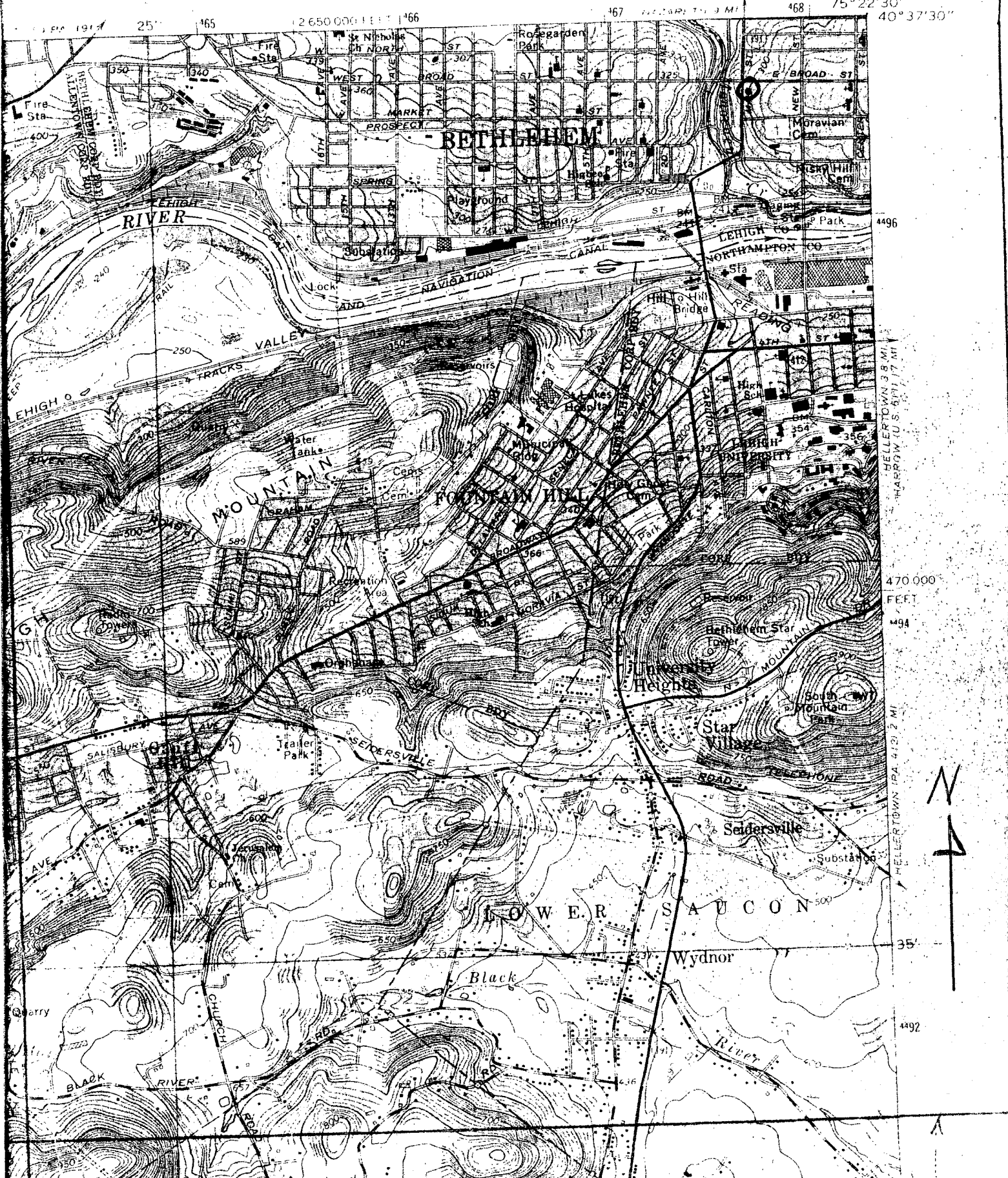
32

ALLENTOWN EAST QUADRANGLE PENNSYLVANIA

7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

SW/4 ALLENTOWN 15' QUADRANGLE

566 1/2 NE
(NAZARETH)



HELLERTOWN 3.8 MI
HELLERTOWN 10 S. 6717.7 MI
HELLERTOWN PA. 4.3 1/2 MI

470 000
FEET
494

4492