

FOR NPS USE ONLY

19

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

YORK DISPATCH NEWSPAPER OFFICES

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

15 & 17 East Philadelphia Street

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

CITY, TOWN

York

VICINITY OF

19

STATE

Pennsylvania

CODE

42

COUNTY

York

CODE

133

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

DISTRICT

BUILDING(S)

STRUCTURE

SITE

OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

PUBLIC

PRIVATE

BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

IN PROCESS

BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

OCCUPIED

UNOCCUPIED

WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

YES: RESTRICTED

YES: UNRESTRICTED

NO

PRESENT USE

AGRICULTURE

COMMERCIAL

EDUCATIONAL

ENTERTAINMENT

GOVERNMENT

INDUSTRIAL

MILITARY

MUSEUM

PARK

PRIVATE RESIDENCE

RELIGIOUS

SCIENTIFIC

TRANSPORTATION

OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Dispatch Publishing Company

STREET & NUMBER

15 & 17 East Philadelphia Street

CITY, TOWN

York

VICINITY OF

STATE

Pennsylvania

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

York County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

Market Street

CITY, TOWN

York

STATE

Pennsylvania

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Historic American Buildings Survey Inventory

DATE

Sept., 1971

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Library of Congress

CITY, TOWN

Washington D.C.

STATE

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

York Dispatch Newspaper Office is a four bay, four story Italianate Revival structure located on East Philadelphia Street, York. The flat roof and symmetrical, highly designed wall surface characterize this style in the late 1800's. The front facade is constructed of cast iron & pressed metal, facilitating extensive ornamentation and fenestration enlargement. The building is in excellent condition considering the low resistance cast iron has to rusting. On the upper three floors, decorative pilasters trim the long slender windows and edge the building. The pilasters support an architrave edged with brackets and topped with a continuous window sill. In place of the top floor architrave is a frieze ornamented with dentils. A row of medallions and brackets are located on the sloping soffit of the cornice. A central capping and two side urns are mounted on the cornice. The ground floor with doorways of cast iron supports, is five bays wide with doorways in the first, fourth, and fifth bay. The doors are plain trimmed with overhead rectangular transoms. Two large windows are in the second and third bay.

The body of the building consists of two independent sections connected by a recently added overhead walkway. The brick walls are of the common bond method. The front and back sections are 12 and 14 bays long, respectively. The middle walkway is 2 bays long. The segmental windows, on all four floors are two over two double sash with a radiating brick arch. The basement windows are also two over two with wooden lintel heads and slip sill. Two rows of tie rods are located on the first and second floor.

SIGNIFICANCE

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

PERIOD

- | | | | | |
|---|--|---|---|--|
| <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 type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE | <input 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 Oct. 1887

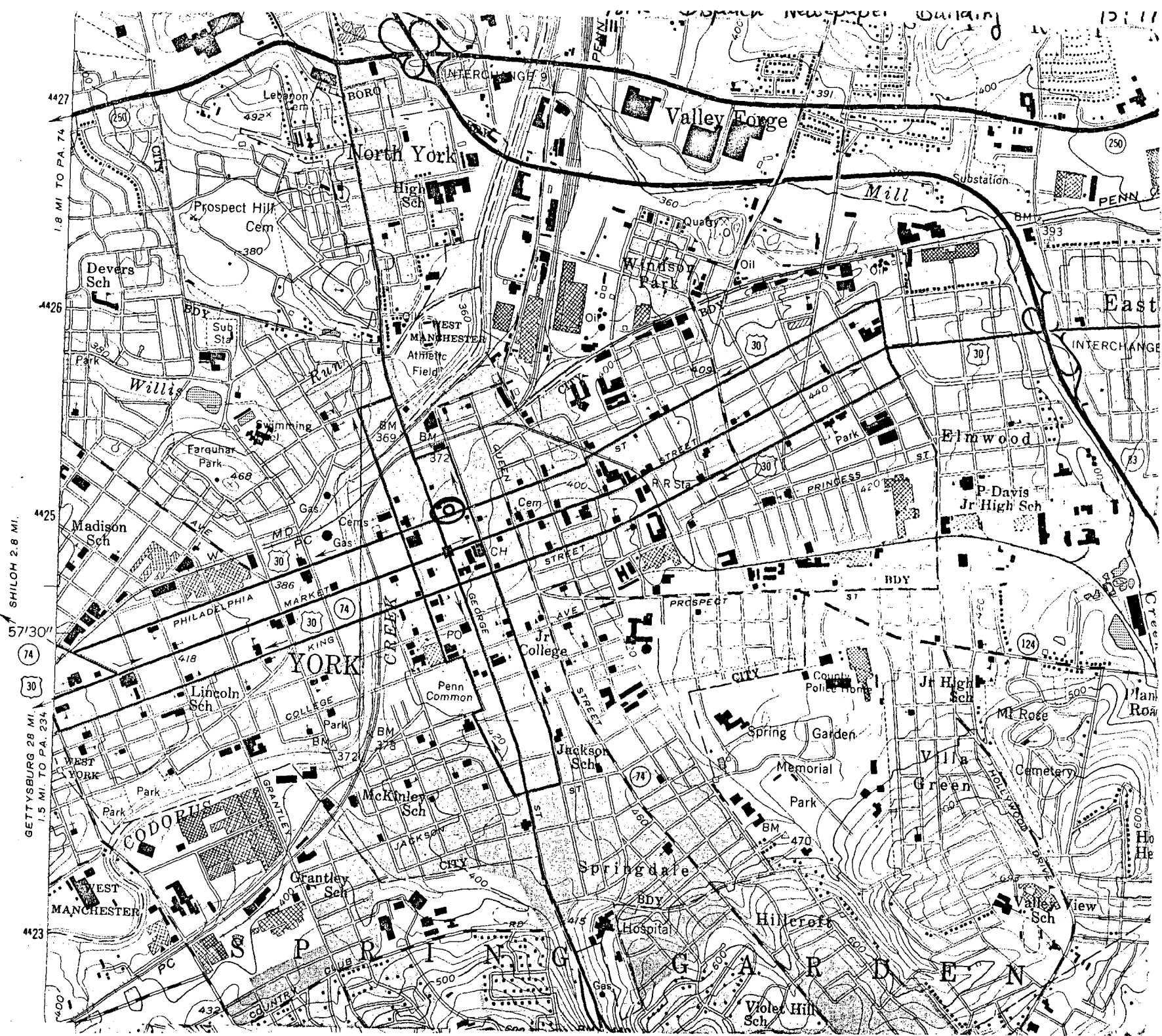
BUILDER/ARCHITECT George L. Mesker

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Dispatch Building was erected in 1887 by George L. Mesker Company of Evensville, Indiana. The Mesker Brothers were well known for their work in cast iron buildings for commercial purpose. Cast iron provided builders with the ability to erect quickly and inexpensively highly ornated & detailed buildings that few merchants could have afforded in carved stone. The greatest concentration of these buildings were in New York, Boston, Philadelphia, San Francisco and Seattle. Not only is York an odd location for cast iron architecture, but the excellent condition of the building is certainly commendable. If not painted & properly main tained, the pressed metal falls prey to rust and has contributed to early demolitions. In fact, the interest in preserving cast iron buildings has initiated an organization called "The Friends of Cast Iron Architecture" headquartered in New York City. Their research and interest have reconized the Dispatch Building as a prim example of cast iron architecture in America.

The York Dispatch Newspaper was founded in 1976 by Hiram Young. For several years, the Dispatch was in constant competition with the other York papers. The Dispatch's increasing success was stimulated with the purchase of the York Daily and the incorporation into the Dispatch Publishing Company. Not until 1904 did the Dispatch occupy the exiting cast iron building, previously owned by a shirt manufacturer, the Dispatch had achieved the status as a major influential newspaper in the state continuing to this day.

check typeographical errors



1511 E. VANCE ST.
 York, Pa.
 Zone 18
 E 352 420
 N 4425 020

1.8 MI TO PA. 74
 SHILOH 2.8 MI.
 GETTYSBURG 28 MI.
 1.5 MI. TO PA. 234