

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:
Pennsylvania

COUNTY:
Fayette

FOR NPS USE ONLY

ENTRY DATE

1. NAME

COMMON:
Bowman's Castle

AND/OR HISTORIC:
Nemacolin Castle

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
Front Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Brownsville

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:
22nd

STATE: Pennsylvania CODE: 42 COUNTY: Fayette CODE: 051

3. CLASSIFICATION

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

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Board of Commissioners, Fayette County

STREET AND NUMBER:
Courthouse, East Main Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Uniontown

STATE:
Pennsylvania

CODE:
42

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Recorder of Deeds

STREET AND NUMBER:
Courthouse, East Main Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Uniontown

STATE:
Pennsylvania

CODE:
42

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Pennsylvania Inventory of Historic Places

DATE OF SURVEY:
 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: Penna.

COUNTY: Fayette

ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

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

Bowmans Castle was constructed in various stages between 1789 and 1900 by several generations of the Bowman family. The structure is two and one-half stories, with a three story octagonal tower to the left of the main entrance, and a squared third story tower room at the rear of the building. The castle is constructed of brick with twenty-two rooms and features bay windows, balconies, battlements, high arched porches, and a variety of roof elevations. The octagonal tower rises one story above the main structure and was constructed between 1835-1840. The first and second floor windows are rectangular while the third floor windows are arched. A small balcony on the towers second level was part of Victorian additions in the 1890's. Connected to the three story tower is a glass enclosed conservatory with an arcaded balcony above, and topped with a series of battlements. This addition was originally a two story porch and served as the main entrance but was enclosed in the 1890's. The purpose of this porch was to connect the octagonal tower with the east wing. The east wing is a two and one-half story, three bay structure, constructed between 1835-1840 in the Greek Revival style. The front facade features a projecting central bay, with pilasters which rise to a pediment roof line. Located in this bay is a Classic Revival entrance with later Victorian doors. In the late nineteenth century Italianate brackets were constructed under the roof eaves. The west facade of this annex displays a Victorian bay window on the first floor on top of which is a second story balcony.

The entire east facade of Bowmans Castle is an amalgam of Victoriana, including Italianate brackets, windows and doors, a bay window and lattice work porch supports with Gothic quatrefoil ornamentation. Also visible in the east facade is a one story stone structure which is most likely the earliest building on the site.

The castles' interior exhibits fine Victorian glass chandeliers, woodwork fireplace mantels, and ornate plaster ornaments. A circular staircase situated in the main hall leads to the second floor.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

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

Bowmans Castle also known as Newmacolin Castle has achieved both historical and architectural significance. The site of the Castle was once occupied by Fort Burd, built by Colonel James Burd for the British and served as an Indian trading post.

In 1788 Jacob Bowman came from Maryland to Brownsville Pennsylvania with a wagon load of merchandise and opened a trading post. River traffic increased as settlers moved west and Bowman's business became quite profitable. In 1789 Bowman constructed a one room log building which served as a combination home and trading post. Jacob Bowman named his post Memacolin after an Indian chief of prominence. When construction on the castle was begun the trading post was located within the structure.

Bowman became a noted figure in Western Pennsylvania. In 1794 he was named Commissary to government troops during the Whiskey Rebellion. In 1795 he was commissioned as Justice of the Peace and in the same year President Washington named Bowman Brownsville's first postmaster.

Architecturally, the merits of this structure are obvious. Its grand size and unique architectural features rates it among America's most noted castle structures. There is a square tower room accessible only by crawling through a window size opening in a bedroom, then over rafters. This castle remained in the Bowman family for 170 years. In 1959 Mrs. Leila Jacobs Bowman, last of the Bowmans to occupy the house passed away. Since then Bowmans Castle has been maintained by the Fayette County Commissioners as a museum.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Ellis, Franklin. History of Fayette County. L. H. Everts and Company. Philadelphia. 1882 p.425.

Van Trump, James. "National Stone: "The Cumberland Road and American Architecture." Antique Magazine. 1962. V.82.

Wiley, Samuel. Biographical and Portrait Cyclopedia of Fayette County. John Gresham and Company. Chicago 1889.

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
NW	° ' "	° ' "		40°	01'	22"
NE	° ' "	° ' "		79°	53'	01"
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 1 acre

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Mr. David C. Stacks/Historic Preservation

ORGANIZATION: Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission

DATE: 1-15-75

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
WILLIAM J. WEWER

Title Executive Director

PA Historical & Museum Commission

Date 2/10/75

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

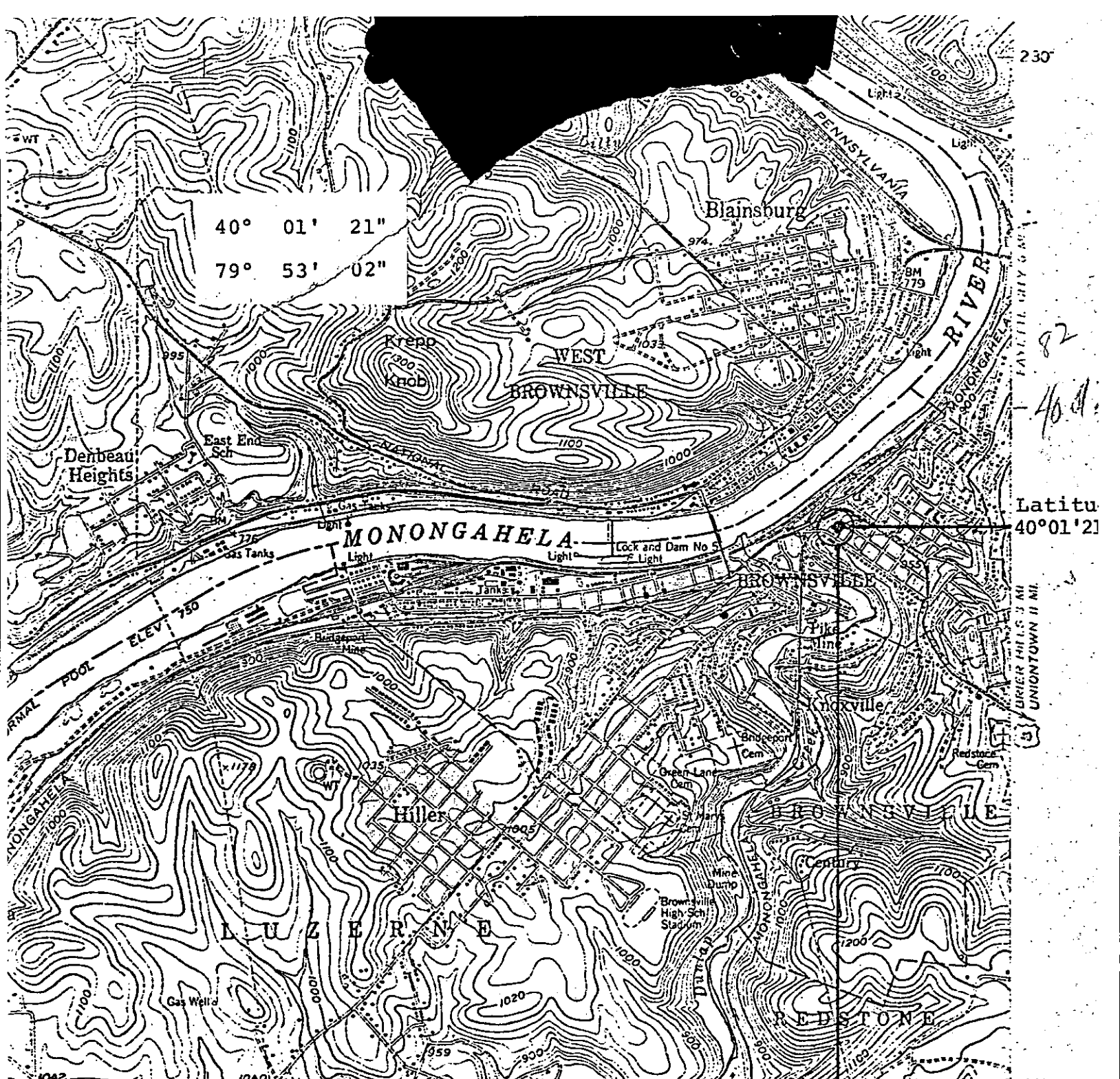
Date _____

ATTEST: _____

Keeper of The National Register

Date _____

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



40° 01' 21"
79° 53' 02"

230°

Latitu
40°01'21"

UNIONTOWN 11 MI.

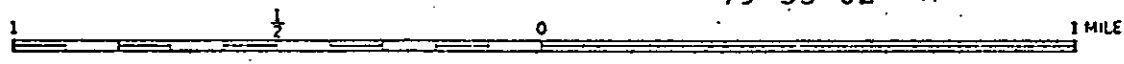
40'00"
79 52 30"

ISABELL 8 MI
UNIONTOWN 15 MI.

INTERIOR GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON, D. C. 20515
M R-7488

SCALE 1:24000

Longitude
79°53'02"

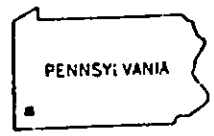


1000 0 1000 2000 3000 4000 5000 6000 7000 FEET

1 5 0 1 KILOMETER

CONTOUR INTERVAL 20 FEET
DATUM IS MEAN SEA LEVEL

TRUE NORTH
MAGNETIC NORTH



QUADRANGLE LOCATION

CALIFORNIA, PA.

SW/4 BROWNSVILLE IS QUADRANGLE
N4000-W7952.5/7.5

1954

EXHIBIT "I"

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON 25, D.C.
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SERVICES IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

APPROXIMATE MEAN
DECLINATION, 1954