

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Pennsylvania
COUNTY: Westmoreland
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE

1. NAME

COMMON:
Fort Ligonier

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
South Market Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Ligonier

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:
21st

STATE:
Pennsylvania

CODE:
42

COUNTY:
Westmoreland

CODE:
129

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
Comments: _____			

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Fort Ligonier Memorial Foundation, Inc.; Multiple private ownership

STREET AND NUMBER:
South Market Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Ligonier

STATE:
Pennsylvania

CODE:
42

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:
Westmoreland County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:
North Main Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Greensburg

STATE:
Pennsylvania

CODE:
42

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Forts on the Pennsylvania Frontier

DATE OF SURVEY: **1960** Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission

STREET AND NUMBER:
William Penn Memorial Museum

CITY OR TOWN:
Harrisburg

STATE:
Pennsylvania

CODE:
42

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: **Pennsylvania**

COUNTY: **Westmoreland**

ENTRY NUMBER

FOR NPS USE ONLY

DATE

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	Reconstructed				Portions	
	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input checked="" 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 reconstruction of Fort Ligonier presently occupies approximately 80% of the original site. This is the area referred to primarily as the Inner Fort along with a portion of the retrenchment line known as the Outer Fort. A series of archaeological investigations were instrumental in the reconstruction. First begun in 1947 by Eugene Gardner, a number of artifacts were uncovered. However, archaeology by Jacob L. Grimm, 1960-1965, was successful in solving the problem of the exact location of the fortifications. Subsequent investigations in 1970 and 1972 were primarily noteworthy for the artifacts which were found. The restoration architect, Charles M. Stotz, first began research and planning as early as 1947 and, since that time, has overseen the reconstruction.

The outer retrenchments of Fort Ligonier are formed of double rows of horizontal logs, each four logs high with a single row of split logs along the top with hewn log cross-ties and notched intersections. There are two plank-on-log gun platforms, one with four gun ports, the other with two; both platforms are topped with fraises. The original plan of the fort was roughly triangular in shape. At present, the south and east sides have been reconstructed. Outside of the retrenchment line were located the cattle pens and various outbuildings.

The outline of the Inner Fort on the west, south, and one-half of the north walls is formed by a stockade of sharpened, vertical, white oak pickets with portholes at regular intervals. A firing step of two hewn logs set on stone piers runs along the inside. This forms a curtain which runs along the walls at various intervals. Archaeology found all the palisade curtain in the southwest section. A horizontal log wall runs from the Spring Gate on the north wall to the south bastions. It is constructed of a double row of white oak logs, ten feet apart, with hewn cross-ties which forms a basketwork filled with earth. Archaeology also found nearly all the remains of this portion of the wall except for parts of the east and south bastions. The reconstructed wall is about seven feet high with a fraise topping the outer face. The fort has three gates constructed of vertical pointed logs, batten type, with drop bars. The gate's hardware is hand-forged iron. At each of the four corners, bastions protrude from the stockade walls. The stockade portion of the south bastion, as well as portions of the north and west bastions, were also found through excavations.

All of the buildings of the Inner Fort, as well as the Forbes Hutt located outside the stockade, are constructed of hand-hewn white oak logs. They are chinked with mud and stone and roofed with river red oak shingles. All building hardware is hand-forged and reproduces the hardware uncovered by archaeologists. Buildings are set on fieldstone foundation walls or fieldstone piers.

Among the buildings of the Inner Fort are the Officers' Quarters and Mess, the present-day Barracks and Quartermaster Supply, the Armory, and the Underground Powder Magazine. The Officers' Mess and the Armory utilize the original dirt basements found by archaeologists. The Underground Powder Magazine retains an original passageway which has been rewalled. The stone steps of the passageway are also original. The only other major buildings on the site are the museum complex located outside the outer fort. This includes

(continued)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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(Continuation Sheet)

ST.	Pennsylvania	
COUNTY	Westmorelan	
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(Number all entries)

7. Description (continued)

a small 18th century log cabin, a 19th century blacksmith shop, and a museum building, all in the same complex and located on the site of the original cattle pens.

The acquisition of the Fort Ligonier site is a process which has occurred over a number of years. At present, the Fort Ligonier Memorial Foundation owns 80% of the original site. If the trend continues, the remaining 20% may eventually be acquired and the reconstruction, particularly of the Outer Fort, will then be extended over the whole of the original site.

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 type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

1758-1759

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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The headwaters of the Ohio was a major focal point of the French and Indian War. In 1758, the English launched a major campaign under General John Forbes aimed at Fort Duquesne, the French stronghold at the Forks of the Ohio. A series of fortifications were erected along the Forbes Road to ensure safety of the supply lines. Fort Ligonier was the last of these fortifications and was designed to serve as the springboard for the final assault. Originally referred to as the "Camp at Loyal Hanna," the fort was briefly named "Pittsborough." After the capture of Fort Duquesne in November 1758, the name was changed to Fort Ligonier in honor of Field Marshall Sir John Ligonier, Commander-in-Chief of the British Army, 1757-1766.

The fort successfully withstood a major attack by a French and Indian force in October 1758. The failure of the French to take the fort contributed heavily to their decision to abandon Fort Duquesne to the British, thereby giving control of the Forks of the Ohio and the Ohio River to the British.

After 1758, the fort continued to house small garrisons protecting supply lines to Fort Pitt. In 1763, the garrison repelled two major assaults. It also housed Colonel Henry Bouquet's army which marched from the fort to a decisive victory over the Indians at Bushy Run. The fort also served as a refuge for settlers during its later years. Fort Ligonier was decommissioned in 1766.

The reconstruction of Fort Ligonier began in 1947 and has continued through the present. Documentary research coupled with archaeological investigations have produced a reconstruction of great accuracy and authenticity. In addition, the archaeology has uncovered the remains of a significant portion of the fort. The artifacts which have been uncovered were in an unusually fine state of preservation and form the most complete collection of French and Indian War period artifacts in existence.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Alberts, George Dallas, "The Frontier Forts of Western Pennsylvania," Report of the Commission to Locate the Site of the Frontier Forts of Pennsylvania, Vol. II, 1896.

Grimm, Jacob L., "Archaeological Investigation of Fort Ligonier 1960-1965," Annals of Carnegie Museum, Vol. 42, Carnegie Museum, Pittsburg, 1970.

Grimm, Jacob L., "Fort Ligonier, Its History, Archaeology and Unique Collection," Military Collector and Historian, Vol. XVII, No. 4, Company of Military Historians, Washington, D.C., Winter, 1965.

Stotz, Charles Morse, A Study of Fort Ligonier, Unpublished manuscript, Fort Ligonier Memorial Foundation, Ligonier.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			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° 14' 31"	79° 14' 24"	°	' "	° ' "
NE	40° 14' 31"	79° 14' 06"			
SE	40° 14' 21"	79° 14' 06"			
SW	40° 14' 21"	79° 14' 24"			

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 15

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Catharine A. Hawks, Assistant Curator; David M. Berman, Curator

ORGANIZATION: Ft Ligonier Memorial Fdn.; Pa Hist & Museum Comm DATE: 1974

STREET AND NUMBER:
South Market Street; Wm Penn Memorial Museum

CITY OR TOWN: Ligonier; 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
Date _____

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

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Alberts, George Dallas, "The Frontier Forts of Western Pennsylvania," Report of the Commission to Locate the Site of the Frontier Forts of Pennsylvania, Vol. II, 1896.
 Grimm, Jacob L., "Archaeological Investigation of Fort Ligonier 1960-1965," Annals of Carnegie Museum, Vol. 42, Carnegie Museum, Pittsburg, 1970.
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CORNER	LATITUDE		LONGITUDE		LATITUDE		LONGITUDE		
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	40°	14'	31"	79°	14'	24"	0		
NE	40°	14'	31"	79°	14'	06"			
SE	40°	14'	21"	79°	14'	06"			
SW	40°	14'	21"	79°	14'	24"			

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ORGANIZATION

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1974

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National State Local

Name

William J. Wewer

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Title Executive Director

Pa. Historical & Museum Commission

Date

12/20/74

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Date

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

649000m E. 650 651 JOHNSTOWN 17 MI. WATERFORD 3 MI. 652 12'30" 653 654

