

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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38

**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

CUMBERLAND VALLEY RAILROAD STATION & STATION MASTER'S HOUSE

AND/OR COMMON

Mechanicsburg Railroad Station

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

2 West Strawberry Alley & 4 West Strawberry

Alley

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Mechanicsburg

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

19th

STATE

Pennsylvania

CODE

42

COUNTY

Cumberland

CODE

041

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC ACQUISITION	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Borough of Mechanicsburg

STREET & NUMBER

36 West Main Street

CITY, TOWN

Mechanicsburg

VICINITY OF

STATE

Pennsylvania

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTIONCOURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Cumberland County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

South Hanover Street

CITY, TOWN

Carlisle

STATE

Pennsylvania

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Pennsylvania Inventory of Historic Places

DATE

1/25/77

 FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission

CITY, TOWN

Harrisburg

STATE

Pennsylvania

7 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

The Cumberland Valley Railroad Station at Mechanicsburg is a 1½ story brick structure measuring 52 feet by 27 feet. Its gable roof has recently been recovered with slate. A brick chimney is located centrally in the roof ridge over the second bay. 6 bays by 2 bays, the station has elongated 4 over 4 windows with radiating brick arches. A 1 story pent at one time lined three elevations but today is present only on the track side and one gable end. Restoration plans include the replacement of the street side pent. The pents are supported by keyhole brackets. The trackside elevation has two sets of paired doors with glass transoms. Between the doorways (2nd and 4th bay) is located a set of three elongated windows.

Located on the attic level of the gable ends are circular, 16 light windows. A one story, flat roof brick toilet block abuts one gable end. The streetside elevation also has two sets of paired doors with glass transoms.

At the turn of the century a two story square tower and central gable was located on the track side elevation. At this time the eaves were lined with ornate gingerbread. These features have since been removed.

The interior is divided into two rooms, the lobby and the agents office.

Located next to the station is the Station Master's House. This 2½ story brick structure has a gable roof with a center brick chimney. Windows in the house are six over six with radiating brick arches. The front facade has two doorways with panelled doors and glass transoms. A large double door is located in the side elevation.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input 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

1870

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Cumberland Valley Railroad was chartered on April 2, 1831. Construction began in January 1836 and the road completed from Chambersburg to the Susquehanna River opposite Harrisburg in December of 1837, a distance of 49 miles. By an act of the Legislature approved on February 2, 1836 the company was permitted to build a bridge across the Susquehanna River (4,400 feet) and extend the road through Harrisburg to the Pennsylvania Canal. This early railway served the communities of Harrisburg, Mechanicsburg, Carlisle and Chambersburg.

In 1859 the Pennsylvania Railroad became the major stock holder of Cumberland Valley Railroad. However the Cumberland Valley Railroad maintained its separate identity with its own superintendent until 1920 when it was incorporated into the Pennsylvania Railroad Main line.

In 1865, the Franklin Railroad Company merged with the Cumberland Valley Railroad extending the road to Virginia Shore on the Potomac River, a total of 82 2/10 miles.

By 1875, the Cumberland Valley Railroad had a total length of 82 2/10 miles, 68 3/10 miles of which were in Pennsylvania. They also leased the Southern Pennsylvania Railroad (23 3/10 mi), the Martinsburg and Potomac (11 8/10 mi) and the Dillsburg to Mechanicsburg (8 mi). The Railroad had five engine houses and one shop. This Chambersburg Shop, operated as a reclamation plant of the Pa. Railroad, owned and operated 21 engines and 20 first class passenger cars as well as 26 passenger freight stations.

The Cumberland Valley Railroad Station at Mechanicsburg was built circa 1875 and was one of the major passenger and freight stops on the Cumberland Valley Railroad.

In the 1876 Mechanicsburg had a population of 3,081. A small industrial center set in a surrounding agricultural area made the town a busy commercial area. Among its leading industries was the manufacturing of agricultural implements; carriages by the firm of Schroeder, the iron foundry of Hauck and Comstock and three spoke and wheel works. Ship-ment from these works particularly the firm of Frederick Seidle ex-tended to France, Germany, Russia, England and Australia. Besides these industries Mechanicsburg also had a planing-mill, wagon and plow works, a tannery, two horse-net factories, a boot and shoe factory, a brick-yard and a grain fan factory. The major shipping agency in and out of Mechanicsburg was the Cumberland Valley Railroad. The railroad station

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Cumberland Valley Railroad Station

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

8

PAGE 1

and adjoining station master's house played an important part in exchange of commodities and services. The structures are in good condition and have not been subjected to severe alteration. These structures are currently being restored.

*1920 - in 1920 a part of
Lenna R.R. owned Bull stock
Lenna R.R. to part of
extension to part of
part of the main line*

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

History of Cumberland & Adams Counties, Pa. Chicago: Warner, Beers & Co. 1886, p. 249-56.

Annual Report of the Auditor General, p. 4. 1875

Keefe, Norman D. History of Mechanicsburg and the surrounding area.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY .135

QUADRANGLE NAME Mechanicsburg

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24000

UTM REFERENCES

A 18 3129040 4453180

B

C

D

E

F

G

H

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION The property starts at the intersection of N. Market St. and the Railroad right-of-way and goes S. 56.1 feet along N. Market St. to Strawberry Alley, then 105 feet W. along Strawberry Alley, then N. 56.1 feet to the Railroad right-of-way & then 105.0 ft. E. to the

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE
Susan M. Zacher

ORGANIZATION Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Comm. DATE

STREET & NUMBER Box 1026 TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN Harrisburg STATE 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.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE Ed Weintraub 6-21-78

TITLE ED WEINTRAUB, DIRECTOR DATE

Office of Historic Preservation

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER	DATE
ATTEST: <u>KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER</u>	DATE
<u>CHIEF OF REGISTRATION</u>	



Cumberland Valley Rail
at Mechanicsburg
Cumberland County
Zone 18 E329040 N445

1 MI TO INTERCHANGE 17
HARRISBURG 7 MI.

11 TO U.S. 15

4453

12'30"

(64)

SHIRE TOWN 2.5 MI.
HARRISBURG

4435