

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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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 SHIPPEN HOUSE

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

52 West King Street

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Shippensburg

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

9th

STATE

Pennsylvania

VICINITY OF

CODE

42

COUNTY

Cumberland

CODE

041

3 CLASSIFICATION

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

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Dr. Alexander Stewart & Wife

STREET & NUMBER

52 West King Street

CITY, TOWN

Shippensburg

VICINITY OF

STATE

Pennsylvania

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Cumberland County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

South Hanover Street

CITY, TOWN

Carlisle

STATE

Pennsylvania

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE NONE

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

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 Edward Shippen House is a large 2½ story limestone building built in 3 sections. The original section of the house, built by Shippen c. 1750, was 28 feet wide and 32 feet deep. This section has 3 bays across the facade with the main entrance located in the western most bay. The doorway consisted of a large paneled door with a small transom. The exterior decoration of the house was particularly elegant for the frontier area in which the house was built. Radiating stone arches with applied wooden moulding surmounts all windows on the facade. The gable end windows although not arched do contain the same moulding. A row of dentils adds emphasis to the moulded cornice on the facade. The interior consisted of two large rooms and a large hallway on each floor. All rooms had large fireplaces. Of particular note in the interior is the central post of the stairway. This post is one continuous length of pine from the basement to the second floor.

In 1785 a two bay section was added to the western gable. This addition carefully imitated the original style of the house. Window trim and cornice work are identical to that of the original section as is the large stone gable chimney. The final addition to the house occurred in the early 19th century and consisted of a small two story frame section which was attached to the rear of the structure.

In 1935 the present owners undertook a major restoration of the Shippen House. This restoration work included the replacement of Victorian window sash, removal of later porches, and a general refurbishing of the interior and exterior. In addition to this work the rear frame section was demolished and replaced by a 2 story brick wing. Other major items of alteration included the addition of 3 gable dormers on the front slope of the roof and the conversion of a doorway in the 1785 section into a window in order to make a balanced facade. The classical porch is also of 1935 construction. The house is in an excellent state of repairs and preserves most of its original exterior and interior fabric.

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input 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 c. 1750, 1785 BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Edward Shippen (1703-1781) was a successful merchant, mayor of Philadelphia, and one of the founders of Princeton University. In 1737 he acquired title to 1300 acres (including a small incipient settlement) in the central Cumberland Valley. Shippen decided to lay out a town around the settlement in 1741 and call it Shippensburg. Around 1750, he built the original section of the Shippen House. Shippen by this time lived in Lancaster and used the house only on periodic visits to his trading companies. Legend has it that this was the "strong stone house 30 feet square" which Shippen offered to Governor Morris in 1755 as a storehouse for the Braddock expedition. It is more likely however that the supplies were kept in Shippen's fur storehouse which stood nearby.

Shippensburg served as one of the major supply centers for the ill-fated Braddock expedition. In 1755 the British government placed Major General Edward Braddock in command of all British troops in America. Braddock with orders to oust the French from their forts in western Pennsylvania and New York landed at Hampton Virginia in February 1755. After an initial delay caused by Pennsylvania's failure to provide adequate supplies, Braddock began his march on Fort Duquesne (Pittsburgh). On July 9, 1755, Braddock's 2,000 man force was attacked by a much smaller force of French & Indians, 7 miles south of Fort Duquesne. The British and colonial troops were routed and Braddock himself killed. The remnants of the British troops and the 1000 man auxiliary force at Great Meadows retreated east to Philadelphia. This withdrawal of British troops left Pennsylvania exposed to the horrors of Indian war. (Pennsylvania had no troops of its own at this time.) For several years the Shawnee and Delaware raided the frontier settlements along the entire length of the Allegheny foothills.

The Shippen House even though altered and enlarged still maintains much of its original architectural appearance. The house is a good example of colonial architecture and has interior and exterior woodwork of a sophistication unseen in the area at that time. From its construction the house has been a local landmark. For years the corner of the Shippen House was used as a survey monument for early roads in the area. The Burd Road surveyed for Braddock's army began at the Shippen House.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- Burkhart, Wm., et. al. The Shippensburg Story. News-Chronicle Co. Shippensburg 1970. pp.8-9.
 Hunter, Wm. A. Forts on the Pennsylvania Frontier, 1753-1758. Pa. Historical & Museum Commission. Harrisburg 1960.
 Mark, Wm. R. Esq. Title Search on Steward Property at 52 West King Street, Shippensburg. 1940.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY .5

UTM REFERENCES

A	18	284900	4436130	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE Samuel L. Dahl, local historian
William K. Watson, Historic Sites Survey

ORGANIZATION Shippensburg Historical Society DATE October 1, 1974
Pa. Historical & Museum Commission TELEPHONE 717-787-4363

STREET & NUMBER 603 East Orange St.
 CITY OR TOWN Box #1026 STATE Pennsylvania
Shippensburg
Harrisburg

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 *William K. Watson*

TITLE Executive Director DATE 11/6/75
Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

9

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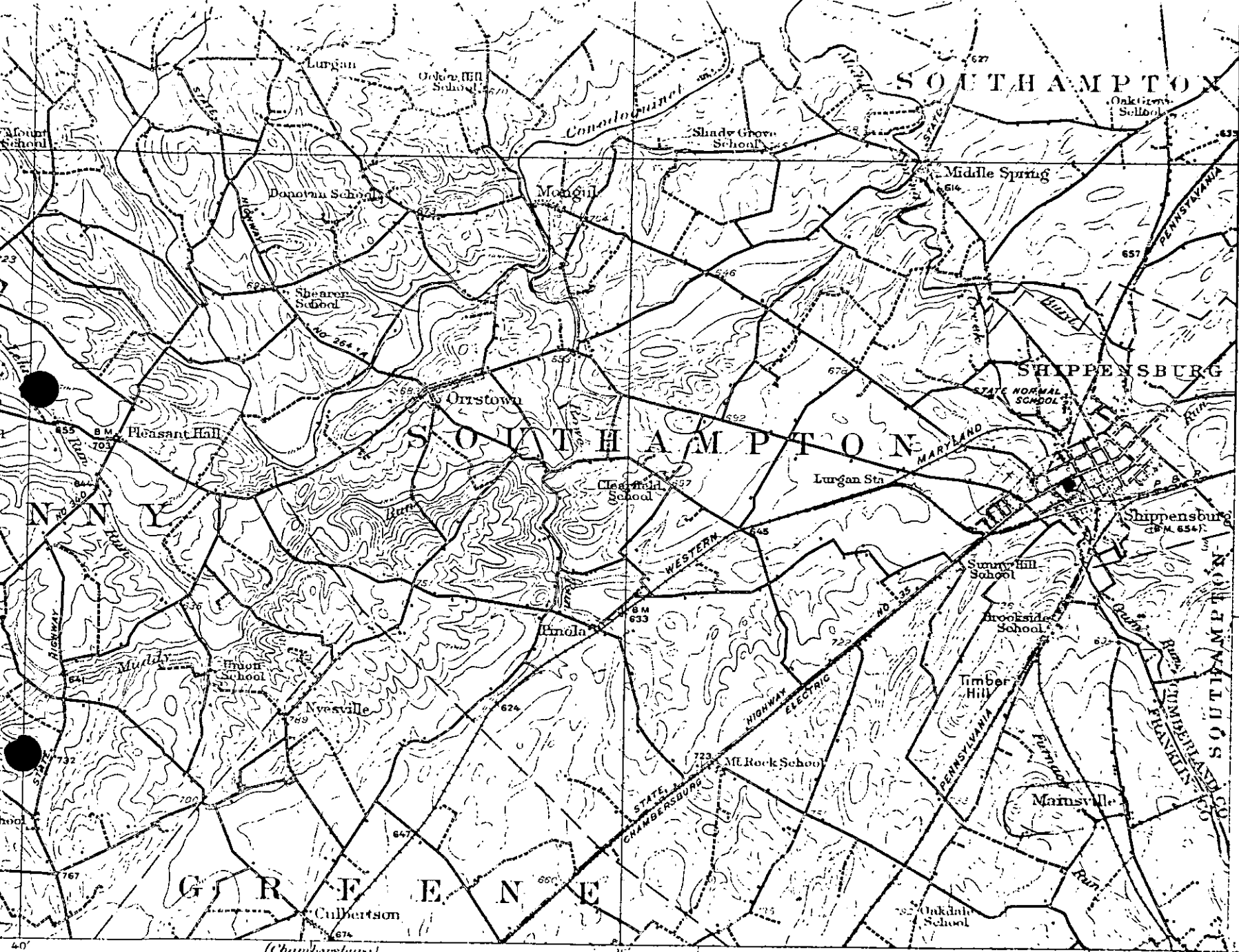
Bibliographical References:

Nixon, Lily Lee. James Burd: Frontier Defender 1726-1793. University of Pa. Press, 1941. pp. 18, 23, 124.

Pennsylvania Archives - First Series, Vol. 2, Joseph Severns and Co. Philadelphia, 1852. p. 358.

Shippen, Edward. Quit Rent Map. Gives Original lot numbers. Present owner, William Goodhart, Shippensburg.

Wing, Conway P., et al. History of Cumberland County, Pa. James D. Scott. Philadelphia, 1879. pp. 43, 245, 251.

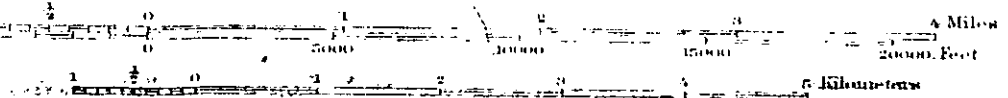


SHIPPENSBURG
SOUTH HAMPTON
FRANKLIN CO
TIMBERLAND CO

G R E E N E

(Chambersburg)

Scale 62500



Contour interval 20 Feet.
Datum is mean sea level.



Polyconic projection, North American Datum
5000 yard grid based upon U.S. zone system, R

SHIPPENSBURG, PA. S. D.
Edition of 1923
reprinted 1932