

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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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 *Pennsylvania Railroad Passenger Station*
AND/OR COMMON *California Public Library*

USE THIS COPY
FOR DUPLICATING

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
Water and Wood Streets

CITY, TOWN
California

STATE
Pennsylvania

VICINITY OF
CODE
42

NOT FOR PUBLICATION
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

COUNTY
Washington CODE
125

3 CLASSIFICATION

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

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
Borough of California
STREET & NUMBER
333 Third Street

CITY, TOWN
California

VICINITY OF

STATE

Pennsylvania

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.
Washington County Courthouse
STREET & NUMBER
South Main Street

CITY, TOWN
Washington

STATE

Pennsylvania

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
Pennsylvania Inventory of Historic Places

DATE
5/30/78

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS
Pennsylvania Historic and Archaeological Society

CITY, TOWN
Harrisburg

STATE

Pennsylvania

7 DESCRIPTION

| CONDITION | | CHECK ONE | CHECK ONE |
|--|---------------------------------------|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT | <input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED | <input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD | <input type="checkbox"/> RUINS | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED | <input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> FAIR | <input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED | | |

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Pennsylvania Railroad Station at California was built about 1910-12. This one story red brick building measures ninety-five feet by thirty-five feet. It has a steeply pitched hipped roof with wide overhangs supported by brackets. The roof is finished with heavy red tile. At approximately one-third the distance from the west wall are two hipped roof projections.

The three outer walls of the small north room projection, built to provide the ticket office, have large windows, six feet by three feet, six inches; the small south room, built to provide restroom space, has two windows, three feet, six inches by three feet. The large identical rooms on either side of this section were once waiting rooms. Here each opposite sidewall has a wide central glass-paneled door with a window, six feet by four feet, six inches, on either side. A bay with four matching windows, six feet by four feet, six inches, occupies the west end of the building. The remaining third on the east end of the structure, separated by an interior partition, was constructed to serve as a baggage room. Opposite each other on the north and south walls of this room are double-width wooden doors with a window, four feet, six inches by three feet, on either side.

Attractive stone facing outlines all the doors and windows. Just to the right of the projection on the north a square brick and stone chimney protrudes from the roof. An outer stone stairway near the door on the south leads to the furnace room in the basement.

The only alterations to the building were made in 1958 when the steamheat furnace was replaced by a hotwater furnace. Then the circular upright radiators, one in the center of each former waiting room, were replaced with low wall radiators. The sturdy benches built to the contour of the outer walls of the waiting room were removed as were the small spigot fountains from the inner walls. These alterations made room for rows of bookshelves when the California Public Library became the occupant.

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 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 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

Circa 1910

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

California is located on the west bank of the Monongahela River just above the mouth of the small stream known as Pike Run. This small community is fifty rail miles from Pittsburgh. Set in the center of the vast Washington County coal fields, the railroad played an important part in transference of coal to the steel mills in Pittsburgh. The Pennsylvania Railroad purchased the site of the California Station in 1885 and shortly after that constructed a wooden depot on the site. This depot was removed for the construction of the present depot circa 1910. This little altered California depot is a fine example of a small Pennsylvania depot from the early twentieth century. Its tile roof and stone arches help to make this depot attractive as well as functional. Its adaptive reuse as a library has helped to preserve this structure after its release from railroad ownership.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

See Continuation Sheet

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY .1

QUADRANGLE NAME California, Pennsylvania

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24000

UTM REFERENCES

A 17 594720 4435700

B

C

D

E

F

G

H

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The property allotted to the Library by the Borough of California extends eight feet beyond each wall of the building measuring 95' by 35'.

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

| STATE | CODE | COUNTY | CODE |
|-------|------|--------|------|
| | | | |
| | | | |

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Elsie Channing / Susan M. Zacher

ORGANIZATION

California Public Library / Pennsylvania Historic and Museum Commission

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

259 Second / P.O. Box 1026

TELEPHONE

412-938-8322

CITY OR TOWN

California / 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

TITLE

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DATE

ATTEST

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE 4

9 Major Bibliographical References

Washington County, Pennsylvania. Office of the Recorder of Deeds. Deed between George M. Eberman, et al. to Pittsburg, Virginia and Charleston Railway Company. Book 132, November 9, 1888.

Washington County, Pennsylvania, Officer of the Recorder of Deeds. Deed between The Pennsylvania Railroad Company and the Borough of California. Book 1263. May 9, 1967.

Crumrine, Boyd (ed.) History of Washington County with Biographical Sketches of Many of its Pioneers and Prominent Men. Philadelphia: L.H. Everts and Company, 1822.

McFarland, Joseph. 20th Century History of the City of Washington and Washington County Representative Citizens. Chicago: Richmond-Arnold Publishing Company, 1910.

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ZONE EASTING NORTHING

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

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|-------|------|--------|------|
| | | | |
| | | | |

| STATE | CODE | COUNTY | CODE |
|-------|------|--------|------|
| | | | |
| | | | |

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CITY OR TOWN

California / Harrisburg

STATE

Pennsylvania

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STATE

LOCAL X

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STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

Ed Weintraub

TITLE ED WEINTRAUB, Director
Office of Historic Preservation

DATE 10-16-75

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

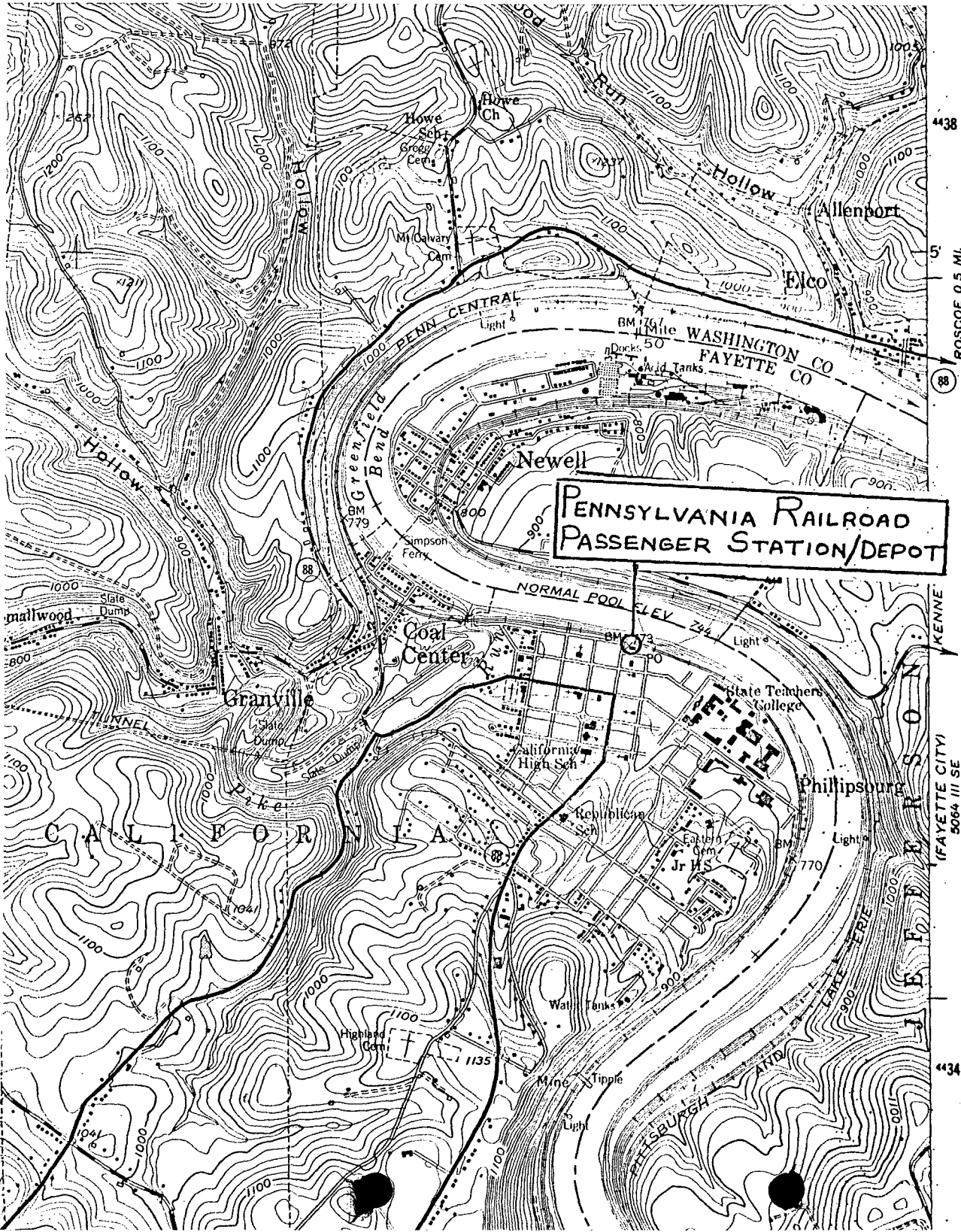
DATE

ATTEST:

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

SW/4 Brownsville is Quadrangle

7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)
PENNSYLVANIA
CALIFORNIA QUADRANGLE



4438
5'
ROSCOE 0.5 MI.
ALLENPORT 2.5 MI.

88
KENNE
FAYETTE CITY
(FAYETTE CITY)
5064 III SE

4434