

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	Pennsylvania
COUNTY:	Washington
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY DATE	DEC 30 1974

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

COMMON:
Harrison House

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
Old Route 40 at Centerville

CITY OR TOWN:
Centerville

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:
26th

STATE: **Pennsylvania** CODE: **42** COUNTY: **Washington** CODE: **125**

3. CLASSIFICATION

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

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious		
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific		

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Donald McDonald

STREET AND NUMBER:
R.D. 2

CITY OR TOWN:
Brownsville

STATE:
Pennsylvania

CODE:
42

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Office of Recorder of Deeds, Washington County Court House

STREET AND NUMBER:
South Main Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Washington

STATE:
Pennsylvania

CODE:
42

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
None

DATE OF SURVEY:
 Federal State

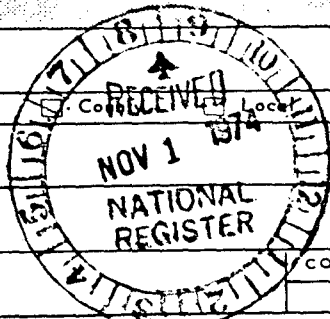
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:

STATE:

CODE:



STATE: **Penna.**

COUNTY: **Washington**

ENTRY NUMBER: **DEC 30 1974**

DATE: **DEC 30 1974**

FOR NPS USE ONLY

(Check One)

CONDITION

Excellent Good Fair Deteriorated Ruins Unexposed

(Check One)

(Check One)

Altered Unaltered

Moved Original Site

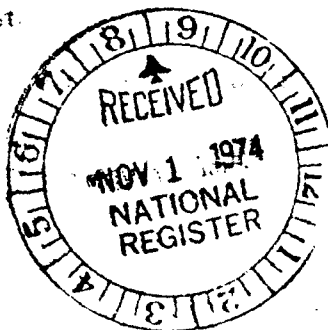
DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Underneath its Italianate mannerisms, the Harrison house was designed around 1845 according to the familiar, Western Pennsylvania, Post Colonial, Greek Revival house form. The five-bay, two and one-half story structure has a central hall entrance plan and a gable roof with two chimneys at each gable end. The irregularity of form and mass was achieved by two additions to the front; the two-story bay window unit with a turret roof and the four-story tower which echoes the square campanile of the Italian Renaissance.

The greater sense of complexity and dynamism usually associated with the Italianate style was instilled into this house by incorporating several colorful features. They include: a numerous variety of segmented round arch and round window forms; a creative mixture of stone and brick patterns formed by the quoins, skewbacks, keystones, and soldier courses; and the highly decorative bracketing under the eaves and lintels.

The tall chimneys, the turret roof, and the tower's arched lintels and high center finial create an agitated skyline which is in keeping with the irregular masses and textural varieties of the facades below. The tall proportions of the house are accentuated by its location, high on a ridge above Route 40. Besides the fact that some of the segmented arch sashes have been replaced by flat top sashes, the house is perfectly intact and in excellent condition.

Original by ... street



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input 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)

ca. 1845 and 1870

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/Phi- | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | losophy | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Human- | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | itarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

When the Washington County farmer adapted a contemporary architectural mode, he did so in a relatively conservative fashion. This was originally a five-bay, two and one-half story, Post Colonial, Greek Revival house form, quite common to Washington County. The house was built around 1845. Unlike its conservative neighbors, the Harrison house matured into a High Victorian Italianate villa, most unusual in Washington County. The traditional rectangular block form with the longitudinal axis of the ridge pole parallel to the street, pitched roof and center entrance was particularly suited to the application of Italianate ornament and the spatial expansion of the High Victorian era.

The Harrison house probably represents the limits to which a relatively simple house form could be expanded and still intimate its original form. Of all the 19th century revival styles, the Italian villa style had the strongest historical precedent, in that it was based upon the vernacular farm houses of the Italian countryside. Its asymmetrical massing was not only congruous with the theories of the picturesque -- which dictated assymmetrical dispositions of forms and variety of texture -- but practical as well, allowing for freedom in planning.

The introduction of bay windows with a turret roof, the square four-story tower, round arch windows, stone quoins and bracketed cornice transformed the Western Pennsylvania farm house into its Italian counterpart.

The High Victorian Italianate form is quite unusual for Washington County. It testifies to the prosperity of the farmer-owner after the Civil War. For these reasons the house is of great architectural value to the county and must be counted among the most interesting architectural remains in the district.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

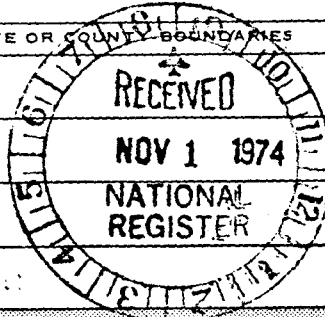
LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		40 02 20	79 57 11	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

UTM
17/589300
4432370

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **1 acre**

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
James D. Van Trump, Landmarks Planning, Inc

ORGANIZATION: **Washington County Overall Economic Development Program** DATE: **Summer, 1972**

STREET AND NUMBER:
One South College Street

CITY OR TOWN: **Washington** STATE: **Pennsylvania** CODE: **42**

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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
Pa. Hist. and Mus. Comm.
Date: 10/25/74

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

A. R. Wortsman
Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 12/30/74

ATTEST:
[Signature]
Keeper of the National Register

Date: DEC 27 1974

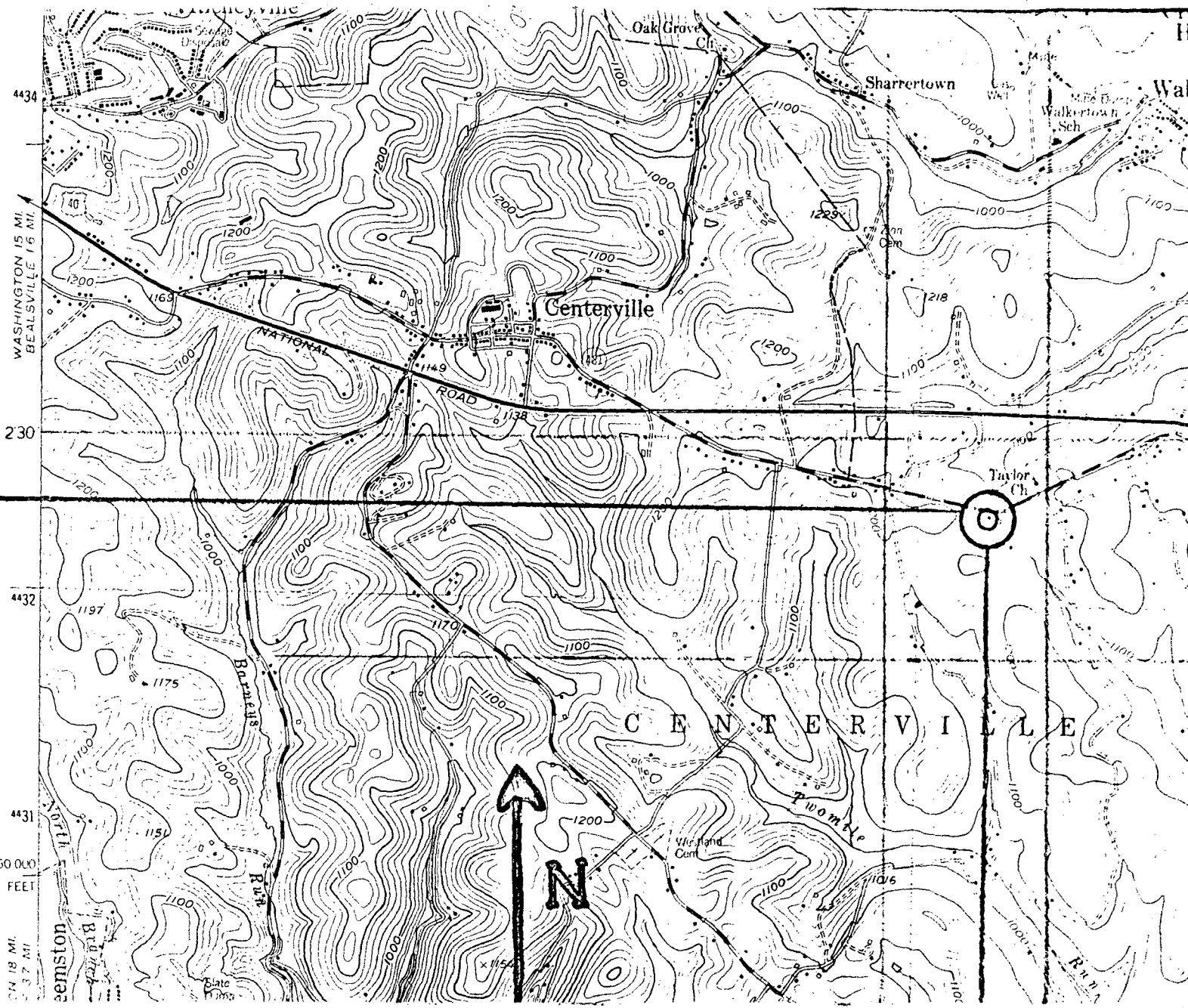
Form 10-301
(July 1968)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM
(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

1. NAME		
COMMON	AND/OR HISTORIC	NUMERIC CODE (Assigned by NPS)
Harrison House		DEC 30 1974
2. LOCATION		
STATE	COUNTY	TOWN
Pennsylvania	Washington	Centerville
STREET AND NUMBER		
Old Route 40 at Centerville, R.D. #2		
3. MAP REFERENCE		
SOURCE	DATE	SCALE
USGS 7.5 Minute Series	revised: 1969	1:24,000

REQUIREMENTS: PROPERTY BOUNDARIES, WHERE REQUIRED, AND NORTH ARROW.





40°02'20"
latitude

HARRISON
HOUSE

WASHINGTON

WASHINGTON 15 MI
BEALSVILLE 16 MI

230

4432

4431

260 000
FEET

18 MI
3.7 MI