

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED
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
CLEARFIELD COUNTY COURTHOUSE

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
2nd and Market Streets

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN
Clearfield

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

23rd

STATE
Pennsylvania

VICINITY OF

CODE
42

COUNTY
Clearfield

CODE
033

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 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	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	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 checked="" 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
County of Clearfield

STREET & NUMBER
2nd and Market Streets

CITY, TOWN
Clearfield

VICINITY OF

STATE
Pennsylvania 16830

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Clearfield County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER
2nd and Market Streets

CITY, TOWN
Clearfield

STATE
Pennsylvania

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
Pennsylvania Inventory of Historic Places

DATE
FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS
Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission

CITY, TOWN
Harrisburg
STATE
Pennsylvania

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 type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The present Clearfield County Courthouse is a two and one-half story brick building with a square brick tower. Rectangular in shape, the courthouse has a gable roof with two large cross-gables and smaller hipped roofed dormers. Heavy dentils line the boxed cornices and returns. Its stone foundation has evenly spaced rectangular windows and is separated from the brick walls by a stone water table. First story windows have rounded brick arches and are 13 over 2. The upper sash has a large central pane surrounded by 12 smaller square panes. The first and second storys are separated by a decorative brick belt course. Second story windows are elongated 16 over 16 with semi-circular fan lights of 7 lights. Decorative brick arches cap each window and are connected by a brick belt course.

The front facade is dominated by the central square brick tower. Capped by a bell-shaped roof, the tower is the most impressive feature of the courthouse. A six-bay brick portico flanks the central tower on the first story. Heavy dentils and a decorative ballustrade embellish the roof of the portico. Openings in the portico and the central tower have circular arches. The central tower is divided into six visual levels by the placement of windows and belt courses. A decorative belt course is located three quarters of the way up the first story. Semi-circular arched windows are located on levels two, three and four. At the main roof line, two belt courses are located on the tower dividing the lower tower from the clock tower. Clocks on the four sides of tower are located between the lower double belt course and a single belt course above. The upper-most section of the tower has two louvered shuttered window openings on each tower face with a belt course dividing this section near the roof line.

DATE 11-17-2002

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 checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

On March 26, 1806, Clearfield County was created by an Act of Legislature along with six other western Pennsylvania counties. However this area of Pennsylvania was sparsely settled in 1806 with a population of only 104. Therefore the new county was annexed to Centre County for legal purposes until the population became as such that could support an independent governmental system. It was not until January 29, 1822 that Clearfield County became independent of Centre County. The new county commissioners chose the lands of Abraham Witmer, the site of the Indian town of Chencleclamousche, for their new county seat. Witmer of Lancaster County donated six lots for use for a courthouse, jail and three schools as well as \$3,000.

The first courthouse of Clearfield County was built circa 1814 on the corner of 2nd and Market Streets. Robert Collins was contracted for the construction of this brick structure costing \$4356.26. This first courthouse was in use for 46 years until the increased need for office and court space necessitated the need for a larger structure. In January of 1859, proposals were solicited for four weeks in the local newspapers and on February 9th, a contract was awarded to George Thorn of Clearfield for a 60' by 90' two story building for the sum of \$13,960.00. The new courthouse was to be built on the site using materials from the old courthouse. Work on the new foundation began April 17, 1860 and the cornerstone was laid on June 4th of that year. Awning to an architects blunder, most of the tower had to be rebuilt and was not completed until 1862. The first clock also proved defective and had to be replaced.

In 1882 a 5' by 75' addition was made to the rear of the courthouse. The roof and upper portion of the courthouse were also altered at this time. The contract was awarded to Thorn and Burchfield of Clearfield for \$35,897.25. By 1884 the addition and alterations to the courthouse were completed.

The center of all county governmental operations in Clearfield county, the courthouse is an important structure. The survival of the 1860 courthouse is unusual in western Pennsylvania where most counties built third courthouses during the 1890 to 1910 period.

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Swoope, Roland D. Jr., 20th Century History of Clearfield County, Pa.
 Chicago: Richmond-Arnold Publishing, Co. 1911, p. 30-36
Caldwell's Atlas of Clearfield County, Pa., Condit, Ohio: J.A.
 Caldwell, 1878.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1

QUADRANGLE NAME _____

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24000

UTM REFERENCES

A 17 2115430 4544170

B _____

C _____

D _____

E _____

F _____

G _____

H _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
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STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
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11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Susan M. Zacher

ORGANIZATION

Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

Box 1026

TELEPHONE

717-787-4363

CITY OR TOWN

Harrisburg

STATE

Pennsylvania

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

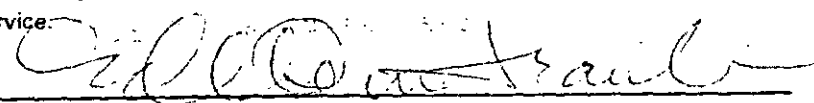
NATIONAL

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



TITLE ED WEINTRAUB, Director
 Office of Historic Preservation

DATE 10-16-75

FOR NPS USE ONLY

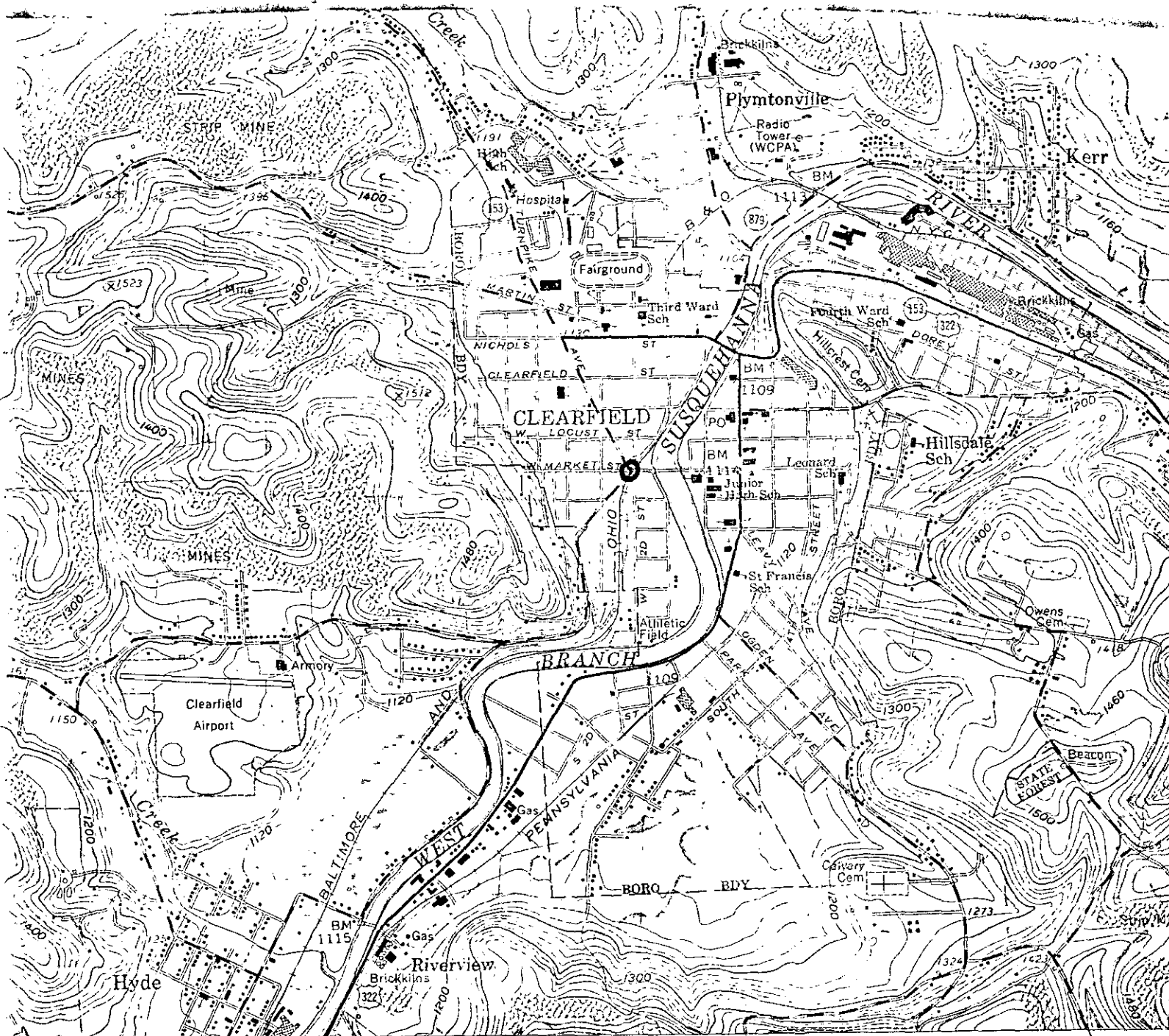
I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

ATTEST: KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

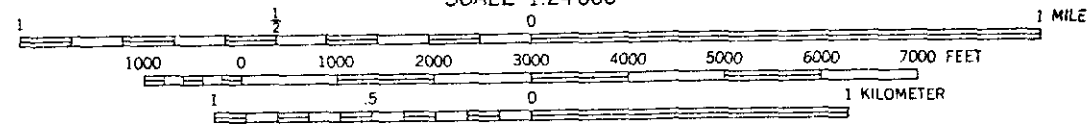
DATE

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

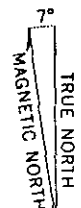


1 800 000 FEET CURWENSVILLE 1.4 MI. 27'30" REYNOLDSVILLE 26 MI. (GLEN RICHEY) MOUNT HOPE 1 MI. 25'

SCALE 1:24 000



CONTOUR INTERVAL 20 FEET
DATUM IS MEAN SEA LEVEL



APPROXIMATE MEAN DECLINATION, 1959

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON 25, D. C. A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST