

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Pennsylvania
COUNTY: Adams
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE

1. NAME

COMMON: Dobbin House
AND/OR HISTORIC: Diorama of Gettysburg, Inc. Museum

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: 89 Steinwehr Avenue			
CITY OR TOWN: Gettysburg		CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: Nineteenth	
STATE: Pennsylvania	CODE: 42	COUNTY: Adams	CODE: 001

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"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input checked="" 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 (Specify) _____ _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: Mr. and Mrs. John Adamik		
STREET AND NUMBER: R.D. #1		
CITY OR TOWN: Aspers	STATE: Pennsylvania	CODE: 42

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC: Adams County Court House, Deed Book 261, page 653		
STREET AND NUMBER: Baltimore Street		
CITY OR TOWN: Gettysburg	STATE: Pennsylvania	CODE: 42

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: Gettysburg Historic District			
DATE OF SURVEY: May 8, 1972	<input type="checkbox"/> Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> State	<input type="checkbox"/> County
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Borough of Gettysburg Office			
STREET AND NUMBER: 34 East Middle Street			
CITY OR TOWN: Gettysburg	STATE: Pennsylvania	CODE: 42	

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Pennsylvania
COUNTY: Adams
ENTRY NUMBER
DATE

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DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

(Check One)

Excellent Good Fair Deteriorated Ruins Unexposed

(Check One)

Altered Unaltered

(Check One)

Moved Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Dobbin house was built in 1776 by the Rev. Alexander Dobbin on a 300 acre tract purchased two years earlier. It is a 2½ story stone gable roof structure, seven bays across and two rooms deep with a medium pitched roof. It contains two brick chimneys, one at each end of the original structure.

The original section of this house was five bays across with a six panel door occupying the middle bay. Above the door is a five pane light. Windows of this section were six over nine double hung sash on the first floor and six over six on the second story. Six panel shutters with flat panels were used on the ground floor windows. A box cornice runs the entire length of the house.

On the southern end of the original building was a 1½ story kitchen-spring house. It was built with the house but later possibly about 1810 this section was raised to a height of 2½ stories and placed under the continuous gable roof of the original section. This section is constructed of stone and has a recessed balcony on the second story front.

The house contains eleven rooms and one small room accessible by a sliding cupboard. It also contains the original doors, chair rail and banisters. Modifications have been made with regard to rest rooms being added, a fire escape, and the usual utility renovations

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

6. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian; 16th Century 18th Century 20th Century
 15th Century 17th Century 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1776

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Reverend Alexander Dobbin came to America in 1773 as a missionary for the Reformed Presbytery of Ireland. A year later he purchased a three hundred acre tract south of Gettysburg and by 1776 had built a large substantial stone building. The building served not only as his home but also as a classical academy, a theological seminary and occassionly as a church. Reverend Dobbin's classical academy, in operation from 1788 to 1810, was one of the earliest schools of its kind west of the Susquehanna River. Dobbin was also instrumental in laying out portions of Gettysburg, and for a time served as county commissioner.

The Dobbin house is one of the oldest, still standing in Gettysburg. Its exterior fabric, except for the raising of the kitchen wing roof c. 1810, is largely original. The interior has sufficed more serious alterations particularly in the 1940's when it was turned into a museum. The house was turned into a hospital following the Battle of Gettysburg. The Dobbin house is significant not only as one of the few remaining eighteenth century buildings in Gettysburg but also because of the important role it and its builder played in the early educational, religious and political life of the community.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Harper, F.C. Reverend Alexander Dobbin and the Old Hill Church. undated manuscript, Pennsylvania State Library, Dept. of Archives
 Lippy, John D. Jr. The Historic Dobbin House. Harrisburg: Telegraph Press, 1962
 Glasgow, W.H. History of the Reformed Presbyterian Church in America. unknown
 Stewart, Henry. Revrend Alexander Dobbin. manuscript January, 1948 Adams County Historical Society

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	° ' "	° ' "		77° 13' 58"	39° 49' 20"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 0.316

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
 Marcella M. Sherfy for Jerry L. Schober

ORGANIZATION: Gettysburg National Military Park National Park Service DATE: 11/22/72

STREET AND NUMBER:
P.O. Box 70

CITY OR TOWN: Gettysburg 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

Date 2/28/73

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

 Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date _____

ATTEST:

 Keeper of The National Register

Date _____

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

39° 49' 20"
77° 13' 58"

DOBBSIN HOUSE

GETTYSBURG QUADRANGLE

