

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 Sheads House

AND/OR COMMON

Oak Ridge Seminary

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

331 Buford Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Gettysburg

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

19

STATE

Pennsylvania

VICINITY OF

CODE

42

COUNTY

Adams

CODE

001

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 type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input 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

P. Ross Ramer

STREET & NUMBER

325 Buford Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Gettysburg

VICINITY OF

STATE

Pennsylvania

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Recorder of Deeds Office, Adams County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

Baltimore Street

CITY, TOWN

Gettysburg

STATE

Pennsylvania

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Gettysburg Historic District

DATE

1972

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Gettysburg Borough Office

CITY, TOWN

STATE

77 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

 DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Sheads House is a two and one-half story Gothic house. Built of brick in 1862, the house measures thirty-two feet by thirty-one feet including the porches. It has fourteen rooms including two in the basement and three in the attic. A "T-shape" is formed by the intersection of a gable roof section with a smaller cross gable section. This house utilizes the common bond method of brick laying. Included in the floor plan of the house are two multi-story porches; one measuring five by six feet, the other being six by eleven feet. The foundation as well as the basement fireplace are constructed in native granite.

The house is currently painted white and has dark green trim. The doors of the house are of various designs but are panel type. There are three doors on the first floor level and two on the second floor. All doors have transom lights. Two windows on the second floor level west side and the basement windows are smaller than the six over six double hung sash found on the remaining bays. Both the windows and the doors have heads extending past the frames.

An overhanging gingerbread design decorate the perimeter of the house's roof line. Decorated cut out wood work is used in two of the four porches while the others have a plank type and a panel type insert. The house has three gable dormers on the western elevation and one gable dormer on the north elevation. Tie rods are present on all sides. A central fireplace was used to heat the house. Most of the windows of the Sheads House have panel shutters on the ground floor and louvered shutters on the upper floor; the attic windows have louvered shutters.

Alterations to the Sheads House include addition of four dormers to the gable roof, painting of the brick exterior surface and addition of shutters.

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

SPECIFIC DATES March 1862

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Sheads House was built in 1862 as a residence. Shortly thereafter it housed the Oak Ridge Seminary. This girls' school was instituted to supplement the family income. The Sheads family's four sons enlisted in the Union Army, while the father was retired. Accounts state that he was in the wagon business and that the termination of trade with the southern states severly cut his business.

This house documented as having been in the region of battle of the first day of the Gettysburg campaign. At the onset, the Sheads house was in Union held territory. As the battle progressed, it came under confederate influence. It was used as a hospital for the confederate wounded. An unauthenticated story tells of Carrie Sheads saving the life of a Union officier from New York. She apparently hid his sword (which he was unwilling to surrender to the confederates) and saved it until he returned.

The Sheads house received fire during the battle and was awarded \$180 in damages; mention is not made of this sum ever being collected. Evidence of etchings of signatures in the windows is present, this is said to have been done by the confederate wounded. A shell precariously lodged in one of the gable ends of the house is said to have remained there from the battle. Evidence of this being the case is not substantiated.

During the Civil War the four Sheads lost their lives for their country. After the battle of Gettysburg, Miss Carrie Sheads and his sisters were given Federal jobs in Washington. This was presumably because of the loss of the men of the family.

The Sheads house is the only house of its architectural style in the Gettysburg battlefield park. It is unique in its central chimney and its relative state of unalteration. "In our architectural review of the historic houses of Gettysburg National Military Park and Eisenhower National Historic Site we have noted that none of the structures are similar to the Sheads House insofar as the architectural detail is concerned. The ornamental fascia board, the incorporation of porches with ornamental balustrades on both sides of a cross-gable addition, 3/3 window sashes on the second floor (west side), and the appearance of a central chimney in a cross-gable dwelling are unique to our historic structures. Because of these apparent exterior divergencies from the typical rural farmhouses in the Gettysburg National Military Park, the Sheads House also claims another architectural importance. Contributing to this significance is the fact that few major exterior changes

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

"A Baltimore Letter Says", Adams Sentinel, Vol. LXIV, No. 4 (December 1, 1862),
p.2. Newspaper located at the Adams County Historical Society, Seminary
Avenue, Gettysburg, Pennsylvania 17325.

Hardman, Asa Sleath. "As a Union Prisoner Saw the Battle of Gettysburg," Civil
War Times Illustrated, Vol. I, No. 4 (July, 1962), pp. 46-50.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 34 acres

UTM REFERENCES

A	18	308050	4411540	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 P. Ross Ramer, Owner
Charles Dunlevey

ORGANIZATION

OHP/FHMC

DATE

June 17, 1976

STREET & NUMBER

326 Buford Avenue
Box 1026

TELEPHONE

717-787-4363

CITY OR TOWN

Gettysburg
Harrisburg

STATE

Pennsylvania

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

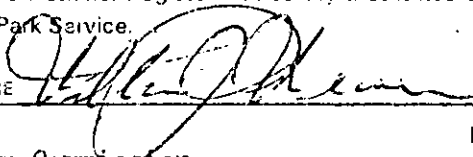
NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL X

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

Executive Director
Pa. Historical and Museum Commission

DATE

7/21/76

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

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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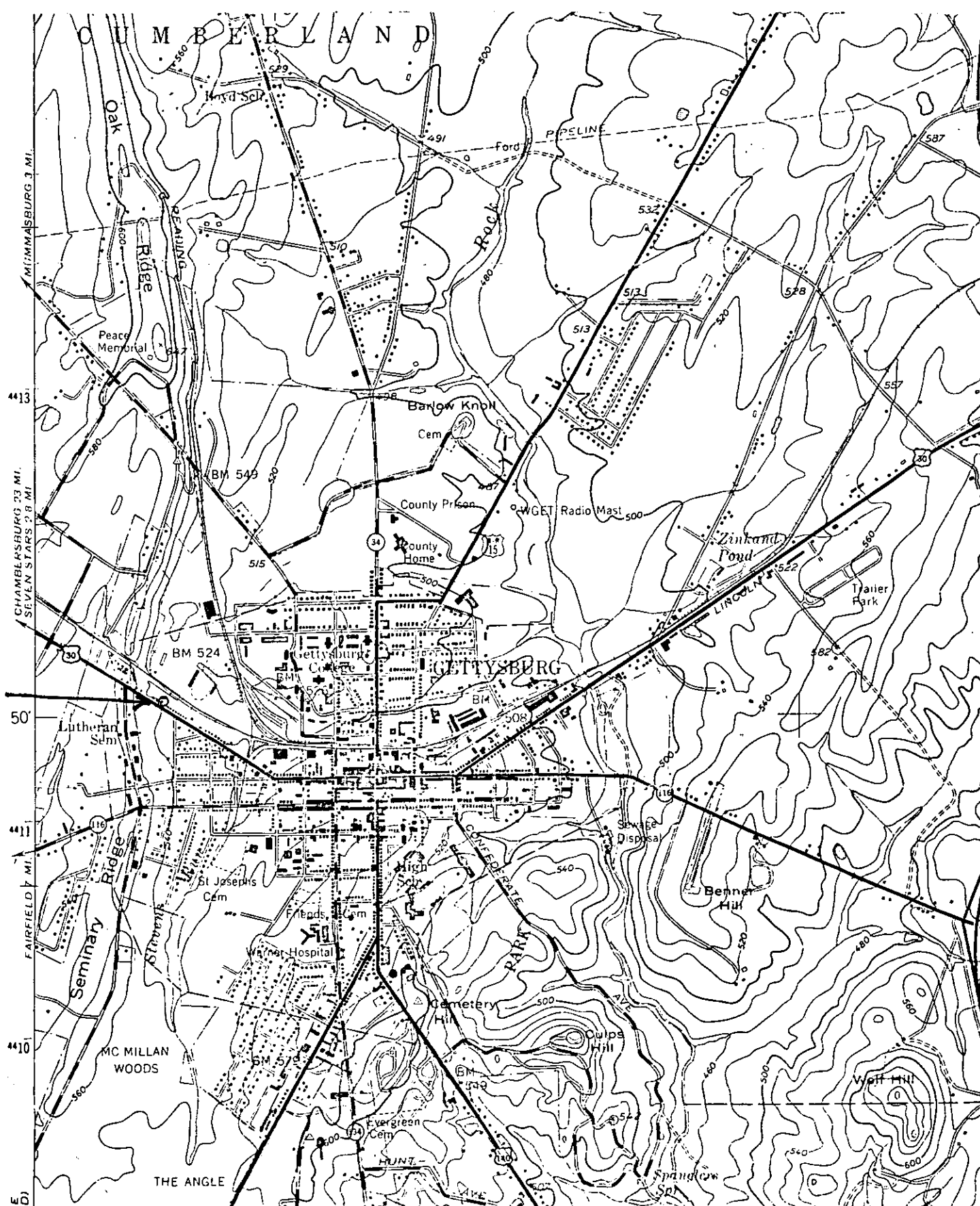
CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 1

Significance:

have been made to the structure, with the exception of the addition of four dormers and paneled and louvered shutters." (1)

- (1) Thomas J. Harrison, Chief, Environmental Planning and Research, Gettysburg National Military Park.



CUMBERLAND
MCMANISBURG 3 MI.
CHAMBERSBURG 23 MI.
SEVEN STARS 2.8 MI.
FAIRFIELD MI.
SE
(LLO)

SHEADS HOUSE

THE ANGLE