

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED FEB 11 1976
DATE ENTERED NOV 13 1976

**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 * * * JOHN ROEBLING HOUSE JOHN ROEBLING SHOP
AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER Rebecca & Main Streets Water & Rebecca Streets
CITY, TOWN Saxonburg VICINITY OF 25th
STATE Pennsylvania CODE 42 COUNTY Butler CODE 019

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Elizabeth Schoentag (House) Saxonburg Borough (Shop)
STREET & NUMBER Rebecca and Main Streets Borough Hall
CITY, TOWN Saxonburg VICINITY OF Pennsylvania

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Court House Deed Books
STREET & NUMBER
CITY, TOWN Butler STATE Pennsylvania

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE Pennsylvania Register of Historic Sites and Landmarks
DATE 1970 FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission
CITY, TOWN Box 1026, 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 (house)
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		(shop) 1974

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The John Roebling House was built sometime between 1832 and 1835. It is a 2 story frame and brick structure covered with aluminum siding. It has a partially exposed basement, overhanging eaves with a wood cornice, small attic and a tin roof. The floor plan indicates a central hall with rooms on each side for both floors. It is basically a 3 bay house with 6 over 6 fenestration with the exception of the attic and the lower right front bay. This bay has been altered and has an additional 6 over 6 window on each side of the original window. The front doorway consists of a panel and glass door with a transom headed by a bracketed overhang.

To the rear of the house is a 2 story addition (c. 1904) with attic addition which does not run the full width of the main section. This section is of similar fabric as the main section and has a slanting roof.

The Roebling Shop (1841) is a one story, gable roof, frame structure covered with clapboard and topped with a tin roof. The floor plan consists of a central hall with a room on each side. The entrance has a recessed light mullion with a raised panel door. The interior of the shop shows exposed beams and timbers with plaster walls.

In 1974 the Roebling Shop was moved 150 feet but still remains on its original lot. The shop was moved because of traffic and drainage problems.

The house and shop are about two blocks distant. It was felt that the nomination could best be handled as one entry for two related buildings.

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 checked="" 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 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

c. 1835

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

John Augustus Roebling, founder of Saxonburg (1832) and noted civil engineer, was born in Germany in 1806. He was schooled in architecture and engineering. He organized a group of family members to emigrate to America and consequently settled in Butler County, Pennsylvania.

After forsaking farming as a profession, Roebling sought employment on state canal projects. While working on these projects, Roebling developed the method of stranding wires to form a stronger and thinner cable to replace hemp that had been used on canals and railroads. The process was developed and reached fruition at his shop in Saxonburg in 1841. Roebling applied his cable to suspension bridges and related industrial uses.

As Roebling became involved in architecture and bridge building he opened a factory in Trenton, New Jersey. Roebling is noted for building several bridges, including a suspension bridge over the Niagra River, and the Brooklyn Bridge. Roebling died (1869) due to complications of an industrial accident incurred while supervising construction of the Brooklyn Bridge.

The Roebling House and Shop gain their significance from Roebling's singlemost important discovery, the stranded steel cable. Although the house and shop do not possess outstanding architectural merit, it was here that he lived, developed, and manufactured the first stranded steel cable. The importance of the stranded cable in turn had far reaching effects on the transportation industry and systems in this country and the world.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

n.a. History of Butler County. Chicago: Waterman, Watkins & Company, 1883
 Brandon, J. Campbell. A Concise History of Butler County Pennsylvania.
 Butler: The Eagle Printery, Inc. 1962.
 Shank, William H. Historic Bridges of Pennsylvania. Bucharth-Horn
~~Consulting Engineers and Planners.~~

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1.3 acres

UTM REFERENCES

HOUSE

SHOP

A | 17 | 610,0 | 4,0,0 | 4,5 | 115,6,0 |
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING
 C | | | | | | |

B | 17 | 610,0 | 4,5,0 | 4,5 | 1,1 | 88,0 |
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING
 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 Sill Watson
Charles Dunlevey, Office of Historic Preservation
 ORGANIZATION Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission DATE August, 1971
 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 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 [Signature]
 TITLE Executive Director DATE 2/3/76
Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission

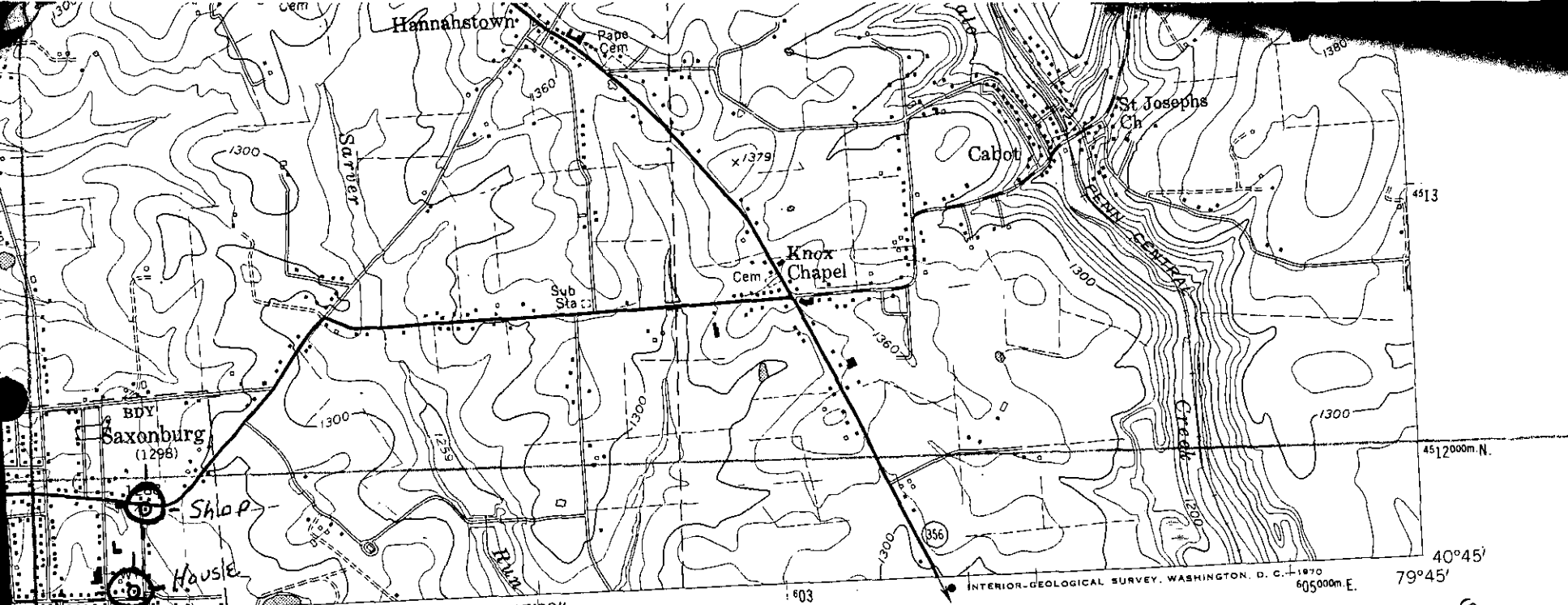
FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DATE 11/13/96

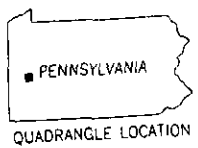
DATE 9/27/76

ATTEST [Signature]
 DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION
 KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER



5 MI. (CURTISVILLE)
 5065 III NE
 SCALE 1:24 000
 0 1000 2000 3000 4000 5000 6000 7000 FEET
 0 1 KILOMETER

FOUR INTERVAL 20 FEET
 M IS MEAN SEA LEVEL



Revisions shown in purple compiled in cooperation with State of Pennsylvania agencies from aerial photographs taken 1969. This information not field checked

INTERIOR-GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON, D. C. 1970
 605000m. E. 79°45'

ROAD CLASSIFICATION
 Heavy-duty ————— Light-duty - - - - -
 Medium-duty - - - - - Unimproved dirt = = = = =

U. S. Route State Route

SAXONBURG, PA.
 SE 1/4 BUTLER 15' QUADRANGLE
 N 4045—W 7945/7.5

1958
 PHOTOREVISED 1969
 AMS 5065 IV SE—SERIES V831

(FREEPORT)
 5065 I NW