

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**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 *Village of Edgewood Historic District*

and/or common

2. Location

street & number *Yardley-Langhorne, Edgewood and Stony Hill Roads* not for publication

city, town *Edgewood* Lower *Makefield Township* vicinity of congressional district *8*

state *Pennsylvania* code *42* county *Bucks* code *071*

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" 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 checked="" 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 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 *Multiple*

street & number

city, town vicinity of state

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. *Bucks County Courthouse*

street & number *E. Court & N. Main*

city, town *Doylestown* state *Pennsylvania*

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title *Pennsylvania Inventory of Historic Places* has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date *3/26/79* federal state county local

depository for survey records *Pennsylvania Historical Museum Commission*

city, town *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
<input checked="" 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

Edgewood is a rural village gathered at the intersection of two principal roads, Yardley-Langhorne and Stony Hill, which culminated in the late 19th century. It is situated in the midst of fields beyond the coastal plain fall line. The majority (16) of the twenty-eight structures are 2½ stories, and eight are outbuildings. Of these twenty-eight structures, five are fieldstone and twenty are frame. There are five 18th century buildings, nineteen 19th century, four 20th century, three 20th century intrusions and one unseated lot.

The original name of this area was "Biles corner", so named for Dr. Williams Biles who build his home and had hi practice at this intersection. In 1850 and for a brief time, it was called Summerville because it was a summer vacation area for Philadelphia families. It then became Edgewood and remained so for 88 years until 1935, when the name was changed to Woodside. In 1978, the Board of Supervisors of Lower Makefield Township, acting upon the request of the township Historical Commission restored the name of Edgewood.

Building Inventory

1. Chapel, Presbyterian Congregation of Newtown, Edgewood Rd.: 1881, 1½ stories, clapboarded, pedimented entrance, steeple with balustrade. (#20-021-004)
2. Makefield Community House, Edgewood Rd.: 1921, 1½ stories, masonry, brick buttresses. Grange Hall. (#20-016-067)
3. Stapler Tenant House #2, Edgewood Rd.: 2½ stories, clapboarded, double house, late 19th c. (#20-021-003)
4. Stapler Tenant House, Edgewood Rd.: 2½ stories, fieldstone and clapboard; pent roof porch, mid-late 19th c. (#20-021-033)
5. A. Heacock house, Edgewood Rd.: 2½ stories, pent roof porch, 2 story flat-roofed addition on east, gable roofed addition on south, mid-late 19th c. (#20-016-65) B. original outbuilding.
7. Fieldstone foundations of three buildings, intersection of Yardley Langhorne and Stony Hill Rds. (#20-066-063)
8. Tomlinson's Store, intersection of Yardley-Langhorne Rd. & Stony Hill Rd.: 2½ stories, fieldstone, frame addition on west, gable roof, Victorian Porch, early 19th c. (#20-012-001)
9. A. Worrall House (a/k/a Schlicher Home for Aged), Yardley Langhorne Rd.: 2½ stories, frame, Victorian, late 19th c. (20-014-06) B. original barn.
10. Heston Hall, Yardley Langhorne Rd.: c 1830, Friends School, Grange, 2½ stories, masonry over fieldstone, 20th c. additions on east and west, outbuilding. (# 20-021-05)
11. A. Flowers' house, Yardley Langhorne Rd.: c early-mid 19th c. 2½ stories, frame, gable roof, flat-roofed porch. (#20-012-004-01)
b. Barn I, frame, lean to, early-mid 19th c.
c. Barn II, frame, early-mid 19th c.
d. Barnboard outbuilding, small, square, early-mid 19th c.
e. Outhouse four seats, frame, early-mid 19th c.
12. Biles' House, Yardley-Langhorne Rd.: 2½ stories, wood plaster over fieldstone, gable roof, pent roof porch, c 1790. (#20-014-007)

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13. Biles' Corner, intersection of Yardley Langhorne & Stony Hill Rds.: 2½ stories, masonry over fieldstone, double house, c 1750; all north on Stony Hill Rd., pent roof porch; Victorian frame addition to ell with pent roof porch. (#20-014-007)
14. Heacock Tenant House, 13 Stony Hill Rd.: frame house, Victorian trim, pitched roof, 1910 (#20-014-007)
15. Heacock Tenant House, 15 Stony Hill Rd.: frame house, 1910 (#20-014-007)
- 16 Heacock Tenant House, 16 Stony Hill Rd.: frame house, pitched roof, Victorian porch, 2½ stories, 1910. (#20-014-007)
- 17 Newtown-Yardleyville Plank Company Tool House, 17 Stony Hill Rd.: 2 stories, frame, late north, south, west additions, approx. 150 yrs. old. (#20-013-003)
18. Berrell's Store and Post Office, intersection of Yardley-Langhorn and Stony Hill Rds., NE corner: frame double house, late 19th c. (#20-016-036)
- 19 Blacksmith Samuel Webster's House, Yardley-Langhorne Rd. frame, 2½ stories, gable roof, pent roof porches front and west sides, additions on north and east, c. 1830. New outbuilding. (#20-014-009)
- 20 Harris House, Yardley-Langhorne Rd.: 2½ stories, frame, double house, peaked roof, on doorway shelters, nor addition of two stories, midlate 19th c. (#20-021-001)
21. Foundation of blacksmith shop, Yardley-Langhorne Rd. (#20-021-002)
22. Bennett House, Yarkley langhorne Rd.: 2½ stories, clapboard, gable roof, blacksmith and wheelwright residence, mid-late 19th c. (#20-021-02)
23. A. "Old Shade"; Miller-Yardley-Langhorne Rd. at Mirror Lake Rd.: licensed tavern 1796-1799, west side fieldstone dated 1765, 2½ stories 1810 fieldstone addition, gable roof, 1 story 20th c. addition on north (#20-016-047)
- b. Carriagn House, 2 stories, barnboard, c. 1800.
- c. fieldstone spring house, late 18th c.

LIST OF INSTRUSIONS WITHIN THE VILLATE OF EDGEWOOD, LOWER MAKEFIELD TOWNSHIP

1. Moyer, Roy & Vera, 2690 Edgewood Rd.; ranch house. (#20-016-066)
2. Schwartz, Norman & Blanche, unseated lot on Yardley-Langhorne Rd: (#20-016-047-01)
3. Anderson, Richard & Marie, Yardley-Langhorne Rd: 1 story frame bungalow (#20-016-048)
4. Flowers, James P., Yardley-Langhorne Rd.: 2 stories, colonial. (#20-012-004)

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 checked="" 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 checked="" 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 checked="" 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

Builder/Architect

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The village was in the center of an agrarian economy, which dominated its commerce. Landowners of the day provided food for townspeople from Morrisville to Philadelphia. Although the primary business was agriculture, Edgewood had all the supportive businesses that a farming community relied upon; blacksmiths, wheelwrights, boot and shoemaker, etc. It was also a thriving summer resort community with several boarding houses and, later, in the early 1900's, a hotel. A greenhouse had a major impact in the early 20th century continuing the tradition of an industry based on agriculture.

The main crops for the Edgewood area were wheat, hay, corn, oats, and rye. They were sold or used for livestock feed and human consumption. Harvested flax and hemp were transformed into clothing, twine, sacks and linen cord. The eventual adoption of scientific farming methods, such as crop rotation and fertilization improved yields, but did not greatly alter the type of crops grown here. Although the village today is more properly considered adjacent to farms, it originally consisted of just a few houses on fairly large tracts of farmland. The farms were family operations relying on a great deal of manual labor. These people were housed in tenant houses on these properties. In the latter part of the 19th century, a combination of improved metal production and more effective farm machinery were responsible for greater efficiency, but the main ingredients in a successful farm operation were still hard work and good weather. The Village of Edgewood acted as a service and support area for the local farms and as a meeting place for the Edgewood and Middletown Grange.

The architecture of Edgewood and its immediate environs reflects on the needs and building technology of the community, spanning a period from the late 1600's to the late 1800's. Basically, the architecture can be broken down into three broad categories: colonial, mid-19th century farm tenant and craftsman's houses and Victorian. The Miller house (Old Shade", #20-016-047) with its Adamesque doorway and beautiful appointments is a fine example of federal architecture. Heston Hall (The Grange, #20-012-05) was also built in the grand manner with ornate woodwork and 12 ft. ceilings.

The Bennett (20-021-002). Harris (#20-021-001) and Flowers (#20-012-004-01) homes are frame, and housed many craftsmen, blacksmiths, wheelwrights, carpet weavers, a harness maker and a house and sign painter, all listed in the business directory for Edgewood in 1860.

Some of the original barns and carriage houses remain today, and the village boasts a much-publicized outhouse with four seats, two for children and two for adults.

Tomlinson's (#20-012-011), the general store, was a handsome fieldstone 19th century building and the physician who built the first dwelling at the crossroads of the town, Dr. Biles (#20-016-036), also built his of fieldstone in 1750, now covered with masonry. Later, the local carpenter, Worrell (#20-014-06), was to build a rambling house of the Victorian period.

In summary, the architecture of Edgewood reflects the needs, technology, and the income levels of the community with little of the changing architectural styles and a great deal of emphasis of function over form.

It would be difficult to establish which of the roads intersecting in Edgewood is older. There is reason to believe that the Fallsington-Newtown (Stony Hill) Road is older since it facilitated travel from the upper part of the township to the Friends Meeting House in Fallsington, it being one of the earliest in Bucks County, 1690. The Ferry at Yardleyville was not established until 1693.

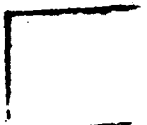
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In 1807, the Turnpike Company was newly formed and a toll house was erected on the Fallsington-Newtown Road. Another important element of transportation in the life of the village was the Penna. Railroad's Reading Line with a station stop on Stony Hill Road and numerous boarding houses and stable facilities listed in their directory. Philadelphia families travelled on the railroad to summer here in the country and Edgewood was known as "Summerville" before 1850 and for a short period of time.

Although the village developed out of the needs of the surrounding farms, and in response to the needs of traffic at the juncture of these two major roads, Edgewood never developed beyond the point of being a rural hamlet.

Except for the construction of three of four 20th century structures, it retains the ambience of a mid-19th century village to this day.



9. Major Bibliographical References

See Continuation Sheet

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 33.7
 Quadrangle name Trenton West, PA - N.J., Langhorn & PA Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UMT References

A	718	5110	3180	44	512	31010	B	718	5110	6140	44	512	21610
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting		Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting
C	718	5110	6120	44	512	01410	D	718	5110	41010	44	512	01310
E	718	5110	3140	44	512	11910	F	718	5110	7010	44	512	61010
G	718	5110	9140	44	512	61210	H	718	5110	8610	44	512	31010

Verbal boundary description and justification I 1 8 5 1 0 8 4 0 4 4 5 2 2 0 0

See Continuation Sheet

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

Anaruth Hynson, Judity Montgomery, Lavinia Plough, Carol Schermerhorn, Florence White. Photographer, Carol Dubois.
 John Hendry, CETA
 name/title Elaine W. Low, Chariman

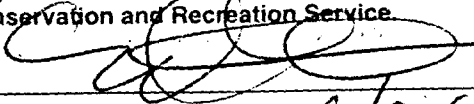
organization Lower Makefield Township Historical Commission date February 1979
 street & number 904 Greenway Avenue telephone 295-2690
 city or town Morrisville state Pennsylvania

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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature 
 title ED WEINTRAUB, State Historic Preservation Officer date 6/24/80

For HCRS use only	
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register	date
Keeper of the National Register	date
Attest:	date
Chief of Registration	

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Tax & Census Records, B.C.H.S. Spruance Library

Boyd's Business Directory of 1860 (Edgewood)

Battles, J.H., "A History of Bucks County", A. Warner, Publishers, 1887

MacReynolds, "Place Names in Bucks County- 1955" (Edgewood)

Penna. R. R. Co. Directory, Summer of 1897

Maps of Lower Makefield Township - 1850, 1858, 1876, 1891

Turner, "Toll Roads" - Paper of B.C. H. S. 1909, Vol. VII, Pgs. 565-575.

Bucks County Intelligencer - 1857

Hazard's "Register of Pennsylvania"-Vol. II Page. 293-299

