

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

For NPS use only

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

received

date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

RECEIVED

1. Name

historic Forester's Hall

and/or common Forester's Hall

1983  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION

2. Location

street & number Broad & Harford Streets

N/A not for publication

city, town Milford

N/A vicinity of 10th. Congressional District

state Pa.

code 42

county Pike

code 103

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied (partially)	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>N/A</u> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<u>N/A</u> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input 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:

4. Owner of Property

name Krawitz & Ridley

street & number 104 W. High Street

city, town Milford

N/A vicinity of

state Pa.

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Pike County Courthouse Deed Book #437, page 9

street & number Broad Street

city, town Milford

state Pa.

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Crossroads, publication of Pike Co. Historical Society  
has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date 1980

federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records Pike County Historical Society

city, town Milford

state Pa.

## 7. Description

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			N/A

### Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Forester's Hall, or Forest Hall, is a large eight-bay three-story commercial building in Milford, extending from the corner of Broad and Harford Street to Pear Alley. Built by James Pinchot, its style echoes the modified chateau style of Grey Towers, the Pinchot home. The original part of the building (c. 1886) is constructed entirely of bluestone, while the remainder (c. 1904) is bluestone below and ordinary stone covered with smooth plaster above. Small towers and a steep pointed roof line broken asymmetrically with gables, dormers, and three bluestone chimneys characterize the design. At each end of the second story are alcoves, with decorative overhangs, which originally contained statuary. Inserted in the plaster at intervals between the alcoves are three medallions celebrating famous naturalists. The building is chateausque in its emphasis upon height and verticality and typically Gallic in the use of stucco as a smooth surfacing, combined with quoins for emphasis and textural interest.

Bluestone quoining is used liberally in the 1904 addition to outline windows, corners, and gables. The letter P in the third-story gable at the right of the principal facade balances a clock dormer in the third story extreme left. Heavy stone lintels are used above all the windows, and a stone arch over what was once a doorway at the extreme left is repeated over the formal doorway at the right, the latter having the words FOREST HALL cut into the stone. Slate covers the steeply-pitched roofs. Decorative iron finials finish the highest peaks. The exterior, while massively solid, is in need of repair. The plaster covering the stone is falling off, leaving the building in an unsightly condition and creating a danger to passers-by.

At present the ground floor houses a drug store, a beauty parlor, an ice-cream store, and a barber shop. One very large store space and a smaller one are unoccupied. These store interiors offer no special architectural features other than lofty ceilings in some. (In the largest store space a dropped ceiling has been installed.)

The main hallway and the other stores, however, contain a multitude of astonishing features. The spacious hallway at the right has elaborately hand-carved newel posts; the broad (six foot wide) staircase, banister, banister spindles, wainscot, and ornate ceiling molding are all done in expensive hard woods.

A residential apartment in the right-hand second story contains a custom-made walnut door, curved to fit the small tower there. The tiny tower room overlooks the busy street below. This apartment contains a handsomely-proportioned living room with fireplace, two bedrooms, kitchen, bath, and hallways. Another residential apartment at the left end of the building, second story, appears to have been created by cutting up more spacious rooms. This apartment, however, does contain interesting windows overlooking the street and in two rooms there are small decorative fireplaces.

The main feature of the second floor is a very large meeting hall which was once the center of Milford's social life. It is two stories high, extending clear to the roof, which is massively supported by an unusual combination of double scissors trusses and king-post trusses along its length. A large marble fireplace dominates one end of the room, a stage the other. The walls are paneled to a height of eighteen or twenty feet in board-and-batten style with clear yellow pine beaded roofers; there is a half round chair rail molding and a carved walnut molding cap. Doors and windows are deeply recessed.

The third story over the apartment at the left is an unfinished storage attic, but the third story over the apartment at the right contains a small lodge hall in good condition. There is a small two-level stage at the back and a one-level stage at the front of the room. On the outside wall halfway down the room is a very beautiful white marble fireplace with ivy leaves and vines incised in the marble and a bas-relief of a woman's head in the front center. Antique glass shades cover the hanging light fixture, although the presence of gas fixtures show the building once used the locally manufactured gas for illumination. At the rear of the building a low, one story section was undoubtedly added to the 1886 part at a later date, and three of the five outdoor wooden cellar doors have recently been replaced with steel covers for the outdoor cellar steps, but these changes are very minor impingements.

## 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 checked="" 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 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 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** 1904 **Builder/Architect** E.S. Wolfe/Hunt & Hunt

### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Forester's Hall built as classrooms and auditoriums played a significant role in the development of forestry education and training spearheaded by Gifford Pinchot and the Yale School of Forestry.

Through his early years of work in the Division of Forestry, Giffory Pinchot realized the urgent need for trained foresters to carry out the resource policies then being initiated. Because of the limited opportunity for American students to study forestry in their own country, Pinchot soon interested his parents in the idea of helping him to found a graduate school of forestry in association with his alma-mater, Yale University. In March 1900, Yale accepted the gift of a \$150,000 endowment from the Pinchot family. (This original endowment eventually was doubled by the financial contributions of various other members of the Pinchot and Eno families.) In accepting the gift, the University was obligated, for a period of twenty-one years, to maintain a summer school of forestry at the Pinchot's Grey Towers estate. James W. Pinchot placed a forest tract, located on the southern bounds of his land holdings, at the disposal of the school.

The Yale School of Forestry opened in the Fall of 1900, and summer sessions then followed on the estate. The program was originally designed as a six-week period of elementary instruction for those students interested in an introductory course in forestry. From 1904 through 1926, Grey Towers was the site of the annual twelve-week summer term of the professional training course leading to a Master's degree in forestry. Students were afforded the experience of learning through field work in the woodlands and forest plantations of the estate. This opportunity to supplement their academic education through on-site training proved to be invaluable to the young foresters, many of whom came from urban environments.

James Pinchot took a strong paternalistic attitude toward fostering the success of the forestry school, which he regarded as a pet project during the later years of his life. In addition to the use of land on his estate, he generously provided for the construction of various buildings and facilities for summer instruction. The students' living quarters were provided by two rows of tents that formed the camp's "street", in addition, frame structures, such as the kitchen and the clubhouse, were built to serve the camp. During the early years of the school, an outbuilding that was begun around 1890, probably to Richard Morris Hunt's design, served as a classroom facility and instructors' residence. Known then as "the school house" or "Foresters' Cottage," this building was located southwest of the main residence, near the southwest corner of the walled garden. Around 1917, it was expanded to serve as the summer residence of Amos Pinchot and his family, who had inherited it in the division of his father's estate, and was called "the Garden Cottage."

In July, 1904, James Pinchot contracted the construction of a multipurpose structure, on Broad Street in the village of Milford, which was to be known as Forester's Hall. C.C.D. Pinchot's former store was razed to clear a site for the new building, which adjoined, and stylistically matched, the 1880s post office building at the corner of Broad and Harford Streets. Designed in December 1903 by Hunt (the successor firm of Richard M. Hunt, who died in 1895.) the combined building's story was divided into commercial shops, while the first upper storys were used as a classroom facility for the forestry school, as well as a meeting place for fraternal organizations.

1904, the year Forester's Hall was constructed, marked the first year of a twelve-week professional summer training course at Grey Towers. Forester's Hall complimented the use of the natural features of the Pinchot estate and served as the main classroom area after

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

USDA, Forest Service; Historic Structures Report - Grey Towers: October 1979  
 Carrs, Nancy Jean; Grey Towers, 1884-1980 A Social, Architectural, and Decorative Arts History of James Wallace Pinchot's Country House in Milford, Pennsylvania; Columbia University Department of Architecture and Planning, 1981  
 Crossroads, 1978  
 Written agreement between James W. Pinchot, owner and E.S. Wolfe, Contractor; Pike County Historical Society.

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property .66  
 Quadrangle name Milford, PA

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

### UTM References

A	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	Zone	Easting	Northing
C	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
E	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
G	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

B	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	Zone	Easting	Northing
D	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
F	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
H	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

### Verbal boundary description and justification

The property includes Borough of Milford lot numbers 419, 420 & 421 each lot being 40 feet wide on Broad Street and extending 180 feet in depth to Gooseberry Alley. Also, lot 422 situated on the corner of Broad & Harford Streets.

### List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries N/A

state	<u>N/A</u>	code	<u>N/A</u>	county	<u>N/A</u>	code	<u>N/A</u>
state	<u>N/A</u>	code	<u>N/A</u>	county	<u>N/A</u>	code	<u>N/A</u>

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Mrs. Betz Steiner, Mr. Leon Husson, RKR Hess Assoc., Mr. Carson O. Helfrich, Plng.D  
 organization Pike County Planning Commission date 12/21/82  
 street & number 106 Broad Street telephone 717 296-8060  
 city or town Milford state PA 18337

# 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 \_\_\_\_\_ date \_\_\_\_\_

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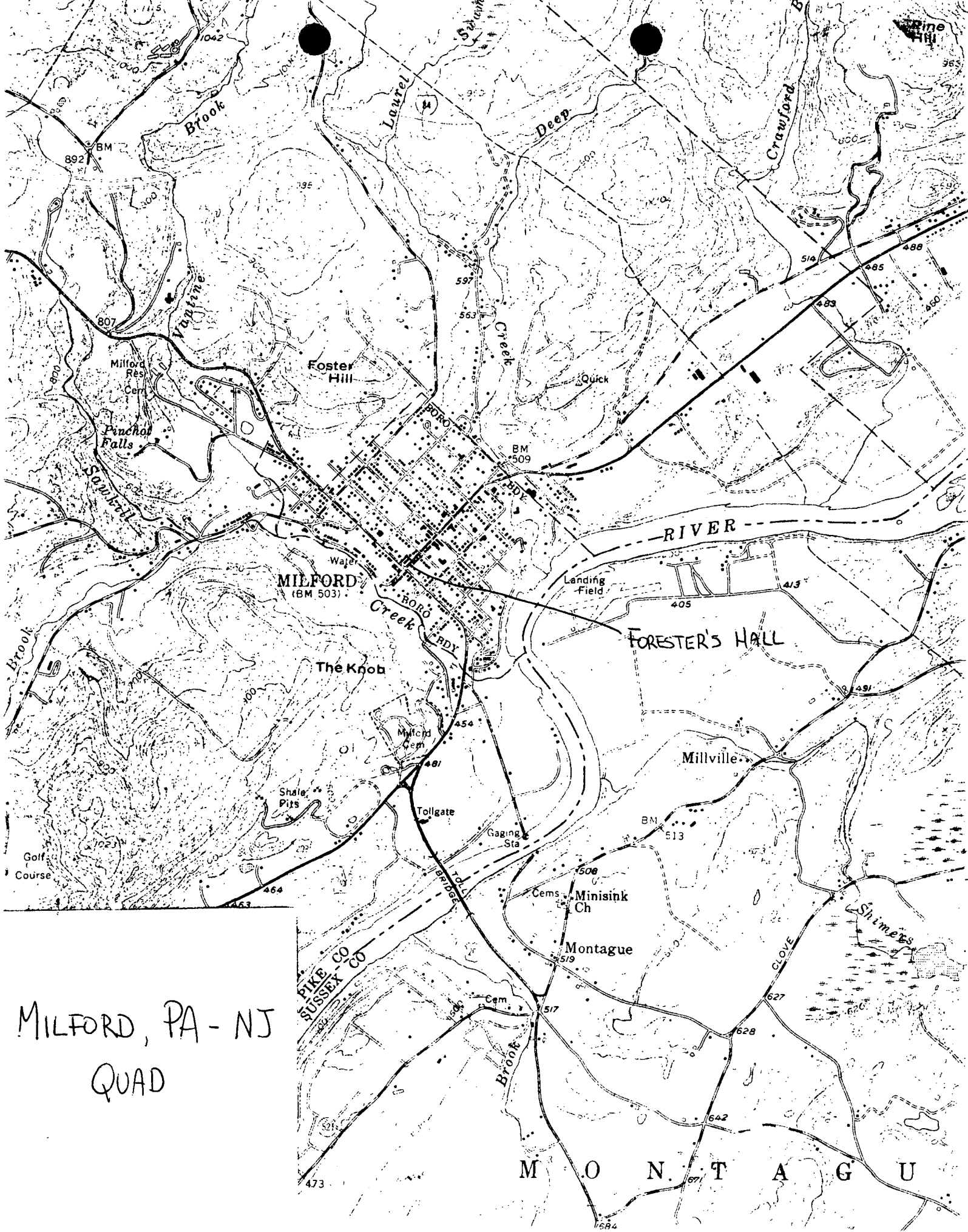
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

date \_\_\_\_\_

Keeper of the National Register

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_ date \_\_\_\_\_

Chief of Registration



MILFORD, PA - NJ  
QUAD

M O N T A G U