

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name BLACK HORSE INN
other names/site number SAMPSON & THE LION

2. Location

street & number 1432 Bethlehem Pike N/A not for publication
city, town Flourtown (Springfield Township) N/A vicinity
state Pennsylvania code PA county Montgomery code 091 zip code 19031

3. Classification

Ownership of Property <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private <input type="checkbox"/> public-local <input type="checkbox"/> public-State <input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	Category of Property <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s) <input type="checkbox"/> district <input type="checkbox"/> site <input type="checkbox"/> structure <input type="checkbox"/> object	Number of Resources within Property <table border="0"> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Contributing</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Noncontributing</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><u>1</u></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><u>1</u> buildings</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">_____</td> <td style="text-align: center;">_____ sites</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">_____</td> <td style="text-align: center;">_____ structures</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">_____</td> <td style="text-align: center;">_____ objects</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><u>1</u></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><u>1</u> Total</td> </tr> </table>	Contributing	Noncontributing	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u> buildings	_____	_____ sites	_____	_____ structures	_____	_____ objects	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u> Total
Contributing	Noncontributing													
<u>1</u>	<u>1</u> buildings													
_____	_____ sites													
_____	_____ structures													
_____	_____ objects													
<u>1</u>	<u>1</u> Total													

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A
Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Signature of certifying official _____ Date _____
Dr. Brent Glass, Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission
 State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official _____ Date _____
 State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register.
 See continuation sheet.

determined eligible for the National Register. See continuation sheet.

determined not eligible for the National Register.

removed from the National Register.

other, (explain): _____

Signature of the Keeper _____ Date of Action _____

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)
DOMESTIC / Hotel

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)
DOMESTIC / Hotel

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(enter categories from instructions)

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

Federal

foundation Stone

walls Stucco

roof Metal

other

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The " Black Horse Inn " lies on the east side of Bethlehem Pike in the center of Flourtown. The 1 1/2 mile stretch going through Springfield Township was and still is a " business " strip of commercially oriented buildings. The original portion of the Inn was built in 1744 by Abraham Wakerly and consisted of a 2 1/2 story stuccoed stone building with a 1 story stuccoed stone kitchen attached to the rear. Both of these are roofed with tin. In 1833, Jacob Meninger added a 3 story addition to the north end using the same construction materials. Between 1880 and 1908, three 1 story frame additions were added to the rear by Mr. McCloskey. The over-all size of the current building is approximately 54' along the Pike by 33' in depth. The Inn has been owned by the McCloskey family since 1880 and is a typical nineteenth century inn with its integrity completely intact. A sketch plan accompanies the photographs.

Over all, the building is stuccoed stone, white, with dark green doors, shutters and exterior trim. A narrow porch added in 1833 runs the entire length of the front, west, side and along the south side over the first floor level. The original portion, 1744, and the porch are roofed in tin while the 1833 and c. 1908 additions have shingled roofs.

The Inn is best described in two portions, the original 1744 part and the 1833 addition with appropriate notes on the c. 1908 additions.

The first floor, 1744, consists of a 16' x 18' (interior dimensions) Tavern room entered from the Pike via a two panel, six horizontal light door with a fan shaped transom over and from the south side by a four panel door with a fan shaped transom which extends over a small window on the right. The door into the 15' x 15' " kitchen " is four panel with no transom. The windows of these two rooms are two over two with panel shutters with cast iron hardware. The one story stuccoed frame addition to the rear of the " kitchen ", c. 1908, has a plain door, two small windows and three, six over six unshuttered windows.

A chimney on the south wall indicates that there was once a fireplace in the " tavern " room which no longer exists. There is a fireplace in the north wall of the " kitchen " and a chimney between the 1908 rear addition and the " kitchen " which was probably added when a heating system was installed.

The second floor, 1744, has three, six over six windows on the front and three, six over six windows on the south side. These originally had panel shutters. A second floor was added over the " kitchen " in 1833. This also has six over six windows, two on the south side, two on the east (rear) and one on the north side.

See continuation sheet

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G N/A

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

TRANSPORTATION

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1744 - 1926

Significant Dates

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

The Bethlehem Pike or " Great Road " was petitioned for in 1698 and opened in 1703. Part of a highway system from Philadelphia to the Moravian settlement in Bethlehem, it was completed by 1734. Starting from the Germantown Pike in Chestnut Hill, it runs for a mile and a half through Springfield Township. Eight inns were located along this stretch with the most centrally located of these at the 11½ mile stone were the " Black Horse " and the " Eagle ", the first dating to 1744 & 1833 and the second to 1762. Over this road, local lime was carried to the city and grain was carried from as far away as Salford to be ground at a number of nearby mills on the Wissahickon Creek. By 1763, a stagecoach line ran between the City and Bethlehem and by 1820, nine stage lines travelled through Flourtown daily. As Flourtown was approximately 10 miles from the City and horses were rested or changed at about 10 mile intervals, this was the first stop outward bound and the last stop inbound. With the most extensive accommodations for farmers and lime carriers as far as stabling went and with blacksmiths, wheelwrights and harness makers immediately adjacent, the " Black Horse " and the " Eagle " captured the major portion of the " commercial " trade. The " Eagle " ceased operations after 1883, the " Black Horse " continued into the present century. Architecturally, the " Black Horse " appears today virtually as it appeared in 1908.

The early portion of the " Black Horse " was built by Abraham Wakerly in 1744 consisting of a 2½ story, one over one room building measuring 16' by 18' with a 1 story kitchen attached in the rear measuring 15' by 15'. This first section served farmer, lime-carrier and traveler and, after 1763, stagecoach passengers. With the growth of trade and travel, a new owner, Jacob Meninger, added a 3 story addition on the north end in 1833. In addition to the above mentioned, from 1901 to 1926, the Inn also served passengers and crews of the trolley line running from the City to Bethlehem.

Of the eight inns mentioned, the " Wheelpump ", c. 1725 and located near the 10½ mile stone but on the west side of the Pike, probably started out as a private dwelling and, of necessity, the owner extended the courtesy of the road to travelers. This was a common practice in early times. It was licensed by 1742. This was a " commercial " inn. By 1798, it was listed as being 50' by 30', 2 story, stone with a frame barn. Next northwardly was " Ottinger's " on the east side. Built in 1743, this was originally a private dwelling then opened as a " Gentlemen's " Inn to serve those traveling by stage or horseback.

See continuation sheet

9. Major Bibliographical References

MacFarlane, John J. - History of Early Chestnut Hill, Published by City History Society of Philadelphia, 1927. 30 - 39
History of Montgomery County, Pennsylvania, Edited by Theodore L. Bean, Published by Everts & Peck, Philadelphia, 1884. 1074
Edward Mathews Scrapbooks - Unpublished, available at The Historical Society of Montgomery County. (1895 - 1916)
Montgomery County Office of Recorder of Deeds, 1 Montgomery Plaza, Norristown, PA 19104
City of Philadelphia Archives - City Hall Annex, Room 523, Phila., PA 19107
Original Tax Lists for Springfield Township - 1794 - 1815, available at The Historical Society of Montgomery County, 1654 DeKalb Pike, Norristown, PA
Minutes of the Springfield Township Board of Commissioners, 1901 - 1905, Springfield Township Building, 1510 Papermill Road, Wyndmoor, PA 19118

See continuation sheet

Previous documentation on file (NPS):
 preliminary determination of individual listing (38 CFR 67) has been requested
 previously listed in the National Register
 previously determined eligible by the National Register
 designated a National Historic Landmark
 recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
 recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary location of additional data:
 State historic preservation office
 Other State agency
 Federal agency
 Local government
 University
 Other
Specify repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acres of property 2 Acres

UTM References

A 18 481820 4439060
Zone Easting Northing
C _____

B _____
Zone Easting Northing
D _____

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description Beginning at a point on the NE side of Bethlehem Pike 706.54' from the intersection with the NE side of McCloskey Rd. thence, N 80° E - 498', thence N 7° E 292.99', thence S 80° W 412.5', thence along the NE side of Bethlehem Pike S 1° W 289.41' to place of beginning. Containing 2 Acres. Bounded on north by Pa. State Liquor store, east, by School District of Springfield Township, south, by R.R. Reigner's Sons and west, by Bethlehem Pike.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes the tavern house and the lot historically associated with the property.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Marie C. Kitto - Vice President
organization Springfield Township Historical Society date August 3, 1988
street & number 419 Norfolk Rd., telephone (215) 233 - 2124
city or town Flourtown state PA zip code 19031

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Black Horse Inn

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The third or " half " story has one arched six over six dormer windows , on the front and the rear. The southern gable end is lighted by two 3/6 windows.

The 1833 addition, a full three stories, measures approximately 36' x 18', again, interior measure. There are two entry doors on the front, both four panel with two light transoms. One leads to the " Public Room " and one enters private family quarters. The shed roof porch is supported by Doric columns. Two horizontally slatted uprights set off the entrance and windows of the family quarters. The windows on the first floor are six over six, panel shuttered with cast iron hardware. There are four on the front and two on the north end. A chimney on the north end serves fireplaces on the first and second floors of the addition. A one story frame addition on the rear, c. 1908, consists of a family kitchen and kitchen porch and a stuccoed frame lavatory.

The second floor has six over six windows which originally had louvred panel shutters. There are six on the front, two on the north side and five on the rear. The windows on the third floor are three over three with six on the front, two on the north side and five on the rear. These too were shuttered at an early date.

The interior is also best described in two parts. In the 1744 portion, the " Tavern " room has plain plaster walls with deep, wood-lined windows. The wooden window and door moldings are very simple. A massive oak victorian bar was added in 1880 when the first Mr. McCloskey purchased the Inn. There is a patterned tin ceiling and cornice and the random width flooring is covered with linoleum. The " kitchen " to the rear has like walls and woodwork, the ceiling is plastered and the floor is random boards. An enclosed dogleg stairway leads up to a landing then branches to lead up a few steps to the bedroom over the kitchen and a short hall leading to the second floor bedroom. The small 1908 addition to the rear is also plastered but otherwise unnoteworthy.

The second floor front room at the end of the hall has painted plaster walls and random floors. There is a six panel door with wrought iron hardware. The windows are deep silled and wood lined with simple wood moldings. The 1833 bedroom over the kitchen is plastered with deep windows. Here, only the sills are wood, the plaster being continued around to the window proper. A six panel door leads into the 1833 addition from this hallway and a curved stairway leads to the third or " half " level. This third level room is also plastered with deep silled windows.

In the 1833 addition, on the first level, a doorway leads to the small " Public Room ". The walls and ceiling are plastered and linoleum covers random flooring. The window treatment here and throughout the first floor match that of the " Tavern " room. All interior doors on this level are six panel with cast iron hardware. A doorway leads to the family quarters which consist of two parlors and a dining-room. These three rooms are wallpapered. The 1908 family kitchen is also plastered. The mantels in the one parlor and the dining room are simply styled. A curved stairway leads to the second and third floors.

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The second floor bedrooms are simply plastered with random flooring. They have ~~six~~ panel doors with wrought iron hardware. The windows are treated as those on the first floor.

The third floor bedrooms, again plastered, have four panel doors and deep silled basically unadorned windows.

The additions after 1833 have been discussed throughout the narrative. These additions do not in any way detract from the integrity of the building.

The old frame barn in photograph # 2 has been demolished. The remaining non-contributing building sits at the rear of the Inn. This structure is part stone and part frame and was built at an early date. The stone portion is now a garage. This building does not detract from the integrity of the Inn but rather enhances it.

As can be seen by comparing the 1880 and 1908 photographs with current ones, the Black Horse Inn has been little altered since that time.

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Black Horse Inn

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The same can be said for the " Evening Rest " built 1746 on the west side north of " Ottinger's ".

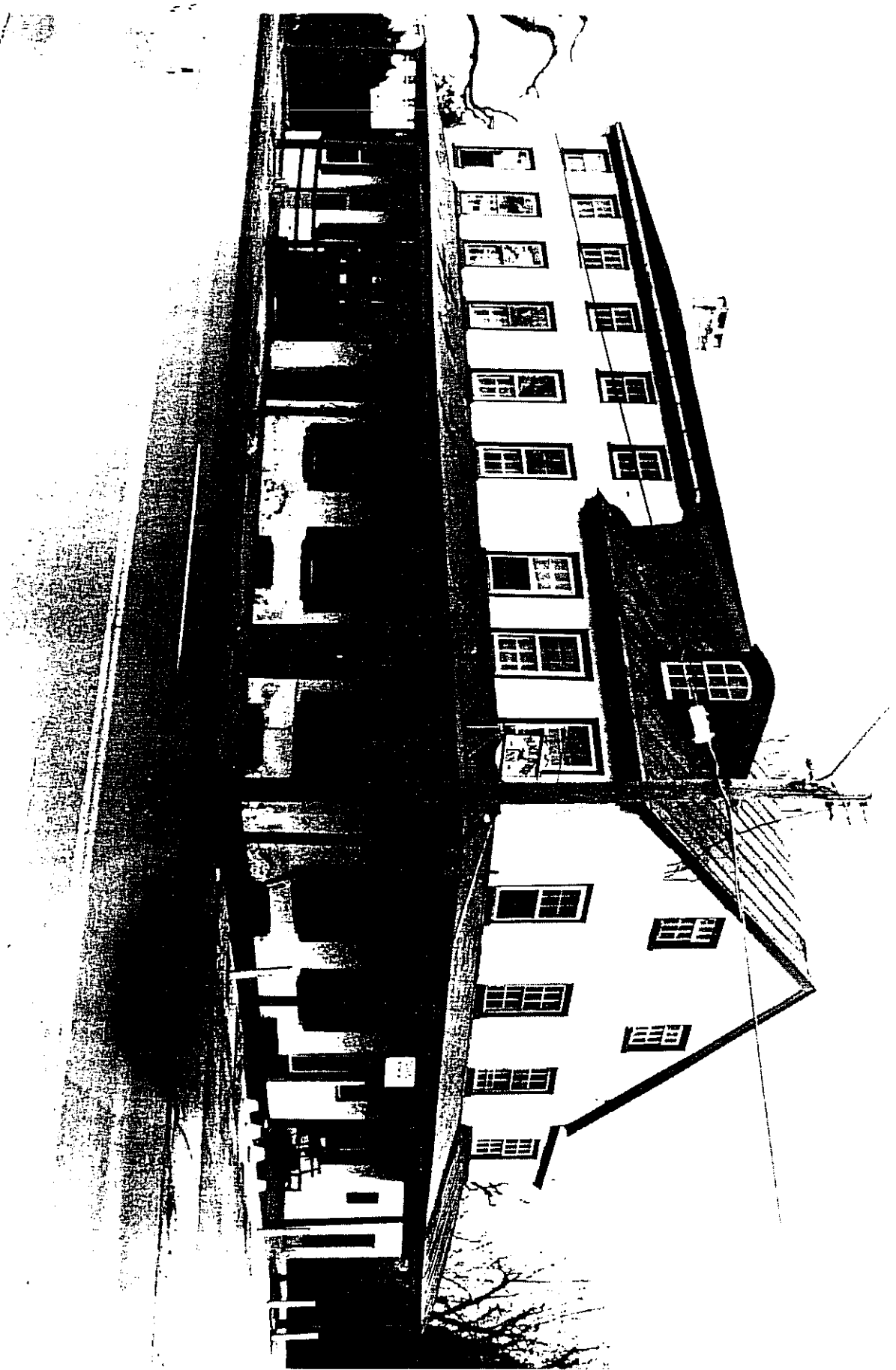
At the 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ milestone, the " Eagle ", 1762, was on the west side and the " Black Horse " on the east, 1744 & 1833. In 1798, the " Eagle ", later " Slifer's " was a 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ story stuccoed stone building measuring 50' by 33' with a kitchen measuring 25' by 13'. It had two stables, one 30' by 25' of stone and one 40' by 12' of frame. The " Black Horse " at the same date still had its 1744 proportions with a stone barn measuring 52' by 30'. It should be noted that shortly after 1798 a frame barn was added that measured about what the stone barn did. With the 1833 addition, the " Black Horse " rivalled the " Eagle " in size. Both of these inns were " commercial " and it is interesting to note that both inns were owned, alternately, by the same two men, Abraham Slifer and Michael Baum in the 1800's.

A short distance north at the southwest corner of the intersection of Bethlehem Pike and W. Mill Rd. was the " Wagon & Horses " built by Christopher Rex in 1765. Also a " commercial " Inn it was later known as " Kline's ". In 1798 it was listed as 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ story, stone, 30' by 20' with a stone barn measuring 65' by 25'. Directly across the Pike from this was " Masen's ". Built about 1744, this began as a private dwelling and became a " gentlemen's " inn.

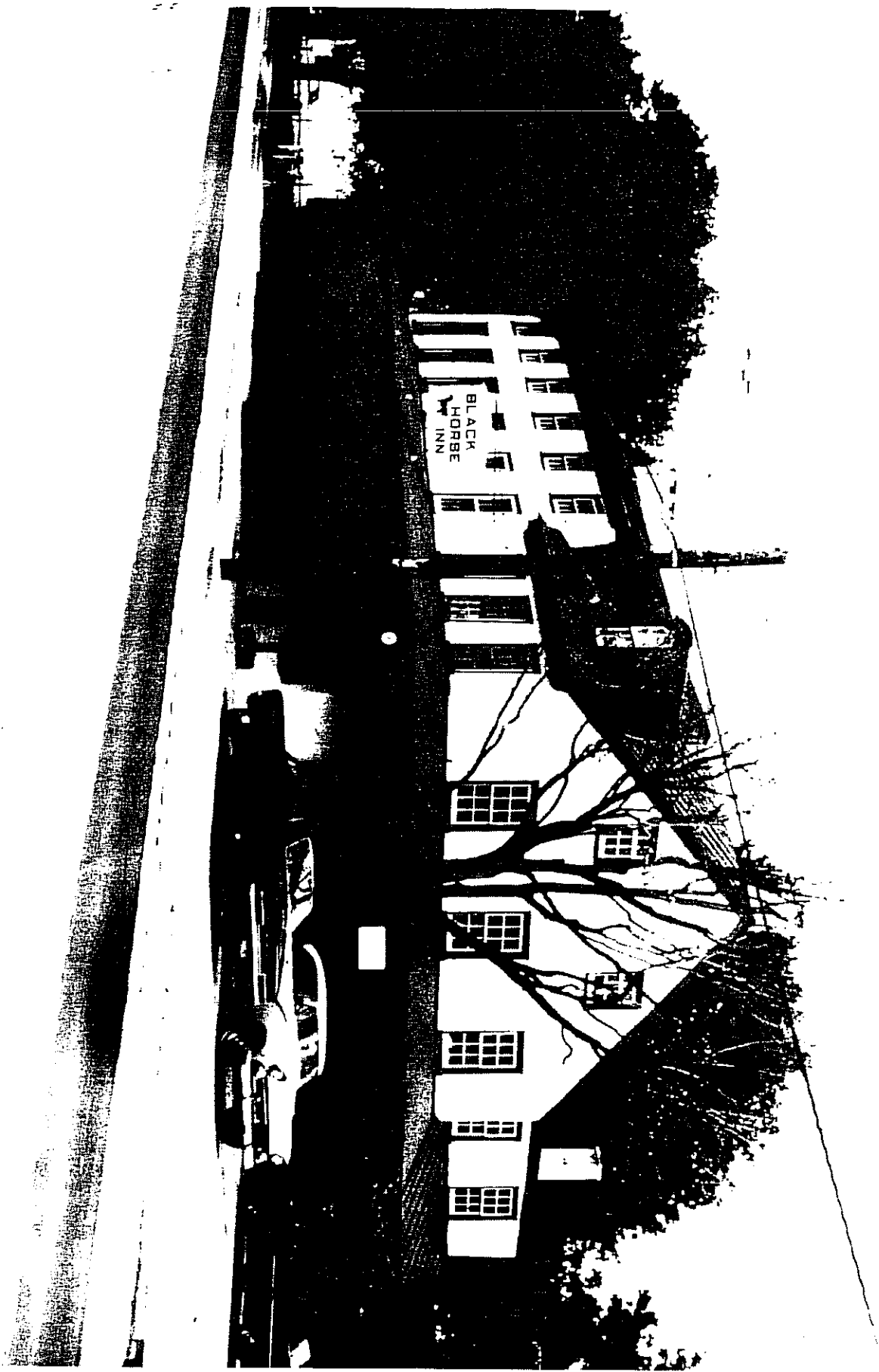
At the northernmost end of Flourtown near the Whitmarsh Township line and on the east side of the Pike was the " Green Tree " built in 1811 by John Bitting. It was a " commercial " inn and of comparable size to the other " commercial " inns.

The significance of the " Black Horse " in terms of transportation runs from 1744 when it served the farmers and lime-carriers to 1763 when it picked up the stage-coach traffic to 1901 when it served the trolley lines to end in 1926 when the trolley lines were discontinued. Its architectural significance rests in its integrity. Retaining the form of a typical nineteenth century inn, its importance lies in being a continuous transportation center into the twentieth century.

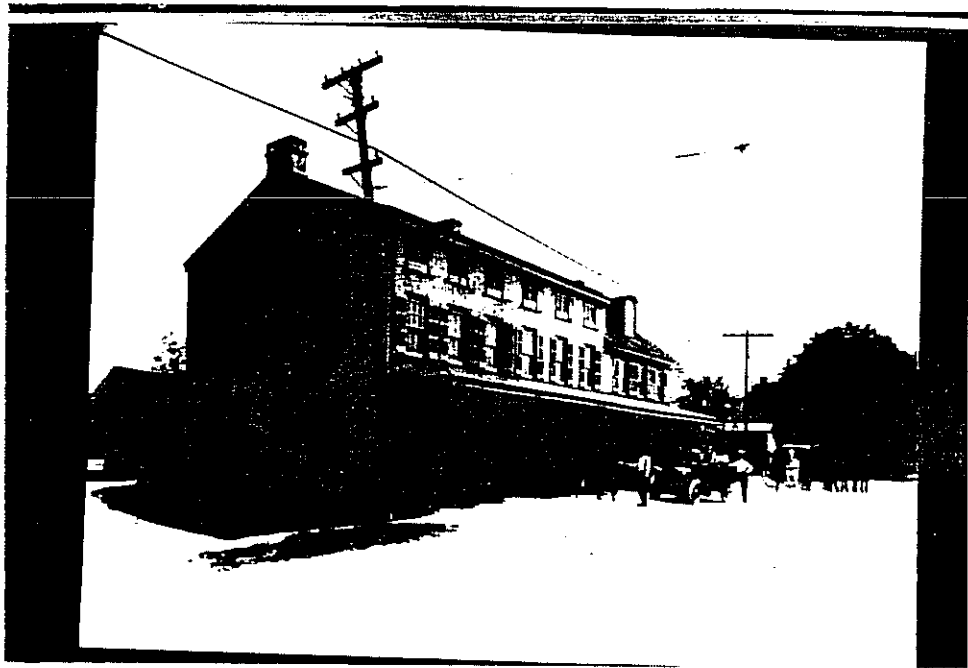
View from North east



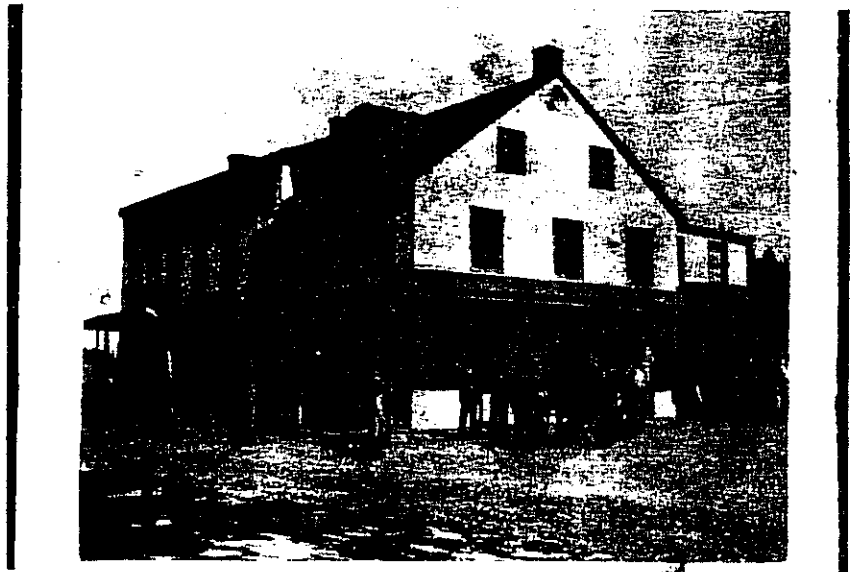
Earlier View from Northeast



View from Northwest
taken ca. 1908



View from Northeast
taken ca. 1880



View from Northeast
taken ca. 1885

