

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 Sheffield Apartments  
other names/site number N/A

### 2. Location

street & number 2003 North Third Street N/A not for publication  
city, town Harrisburg N/A vicinity  
state Pennsylvania code PA. county Dauphin code 043 zip code 17102

### 3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> objects
		<u>1</u>	<u>0</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.

Dr. Brent D. Glass  
Signature of certifying official

5/2/90  
Date

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 \_\_\_\_\_

**Function or Use**Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)  
Domestic/Multiple dwellingCurrent Functions (enter categories from instructions)  
Domestic/Multiple dwelling**7. Description**Architectural Classification  
(enter categories from instructions)

Mission Revival

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation Sandstone  
walls Brickroof Terra Cotta, Asphalt  
other N/A

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The Sheffield Apartments is a 3 story common bond brick rectangular apartment building c. 1925 in an early 20th century eclectic style with Mission style influences. Located in a small enclave of Victorian mansions on North Third Street, it is distinctive in design yet similar in scale to those buildings. It is set on a slight rise. The integrity of the building is excellent.

The primary (west) facade is three bay, with a 3 story, three-sided bay on each side of the entrance bay. On each story the bay windows are four 6/1 double hung wood windows. Second and third stories of the three-sided bays are copper with decorative molding between stories. At the base of each three-sided bay is a single, 3 pane wood basement window with wood surround. The entrance is set in a slight central projection. The wooden front door has 15 panes with a five pane light on each side. A decorative copper awning with stained glass petals hangs over the front door--on the petals, "Sheffield" is spelled out. Each story above the entrance has a double window, each 6/1 wood double hung with flat brick sills. Simple wood brackets support a wood roof with terracotta tiles which extends slightly beyond the front bay windows and wraps around each side for approximately 15 feet. A decorative brick parapet roof extends above the pent eave, divided into three sections by four small merlons. The center section is curved. There is a low ashlar stone wall along the sidewalk.

The south facade is ten bay. Basement windows are wood with 4 panes and wood surround. All other windows are wood double hung and all except bays have flat brick lintels and projecting brick sills. Window arrangement is, from west to east, two 6/1, two 3/1, two 6/1, two 3/1, bay window with four 6/1 windows, one 6/1 window. The three story, three-sided bay window is copper from the 1st story window up with decorative molding between stories and plain wooden trim along the top. The roof line has five slight steps moving down from west to east and has a drop metal edge.

The north facade has the same appearance as the south facade but in reverse. A brick underground tunnel between 2003 and 2005 North Third Street projects slightly above ground from the middle of the basement. Two two buildings shared a heating system at one time. Most basement windows are boarded.

The east (rear) facade is five bay. The first story has a central door with a 6 pane half light and sidelights as on the west facade - the three bottom sidelight panes are boarded. On each side of the door are two 6/1 double hung wood windows with flat brick lintels and extended brick sills. A small, hipped roof extends from the door to the south over a concrete slab porch. Its three supporting columns are rectangular wood with wider rectangular concrete bases. There is a basement window to the south of the porch and a stairway to the basement to the north. The second and third stories have two 6/1 windows (same as above) on each side of a lower double window which is located at an interior stairwell. Stairwell windows are double, 6/1, as above. At roof line is a very simple wood cornice.

The interior plan is rather simple. The doors beyond each outside entrance lead to the 1st floor and to the basement. There is a central stairway front and rear and a central hallway straight through the three above ground stories. Stairway railings and balustrades are rectangular wood. There are two one-bedroom basement apartments and two two-bedroom apartments on each side of the central hallways - total of 14. The apartment plan has a central livingroom with a kitchen to one side and two bedrooms and a bath to the other. All original wood floor, window, and door moldings remain. Floors are wood (except bathrooms and kitchens which are linoleum or carpeted). The basement is of sandstone block with concrete floor.

The integrity of the Sheffield Apartments is excellent. The only exterior changes have been the installation of storm windows and repair of the awning over the front door. In the interior, new kitchen cabinets and appliances

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Sheffield Apartments

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have been installed and some kitchen ceilings dropped. Bathrooms have been repaired and fixtures replaced as necessary. All new interior doors have been installed as per Pennsylvania Fire and Panic Regulations - solid birch doors filled with chalk. In the basement, a new heating system and a fire door to close off the tunnel have been installed and concrete repairs done in the laundry facility. Approximately 80% of the plumbing was replaced. The asphalt roof (not visible from the street) was patched. A group of concrete block garages in the rear was demolished c. 1950.

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

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)  
Architecture

Period of Significance  
1925

Significant Dates  
N/A

Cultural Affiliation  
N/A

Significant Person  
N/A

Architect/Builder  
Shaffer, George Construction Co.

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

The Sheffield Apartments are an outstanding example of a housing type constructed in Harrisburg c. 1925-35. It is a freestanding, small (less than 20 units, no elevator) apartment building built in 1925 in what was then a middle to upper-middle class residential neighborhood of a single family, duplex and row homes. It is located directly within an enclave of late Victorian mansions on N. Third Street. Although its appearance is harmonious with its setting in scale, design, decoration and materials, its design does not derive directly from the surrounding mansions or nearby more modest homes as had been the case with earlier apartment buildings. The integrity of the Sheffield is excellent.

Apartment houses were popularized in the United States during the late 19th century as compact residences necessary for the growth of commerce and culture in American cities. They offered efficiency in spatial organization and land use and were generally regarded as temporary housing and/or for those who could not afford their own homes. The first apartment building in Harrisburg was built downtown in 1906.

In the early 20th century, there were four types of apartment buildings in Harrisburg: the conversion from a single family house, the building constructed as part of a row, the small free-standing apartment building, and the large scale building. Construction of apartment buildings (rather than conversion) was limited almost exclusively to the downtown, mid- and uptown areas of Harrisburg along corridors which parallel the Susquehanna River.

An example of the first type is 915-17 N. Second Street. Constructed c. 1870 as Federal style brick duplex homes, they were later converted into one apartment building, and their exterior was Deco-ized in 1928. The Belvedere, 711-13 N. Second Street, is a good example of the apartment building as part of a row. Built c. 1910, it is a four story building attached on both sides. Although a story higher than surrounding structures, its late Victorian styling, brownstone & brick materials, and street level residential appearance are very much in keeping with the row homes on the same block. The fourth type of apartment building is exemplified by the Parkway Apartments. 925 N. Front Street, constructed in 1919, was a massive, luxury apartment building with an elevator, in a late Victorian style, and it encompassed an entire block.

The Sheffield Apartments were possibly the first in Harrisburg to be constructed as a small, freestanding apartment building on a block of single family residences. It is compatible with the surrounding streetscape but less detailed in ornamentation and, by design, clearly an apartment house. Situated among Victorian mansions, its domestic early 20th century style represents a departure from the 19th century appearance of its neighborhood. The portion of North Third Street directly north and south of Maclay was among the most desirable area in the city at the turn of the century. The Sheffield allowed working people who could not afford home ownership to live in this section.

The third type of free-standing apartment building exemplified by the Sheffield was constructed in Harrisburg during a brief period from the mid-1920s to the late 1930s. 2201 N. Third Street, c. 1930, is a three story brick apartment building of a much plainer design than the Sheffield. Its main feature is a porch/balcony across each story of the front facade. The Mission Revival stylistic influence evident in the Sheffield's design was more directly adopted in the construction of the Locust, c. 1927 (2020 North Third Street), the Valencia, c. 1928

See continuation sheet

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Sheffield Apartments

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(Second & Schuylkill Streets), and the Delphia, c. 1930 (1912-18 North Sixth Street). These four stucco over brick buildings are much more massive in scale than the Sheffield and less in harmony with the appearance of the surrounding neighborhood. Later, smaller, freestanding apartment buildings at 2142-44 North Second Street (4 units) and 2403 North Second Street (6 units) show the influence of the Mission Revival style on their brick facades and roof designs, but their designs are much more reflective of nearby single family homes than is that of the Sheffield. The Sheffield Apartments stand out from other apartment buildings due to a clear identity as an apartment building and compatibility in scale and appearance to its neighborhood setting.

The George Sheffer Construction Company erected the Sheffield Apartments in 1925, and at the same time constructed a tunnel connecting this building with the neighboring William Donaldson House. The Sheffer Construction Company also built another apartment building nearby, as well as several mansions in the neighborhood.

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

1. Morgan, George Annals of Harrisburg (Harrisburg, Frances Black, publisher, 1906), pp. 82 - 86.
2. Miller, Evan, Real Estate Scrapbooks, Dauphin County Historical Society, various dates.
3. Dauphin County (Pennsylvania) Recorder of Deeds, Deed Books: W-57-616, M-18-147, 515-342, F-19-25, H-28-53, K-23-514, 13-11-401, A-56-382, M-75-92.
4. Deans, Thomas, Assoc., Harrisburg Historic Sites Survey, 1984, (held by Pennsylvania Bureau for Historic Preservation).
5. Phone interview, Pamela Smith and Virginia Barr, associates, Commercial - Industrial Real Estate Company, 4-25-89.
6. Phone interview, receptionist, Pentad Inc., 4-25-89.

See continuation sheet

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- N  preliminary determination of individual listing (36 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: Dauphin County Historical Society

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreeage of property Less than 1 acre

UTM References

A 18 338900 4460110  
 Zone Easting Northing

C \_\_\_\_\_

B \_\_\_\_\_  
 Zone Easting Northing

D \_\_\_\_\_

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description Beginning at a point 63 foot south of the southeast corner of Third Street and Geiger Ave, then east 200 foot to the western line of Logan Ave, then south 63 foot to the corner of the adjacent lot, then west 200 foot to the eastern line of North Third Street, then by the line of North Third Street 63 foot to the point of the beginning.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification Boundary includes the portion of the city lot associated with 2003 North Third Street the entire city lot includes 2005 North Third Street.

See continuation sheet

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Ricki Hurwitz

organization N/A

street & number 200 Montrose Street

city or town Harrisburg

date 6-89

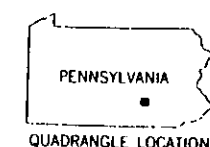
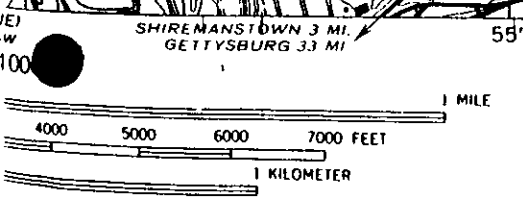
telephone 717-238-1956

state Pennsylvania zip code 17110



*Sheffield  
Dauphin Co  
2002 N. 3rd St  
Harrisburg*

**CAMP HILL DISTRIBUTORS  
STATIONER  
331 MARKET STREET  
P.O. BOX 306  
LEMOYNE, PA 17043**



**ROAD CLASSIFICATION**

Primary highway, hard surface ——— Light-duty road, hard or improved surface ———

Secondary highway, hard surface ——— Unimproved road - - - - -

( ) Interstate Route ( ) U. S. Route ( ) State Route

MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS  
COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092  
AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

Revisions shown in purple compiled in cooperation with Commonwealth of Pennsylvania agencies from aerial photographs taken 1984 and other source data. This information not field checked. Map edited 1987

**HARRISBURG WEST, PA.**  
SW/4 HARRISBURG 15' QUADRANGLE  
40076-C8-TF-024  
1969  
PHOTOREVISED 1987  
DMA 5664 IV SW-SERIES V831

*Sheffield Apartments  
2002 N. 3rd St Hbg.  
Dauphin Co.*

29 MI TO INTERSTATE 78  
7.03 MI TO INT. 83  
4458000m N.  
340000m E.