

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 for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

#### 1. Name of Property

historic name Monroe Tavern

other names/site number N/A

#### 2. Location

street & number U.S. Rt. 40, Main Street  not for publication

city or town Hopwood (S. Union Twp.)  vicinity

state Pennsylvania code PA county Fayette code 051 zip code 15445

#### 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, 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. I recommend that this property be considered significant  nationally  statewide  locally. ( See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

DR. BRENT D. GLASS

Signature of certifying official/Title

Brent D. Glass 9/27/95  
Date

PA HISTORICAL & MUSEUM COMMISSION

State of Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. ( See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting official/Title

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

#### 4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

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): \_\_\_\_\_

Monroe Tavern  
Name of Property

Fayette Co., PA  
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property  
(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property  
(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property  
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1		buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
1		Total

Name of related multiple property listing  
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

Number of contributing resources previously listed  
in the National Register

Hist. Resources of the National Road in PA 0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions  
(Enter categories from instructions)

Domestic: Hotel

Domestic: Single Dwelling

Current Functions  
(Enter categories from instructions)

Domestic: Single Dwelling

Commerce: Speciality Store

7. Description

Architectural Classification  
(Enter categories from instructions)

Early Republic

Materials  
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Stone

walls Stone

roof Asphalt

other

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Monroe Tavern  
Name of Property

Fayette Co., PA  
County and State

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria  
(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations  
(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance  
(Enter categories from instructions)

Commerce  
Architecture

Period of Significance

C. 1825 - C. 1855

Significant Dates

N/A

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance  
(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- 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

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

\_\_\_\_\_

Monroe Tavern  
Name of Property

Fayette Co., PA  
County and State

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of Property Less than 1 acre

**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

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See continuation sheet

**Verbal Boundary Description**

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

**Boundary Justification**

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Jerry A. Clouse, Preservation Specialist

organization Penna. Hist. + Museum Commission date July 13, 1995

street & number P.O. Box 1026 telephone 717-783-9918

city or town Harrisburg state PA zip code 17108-1026

**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

**Continuation Sheets**

**Maps**

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

**Photographs**

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

**Additional items**

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

**Property Owner**

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name Pat Swaney

street & number P.O. Box 48 telephone \_\_\_\_\_

city or town Hopwood state PA zip code 15445

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Monroe Tavern, Fayette Co., Pa.

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## Description

The **Monroe Tavern** is located on the south side of the U.S. Route 40, about twelve feet off the road in the village of Hopwood. Like all the National Road taverns, not only is it situated near the road, but faces the road as well. Furnace Road extends south along the west side of the building. A concrete sidewalk wraps around the front and west elevations. The tavern is a five-bay, single pile, two-and-a-half story stone building built in the early nineteenth century using the center hall floor plan. A two-and-a-half story, stone kitchen ell extends back from the west side of the building. A one-story, frame, storefront addition adjoins the east side of the tavern. A one-story stone addition is built to the rear of the kitchen ell and a late twentieth century cement block addition is connected to the rear of the main block of the building. The building is distinguished as a tavern by its relatively large size and interior stone gable end chimneys. The **Monroe Tavern** displays another diagnostic characteristic of many of the National Road taverns, which is the hipped roof on the end of the building where the main block connects with the kitchen ell. Although changes have been made to this property over the years since its construction, it retains sufficient integrity to represent its historic association with the early commercial development of the National Road.

The random ashlar sandstone construction of the **Monroe Tavern** is accentuated with large quoins at each corner. The fenestration on all elevations is highlighted with single stone lintels and projecting stone sills. The western portion of the first floor was converted into a storefront in the late nineteenth century. The remaining first floor windows were filled with glass block in the mid-nineteenth century. All of the late nineteenth century two-over-two sash remain on the second floor. The exterior molded window surrounds are intact in most of the windows.

Although this building has a symmetrical five-bay facade, there was more than one entrance. This is similar to other National Road taverns such as the **Rush House** and the **Morris/Hair Tavern**. The easternmost opening on the first floor originally opened into the barroom. This door has a reeded reveal, typical of the Federal style. In all likelihood the central door was taken out when the storefront was added, and the new door was placed between the plate glass windows. Also similar to the **Morris/Hair Tavern**, the **Monroe Tavern's** ell faces onto a side street. There is also an entrance on the west side of this ell. This opens into the staircase to the second floor. There is a low bulkhead entrance beneath the northernmost window on the west gable end of the building. It provides access into the low cellar beneath the western part of the main block.

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The first floor of the main block is now a single room. The fireplace on the east gable end is enclosed. Unlike the **Morris/Hair Tavern** and the **Rush House**, this tavern evidently never had a fireplace on the western end of the building. The fireplace along the southern wall of the kitchen ell has been enclosed. Beaded board cupboards fill the space between the fireplace and western wall.

On the second floor the walls are plastered, and the fireplaces, in the same locations as on the first floor, are enclosed. There is only a crawl space into the attic.

During the late nineteenth/early twentieth century a two-story frame addition was made to the east side of the tavern. After a late twentieth century fire, the second story was removed. A cement block laundromat was added to the rear of the main block of the house in the late twentieth century.

Although alterations, such as window replacements, addition of a storefront entrance, removal of partition walls, and additions have been made to the **Monroe Tavern** over the years, the building is readily recognizable as an early nineteenth century tavern associated with the National Road. The character and feeling of the property remains intact.

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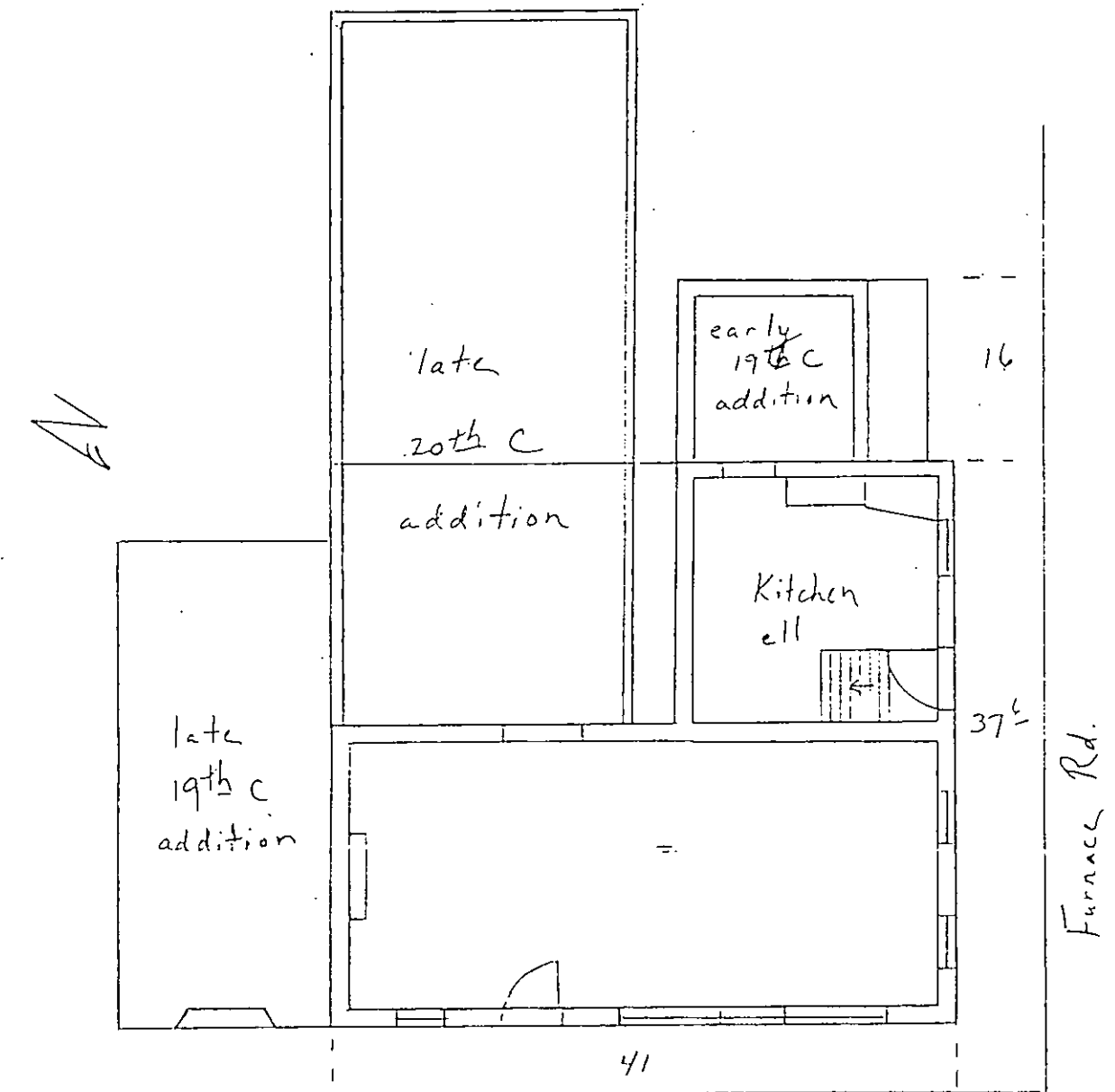
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First Floor Plan  
(Not Drawn to Scale)



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Significance

The early nineteenth century **Monroe Tavern** is significant in the areas of commerce and architecture. This building is part of the property type "Tavern Buildings" as discussed in Historic Resources of the National Road in Pennsylvania Multiple Property Documentation Form. Among the requirements to meet Criterion A the tavern must be documented to be associated with the National Road. To meet Criterion C a tavern must possess architectural integrity which means it should still be identifiable as a tavern through its form and basic floor plan. This building has been documented as a tavern house from about 1825 to about 1850, and it retains its form from that period. The fact that the **Monroe Tavern** is of masonry construction is typical of the vast majority of tavern buildings surviving along the National Road.

Hopwood was laid out as "Woodstock" in 1791 by John Hopwood. By 1793 the town had a wide range of businessmen and artisans including merchants, tavern keepers, printers, a bookbinder, a clock maker, a gunsmith, and blacksmiths. In anticipation of the National Road, John's son, Moses Hopwood, laid out an addition to the town in 1816 and named the whole town "Monroe." By the late nineteenth century the village was known as Hopwood. Hopwood thrived during the early development of the National Road as it was a destination point sought by travelers before nightfall. This goal was set in order to have a fresh start over the mountains in the morning. Ellis's history remarked that "acres of covered wagons could be seen every night in Monroe." In addition, thousands of animals were quartered in this town overnight. At one time there were seven licensed hotels in the town. Historian Robert Bruce remarked in 1916 that a half dozen old stone houses could be still seen in Hopwood, all once used as taverns. These are the buildings which make Hopwood recognizable as a pike town. (1)

The **Monroe Tavern** was one of seven taverns listed in Monroe (Hopwood) by Ellis's 1882 history. The three that can be documented to survive are part of this multiple property nomination. Historian Thomas Searight stated that the **Monroe Tavern** was built by Andrew McMasters and was "one of the oldest in the Place." Searight also credited McMasters with the construction of the **Morris/Hair Tavern**, but McMasters' name was never found in the chain of title. McMasters was first taxed as an innkeeper in Union Township in 1819. He continued on the tax rolls as an innkeeper through 1825, but he was not assessed with any property after 1824. The assessor noted in 1826 that McMasters had removed. (2)

Ellis's History of Fayette County stated that McMasters had this tavern built in 1825 and that the stone masons were: Abraham Beagle, John Harvey, and William Harvey. Innkeepers after McMasters were: Lott Clawson, Enoch W.



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Clement, Thomas Acklin, Mathias Frey, and John Worthington. (3)

The 1827 and 1828 tax assessments showed Lott and Thomas Clawson as innkeepers together in Union Township. From 1828 through 1830 Lott W. Clawson was assessed as an innkeeper. From 1831 Clawson was taxed as a wagon maker. Enoch Wilson Clement was first taxed as a Union Township innkeeper in 1831. The 1832 tax also noted that Clement was assessed for the "landlords part in McMasters stand." Clement continued as an innkeeper through 1845. About 1838 he constructed another tavern building just east of the **Monroe Tavern**. (The **Clement Tavern**, later known as the Shipley House, was demolished in 1961.) It is not certain who operated the **Monroe Tavern** then. However, William Morris returned to tavern keeping in Union Township that year (1838). Clement was assessed after 1845 as a wagoner. Thomas Acklin was assessed as a Union Township innkeeper from 1842 through 1845. Mathias Frey was assessed as an innkeeper in Union Township from 1846 through 1849. John Worthington was taxed for innkeeping in Union Township from 1848 through 1850. Worthington was also taxed with the Clawson lot in 1850. By 1852 neither Frey or Worthington were on the tax rolls. Like most National Road taverns, the **Monroe Tavern** apparently didn't operate as a public house after the mid-1850s. (4)

The **Monroe Tavern** is one of about thirty taverns/hotels which were determined eligible as part of the Multiple Property National Register nomination "Resources of the National Road." Like most of the surviving National Road taverns, this one is of masonry construction. During the early development and heyday of the National Road there were about seven taverns operating in Hopwood. Only three, including the **Monroe Tavern**, **Morris/Hair Tavern**, and **Hopwood/Miller Tavern** are known to survive to the present.

The **Monroe Tavern** is significant not only for its association with the early nineteenth century commercial development of the National Road but also for its association with the development of Monroe/Hopwood as a transportation hub and pike town. It is also significant for its tavern related architectural features as well as elements from the Federal period.

## End Notes

(1) Ellis, pp. 685-687; Robert Bruce, The National Road (Berryville, Va: The Prince Maccus Publishers, 1983), p. 64.

(2) Thomas B. Searight, The Old Pike: A History of the National Road, with Incidents, Accidents, and Anecdotes Thereon (Berryville, VA: The Prince Maccus Publishers, 1983), p. 233; Union Township, Fayette County Tax Assessments, 1818-1826.

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(3) Franklin Ellis, ed., History of Fayette County, Pennsylvania  
(Philadelphia: L.H. Everts & Co., 1882), p. 687.

(4) Union Township, Fayette County Tax Assessments, 1827-1849;  
"Hopwood: The Pearl of the Pike," Supplement to the Fay-West Sunday  
Tribune-Review, p. 12.

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### Bibliography

Robert Bruce, The National Road (Berryville, Va: The Prince Maccus Publishers, 1983).

Franklin Ellis, ed., History of Fayette County, Pennsylvania (Philadelphia: L.H. Everts & Co., 1882).

Denise L. Grantz, "National Road: Historic Resource Survey, Final Report and Analysis," Submitted to the Bureau for Historic Preservation (unpublished report dated June 30, 1987).

James Hadden, A History of Uniontown: the County Seat of Fayette County, Pennsylvania (Evansville, Ind.: Unigraphic, Inc., 1913)

Thomas B. Searight, The Old Pike: A History of the National Road, with Incidents, Accidents, and Anecdotes Thereon (Berryville, VA: The Prince Maccus Publishers, 1983).

Union and South Union Township, Fayette County Assessment Records, 1818-1856.

Fayette County Deed Books.

Fayette County Will Books.

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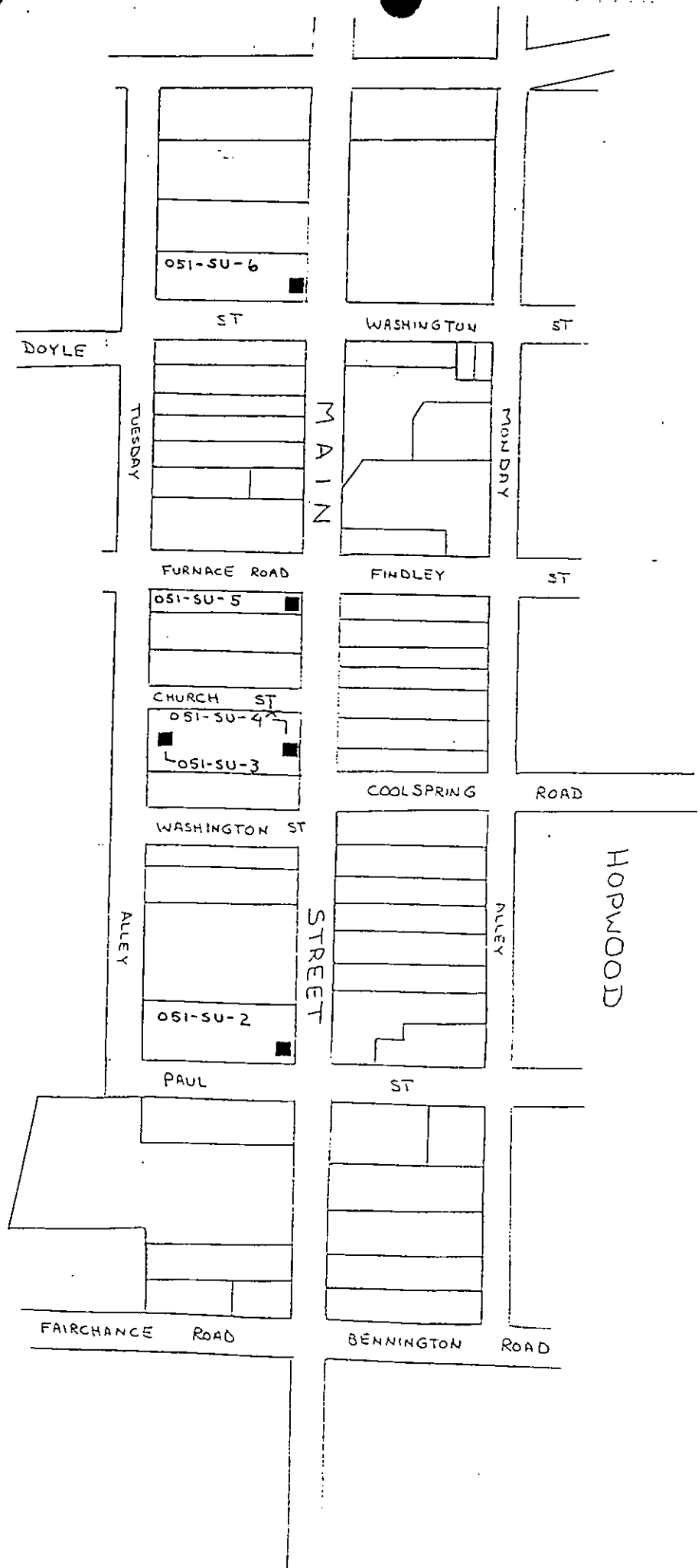
### Boundary Description

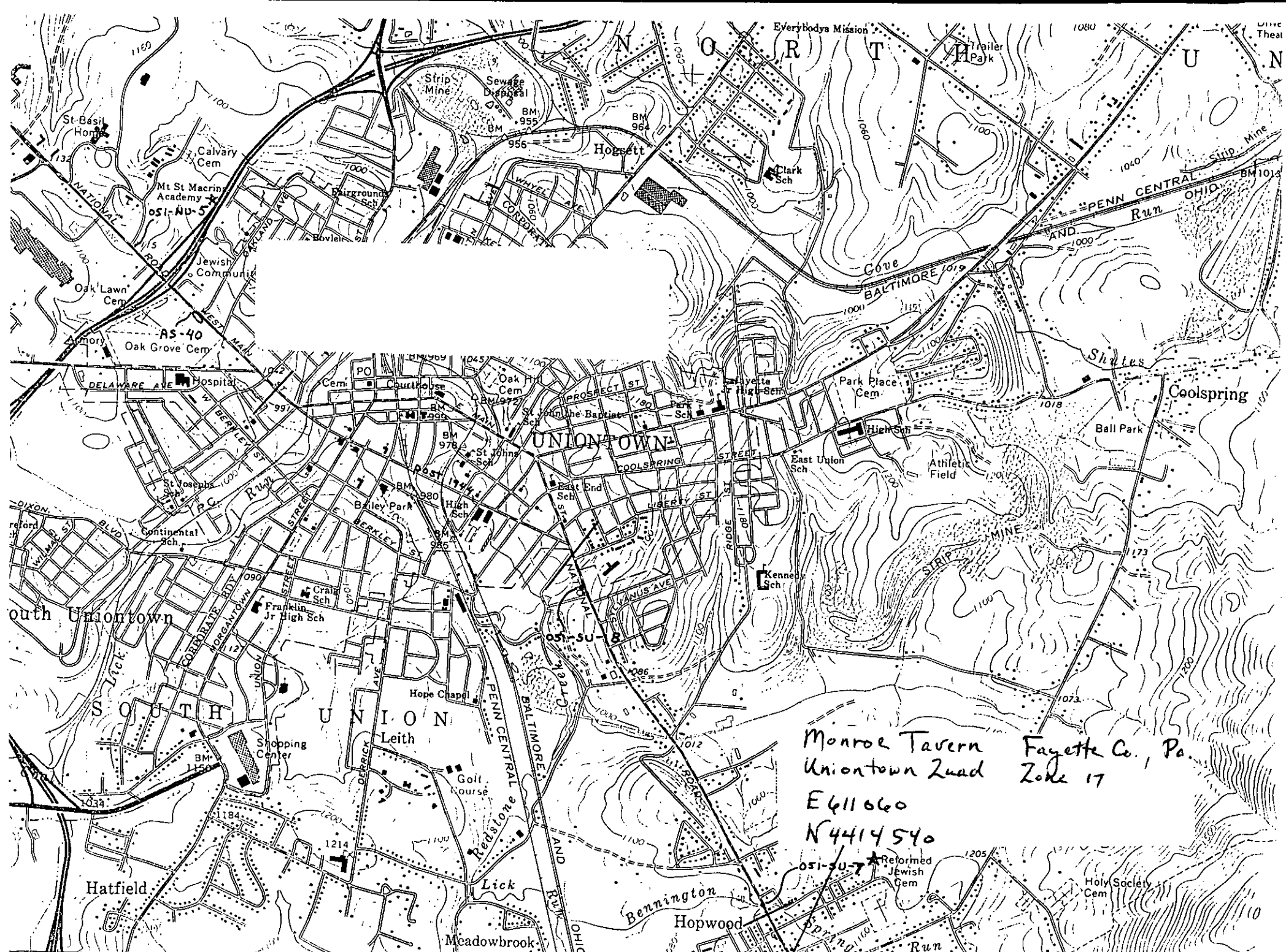
Beginning at a point on the southern edge of U.S. Route 40 ten feet beyond the western wall of the Monroe Tavern and proceeding southwest from this point along this line to a point thirty feet behind the addition to the tavern's kitchen ell, then proceeding from this point in southeasterly direction to a point twenty feet beyond the eastern edge of the tavern, then proceeding in a northeasterly direction approximately 93 feet to a point on the southern edge of U.S. Route 40, then proceeding in a northwesterly direction approximately 71 feet to the point of beginning.

### Boundary Justification

The boundary only includes the land immediately surrounding the Monroe Tavern in order to exclude the lot to the east and a late twentieth-century, aluminum trailer with an aluminum sided, shed-roof addition behind the tavern.

Monroe Tavern  
Fayette Co., Pa.





Monroe Tavern  
 Uniontown Quad  
 E 611660  
 N 4414540

Fayette Co., Pa.  
 Zone 17