

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 Youghiogheny Bank of Pennsylvania

other names/site number Old State Bank

2. Location

street & number South Liberty Street N/A not for publication

city or town Perryopolis N/A vicinity

state Pennsylvania code PA county Fayette code 051 zip code 15473

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.)

Burt D. Glass Dr. B. Glass, Exec. Dir. 9/11/97
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

PA 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 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:

- 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

Name of Property

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	0	buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
1	0	Total

Name of related multiple property listing

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

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Commerce/Trade: financial institution

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Recreation and Culture: museum

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

EARLY REPUBLICAN

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation STONE: sandstone

walls STONE: sandstone

roof ASPHALT

other

Narrative Description

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

Name of Property

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.)

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Commerce

- XX) 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.

Period of Significance

1817-1819

Criteria Considerations

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

Significant Dates

c. 1817

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.

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 Record #

Primary location of additional data:

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

Name of repository:

Name of Property

10. Geographical DataAcreage of Property less than one**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	17	606	500	44	379	00
Zone	Easting	Northing				
2						

3						
Zone	Easting	Northing				
4						

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 Clinton E. Piper, Preservation Consultant
 organization for Terry A. Necciai & John Axtell date June 1997
 street & number RD #4, Box 89A telephone 412.537.2738
 city or town Latrobe state PA zip code 15650

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 Perryopolis Parks and Recreation
 street & number PO Box 126 telephone _____
 city or town Perryopolis state PA zip code 15437

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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Continuation Sheet**

*Youghiogheny Bank of Pennsylvania
Fayette County, Pennsylvania*

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The former Youghiogheny Bank of Pennsylvania, stands on Liberty Street, one half block south of Washington Diamond in central Perryopolis Borough, Fayette County, Pennsylvania. The bank is a circa 1817, one-story, front-gabled building approximately 25' square, with walls of coursed ashlar sandstone. The gable peak and foundations are laid up in sandstone rubble. Attached to the rear of the bank building is a two-story, approximately 25' square stone circa 1935 addition built to match the scale, materials, and roof shape of the original building. It was also in circa 1935 that the window openings were altered. The addition rises above the roof of the original building, but is barely visible from the street. Located on a narrow lot, the bank building is flanked by taller frame buildings to either side. A walkway runs to the rear of the lot along the northern side of the building. The Youghiogheny Bank Building lacks clear stylistic influences but, retains integrity and reflects use as an early nineteenth century commercial building.

The bank is two bays wide, with four-light wood casement windows dating from 1935. The casement windows have fixed six-light wood storm windows. The front door is constructed of planks and contains a twenty four light window. Stone segmental arches from circa 1935 were installed to replace failed wood lintels. These arches project over the windows and front door. The voussoirs are about six inches square, with a reveal of approximately one foot. The addition contains a door on the north elevation and an end chimney breaking the gable peak on the east elevation. All windows in the addition are six-over-six double-hung sash dating from circa 1935. *(Photos =1 and =2)*

The interior of the original portion of the building contains four rooms: their plan and materials date from circa 1935 when the building was altered for use as a doctor's office and residence. Interior walls and ceilings are finished in decoratively scored drywall. The former doctor's office comprises the three front rooms of the structure. The rear room of the original building is a kitchen containing circa 1935 built-in wood cabinets. The kitchen serves as a connection between the original portion of building and the addition. The newer rear portion of the structure contains a large living/dining room with rock-faced fireplace on the first floor and two bedrooms, a bath and a large hall closet on the second floor. *(Photo =4)* Doors and windows throughout the interior are of naturally finished wood.

The original section of the building does not have a basement. The addition has a basement accessible by a stair under the existing stair to the second floor. A trap door in the

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*Youghioghenny Bank of Pennsylvania
Fayette County, Pennsylvania*

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The former Youghioghenny Bank of Pennsylvania is significant under Criterion A, for commerce. The building's subsequent use for a variety of essential community functions: school, church, post office, and doctor's office underline its continuing role as a focus of Perryopolis commercial history. Banks and other commercial institutions were important components of the settlement and development of the Perryopolis area, especially in the early nineteenth century and continuing through the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. No other bank from this early period are known to exist in Fayette County. The period of significance begins in 1817 with construction of the bank and continues until 1819 when the bank closed.

Summary History

Perryopolis was laid in 1814 by Samuel Shreve, Dr. Thomas Hersey, Nathan Hersey, and Samuel Burns on land originally claimed owned by George Washington consisting of 1,641 acres. The projected town which featured a central diamond with a series of eight radial streets, was oriented toward new residents and industries. Business and dwelling lots were offered for sale, and dozens of new families moved into the area to settle the new town. Several efforts to further industrialize the area materialized within a year or two of the town plan. They included a glass factory, financed by stock certificates sold to local farmers, many of whom later lost their farms when the factory failed, and the Youghioghenny Bank, which was capitalized in the same manner.

The town plan was much grander than the eventual reality: the layout was one suited for a much larger, perhaps denser town, with lots at the center initially reserved for facilities characteristic of populous cities, such as an orphanage. Perryopolis never grew into an urban community, and even as a sizable twentieth century small town, many of the lots toward the center of the town remained largely underdeveloped.

Although Perryopolis has served as the market center for Perry Township and surrounding agricultural districts since the town's founding in 1814, the coming of major coal mining and coke making operations to the area after 1890 led to a wave of construction around the central Washington Diamond to house new and expanded retail stores, restaurants and offices. The increase in population and prosperity which the coal and coke boom brought to Perryopolis Borough led to the opening of new businesses and to the founding of new churches. The churches and some of the businesses were the products of Eastern European immigrants whom the mines and ovens attracted to the Perryopolis area. Businesses were started by long-time area

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*Youghiogheny Bank of Pennsylvania
Fayette County, Pennsylvania*

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residents. In 1950, Perryopolis Borough was incorporated as a separate municipality. Today, Perryopolis is a center for small industry and a bedroom town for larger towns in the Monongahela valley and Pittsburgh. The central business district retains sufficient vitality to support a variety of retail businesses around the central Washington Diamond, despite competition from a commercial strip along the Route 51 bypass.

The Youghiogheny (or Youghogeni) Bank of Pennsylvania was built circa 1817 as one of the first formally organized banks in the western part of the state. The opening of this bank reflects the optimism of this fledgling community. The creation of the bank, and of Perryopolis itself, was part of a larger speculative expansion of business, industry, transportation and new towns in the trans-Appalachian west. This began the early nineteenth century and was encouraged by a number of factors including the opening of the Mississippi to free navigation and the Embargo Acts. The boom ended with the depression of 1819 and the resulting failure of many business ventures, including the Youghiogheny Bank. Following the failure of the bank, the building was subsequently utilized for various economic ventures. The building was sold in 1821 to Benjamin Martin. The building remained in the ownership of the Martin Family until 1928. It housed a variety of tenants and uses, including an early (1820-1822) school, Methodist church services in the 1830s, John F. Martin's store and post office during the late 1800s and early 1900's, a pool room, a fruit stand, and a restaurant. In 1936 the existing renovations were completed and the rear portion added to accommodate the medical office and residence of Dr. William R. Vernon and his family. Vernon used the building for a medical office until 1960. After his retirement, Vernon and his wife resided in the building until 1991 when it was sold to Perryopolis Borough. It is currently used as a museum maintained by the Perryopolis Area Heritage Society.

The Youghiogheny Bank appears to be part of a broader pattern of bank establishment beginning in circa 1810. The first published notice of a meeting for stockholders was in the 1816 Uniontown newspaper, *Genius of Liberty*. Although the bank was not included in the first Pennsylvania state bank Act of 1814, which chartered 41 new banks including two in Fayette and Greene counties, it was referred to in a 1819 act of the legislature which gave certain legal powers to several Fayette County corporations, including the "Youghogeni Bank of Pennsylvania." In the Laws of Pennsylvania of 1824, a note to an act rechartering the state banks of 1814 reads: "The following banks became insolvent or otherwise forfeited their charters prior to the act in the text: ...Youghoni (sic) Bank, Pennsylvania." (p.218) According to the 1964 Perryopolis Area

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*Youghiogeny Bank of Pennsylvania
Fayette County, Pennsylvania*

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Sesquicentennial Book, the building was also briefly the home to a bank during the administration of Andrew Jackson.

Youghiogeny Bank building is utilitarian in style. It makes use of regional vernacular building techniques, such as construction of rough coursed ashlar masonry. It is rectangular in plan and elevation, gable roofed, and has regularly spaced window openings. No other stone bank buildings of this period are known to exist in the region.

Commercial and industrial buildings in Perryopolis and its rural environs which were built prior to 1840 were rare enough that examples were remarked upon and recorded photographically late in the nineteenth century. Despite their antiquity and associations with other important early figures and events, these buildings continued to be used for business purposes until the twentieth century. The Youghiogeny Bank building was rehabilitated and enlarged in the 1930s for use as a doctor's office and residence. The Youghiogeny Bank Building remains a tangible link to important early commercial history as well as a representative example of ashlar stone construction.

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*Youghiogeny Bank of Pennsylvania
Fayette County, Pennsylvania*

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MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Ellis, Franklin. *History of Fayette County, Pennsylvania*. Philadelphia: L.H. Everts and Company, 1882.

Knox, John Jay. *A History of Banking in the United States*. New York: Bradford Rhodes and Company, 1903.

Laws of Pennsylvania. Harrisburg: State Printer of Pennsylvania, 1814, 1819, 1823-4.

Polander, Robert W., ed. *Perryopolis Area Sesquicentennial, 1814-1964*. Perryopolis, PA, 1964.

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*Youghiogheny Bank of Pennsylvania
Fayette County, Pennsylvania*

Section Number 10

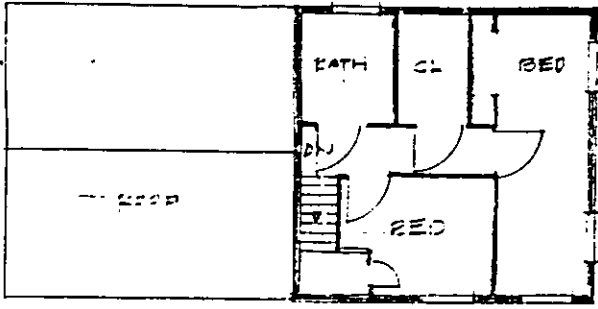
Page 1

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The boundaries of the nominated property are described on Tax Parcel Map #28-9-0194 at the Fayette County Court House, Uniontown, Pennsylvania.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

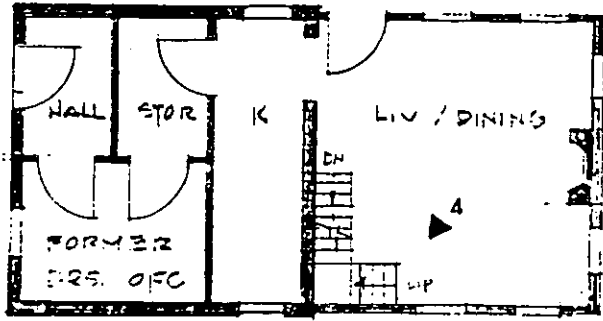
This tax parcel contains the Youghiogheny Bank of Pennsylvania and no other buildings.



c 1817
BANK BLDG

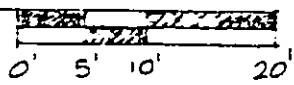
c 1936
ADDITION

SECOND FLOOR



SOUTH LIBERTY ST.

CLIO ST



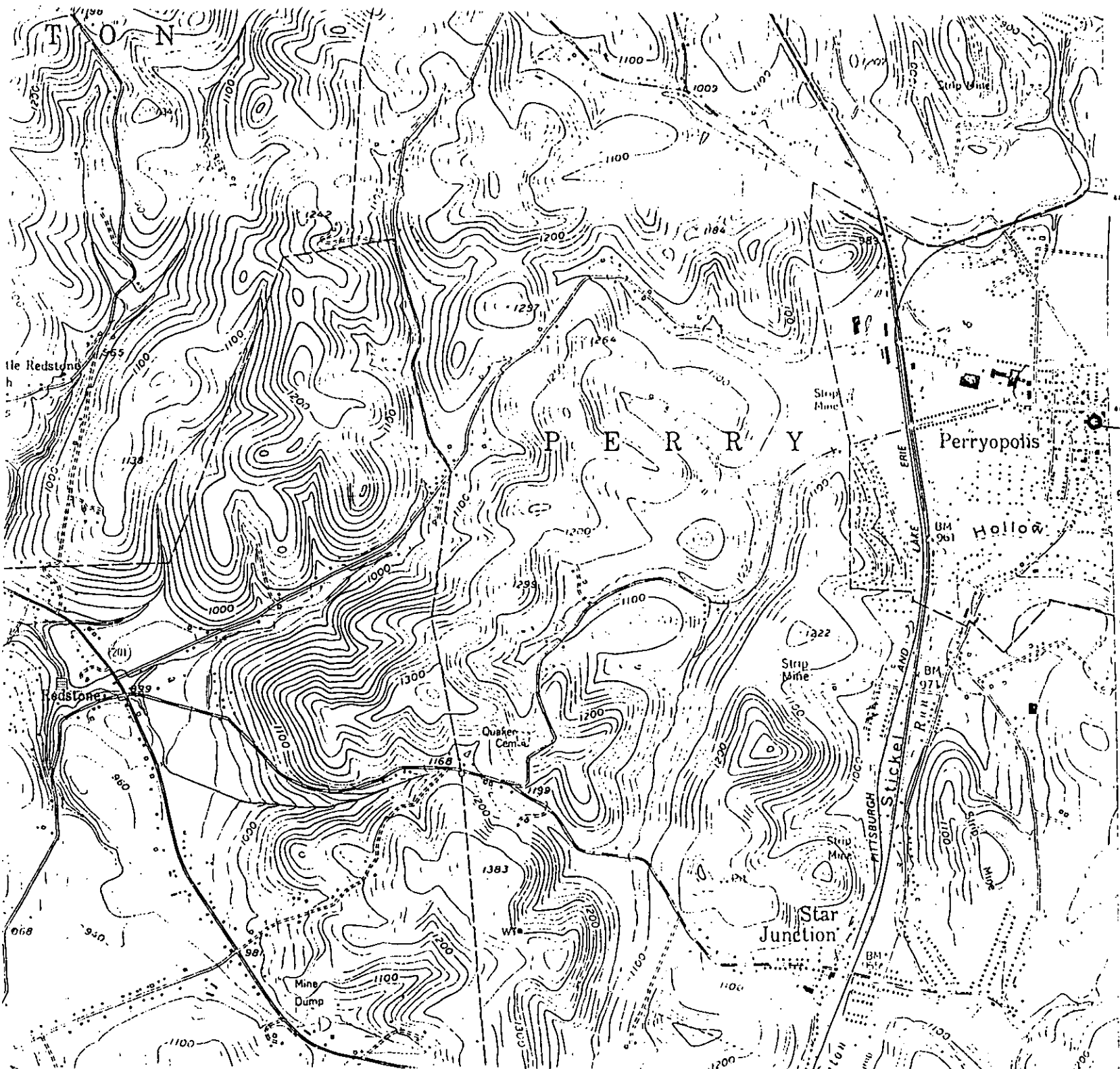
TITLE: YOUGHIOGHENY BANK OF PENNSYLVANIA

TERRY A NECCIAI
HISTORIC PRESERVATION CONSULTING

DATE: DECEMBER 1996

SCALE: SEE VISUAL

DRAWN BY: SDG



Youghiogheny Bank
 Fayette County, PA
 Fayette City Area
 Zone 17
 E 606500
 N 4481900

(DAWSON)
 5064 II SW
 35