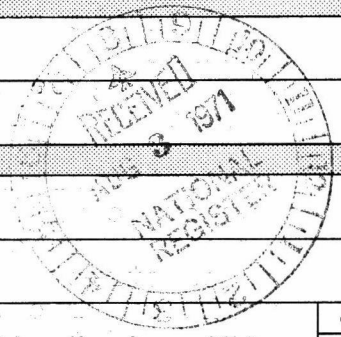


**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Pennsylvania	
COUNTY: Erie	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	JAN 13 1972



**1. NAME**

COMMON:  
Old Customs House

AND/OR HISTORIC:

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
409- State Street

CITY OR TOWN:  
Erie

STATE: Pennsylvania      CODE: 42      COUNTY: Erie      CODE: 049

**3. CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious		
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific		

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNER'S NAME:  
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Administrated by Pa.

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Historical and Museum Commission  
Box 1026

CITY OR TOWN:  
Harrisburg

STATE:  
Pennsylvania

CODE:  
42

**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:  
Court House Deed Books

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:  
Erie

STATE:  
Pennsylvania

CODE:  
42

**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
Historic American Building Survey

DATE OF SURVEY:  
 Federal     State     County     Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:  
United States Dept. of the Interior

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:  
Washington

STATE:  
D.C.

CODE:  
11

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

Home of Erie County Historical Society  
 STATE: Pennsylvania  
 COUNTY: Erie  
 ENTRY NUMBER: JAN 13 1972  
 DATE:

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

(Check One)

Excellent  Good  Fair  Deteriorated  Ruins  Unexposed

(Check One)

Altered  Unaltered

(Check One)

Moved  Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The present appearance of The Old Customs House differs very little from the original. This building is an excellent example of Greek Revival architecture. The structure, designed by William Kelly of Philadelphia, was begun in 1838 and completed in 1839.

The exterior architecture consists of a two story structure with a pedimented colonaded facade, supported by six Doric columns and entrance steps. The front facade is constructed of white Vermont marble with side and rear walls of brick. Hand forged nails, rather than mortar, were used to secure the stone.

The interior of the structure is particularly fine. The walls are unpaneled and are finished with smooth plaster. What distinguishes the interior is the ceiling. The ceiling is decorated with egg and dart anthemion and Greek fret circular patterns.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian |  16th Century |  18th Century |  20th Century  
 15th Century |  17th Century |  19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

1839

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

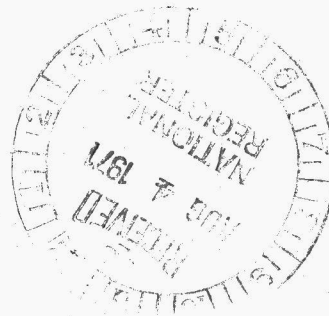
- |  |   |   |  |
|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal              | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political      | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric             | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering          | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Phi-  | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic                | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry             | osophy                                  | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture             | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention            | <input type="checkbox"/> Science        | _____                                    |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape            | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture      | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art                     | Architecture                                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Human-  | _____                                    |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commerce     | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature           | itarian                                 | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications          | <input type="checkbox"/> Military             | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater        | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation            | <input type="checkbox"/> Music                | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____                                    |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Old Customs House in Erie has had a long and diversified life. The Greek Revival structure served as the home of the Erie Branch of The United States Bank in Pennsylvania. After the Bank of The United States went out of existence the building served many purposes. It was the Post Office until 1867. From 1849 until 1888 the building served as a Customs House for the port of Erie. Some years later the building was the home of the Strong Vincent Post of The Grand Army of the Republic and later the home of the Erie County Historical Society.

The Old Customs House is an important structure for several reasons. The building is an excellent example of Greek Revival architecture. This architectural style was not common in the Northwestern portion of Pennsylvania during the 1830's. The construction of this structure symbolized the early growth of business and finance in America and the rapid growth of Erie County.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Reed, John Elmer. The Old Customs House of Erie, Pennsylvania Erie County Historical Society Publications, Vol. 1 No. 7, January 1937.

The Erie Story, " Old Customs House", April 1966

**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	0 0 0	0 0 0		42 07 52.5	80 05 04.5	
NE	0 0 0	0 0 0				
SE	0 0 0	0 0 0				
SW	0 0 0	0 0 0				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: Under one acre

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



17/5755 of 11/11/11  
 3-18-76  
 DMJ

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE: Keeper

ORGANIZATION: Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Comm. DATE: July 1971

STREET AND NUMBER: Third and North Streets

CITY OR TOWN: Harrisburg STATE: Pennsylvania CODE: 42

**12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National  State  Local

Name: G. K. Steer  
**State Liaison Officer**

Title: Executive Director  
**Pa. Historical and Museum Commission**

Date: July 29, 1971

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

Ernest A. Connally  
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: JAN 13 1972

ATTEST:

William Nimsch  
 Keeper of The National Register

Date: JAN 8 1971

erie co.

72001122

RECEIPT

PROPERTY Old Customs House STATE Penn.

REGISTER NUMBER

DATE OF RECEIPT	YES	NO	NUMBER
<u>8/3/71</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
DATA PAGE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
PHOTO (S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>2</u>
PHOTO DESCRIP (S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
MAP (S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
MAP DESCRIPTION (S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>1</u>
LOGGED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
ACKNOWLEDGE <u>8/4/71</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

JAN 13 1972

RESUBMIT

Gj tech.

REVIEW

OK  
Means  
9/29/71

HISTORIAN

OK Hanzer  
11/22/71

ARCHAEOLOGIST

OK 5 Maxson  
10/5/71

ARCHITECT

Betsy - is there enough here for your writeup? Form is pretty minimal.

OK Members  
10-13-71

ASST. KEEPER

KEEPER

OK Wm  
1/3/72

ENTRY

CHIEF, OAHP

EW  
1-13-72

EDITORIAL PROCESSING, EDITOR

HABS

Date

Federal Register Entry 2/72

Annual Edition Entry \_\_\_\_\_

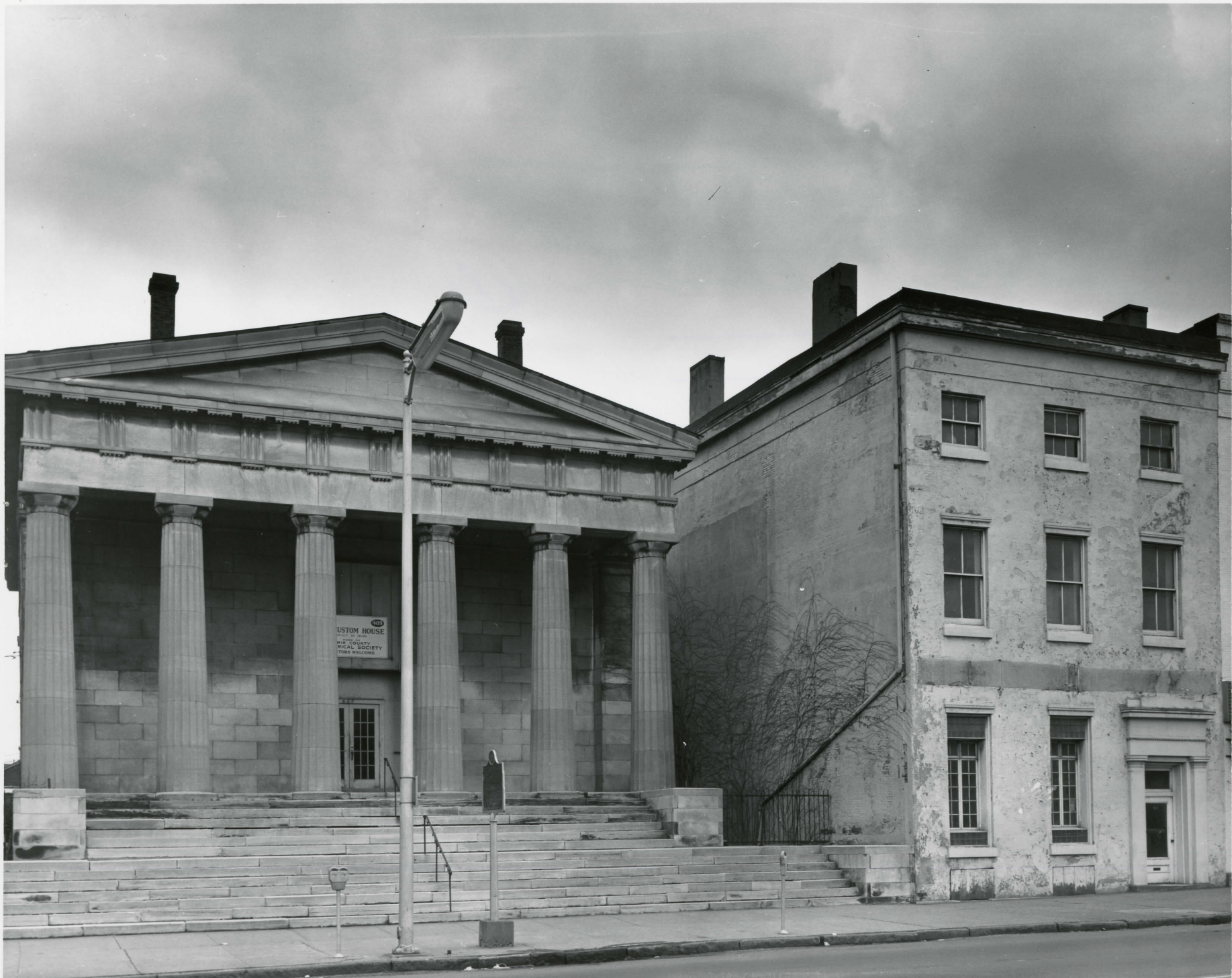
Logged Card 1/13/72  
1/13/72

WORKING NUMBER

8.3.715

COMMENTS:

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: 24th



400  
CUSTOM HOUSE  
WELLS COUNTY  
FISCAL SOCIETY  
THIS WELCOME

10

CUSTOMS HOUSE

April, 1966

NPS Number

1.13.72

Title:

Old Custom House  
Eric City, Pa.

Loc.

Front Elevation



PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER



April, 1966

NPS Number

1.13.72

Title:

Old Customs House

Eric Cty, Pa

Loc.

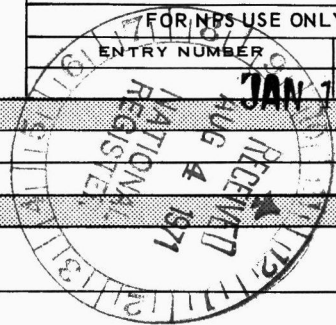
Interos Door

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
PROPERTY MAP FORM**

*(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)*

STATE Pennsylvania	
COUNTY Erie	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	JAN 13 1972



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**1. NAME**

COMMON: Old Custom House  
AND/OR HISTORIC:

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
409-11 State Street

CITY OR TOWN:  
Erie

STATE: Pennsylvania	CODE 42	COUNTY: Erie	CODE 049
------------------------	------------	-----------------	-------------

**3. MAP REFERENCE**

SOURCE:  
USDI Coast and Geodetic Survey

SCALE: 1/24000 Erie North Quad.

DATE: 1957

**4. REQUIREMENTS**

- TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS
1. Property boundaries where required.
  2. North arrow.
  3. Latitude and longitude reference.

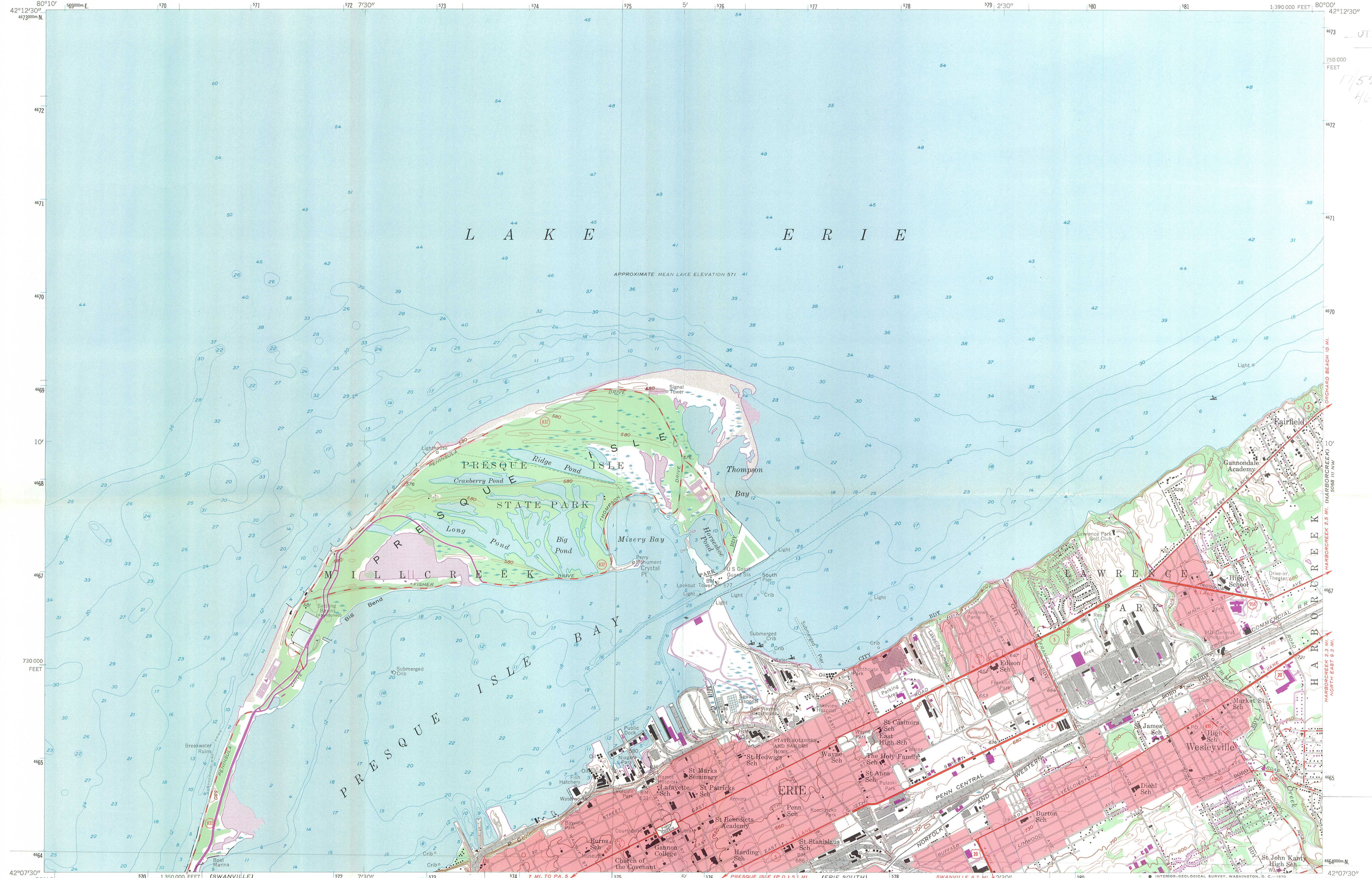
PH0063584

210  
P1006

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

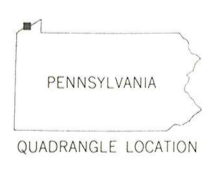
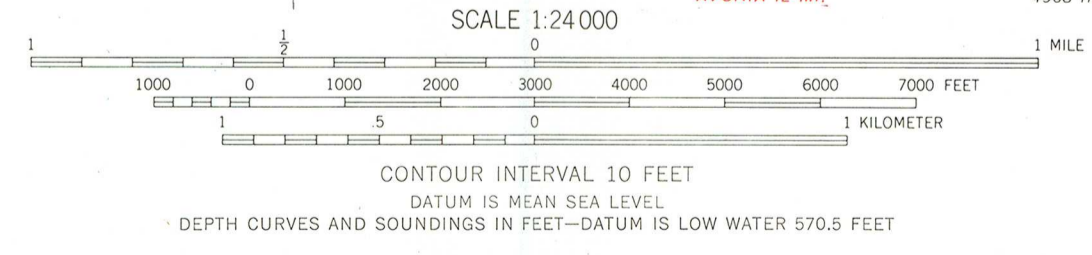
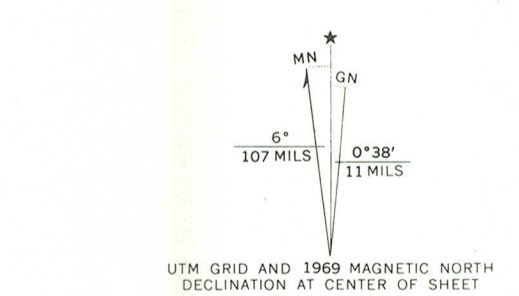
STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA  
DEPARTMENT OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS  
TOPOGRAPHIC AND GEOLOGIC SURVEY

ERIE NORTH QUADRANGLE  
PENNSYLVANIA—ERIE CO.  
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)  
N/2 ERIE 15' QUADRANGLE



UTM 18 U  
11595500  
4661000

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey  
Control by USGS, USC&GS, and U.S. Lake Survey  
Topography from aerial photographs by photogrammetric methods  
Aerial photographs taken 1955. Field check 1957  
Hydrography in Lake Erie from U.S. Lake Survey charts 33 (1956)  
and 332 (1956). This information is not intended for navigational purposes  
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum  
10,000-foot grid based on Pennsylvania coordinate system,  
north zone  
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,  
zone 17, shown in blue  
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines  
visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked  
Red tint indicates areas in which only  
landmark buildings are shown

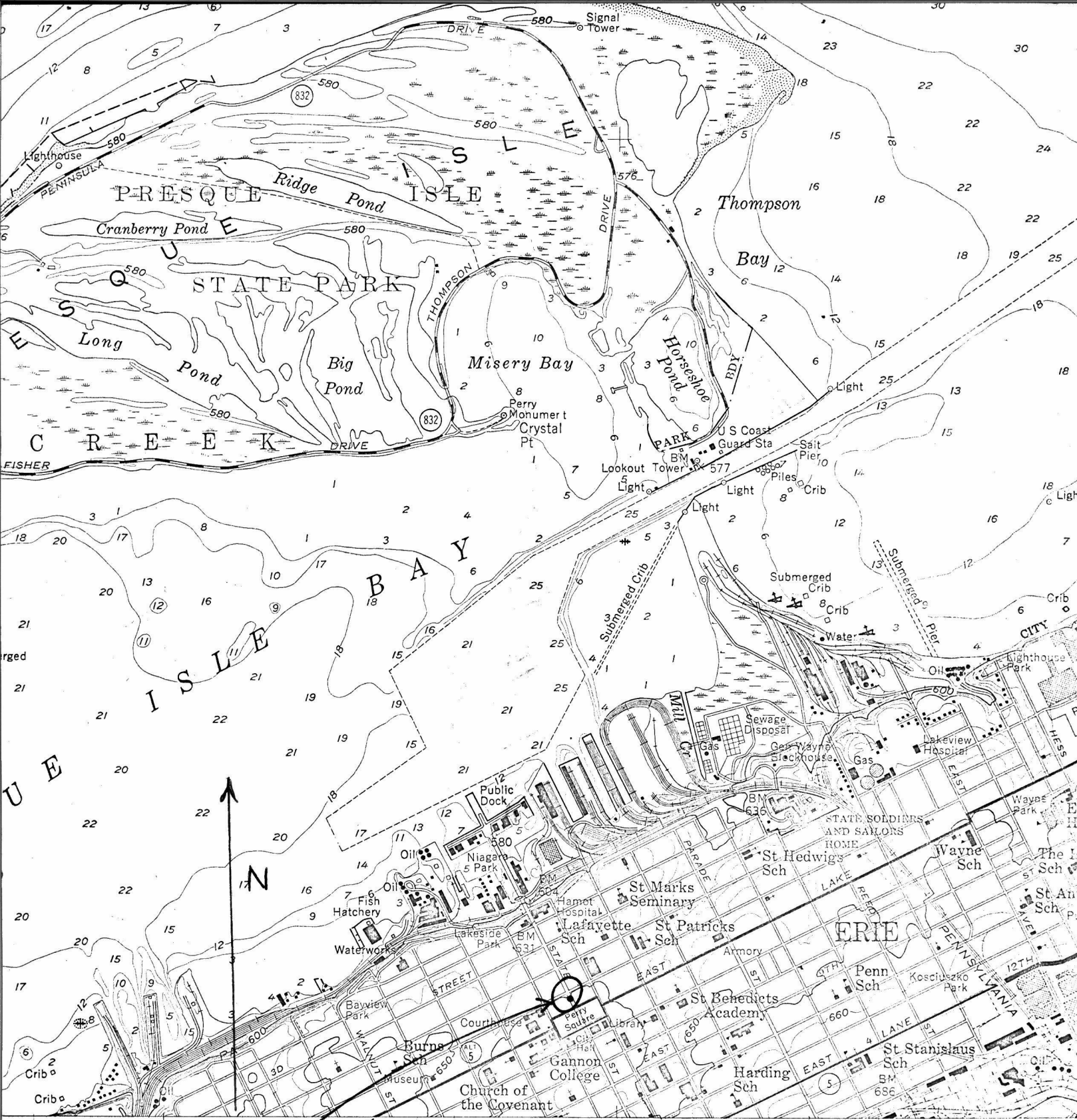


ROAD CLASSIFICATION  
Heavy-duty ——— Light-duty ———  
Medium-duty ——— Unimproved dirt ———  
U.S. Route ——— State Route ———

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS  
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON, D. C. 20242  
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

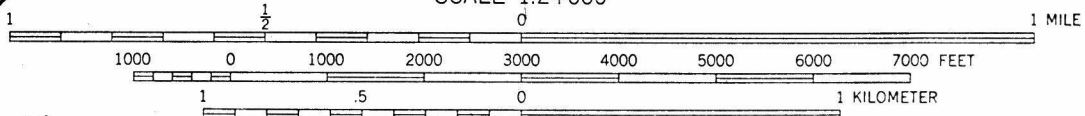
ERIE NORTH, PA.  
N/2 ERIE 15' QUADRANGLE  
N4207.5—W8000/5x10  
1957  
PHOTOREVISED 1969  
AMS 4968 II NE—SERIES V831

Revisions shown in purple compiled in cooperation with  
State of Pennsylvania agencies from aerial photographs taken 1969  
This information not field checked



7 MI. TO PA. 5      PRESQUE ISLE (P.O.) 5.1 MI. (ERIE SOUTH) AVONIA 12 MI.

SCALE 1:24000



*old Custom House*

CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET  
 DATUM IS MEAN SEA LEVEL  
 DEPTH CURVES AND SOUNDINGS IN FEET—DATUM IS LOW WATER 570.5 FEET

LAT: 42° 07' 52.5"  
 Long 80° 05' 04.5"

ERIE NORTH QUAD  
 1957

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS  
 FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

Erie North, Pa. 1957  
1:24000

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE PENNSYLVANIA

Date Entered JAN 13 1972

Director, Northeast Region

Hon. J. Irving Whalley  
Hon. John H. Ware

HR  
MCMeans:mm  
1/12/72

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
✓ Germantown Academy and Headmasters' Houses	Philadelphia
✓ Forest (Edwin) House	Philadelphia
✓ Old Burtner Stone House	Natrona Heights Harrison Township Allegheny County
✓ Oakdale	Chadds Ford Chester County
✓ Deshler House	Philadelphia
✓ Upsals	Philadelphia
✓ Cashier's House	Erie Erie County
✓ Andrew Ellicott House	Lancaster Lancaster County
✓ Old Customs House	Erie Erie County
✓ Lane House	Mercersburg Franklin County

Also Notified

- Hon. Richard S. Schweiker
- Hon. William J. Green
- Hon. James A. Byrne
- Hon. John H. J. Heinz, III
- Hon. Robert M. C. Rix
- Hon. Joseph P. Vigorito
- Hon. Edwin D. Eshleman

State Liaison Officer  
 Dr. S. K. Stevens  
 Executive Director  
 Pennsylvania Historical & Museum  
 Commission  
 William Penn Memorial Museum &  
 Archives Building  
 Box 1025  
 Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17109