

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: <b>Pennsylvania</b>
COUNTY: <b>Northumberland</b>
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE <b>DEC 30 1974</b>

1. NAME

COMMON:  
**Northumberland County Courthouse**

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**207 Market Street**

CITY OR TOWN:  
**Sunbury**

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:  
**17th**

STATE:  
**Pennsylvania**

CODE:  
**42**

COUNTY:  
**Northumberland**

CODE:  
**097**

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 Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <input type="checkbox"/> Comments

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:  
**Northumberland County**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**207 Market Street**

CITY OR TOWN:  
**Sunbury**

STATE:  
**Pennsylvania**

CODE:  
**42**

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
**Court House Recorder of Deeds**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**207 Market Street**

CITY OR TOWN:  
**Sunbury**

STATE:  
**Pennsylvania**

CODE:  
**42**

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
**None known.**

DATE OF SURVEY:  
 Federal  State  County  Local

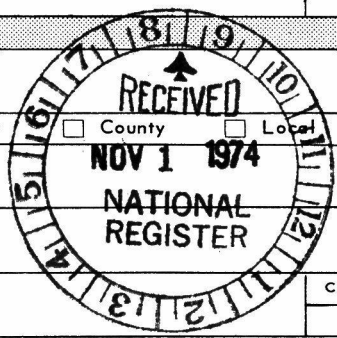
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:  
**Sunbury**

STATE:  
**Pennsylvania**

CODE:  
**42**



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Penna.

COUNTY: Northumberland

FOR NPS USE ONLY

ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

(Check One)

Excellent     Good     Fair     Deteriorated     Ruins     Unexposed

(Check One)

(Check One)

Altered     Unaltered     Moved     Original Site

**very slightly**

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The present appearance of the courthouse does not differ substantially from its original appearance. The courthouse is a three-story, brick building. A three-story wing, which was added in 1911, extends to the east. The front facade of the building has three arched doors surrounded by massive stone work and topped by a stone balcony. This stone work and the striking corner quoins of the building were probably made of brownstone quarried near Hummelstown, Pennsylvania. Second and third story windows on the front facade are of Italianate style, topped by dripstone. Windows on other elevations of the building are two stories in height and contain small windowpanes arranged in a crisscross pattern. All second-story windows are recessed. The cornice on the front is bracketed; elsewhere on the building the cornices are dentilled.

The clock tower remains as originally built except for some ornamentation at its base. Its dome is copper (now painted). The clock was built by E. Howard of Boston and installed in 1872. The bell in the tower was presented to the citizens of Sunbury by Simon Cameron, (Lincoln's Secretary of War), a native of the area.

In the interior, a marble tiled floor on the first floor is an original feature. A room on the second floor of the addition has a coffered ceiling of wood in squares, with outlined designs in color.

Alterations to the building have not been extensive. The first-floor windows originally had small panes of glass; nearly all these panes have been replaced. The ornaments originally on the four extended corners of the building have been removed. In 1911, the transverse hall was made into rooms on either side of the central hall, and the doorways to the east and west became windows. They retain their original massive stone door frames on the exterior.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



**8. 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)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Northumberland County Courthouse is a fine example of the 19th century Romanesque architecture. No architect was hired to design this building; in 1865 the county commissioners decided to copy the Lycoming County Courthouse built in 1861 and designed by Samuel Sloan, a Philadelphia architect of some note. He also designed the Episcopal Hospital in Philadelphia and the Philadelphia Savings Fund Society. The Northumberland County Courthouse is practically identical with the Old Lycoming County Courthouse, which was razed in 1969.

The courthouse is significant because it has the massiveness and solidity of Romanesque masonry that became lost to architectural design when steel girders came into use. This type of public building is becoming more scarce throughout the country.

The political and historic significance of the courthouse is greater than that of any other extant building in the county. It is a symbol of the life of the county in an age of newly discovered wealth and population increase, at the time of the Civil War. The new wealth created by the mining of anthracite coal, railroads, and industry, was accompanied by poverty and unrest, which provided the climate for the Mollie Maguire murders which shook the area for years. The Northumberland County courthouse was the scene of the trial and conviction of the last "Mollie", Peter McManus, for murder in 1878. The courthouse was also the scene of ejectment suits which settled boundary disputes, thus bringing stability to the area. The courthouse is therefore a bridge linking the past political and legal history of the county with that of the present. Destruction of the building will be damaging to that continuity of county history.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Everts and Stewart, "History of Northumberland County", publisher - Everts and Stewart, 1876.  
 Bell, Herbert C., "History of Northumberland County", Brown Runk and Co., publisher, 1891.

HB  
 18 / 348 700  
 / 4,524 740

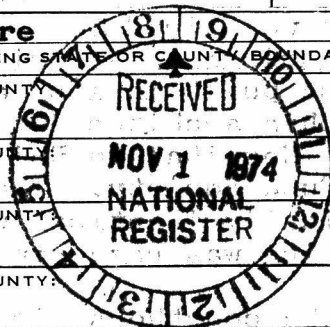
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

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	° ' "	° ' "		40° 51' 40"	76° 47' 42"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **1 acre**

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:  
**Helen J. Schaffer, Elizabeth H. Kury, James J. Rorke, Jr.**

ORGANIZATION: **Northumberland County Historical Society** DATE: **7-12-74**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**212 Market Street**

CITY OR TOWN: **Sunbury** 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: *William J. Wewer*  
**WILLIAM J. WEWER**

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

Date: 10/23/74

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

*A. Martens*  
 Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 12/30/74

ATTEST:  
*W. M. ...*  
 Keeper of The National Register

Date: DEC 27 1974

PROPERTY Northumberland County Courthouse STATE Pa.  
 WORKING NUMBER 11.1.74.1912  
 TECH REVIEW PHOTOS 2  
 MAPS 1

*Northumberland*  
*Co.*  
 74001800

CONTROL REVIEW cm  
11.8.  
74  
OK

HISTORIAN

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN *#8 needs to be rewritten Not Romanesque  
 to reflect style of bldg. Return JCT 11/15/74* ACCEPT  
LEBOVICH  
11-15-74

ARCHEOLOGIST

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF Accept  
Cole  
12-3-74

BRANCH CHIEF

KEEPER *[Signature]*  
DEC 27 1974

National Register Write-up 1-24-75  
 Federal Register entry 2-4-75

Send-back \_\_\_\_\_  
 Re-submit \_\_\_\_\_  
 Entered DEC 30 1974



Ceiling - Court Room #2  
Northumberland County  
Court House  
July 10 1974  
By Steve

FORM 10-301 A  
(6/72)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM**

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

<b>1. NAME</b>		
COMMON <b>Northumberland County Courthouse</b>	AND/OR HISTORIC	NUMERIC CODE (Assigned by NPS)
<b>2. LOCATION</b>		
STATE <b>Pennsylvania</b>	COUNTY <b>Northumberland</b>	TOWN <b>Sunbury</b>
STREET AND NUMBER <b>207 Market Street</b>		
<b>3. PHOTO REFERENCE</b>		
PHOTO CREDIT <b>Daily Item - Sunbury</b>	DATE <b>7/10/74</b>	NEGATIVE FILED AT <b>Daily Item Office</b>
<b>4. IDENTIFICATION</b>		
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.		

DEC 30 1974

Ceiling of Court Room #2.

#102



GPO 932-009

#102

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER



6/13/74  
e redit  
Daily Item  
Sunbury

Northumberland County  
Courthouse  
Entrance (North) and west side  
6-13-74

FORM 10-301 A  
(6/72)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

1. NAME		
COMMON	AND/OR HISTORIC	NUMERIC CODE (Assigned by NPS)
Northumberland County Courthouse		DEC 30 1974

2. LOCATION		
STATE	COUNTY	TOWN
Pennsylvania	Northumberland	Sunbury

STREET AND NUMBER		
207 Market Street		

3. PHOTO REFERENCE		
PHOTO CREDIT	DATE	NEGATIVE FILED AT
Daily Item - Sunbury	6/13/74	Daily Item Office

4. IDENTIFICATION
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.

Entrance (North) and West side.



#2072

GPO 932-009

#2072

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

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

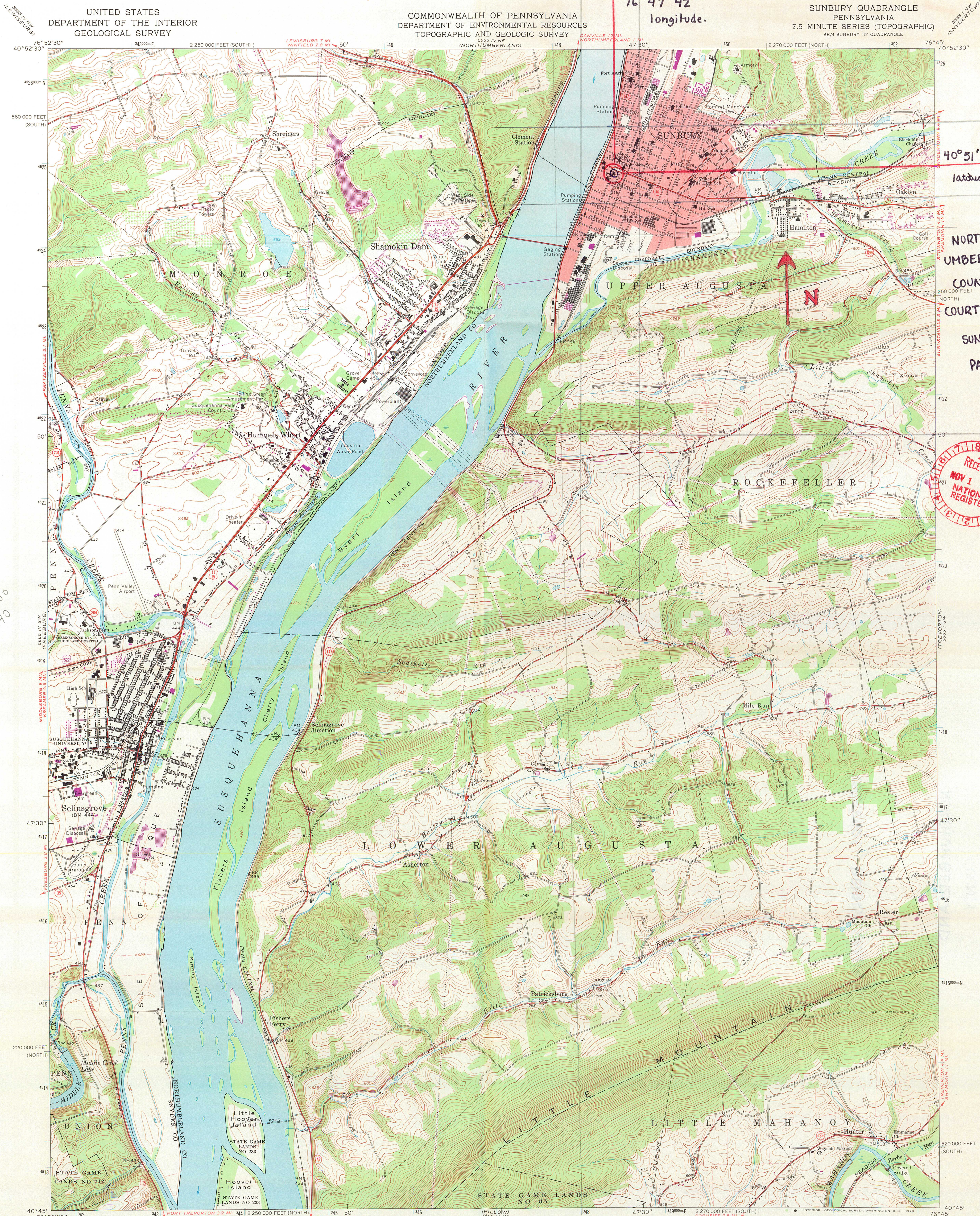
*(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)*

<b>1. NAME</b>		
<b>COMMON</b> Northumberland County Court- house	<b>AND/OR HISTORIC</b>	<b>NUMERIC CODE (Assigned by NPS)</b>
<b>2. LOCATION</b>		
<b>STATE</b> Pennsylvania	<b>COUNTY</b> Northumberland	<b>TOWN</b> Sunbury
<b>STREET AND NUMBER</b>  207 Market Street		
<b>3. MAP REFERENCE</b>		
<b>SOURCE</b> USGS 7.5 Minute Series	<b>DATE</b> revised: 1973	<b>SCALE</b> 1:24,000

**REQUIREMENTS: PROPERTY BOUNDARIES, WHERE REQUIRED, AND NORTH ARROW.**



DEC 3 6 1974



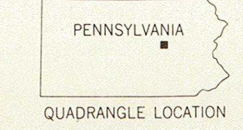
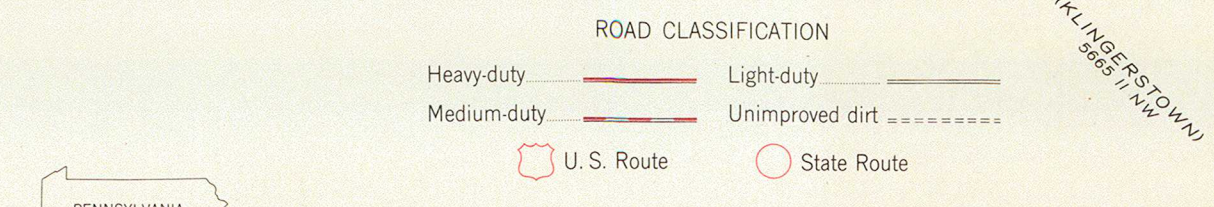
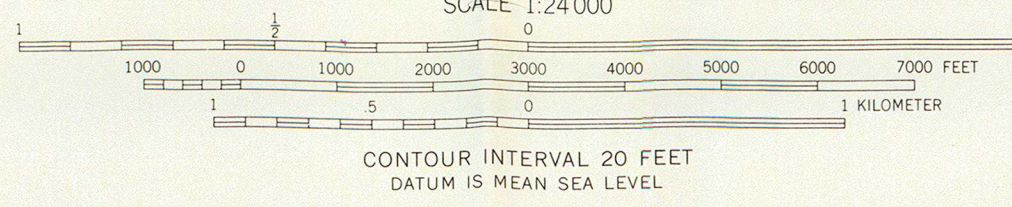
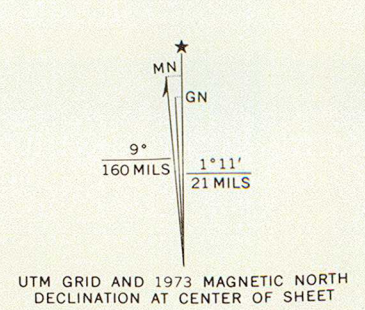
40°51'44"  
latitude

NORTH-  
UMBERLAND  
COUNTY  
COURTHOUSE  
SUNBURY  
PA.



AB  
18/348700  
4524740

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey  
Control by USGS and USC&GS  
Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial  
photographs taken 1962 and 1963. Field checked 1965  
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum  
10,000-foot grids based on Pennsylvania coordinate system,  
north and south zones  
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,  
zone 18, shown in blue  
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where  
generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked  
Red tint indicates area in which only landmark buildings are shown  
Revisions shown in purple compiled in cooperation with  
State of Pennsylvania agencies from aerial photographs  
taken 1973. This information not field checked



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

SUNBURY, PA.  
SE/4 SUNBURY 15' QUADRANGLE  
N4045-W7645/7.5  
1965  
PHOTOREVISED 1973  
AMS 5665 IV SE-SERIES V831

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE PENNSYLVANIA

Date Entered DEC 20 1974

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
Heathside Cottage	Pittsburgh Allegheny County
Harrison House	Centerville Washington County
Warwick Mills	Warwick Township Chester County
Northumberland County Courthouse	Sunbury Northumberland County
Asa Packer Mansion	Jim Thorpe Carbon County

Also Notified

Hon. Hugh Scott  
Hon. Richard S. Schweiker  
Hon. William S. Moorhead  
Hon. Thomas E. Morgan  
Hon. Edwin D. Eshleman  
Hon. Herman T. Schneebeli  
Hon. Daniel J. Flood  
Regional Director, Mid-Atlantic  
Region

State Historic Preservation Officer  
Mr. William J. Wewer  
Executive Director  
Pennsylvania Historical and  
Museum Commission  
Box 1026  
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120

PR MMott/row 1/2/75