

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Pennsylvania	
COUNTY: Northampton	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

1. NAME

COMMON: Historic Subdistrict A in the Historic District of Bethlehem as defined by City Ordinance #1728.
AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
Not applicable, see attached maps
CITY OR TOWN:
Bethlehem
STATE: Pennsylvania CODE: 42 COUNTY: Northampton CODE: 095

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input checked="" 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:
Multiple Public and Private
STREET AND NUMBER:
Not applicable
CITY OR TOWN: Bethlehem STATE: Northampton CODE: 095

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Northampton County Courthouse
STREET AND NUMBER:
Seventh and Walnut Streets
CITY OR TOWN: Easton STATE: Pennsylvania CODE: 42

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: 1. Bethlehem Redevelopment Authority - June 27, 1966. 2. "Master Plan for Historic Bethlehem" - 1963. 3. Some individual buildings*
DATE OF SURVEY: See above Federal State County Local
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Historic Bethlehem Incorporated
STREET AND NUMBER:
Main and Church Streets
CITY OR TOWN: Bethlehem STATE: Pennsylvania CODE: 42

*have been included in HABS surveys. This will be included when individual buildings are registered.

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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Original:

Bethlehem was considered a remarkable ^{MORAVIAN} settlement in the 18th century and attracted many visitors. The congregation lived atop the hill in Choir houses along Church Street, around der Platz (village square) and along Market Street. Many of the trades and crafts were conducted in the flood plain of the Monocacy Creek. Below are quotations from three 18th century visitors to Bethlehem:

This settlement is built on the top and the side of a hill, at the foot of which the Monocasa brook joins the Lecha (Lehigh). The Lecha is celebrated for its picturesque valley, which is at first wild and wooded, and lower down, fruitful and well cultivated. . . (Maximilian, Prince of Wied-Neuwied. Travels in the Interior of North America, p. 77.)

The first time I visited Bethlehem was from Philadelphia, and after travelling two days through a country alternately diversified with savage scenes and cultivated spots, on issuing out of the woods at the close of the evening in the month of May, found myself on a beautiful extensive plain, with the vast eastern branch of the Delaware on the right, richly interspersed with wooded islands, and at the distance of a mile in front the town of Bethlehem, rearing its large stone edifices out of a forest, situated on a majestic, but gradually rising eminence, the background formed the setting sun. So novel and unexpected a transition filled the mind with a thousand singular and sublime ideas and made an impression on me never to be effaced. . . (Remarks made by Grieve, the translator of Marquis de Chastellux. Travels in North America in the Years 1780, 1781, and 1782, pp. 648-649.)

Bethlehem is situated upon a hill, and has the Lecheigh Hills around it, with the Delaware on one side and the Menakesi on the other. On the north and east sides is an orchard of seven or eight acres' extent. On the south, where the hill slopes to the river, there are vegetable gardens -- two or three for vegetables, another for medicinal plants. On the west side, where the Menakesi descends, are their workshops. Below, there is a handsome field, smooth and even. . . (Acrelius, Israel, A History of New Sweden, pp. 402-403.)

Present:

The commercial life of modern Bethlehem is concentrated on Main and

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7. DESCRIPTION (Cont'd)

Broad Streets, thoroughfares which run through and bound the Historic District. Downtown Bethlehem boasts two hotels, assorted retail stores, and is traversed by routes 191 and 512. West of the Monocacy Creek a residential area has evolved, while on the south bank of the Lehigh heavy industry has burgeoned. The land around the Choir Houses is still residential, but more heavily populated. Development of the land along the Monocacy Creek as an historical park and recreation area has already begun.

See attached map for boundaries.

SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Political | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input checked="" 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

Aboriginal:

Works of such well-known eighteenth century men as John Heckewelder (History, Manners and Customs of the Indian Nations Who Once Inhabited Pennsylvania and the Neighbouring States, 1876) and David Zeisberger (Moravian Journals Relating to Central New York, 1745-66, 1916) record Indian language, dress, and customs. The Moravian Museum (in the Gemein Haus) also has a collection of uncatalogued aboriginal material.

Architecture:

Eighteenth century buildings of Germanic architecture featured limestone construction, a gabled roof with a "kick" at the eave line, herringbone-patterned doors, brick eyebrow arches over windows and doors, tile roofs, deep windows, and one or two floors under the roof. The Historic District also includes several Federalist structures and Victorian homes. See Howland, Garth H. "Architectural History of the Moravian Church, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania." Transactions of the Moravian Historical Society, XIV, Parts I and II (1947), pp. 50-132.

A remark made concerning the interest of contemporaries is reflected in this statement in the Chronicle of the Ephrata Brethren: "The localities of Bethlehem and Ephrata were then and are still the subject of all strangers when they wish to explore the different characteristics of this country, because one finds everything there in a shortened form."

Art:

The paintings of John Valentine Haidt, 1700-1780, one of the first American artists, reflected both the spiritual and temporal aspects of Moravian life. Many of his religious works and portraits are displayed in the Archives of the Moravian Church, Bethlehem.

Commerce:

Within twelve years of the founding of Bethlehem, plans for the community store state that of 200 possible items to be sold in the store,

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Cazenove, Theophile. Cazenove Journal, 1794, A Record of the Journey of Theophile Cazenove through New Jersey and Pennsylvania. Haverford, Pennsylvania: History Press, 1922.

Chastellux, Marquis de. Travels in North America in the Years 1780, 1781, and 1782. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1963.

Erbe, Dr. Hellmuth. A Communistic Herrnhut Colony of the Eighteenth Century. Elizabeth Bahnsen, trans. Stuttgart: German Foreign Institute, 1929.

Gollin, Gillian Lindt. Moravians in Two Worlds. New York: Columbia University Press, 1967. (See Continuation)

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			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
NW	40° 37' 20" N	75° 23' 02" W	0		
NE	40° 37' 19" N	75° 22' 44" W			
SE	██████████ N	75° 22' 44" W			
SW	██████████ N	75° 23' 03" W			

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 50.7

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
SE 40° 36' 54"			
SW 40° 36' 54"			
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Pennsylvania Register of Historic Sites and Landmarks

ORGANIZATION: **Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission** DATE: **10/23/71**

STREET AND NUMBER:
Box 1026

CITY OR TOWN: **Harrisburg** STATE: **Pennsylvania** CODE: **42**

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

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: S.K. Stone
State Liaison Officer

Title: Executive Director, Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission

Date: December 2, 1971

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: _____

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date: _____

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only 20-30 articles would have to be purchased outside the community -- the balance all having been produced or manufactured by the congregational workers.

Education:

The Moravian community was strong on youth education. In May, 1742, Anna Zinzendorf opened the Girls' School which eventually became Moravian Seminary and Moravian Preparatory School, both in existence today. Prominent students who attended the Seminary included the grandnieces of Presidents Washington and Jefferson. Religion, practical crafts, arts, and specific subjects such as languages were taught. This was particularly remarkable in an era when female education was not considered necessary beyond reading, writing, and the practice of homemaking techniques.

Engineering:

Admirable civil engineering resulted in a waterworks which supplied various buildings in the Monocacy Valley and in the village with fresh water from the "copius spring." In two of the major structures in the power-conscious designers utilized both ends of water wheel axels -- in the grist mill and in the oil mill complex.

Industry:

The collection of trades, crafts, and industries which the Moravians practiced represents a highly diversified cross-section of skills in this country on the eve of the Industrial Revolution. It was remarkable for a village in the middle of the eighteenth century to have such a variety of industries and crafts as Bethlehem had. A visitor in April, 1751 commented: "though this place at Bethlehem seems but small, you can scarcely mention any trade which is in the largest city in this country, but what is at this place, and is carried on after the best manner." See Levering, Joseph M. A History of Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, 1741-1692. Bethlehem: Times Publishing Company, 1903.

Landscape Architecture:

Many eighteenth century visitors to Bethlehem commented on the beauty of the town. Separate walks for the Brothers and the Sisters were laid out and enhanced with trees and shrubs. Hannah Callender, a visitor to the settlement in 1758 remarked: "Walked up the many's sisters' walk (a quarter of a mile long) adorned with two rows of black cherry trees to the Monachosee Monocacy Creek. . . Sister Garrison. . . gave us leave to step across a . . . On it is a . . ."

summer house with seats of turf and buttonwood trees around it. The Monachoses [Monocacy] laves its foot. . ." Callender, Hannah. "Extracts from the Diary of Hannah Callender." Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography, Vol. XII. p. 452.

Music:

Moravian music was both a personal and a community experience. Individual Moravians owned such instruments as the organ, clarinet, trombone, French horn, and kettle drum. A trombone choir was organized in 1754; a Collegium Musicum had been established ten years earlier to play symphonies. The Collegium Musicum became the forerunner of the famous Bach Choir. Moravian composers included John Frederick Peter (1746-1813) who wrote sacred music such as "It is a Precious Thing" in 1772 and John Antes (1740-1811) who composed Three Trios for Two Violins and Violincello. Bethlehem also hosted the first United States performance of Hayden's "The Creation" in 1811.

Political:

Bethlehem was a religious community where ownership of property was not shared by the members, but all worked for the common good and in return received food, clothing, and shelter, and help in time of illness and old age.

Religion:

During the first eighteen years of the community, a small group of people were held together by religious idealism. No one was paid for his work, and yet the "Pilgrim Congregation" (missionaries) was supported entirely by the industrious labor of this "Home Congregation" (Bethlehem residents). The structure of Church society offers a fascinating study of one aspect of eighteenth century Pietism. A choir system divided the congregation into groups determined by age, sex, and marital status.

Urban Planning:

The four major boundary streets of Bethlehem were laid out wide enough for them to still be satisfactory in width today. Central Moravian Church (1803-1806) was built to accommodate 1500 people, while the congregation numbered only about 580. The residential and religious center was removed from the Industrial Area.

Immigrants to Bethlehem were chosen by church leaders on the basis of the skills they had to offer, and the needs of the community for those skills at the time. The fact that the House Congregation supported a Pilgrim Congregation larger than the village population (400 souls versus 700 souls in 1759) shows that the most modern and efficient production methods were employed. (See Erbe, Hellmuth. A Communistic Herrnhut Colony of the Eighteenth Century. p. 173.)

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9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- Hamilton, Kenneth G. Church Street in Old Bethlehem. Bethlehem: 1942.
- Levering, Joseph M. A History of Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, 1741-1892. Bethlehem: Times Publishing Co., 1903.
- Lincklaen, John. Travels in the Years 1791 & 1792 in Pennsylvania... New York and London: G. P. Putnam & Sons, 1897.
- Martin, John Hill. An Historical Sketch of Bethlehem in Pennsylvania... Philadelphia: Printed for O. Rogers, 1872.
- Maximilian, Prince of Wied-Neuwied. Travels in the Interior of North America. Hannibal Evena Lloyd. Cleveland: Arthur H. Clark Co., 1905.
- Murtagh, William J. Moravian Architecture and Town Planning. Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press, 1967.
- Myers, Elizabeth L. A Century of Moravian Sisters. New York: Fleming H. Revell Co., 1918.
- Myers, Elizabeth L. Sketch of Bethlehem. Bethlehem: 1925.
- Myers, Elizabeth L. Story of the Gemein Haus. Bethlehem: Watchfull Circle of Kings' Daughters, 1924.
- Reichel, William C. The Old Moravian Sun Inn, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, 1758. Philadelphia: Lippincott, 1893.
- Ogden, John. An Excursion into Bethlehem and Nazareth...in 1799. Philadelphia: Charles Cist, printer, 1800.
- Schwarze, Margaret. Old Moravian Chapel, 1751-1951. Bethlehem: Publication authorized by Board of Elders and Trustees of the Moravian Congregation of Bethlehem.

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National Park Service

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CENTRAL BETHLEHEM HISTORIC DISTRICT (Added Information: 1845-1938)

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CENTRAL BETHLEHEM HISTORIC DISTRICT (Added Information: 1845-1938)

DESCRIPTION

The Central Bethlehem Historic District contains a number of distinctive buildings and structures from the period 1845-1938 that complement the earlier Moravian architecture from the period of its development from 1741-1844. The dominant characteristic of the 165 contributing buildings is the tendency among both the residential buildings and the commercial buildings to embrace an austere restraint that continues the Moravian spirit from the earlier period. Residential buildings, in general, share a similarity in a simple gable roof sloping towards the street and are mostly three-bay brick construction with the entrance at the side of the facade. Their vernacular astylar appearance seems to reject an involvement with flamboyant ornament typical of American architecture of this point in time. With the exception of houses on First Avenue, they are distinctively two and one-half stories raised from an earlier one and one-half story height. The commercial buildings range from three to five stories, typically with storefronts at the street level and apartments or offices above. Most of the early commercial facades have experienced the "Victorian" revival with Italianate ornaments applied to otherwise plain facades. Some of the commercial buildings on Main Street are architect-designed reflecting the high-style elements of contemporary architectural invention, such as the Romanesque revival and the Chateausque.

The six contributing sites are, largely, archaeological foundations of nineteenth-century industrial buildings located within the Moravian "industrial" complex along the Monocacy Creek. Of the nine contributing structures, most are bridges of stone or iron construction built at various times in the district's history. A few distinctive objects such as monuments and street "furniture" comprise the remaining four examples of this genre of contributing architectural forms. They are from the late nineteenth century and are constructed in the High Victorian revival styles.

On several communal buildings eighteenth-century Germanic architectural elements, such as herringbone pattern doors, gambrel roofs with flared eaves, brick jack-arched windows and doors, tiled roofs, Germanic sloping-roofed dormers, parged stone walls, and deepset windows, are incorporated into their designs. Constructed in log, stone, timber frame, and brick, they are the architectural heritage of a colony of religious

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CENTRAL BETHLEHEM HISTORIC DISTRICT (Added Information: 1845-1938)

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communicants called Moravians. These buildings represent the largest collection of Germanic style architecture in continual use in the United States.

As Bethlehem's Moravian culture evolved, around 1800 its architecture began to assimilate stylistic elements from the then current European and American taste for neoclassicism resulting in the appearance of restrained and austere Georgian and Federal components. During the Moravian period, a cultural emphasis on community produced closely bound neighborhoods of look alike brick houses of three bay, one and one-half story facades with roofs sloping toward the street. With the exception of the eighteenth-century Moravian communal buildings, the streetscape of the original Central Bethlehem Historic District was one of uniform rooflines and symmetrical brick facades. Late nineteenth-century photographs of surviving structures and ruins indicate that these houses were also enlarged by increasing their height creating buildings of two and one-half stories. This process took place concurrently with the community's growth and assimilation of other religious and cultural entities.

This changing architectural aesthetic in Bethlehem corresponded to a rapidly evolving American manifestation of eclecticism that produced historical revival styles in cities and towns that were affected by the industrial revolution. In a time of burgeoning economic and commercial development, an era of richness and diversity of architectural forms emerged which is the focus of the proposed consideration to add resources of 1845-1938 to the district's period of significance, contributing both commercial and domestic forms, as well as a few industrial examples.

Commercial buildings, concentrated on Main Street, provide a streetscape of contiguous buildings with first story storefronts and upper stories of offices and apartments. The commercial area of the Central Bethlehem Historic District extends from the 100 block of Main Street north to Broad Street, one block on Broad east from Main, and also includes a block on North New Street from Market to Walnut. The buildings in these areas range from modest stores which have been modified from earlier residences to extraordinary architect-designed commercial structures which are ostentatious displays of the fruits of industrialization.

Since Bethlehem Main Street architecture is largely a manifestation of commercial expansion during the industrial revolution, it is not surprising that the forty- three contributing buildings (only buildings are non-contributing) on Main Street largely represent the high Victorian period with a preponderance of Italianate and Second Empire styles. Over half the total number of commercial buildings reflect an 1870-1890 taste for elaborate cornice and overwindow ornament. More than ten percent retain their early 1800s appearance emphasizing either the Germanic colonial stone aesthetic or the

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Georgian/Federal style that survives as late as the 1840s in this community. Approximately ten percent address specifically modern stylistic idioms of the 1920s and 1930s such as Art Deco and Art Moderne. Another twenty-five percent reflect an interest in particular historical revival styles, typical of the nineteenth-century tendency to use style to denote function. Of this latter group, several are architect-designed. Infill architecture is almost non-existent on Main Street, owing to local pride in the historic architecture of the Moravian period and to a general appreciation for the opulence of the Victorian 1870s and 1880s and its concomitant display of wealth.

Significant to the retention of original upper portions of the buildings, only the storefronts have fallen victims to modernization over the years. The general tendency in Bethlehem's past has been to replace storefronts -- updating them as new trends, new materials, new styles emerge -- with the overall effect of preserving the upper facades, if only by default. This localized modification of commercial buildings has provided a wealth of historic architectural stock which is original and quite undisturbed. With an increasing sense of the value of these artifacts, lost surfaces and ornaments are now being conscientiously replicated.

The integrity of Main Street's nineteenth-century appearance has been maintained because of a restoration and preservation campaign which began around 1976 to protect and recreate the historic ambiance. During that period businesses considered retaining the extant architectural stock and ornaments, while recreating in alternative materials the general forms of original buildings. Through a major program of community development, goals were achieved to revitalize Main Street and build a spirit of preservation among its property holders. These actions are still manifest today on many buildings that retain an historic flavor. Although problems of lost cast iron store fronts were solved in some cases by generalized re-creation in wood, such as 542 Main Street, many original facades and ornaments still exist, particularly above the first floor. An example of excellent retention of original architectural fabric can be seen at 525 Main Street, the George H. Myers Building. Its chateausque ornaments of terra cotta and copper clad Gothic towers, with bottle glass set into windows above two lower symmetrical bay windows, reflect an opulent era.

Fortunately, many of the high style buildings on Main Street were not altered significantly. The most entirely intact of the high style commercial buildings is 459 Main Street. Completed in April 1889, this grand, red sandstone three-story facade exemplifies a number of hand-carved architectural ornaments such as a refined Romanesque revival central portal with carved classical masks at each spring of the arch. A corner tower provides asymmetrical balance extending the building to the fourth floor and thus unifying the north side which is unabuttet to its neighbor. Although this particular building's

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design is unique on Main Street, it is one of several that demonstrate late nineteenth-century high style architecture.

Domestic architecture contributing to the Historic District ranges from occasional examples of high style buildings on West Market and West Church Streets to vernacular houses that typify architectural styles of Bethlehem's 1845-1938 history. The pattern of construction in Bethlehem proper, as evidenced in contemporary documents, indicates that most of the houses were built between 1845 and 1860, though usually smaller in scale than they exist today. The typical street scape of the 1840s was a row of similar one and one half story brick houses of three and five bay design with some living space in the attic and basement. Moreover, the houses were generally devoid of ornamentation except for functional shutters. By the 1860s, particularly after the Civil War, the need to enlarge living space resulted in the construction of their present architectural configuration. Expansion usually meant the addition of a second floor and wings to the rear. With virtually no infill construction or intrusion of alterations post-1938, the integrity of these structures demonstrates their general original appearance. The houses along Church and Market Streets in this period, for instance, have retained not only their original forms, fenestration, and exterior material, but most exemplify their original architectural ornaments, porches, shutters, and cornice details. A typical example can be seen at 20 West Church Street. This single family house, constructed of brick as were most domestic buildings in the district, bears a close resemblance to its early one and one-half story appearance prior to the building's increase in height in 1883. Brick bonds belie this change since Flemish bond can be seen on the lower facade and common bond on the upper. Its three bay facade, with vertically aligned fenestration, a gable roof sloping toward the street, end chimneys at the apex of the roof, and panelled lower and louvered upper shutters, retains attributes of an early building. Victorian exuberances, such as ornate return cornices with brackets, heavy overwindows, and elaborate porch details, have been avoided.

Among the high style examples, Church Street boasts an exceptional Second Empire house at 41 West Church Street called "Clewell Hall," now a men's dormitory for Moravian College. Built c.1874, it displays original elements in its fine, fish-scale slate mansard roof, paired cornice brackets, segmental arched sash, and elaborate overwindows on the third floor in the mansard. Other buildings on Church Street embrace High Victorian styles such as a large Gothic Revival residence at 4 West Church. Eastlake trim and incised overwindow ornaments, Gothic gabled pavilions with Tudor detailing, bracketed overhangs, and elaborately capped dormers all reveal original fabric. Contemporary photographs indicate a polychromed wall surface that, though now painted white, may be exposed in the future like many homes in the area that have removed twentieth-century paint.

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West Market Street exhibits a different stylistic pattern. Mostly Colonial revival upgrades of earlier Federal style houses, the street facade depicts a unity of design, if not of scale. All period houses have simple pitched roofs sloping to the street, typical throughout the historic district. Of the eighteen contributing houses on West Market, half are designs with three bays and a side entrance, the remainder being five bays with center entrances. Regardless of the number of bays, ninety percent of the houses have elements of the Colonial Revival style. 18 West Market Street reflects this turn of the century taste on a house constructed in the 1860s. With a five-bay center entrance facade of two and one-half stories, it has a fine semicircular porch capped with an iron balustrade and an elaborated second story central window. Side lights flank the doorway and Gothic tracery appears in the three dormer windows, a motif of the colonial period.

Domestic architecture differs considerably in the section of the district in West Bethlehem. A preponderance of three bay two and one-half story houses were built along First Avenue and West Street. With development occurring in the 1880s and 1890s, most of the houses share similar features. With few exceptions, until the turn of the century, most of the houses fit the vernacular formula observed on West Market, West Church, Heckewelder Place, and North New Street. A typical house of this description is 533 First Avenue. Except for its Victorian overdoor, this three-bay two and one-half story building is representative of the most frequently occurring style in the Historic District.

Elements of high style seldom appear in West Bethlehem and many of the houses are joined as mirror twins. Architectural ornament usually decorates the houses built around 1910, and is usually a modest version of the Colonial Revival details found on West Market Street houses. A pair of houses corresponding to this pattern can be seen at 427-425 First Avenue. They are constructed of brick with a front Tuscan columned veranda, a second story bay window, and a third story pedimented dormer with double windows. Some changes in surfaces appear in West Bethlehem where stucco coatings imitate stone and brick and some houses have aluminum or vinyl siding or trim.

In addition to houses and commercial buildings, the historic district also includes several contributing structures: among others, portions located in the district of the Lehigh Canal and the Hill to Hill Bridge, and stoneworks along the Monocacy Creek constructed during the Works Progress Administration's efforts to improve the waterway. The Canal appears along the southern border of the district and is listed on the National Register independent of the Historic District. The 1923 Hill to Hill Bridge provides a link from South Bethlehem and Pennsylvania Highway 378 with the north side of Bethlehem.

Structural changes and aesthetic alterations to buildings in the Historic District have been largely restricted to rear additions and wings out of view from the city streets and to

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the first story storefronts on Main Street commercial buildings. Aluminum or vinyl siding and modern stucco coatings imitating stone and brick are virtually non-existent in the eastern segment of the Historic District, perhaps because of the vigilant efforts of the city's Historic and Architectural Review Board or from a pride in authenticity that has preserved so many historic artifacts.

The significant architectural stock in the original Central Bethlehem Historic District embraces two cultures: the early Moravian culture of 1741-1844 and the commercial expansion of 1845-1938. Of the 209 resources extant in the district, only 25 are non-contributing.

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CENTRAL BETHLEHEM HISTORIC DISTRICT: 1845-1938 STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The original Central Bethlehem Historic District, bounded on the north by Broad Street, on the east by North New Street, on the south by West Church Street and the Lehigh River, and on the west by the east side of Second Avenue, was established by the contribution of its eighteenth and early nineteenth-century Moravian structures. Nominated to the National Register in 1971, the district boundaries were expanded in 1987 to include properties to the east along Market, Wall, and Church Streets, extending the period of significance for these structures to 1938. The present proposal establishes additional significance for structures dating 1845-1938 within the boundaries of the original district. These resources add to the district's significance in the area of architecture under Criterion C.

The Central Bethlehem Historic District is historically important beyond its current emphasis on the Moravian period of 1741 to 1844 considering the impact of industrialization and religious pluralism. The Moravian community had functioned as a Utopian experiment which allowed for cultural expression and religious adherence to a pietistic belief from German theologians emigrating from Europe to this part of Pennsylvania to bring Christianity to the Indians. Its members participated in a rigidly organized religious community, which required that they lease their land from the Moravian Congregation. Their communal way of life established extraordinary eighteenth-century industry and hand crafts in efforts shared cooperatively. The limitations and restrictions regarding property ownership gave way after 1844, when the city opened its doors to residents of many religions whose interest in settling in Bethlehem resulted in a burgeoning of commerce and industrialization.

The various Moravian communal buildings, with eighteenth-century Germanic architectural elements, such as herringbone pattern doors, gambrel roofs with flared eaves, brick jack-arched windows and doors, tiled roofs, Germanic sloping-roofed dormers, parged stone walls, and deepset windows represent the largest collection of Germanic style architecture in continuing use in the United States. As the Moravian culture evolved, around 1800 its architecture began to assimilate stylistic elements from the then current European and American taste for neoclassicism with the resultant evidence of restrained and austere Georgian and Federal components which became the foundation for residential scale buildings for the remainder of the century. Differing from styles in Philadelphia, its colonial neighbor to the south, Bethlehem's second generation of architectural styles retained the forms but not the ornament of the English-influenced neoclassical buildings.

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Cornices were austere, walls plain, ornament non-existent on buildings that represented the Moravian response to a post-Revolution architectural aesthetic.

Architectural changes that occurred in Bethlehem in the period 1845-1938 took into account not only its Germanic heritage but an evolution in cultural diversity as the closed Moravian community opened its doors to other religious and cultural entities. The divestiture of property by the Moravian Congregation after 1844 enabled people of all religions to purchase land in the heart of Bethlehem. With the newly built Trinity Episcopal, Wesley Methodist, and Salem Lutheran churches locating a few blocks from the center of town, the transition to religious pluralism was effective in bringing new tastes and a new market for commercial products. Concurrently, American architecture in general was undergoing a transformation into historical revival styles such as the Gothic Revival which began to appear in the Northeast in the 1840s.

The growth of Bethlehem after 1845 was directly affected by the incursion of heavy industry when the Lehigh Valley Railroad and the Bethlehem Iron Company (later Bethlehem Steel) established their headquarters in the community. The Bethlehem Steel Company during the early twentieth century became the second largest steel producer in America, particularly with government contracts from World War I. Main Street was expanded into a commercial district bringing not only shops and small service businesses to the community but banking, investing, legal services, and other commercial ventures that support an industrial complex. As industries grew, the increase in residential construction impacted upon the center of Bethlehem. Houses after 1845 began to appear comingled with earlier Moravian structures in the areas of Church, New, Market, and other streets along with the residential functions of the commercial buildings on Main Street.

As a result of this major community change, the Central Bethlehem Historic District in the period of 1845-1938 took on additional significance in the area of architecture. The industrial revolution brought significant economic benefits which affected personal taste manifested in the construction of opulent buildings. Several examples of high style architecture as monuments to wealthy industrialists were built on Main Street. In 1892 George H. Myers built the largest building in the Lehigh Valley at 525 Main Street. An ostentatious and fanciful design of Philadelphia architect Wills G. Hale, the five story building is 86 feet high with a 42 foot front on Main Street. Built of Milford pink granite from Maine the building is trimmed in Indiana limestone and brick with terra cotta ornaments and an ornate copper cornice from the Lehigh Valley Cornice Works. Myers had come to Bethlehem in 1865 as an entrepreneur in the coal industry. His impressive chronology of industrial prosperities includes the directorships of Bethlehem Iron Company, the First National Bank, and the Lehigh Valley Railroad. Myers's taste in

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domestic architecture was equally conspicuous in a monumental Second Empire mansion he had constructed in the 1870s on East Market Street.

Architectural achievements in central Bethlehem were not limited to wealthy industrialists who imported architects from other communities. Local architects, such as A. W. Leh also made significant statements in the historic district. Leh, an architect whose institutional designs for Pennsylvania colleges and universities gave him local prominence at Lehigh University and Moravian College, designed three large distinctive buildings for Main Street. The First National Bank Building, c.1885, at 535 Main; The New Bee Hive for the Lerch and Rice Company, c.1891, at 559 Main; and the Wiley Building, c.1895, at 470 Main, all demonstrate Leh's consummate skills as master of the Romanesque revival. The hallmark of his design is a grouping of three round-headed windows in a wall of rusticated stone. The latter building, now covered with stucco after a major fire, was a diminutive replica of Leh's formula for Moravian College's Comenius Hall, c.1895.

Architectural distinctiveness in Bethlehem's historic district also contains excellent examples of vernacular buildings which typify the American nineteenth-century historical revival idiom in its extraordinarily intact residential sections. With almost no post-1938 infill construction, houses erected during the 1845-1938 period on West Market, West Church, and New Streets manifest the Moravian taste for restraint and austerity that became modified after the Civil War by an interest in Victorianizing details. Most were built in one style and modified later to another, such as the various Colonial revival houses that appear on West Market Street where the houses were built in the 1850s and 1860s and were updated toward the end of the century with applied ornamentation. Several homes show a particular celebration of styles of the Gothic revival (4 West Church), Second Empire (41 West Church), and Queen Anne (49 West Church). The historic district's West Bethlehem segment was built for the most part at a later date, hence, those houses demonstrate designs reflecting original Colonial revival styles. Generally smaller, less costly, they are paired as mirror twins with shared central pavilions or balancing dormers and fine extant wood details (338 West Street).

Central Bethlehem Historic District is significant in its development from a Moravian community of 1741-1844 to a highly industrial city of 1845-1938. The district features outstanding examples of high style and vernacular architecture including creditable achievements of professional architects both local and from outside the community.

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MAPS

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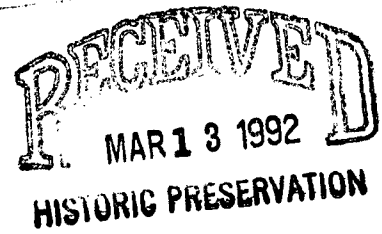
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SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 72001131 Date Listed: 5/5/72

Central Bethlehem H. D.
Property Name

Northhampton
County

PENNSYLVANIA
State

Multiple Name

This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

Patrick Andrews
Signature of the Keeper

2/20/92
Date of Action

=====
Amended Items in Nomination:

The additional documentation indicates that recent modifications to the exteriors of some of the buildings in this district may have compromised their ability to convey the architectural significance of the district as a whole. The material is therefore amended to change the status of the following buildings from contributing to non-contributing:

Building at 509 Main Street--the documentation describes this building as a "recent colonial/Georgian revival treatment";

Buildings at 545 and 549 Main Street--the documentation shows that a colonial brick covering was added to these small 19th century frame buildings in 1980;

Building at 542-44 Main Street--an entirely new facade has apparently been applied to the front elevation of this building;

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564-72 Main Street--the Sun Inn was individually listed in the National Register in 1973. The current documentation, however, indicates that the present structure is a reconstruction dating from 1983. Based on the information contained in this documentation the present Sun Inn must be considered non-contributing. It was not built during the period of significance established in the documentation and it does not appear to meet the standards for listing under Criteria Consideration E (for reconstructed buildings);

House at 517 First Avenue, West Bethlehem--aluminum siding has been installed over the original brick;

Houses at 210 and 212 West Schaffer Street, West Bethlehem--the siding has been replaced and trim removed or altered.

The documentation is also amended to change the status of the north section of the structure at 559 Main Street from non-contributing to contributing. Its date of construction is well within the period of significance of the district and there is no indication that the building has been altered.

These amendments have been confirmed by phone with Greg Ramsey of the Pennsylvania SHPO (2/20/92).

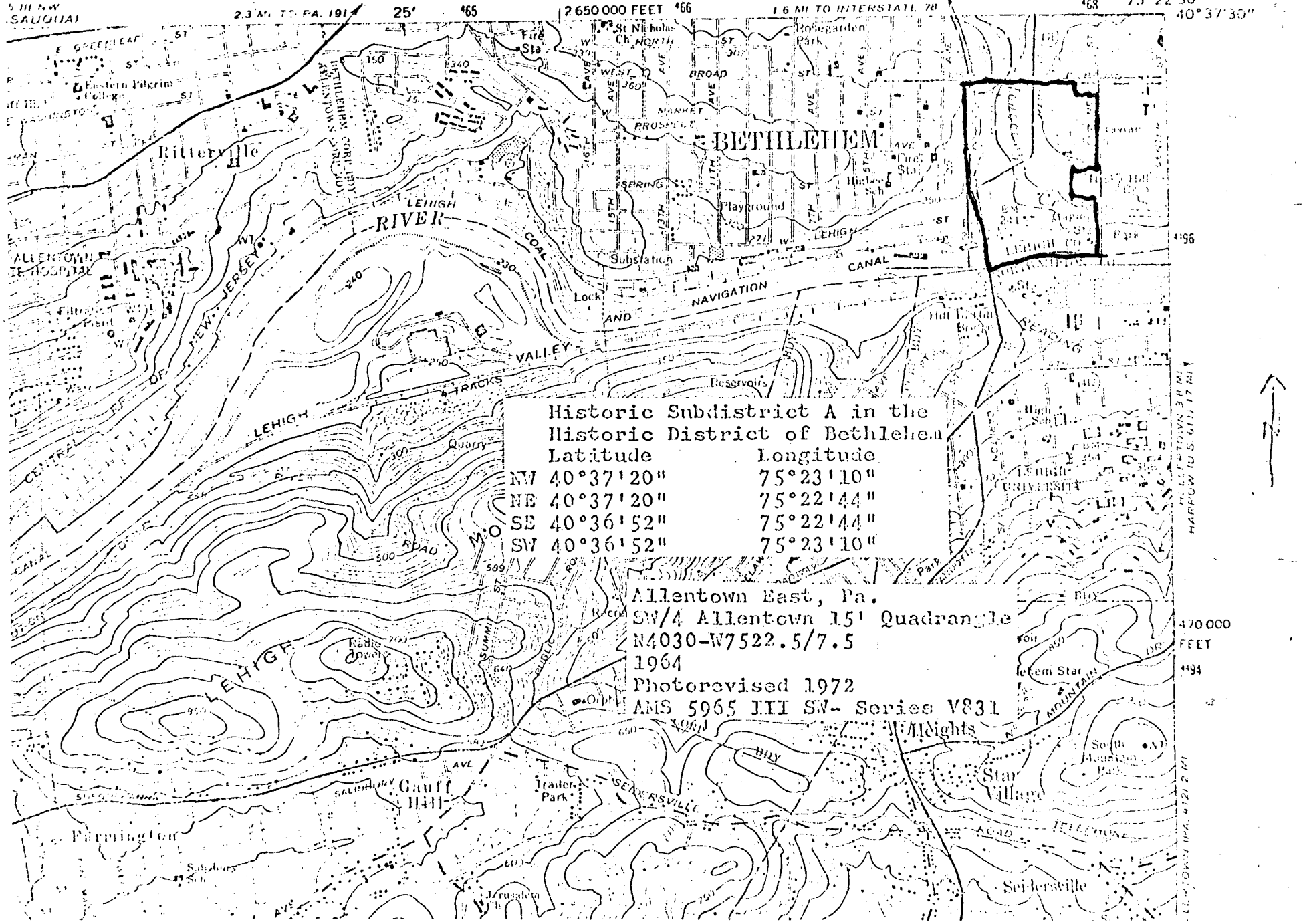
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Mid-Atlantic Regional Office**

PENNSYLVANIA
 INTERNAL AFFAIRS
 GEOLOGIC SURVEY

ALLENTOWN EAST QUADRANGLE
 PENNSYLVANIA
 7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)
 SW/4 ALLENTOWN 15' QUADRANGLE

5965 III NE
 (NAZARETH)



Historic Subdistrict A in the
 Historic District of Bethlehem

	Latitude	Longitude
NW	40°37'20"	75°23'10"
NE	40°37'20"	75°22'44"
SE	40°36'52"	75°22'44"
SW	40°36'52"	75°23'10"

Allentown East, Pa.
 SW/4 Allentown 15' Quadrangle
 N4030-W7522.5/7.5
 1964
 Photorevised 1972
 AMS 5965 III SW- Series V831



ALLENTOWN SW/4
 HARROW (U.S. 61) 17 MI

470 000
 FEET

494

ALLENTOWN (PA. 412) 2 MI