

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

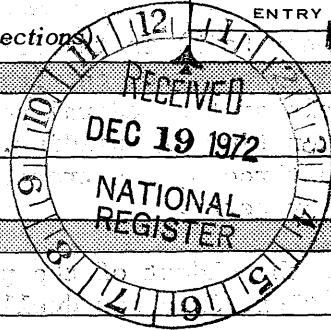
STATE:  
**West Virginia**

COUNTY:  
**Jefferson**

FOR NPS USE ONLY

ENTRY NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)



**MAR 30 1973**

**1. NAME**

COMMON:  
**Rumsey Hall**

AND/OR HISTORIC:  
**Entler Hotel**

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**German and Princess Streets**

CITY OR TOWN:  
**Shepherdstown** **2nd Congressional District**

STATE: **West Virginia** CODE: **54** COUNTY: **Jefferson** CODE: **037**

**3. CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <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
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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <b>storage</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Comments

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNER'S NAME:  
**State of West Virginia (Shepherd College)**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**The Capitol**

CITY OR TOWN: **Charleston** STATE: **West Virginia** CODE: **54**

**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:  
**The Courthouses of Jefferson and Berkeley Counties**

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: **Charles Town and Martinsburg** STATE: **West Virginia** CODE: **54**

**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY: **An architectural survey of Jefferson County is in the process of being made.**

DATE OF SURVEY: **scheduled completion-**  Federal  State  County  Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: **10/1/72**

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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7 DESCRIPTION

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Entler Hotel (Rumsey Hall) in the 19th century was a complex of six adjacent sections, including the brick carriage house--all with a uniformity in style and materials of the Federal period. Research shows that there was a real proximity in time of building. At present in the structure there are 32 rooms, 7 bathrooms, 2 entrance halls, and an unfinished basement under the entire property.

Built about 1786, the oldest of the properties was the home and hostelry of Philip Adam Entler, Jr. This dwelling was burned in 1912.

A walking alley separated it from the section built in the 1790's. Still standing, this is the nucleus of what the deed books call "The Entler Hotel Property." This building represents the architecture of the Federal period as interpreted in Shepherdstown--2 storied brick construction, Flemish bond; molded brick water table; stone foundation; hand-hewn ornamental wooden keystones atop windows and doorways; small window panes and shutters; and a fan lighted front door. The window sashes have been changed and the shutters removed. Steep concrete steps have been substituted for the wooden stoop which had supplanted the old stone slabs. In 1913 the hand-rived shingle roof was replaced by double hand-seamed metal. The exposed gable end is finished with barge boards. The cornice is dentil in design. There are two sets of twin chimneys, carrying 12 flues.

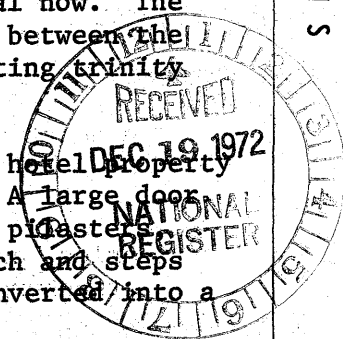
The corner section (German and Princess Streets), built before 1809, is of similar construction but simpler in design. The decorative lentels are gone; splayed brick arches take their places. The cornice is plain. The two entrances are shop-type, double doors with latches. The height of the ceilings in the unit described in the preceding paragraph and the contour of the lot made it possible for the roof line to be maintained here and yet to have a three-storied building for commercial use. The roof covering the corner area is partial hip, shingle once, metal now. The fashion in which the west chimney of this part is centered between the double chimneys of the older part affords an attention-getting trinity of smoke stacks.

The next section, facing Princess Street, was a part of the hotel property by 1815. The first floor housed a lobby and dining room. A large door with sidelights, transom, and overhead cover, supported by pilasters became the main entrance to the enlarged edifice. The porch and steps were removed and the door secured when the building was converted into a dormitory.

The last section designed for hotel use was the kitchen area, sandwiched between the older sections and the carriage house. (The original kitchen had been in the family living quarters and the basement rooms where the quantity cooking was done, the linens laundered, and the wines stored.) A dumb waiter went to the cellar.

The old carriage house, adjoining the property, had these characteristics: brick construction, common bond; low stone foundations; small windows

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



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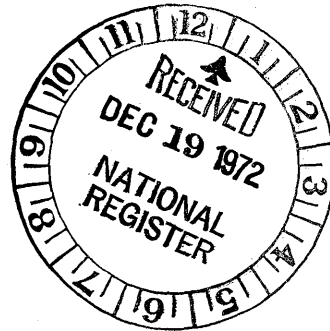
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and ventilators; barge board gable ends; no cornice; no chimney; low roof line. After World War II it was converted into a unit of 8 rooms for students; later it was made into 2 apartments.

The back of the property can be treated together. Though the windows yet have the small panes with the old bubble glass, the shutters have been taken off. Some are stacked on the premises. On one side a veranda of two galleries, with the original railing and spindles and connecting steps between floors, runs into a single-storied back porch on the other side. Two of the three back doors are original. Underneath the porches is a passageway from which heavy old doors lead into the cellar rooms.

Despite renovation, the authenticity of the interior is amazing. Significant features still evidenced are the woodwork, encompassing the mantel pieces with horizontal "linen fold" carving, chairboards, six panelled doors, a four-fold fan lighted door between the ladies' parlors, and Dutch doors to closets, the old hinges, H, HL, and strap, much original window glass, a stone hearth in the front parlor, two basement fireplaces, and a broad stairway with four landings from the ground to the attic.



**SIGNIFICANCE**

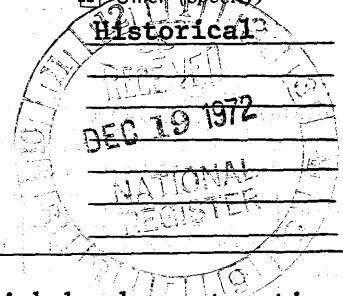
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |                                       |  |                                       |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <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 checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> Education              | <input type="checkbox"/> Political           | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning                                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric             | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering            | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)<br><b>Historical</b> |
| <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 story of Entler Hotel was held together by Flemish bond construction, a longevity of family ownership, and the reputation for serving the best beef in town.

Shepherdstown was on the high road between Baltimore and the Southwest, and wagoners in the early days, hauling goods from the Chesapeake Bay port to as far south as Tennessee, stopped in the settlement overnight. There were numerous saloons, inns, and ordinaries. Though Entler Hotel was the status hostelry where the professional men stayed, some of the gambling and cock-fighting, promoted at other taverns housing drivers, was carried on in the innyard of Entler. At the back of the hotel on one occasion a dealer from the Southwest, who had lost his cattle money at cards, shot himself.

There were two hotels in town run by the Entlers in the early 1800's. Joseph's was called the Great Western; brother Daniel's bore the family name since it incorporated the old Entler property, built in the 1780's, the first unit of the six sectioned Entler Hotel Property. The fact is not surprising, since their grandfather, Philip Adam Entler, Sr., had been a butcher and innkeeper in York, Pennsylvania, before coming to Shepherdstown. The elder Philip had brought with him from Germany in 1737 a certificate stating that in 1736 he had completed his full three years as an apprentice to Johannes Entler, butcher.

Tradition says that when James Rumsey, having been appointed by President George Washington in 1785 to supervise the project for utilizing the Potomac River for navigation, came to Shepherdstown, he spent a time with the Entlers before establishing his home. Later, when the Chesapeake and Ohio canal became a reality, officials connected with the construction of Lock 38 (Shepherdstown Lock) lived at Entler Hotel.

The hotel features in early accounts of a duel fought in 1809 on the Maryland side of the river. In the match between Peyton Smith and Joseph Holmes, who had quarreled over cards, the records show that the wounded young Smith was brought to Mr. Entler's hotel, where he died in Room I on the third floor, before his mother's arrival from Winchester.

Throughout the years, the hotel's official connection with the town's governing body involved entertaining the mayor and members annually and

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Deeds for Lot 33, Shepherdstown, July 25, 1764--July 30, 1921; originals in courthouses of Jefferson and Berkeley counties, copies owned by the Historic Shepherdstown Commission.

Bushong. Historic Jefferson County; Boyce, Va.; Carr Publishing Co.; 1972.

Kenamond. Prominent Men of Shepherdstown 1762-1962, Jefferson County Historical Society Publication; 1962.

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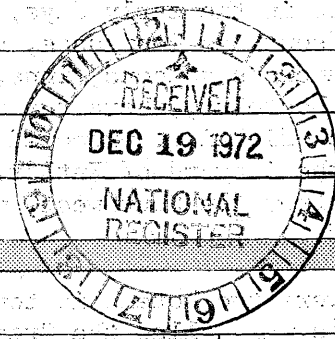
**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			OR	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	° ' "	° ' "		39° 25' 52"	77° 48' 15"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **1/2 acre**

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE:  
**Ted McGee, Field Research Agent for**

ORGANIZATION: **West Virginia Antiquities Commission** DATE: **Oct. 6, 1972**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**WVU - Old Mountainlair**

CITY OR TOWN: **Morgantown** STATE: **West Virginia** CODE: **54**

**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: Dr. Carolyn J. Zinn  
**Dr. Carolyn J. Zinn**

Title: State Liaison Officer

Date: November 30, 1972

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

Robert W. Utley  
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 3/30/73

ATTEST:

[Signature]  
Keeper of The National Register

Date: 3/22/73

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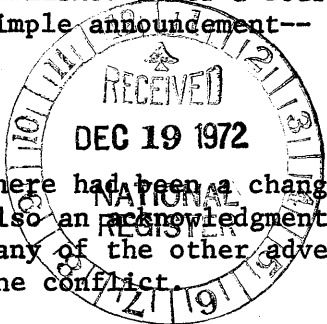
applying for and renewing of licenses to sell "spiritus liquors." On April 14, 1845, the council granted permission for the Market House to be enlarged and "buff-washed similar to Mr. D. Entler's Hotel."

Social affairs were sometimes held in the large dining room. On January 30, 1847, a supper was served for Col. John Francis Hamtramck, a West Point graduate 1819, a U.S. Indian Agent, a Military Governor in Mexico, Captain of the Shepherdstown Light Infantry, and Mayor of Shepherdstown, 1850-54. As a young man, the honoree, upon the death of his father, Col. J. F. Hamtramck, Sr., who had been an officer on General George Washington's staff, became the ward of General William Benjamin Harrison. A copy of the hand written invitation is attached.

The Shepherdstown Register, Vol. 1, No. 1, December 4, 1849, announced that Quadrille Parties were to be given at Mr. D. Entler's Hotel. The old papers indicate that in the 1850's land could be rented and taxes paid there. Public sales were held in front of the hotel. Among the managers sponsoring a cotillion party in the hotel on February 20, 1855, were H. Shepherd, R. D. Shepherd, and Col. J. F. Hamtramck.

After the battle of Antietam, September 17, 1862, Shepherdstown, three miles away, became a big sprawling hospital where churches, storerooms, and homes were turned into makeshift wards. Some of the most severely wounded were taken to Entler Hotel, where they were tended by Dr. Richard Parran, who lived only a block down German Street. In the latter part of the century, it was not uncommon for a veteran of the Civil War to return to spend a night in the room in which he had recuperated in the fall of 1862.

On October 28, 1865, in the first issue of the Shepherdstown Register to be published after a four year cessation during the Civil War there was this simple announcement--



Entler Hotel  
Shepherdstown, W. Va.  
J. P. A. Entler, Proprietor

There had been a change in proprietors (J.P.A. was a son of Daniel) and also an acknowledgment of the new state of West Virginia, a concession that many of the other advertisers refused to make. The old hotel had weathered the conflict.

On July 4, 1867, the Potomac Mills and Manufacturing Company entertained "the said company and citizens of the Corporation" at dinner at J. P. A. Entler's Hotel.

In a special business edition of the Shepherdstown Register for April 12, 1889, the following advertisement was run:

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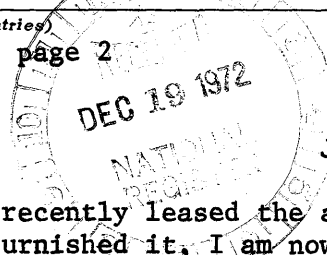
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The Entler Hotel  
J. N. Trussell, Prop'r.

Having recently leased the above house for a term of years and repaired it and refurnished it, I am now prepared to receive both permanent and transient guests at low rates. There is a sample room for commercial men and first class accommodations are furnished to summer boarders. Boats for fishing are provided at a nominal charge. Polite and honest servants, bright and airy rooms, a well-provided table at all seasons, enable the proprietor to offer every comfort to the guests.

TERMS--\$1.50 per day, \$5 to \$6 per week, \$18 to \$25 per month, according to location of the room, and whether the room is occupied by one or more persons.

For other information address the proprietor:  
J. N. Trussell  
Shepherdstown, W. Va.

Entler Hotel had one of the first two telephones in Jefferson County. It and the one at the office of the Shepherdstown Register were both installed on December 14, 1898 -- cost, \$24 a year.

The main part of Entler Hotel has been spared from fire several times...In February 1899 the stables behind the building were burned. The insurance company of Harrison and Schley paid the hotel \$250 for loss. The livery stables were rebuilt and again in 1936 they went up in flames, threatening the entire town, since the flood waters of the Potomac River had taken out the bridge and the water pumps...On February 21, 1910 the call FIRE brought help to Entler Hotel; playing with matches the daughter of the manager had set her room in a blaze in which she lost her life...On November 8, 1912, came Entler Hotel's greatest fire threat. In "Shepherdstown's Most Destructive Conflagration," flames swept the north side of German Street between King and Princess Streets, sparing the Old Town Hall and First College Building (McMurrin Hall) on one corner and the main section of Entler Hotel (Rumsey Hall) on the other.

After the big fire, Entler Hotel was never quite the same, but there are those around who remember its late hey-days. A native who still lives only a few doors from the building, recalls Christmas 1900. A blizzard had left many drummers stranded at the hotel. When townspeople, feeling sorry for their plight, decided to cheer them up with a home talent show, the native was lifted to the table from which she recited "Twas the Night Before Christmas." Her chaperoning mother became very apprehensive when the traveling salesman showered kisses upon her pretty blonde daughter--a five year old...The local bank president can never forget his first awful taste of beer at the age of four, 1904, in the taproom of Entler Hotel, which his uncle managed. Another recalls the treat of dining in 1905 at the hotel with her father. The white table cloths, which touched the floor, swayed in the

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breeze through the open double door on Princess Street. The napkins, ironed so smoothly that the frayed edges resembled fringe, hung over the backs of the chairs...There is a 75 year old man who says that having twelve o'clock dinner at the hotel on a day away from the farm was great. Roast beef was a real treat for a boy raised on ham and chicken...Several recall whispers passed among the spectators at the 1912 conflagration that vengeance was being wreaked upon the town. The fire had destroyed the cafe, and the saloon was in the path of the flames. However, the main sections of the hotel did survive, including the bar, but its spirits had weakened.

On January 28, 1912, the heirs sold the Entler Hotel Property to E. H. Reinhart and M. B. Baker. Sections were rented until July 30, 1921, when the State Board of Control of West Virginia paid \$10,500 to Mr. Reinhart and the heirs of Mr. Baker (among whom was Newton D. Baker, Secretary of War under President Wilson) for the complex which, renamed Rumsey Hall, became the first men's dormitory on the Shepherd College campus.

In 1950 when its services as such were discontinued, the building was divided into faculty apartments. The last occupant to leave when that usage was abandoned says this about Rumsey Hall:

"Enjoyed living in the 'town-house' wing of Rumsey (Entler) Hall during the last ten years of its occupancy; loved its charm and spaciousness and my regret at having to leave was tempered by the fact that from my new home across the street, I can still enjoy the satisfying architecture and dignity of the fine old house. Neglected though it is, I do not want a gap in the sky in place of its beautiful chimneys and roofline."





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Musser. Two Hundred Year History of Shepherdstown 1730-1931; Shepherdstown; The Independent; 1931.

The Shepherdstown Register, a weekly newspaper, 1847-1955.

Slonaker. History of Shepherd College; Parsons, W. Va.; McClain Printing Company, 1967.

Turner. James Rumsey, Pioneer in Steam Navigation; Scotdale, Penn.; 1930.

