

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

For NPS use only

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

received

date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Bradford (David) House

and/or common Bradford (David) House

2. Location

street & number 175 South Main Street _____ not for publication

city, town Washington _____ vicinity of

state Pennsylvania code 42 county Washington code 125

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, administered by the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission

street & number Box 1026

city, town Harrisburg _____ vicinity of state Pennsylvania

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Washington County Courthouse Deed Books

street & number

city, town Washington _____ state Pennsylvania

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Historic American Buildings Survey has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1968 federal state county local

depository for survey records United States Department of the Interior

city, town Washington _____ state D.C.

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Continuation sheet

Item number 6

Page 1

Title National Register of Historic Places

Date 1973

Depository for survey records National Register of Historic Places,
440 G Street

City, town Washington

State DC

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date <u>1788</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The David Bradford House is a two and a half story stone gable roof structure with a smaller two and a half story stone addition to the rear. The house is four bays across by two rooms deep with the front entrance occupying the bay to the extreme right. Coursed stone in rectangular blocks is used for the front of the house while rubble stone of smaller size is used on the sides and rear addition.

The windows of the first story are twelve over twelve double hung sash, while the upper floors have twelve over nine sash. The wood window frames are mitred and have a small sill extending outward. The door is a six panel door with raised panels in the same fashion as the raised panel reveal. Above the door is a decorated transom. Two large stone slabs are used for the front steps. All of the windows on the ground floor have panel shutters.

Wood side boards extend on the gable ends of the steep pitched shingle roof. Dentil work, modillions and moulding form the heavy cornice on the main section, with the smaller section having a boxed cornice.

Attic windows are found on each gable end of the larger section and two stair landing windows are present on the right gable end. A moderately sized stone chimney is found on the left gable end.

The smaller two and a half story stone addition is done in smaller type rubble stone with a gable roof and large stone chimney on its open gable end. The other gable end is butted into the rear two bays of the larger section. The addition was used as the kitchen.

The interior illustrates the use of painted and unfinished wood of the colonial period. Of special interest is a handsome staircase complete with turned balusters, wainscoting, and chair rail. Elaborate wood and marble mantels, cupboards, cabinets, chair rail, and baseboard predominate throughout the interior of the house. Key moulding for window heads, recessed panels for windows and unfinished wide board floors show the richness of the Bradford House's interior. Fireplaces are constructed of stone, marble, and slate and decorated with keys, dentil work, and fluting, showing the elegance that the house retains.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1794

Builder/Architect David Bradford

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

David Bradford was born in Maryland about 1760 and moved to Washington County, Pa., in 1781. A year later he was admitted to the bar and became deputy attorney general for Washington County. He grew quite wealthy from his law practice and various trading interests. The house that he built in Washington in 1788 had particularly fine interiors and was by far the best furnished house in the vicinity.

As one of the leading lawyers and politicians of the area, Bradford was naturally drawn into the center of the controversy over the excise tax on whiskey. He served as the delegate from Washington County at the Pittsburgh conferences in 1791 and 1792, and was instrumental in drawing up the various protests that were continually being issued. It was not until 1794, however, that Bradford fell victim to his own fiery rhetoric. Always a rash and excitable man, he became more and more radical as he rode the crest of reckless enthusiasm and violence that swept western Pennsylvania.

In July 1794 at Mingo Creek, Bradford offered a defense for the recent burning of John Neville's home at Bower Hill. He later instigated the famous mail robbery of Greensburg to ascertain the feelings of certain influential people in Pittsburgh. After reading the letters, he and his cohorts decided to arrest the writers of the hostile letters and seize the Federal arsenal at Fort Fayette. The militia was mustered at Braddock's Field on August 1, 1794. Bradford chose the rank of major general for himself and, mounted on a splendid horse, sauntered among the five thousand assembled men, issuing orders. By this time, Bradford was under the delusion that he was a new Washington, who would lead his backwoods countrymen to victory over the Federal troops.

Under Bradford's leadership, the militia marched on Pittsburgh, where they were plied with food and drink by the townspeople. No attempt was made to seize the arsenal, and the militia dissipated during the night. Bradford continued to call for preparations for war, but the more moderating speeches of Albert Gallatin and Hugh Brackenridge influenced the various assemblies to vote down Bradford's radical plans. The appearance of Federal troops in October quickly scattered the insurrectionists. Bradford escaped down the Ohio River to Spanish territory and took up a Spanish land grant near Natchez. He was officially pardoned for his actions in the rebellion in 1799, but returned to Pennsylvania only to dispose of his property in 1801.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Baldwin, Leland D. Whiskey Rebels. Pittsburgh: University of Pittsburgh Press, 1967.
Brackenridge, Hugh Henry. Incidents of the Insurrection. New Haven, Conn.: College and University Press, 1972.
Knight, David C. The Whiskey Rebellion, 1794. New York: Franklin Watts, Inc., 1968.

10. Geographical Data

Acree of nominated property Under one acre

Quadrangle name Washington East

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UTM References

A

1	7	5	6	4	2	8	0	4	4	4	6	4	7	0
Zone		Easting				Northing								

B

Zone		Easting				Northing								

C

Zone		Easting				Northing								

D

Zone		Easting				Northing								

E

Zone		Easting				Northing								

F

Zone		Easting				Northing								

G

Zone		Easting				Northing								

H

Zone		Easting				Northing								

Verbal boundary description and justification

Includes the town lot on which the David Bradford House stands.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title William K. Watson, Historian (retyped with minor revisions by National Park Service, January 1983)

organization Pennsylvania Historical and Museum

date May 1973

street & number Box 1026

telephone

city or town Harrisburg

state Pennsylvania

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

title _____ date _____

For NPS use only

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

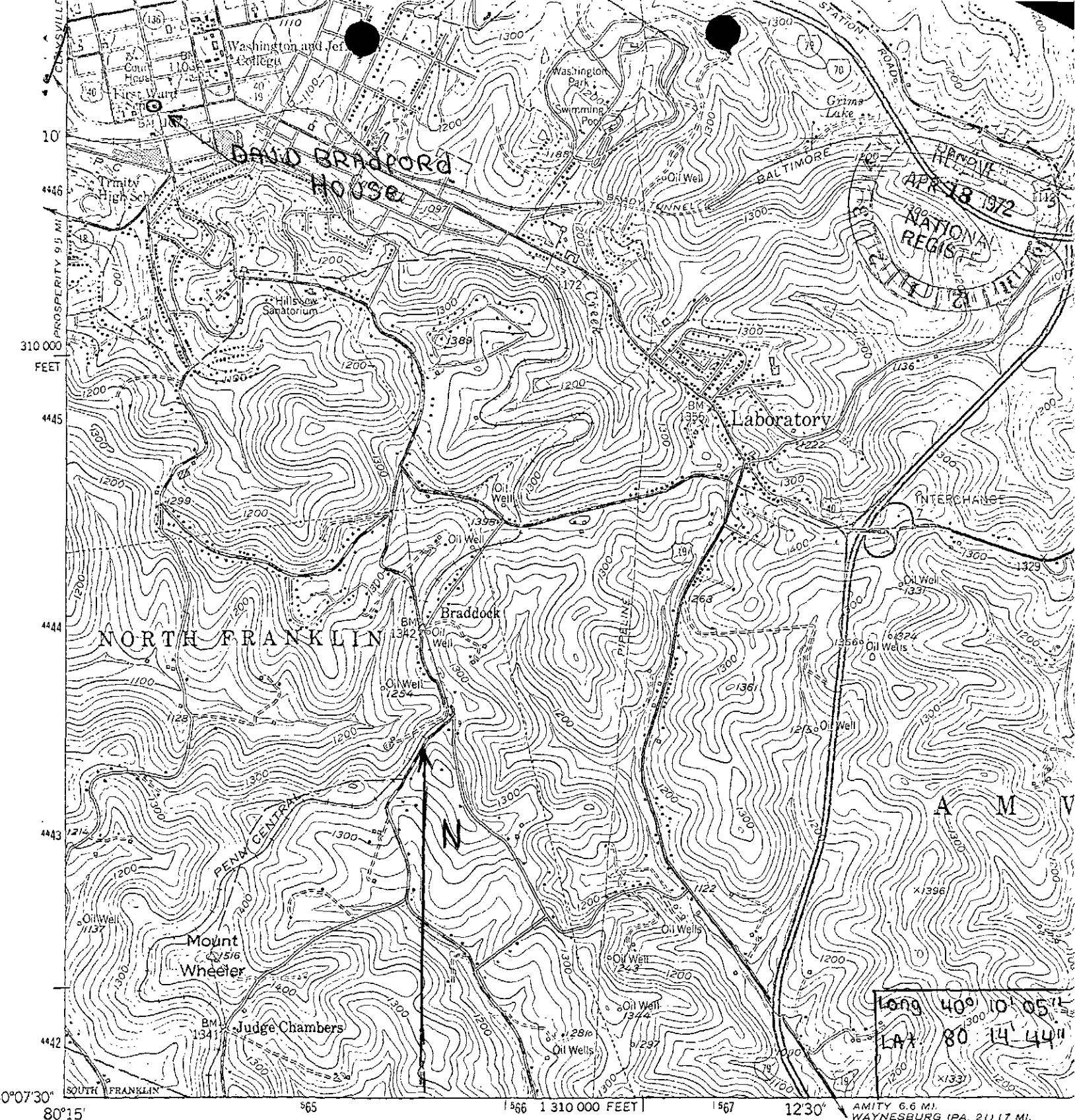
date _____

Keeper of the National Register

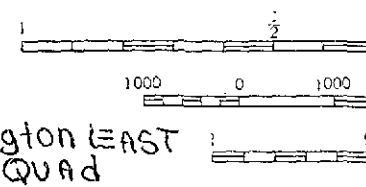
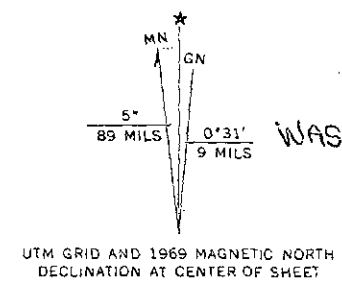
Attest:

date _____

Chief of Registration



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
 Control by USGS and USC&GS
 Topography from aerial photographs by multiplex methods
 Aerial photographs taken 1952. Field check 1953
 Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
 10,000-foot grid based on Pennsylvania coordinate system, south zone
 1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 17,
 shown in blue
 Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown
 Revisions shown in purple compiled in cooperation with
 State of Pennsylvania agencies from aerial photographs taken 1969



1969

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