UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME
HISTORIC
YORK CENTRAL MARKET
AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION
STREET & NUMBER
Philadelphia and Beaver Streets
CITY, TOWN
York
STATE
Pennsylvania
CODE
42
VICINITY OF
19th CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
COUNTY
York
CODE
133

3 CLASSIFICATION
CATEGORY
BUILDING(S)
STRUCTURE
SITE
OBJECT

STATUS
UNOCCUPIED
WORK IN PROGRESS
ACCESSIBLE
YES: RESTRICTED
YES: UNRESTRICTED
NO

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY
NAME
Central Market Company
STREET & NUMBER
34 West Philadelphia Street
CITY, TOWN
York

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.
York County Courthouse
STREET & NUMBER
Market Street
CITY, TOWN
York

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS
TITLE
Historic American Buildings Survey Inventory
DATE
September 1971
FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS
Library of Congress
CITY, TOWN
Washington
STATE D.C.
Bordering along Philadelphia and Beaver Streets, York Central Market lies one block from the York square. Built in 1888, the architecture reflects the design of Romanesque Revival with its general largeness and stylized roof and windows. The structure is rectangular with a square indent at the intersection of the streets. The exterior is constructed of brick in the stretcher bond method.

The Philadelphia Street facade is composed of the two square towers projecting on each side of the main section. The towers are separated into three sections by continuous window sills. Although the windows are irregular in size, the repeated round headed design with semi-circular radiating arches and terminating step ends maintain the symmetry. The first level of the towers has twin 4 over 4 double hung sash windows on each of the two adjacent sides. Serving as a sill for these windows is a water table. Above the windows is a ten lite fanlight and an arch. Below the 2nd level sill is a stone beltcourse running the length of the building. The second level is two bays wide on the same two sides. The windows are 12 over 12 double hung sash divided by impost. Above the windows is another stone beltcourse which terminates at the edge of the tower. Two rows of nine square indentations are located above this beltcourse. The third level is three bays wide on three sides of the tower. On the two outer sides, the windows are eight over eight (2 vertical rows of 4) double sash with arches and impost. The inner windows are interrupted by the intersecting roof line. The first bay is a four pane window; the second is 4 over 4; the third is 8 over 8. The windows toward the back are the same as the front but a chimney is in the middle. The tower is covered with a pyramidal roof and trimmed with a decorative frieze.

Located between the towers the mid section has the characteristic Romanesque hip roof with steep gabled dormer and projecting front pieces. The lower level has three door ways, one located on the front pieces and one on each side. Resembling the windows, the doors are round headed with the same arch. However, the fanlight consists of 43 separate panes. The second level is eight bays wide with four 9 over 9 double hung sash windows on the front piece and the remaining two, 9 over 9 on each side. The three dormer windows form a palladium design with the center window 12 over 12 separating the 9 over 9 windows. A beltcourse lies just below the dormer window sill and develops into a decorative frieze. The dormer roof has a plain boxed cornice with returns. The shingled roof is edged with snow birds.

The Beaver Street facade is basically the same as the Philadelphia side. The only difference is the addition of the two windows on either side of the second level frontispiece. All detailed designs are exactly the same.

The side parallel to Beaver Street, like the front facade, has a tower on each side of the main section. The main section is 12 bays wide. Four gable dormers are located right above each entrance way. The dormer windows are 12 light half-round on top and many small panes in four rectangular section on the bottom. The arch doorways are trimmed with a brick radiating arch. Above the door way is a 43 lite fanlight. Two windows are located between each door way and are the same design as the front facade. The tower furtherest from the street is the same as the others except for louvered upper windows.
The side parallel to Philadelphia Street consists of four connecting gable end roofs. There are three gable dormers located at the intersections of the roofs. The right gable is the largest and has a linked bottom chimney. The second gable has four first floor windows and three smaller windows above these. The third and fourth gable have one window at the second floor and a chimney. The roof is edged in a brick trim.
Public markets were first granted establishment in the York area in 1755 by Lieutenant Governor Robert Morris. At first farmers gathered with their wagons full of produce in the square. These wagons were replaced by small sheds, which interfered with the street traffic. Finally, in the 1880's an ordinance was passed to have the sheds razed.

The local farmer's needs for public market space contributed to the organization of four enclosed market houses. The Central Market Company was organized by John F. Irvin in 1887. Plans were laid to construct a house facing North Beaver and Philadelphia Streets. Designed by John Dempwolf and erected by George Yinger in 1888, the Central Market Company had a fixed capital stock at $45,000. Since its foundation, the Central Market has been and still is a highly successful market. The Central Market along with the Farmers Market, are the only two remaining market houses in operation today in York.

The York County area has been essentially an agricultural area with prime importance on wholesaling produce. In this way, the market house has benefited both the farmers and the city inhabitants for more than 200 years. This continuing relationship between commerce and agriculture, is evident in the Central Market House's success, certainly significant to the development of York County.

The Romanesque architecture's quality of heaviness plus the tremendous size are unique features for a building in this section of York. The majority of buildings bordering the market are residential and of much smaller scale. From this standpoint the Central Market is not only of practical value, but also a striking architectural structure.

John Dempwolf, a German immigrant, is considered an outstanding architect in the York area. Besides the Central Market, his credits include the Colonial Hotel, County Courthouse, National Bank Building, York Trust Company (all of York), the State Insane Hospital (Harrisburg), and the Lutheran Theological Seminary (Gettysburg).
MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Prowell, History of York County, Pennsylvania 1907.

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY  approx. 1.3

UTM REFERENCES

A  [1,8]  [3,5,2]  2,2,0  [4,4,2,4]  8,6,0  B  [1,8]  [3,5,2]  2,8,0  [4,4,2,4]  9,0,0
ZONE EASTING NORTHING
C  [1,8]  [3,5,2]  3,0,0  [4,4,2,4]  8,4,0  D  [1,8]  [3,5,2]  2,4,0  [4,4,2,4]  8,1,0

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE  CODE  COUNTY  CODE

STATE  CODE  COUNTY  CODE

FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE
Susan Deardorff/Student Aid

ORGANIZATION
Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission  DATE
June 29, 1977

STREET & NUMBER
Box 1026

CITY OR TOWN
Harrisburg

STATE
Pennsylvania  17120

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  WILLIAM J. WEWER, Executive Director
Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission  DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

GPO 892-453
York Central Market
York County
Zone 18
A E352220 N4424860
B E352280 N4424900
C E352300 N4424840
D E352240 N4424810