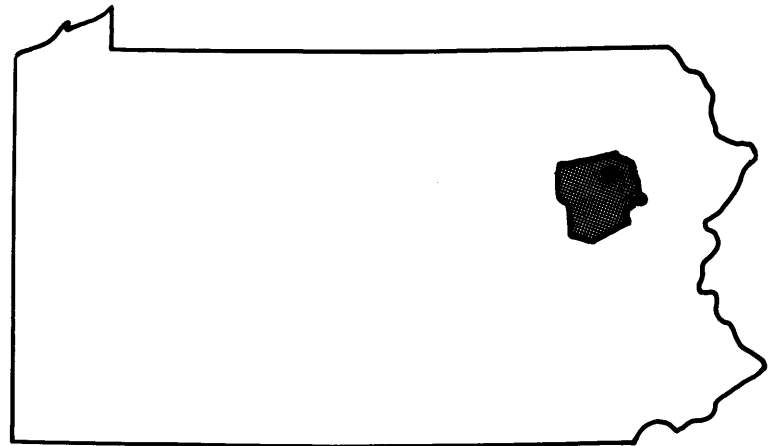


FLOOD INSURANCE STUDY



**BOROUGH OF
SWOYERSVILLE,
PENNSYLVANIA
LUZERNE COUNTY**



NOVEMBER 1982



Federal Emergency Management Agency

COMMUNITY NUMBER - 420627

snowfall ranges between 40 to 80 inches which is equivalent to four to eight inches of the total annual precipitation (Reference 7).

The Borough lies in the fairly broad natural flood plain of the Susquehanna River. The study area is situated in the Valley and Ridge Province, an area containing ridges and valleys running roughly parallel in a northeast-southwest direction (Reference 7).

2.3 Principal Flood Problems

Historic data and information from this study indicate that the Susquehanna River, Abrahams Creek, and Wade Run are the principal sources of flooding problems within Swoyersville Borough. The Borough has been subject to damages from a number of past floods. Most notable of these occurred in March of 1936 and June of 1972. The 1972 flood has a recurrence interval of approximately 300 years.

Extensive areas in the eastern and central portions of Swoyersville Borough are inundated by 100-year flooding events on Abrahams Creek and Wade Run. Much of this inundation is a result of channel overflow into natural ponding areas. All types of land uses are located within these areas. In the event of a 500-year flood on the Susquehanna River the majority of the Borough would be inundated.

2.4 Flood Protection Measures

A local flood protection project consisting of a wall and levee along the Susquehanna River reduces the flood hazard from the Susquehanna River to the Borough and diverts a portion of Abrahams Creek from flowing into Swoyersville Borough. Flood waters from 100-year flooding events on the Susquehanna River are contained by the existing River levee system. However, 500-year flooding from the river would inundate the majority of the Borough. A local flood protection project is proposed on Abrahams Creek to reduce the flood hazard from Abrahams Creek. This project is expected to be under construction in Spring 1976. The portion of Abrahams Creek upstream from Wade Run is blocked by a small dam which crosses the creek and which is intended to prevent backflow from Wade Run. A pumping station in that area serves to reduce flood elevations in the ponding area created by the dam.

Five upstream dams contribute to the reduction of the flood hazard from the Susquehanna River. These include: Arkport Dam on the Canisteo River; Almond Lake on Canacadea Creek; Whitney Point Lake on the Otselic River; East Sidney Lake on Ouleout Creek; and Stillwater Lake on the Lackawanna River.