

United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

For HCRS 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 ROMBERGER - STOVER HOUSE

and/or common

2. Location

street & number Market Street _____ not for publication

city, town Berrysburg _____ vicinity of _____ congressional district 17

state Pennsylvania code 42 county Dauphin code 043

3. Classification

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

4. Owner of Property

name Gene R. Boak

street & number Market Street (Box 155)

city, town Berrysburg _____ vicinity of _____ state Pennsylvania

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Dauphin County Courthouse

street & number Front Street

city, town Harrisburg _____ state Pennsylvania

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Pennsylvania Inventory of Historic Places has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 8/21/79 _____ federal state _____ county _____ local

depository for survey records Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission

city, town Harrisburg _____ state Pennsylvania

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 _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Rear Wing, containing the existing kitchen and dining room, is the original structure and was built around 1842. In 1887, Joseph Romberger built the now existing Victorian structure that serves as the main building. This building was left in its original form until 1897 when the bay windows were added by John Stover. Again in 1898 John Stover added the porches as they appear today. There were no major changes until 1969 when a bath was added off the first floor kitchen.

The building is a wood framed two story structure. The construction method is of post, beam and stud construction. The main Victorian structure is approximately 22' x 32' with a 20' x 24' rear wing. The south and west sides are surrounded by a wood framed porch. The roof of the main building is now slate and the porch roof is a new built-up roof with some tin remaining on the gable and dome; the rear wing roof is of tin.

The windows are topped with carved wood heads and most have either panel louvered shutters. The main entrance is a pair of curved top raised panel doors in a carved wood entrance frame to match windows.

There are no fireplaces, therefore no ornamental chimneys were constructed, however, there are two small heater stacks at the rear wing.

The porch is wood framed with 1 x 4 wood decking. The roof is supported by Cornithian style wood columns that sit on brick piers.

The entire house is trimmed with ornate carved fascia, brackets, soffits and corner boards with horizontal wood siding.

A low decorative cast iron fence, on a limestone base, fronts the property. A cement walk in front of the property was placed in 1910.

Additional Structures on Site

There is a small summer kitchen with a large "walk-in" brick fireplace. It is a stud and clapboard building. One window has been altered and will be restored. There is also a garage.

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates 1887

Builder/Architect Bengohan Romberger

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Romberger-Stover House is a noteworthy example of the Queen Anne style unusual in its richness for the small rural community in which it is located. This structure reflects the more eclectic variations which influenced the architecture of this period. With its size and setting on Market Street, this building takes visual command of the southern approach to the village. The interiors are notable in that there have been very few alterations.

Bengohan Romberger (also found to be spelled Benjamin) was born on January 17, 1821 in Mifflin Township, Dauphin County, Pennsylvania. He married Amelia Fisher in 1842. She died in 1869. Bengohan Romberger was a farmer in Mifflin Township. He was a school director for two terms and tax collector for seven terms. He was also very active in real estate and horse trading, and also operated several stores in Berrysburg, Pennsylvania. On April 1, 1876 Benjamin Romberger purchased Lot #51 in Berrysburg, Pennsylvania from Henry L. Lark an Attorney. On April 2, 1876 he married his second wife, Hannah Schreffler Troutman. He began immediate improvements to the property now known as the Romberger-Stover House.

Joseph Fisher Romberger, son of Benjamin Romberger was also very active in real estate, banking, farming, and in general was a very active businessman. His father, Benjamin, still held the deed to Lot #51 in 1887 when Joseph F. Romberger began making additional improvements to the property. At this time the house began to take the general appearance it has today. (See enclosed photograph dated 1887).

Irma Grace Romberger was born in 1872 and died in 1964. She was a daughter of Joseph Fisher Romberger and grand-daughter of Benjamin Romberger. She married John F. Stover on April 11, 1893. At this time her grand-father, Benjamin, sold the property to John F. Stover for a token sum of \$500.00, although he had paid \$1000.00 for it in 1876 and had made many improvements. John F. Stover made additional improvements. (See enclosed photograph dated 1900.) The Stover Family occupied this property until May 1977. In effect the property was in the Romberger-Stover Family for 101 years. In May 1977, the property was purchased at public sale by Gene R. Boak.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Biographical Encyclopedia of Dauphin County, PA (Ref: Joseph Romberger) J.M. Runk & Co. 1896
The Elizabethville Echo (Newspaper issue of October 14, 1897).
Dauphin County, PA Map 1862 Publisher: A. Pomeroy, Philadelphia, PA
Deeds of Joseph Romberger and John Stover, Dauphin County, PA Courthouse
Wills of Joseph Romberger and John Stover, Dauphin County, PA Courthouse

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property .207

Quadrangle name Elizabethville, PA

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UMT References

A

1	8	3	4	6	7	2	0	4	4	9	6	0	0	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

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

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

state	code	county	code
state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Gene R. Boak / Richard Dooley

organization _____ date July 12, 1979

street & number Market St., Box 155/231 Harris Street telephone 717-232-0240 717-582-2369

city or town Berrysburg/Harrisburg state Pennsylvania

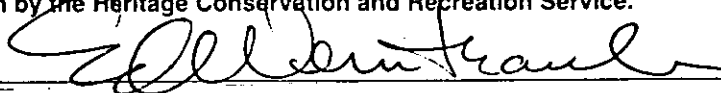
12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature



Ed Weintraub, Director

title Office of Historic Preservation

date 12-10-79

For HCRS 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

