

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR FEDERAL PROPERTIES

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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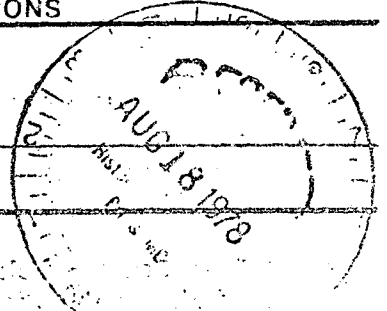
DATE ENTERED

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

1 NAME

HISTORIC John Michael Farm

AND/OR COMMON



2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER T-515

CITY, TOWN Middle Smithfield Township

STATE Pennsylvania

VICINITY OF CODE 42

NOT FOR PUBLICATION
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 10th Pennsylvania
COUNTY CODE Monroe 089

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
			<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
			<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
			<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 AGENCY

REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS: (If applicable) National Park Service, Mid-Atlantic Region

STREET & NUMBER 143 South Third Street

CITY, TOWN Philadelphia

VICINITY OF STATE Pennsylvania

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Monroe County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN Stroudsburg

STATE Pennsylvania

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE Historical Architectural Survey of Delaware Water Gap NRA

DATE 1975 FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area Headquarters

CITY, TOWN Bushkill STATE Pennsylvania

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Historic Structures Report, Part I: Architectural Data Section
on Historic Buildings in the Delaware Water Gap National
Recreation Area. 1967, Federal, Delaware Water Gap National
Recreation Area Headquarters, Bushkill, 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 John Michael Farm Complex is a collection of farm buildings located on the top of a steep ridge overlooking the Delaware River, known locally as the Hog's Back, approximately 4 miles north of Shawnee-on-Delaware, Pennsylvania.

The John Michael Farmhouse is a 2 story frame building on a fieldstone foundation, built ca. 1875. The house has wood siding, with corner trim featuring unusually distinctive beadings, and a slate roof. There is one original flared brick chimney which has been covered with stucco, and a more recent brick chimney. The windows are 2/2 with trim, beaded at the sides, with a low pediment at the heads, constructed of heavy moulding. The entrance door is a 4-panel Victorian door, framed by a small porch with chamfered posts and narrow beaded ceiling panelling. A side porch runs the length of the side, its roof supported by 20th century 4 by 4 posts. The rails are 2 by 4 members.

The interior has an unusual degree of intact detailing from the house's period of construction, including original 4 panel doors with beaded trim and an elegant low pediment overhead, Victorian cast iron hinges, original floors with beaded baseboard, and narrow beaded wainscot, about 4' high in the kitchen.

Other buildings in the complex include:

A stone bungalow, ca. 1940, with slate roof, brick chimneys, and a frame addition in the rear.

A one room wash house on a fieldstone foundation, with asbestos siding and a slate roof. This was the principal residence before the construction of the main house ca. 1875.

A modular, 1 story house.

A large, frame Pennsylvania bank constructed barn with overhang, on a stone foundation, with a corrugated metal roof. There is a shed addition with a standing seam metal roof and a short wooden silo.

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A frame wagon shed with metal roof

Several other small frame shed-like buildings.

These buildings are in varying degrees of repair, and contribute to the authenticity of the complex in varying degrees. The barn contains a good deal of decorative detail, and is one of the better such structures in the vicinity.

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 checked="" 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 checked="" 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

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The John Michael Farm Complex is a well-nigh typical collection of buildings for a 19th century Upper Delaware Valley farmstead. While the Michael family has owned land and farmed in this vicinity since the early 19th century at least, the background for this complex more properly belongs with the history of another old family of the region: the Treible's. This family settled throughout the Valley, most notably in Sussex County, New Jersey, at Peters Valley. James Treible owned this farm, which probably eventually came to include part of the fertile, flat bottomland at the base of the ridge, for much of the 19th century. The first structure on the upland part of the property was probably a log cabin on the site of the small one room frame structure now used as a wash house. As the Treible's prospered, and in all likelihood added the better land near the river to their holdings, they were able to progressively upgrade their quarters. The current wash house was built during the first half of the 19th century on the site of the cabin. The family lived in this structure, and adding to the farm, until the construction of the "big" farmhouse about 1875.

The main farmhouse, and the large Pennsylvania bank barn which was probably its close contemporary in terms of construction date, present at first glance an architectural and historical puzzle. The degree of sophistication of detail in the house, and the corresponding handsomeness of the barn are unusual in upland structures. The house is probably the most carefully and elegantly detailed Victorian farmhouse on the Pennsylvania side of the river in this vicinity. Generally, it was unusual for a farm located on the ridge, where the soil was less fertile, and the space which could be farmed more restricted, to be profitable enough to permit much investment in stylistic detail. The contrast north of Bushkill between upland and riverine architecture points directly to this conclusion.

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In this case, the answer probably lies in the likelihood that the Treibles, and certainly their successors the Michaels, owned or used substantial amounts of land along the river at the base of the ridge. The story which lies in the progressive architectural upgrading of the structures on this property is yet another rendition of the by-now familiar tale: that the bounteous fertility of the Delaware River flats regularly rewarded those whose farms included them. When John Michael bought the Treible farm shortly after World War I, he was acquiring the carefully assembled product of at least a century of gradual upward mobility.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Dodd, John B. "Historical Architectural Survey of Delaware Water Gap National Recreational Area," Vol. 1, 1975.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 3.2

UTM REFERENCES

A	1, 8	49, 522, 0	454, 243, 0	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

(See continuation sheet)

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
-------	------	--------	------

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
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11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Wayne K. Bodle - Park Technician

ORGANIZATION

National Park Service

DATE

4-22-77

STREET & NUMBER

Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Rushkill

STATE

Pennsylvania

12 CERTIFICATION OF NOMINATION

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

YES ___ NO ___ NONE ___

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

In compliance with Executive Order 11593, I hereby nominate this property to the National Register, certifying that the State Historic Preservation Officer has been allowed 90 days in which to present the nomination to the State Review Board and to evaluate its significance. The evaluated level of significance is ___ National ___ State ___ Local.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

TITLE

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION
ATTEST:

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

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The John Michael Farm is located on United States Army Corps of Engineers TIL Tract #1359, which includes a total of 159.94 acres. The boundary of the nominated portion of this property begins on the southeastern edge of the right of way of local road T-515, at Point A, 650' northeast of the point where the boundary between Smithfield and Middle Smithfield Townships crosses said road T-515, as indicated on the accompanying Army Corps of Engineers Tract Map. From this point, the boundary extends to the southeast, perpendicular to road T-515, for 300' to Point B. From this point, the boundary turns at a right angle to the northeast and extends for 500' to Point C. From this point, the boundary turns to the northwest and extends for 300' to Point D, on the T-515, right of way, northeast of Point A. From this point, the boundary turns to the southwest, and follows the right of way for 500' back to Point A.

