

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: PENNSYLVANIA	
COUNTY: MONTGOMERY	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

1. NAME

COMMON:
BERGY BRIDGE

AND/OR HISTORIC:
BRANCHVILLE BRIDGE (FORMER VILLAGE NAME)

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
OLD SUMNEYTOWN PIKE AT THE EAST BRANCH OF THE PERKIOMEN CREEK

CITY OR TOWN:
~~Upper~~ SALFORD TOWNSHIP 18457

STATE: PENNSYLVANIA CODE: 42 COUNTY: MONTGOMERY CODE: 091

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No			

PRESIDENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	_____	_____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
MULTIPLE OWNERSHIP, BOTH PUBLIC AND PRIVATE

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: STATE: PENNSYLVANIA CODE: 42

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
MONTGOMERY COUNTY COURT HOUSE

STREET AND NUMBER:
AIRY AND SWEDE STREETS

CITY OR TOWN: STATE: PENNSYLVANIA CODE: 42

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:

DATE OF SURVEY: Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: PENNSYLVANIA	COUNTY: MONTGOMERY	ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

EARLY APPEARANCE:

THE BERGY BRIDGE VILLAGE DISTRICT COMPRISES THE BERGY STONE ARCH BRIDGE; THE KRATZ FARMHOUSE AND BARN; AN INN OR HOTEL; AND AN ADJACENT STABLE BUILDING.

BERGY BRIDGE (PHOTOGRAPH #1) WAS CONSTRUCTED IN 1848, WAS SLIGHTLY HUMPED, AND HAD FOUR BARREL VAULTED ARCHES SHARING THREE FOOTINGS. THE ARCHES WERE INSET BENEATH THE BRIDGE RAIL TO FORM A WATER TABLE SO THAT WATER WAS PREVENTED FROM SEEPING INTO THE STONWORK OF THE ARCHES. THERE WERE ALSO A SERIES OF ROAD LEVEL DRAINS THAT PROJECTED BEYOND THE EDGE OF THE BRIDGE TO CARRY WATER CLEAR OF THE SIDE WALLS. ON THE UPSTREAM SIDE OF THE BRIDGE, THE FOOTINGS WERE CONSTRUCTED WITH POINTED BUTTRESSES DESIGNED TO PROTECT THE BRIDGE FROM ICE, LOGS, AND OTHER FLOATING DEBRIS.

THE KRATZ FARMHOUSE AND BARN (PHOTOGRAPH #2) WERE BUILT IN THE 19TH CENTURY, AND FIRST APPEAR IN THE MONTGOMERY COUNTY ATLAS OF 1861. THE GARAGE IN THE RIGHT SIDE OF THE PHOTO OCCUPIES THE LOCATION OF THE VILLAGE BLACKSMITH SHOP. THE FARMHOUSE HAD A TRADITIONAL FOUR BAY FRONT, HIGH-PITCHED GABLED ROOF, TWO END CHIMNEYS, AND PROBABLY A SMALL PORCH ACROSS THE FRONT. THE HOUSE WAS A 2½ STORY STRUCTURE, BUT PHOTOGRAPH #2 SHOWS THAT THERE WAS ALSO A CELLAR GIVING THE HOUSE GENERALLY A 3½ STORY APPEARANCE FROM THE FRONT. IN THE REAR OF THE HOUSE WAS CONSTRUCTED A SMALL SINGLE STORY SUMMER KITCHEN.

IN PHOTOGRAPH #2, THERE STILL EXISTS THE ORIGINAL ENCLOSED GERMAN GARDEN. THIS SQUARE GARDEN WAS UNDOUBTEDLY BUILT WITH THE HOUSE AND IS DIVIDED INTO FOUR SEPARATE BEDS CROSSED BY TWO SUNKEN PATHS. THE BARN WAS LIKEWISE BUILT ALONG TRADITIONAL GERMAN DESIGN AND HAS UNDERGONE LITTLE EXTERIOR CHANGE.

PHOTOGRAPH #3 SHOWS THE BERGY INN CONSTRUCTED EARLY IN THE 19TH CENTURY. IT WAS A 2½ STORY STRUCTURE TYPICAL OF GERMAN BUILDING FORM IN RURAL PENNSYLVANIA. IT HAD A HIGH-PITCHED ROOF;

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(Continuation Sheet)

STATE PENNSYLVANIA	
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(Number all entries)

EARLY APPEARANCE, CONT.

A SINGLE END CHIMNEY; FIVE BAY FRONT WITH SIX OVER SIX SASH WINDOWS; AND CENTRAL HALL AND STAIRWAY. IT WAS CONSTRUCTED OF ROUGH STONE WITH A WOOD SHINGLED ROOF AND HAD A CELLAR PORTION VISIBLE IN PHOTOGRAPH #3.

PHOTOGRAPH #4 SHOWS THE BERGY INN AND THE STABLE USED BY THE STAGE LINE. THE 1½ STORY STABLE WAS BUILT IN THE EARLY 19TH CENTURY OF MASONRY WITH RANDOMLY LOCATED SIX OVER SIX SASH WINDOWS.

PRESENT APPEARANCE:

THE FOUR PHOTOGRAPHS REVEAL CERTAIN EXTERNAL, STRUCTURAL CHANGES THAT HAVE OCCURRED OVER THE YEARS. THE BERGY STONE ARCH BRIDGE HAS BEEN SLIGHTLY ALTERED WITH THE MAJOR CHANGE BEING THE ADDITION OF A CONCRETE COPING ALONG THE TOP OF THE SIDE WALLS AND THE INEVITABLE CHANGE IN THE ORIGINAL BRIDGE SURFACE TO BLACKTOPPED PAVING.

THE KRATZ HOUSE PRESENTLY SHOWS A NUMBER OF VICTORIAN FEATURES, INCLUDING A PORCH AROUND THREE SIDES, A ROOF OVERHANG, AND TWO GABLED DORMERS WITH OVERHANG, ACROSS THE FRONT BAY. THE MASONRY OF THE HOUSE HAS ALSO BEEN STUCCOED AND WHITEWASHED.

THE BERGY INN NOW HAS THE ADDITION OF ANOTHER END CHIMNEY; A PORCH MOST LIKELY BUILT IN THE LATE 19TH CENTURY; AND THE STONEMASONRY HAS BEEN STUCCOED AND WHITEWASHED.

THE GREATEST EXTERIOR ALTERATIONS HAVE BEEN MADE TO THE 1½ STORY STABLE BUILDING. SEVERAL WINDOWS HAVE BEEN BOARDED SHUT; THE EXTERIOR HAS BEEN STUCCOED AND WHITEWASHED; AND THE UPSTAIRS PORTION HAS BEEN SHINGLED AND CONVERTED INTO AN APARTMENT WITH A PORCH ACROSS ONE END AND TWO GABLED DORMERS WITH OVERHANG.

INTERIOR CHANGES THAT MIGHT HAVE BEEN MADE WERE NOT DISCOVERED BECAUSE OF THE INABILITY TO GAIN ACCESS TO THE VARIOUS STRUCTURES. ONLY INTERIOR INVESTIGATION WILL DETERMINE THE EXTENT OF THESE ALTERATIONS.

SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Pro-Columbian	<input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 18th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century
<input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century	

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1848

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal	<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Political	<input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning
<input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input type="checkbox"/> Industry	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	_____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture	_____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Art	<input type="checkbox"/> Literature	<input type="checkbox"/> Theater	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Transportation	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Music		_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation			_____

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

THE STONE ARCH BRIDGE AT BERGY, WITH THE ASSOCIATED BUILDINGS OF THE SMALL COMMUNITY, REPRESENTS BOTH A WELL PRESERVED SAMPLE OF PENNSYLVANIA BRIDGE CONSTRUCTION AND A RELATIVELY UNALTERED SEGMENT OF SMALL-SCALE LOCAL COMMUNITY LIFE.

THE BERGY BRIDGE IS A GOOD EXAMPLE OF THE STONE ARCH BRIDGES CONSTRUCTED THROUGHOUT MONTGOMERY COUNTY BETWEEN 1800 AND 1860 TO ACCOMMODATE INCREASING TURNPIKE BUILDING DURING THE SAME PERIOD. THIS BRIDGE AND COMMUNITY SERVED AS INTEGRAL PARTS OF THE SUMNEYTOWN-SPRING HOUSE TURNPIKE, AND ARE FURTHER SYMBOLIC OF THE IMPORTANCE AND CHARACTER OF SMALL VILLAGE DEVELOPMENT IN RURAL PENNSYLVANIA. IT IS IMPORTANT, THEN, THAT THE INHERENT BEAUTY AND HERITAGE OF THIS AREA BE RECOGNIZED AND PERMANENTLY PRESERVED.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

BEAN, THEODORE W. HISTORY OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY. PHILADELPHIA: EVERTS AND PECK, 1884. PP. X, 1197, LXXXVIII; ILL., MAPS.

BECK, CLARA A. "A 'WHEAT MARKET' OF COLONIAL DAYS." IN THE PENNA.-GERMAN, VOL. XII. LITITZ, PA., 1911. PP. 177-179. ILL.

HARLEY, J. K. A HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY OF MONTGOMERY CO., PA. PHILADELPHIA, 1891. PP. VIII, 9-114, MAP.

HECKLER, JAMES Y. HISTORY OF LOWER SALFORD TWP. HARLEYSVILLE, PA.: WEEKLY NEWS OFFICE, 1888 PP. (7), 456, 10; ILL.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	40 ° 18 ' 18 "	75 ° 25 ' 38 "		0		
NE	40 ° 18 ' 18 "	75 ° 25 ' 06 "				
SE	40 ° 17 ' 57 "	75 ° 25 ' 06 "				
SW	40 ° 17 ' 57 "	75 ° 25 ' 38 "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 30 ACRES

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
PENNSYLVANIA REGISTER OF HISTORIC SITES AND LANDMARKS

ORGANIZATION: PENNSYLVANIA HISTORICAL AND MUSEUM COMMISSION DATE: JUNE, 1972

STREET AND NUMBER:
Box 1026

CITY OR TOWN: HARRISBURG STATE: PENNSYLVANIA CODE: 42

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name: [Signature]
Executive Director

Title: Pa. Historical and Museum Commission

Date: 9/17/72

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

[Signature]
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

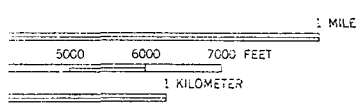
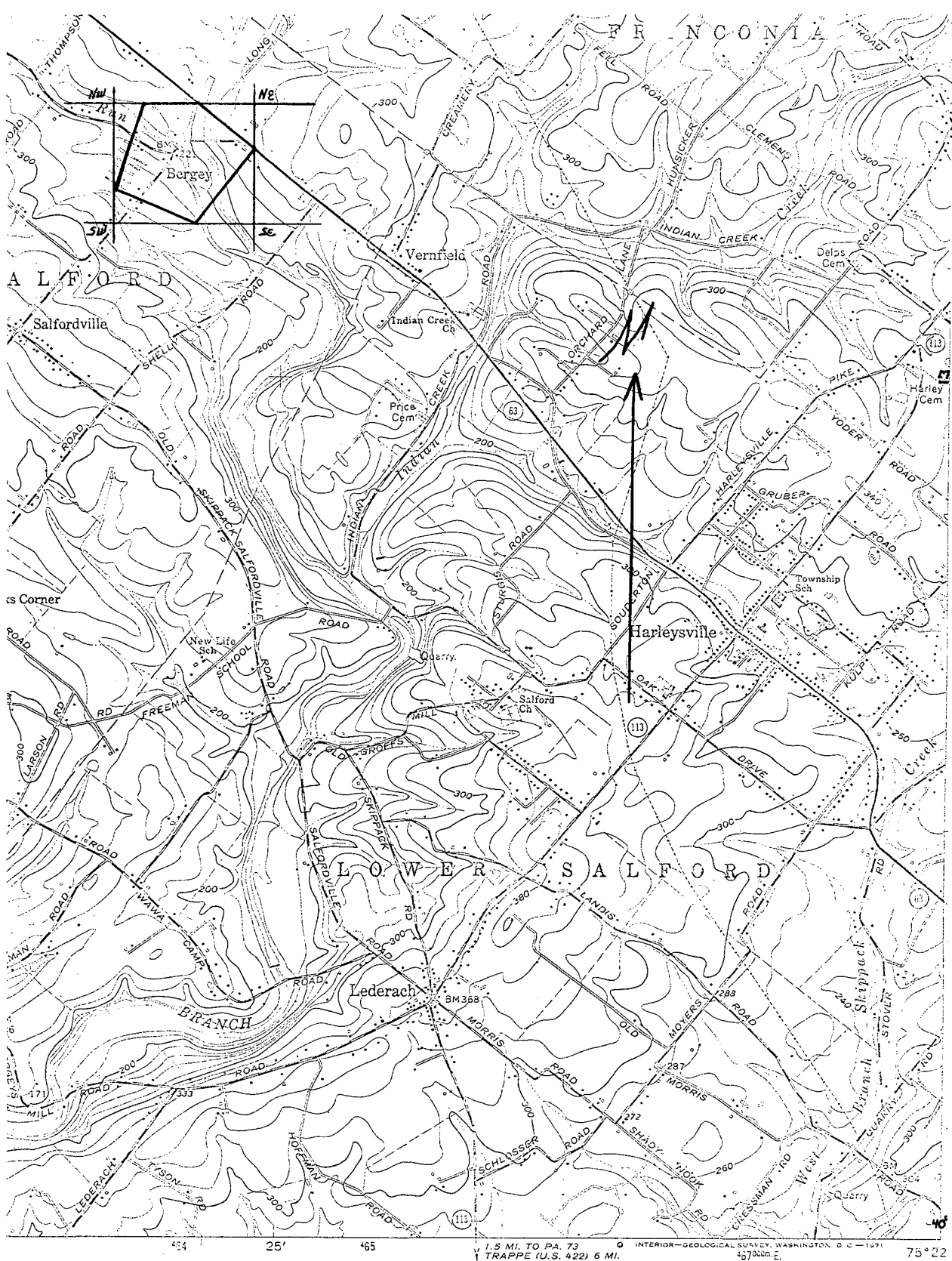
Date: _____

ATTEST:

[Signature]
Keeper of The National Register

Date: _____

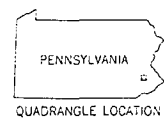
SEE INSTRUCTIONS



FEET
/EL

1" : 2000 ft.

Bergey Bridge Village District



Latitude:

NW	40° 18' 18"
NE	40° 18' 18"
SE	40° 17' 57"
SW	40° 17' 57"

Longitude:

NW	75° 25' 38"
NE	75° 25' 6"
SE	75° 25' 6"
SW	75° 25' 38"

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

- Heavy-duty ————
- Medium-duty ————
- Light-duty - - - - -
- Unimproved dirt - - - - -

○ State Route

PERNOUVILLE, PA.
SW/4 QUAKERTOWN 1st QUADRANGLE
N4016—W7622.5/7.5

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20242
POLLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

1960
AMG 3504 W SW—SERIES 133