

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
 NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

 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

*Col. John Work House*

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION** *One quarter mile WNW of the junction of Blue Spring Road and a private lane which turns off Blue Spring Road, several hundred yards south of Blue Spring School (now a church) in Montgomery Township*

CITY, TOWN

*Mercersburg* VICINITY OF

--NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

*9th*

STATE

*Pennsylvania*

CODE

*42*

COUNTY

*Franklin*

CODE

*055***3 CLASSIFICATION**

## CATEGORY

 DISTRICT BUILDING(S) STRUCTURE SITE OBJECT

## OWNERSHIP

 PUBLIC PRIVATE BOTH

## PUBLIC ACQUISITION

 IN PROCESS BEING CONSIDERED

## STATUS

 OCCUPIED UNOCCUPIED WORK IN PROGRESS

## ACCESSIBLE

 YES: RESTRICTED YES: UNRESTRICTED NO

## PRESENT USE

 AGRICULTURE COMMERCIAL EDUCATIONAL ENTERTAINMENT GOVERNMENT INDUSTRIAL MILITARY MUSEUM PARK PRIVATE RESIDENCE RELIGIOUS SCIENTIFIC TRANSPORTATION OTHER:**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

*Mr. and Mrs. Don H. Berkebile*

STREET &amp; NUMBER

*Apt. 3, 8804 Bradford Road*

CITY, TOWN

*Silver Spring*

VICINITY OF

STATE

*MD***5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.*Franklin County Courthouse*

STREET &amp; NUMBER

*One North Main Street*

CITY, TOWN

*Chambersburg*

STATE

*Pennsylvania 17201***6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

*Pennsylvania Inventory of Historic Places*

DATE

*3-26-79* FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS*Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission*

CITY, TOWN

*Harrisburg*

STATE

*Pennsylvania 17126*

# 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 Colonel John Work House is a typical stone Pennsylvania farm house of the second half of the eighteenth century. This two and one half story house, constructed of native limestone, has a moderately pitched tin gable roof with an interior stone chimney at each and a one story rear kitchen with a brick chimney and a gable roof perpendicular to the main gable.

The front facade, which faces south, consists of coursed dressed ashlar; the remaining walls are of coursed rubble. The facade is 3 bays wide with a center doorway. The entrance is a 6 panel wooden door surmounted by a 4 light transom. There are stone relieving arches above the door and 1st floor windows, which are sash-hung windows of 9 over 6 lights, flanked by panalled shutters. The 3 second floor windows, 6 over 6 lights, have no arches or shutters. A small basement window is located near ground level on the right hand side.

There are no openings in the west gable end, the last gable end contains a low wooden basement door with a relieving arch at the left end. There are 2 first floor windows and 2 small casement windows at the attic level just under the eaves. The window on the left over the basement door also has an arch. The rear wall contains two windows on the first floor and three on the second floor. The rear kitchen addition contains a door and one six over six window in its west wall and the same on the east wall, which is protected by a shed roofed porch.

The interior of the house has been altered very little during its history. When purchased by the present owners in 1970, it had no plumbing, no heating system and a single ceiling light in each room. The downstairs flooring is oak, and the upstairs flooring is poplar. Outstanding original features include the living room chimney breast, which is intact and in excellent condition; built in cupboards in a downstairs back room; original fireplaces with stone arches similar to those over the windows; and several well-preserved original fireplace mantels.

# 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799 | <input type="checkbox"/> ART                     | <input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING            | <input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC                  | <input type="checkbox"/> THEATER             |
| <input 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

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

*This house is an excellent example of the typical home of a prosperous late 18th century central Pennsylvania farmer. It has survived in a basically unaltered condition; where alterations have been made, ample evidence of original construction remains. A number of interesting interior features, including built-in cupboards, paneling, hardware, and woodwork, remain intact. The surrounding land is still unchanged also, and the only houses in sight are believed to date from the 18th century. Such integrity for both a house and its surroundings is unusual today.*

*Andrew Work purchased the land in 1752. He is not known to have lived on the farm, but his son John is believed to have lived there in a log house in the 1760's. The present stone structure was probably built around 1775, when John Work and his brother received ownership from their father, Andrew. All downstairs hardware indicates a period no later than cast iron butt hinges of a type that came into use immediately after the war. The house is listed in the U.S. Direct Tax Report of 1798.*

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

The Woman's Club of Mercersburg, PA Old Mercersburg, Williamsport, PA: Gut Publishing Co., 1949, p. 24.

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 3

QUADRANGLE NAME Mercersburg, PA

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24000

UTM REFERENCES

A 1, 8 | 2, 4, 8 | 1, 9, 0 | 4, 40, 9 | 1, 2, 0

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C [ ] | [ ] | [ ] | [ ] | [ ]

E [ ] | [ ] | [ ] | [ ] | [ ]

G [ ] | [ ] | [ ] | [ ] | [ ]

B [ ] | [ ] | [ ] | [ ] | [ ]

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

D [ ] | [ ] | [ ] | [ ] | [ ]

F [ ] | [ ] | [ ] | [ ] | [ ]

H [ ] | [ ] | [ ] | [ ] | [ ]

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET (Deed)

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

Don H. Berkebile

ORGANIZATION

DATE  
1-31-79

STREET & NUMBER

Apt. 3, 8804 Bradford Road

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Silver Spring,

STATE  
MD 20901

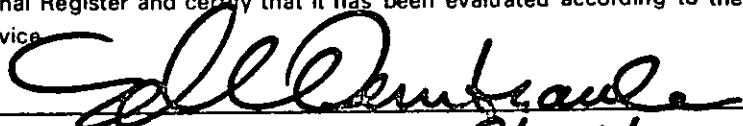
**12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION**

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL    STATE    LOCAL x

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 ED WEINTRAUB  
State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE 9/24/79

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

ATTEST:

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

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	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			
E				F			
G				H			

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ATTEST:

DATE

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

Col John Work House  
Franklin County  
Zone 18 E24°190 N440°120

