

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	Pennsylvania	
COUNTY:	Berks	
FOR NPS USE ONLY		
ENTRY NUMBER		DATE

1. NAME
 CHRISTIAN HOUSE
 PREVIOUSLY REFERRED TO AS THE UNRIC, BEIDLER HOUSE

2. LOCATION
 STREET AND NUMBER:
 1/2 mile southeast of Bally at the Berks-Montgomery County Line
 CITY OR TOWN:
 Bally
 STATE: Pennsylvania CODE: 42 COUNTY: Berks CODE: 011

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate) <u>unoccupied</u>			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<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 (Specify) _____ _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY
 OWNER'S NAME:
 Horner Schneck
 STREET AND NUMBER:
 Bally R.D.
 CITY OR TOWN:
 Berks R.D. 1
 STATE: Berks CODE: 011

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION
 COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:
 Berks County Courthouse
 STREET AND NUMBER:
 Rolling
 STATE: Pennsylvania CODE: 42

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS
 NAME OF SURVEY:
 Pennsylvania Register of Historic Sites and Landmarks
 DATE OF SURVEY: 1972
 Federal State County Local
 DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
 William Penn Memorial Museum
 STREET AND NUMBER:
 Box 1026
 CITY OR TOWN:
 Harrisburg STATE: Pennsylvania CODE: 42

3-7-73

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Pennsylvania
COUNTY: Berks
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY NUMBER
DATE

7 DESCRIPTION

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Philip Christman House is typical of regional Germanic architecture erected between 1730 and 1750. In the past this structure has been erroneously referred to as the Uhlrich Beidler House. Built in the Swiss Bank tradition, the gable on the right front side is settled in a small bank. This bank is the sole means of access to the upper or second floor of the house. This structure is a 2½ story stone house with chimneys on both gable ends and an extended roof forming a second story porch and ground floor overhang.

The lower floor is divided into two rooms. One is a square room with a five-foot-high walk-in fireplace just inside the only entrance on the lower floor. The fireplace shows some signs of ~~being~~ *having been* enlarged after it was built. Windows are present to the right of the front lower door and on the rear of the house. An interior doorway leads into the other room of the lower floor. This room is an arched or barrel vault type. A stream runs into this room from the right front along the right side and in the rear of the building. It is channeled through a stone trough and serves as a ~~means~~ *means* of water and as a primitive means of refrigeration for the vaulted room. A feature worthy of note in the lower floor is the absence of stairs leading from it to the upper floor. The lower floor was built as a separate space from the rest of the house. The interior of the lower floor is simple. It features plastered walls, exposed beams in the ceiling, wooden lintel beam for the fireplace, and a concrete floor which was a twentieth century innovation. A concrete footing around the exterior lower wall also of twentieth century vintage gives increased stability to the house especially with the hazards of a water source so close.

Although the upper floor has a similar room arrangement to the lower floor, its rooms are more functional. The two rooms of the upper floor consist of the kitchen which is directly above the vaulted room and the combination formal room-bedroom over the square room of the casement. The kitchen is equipped with a large walk-in fireplace, complete with batten doors. Entrance for the upper floor via the bank is through the kitchen. Another door leading into the formal room is to the left of the kitchen entrance. The left corner of the kitchen houses an early but not original fan stairway to the attic. It is framed with beaded boards and includes a small cupboard built in under the fanning portion.

The combination formal room-bedroom contains two windows in the front and one on both of the other exterior sides. Two recessed wall cabinets are found in this room, one in the chimney area and one on the front wall, both having a single raised panel door. Chair rail, baseboards, a simple flat cornice and window moulding set off an otherwise unadorned room. A wooden floor and white plaster walls are the rule in the upper floor. Exposed beams and a beaded board ceiling characterize room ceiling.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

ABNORMAL

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

ST.	Pennsylvania	
COUNTY	Berks	
FOR NPS USE ONLY		
ENTRY NUMBER		DATE

(Number all entries)

7. Description (continued)

Philip Christman House

Other buildings of note on this property are:

1. A two and one-half story plastered stone house, five bays across and two rooms deep, the right section of this house was an addition. This house was built in the nineteenth century to accomodate a growing farm.
2. A large wood and stone barn with an unusual arched doorway featuring a round headed beaded batten door on strap hinges. The barn has sheds added to either side.
3. A square hipped-roof one and one-half story stone structure of undetermined use.
4. A smoke house of the early nineteenth century equipped with a beehive oven and fireplace.

3. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-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 type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1730-1750

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 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 type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Significance for the Philip Christman House and buildings is two-fold. First, the entire property is built upon the agricultural setting in which it is located. This area was basically a fruit growing section and the modification of the early house well illustrates this. Secondly, the property shows the interrelatedness of the multiple dwellings comprising the property.

With regard to the agricultural heritage, the primary attention is given to the vaulted cellar room. Undoubtly, this room was used to store the fruit and other farm products. This is reinforced by the fact that the small stream is diverted from its course and brought inside of the house to act not only as a water supply, but to give primitive refrigeration to the fruit storage room. Although some speculation may be given to the Continental concept of housing cattle in the basement, the fireplace there points to the use of this lower floor as the major cooking area. The house being built into the bank is essential to the concept of protection from the elements and use of natural terrain for structural and cooling factors.

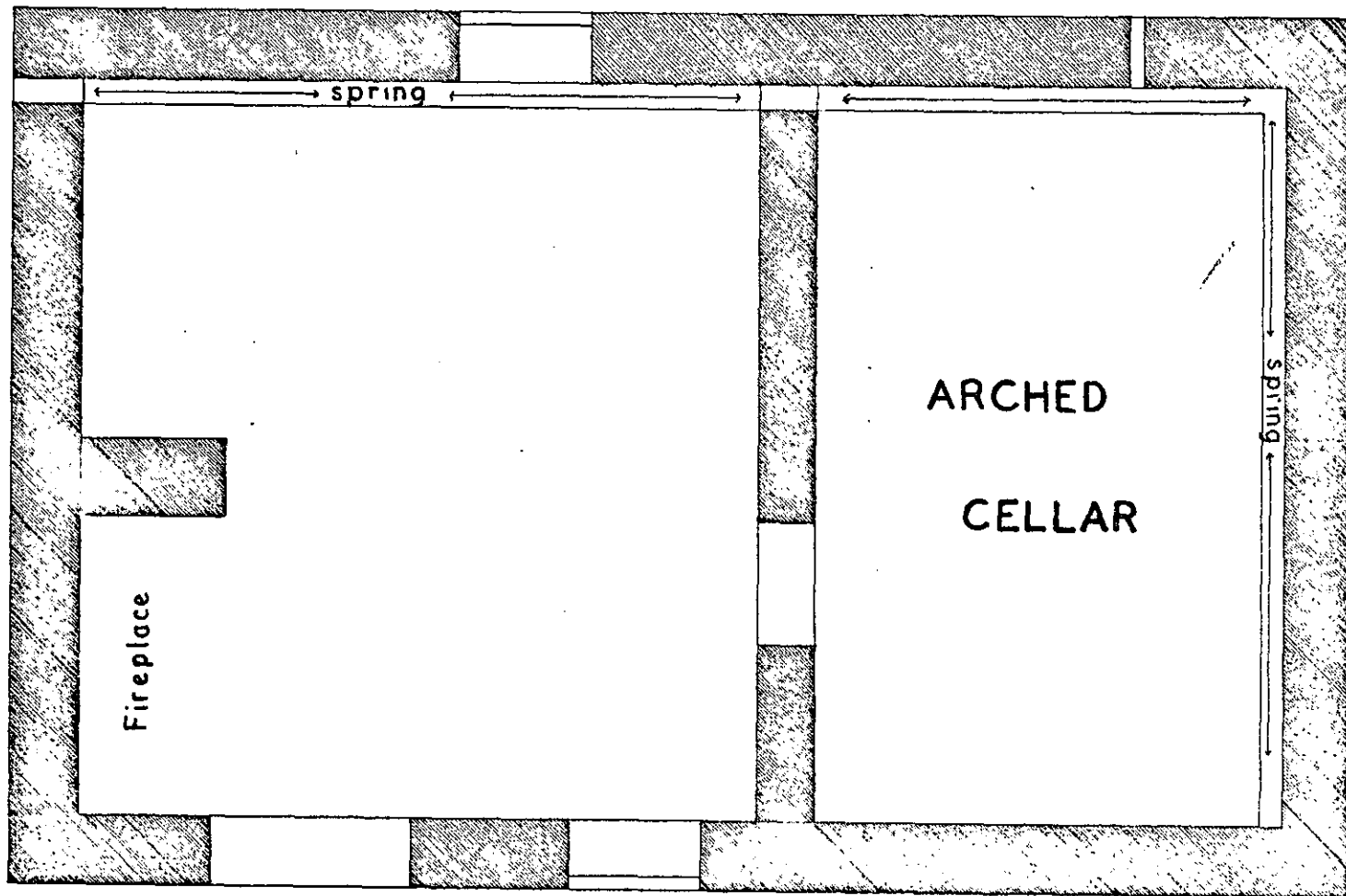
Elements of the multiple structure homestead are prevalent in the Christman property. We find the barn used for storage, and note must be made of its increased use with the additions. The bake-smoke house tends to take the cooking away from the center of activity as does the other square structure possibly used as a workshop. Within this complex, we can note the later house which indicates increased wealth and less encumbrance from nature. In short, it shows the development from a primitive farmstead to a family agricultural complex.

A final area of significance is in the architecture of the dwellings. This is mainly in the older house which boasts its vaulted cellar, fine beaded floor boards and substantial fireplaces. Of special note is the elegant Fraktur engraving on the front porch. Its text is "Philip Christman - Madelena Christman - 1810". Done in fine Gothic Fraktur script, this is a minor but significant indication of the value placed upon the house as the hub of activity in south-eastern Pennsylvania folklife.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

PHILIP CHRISTMAN
UHLRICH BEIDLER HOMESTEAD

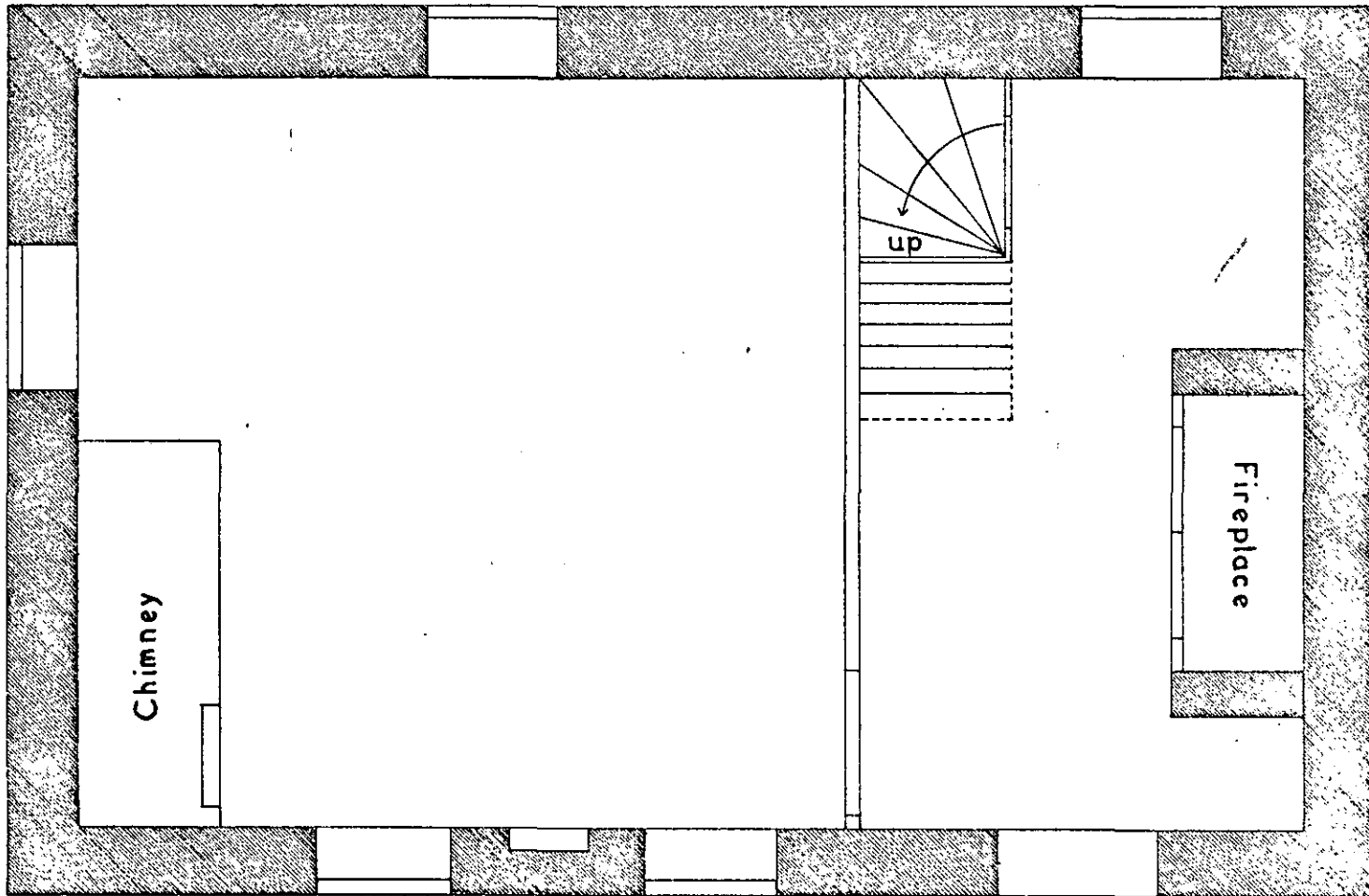
LOWER FLOOR



CAT. NO.	DATE
SUBJECT	
FILM	
STOP	
LENS	FIL. NO.
CAMERA	NEG. NO.
	BEAUVEAU BORIE IV

Philip *CHRISTMAN*
UHLRICH BEIDLER HOMESTEAD

UPPER FLOOR



CAT. NO.	DATE
SUBJECT	
FILM	
STOP	EXPOSURE
LENS	FILTER
CAMERA	NEG. NO.
BEAUVEAU BORIE IV	

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Brumbaugh, G. Edwin, "Colonial Architecture of the Pennsylvania Germans", The Pennsylvania German Society, Proceedings and Addresses... 1930, Norristown, Pa.
 Nutting, Wallace. Pennsylvania Beautiful. Framingham, Pa. 1924
 Downs, Joseph. "A Pennsylvania German House", The Pennsylvania Museum Bulletin, Phila. Pa. 1926

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			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
NW	40° 24' 08"	75° 34' 24"	°	'	"
NE	40° 24' 08"	75° 34' 00"	°	'	"
SE	40° 23' 53"	75° 34' 00"	°	'	"
SW	40° 23' 53"	75° 34' 24"	°	'	"

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 65 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: 12

12. STATE LIASON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

Owner of property notified 3/3/72
 As the designated State Liason 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]
 State Liason Officer

Title: Agency Executive
Historical and Museum Commission

Date:

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

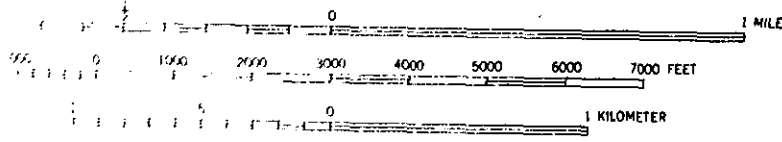


(SASSAMANSVILLE)
5864 1 SE

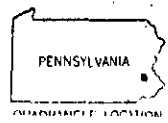
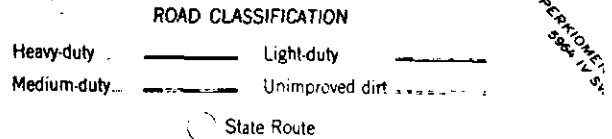
SCALE 1:24000

INTERIOR GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON, D. C. - 1968
HOFFMANSVILLE 4 MI.
POTTSTOWN 11 MI.

4470000m N
40°22'30"
75°30'



CONTOUR INTERVAL 20 FEET
DATUM IS MEAN SEA LEVEL



EAST GREENVILLE, PA.
NE/4 BOYERTOWN 15' QUADRANGLE