

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

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

1. NAME

COMMON:
Billmeyer (Michael) House

AND/OR HISTORIC:
Billmeyer (Michael) House

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
6505-07 Germantown Avenue

CITY OR TOWN:
Philadelphia

STATE Pennsylvania	CODE 42	COUNTY: Philadelphia	CODE 101
------------------------------	-------------------	--------------------------------	--------------------

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress <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)			
<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 checked="" 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) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Comments _____ _____ _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Germantown Historical Society

STREET AND NUMBER:
5214 Germantown Avenue

CITY OR TOWN: Philadelphia	STATE: Pennsylvania	CODE: 42
--------------------------------------	-------------------------------	--------------------

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:
Department of Records

STREET AND NUMBER:
City Hall

CITY OR TOWN: Philaddphia	STATE: Pennsylvania	CODE: 42
-------------------------------------	-------------------------------	--------------------

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Germantown Survey

DATE OF SURVEY: **1952-53** Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Germantown Historical Society

STREET AND NUMBER:
5214 Germantown Avenue

CITY OR TOWN: Philadelphia	STATE: Pennsylvania	CODE: 42
--------------------------------------	-------------------------------	--------------------

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Pennsylvania
COUNTY: Philadelphia
ENTRY NUMBER:
DATE:

FOR NPS USE ONLY

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" 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

The Michael Billmeyer House, actually two houses with similar plans under one roof, is two and one-half stories high with a full cellar. The street facade is of dressed stone, while the sides are rough stone. There is a rear stone wing as well as a frame addition to the house; a modern dental office is attached to the northwest. There is a metal roof on the main part of the house and the pent-eave contains the original boards on its underside. The floor plan is unusual. The stair hall at one side leads into the living room. This, in turn, opens into the dining room which has a fireplace with a brick hearth and the original crane and utensils. The flooring in the living, dining and most of the upper rooms is original. The front door with its bolts, hinges and locks is also original, as are most of the sashes and panes.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. 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)

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

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

In 1727, Hans George Bensell acquired the land on which the Michael Billmeyer houses were built shortly afterward. Tradition states that the 1777 Battle of Germantown attack against the British-held Chew House was directed from the step of 6505-07. The first known owner of the houses, Michael Billmeyer, Publisher of an almanac and newspaper and German printer for the Pennsylvania Assembly, purchased them in 1787. Their exterior wood details are in the finest Germantown tradition.

The Michael Billmeyer House stands along Germantown Avenue, now declared a National Historic Landmark.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Historic Germantown, Tinkcom, Tinkcom, and Simon

Germantown: 1683-1933, Hocker, Edward

History of Old Germantown, Keyser, Kain Garber, and McCann

Philadelphia Historical Commission - brief of title, photos, insurance reports, etc.

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	0 0 0	0 0 0		40 02 56	75 11 03	
NE	0 0 0	0 0 0				
SE	0 0 0	0 0 0				
SW	0 0 0	0 0 0				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **Less than one acre**

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

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: **1/6/71**

STREET AND NUMBER:
Box 1026

CITY OR TOWN: **Harrisburg** STATE: **Pennsylvania** CODE: **42**

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

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

S. K. Steiner

State Liaison Officer

Title **Executive Director, Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission**

Date

August 30, 1971

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

22ND & 59TH WARDS

9

2193

E. SHARPACK

2

E. UPSAL

10° 02' 56"
75° 10' 56"
MICHAEL BILLMEYER HOUSE

2116

W. UPSAL

W. NO. JANITOR SUPPLIES & PAPER PRODUCTS

GERMANTOWN

AV

W. SHARPACK

WEAVER

BERDAN

SHARPACK

6

7

