

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:
Former Tenant House of Wister's Big House

AND/OR HISTORIC:
Grumblethorpe Tenant House

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
5269 Germantown Avenue

CITY OR TOWN:
Philadelphia

STATE
Pennsylvania

CODE 142	COUNTY: Philadelphia	CODE 101
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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"/> 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 <input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	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"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	_____	_____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Phila. Society for the Preservation of Landmarks

STREET AND NUMBER:
Grumblethorpe Tenant House - 5267 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:
Philadelphia

STATE:
Pennsylvania

CODE
42

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
HAES

DATE OF SURVEY: 1941

Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Library of Congress

STREET AND NUMBER:
Washington, D.C.

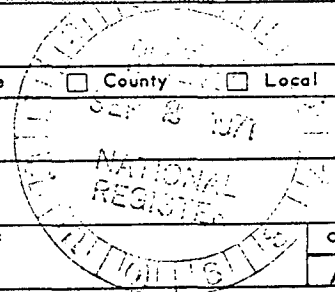
CITY OR TOWN:
Washington, D.C.

STATE:

CODE
11

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

USE THIS COPY FOR DUPLICATING



STATE: Penn.	FOR NPS USE ONLY
COUNTY: Phila.	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

(Check One)

Excellent Good Fair Deteriorated Ruins Unexposed

(Check One)

Altered Unaltered

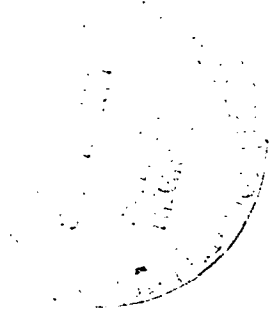
(Check One)

Moved Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Grumblethorpe is almost contemporaneous with the adjoining Wister's Big House. The southeast end is the earliest portion. From old drawings it appears to have been originally one story high. Early in the 19th century, it was changed to two and one-half stories and an addition was built to the northwest. The building is of good, pointed local stone, with a cellar under most of the house. The roof is of wood shingles. The present house is 31 feet wide and 31 feet deep. The original house is to the east and is 19 feet wide and 28 feet deep. The old kitchen is in the rear part of the cellar. The entire first floor of the addition is now a living room. The dining room occupies the southeast corner of the addition, and the present kitchen is in the northeast corner. There are three bedrooms on the second floor; each of the bedrooms is immediately over one of the rooms below. The attic is lighted by small windows in the gables. There are no dormers. The walls and ceilings of the first and second floors are plastered, and a large part of the original wood trim is intact.

S E E I N S T R U C T I O N S



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

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

It was associated as a tenant cottage to Wister's Big House, and is an excellent example of the small dwelling of the Colonial era.

The Tenant House at Grumblethorpe is located within the Germantown Avenue National Historic Landmark area.

Built as a dependency circa 1744 for John Wister's Summer home called Grumblethorpe it is significant for its relationship to the "Big" house. In its own right, the original architectural features are important. Although built of local stone rubble construction, the eastern, earliest part of the house, 19' x 28', is similar to Philadelphia houses planned for year-round occupancy. A door and passage against one gable wall and a large chimney in the center of the opposite gable wall served the large cellar kitchen fireplace 6' wide with an elliptical baking oven and the front and back room on the first story each with a corner fireplace into the same chimney. This would make a cozy caretaker's cottage. It was enlarged from 1 1/2 stories at some later period more typical of the Germantown idiom with two rooms added to the west giving it a center door and passage and raised to 2 1/2 stories.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

H istoric Germantown, Tinkcom, Tinkcom, and Simon

Review by Dr. James W. Wister, 1936 for district officer.

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
NW	°	'	"	°	'	"	40°	01'	55"
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"	75°	10'	19"
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"			
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"			

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:
Fran Deutsch, Student Intern

ORGANIZATION: Philadelphia Historical Commission Office DATE: Jan. 7, 1971

STREET AND NUMBER:
1313 City Hall Annex

CITY OR TOWN: Philadelphia STATE: Pennsylvania CODE: 5142

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 S.K. [Signature]
State Liaison Officer

Title Executive Director, Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission

Date August 30, 1971

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

(P 2229)
22ND. & 59TH WARDS

2239

2229

GRUMBLETHORPE
TENANT HOUSE

40° 02' 56"
75° 10' 56"

GERMANTOWN AV

2230

PLANT GROUNDS

W. PENN

W. QUEEN LANE

