

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Hartman Cider Press
other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street & number Keim Road, 1.1 miles west of Iobachsville N/A not for publication
city, town Pike Township N/A vicinity
state PA code 042 county Berks code 011 zip code 19512

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
		Contributing	Noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> structures
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> objects
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> object	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing:
N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Signature of certifying official _____ Date _____

State or Federal agency and bureau _____

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official _____ Date _____

State or Federal agency and bureau _____

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register.
 See continuation sheet.

determined eligible for the National Register. See continuation sheet.

determined not eligible for the National Register.

removed from the National Register.

other, (explain:) _____

Signature of the Keeper _____ Date of Action _____

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Agriculture/processing

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Not In Use**7. Description**

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

Other/cider press

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation stonewalls woodroof woodother wood

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The Hartman Cider Press is a large wooden apple press in a plain wood frame, one story building situated on a stone foundation. The cider press sits close to the southeast edge of a macadam road and fifty feet southwest of the Keim Homestead stone cabin and farmhouse. The cider press and building, erected c. 1835, were moved eleven miles in 1975 from their original location on the Hartman Homestead in Muhlenberg Township to the Keim Homestead in Pike Township. The Keim Homestead, which was listed on the National Register in 1974, consists of a c. 1725 stone cabin, a c. 1750 stone house, two barns and surrounding open meadows. The Hartman Cider Press and Keim Homestead are located in gently rolling farmland in eastern Berks County. Even though it has been moved, the Hartman Cider Press possesses very good integrity. The building and press remain in much their nineteenth century appearance. The building is located in a setting much like its original location.

The press is made of heavy hand-hewn oak wood beams and boards. The main beam measures thirty feet in length, seventeen inches thick, and exerts a pressure of thirty tons on the pomace (crushed apples) placed at the head end of the press. At the tail end of the beam is a thirteen foot tall, thirty-four and a half inch diameter hand cut wood screw which allows the beam to press down on the pomace when turned. The screw was turned by inserting a heavy pole into a hole bored through the lower mid-section of the screw. The pole was pushed by hand. The screw adjusted the height of the beam for pressing on the pomace. Supporting the beam at mid-point is a rectangular framework that acts as a fulcrum. The head end of the beam is inserted into a rectangle cut in the middle of a large hand-hewn upright. The head end was allowed to rise and fall inside the rectangular cut out. A crib that held the pomace is located beneath the head end of the beam. This crib consists of a large wooden tub surrounded by a square wooden base. A deep groove is cut into

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Hartman Cider Press

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the base around the tub. The beam was lowered onto the crib and pomace, and liquid was pressed out of the tub and into the groove. The liquid was then fed from the groove into buckets or barrels.

A pomace mill is also stored to one side of the beam inside the frame building. The pomace mill measures fifty-seven and one half inches high and fifty-two inches long. It consists of a set of upright hickory wood knobbed rollers which mesh like two gears when turned. The rollers were turned by either a man or horse pushing a long beam or sweep. Apples were fed into one side of the mill and crushed apples or pomace were extracted from the other side and fed into a wooden trough. The pomace mill was moved outside the building when in use.

The building measures thirty-five feet by fifteen feet. It has a gable roof covered by cedar shingles and vertical white pine board siding on the outside and exposed hand hewn beams on the inside. Three door openings without doors—two on the west side and one on the east side—pierce the building. The building is situated on top of a three-sided rubble stone foundation built into the side of a slight hill. The fourth, downhill side of the foundation is open with three exposed bays.

The building and cider press have survived largely intact from the nineteenth century. All parts of the press are original and fully operational. The beams and siding of the building are also original. Only two components of the building are not original. The current roof, installed in 1975, replaced a metal roof which in turn replaced the original wood shingle roof about the turn of the century. The plank floor of the building was installed when the building was moved in 1975. Originally the building was located on a shallow stone foundation and had a dirt floor. It was moved from its original foundation to sit atop the current foundation, which was repointed in 1975. Great care was taken during the 1975 move to ensure that all original parts of the press and building were preserved. The press and building were disassembled, parts were numbered, and the parts re-assembled by members of the American Folklife Society. The building was not changed in dimension or fenestration to fit the present foundation.

The Hartman Cider Press has also retained much of its original farm setting despite being moved. The setting, placement and general environment of its current location are quite similar to those of its previous location. Like the Keim Homestead, the Hartman Homestead was located in rolling farmland. It too had an eighteenth century farm house as well as agricultural outbuildings, including a barn, two wagon sheds,

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and chicken and hog houses, all built during the mid-nineteenth century. The cider press was located close by the farm house and outbuildings on the Hartman Homestead, much as it is currently situated at the Keim Homestead. Unfortunately the Hartman Homestead no longer exists; all of the buildings except for the cider press were demolished to make way for the widening of nearby Route 61 and a car dealership. The only major difference between the original and current locations is that the cider press originally sat on level ground on a shall stone foundation, rather than on a stone foundation built into a slight hill side.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)
Agriculture

Period of Significance
c. 1835

Significant Dates
c. 1835

Cultural Affiliation
N/A

Significant Person
N/A

Architect/Builder
unknown

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

The Hartman Cider Press is important as a rare surviving representative of a type of agricultural food processing, pressing cider from apples, that was once quite common in southeastern Pennsylvania. Growing apples and pressing cider from them was widespread in southeastern Pennsylvania during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. Two kinds of presses, large beam presses and small screw presses, were used to make cider. The Hartman Cider Press is one of only three intact large beam presses left in southeastern Pennsylvania.

Apple growing and making cider was a virtually universal phenomena on eighteenth and nineteenth century farms in southeastern Pennsylvania. According to S.W. Fletcher, "The apple was "King of Fruits" in colonial Pennsylvania and for many decades thereafter." Practically every farm in southeastern Pennsylvania had apple trees or an apple orchard. Some of the fruit was eaten fresh, or dried and stored for winter use, but most of it was pressed for cider. Cider was used as a common beverage, and as a basis for other foods such as vinegar. Most apple growing was done for home consumption through the early nineteenth century. By 1840, however, apples began to be grown in orchards for commercial consumption, particularly in those areas of southeastern Pennsylvania such as Berks County that had ready access to the large market of Philadelphia. Commercial production of apples in southeastern Pennsylvania continued into the early twentieth century when orchards from other parts of the state and nation began to compete with and replace these growers.

Apple growers used two types of presses to make cider during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. One type was the large beam press exemplified by the Hartman Press. This kind of press served a local area comparable to that served by a local grist mill. Farmers from several

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miles around would bring apples to these presses each fall. These beam presses could process large quantities of apples. Press operators could also combine different varieties of apples from several farms to make different varieties of cider. These large beam presses were powered by hand or animal and were used from at least the late eighteenth century through the nineteenth century. The screw press was much smaller. This type of cider press had a vertical screw that pressed directly down on the crushed apples in a small tub. This type could process much smaller quantities of apples than a beam press could. Screw presses were used frequently by farm families to make cider for home consumption. Because these small presses were used on one farm where often only one type of apple was grown, operators were less likely to have different varieties of apples to press for different types of cider. These small hand- or animal-powered screw presses were utilized into the early twentieth century. By the early twentieth century both the large beam and small screw presses began to be replaced by cider presses run by electric motors.

The Hartman Cider Press was constructed at the Hartman Homestead c. 1835, a date that was determined during a site visit by James Blackaby, curator of the Mercer Museum in Doylestown, Bucks County, and by comparison with cider presses documented in Jean Allman Gilmore's M.A. thesis. The Hartman family which built the press had settled at their homestead in the eighteenth century. The Hartmans cultivated an orchard through the nineteenth century, and processed apples from their orchard and surrounding farms in their press. Most of their orchard was destroyed in 1907 when the Beltline Railroad was built through their property, and the cider press saw little and eventually no use after that time. Two surviving Hartman brothers, now in their fifties, recall that their grandfather was the last family member who operated the press, at least sixty years ago. The American Folklife Society acquired the Hartman Press from the family in 1974. In 1975 the Society carefully dismantled the press and moved it to the Keim Homestead before the Hartman Homestead was demolished.

The Hartman Cider Press is a rare representative example of the large beam presses that once stood in southeastern Pennsylvania. With its massive horizontal beam, large wooden screw at one end, and tub and large vertical upright at the other end, the Hartman Cider Press is representative of the construction and function of nineteenth century large beam presses. Only two other intact large beam presses are known

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to exist in Pennsylvania. Both presses are housed in the Mercer Museum. These two presses are similar in design and integrity to the Hartman Press; however both lack the surrounding buildings that were frequently constructed to protect large beam presses. Only scattered parts of other large beam presses are known to exist elsewhere in Pennsylvania. For example, the Landis Valley Farm Museum in Lancaster County has a large wooden screw, all that remains of another cider press. Thus the Hartman Cider Press stands as a significant surviving representative of an important agricultural process in southeastern Pennsylvania.

9. Major Bibliographical References

see attached sheet

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings
Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering
Record # _____

See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property less than one acre

UTM References

A

1	8
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4	3	6	4	1	0
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4	4	7	3	4	1	0
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Zone Easting Northing

C

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B

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Zone Easting Northing

D

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See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Cathy L. Wegener, Interpretive Specialist/William Sisson
organization Berks Co. Park & Recreation Dept./PHMC date 1987
street & number Box 272, R.D. 5/State Museum telephone (215) 372-8939/(717) 783-8945
city or town Sinking Spring/Harrisburg state PA zip code 19608/17108

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Allman, Jean Gilmore. "From Orchard to Table: The Ciderist's Art in the Eighteenth Century" (M.A. Thesis, 1975, University of Delaware).

Fletcher, Stevenson Whitcomb, Pennsylvania Agriculture and Country Life, 1640-1840 (Harrisburg: PHMC, 1950), p. 209

Montgomery, Merton L. History of Berks County, Pennsylvania (Philadelphia, 1886).

Interview with James Blackaby, Curator, Mercer Museum, Doylestown Pennsylvania, October 21, 1987.

Interviews with Edward Hartman, former owner of the Hartman Cider Press, February and October, 1985, and February and March, 1987.

Interview with Frank McKelvey, Curator, Hagley Museum and Library, Wilmington Delaware, October 20, 1987

Interview with James Mitchell, Curator, State Museum, Harrisburg Pennsylvania, October 20, 1987.

Interviews with Charles L. Nest, American Society of Mechanical Engineers, Pike Township, Bucks County, 1985.

Interviews with Richard Schaner, President of the American Folklife Society, December 4, 1985 and March 12, 1987.

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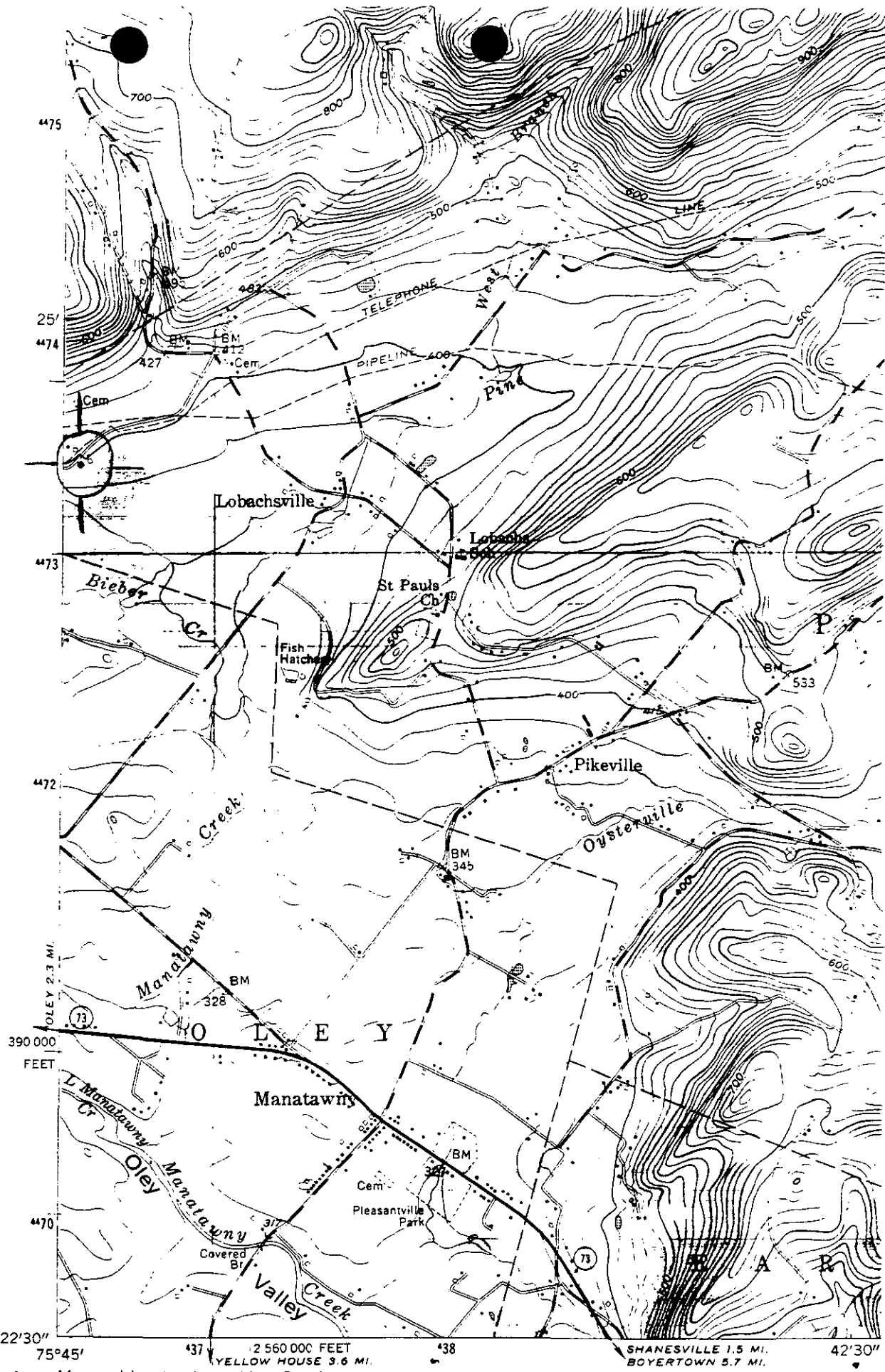
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Beginning at the northwest corner of the building, then proceeding east 15 feet; then proceeding south 35 feet; then proceeding 15 feet west; then proceeding north 35 feet to the point of the beginning.

The boundary contains only the contributing building. The land immediately surrounding the building was listed on the National Register in 1974 as part of the Keim Homestead, before the Hartman Cider Press was moved to this location.

Hartman Cider Press
 Berks County
 Zone 18 - Manatawny Quad
 E436410
 N4473410



(B) (RDSBORO)
 5864 IV SE

Mapped by the Army Map Service
 Edited and published by the Geological Survey
 Control by USGS and USC&GS
 Topography from aerial photographs by photogrammetric methods.

