

PH0356981

DATA SHEET

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED MAR 16 1977
DATE ENTERED NOV 7 1977

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

Seigle Homestead

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

N of Finesville
Rieglesville-Warren Glen Road, Finesville

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Finesville, Pa.
~~Pohateong Township~~

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

13th

STATE

New Jersey

CODE

34

COUNTY

Warren

CODE

041

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

OWNERSHIP

STATUS

PRESENT USE

DISTRICT

PUBLIC

OCCUPIED

AGRICULTURE

MUSEUM

BUILDING(S)

PRIVATE

UNOCCUPIED

COMMERCIAL

PARK

STRUCTURE

BOTH

WORK IN PROGRESS

EDUCATIONAL

PRIVATE RESIDENCE

SITE

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

ACCESSIBLE

ENTERTAINMENT

RELIGIOUS

OBJECT

IN PROCESS

YES: RESTRICTED

GOVERNMENT

SCIENTIFIC

BEING CONSIDERED

YES: UNRESTRICTED

INDUSTRIAL

TRANSPORTATION

NO

MILITARY

OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Irene Magditz and Ann Vanfossen

STREET & NUMBER

Finesville, R.D. 1

CITY, TOWN

Phillipsburg

VICINITY OF

STATE

New Jersey

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Warren County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Belvidere

STATE

New Jersey

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

New Jersey Historic Sites Inventory

DATE

1976

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Historic Sites Office, Dept. of Environmental Protection

CITY, TOWN

Trenton

STATE

New Jersey

7 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

Unique among surviving log structures in northwest New Jersey is this 2 1/2 story, gable roofed house built on a bank cellar of irregular and rough coursed limestone. The rectangular hewn log structure has a roof peak parallel to the shorter walls creating a structure that is two rooms deep instead of the more typical regional form of two rooms to the front.

Clapboards presently cover the front or south wall and the two gable ends. The regularly spaced 6/6 sash windows are not old on the house. The lower west window in front was, until recently, a door reached from the outside by a long flight of steps. The rear lower east entry remains. While the front cellar entry - which is at ground level and the window to one side are likely to be original the remaining fenestration appears to have been altered to some degree.

The covering of clapboards has been removed on the rear of the north wall exposing the hewn logs - said to be black walnut - which range from 8 to 12 inches square. The corners are joined with V-shaped notches which are considered basically a German characteristic. The chinking is accomplished by wedge shaped limestones and lime mortar.

Each of the three floors is supported by a hewn summer beam running nearly midway between the front and rear walls. The beam of the first floor is roughly 18 inches square, the second 14 inches square, and the attic 12 inches square. The joists, both hewn and vertical saw-cut, are morticed into these summers. Those of the second floor extend between the logs in the back and presumably in the front; to make a level floor the lower leg has been notched for some. Those of the attic floor appear to rest on the log walls.

The lofty attic is framed with hewn beams that are notched and pegged; the intermediate rafters having vertical saw-cuts and mitered later replacements. The end rafters are joined to hewn plates that rest on the east and west gable walls. The other rafters are probably joined to the floor joists. Each gable wall consists of two tie beams and several short uprights. Nailed vertically to the gable frames are random boards varying from about 16 to 18 inches in width. These are likely the original covering.

A large stone chimney, shaped like a 30-60-90 degree triangle provides four corner fireplaces - two each on the first and second floor. The chimney assumes a rectangular shape in the attic level and has a drip course several inches below the top. The front part of the embanked cellar facing south served as a kitchen and has a timber-linteled fireplace with an opening roughly 6 feet wide and opening 5 feet high. On the first floor both the front room and the slightly smaller rear room have arch-linteled fireplaces with openings roughly

8 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 checked="" 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

Architecture

The Seigle Homestead is the only surviving two story log structure in Warren County, and one of the few log houses in New Jersey.

This log house is traditionally held to have been built by members of the Seigle family about 1793. While the date of erection cannot be documented, members of the Seigle family did own the property on which it stands through-out the 19th century and well into the present century. A clover mill (subsequently converted to a grist mill), a pottery, and a store were built and or operated by members of this family in the hamlet which grew up around their homestead. Of German origin the Seigles were probably among those of that nationality who came into the area from Pennsylvania in the last decades of the 18th century to take advantage of the increased accessibility and availability of agricultural land. According to one local history Benjamin Seigle was the founder of the family and was "a large purchaser of land in the vicinity."

Over the course of the 18th Century and into the early years of the 19th Century log construction was a commonly used building method in Northwest New Jersey.

The log house is a product of cultural tradition and natural conditions created by a specific population to satisfy their needs for an efficient shelter. The log cabin is a simple and direct expression of a fundamental need developed and transmitted from one generation to another by means of oral tradition rather than via formal methods.

Studies indicate that features employed in the log house have precedents in Old World building forms. (Further research needs be done to carefully delineate origins of regional topographic patterns). Nevertheless, as developed in America the log house was not completely European because particular architectural features were often meshed in a new combination forming something as unique as the American log cabin.

The construction of log houses in America appears to have lacked an orderly development (or one yet to be discerned) and instead of an early prototype undergoing gradual evolution over a period of centuries,

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

(see attached sheet)

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1 acre

UTM REFERENCES

A

1	8
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4	0	5	9	3	0
---	---	---	---	---	---

4	4	9	5	3	6	0
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ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B

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ZONE EASTING NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

(revisions by Terry Karschner, Curator
Historic Sites Office, DEP
Trenton, New Jersey

NAME / TITLE

Dennis Bertland, Planner

ORGANIZATION

Warren County Planning Board

DATE

November, 1976

STREET & NUMBER

Belvidere

TELEPHONE

(609)-292-2023

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

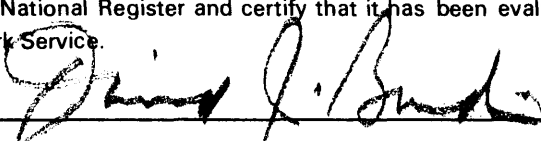
NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

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 Commissioner, Dept. of Environmental Protection

DATE January 10, 1977

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST: 

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE 11/2/77

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE 11.2.77

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

Seigle Homestead
Ponaticong Township
Warren County
New Jersey 034

CONTINUATION SHEET DESCRIPTION ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 2

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four feet by four feet three inches. The mantel in the front room is a primitive Georgian type with wide bead-edged boards around the opening and a simple molded shelf. There are no other mantels extant. The upstairs back chamber has a small shallow fireplace.

Some of the other interior features appear to be early if not original. An enclosed winding staircase rises in the northeast corner of the back room of the first floor. The original stairway down to the cellar has been removed and substituted for by a more recent cellar stairway in the front room abutting up against the east log wall. Other early details are some simple molded door trim, a chamfered panel door, and random-width pine floors. The construction of the interior partitions was not investigated closely. One partition, however, in the cellar that probably enclosed a small storage room has been removed. Another partition creating a stair hall in the back of the first floor has also been removed.

The exterior dimensions of this house are 20'7" by 26'7". The two rooms on the first floor are 13'1" by 18'4" and 11'2" by 18'4".

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Deigle Homestead
Pohatcong Township
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New Jersey 034

CONTINUATION SHEET SIGNIFICANCE ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 3

the time span was telescoped making the definition and interpretation of forms difficult. In addition, builders of differing backgrounds were meshed together in a new environment which further accelerated what would have been a slow process of change. The different methods of corner notching, for instance, while representing Old World importations became, in time, a coalescence of many influences.

While the Swedes and Finns of the Delaware Valley were most likely responsible for the first log houses in America they were by no means the most perisitent nor the strongest influence. The German log house tradition was heavily superimposed on the early Swedish-Finnish log building and advanced generally westward, but also crept across the Delaware River into Northwest New Jersey.

Generally, these temporary log houses were built in the hope that they would be eventually replaced by larger more stylistic dwellings. Undoubtably, many were. Often, however, these plans did not materialize and several generations were raised in the log house. Consequently, a few of these sturdy log dwellings are still standing today. Because of their relatively crude exterior appearance log houses were frequently disguised by later clapboarding and as a result numerous similar camouflaged log dwellings most likely still exist in the northwest portion of the state.

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New Jersey 034
CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE 4

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