

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICENATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR FEDERAL PROPERTIES

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED MAY 31 1977

DATE ENTERED

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Bailly, Joseph, Homestead and Cemetery

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

U. S. 20

CITY, TOWN

Porter, .5 mi. w. of

☒ VICINITY OF

--NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

2

STATE

Indiana

CODE
18COUNTY
PorterCODE
127**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY

☒ DISTRICT☒ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☒ PUBLIC☐ PRIVATE☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☐ OCCUPIED☒ UNOCCUPIED☒ WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

☒ YES: RESTRICTED☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED☐ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE☐ MUSEUM☐ COMMERCIAL☐ PARK☐ EDUCATIONAL☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ RELIGIOUS☐ GOVERNMENT☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ MILITARY☒ OTHER none**4 AGENCY**

REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS (If applicable)

Midwest Regional Office, National Park Service, Department of the Interior

STREET & NUMBER

1709 Jackson

CITY, TOWN

Omaha

VICINITY OF

STATE

Nebraska 68102

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC

Office of the Recorder of Porter County, Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

116 Lincolnway

CITY, TOWN

Valparaiso

STATE

Indiana 46383

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Historic American Buildings Survey

DATE

1957; 1961

☒ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR

SURVEY RECORDS

Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore ONLY

CITY, TOWN

Chesterton

STATE

Indiana 46383

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

☒ EXCELLENT ☐ DETERIORATED
☐ GOOD ☐ RUINS
☐ FAIR ☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED
☒ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE
☐ MOVED DATE: _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Bailly Homestead complex, located near Porter, consists of five structures and a cemetery which is approximately three-quarters of a mile north of the homestead. The cemetery is located on an elevated, wooded site and is joined to the homestead by a winding trail. The five structures are oriented on an east-west axis and are located on a wooded knoll on the north bank of the Little Calumet River. The entire complex is currently being restored to its 1917 condition when Bailly's granddaughter, Frances Rose Howe, died and the homestead passed from the Bailly family.

Upon Bailly's arrival in 1822, he quickly erected a simple log structure on the banks of the Calumet but soon moved it to higher ground because of flooding. The main house (HS-18), begun around 1834 as a replacement, is a two-and-one-half story structure with a gabled wooden shingle roof which measures twenty-four by twenty-four feet. It was constructed from nearby white oak trees which were hewn and covered by seven inch lapped weatherboarding. The front entry, above which was a stained glass window, was originally on the east side facing the river. Having undergone several alterations (the major ones occurring sometime after Madame Bailly's death in 1866 and around 1900), the main house is marked today by its front and rear porches, on the north side by an upper window, and on the south side by a conservatory and a two-story overhang which is pierced by an exterior chimney. Both of the two-story porches, dating to around 1900, extend across the full width of the house and are supported by square columns. The front (west) porch contains a balustraded balcony in the central bay only and is covered by a gabled roof with two gabled dormers. The pent gable is articulated with a dentilled molding below the windows. The rear (east) porch, covered by a shed roof with two gabled dormers, has a full balustraded balcony and is surrounded on the lower level by a balustrade made of pre-cast concrete forms which extends onto the large rusticated block steps. The foundation and conservatory, also of concrete block, were added around 1900, as was the narrower clapboard siding which is painted yellow with maroon trim. The two lower stories contain double-hung nine over nine sash windows while the upper story and conservatory windows are double-hung six over six sash windows with the exception of the south conservatory windows which are double-hung with an upper leaded stained glass in a fixed sash above a single light and the window in the north gable which is flanked by round-cornered windows.

Southeast of the main house is a two-story brick house (HS-19) with a brick and rusticated stone addition which measures sixteen by thirty-three feet and is covered by wooden shingle roofs, the main portion being gabled while the addition is hipped. The main features of the building are the gable with a cross below it on the north end, segmentally arched windows articulated with brick voussoirs, and the quoins on the addition. The brick structure was originally attached to the southeast corner of the main house and was built around 1875 for Bailly's granddaughter, Rose Howe, who used it for a studio. It was moved in 1904 by Charles Johnson, overseer, and the addition was added in 1908. The cross was probably added around 1919 by the Sisters of Notre Dame of Milwaukee.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

☐ PREHISTORIC	☐ ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	☐ COMMUNITY PLANNING	☐ LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	☐ RELIGION
☐ 1400-1499	☐ ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	☐ CONSERVATION	☐ LAW	☐ SCIENCE
☐ 1500-1599	☐ AGRICULTURE	☐ ECONOMICS	☐ LITERATURE	☐ SCULPTURE
☐ 1600-1699	☒ ARCHITECTURE	☐ EDUCATION	☐ MILITARY	☒ SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
☐ 1700-1799	☐ ART	☐ ENGINEERING	☐ MUSIC	☐ THEATER
☒ 1800-1899	☒ COMMERCE	☒ EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	☐ PHILOSOPHY	☐ TRANSPORTATION
☒ 1900-	☐ COMMUNICATIONS	☐ INDUSTRY	☐ POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	☐ OTHER (SPECIFY)
		☐ INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1822; 1834; 1900; 1917

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Joseph Bailly, Builder

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Honore Gratien Joseph Bailly de Messein (1774-1835), also known as Joseph Aubert de Gaspé Bailly de Messein, was a transitional figure in a transitional period of American history who played a role in the development of the Calumet Region of northern Indiana. He was an independent trader in the massive fur trading network which spread from Montreal to Louisiana, and ultimately to Europe, and was one of the earliest settlers in the region. There at the crossroads of several important trails (including the Tolleston Beach and northern branch of the Sauk), he set up his fur trading post in 1822 and later developed other commercial interests. His home was an early center of culture and civilization in a backwoods wilderness and provided a meeting place for both Indians and whites as well as being a stopping place for travelers and missionaries. Born a British citizen of French parentage, Bailly later became an American citizen and participated in and saw the passing of the fur trade, the removal of the Indian, and the coming of settlers, roads, cities, and farms. The Bailly Homestead complex is the last remaining fur trading site in the region; it has undergone considerable change since Bailly's death and is therefore now commemorative in nature. It is uniquely composed of vernacular architecture of the last quarter of the nineteenth century and an unusual cemetery from the early part of the twentieth century.

Bailly was born near Montreal of an aristocratic French family and by 1792 was active in the fur trade at Mackinac, opening his own account books in 1796. His trading activities ranged over much of the old Northwest Territory including such places as the Grand, Muskegon, Kalamazoo, St. Joseph, Calumet, Wabash, and Kankakee Rivers, Grand Portage (Minn.), Drummond Island, Detroit, Chicago, and Montreal. His last home and trading post were located on the Little Calumet River in what he thought was Michigan Territory (the survey of the northern Indiana border did not occur until 1827).

During the War of 1812, Bailly was a Lieutenant and Adjutant Commissariat in the Canadian Voyageurs, helping to persuade the Indians to ally with the British. In 1814 he lost his entire fortune when he was captured near his home on the St. Josephs, at Parc aux Vaches, and was imprisoned briefly in Detroit. He became an American citizen in 1818, no doubt in response to the 1816 legislation which required that a trader be an American citizen in order to receive a license.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES(*In Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore Park Files, Chesterton, Indiana)

Anson, Bert. "The Fur Traders in Northern Indiana." Ph.D. dissertation, Indiana University, 1953.
Bowers, John O. The Old Bailly Homestead. Gary, Indiana: By the Author, 1922.*
Clemensen, A. Berle. "Bailly Homestead Unit, Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore,"

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 45.20

UTM REFERENCES

A 16 491990 4607460
ZONE EASTING NORTHING
C 16 491990 4608020

B 16 492510 4607460
ZONE EASTING NORTHING
D 16 492510 4608020

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The ~~eastern~~ boundary of the Bailly Homestead begins 66' south of the northeast corner of the Southwest Quarter of the Southeast Quarter of Section 27 (Twp. 37 N, R 6W) and follows the east line of this section to the south line where it turns east 485' until it meets the Little Calumet River. The southern boundary follows the meander of the river to Howe Road. The western boundary follows Howe Road north for 1010', then turns east 200', then north 125', then east 120', and then north

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Fay L. Hendry, Researcher

2-1-77

ORGANIZATION

Michigan State University

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

2749 E. Mt. Hope Road

TELEPHONE

1-517-337-0443

CITY OR TOWN

Okemos

STATE

Michigan 48864

12 CERTIFICATION OF NOMINATION

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

YES

NO

NONE

Landmark

Designated

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

In compliance with Executive Order 11593, I hereby nominate this property to the National Register of Historic Places, certifying that the State Historic Preservation Officer has been allowed 90 days in which to present the nomination to the State Review Board and to evaluate its significance. The evaluated level of significance is National State State

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

MAY

TITLE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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National Survey of Historic Sites and Buildings
1958 Federal
National Park Service
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 20240

List of Classified Structures
1976 Federal
Midwest Region, National Park Service
Omaha, Nebraska 68102

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The one-story notched log chapel (HS-22) is located southwest of the main house. The main portion, measuring fourteen by seventeen feet and resting on a concrete block foundation, contains two paired casement windows and a wooden plank door and is covered by a gabled roof with wooden shingles. The building was originally a two-story kitchen where Joseph Bailly, his wife, Marie, and his stepdaughter, Theresa de la Vigne, died. As a memorial to her parents and stepsister, Rose Victoire Bailly Howe built the chapel from logs salvaged from the original building, hiring a Swedish carpenter named Johnson to begin work in 1869. Around 1900 Frances Rose Howe essentially rebuilt the chapel, which included the addition of an apse, using materials from the repair of rooms in the main house where religious services were first held. The seven by ten foot apse, covered by a hipped roof, has two stained glass windows and the lower portion has board covers over the log ends while the upper portion is covered by wooden shingles.

North of the chapel is a notched two-story log building (HS-20), measuring fourteen by fourteen feet, with two plank doors (one of which is gabled and penetrates the roof on the south side), four windows, a gabled roof with wooden shingles, all of which rests on a brick foundation. This structure was built from the remains of Madame Bailly's dairy house and Bailly's tool shed. Since this structure was built as a landscape companion to the chapel, it probably dates to around 1874 when the Howes returned from a five-year trip to Europe.

A one-story notched log storehouse (HS-21) is located across the driveway west of the main house. It has a plank door, two windows, a gabled roof with wooden shingles, and a foundation of brick on concrete block. This is a salvaged portion of the original building in which the Indians left their belongings while on the hunt. The date of its reconstruction is unknown; it was used as a storage shed for tools.

The elliptically-shaped Bailly Cemetery (HS-23), also known as the Indian and Catholic Cemetery, is enclosed by two low concrete walls which were to have formed a concrete drive with the main opening on the south side. There is a large terrace in the center which measures fifty-eight feet by fifty feet and is enclosed by a seven foot pre-cast rusticated concrete wall with buttresses at each corner and in the center of the east and west walls. This wall was topped by a concrete balustrade similar to the one on the rear porch of the main house. The south wall is approached by a concrete stepped walk and contains headstones and plaques with Biblical quotations. The north wall has steps which lead to the upper terrace which is divided into quarters by concrete walks and originally contained a centrally placed fifteen foot Spanish pine cross. A few headstones not belonging to the Bailly family are found in the area below. When the first Bailly was buried here in 1827 (Bailly's ten-year old son Robert), a log shelter was constructed for family prayer and a thirty foot

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cross was erected which pointed the way from the Calumet Beach Trail (Chicago-Detroit Road, now U. S. 12) to the homestead. Bailly purchased the cemetery in 1834 and Rose Victoire Bailly Howe erected a wooden fence in 1866 and requested that burials be limited to the Bailly family. This fence was replaced in the 1880s by a six-foot limestone wall topped with iron spikes and an iron gate and wooden cabinets were attached to the walls with figures depicting the stations of the cross. Francis Rose Howe hired Theodore Stephens in 1914 to construct the present Roman-style plan which required filling in the walled area and enclosing the limestone wall with the second rusticated wall. She also landscaped the area with grass, "grave plants," and flowers.

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With the decline of the fur trade, the removal of the Indians, and the coming of settlers, Bailly's commercial interests expanded during the 1830s. Bailly, whose wife was part Ottawa Indian and part French, and his children were the recipients of lands and monies as a result of his participation in various treaties. He most likely used these allotments in his investments and in the construction of the main house. He eventually purchased over 2,000 acres and plotted the Town of Bailly and made plans for a harbor on Lake Michigan. Both projects never materialized. He also owned shares in the steamship, The Michigan, and set up a tavern and blacksmith shop near Bailly Town. After Bailly's death, the only other commercial activity conducted on the homestead was a lumbering venture in the 1840s which removed timber to be used for railroading.

While Bailly was alive, his home was a cultural, education, and religious center. He instructed his children (who were also schooled elsewhere), the Indians, and one of his clerks in such matters as reading, history, geography, and religion. He also served the Indians by translating the scripture and acting as a legal advisor in court. His home was for a long time the only stopping place other than White Pigeon between Detroit and Chicago. Here many a grateful traveler stopped, including priests, who held the only Catholic services in the area at this official missionary center.

At the time of Bailly's death in 1835, there were eight or ten log structures and work on the main house had begun. Portions of the main house, the three log structures, and the cemetery are all that remain from Bailly's time although all of the structures pre-date 1917 when the homestead passed from the Bailly family and are therefore commemorative in nature. The Bailly Homestead complex brings together a unique combination of vernacular architecture with the brick and log structures, the large imposing main house with its interesting architectural features, and the unusual cemetery.

The property has passed through several owners since 1917 and has been used for both residential and commercial purposes until it was purchased by the National Park Service in 1971. Declared a National Historic Landmark in 1962, the five structures and the cemetery are currently being restored to their 1917 condition and will be used as an interpretative center.

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- Denver Service Center, Historic Preservation Division, National Park Service, United States Department of the Interior, Denver, Colorado. November 1975.*
- Clemensen, A. Berle. "Historic Structures Report, Bailly Cemetery, Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore." Denver Service Center, Historic Preservation Division, National Park Service, United States Department of the Interior, Denver, Colorado. March 1976.*
- Howe, Frances R. The Story of a French Homestead in the Old Northwest. Columbus, Ohio: Nitschke Brothers, 1907.
- Kennedy, Sister Mary Joseph. "The Pioneer Fur Traders of Northwestern Indiana." M.A. thesis, De Paul University, 1932.
- Pfanz, Harry and Jones, Russell. "Bailly Homestead Historic Structures Report." Denver Service Center, Historic Preservation Division, National Park Service, United States Department of the Interior, Denver, Colorado. 1972.*
- Schiemann, Olga Mae. "From a Bailly Point of View." Chicago, 1952. Issued as a Duneland Historical Society Publication, August, 1955.*
- _____. "Bailly Cemetery." Chicago, 1952.*
- Shedd, Charles E. "The National Survey of Historic Sites and Buildings, The Bailly Homestead, Porter County, Indiana." Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. September 4, 1958.*
- Stephens, Theodore. "Bailly Cemetery-Roman Style," Duneland Historical Society 2 (April 1956).*
- Sullivan, James R. "Historic Site Survey, The Bailly Homestead, Porter County, Indiana." National Park Service, United States Department of the Interior, Philadelphia. April 1958.*

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E 16 492320 4608120

F 16 492380 4608540

G 16 492380 4608820

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149', and by turning east 955' it forms the northern boundary. (43.20 acres)

The cemetery is located three-quarters of a mile north of the homestead in a triangular land parcel bounded by U. S. 12 (north), Oak Hill Road (south), and Mineral Springs Road (east). The cemetery is 1584' west of the intersection of Mineral Springs Road and U. S. 12. The northern end of the cemetery is 250' south of U. S. 12 and the boundary follows the outer perimeter of the cemetery. (1.43 acres)

These two parcels of land are currently joined by a winding trail whose boundaries are 5' either side of a line drawn down the center of the trail. (.57 acres)

2007-2008

Recorded 5/8/58
L.C.

James R. Sullivan, Historian
Region Five
National Park Service

BRANCH OF HISTORY
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
FILE COPY
DO NOT REMOVE

REGISTERED NATIONAL
HISTORIC LANDMARKS

Part I

Critical Analysis of the Site

Historic Sites Survey
The Bailly Homestead
Porter County, Indiana

I Critical Analysis of the Site

The Bailly Homestead is located in Westchester Township, Porter County, about 25 miles east of the Indiana-Illinois state line. The Post Office is RFD, Chesterton, Indiana. It lies approximately two miles south of Lake Michigan on the edge of the dune country.

Today the Homestead consists of 14 structures, none of them dating to the first occupancy of the site by Joseph Bailly in 1822. The "Big House" (ca. 1834) -- built of hewn logs and weatherboarded -- superseded the cabin originally built on the flat. The servants' quarters and chapel are reassemblages of logs from earlier structures. Other buildings include a brick structure of late nineteenth century design, a wooden structure that was a laundry during the occupancy of the Sisters of Notre Dame (1919-1946), two small buildings that resemble tool sheds, a two car garage with a lean-to shed attached, three small frame, one story houses and two small farm structures that were adjacent to a barn that was destroyed by fire in 1957 -- all surrounded by approximately 43 acres of land.

The Bailly Homestead now is quiet and peaceful though a four lane highway passes less than one half mile away. During the

Bailly tenure there was, undoubtedly, considerable activity with Indians coming and going. They brought in furs to Joseph Bailly, who in turn carried them the short distance to Lake Michigan to be loaded on boats for the fur centers. However, the Homestead was more than a fur trading post; it might be called a center of French culture although very limited in scope. Joseph Bailly was the first white settler in northwestern Indiana. He was a good business man, believed in educating his family, maintained his home in the manner befitting a French gentleman in the colonies, instructed the Indians who lived near him, and used his home as a center of the Catholic faith for many years.

There is ample evidence to identify the site as belonging to Joseph Bailly. On September 6, 1831 the United States conveyed by patent to Joseph Bailly land described as the SE 1/4 of Section 1
27, Township 37 North, Range 6 West. On October 21, 1833

1
Letter, Evelyn M. Tauber, Chief, Status Unit, Bureau of Land Management to George A. Palmer, Acting Regional Director, Region Five Office, February 21, 1958, L58 Great Lakes File. Entry or Purchase Certificate dated December 1, 1830, Certificate 13300 and patent states that the area contained 159.80 acres. This data taken from Abstract compiled by the First Abstract and Title Corporation, Valparaiso, Indiana. This company has compiled a complete chain of title for Mr. Joseph S. La Roche, the present owner of the property. Olga M. Schiemann, From A Bailly Point of View - The Howes, Chicago, 1952, 18 citing Chesterton Tribune, May 9, 1918 states the property remained with the descendents of Joseph Bailly until 1917-1918. Frances Howe, the granddaughter, died in 1917 and the court ordered a sale of the Indiana property. The Abstract states that a warranty deed, dated September 23, 1919, records the sale of the property from Louis G. and Cecelia Horn to the Sisters of Notre Dame of Milwaukee, Wisconsin. In turn, the Sisters of Notre Dame sold the property to Mr. and Mrs. Joseph S. La Roche on August 16, 1946.

additional property was sold to Joseph Bailly by the Federal government. Included in this transfer is the property now owned by Mr. Joseph La Roche comprising the so-called "Bailly site" in Section 34, Township 37 North, Range 6 West, that contained 6.12 acres lying north of the Indiana Boundary Line and north of the Calumet River.² It was on these grants that Bailly established his home. Today, approximately 43 acres remain of the original grants. The property is now described as follows:

The Southwest Quarter (SW 1/4) of the Southeast Quarter (SE 1/4) of Section Twenty-seven (27), Township Thirty-seven (37) North, Range Six (6) West, except a strip Four (4) rods in width off the North end thereof, ALSO EXCEPTING therefrom the following: All that part of the Southwest Quarter (SW 1/4) of the Southeast Quarter (SE 1/4) of said Section Twenty-seven (27) which lies West of the Public Highway running through the Southwest corner of said quarter section and North of the Little Calumet River.

ALSO the North fraction of the Northeast Quarter (NE 1/4) of Section Thirty-four (34), Township Thirty-seven (37) North, Range Six (6) West lying North of the Calumet River excepting therefrom the following described parcel of land: Beginning at a point in the North line of said Section Thirty-four

(34), Township and Range aforesaid Four Hundred Eighty-five (485) feet East of the Northwest corner of the Northeast Quarter (NE 1/4) of the Northeast Quarter (NE 1/4) of said Section Thirty-four (34), thence East along said section line Six Hundred Ten (610) feet; thence South to the Little Calumet River; thence Westerly meandering said River to the point of beginning, containing in said exception 1.54 acres, more or less.

Subject to all legal highways.³

Part II

Historical Narrative with Critical Bibliography

II Historical Narrative with Critical Bibliography

The Treaty of Paris, 1783, ended the Revolution but stirred up a hornet's nest in the fur trade that had done so much to open up the Great Lakes region. By the terms of the treaty, Great Britain was to yield the territory east of the Mississippi River including the land now in the United States surrounding the Great Lakes. But there was too much British capital at "fur" in this region for the paper mandate to be so easily fulfilled. Not till 1796 did the British give up Detroit and Michilimackinac with their exclusive rights to the lucrative fur trade that passed through these posts. Even then there were residual conflicts and ambivalent border loyalties until the War of 1812 settled it all. Joseph Bailly was one of those caught in the muddle of national loyalties, and was one of the four traders captured in 1813 as being pro-British. It is not clear what disposition was made of these men, but Bailly was eventually freed.

Jay's Treaty of 1794 was good news to American fur traders and particularly John Jacob Astor. The American Fur Company was incorporated in 1808 by Astor to compete with the North West and Michilimackinac Companies. The Astor interest expanded either by forcing rivals out of business or absorbing them. Yet, as Professor Buley states, with "... all of its advantages of capital, organization, political influence, and competitive technique,

Astor's company never did become a monopoly. The fur trade by nature was difficult to monopolize; competition, stamped out in one spot, broke out in another, and a very considerable volume of traffic was handled by independents.¹

One of the most successful independent traders was Joseph Bailly. Bailly was born at Ste. Anne de Varennes in Canada in 1774 and was christened Honore Gratien Joseph Bailly de Messein.² At the age of 18 he began his career in the fur trade at Mackinac and soon his trading area covered all of southern Lake Michigan.³

Joseph Bailly's trading activities during his more prosperous periods are illustrated by his activities on the Grand

¹ R. Carlyle Buley, The Old Northwest Pioneer Period 1815-1840, Bloomington, 1951, I, 410.

² Olga M. Schiemann, From A Bailly Point of View, Chicago, 1952, 3.

³ Cannon, Thomas H., Loring, H.H. and Robb, Charles J., History of the Lake and Calumet Region of Indiana, Embracing the Counties of Lake, Porter and La Porte, Indianapolis, 1927, 63, states Bailly's business extended from Mackinac in the north to the Grand, St. Joseph, Kankakee, Iroquois and Wabash Rivers in the south. Olga M. Schiemann, "Bailly Town - Our Historic French Heritage" in Duneland Historical Society I, No. 5, Sept. 1957, 2 places trading areas at Grand River, St. Joseph Kickabimazoo /Kalamazoo/ and Markegan. In her work From A Bailly Point of View - Activity Locations, 1, Miss Schiemann lists two additional posts - Michilimackinac and Drummond Island. Dr. Bert Anson in his thesis The Fur Traders in Northern Indiana, 1796-1850, typed MS Library of Indiana University, Bloomington, 1953, 24, places Bailly's trading activities on the Grand River; at Bertrand on the St. Joseph River, with additional outfits in villages on the Kankakee. Letters in the Bailly Papers, Indiana State Library were written from Detroit and St. Joseph. Bailly opened his account books at Mackinac in 1796 and it is possible to trace many of his trading adventures from these records.

and St. Joseph Rivers (east shore of Lake Michigan). In 1800 Bailly traded on the Grand River and for some years before and after he was at Bertrand on the St. Joseph River. His outfits in the villages on the Kankakee River (Indiana) in 1800 were led by Tousaia⁴nt Porthier and Dominique Rousseau. Bailly supplied Porthier with 73,808 livres of goods in 1800 at Porthier's "own risk" which meant that Bailly retailed the goods from Mackinac to Porthier. Porthier sent one hundred fifteen packs of furs to Montreal in the spring of 1801. Bailly and Rousseau, as partners,⁵ took fifty-three packs of furs to Montreal the same spring. To further illustrate his widespread activity, we find that Bailly⁶ had five outfits on the Grand River in 1802.

The most difficult fact to determine is the amount of business conducted by Bailly. Bowers states that Bailly's ledger shows pelts debted in the amount of 99,723 pounds or "nearly half a million dollars" in June, July and August 1803.⁷
⁸ Cannon and Sister Kennedy⁹ repeat this information in their

⁴ Anson, op. cit., 24-25.

⁵ Ibid., 37.

⁶ Ibid., 35.

⁷ John O. Bowers, The Old Bailly Homestead, Gary, Ind., 1923, 3.

⁸ Cannon, op. cit., 63. In addition a reproduction of one ledger sheet (p. 64) shows 103,824 pounds for 1804.

⁹ Sister Mary Joseph Kennedy, The Pioneer Fur Traders of Northwestern Indiana, Chicago, 1932, 94.

volumes. On the other hand, Innis presents the value of furs exported from Quebec in 1801 as 371,139 pounds. Taken at face value, these figures might imply that Bailly was one of the biggest fur traders in the region.

These figures, however, require close scrutiny and examination. The astronomical figure of nearly half a million dollars vs Quebec fur exports of nearly two million dollars obviously points out an error or misinterpretation of source material. This writer feels that Dr. Bert Anson has adequately provided a solution to the problem. The French and English systems were usually used in the fur trade, but the symbol for the French livre and English pound was the same and the English pound had three values: sterling,¹⁰ Halifax and New York. Quebec currency was in livres and sous.

10

Anson, op. cit., 28, citing Milo M. Quaife (ed.) Burton Historical Collection Leaflet (Detroit, 1923-1935), VII (1928-1929), 59-60 states the livre was officially replaced in 1795 by the franc, worth 19.1 cents or 9 2/5 pence.

Anson, op. cit., 28-29. He states that "... some trader's books were kept in livres and sous, others in the pounds, shillings and pence of English currency, and may include American dollars and cents. The general custom until 1850 was to keep accounts in both English and American currency. The English currency had these values: sterling, which was hardly ever used except as a basic value; Halifax, less valuable; and New York, still less valuable. One method of computation was to calculate 100 pounds sterling at 175 pounds Halifax currency, or a 250 pounds New York currency. Quebec currency was in livres and sous. Eight shillings equalled one pound, or \$2.50 in American currency. Burnett and Bailly were given to marking their accounts in either livres or pounds in the same invoices, and the results are totals which may be unreliable. Since Bailly wrote in French his " 'livre' " could have meant " 'pound' " in three currencies, or " 'livre' " in Quebec currency; the difference was that between \$2.50 and .20." Also Letter, Bert Anson to Daniel J. Tobin, Region Five Office, February 17, 1958, L58 Great Lakes File.

Bailly's accounts could have meant any of these, but was probably the livre worth 19.1 cents or 9 2/5 pence. The writer feels that livre is probably correct as the accounts are written in French. If 19.1 cents equals one livre, the amount of business done by Bailly in June, July and August 1803 is \$19,047 and not nearly half a million dollars as cited by Bowers, Cannon and Kennedy in their works. Bailly's 1804 ledger sheet of 103,824 pounds would amount to \$19,830 rather than a sum of over \$400,000.¹¹

From this material, it is safe to conclude that Bailly, as an independent trader, conducted a lucrative business in furs, but this did not reach the proportions cited in many of the secondary sources.

Bailly's most active trading years were from the turn of the century to the War of 1812. After the war his trading

11

Before recent devaluation of the pound sterling it was valued at \$4.80 in United States currency. The Philadelphia Directory for 1797, Appendix, 57, lists the rate of exchange at one pound sterling equals \$4.44. Gordon C. Davidson, "The North West Company", Berkeley, 1918, Vol. VII of University of California Publications in History, H. Morse Stephens and Herbert E. Bolton, (eds.), 17, estimates the value of the livre at seven-eighths of an English shilling. Sales in London of furs from Canada in 1784 amounted to five million livres or 218,250 pounds. At the rate of 20 shillings to one pound (\$4.44) we find a shilling equals 22.2 cents. Converting this to livres at the rate of seven-eighths of one livre equals one shilling, the value of the livre is 19.4 cents. Davidson (p. 20) cites figures for 1784 where a business transaction amounted to 20,000 currency or \$80,000. The pound here is worth \$4.00 and the shilling and livre would be smaller.

activities were limited. He had gone into debt at the wrong time¹² and did not trade heavily from the Homestead. The fur trade in the area was on the decline. After 1826 it "... was a minor part¹³ of the total trade in the United States..."

When Joseph Bailly -- the first white settler in northern Indiana -- came to what is now known as The Bailly Homestead in 1822, he was not a stranger. He was well acquainted with the territory and the Indians. He obtained permission from the United States and the Indians to live in Indian territory, and settled on high ground close to the waterway of the Little Calumet River, and fronting on the Indian trail that was to become the Chicago-¹⁴ Detroit Road. Lots were advertised for sale in the Chicago¹⁵ Democrat in 1833. He prepared a plat entitled "Town of Bailly, Joseph Bailly, Proprietor" and laid out the town in squares,

12

Anson, op. cit., 79, refers to Bailly Homestead as Trail Creek. There is a creek by that name adjacent to Michigan City, Indiana. However, Bailly's interests and activities as described by Anson relate to the Homestead site.

13

Ibid., 98. Accounts of the American Fur Company Profit and Loss, 1827. Upper Mississippi \$80,174.71, Lake Superior \$29,805.09, Chicago \$17,392.51, Grand River \$7,693.78, Mackinac Store \$5,681.58, Iroquois outfit \$471.35 and Joseph Bailly \$341.84. Ibid., 81-82. Bailly was only one of 35 men (or partners), no less, who were licensed to trade with the Indians in 1821-22 with a capital of \$400. Of the recorded capital investments all but one was higher than Bailly.

14

Olga M. Schiemann, "Roads Across Old Bailly Town" in Duneland Historical Society, II, No. 1, Sept. 1951, 18, map.

15

Ibid., 11.

naming the streets after members of his family, lakes, Andrew
16
Jackson and Napoleon. Bailly Town was more of a "Paper City"
than a reality. Only a few lots were sold before Bailly's
health failed and he was forced to turn the business over to
others shortly before his death in 1835. It must be noted that
Bailly Homestead and Bailly Town are not the same place. The
latter was established after the Homestead and was located
approximately one mile west of the Homestead.

Bailly's operations among the Indians and whites from
the Homestead are more significant than his trade efforts. He
was located on the Chicago-Detroit (Great Sauk) Trail and at
the northern boundary of the last great winter hunting area of
the Indians. With Alexis Coquillard he served as sponsor and
17
religious guide to the Indians. However, Bailly's instruction
to the Indians was not limited to religion. The Indians were
curious to hear all about the white man's country so lectures in
18
history and geography also were provided.

The Indians maintained the greatest confidence in Bailly
even leaving their worldly possessions with him when they departed

16
Cannon, op. cit., 75.

17
Letter, Anson to Tobin, op. cit.

18
Frances Howe, The Story of A French Homestead in the Old North-
west, Columbus, 1907, 70.

to go on the hunt. This confidence was returned by the host as he built a special structure (storehouse) to house their belongings¹⁹ during their absence.

Bailly hospitality was well known to travelers and it became a center of the Catholic church in this remote territory. Indiana had a population of 340,000 people by 1830 and of these probably not more than 20,000 were of the Catholic faith. It is likely that less than 20 percent received regular attention from²⁰ a priest.

In the early French Canadian period a number of the members of the Bailly family had been dignitaries in the Catholic church. The French government, the church and individuals had labored diligently to provide for the religious needs of the inhabitants. The government "... required that a missionary be stationed at each French trading post, to convert the savage and attend the spiritual needs of traders and military men.... With this association with the clergy, it was natural that Joseph Bailly, well educated and inherently a fine teacher, should establish the Church in the wilderness, and that the clergy should recognize his household as a part of the Church, and in memory

19

Howe, op. cit., 63.

20

Thomas T. McAvoy, The Catholic Church in Indiana 1789-1834, New York, 1940, 169.

of the services of this good family, have Mass said annually at the Homestead during the lifetime of Marie Bailly [Joseph's²¹ wife]²¹...."

Before the chapel was built, religious services were held in the residences by the travelling priests. At the Homestead the parlor was used as the sacristy where confessions were held,²² and the dining room was used to celebrate mass. For a time this was the only Catholic mission between Detroit and Chicago.

Not only was the Homestead a religious center in the wilderness but it was a cultural center as well. Amazing it was to find a home of such proportions miles from a village or city. More fantastic was to find the four Bailly girls so well educated. They spoke the Indian, French and English languages fluently and the eldest daughter translated the Latin mass of the early²³ travelling priests for the benefit of the Indians. A piano was available for the daughters who were trained in music, voice and instrument.

²¹ Schiemann, From A Bailly Point of View, 25.

²² Howe, op. cit., 46.

²³ Schiemann, Bailly Town - "Our Historic French Heritage" in Duneland Historical Society, 2. Miss Schiemann in her From A Bailly Point of View, 21, adds Latin to the list of languages.

The home was well furnished with some fine mahogany furniture as well as crude and also beautiful Indian made articles. Other furnishings of Bailly's day included books, sterling silver, china dishes and other musical instruments in addition to the piano.²⁴ Little wonder it was an oasis in the vast forest.

Bailly passed away in December, 1835 and was buried²⁵ in the Bailly Cemetery along present U.S. Highway 12. The fur trade from the Homestead was at an end. After Bailly's death his widow lived at the Homestead off and on until her death in²⁶ 1866.

Frances Howe, Joseph Bailly's granddaughter, was the last of the family to occupy the Homestead. Upon her death in²⁷ 1917 the property and furnishings were sold.

²⁴ Schiemann, From A Bailly Point of View, 21.

²⁵ Howe, op. cit., 115.

²⁶ Ibid., 154.

²⁷ Schiemann, From A Bailly Point of View - The Howes, 18 and chart following.

The Cemetery

Robert, the only son of Joseph and Marie Bailly, died in 1827 at the age of ten years and was buried on a sandy knoll along the present day U.S. Highway 12. A huge wooden cross was raised as a landmark and a cross has been here for over 125 years.

28

According to Miss Schiemann, wayside shrines are found in Canada to this day. The spot marked by the cross on the highway at Bailly Town was at the entrance to the Homestead from the Indian trail. It became a landmark pointing the way to a Christian home in the wilderness.

Many of the Bailly family are interred in the cemetery.

Bibliography

Primary

The chief depository of manuscripts relevant to the Bailly Homestead is the Indiana State Library, Indianapolis, Indiana, where volumes of ledgers, day books and invoices were used. This material is written in French and dates from 1796 to 1835. It is difficult to translate and the historian could merely check and confirm specific items. The library has copies of several letters by Joseph Bailly to business associates which have been translated into English.

The papers of Francis Howe and his daughter Frances are also in the Indiana State Library. This material contains data regarding the settlement of the estate of Joseph Bailly; letters from Rose and Francis Howe while students at St. Mary of the Woods, 1855-1868, giving accounts of social life; and a letter regarding the disposition of the Bailly land to the Catholic church.

Evidently, not all of the Bailly Papers are located in the Indiana State Library as local inquiry indicates that some are still in the possession of various individuals.

The group interested in preserving Bailly Homestead did not have a chain of title to indicate ownership by Bailly. A visit to the Assessor's Office and the Recorder's Office at

Valparaiso, Porter County, Indiana disclosed it would be a Herculean task to obtain a clear chain of title in the usual manner. The historian was fortunate in locating the Title Abstract of the present La Roche property at the First Abstract and Title Corporation which he was graciously allowed to examine. The entire abstract (legal size paper) was 46 pages in length and filled with a maze of court proceedings.

The Transfer Book (Westchester and Dune Acres) contains the tax assessor's description and value of the lands under investigation. The Assessor's Plat Book, Westchester Township, contains a map of the property which needs a few minor changes in stream alignment to bring it up to date.

The Eastern States Land Office, Bureau of Land Management has in its possession data relative to the original patents to Joseph Bailly from the United States.

It is the writer's understanding that early photographs of the Bailly Homestead and grounds are in the possession of Miss Leva Ritter, 849 South Marietta Street, South Bend (8), Indiana. Miss Ritter has been extremely reluctant to have these reproduced contending that she intends to use them in a future publication. She has indicated her willingness to loan these photographs should the Bailly Homestead be acquired by an appropriate preservation group who wishes to restore or reconstruct the buildings.

Secondary

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Schiemann, Olga Mae, "Roads Across Old Bailly Town", Duneland Historical Society, Vol. II, No. 1, Sept. 1951.

Stevens, Wayne E., "Fur Trade of Great Lakes Region" in Dictionary of American History, (2nd Ed. Rev., Vol. II, New York, 1951). Good, brief account.

IV Photographs

A word of explanation appears to be in order in presenting the photographs of the Homestead. Photography is a delicate subject with Mr. La Roche and he has posted his property with "No Photographs Allowed", or words to that effect, as well as "No Trespassing" signs. Access to the property was limited to two short visits (this will be discussed in greater detail in Section V, Park Data). No photographs were attempted during the first visit. The second visit was secured through a telephone call to Mr. La Roche by the writer requesting permission to take selected views of the property. Mr. La Roche indicated that he did not wish his property to be photographed. After much persuasion, the historian secured permission to take a few photographs provided no publicity was intended. Respecting Mr. La Roche's wishes, I confined my photographs to general building views. These are marked with an asterisk. The remainder of the views were taken from the periphery of the area -- unless otherwise marked -- before Mr. La Roche had granted permission to enter the grounds.

The appearance of the chapel, servants' quarters and storehouse in the post card views is indicative of the state of preservation these structures possess today.

The photographs in possession of Miss Leva Ritter have been discussed previously in Section II, Historical Narrative.

V Park Data

The Bailly Homestead is now owned by Mr. and Mrs. Joseph S. La Roche, who acquired the property from the Sisters of Notre Dame of Milwaukee County, Wisconsin in 1946.

The Homestead, together with the log structures and more recent frame buildings, stands near the southwest corner of the La Roche property on the high ground above the Calumet River. The La Roche property of 33.73 acres in Section 27, Township 37, Range 6, (SW SE (E of Road) Ex N4RD Ex 1.27A) has a land value of \$1,340 and the value of improvements amounts to \$4,630 for a total value of \$5,970. The additional La Roche property, Section 34, Township 37, Range 6 (Cent. Pt. NE (N of River)) amounts to 9.4 acres with a land value of \$200.

In order to insure ownership of an area adequate for interpretation and protection, it is recommended that the cross-hatched section on the area plat plan be acquired. This would prevent the "hot dog" stand from intruding upon the historic scene. The four plots across Peterson Road are in the hands of three owners - Illinois Steel Company Welfare Association, Inc., parcels 53 and 20; Hilda and Adin Sward, parcel 22; and Arthur and Mildred Wahl, parcel 13. Parcel 53 has an assessed land value of \$150 and improvements amounting to \$20,810; parcel 20 has a land value of \$50 with no improvements; parcel 22 has a land value of \$980 with no improvements; and parcel 13 has a land value of \$950 with

improvements amounting to \$1300. It is possible to give approximate acreage and land value of the crosshatched section using the above figures. That area of parcels 22 and 13 that compose the property needed for proper development and protection amounts to approximately 3 acres with an assessed value of \$110.

Mr. Harvey K. Mead, Assessor of Porter County, states that these values were placed on the properties in 1949 for tax purposes which at that time reflected about one third of the actual market value. However, rumors have been circulating during the last two or three years that a lake port and a large steel mill would be erected in the vicinity and land prices have soared. Recent property sales in the surrounding area indicate that the price of land ranges upward from \$1,500 per acre. Mr. La Roche stated that his most recent offer (January 1958) for the property was \$100,000. The party who wished to purchase the land was not interested in the structures, only the property.

The Bailly Cemetery is located on U.S. Highway 12. Present ownership is by the Michigan City Historical Society.

A brief discussion concerning access to the La Roche property appears necessary in relation to the inspection of the property and structures. During a meeting with several local people, a general discussion was undertaken as to how the writer would gain access to the property. The local people are generally forbidden to trespass. Entrance is usually gained through a

Father Some of Vincennes, Indiana. However, Father Some could not be present at the meeting and could not be reached by telephone. Colonel Edward Wentworth contacted Mr. La Roche to secure permission for the writer to call upon him as a representative of the National Park Service. This was accomplished and an hour was spent with Mr. La Roche in general discussion of the area; why he did not want people to visit area; offers to purchase the property and his general attitude. Mr. La Roche's attitude may be summed up as follows:

1. He does not want people visiting the area due to recent illness in the family.
2. When groups have been permitted to visit the area, there has been some vandalism.
3. No photographs are permitted to avoid publicity.
4. He has told Father Some (this came to the writer second hand) that if he sold, he would prefer a public agency as a buyer.

Not wishing to "wear out my welcome" or antagonize Mr. La Roche in any way, the writer confined his inspection to the grounds and building exteriors.

The second visit to the area to acquire photographs has been discussed in Section IV, Photographs.

The Homestead (main building) appears to be in good condition. The exterior is freshly painted and in a good state of

repair. The residence is built of hewn logs and weatherboarded. Unfinished at the time of Bailly's death, it was completed by a daughter, Rose Bailly Howe. The interior was not inspected. However, Mr. Earl H. Reed made a brief inspection of the interior on December 9, 1955 and reports the following: "The interior of the residence which has three low stories above a basement, roughly measures 24' x 30' and has a fine wood finished Dining Room at the left of a center entrance. Surviving old windows have 18 panes and foundations are rubble stone and brick. There are ornate corner stairs, parquet floors at the main level and an elaborate corner mantel in the Dining Room in which is incorporated a fine French portrait engraving of the Bailly's staunch friend, St. Palais, Bishop of Vincennes in the 1850's.... A fine small cabinet and a panelled dumb-waiter remain in this diagonally panelled room but the walls and large fireplaces of the principal room at the right of the entrance have been covered over, or defaced, and its architectural treatment is unknown. There are plainly finished bedrooms on the 2nd and 3rd floors and the basement kitchen, opening on the river, has been modernized."

Nearby are three log structures, the storehouse, chapel and servants' quarters. The latter two are reassemblages of logs from earlier buildings. The chapel and servants' quarters are in good repair, although the servants' quarters has been altered to receive tenants. Both structures underwent major repairs in 1957

and are structurally sound according to Mr. La Roche. The storehouse has rotted logs on the bottom and needs a complete chinking job. Rose Howe built a two story brick structure -- late nineteenth century design -- for a daughter and this was in fair condition at the time of inspection. Between this structure and the Homestead is a small, high weatherboarded building with pilasters said to have been the "little house" with logs under and storage above. The other frame buildings are in various stages of repair.

The cemetery is in need of general landscape treatment and repairs are needed to the cement block wall that surrounds the original stone wall.

Some care has been given to the buildings and grounds. In general, maintenance would be classified as fair. The grounds have suffered considerably under recent owners. The magnificent forest, once surrounding the Homestead, has been largely cut away. New growth should restore much of the original setting in years to come.

The Homestead is equipped with electricity, water and telephone service. The water supply will, undoubtedly, need expanding if the area is developed for public use. Water derived for use in the homes in this area is from wells.

Assuming the site is acquired by a public agency or administered by a local historical group, repair and preservation could and should be undertaken at the earliest moment. Keeping

in mind the physical descriptions cited above and remembering, too, that the writer did not inspect the interior of the four prime structures, there is no apparent reason why preservation should be side-stepped. The probable cost of necessary repairs to prevent further deterioration to the four structures is \$25,300. This estimate does not include funds for architectural or historical research. Therefore, only these limited funds should be expended until the necessary research is completed. According to Mr. Reed, to complete the program of restoration the sum would approach \$100,000. The cost of repairs to the cemetery wall to prevent further deterioration amounts to \$630.

Maintenance costs, based upon present knowledge of the buildings and grounds, will be approximately \$16,400 per year.

If we assume that a 25 cent admission fee is charged, we can expect a total income of \$6,375.00 per year. This figure is based upon an annual visitation of 30,000 persons -- 85% adults and 15% children (free).

The Bailly Homestead is about half way between Gary and Michigan City, Indiana. It is easily reached from Chicago some 40 miles distant by U.S. Highways 12 or 20. The area is situated on Peterson (Howe) Road just .4 of a mile north of U.S. Highway 20 (See U.S.G.S. map), a four lane artery serving the Chicago Metropolitan area. In addition to Chicago, we find Gary, Indiana (133,911); Hammond (87,594); East Chicago (54,263); Michigan City

(28,395); and Whiting (9,669), all within a reasonable driving distance. The towns nearest the Homestead are Porter (1,458) and Chesterton (3,175), one and two miles distant, respectively.

The nearest National Park Service areas are Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial and the Mound City Group in Ohio and Effigy Mounds in Iowa. However, there are two National Historic Sites not owned by the Federal Government that are within the confines of the Great Lakes and have an extensive history with the fur trade. These are Chicago Portage, Illinois and Grand Portage, Minnesota.

The sponsors of the project are local interested citizens. The writer attended a meeting of these persons on January 16, 1958, at which time it was decided to incorporate a non-profit organization to raise funds to acquire the Homestead. Those present at the meeting were Colonel Edward Wentworth, Chesterton; Mr. Hubert Hawkins, Director, Indiana Historical Bureau; Dr. Powell Moore, Associate Professor of History, Indiana University; Mr. Luke J. Scheer, a public relations expert, Detroit; Mr. Lorenz G. Schumm, La Porte, Indiana; Mr. Norris Coombs, President, Duneland Historical Society; and Mr. Earl Reed. While a decision to incorporate was made, the writer has, at the time of this writing, not learned the official name of the organization, nor the members of its Board of Directors.

Persons contacted during the investigation of the field study include, in addition to the aforementioned group, the following persons:

Miss Olga Mae Schiemann - local historian.

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph La Roche - present owners.

Mrs. Hazel Hopper, Head, Indiana Department, Indiana State Library.

Mr. C.W. Nelson, Porter County Historian.

Miss Robbins, First Abstract & Title Corporation,
Valparaiso, Indiana.

Various people in the Assessor's Office, Porter County Court House, Valparaiso, Indiana.

VI Recommendations

The Bailly Homestead will require considerable development in terms of physical improvements, landscaping and visitor facilities. Two development plans are presented, suggesting the ideal and the minimum.

Proper and ideal development (Plan A) will call for a Public Use Building to house the administration offices and Visitor Center. This structure will have a minimum of 3,000 square feet and will cost approximately \$140,000. A new entrance road will be necessary to allow two-way traffic to pass safely and a parking area for 20 cars is a must. The combined cost amounts to \$14,000. A utility building, with two bays to house automotive and maintenance equipment, will cost \$6,000. Present water and sewage facilities are inadequate for public use. Additional disposal plants, lines, etc. will cost \$15,000. Landscaping of approximately three acres will cost \$5,000. Demolition of existing undesirable structures will cost \$500. A new residence for the superintendent will cost \$20,000.

The alternate plan (Plan B) is to utilize some of the existing features although they are not entirely desirable. The first step is to develop the present brick structure (ca. 1890), to the right rear of the Homestead, as a museum and administrative building at a cost of \$50,000. The present driveway (375 ft. - \$1,500) would be utilized and a small parking area (10 cars -

\$4,000) would be constructed in one of two locations -- opposite the Homestead or to the right of the building as you face it. The house used by the present owner would suffice as a temporary residence for the superintendent. Here, as in the first plan, adequate water and sewer systems are required and the same quantity of landscaping must be considered. Demolition of undesirable structures would cost approximately \$400.

In either plan, repairs to the cemetery will cost \$630 for repointing the wall, a cement wash for the top of the wall and demolition of the remaining balustrade. Landscaping will cost approximately \$1,000. Total cost \$1,630.

<u>Bailly Homestead</u>	<u>Plan "A"</u>	<u>Plan "B"</u>
Visitor Center	\$140,000	\$50,000
Entrance Road & Parking Area	14,000	5,500
Utility Building	6,000	6,000
Water and Sewage	15,000	15,000
Landscaping	5,000	5,000
Demolition	500	400
Residence (Superintendent)	<u>20,000</u>	<u>-</u>
Total	\$200,500	\$81,900
<u>Bailly Cemetery</u>		
Repairs and Demolition	630	630
Landscaping	<u>1,000</u>	<u>1,000</u>
Total	1,630	1,630
Grand Total	<u>\$202,130</u>	\$83,530

If the area is acquired by the Federal government for inclusion in the National Park System, permanent administrative,

maintenance and protective personnel are deemed desirable. The writer recommends that the permanent staff consist of a Superintendent GS-9 (\$5,440), Historian GS-7 (\$4,525), Museum Curator GS-7 (\$4,525) for the period of development and furnishing of buildings, Clerk GS-3 (\$3,175), Maintenance man (\$4,617), Laborer (\$4,056), Janitor (\$3,848), Tour Leader (Seasonal) one man-year GS-4 (\$3,415), and Laborer (Seasonal) 1/4 man-year (\$1,014).

Management and protection would amount to \$21,913 per year as follows:

Superintendent GS-9	\$5,440
Historian GS-7	4,525
Museum Curator GS-7	2,262 (.5 MY charged to M&R)
Clerk GS-3	2,222 (.3 MY charged to M&R)
Tour Leader GS-4	3,415
Janitor	1,924 (.5 MY charged to M&R)
Supplies, heat, light, etc.	<u>2,125</u>
Total	\$21,913

The annual funds necessary for maintenance and rehabilitation will run about \$16,400.

The Bailly Homestead falls under Theme VIII, The Advance of the Frontier to 1830 of the sixteen thematic groups used by the National Park Service and the Advisory Board in considering historic sites. Clearly the advance of the frontier and the opening of the interior of this vast nation are significant in the history of our country. It is true that independent traders such as Joseph Bailly played an important role in settling and developing

the wilderness. The question arises, should the Bailly Homestead become a National Shrine? The answer: Probably not.

There is no doubt concerning the importance of the fur trade in the discovery and development of the interior of this continent, and its tremendous impact upon the international policies of England and France in the New World. We have discussed the fur trade in terms of places, people, companies and finance and can place Bailly's operation in its proper perspective.

The fur trade was essentially a company business as illustrated by the American Fur Company, North West Company, South West Company, etc. Independent traders were an essential part of the fur trade and Bailly was one of the most successful of these independents. However, when Bailly moved to the Little Calumet River in 1822, the fur trade in Indiana was on the decline. Furthermore, he had suffered financial reverses and did not trade heavily from the Homestead. His most successful business years were prior to the War of 1812. There are already in existence two areas that commemorate the fur trade - Chicago Portage National Historic Site and Grand Portage National Historic Site. Both of these are in non-Federal ownership at present, but a bill has been recently introduced in the Congress to bring Grand Portage into the National Park System as a National Monument. Other areas such as Fort Laramie National Monument, Grand Teton National Park, Scotts Bluff National Monument and Jefferson National Expansion Memorial all commemorate the fur trade in their museum exhibits.

A negative approach to the question of national significance of Bailly as an individual is borne out by the absence of his name -- even in his peak period -- in the leading secondary sources concerning the fur trade. If his business enterprises and his work with the church and Indians were spectacular or outstanding, it is safe to assume that he would have become a better known figure.

Bailly's operations among the Indians and whites are more significant than his trade efforts and his home became a center of religion and French culture in the wilderness of northern Indiana, but Bailly did not emerge as a national figure in spreading the word of God among the Indians.

The first structure built on the Little Calumet River was a log cabin which was flooded shortly after its erection. The cabin was dismantled and rebuilt on the bluff. The Homestead -- probably begun in 1834 and completed after Bailly's death -- and the log storehouse are original. The two story servants' quarters and the chapel were erected with remnants of other log structures that no longer exist. The structures are of architectural interest as an example of fur post planning and may be classified as uncommon but not unique. Thus, the house is later even than the "late" period of the fur trade described.

The Bailly Homestead would more logically fall into regional or state history, particularly in light of Bailly's

role in the settlement of northern Indiana. It is possible that the area could function as a detached unit of Indiana Dunes State Park, or if this is not feasible, as a separate entity within the Indiana Park System. The cemetery is now owned by the Michigan City Historical Society. Ownership could remain with this group or perhaps they would be willing to donate the land as part of the Homestead holdings.

The writer recommends that the Joseph Bailly Homestead not be considered for national recognition. The area lends itself more suitably to state or local treatment.

Report prepared by
James R. Sullivan, Historian
Region Five, National Park Service
April 1958



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1 NAME

HISTORIC

Bailly, Joseph, Homestead and Cemetery

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN Porter

☒ VICINITY OF (5 mi. w.) COUNTY Porter

STATE Indiana

3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT Fay L. Hendry

DATE OF PHOTO 1976

NEGATIVE FILED AT State Historic Preservation Office, Dept. of Natural Resources,
Indianapolis, Indiana

4 IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET

PHOTO NO 1

View of Bailly Homestead structures, looking south. From left to right: Two-story structure, chapel, two-story brick, main house, storehouse (far right, covered by foliage).



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PHOTO NO

Main House, front view, west side.

2



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PHOTO NO

Main House, rear view, south side.

3



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PHOTO NO

Two-story brick house, front view, west side.

4



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PHOTO NO

Chapel, side view, south side.

5



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Storehouse, front view, east side.

PHOTO NO

7



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PHOTO NO

Cemetery, south end.