

WASHINGTON

United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

For HCRS use only

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

received

date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Bailey -- Michelet House

and/or common Michelet House

2. Location

street & number 1028 Sheridan Road *n/a* not for publication

city, town Wilmette *n/a* vicinity of congressional district 10th Congressional

state Illinois code 012 county Cook code 031

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial <input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government <input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial <input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<i>n/a</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military <input type="checkbox"/> other

4. Owner of Property

name Michele Michelet Boyer

street & number 1028 Sheridan Road

city, town Wilmette *n/a* vicinity of state Illinois

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Cook County Recorders Office

street & number 118 North Clark St.

city, town Chicago, Illinois state Illinois

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Illinois Historic Structures Survey has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1972 federal state county local

depository for survey records State Historic Preservation Office

city, town Springfield state Illinois

7. Description

Condition

excellent
 good
 fair

deteriorated
 ruins
 unexposed

Check one

unaltered
 altered

Check one

original site
 moved

date 1896

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

BAILEY-MICHELET HOUSE: EXTERIOR

The basic form of this twelve room, two story, wood frame house is an asymmetrical T sheltered by intersecting gable roofs. A kitchen ell is symmetrically placed to the rear of the cross-gable and is flanked by low one-story wings. Materials of construction include a brick foundation, a wood frame protected by horizontal wood clapboards and architectural details in the Italianate style. Although not an exact copy of a single design, the house is based upon pattern books of the period, such as A.J. Bicknell's Village Builder (1870) and subsequent editions. See A.J. Bicknell's Detail, Cottage, and Constructive Architecture, N.Y. 1873, Plate 65 of which the Michelet House is perhaps an enlargement.

A small, cubic vestibule is placed at the juncture of the primary wings;--(This is frequently the location of the tower element in Italianate designs.) Many pattern books show a small cubic entry of this kind.¹ The vestibule has double doors paneled with bolection moldings and set within a frame and surrounds enriched with rope moldings. The segmentally arched transom above is blocked.

Of architectural distinction are two elaborate bays; one on the main facade (west elevation) and the other on the side (south elevation). Both are clearly based upon Bicknell's Pattern books, See Plate 14, 1873 edition "Designs for Oriel, Bay and Dormer Windows." Facing the public thoroughfare, the two story bay on the main facade provides strong vertical emphasis and is articulated with engaged columns at five corners, scroll brackets, a coffered freize and dentil course below the cornice. Elongated double-hung sash are installed in segmentally arched window openings with casings enriched with rope moldings. The roof flares at the first story line with the second story bay slightly setback and detailed in a consistent manner set with a heavy base course, segmentally arched windows, engaged columns at the corners, coffered freize, dentils and cornice. The bay roof above gives the appearance of a tent-like canopy recalling the loggia effect and Romantic origins of the Italianate style--therefore demonstrating its appropriateness of an idyllic location near Lake Michigan in the 1870's. This tent-canopy form reappears in miniature on the kitchen ell as windowhoods.

The bay on the south elevation with a view into the fern garden, is detailed in a manner consistent with the front bay; engaged columns, scroll brackets, coffered panels, dentils, etc. Above, are a pair of segmentally arched windows set in surrounds enriched with rope molding surmounted by large segmentally arched windowhood. See A.J. Bicknell, 1873 edition, "Designs for Windows", Plate 9. All windows on public facades are comparably detailed, as is apparent on the north elevation with its fourlite, double-hung windows. The curved windowhood represents a stone lintel as interpreted in wood, the common building material of the Midwest.

The Bailey-Michelet house was probably erected by Luther L. Greenleaf, a builder and realtor in Chicago from 1862 to 1873, who was active in Evanston--especially in the vicinity of Greenleaf Street. Houses attributed to him resemble the Bailey-Michelet house.² (Greenleaf's business peaked in 1870; a year later the Chicago Fire destroyed his primary holdings.) Recovery was not enhanced by the Panic of 1873 which halted residential construction in Evanston and Wilmette. Clearly the ideal house pattern was adapted for the locality and to the taste of the owner. The steeper roof of the Bailey-Michelet House--not sufficiently pitched to ascribe the term "Gothic Revival--was considered superior to the flatter Italianate pitch for shedding the heavy snow load along the lake shore. The boxy entry is described as a vestibule and stood independently, or was incorporated in a porch.³

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BAILEY-MICHELET HOUSE: INTERIOR

The interior floor plan, details and spatial relationships remain essentially unaltered from the 1870's. In disposition, the Michelet House is similar to those illustrated by A.J. Bicknell, N.Y., in his 1870 and 1873 publications. The rooms are rectangular in proportion and are arranged around a central two-story hall and staircase. From the entrance, the hall extends through the house--to the left are the parlor and dining room connected by an opening--to the right is a library--to the rear is the kitchen.

The front parlor with its polygonal bay is handsomely trimmed with an elaborate plaster architrave and cornice. The ceiling is further demarcated by plaster molding with quarter segments at the corners, and embellished with an elaborate plaster medallion enriched with stylized volutes, acanthus and other floral-like detail. It is identical to the dining room medallion. The segmental doorway between the two rooms recalls the exterior treatment of exterior openings. Hinge patches are evidence of doors removed at some earlier time.

The dining room contains similar plaster architrave and cornice but is dominated by a centrally positioned fireplace mass. The hearth opening is half round with a white marble surround consisting of coffered pilasters set on a base which supports acanthus brackets, in turn, supporting a coffered lintel with rounded keystone embellished with a rosette.

Doors on the first floor are typically paneled with wide rails and stiles. Two upper elongated panels use the round head arch, lower panels are square. Bolection moulding is used to accentuate the relief.

The small library is enhanced with more elaborate architrave and cornice mouldings. Because of its small size the perimeter mouldings give the appearance of enlarged coffers. Although smaller, the ceiling medallion is equally elaborate in its floral patterns. The fireplace opposite the bay is unadorned gray marble with simple pilasters supporting a plain lintel and ledge above. Both this fireplace and the one in the dining room are fitted with the original half round fireboxes--which are still used for heating purposes.

The primary feature of the interior is the large curving staircase in the central stair hall. The newel is octagonal with a coffered base surmounted by coffered panels which taper to an elaborate turned Victorian knob. (See A.J. Bicknell, 1873, Plate 40). Executed in walnut, turned balustrades and bannister run continuously along curving staircase and three sides of the opening on the second floor to form a gallery providing access to the bedrooms.

The kitchen is plain; detailed only with a ceiling medallion. Adjacent are a small pantry fitted with shelves and ante-room perhaps used as a wood room, store room or farm office.

Four bedrooms on the second floor open to the gallery with one each above the parlor and library, with two smaller bedrooms over the dining room. The details are typical of many Victorian homes with plain woodwork, unadorned plaster walls and ceilings. Over the kitchen are the bathroom and a servant's room. Because plumbing and gas were commonly available in this area during the 1870's, these spaces probably functioned in their respective capacities. A steep, narrow service stair connects the floors.

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(INTERIOR: continued)

The flooring on the first level is oak stripping--probably added in the 1910's. Original wide, board floors on the second level are soft wood. The Interior is finely detailed and appointed--not merely a rustic farmhouse--but a residence with the pretensions of a villa.

A small two story Queen Anne carriage barn was erected to the rear of the house in the late 1890's. This simple but picturesque outbuilding has a steep roof, grouped windows with many small lites. Double front doors continue the stylistic detailing with panels, small lites, and decorative strap hinges. Although not a stylistic match with the house, the two structures form an ensemble typical of a Victorian suburban residence at the turn of the century.

FOOTNOTES

1. See Design No. 2 of George E. Woodward's, Woodward's Country Homes, 1865, pg. 29; See Plates 21 & 22, A.J. Bicknell's Detail, Cottage and Constructive Architecture for Italianate villa with vestibule and tower; See Design No. 11, Ogilvie's Victorian House Plans, George W. Ogilvie, Chicago, 1885.
2. Of interest is the house at 1244 Forest Avenue, Evanston, 1870, whose east elevation matches the materials, proportions and detailing of the south elevation of the Bailey-Michelet house. An 1866 Italianate house at 1332 Forest has comparable layout including the small cubic entry. See also the house at 1318 Asbury, the east bay matching the south bay of the Michelet house. The two properties are included in the Evanston Lakeshore Historic District; the third property is in the proposed Asbury-Ridge District.
3. See the Gothic Revival House with boxy entry pictured on page 327 of Chicago: Growth of a Metropolis by Harold M. Mayer and Richard C. Wade.

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 type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1871, 1896

Builder/Architect LUTHER L. GREENLEAF

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

1. ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

Clearly a fine example of the Italianate style modified by regional tastes and needs, the Bailey-Michelet House survives largely intact from the 1870's both on the exterior and interior. The floor plan, construction and details have experienced not even minor alterations, an uncommon occurrence in Chicago. Historically the house is associated with the Bailey family--early settlers in Evanston who prospered--as the town expanded over the site of their original farm. As noted, William R. Bailey, original owner of the house, was prominent in formation of civic affairs of Evanston. The high integrity of the house is due to its acquisition and maintenance by Charles Jules Michelet, an attorney of prominence in Chicago, and successive occupancy by his descendents: his son Charles Jules Michelet, Jr.; his granddaughter Michele Michelet Boyer (present owner), and his great-grandchildren. Historically the family was active in the civic affairs of Wilmette. Of note is Annie Gertrude Michelet's involvement with the Women's Club as a founding member. (The club undertook various community improvement and betterment projects from its inception in 1891.) This residence played a major role in establishing the North Shore as unexcelled residential location. Low and swampy in the late 19th century, the shoreline had piers used for commercial or industrial purposes, i.e. coal and cattle, etc., as was the case of the dock near the Bailey lot on Sheridan Road. The residences of the Michelet brothers, an attorney and a doctor, were the first in eastern Wilmette, and set the precedence for subsequent residential development. The area could have easily developed more intensive uses, were it not for the involvement of community leaders, like Michelet, who actively maintained that the appropriate use of the lake shore was for recreational purposes.

OTHER CITATIONS

- 1) The Domestic Architecture of Wilmette, 1981.
- 2) Wilmette Historical Society House Walk, May 5, 1974.
- 3) The Village of Wilmette, Prints of Historical Interest, 1953.
- 4) Mary W. Engel. Centennial Award, 1976. Wilmette Historical Commission.

2. HISTORY

Commonly known as the "Bailey Homestead" in the later 19th century, this Italianate residence was originally sited on Ridge Avenue, north of Central Street, opposite its intersection with Hill Street (now Maple Street). A small settlement had developed in this location since the 1840's, on the geographical land from Grosse Pointe--now the site of the Bai Hai Temple, just north of Evanston City Limits. (Records indicate a log school c. 1845, Stebbins Tavern, McDaniel's Cabin, a pier and four other houses by the mid-1850's.) Prior to annexation in 1872, a parcel was acquired by members of the Bailey family and a house was erected. (Ranges in size from 5.5 to 7.5 acres).

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HISTORY (continued)

The occupant and owner primarily associated with the house was Mrs. Nancy McAllister Bailey (1841 to 1896), who immigrated to the U.S. in 1861 at the age of 20 from Ireland. She was employed in the household of ex-Governor Evans (founder of Evanston and Northwestern University) until her marriage to William Roberts Bailey (1844 to 1890).

One of the five children of William Stanion and Sarah Bronson Roberts Bailey who immigrated to America in 1854 and settled in Evanston in 1859 Bailey had recently returned from serving in the 8th Illinois Cavalry during the Civil War. Thereafter he engaged in meat packing enterprises at the family property at 520 Davis (now 815), where his father had conducted business as a tailor, broom-maker and florist.

With the Evanston population increasing from 831 in 1860 to 6,000 in 1873, Bailey prospered--having recently moved his market to their brick building on Davis Street (near original family home 520 Davis--now 815). Circumstantial data indicates the Bailey-Michelet house was erected in 1871--either by the Bailey's themselves, or for them by Luther L. Greenleaf. As the town grew in the late seventies and eighties, W.R. Bailey and his wife Nancy, increased their wealth through the meat market and other real estate investments. By 1887 they had acquired Bailey's Opera House (formerly Jennings). W.R. Bailey was the first Fire Marshall of Evanston, a member of the Evans Lodge, Logan Post and Businessman's Association -- a man of local prominence as noted by his obituary.

Following the untimely death of her husband at the age of 46 in 1890, Mrs. Nancy Bailey inherited the estate valued at approximately \$150,000. Six years later, she died on August 22, 1896, while travelling to her place of birth in Ireland. She had recently occupied a large brick Queen Anne--Colonial Revival residence at "The Oaks" (Bailey Family property at 2907 Sheridan (formerly Ridge), which replaced the frame Italianate house. Prior to her passing in 1896, accounts indicate Mr. Charles Jules Michelet, a Wilmette attorney, purchased the house from Mrs. Bailey. Michelet moved the house to its present site at 1028 Sheridan Road to land adjoining his brother's residence--the first house on Sheridan Road in Wilmette. These two residences appear on the 1897 U.S. G.S. Topographical Map; Evanston Quadrangle. Historical files further indicated that Michelet had known the house in 1872 while attending the Evanston Academy. Subsequently, Mr. Michelet represented heirs of Mrs. Bailey in a widely publicized legal contest over her will which she supposedly executed while under the duress of a Mr. Charles Teufel. A Chicago jeweler, Teufel befriended Mrs. Bailey after the death of her husband and influenced her to construct the large dwelling at "The Oaks". He benefitted from the will by inheriting the mansion and grounds valued at \$150,000 to \$200,000 in 1896. After an extended legal debate and retrial, the estate was awarded to Mrs. Bailey's rightful heirs who reportedly released Michelet from the cost of the house as payment for his legal fees.

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HISTORY (continued)

Since 1896, the house has been occupied by succeeding generations of the Michelet family. Their biographies are briefly described below.

Charles Jules Michelet (1857 to 1928). Member of the Illinois Bar Association for 50 years, and Chicago Bar Association for 34 years. Attended Evanston Academy (1872-1876), Northwestern University (1876-1880). Former editor of the "Kankakee Times". Married Annie Gertrude Warder in 1887. Located in Wilmette in 1889. Specialized in chancery matters, counseling in real estate and will contest cases which established legal precedent. Member of the Illinois National Guard. Active in early civic affairs of Wilmette. Memorials; Chicago Bar Record.

Wife: Annie Gertrude Warder Michelet (1863 to 1938). Graduated Southern Illinois Normal University; Teacher, Founder of Wilmette's Women's Club. Sister of Walter Warder, Acting Governor of Illinois (July 1899 & August 1900), President Pro-Tem of Senate in 41 General Assembly, Speaker of the House. Praised for maintaining order during strikes in Williamson County during tenure of Governor Tanner. The Warder Family

Son: Mr. Charles J. Michelet, Jr. Lifetime resident of Wilmette. Graduated Northwestern University (1913), Member of Sigma Chi, Wisconsin Huguenot Society and Illinois Society-Sons of the American Revolution. Married Faye Irene Fullerton. Retired as Research Engineer in 1955. Member of Western Society of Engineers and Christ Episcopal Church, Naval Fleet Reserve. The Hereditary Register of the United States.

Daughter-in-law: Mrs. Charles Jules Michelet, Jr. (Faye Irene Fullerton). Born Tuscola, Illinois. Married Michelet, Jr. in 1937. B.A. University of Illinois and Northwestern University. Daughter of the American Revolution, Sons & Daughters of Pilgrims, Colonial Dame. Past Present of the William Dawes Society. The Hereditary Register of the United States.

Granddaughter: Michele Michele Boyer: Iowa Wesleyan College, 1954. National College of Education, 1981. Certified teacher. Numerous honors and memberships. Published in the Chicago Tribune. Active in Community Affairs. Outstanding Young Women of America.

Great Grandchildren of C.J. Michelet, Sr: Amy Irene Boyer, and Michael Charles Michelet Boyer.

NOTE: This listing contains partial biographical information on descendants who have occupied the house from 1896 to the present time.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Historical Files; Wilmette Historical Commission. and Evanston Historical Society
 Evanston's Yesterdays, Clyde Foster; Maps, City Directories and Photographs
 Newspapers: Evanston Index, Oct. 1; Nov. 19, Dec. 6, 1890; Index Aug. 22,
 Sept 12, 1896; Dec. 1, 1900; Press, Dec. 17, 1904; Post, Nov. 24, 1900;
 North Shore Record, July 7, 1900.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property .39 acres

Quadrangle name EVANSTON

Quadrangle scale 1:24 000

UMT References

A 16 442560 4658790
 Zone Easting Northing

B
 Zone Easting Northing

C

D

E

F

G

H

Verbal boundary description and justification Lot 2 in Michelet's Subdivision of Lot 1
 Lying within these boundaries; 90' frontage on Sheridan Road; North 146' to
 North Line of Ouilmette Reservation, then east 126", then southerly 232' to the
 southern most point of the Sheridan Road frontage.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
<u>N/A</u>			
state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Bruce E. Lynch
 organization Building Conservation date February 18, 1982
 street & number Box 89 telephone 312-491-0882
 city or town Evanston state Illinois

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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature [Signature] date 6/24/82
 title [Signature]

For HCERS use only
 I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register
 Keeper of the National Register _____ date _____
 Attest: _____ date _____
 Chief of Registration

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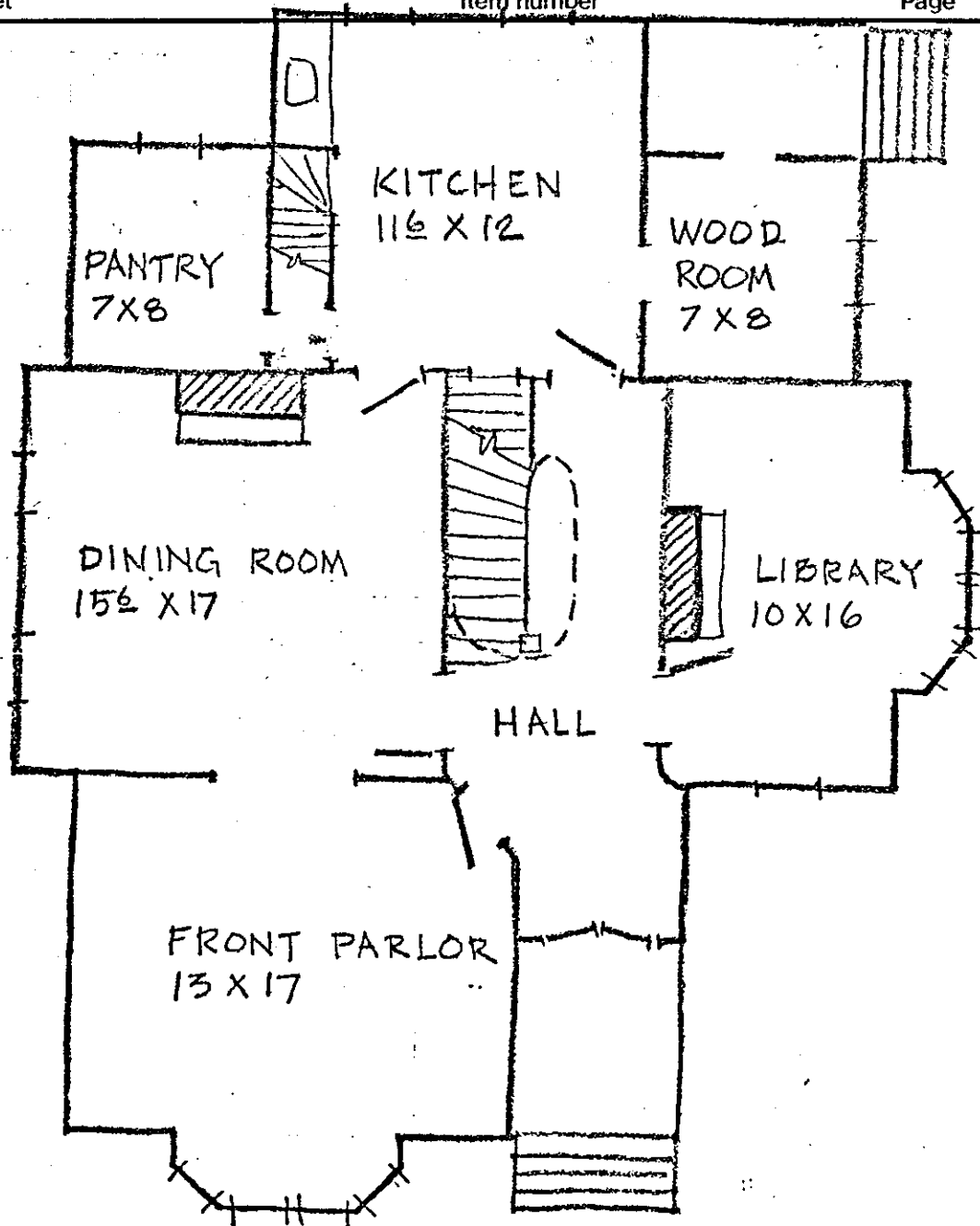
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1st. FLOOR PLAN

BAILEY-MICHELET HOUSE

WILMETTE, ILL.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

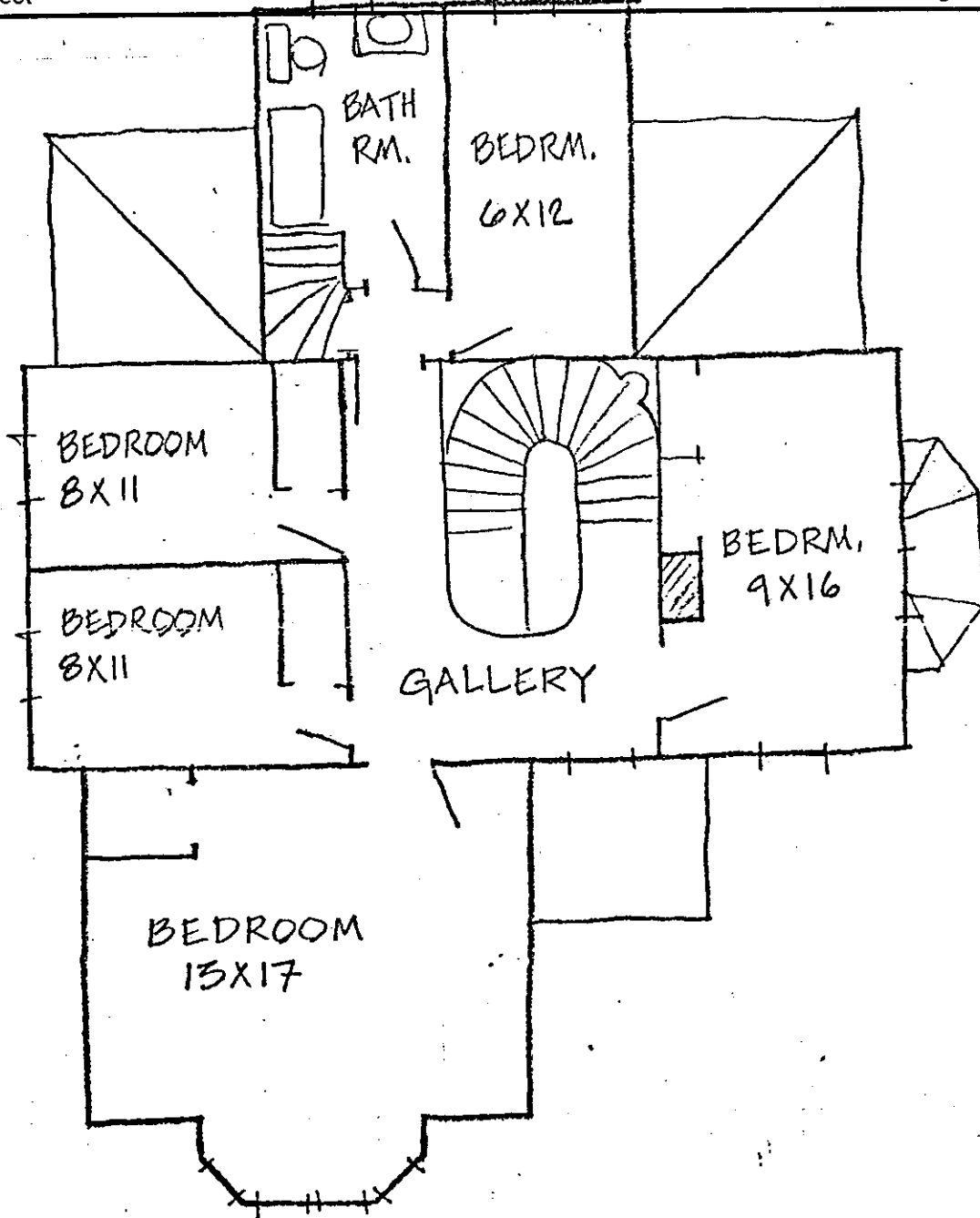
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2ND FLOOR PLAN

BAILEY-MICHELET HOUSE

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