

FILE  
COPYUnited States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

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**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

received

date entered

**1. Name**

historic Garner, Job-Miller, Jacob W., House

and or common Miller-Smith House

**2. Location**street & number Bethel Pike (C.R. 400 North) at County Road  
700 West N/A not for publication

city, town Bethel X vicinity of

state Indiana code 018 county Delaware code 035

**3. Classification**

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

**4. Owner of Property**

name See continuation sheet

street &amp; number

city, town vicinity of state

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Delaware County Building, Recorder's Office

street &amp; number 100 West Main Street

city, town Muncie state Indiana

**6. Representation in Existing Surveys**title Indiana Historic Sites & Structures Inventory/  
Historic American Buildings Survey has this property been determined eligible? yes  nodate April, 1985 018-240-15026 federal  state county localdepository for survey records Indiana Department of Natural Resources/  
Library of Congresscity, town Indianapolis state Indiana  
Washington D.C.

## 7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
excellent	deteriorated	unaltered	X original site
X good	ruins	X altered	moved date
fair	unexposed		

### Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The original Job Garner-Jacob Miller House is a two-story, square-shaped, hipped-roof structure with elements of the Greek Revival style. The house is believed to have been built between 1835 and 1850. The original west wing of the house, which is shown in the 1880 History of Delaware County, was removed in 1910 and a new west wing erected about that time. A brick wing was built on the north elevation of the house in 1851, and was used as a store for a short time. A small frame addition was later attached to the north side of the brick wing. The frame addition was used as a gunshop. Both the brick and frame addition were demolished about 1925, and a new brick, gabled roof addition was built. The brick addition has traditionally been used as a kitchen.

The south-facing main facade has three bays, including a central doorway with a multi-light transom and sidelights. The facade is dominated by a wraparound porch with a concrete foundation. The roof of the original porch across the front is supported by four octagonal, classical columns and has curved bracing across the entire front of the house. The portion of the porch on the west side was added later and has classical columns. The original porch probably dates from the 1870s.

The clapboard siding is enhanced with narrow cornerboards. Both the first and second floors of the original house have six-over-six double-hung windows with plain trim. These windows are repeated on all four facades. Both the 1910 and 1925 frame and brick wings have one-over-one double-hung windows and separate entrances. The boxed cornice eaves on the main house have a plain soffit and frieze. The roof of both the original building and the west and north wings are covered with asphalt artlock shingles. The north wing has a single internal end chimney and the west wing has a single, off-center chimney.

The original house has log floor joists under the first floor, which is covered with wide floor boards. Ceilings are 9½ feet on the first floor and 9 feet on the second floor. The woodwork throughout the house is trimmed in a subdued classical style with wide baseboards, and entablature moldings above the doors.

The main entrance has a solid wood paneled door and opens into a large, rectangular living room with a paneled fireplace (photo #3). The rectangular fireplace is surrounded by plain relief pilasters, a frieze and cornice, and a simple mantel shelf (photo #4). The mantel is flanked by a built-in, glass-front cupboard. A large dining room adjoins the living room on the north side. A hallway leading from the living room to a bedroom on the southwest corner of the first floor also provides access to an open stairway to the second floor. A clothes closet is located under the stairway. The floor inside the closet contains a trap door leading to the basement. Two bathrooms are situated west of the dining room, in a room which was formerly used as a bedroom. The second floor has three bedrooms, two on the south side of the house and one on the north side. A large clothes closet is located at the end of the hallway at the head of the stairway.

## 8. Significance

<b>Period</b>	<b>Areas of Significance—Check and justify below</b>				
prehistoric	archeology-prehistoric	community planning	landscape architecture	religion	
1400–1499	archeology-historic	conservation	law	science	
1500–1599	agriculture	economics	literature	sculpture	
1600–1699	X architecture	education	military	social	
1700–1799	X art	engineering	music	humanitarian	
X 1800–1899	X commerce	exploration settlement	philosophy	theater	
1900–	communications	industry	politics government	transportation	
		invention		other (specify)	
	c. 1835–1850				
<b>Specific dates</b>	1910, 1925	<b>Builder Architect</b>	Job Garner or Jacob W. Miller		

**Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)**

The Job Garner-Jacob Miller House is significant as one of the oldest and one of the few remaining examples of Greek Revival houses in western Delaware County. Its significance is enhanced by its having been the home for many years of Jacob W. Miller, one of Delaware County's early settlers and a prominent farmer, livestock dealer, businessman, entrepreneur, and civic leader.

Jacob Miller was born on November 20, 1816, in Stark County, Ohio. At the age of 19 he accepted employment as a boatman on the Ohio and Erie Canal. During the winter, while the canal was frozen over, Miller worked as a boatman on the Ohio, Illinois, and Mississippi Rivers. In 1835 he began working for the Indiana and Madison Railroad, the first railroad built in Indiana.

In February, 1840, Miller left his home in southern Indiana and began walking to Delaware County. He arrived at the home of his brother, William Miller, in Harrison Township, in late February. There he became reacquainted with a childhood friend, Harriett Worley, who had come to Delaware County from Ohio in 1839. Miller and Miss Worley were married in July, 1840. The young couple then moved in with Miss Worley's recently widowed mother, on a farm purchased by her father, Thomas Worley, in 1839.

Mr. Miller soon invested in several tracts of land adjacent to the Worley farm, increasing the original property to 580 acres. He later purchased additional acreage until his total holdings reached 1,100 acres. In addition to farming, Miller also engaged in livestock speculation, and operated a drygoods and grocery business for four years in a brick store-room adjoining his residence.

In 1868 Miller became associated with the Wrought Iron Bridge Company in Canton, Ohio, and was soon elected president of the company. As president Miller traveled extensively, contracting and building bridges in a number of states west of Ohio. In 1872 he sold his stock and withdrew from the company.

In 1870 Miller entered the retail grocery business in Muncie, Indiana, and also sold agricultural implements in that city. He also managed a store at Gilman, Indiana, and operated a sawmill at Smithfield, Indiana. Miller was also instrumental in the construction of the Muncie and Bethel Turnpike and the first president of the corporation.

Jacob Miller died in 1902. His wife lived in the house until her death in 1904. The house was sold to Samuel Smith, a local farmer and public official, who lived there until his death in 1936. Smith's widow lived in the house until her death in 1952.

Mrs. Smith's daughter, Edith Taylor Keller, lived in the house until her death in 1957, at which time it was purchased by Bernell and Catherine Mitchell and Drusilla P. Wherrey and Gary Taylor. Bernell Mitchell is the great-great grandson of Jacob Miller.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Helm, T. B. History of Delaware County, Indiana with illustrations and biographical sketches of some of its prominent men and pioneers. Chicago: Kingman Brothers  
Muncie Star. Muncie, Indiana. File  
Ball State University Daily News. Muncie, Indiana. File

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property Approximately one acre

Quadrangle name Gilman

Quadrangle scale

1:24000

UTM References

A 

1	6	6	2	5	9	1	0
Zone	Easting	Northing					

B 

Zone	Easting	Northing

C 


D 


E 


F 


G 


H 


Verbal boundary description and justification Starting at the northwest corner of the intersection of Bethel Pike and Delaware County Road 700 West, running north along the right-of-way approx 320', running west approx. 80', running south approx. 320', and running east along the right-of-way approx. 80'.

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

state	N/A	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Bernell Mitchell, Attorney and co-owner of house

organization N/A date October 21, 1985

street & number R.6, Box 489 telephone 317/759-5405

city or town Muncie state Indiana 47302

## 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	Indiana State Historic Preservation Officer	date	4-30-86
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For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

date

Keeper of the National Register

date

Attest:

Chief of Registration

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

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Continuation sheet Garner-Miller House

Item number 4

Page 1

Bernell Mitchell and Catherine Mitchell  
R. 6, Box 489  
Muncie, IN 47302

Drusilla P. Wherrey  
2851 S. Decatur  
Las Vegas, Nevada 89102

Gary R. Taylor  
c/o Drusilla P. Wherrey  
2851 S. Decatur  
Las Vegas, Nevada 89102

Job Garner/Jacob Miller House  
vic. of Bethel, Indiana  
UTM Reference: 16/625910/4456170

N  
↑  
F INDIANA  
VT OF CONSERVATION

LIS, INDIANA  
4 1/2 SE R. 8 E. 1 1/2 MI. TO N.D. 35  
STON 623 R. 9 E. 623

GILMAN QUADRANGLE

INDIANA

7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

