

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: <b>New Jersey</b>	
COUNTY: <b>Monmouth</b>	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	<b>MAY 1 1974</b>

**1. NAME**

COMMON:  
**General Clinton's Headquarters**

AND/OR HISTORIC:  
**Hankinson Mansion, Moreau House, Covenhoven House** (Clinton)

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**150 West Main Street**

CITY OR TOWN:  
**Freehold,**

STATE <b>New Jersey</b>	CODE <b>34</b>	COUNTY: <b>Monmouth</b>	CODE <b>025</b>
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**3. CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Comments

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNER'S NAME:  
**Monmouth County Historical Association**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**70 Court Street**

CITY OR TOWN:  
**Freehold**

STATE:  
**New Jersey**

CODE:  
**34**

**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
**Monmouth County Hall of Records**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**Court Street and East Main Street**

CITY OR TOWN:  
**Freehold**

STATE:  
**New Jersey**

CODE:  
**34**

**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
**Historic American Buildings Survey NJ-227**

DATE OF SURVEY: **1936**     Federal     State     County     Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:  
**Library of Congress**

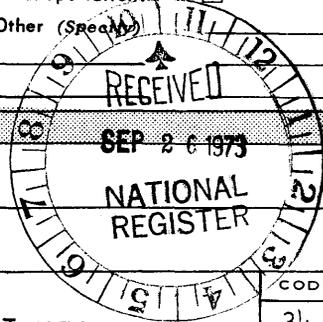
STREET AND NUMBER:  
**Washington**

CITY OR TOWN:  
**Washington**

STATE:  
**D.C.**

CODE:  
**11**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



2118  
N 445-5740  
HS  
E 560510

STATE: **New Jersey**

COUNTY: **Monmouth**

FOR NPS USE ONLY

ENTRY NUMBER: **MAY 1 1974**

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

General Clinton's Headquarters was acquired by the Monmouth County Historical Association in 1966 and restored between 1968 and 1970 to its present appearance. Structural evidence, documentary information found in contemporary wills and deeds, and early maps indicate that the house was originally built between 1706 and 1709 by Benjamin Cook, an English settler. About 1750, the original structure was extensively remodeled and a kitchen wing was added. The renovation was probably completed by William A. Covenhoven, who acquired the house sometime soon after 1723. The structure has been restored to the mid-18th C. period.

EXTERIOR:

The house today is a white frame structure two-and-a-half stories high with a pitched A-frame roof and a large, open attic. A one-and-a-half story kitchen wing with a pitched roof and open attic is attached to the eastern side of the house, and a small, one-story milk shed with a lean-to roof to the east of the kitchen. The house faces south.

The main section is sided with round-butt shingles, 3 ft. long, 14 inches to the weather. Made of Jersey white cedar originally, the shingles have been replaced with redwood for durability. The shingles at the upper section of the west gable end are original. The kitchen wing and milk shed are sided with clapboard with a beaded edge.

There are two chimneys in the house, one located at the west gable end of the main structure and one at the east end of the kitchen wing. The back of the west fireplace is exposed on the outside wall of the west gable end.

The main entrance to the house consists of two panelled doors with pillars on each side. A small projecting roof is above the entrance. A Dutch door enters the kitchen wing from the front. All window frames and sash have been restored, 12 over 12 on the first and second story of the main house and 6 over 6 in the front and rear of the east, kitchen wing.

INTERIOR:

The interior plan of the house consists of a large, central hall with an open staircase with one landing between the 1st and 2nd floors. One enters the hall from the main entrance in the front and a door to the rear to the left of the stairs. To the left, as one enters from the front, is an entrance to the parlor (west front) and an entrance to a back sitting room. To the right there is an entrance to the kitchen.

The second floor consists of a small hall landing at the top of the stairs. A narrow front-middle bedroom and a back bedroom enter from the landing, and the large master bedroom (west front) enters from the back bedroom.

The front parlor (main floor) has a panelled room-end on the west wall with a wide chair rail and molded cornice around other walls. The panelling, c. 1750, is quite sophisticated, with two finely executed pilasters on each side of a central fireplace. The panelling is raised and the moldings are elaborate. Two

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**6. SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |                                       |  |                                       |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century  | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 19th Century            |                                       |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) **c. 1706**

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |   |  |  |
|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal              | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political           | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric             | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering          | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic                | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry             | <input type="checkbox"/> Science             | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture             | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention            | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture           | _____                                    |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape            | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____                                    |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Art          | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature           | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater             | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce                | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Military  | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation      | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications          | <input type="checkbox"/> Music                |  | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation            |   |  | _____                                    |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

General Clinton's Headquarters is significant architecturally, artistically, militarily, and for education. The house is associated with an important historical event, having been used by General Henry Clinton between June 26 and June 28, 1778 as his headquarters. On June 28, the British General met Washington in the Battle of Monmouth. Architecturally, the house reflects some of the finest regional traditions of building, with its simple but elegant classic exterior and sophisticated interior panelling and woodwork. Artistically, the painting above the fireplace in the master bedroom and the decorative wall designs are unique in this area. It is an extremely rare example of this form of folk art, and the skill with which the work was executed makes it one of the finest and most significant rooms of this kind in the country.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

The house is superficially mentioned in many books and newspaper articles. The most complete source is:

James S. Brown, Jr., "Clinton's Headquarters: Its History and Restoration," Monmouth Historian, Vol. 1, 1972, pp. 14-31.

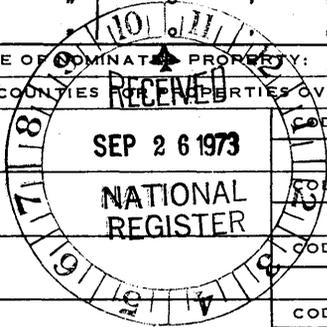
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES								
CORNER	LATITUDE			LONGITUDE			LATITUDE			LONGITUDE		
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	°	'	"	°	'	"	40	15	07	74	17	09
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"						
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"						
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"						

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF DOMINANT PROPERTY: **1 acre**

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: **Charles T. Lyle, Director**

ORGANIZATION: **Monmouth County Historical Association**      DATE: **March 28, '73**

STREET AND NUMBER: **70 Court Street**

CITY OR TOWN: **Freehold**      STATE: **New Jersey**      CODE: **31**

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National       State       Local

Name: **Richard J. Sullivan**

Title: **Commissioner, Department of Environmental Protection**

Date: **September 14, 1973**

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

*A. R. ...*  
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: **5.1.74**

ATTEST:

*Wm J. ...*  
 Keeper of the National Register

Date: **5.1.74**

STATE New Jersey	
COUNTY Monmouth	
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MAY 1	1974

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1 1974

2.

(Continuation Sheet)

(Number all entries)

General Clinton's Headquarters  
New Jersey 34  
Monmouth County 025

7. continued

built in cupboards are on either side of the pilasters and fireplace with butterfly shelves and fluted shellbacks on top. The two sets of cupboard doors are outlined with a molded arch.

The back sitting room has a molded cornice, wide chair rail and a corner cupboard built in at the west end of the room (front) and a panelled corner fireplace in the west, back corner. The woodwork, floorboards, chair rail and doors on the first floor have been restored and the walls and ceilings replastered.

The three rooms on the second story all have wide chair rails and molded cornice. The master bedroom is located directly above the parlor and has a panelled room end of the west wall. There is a central fireplace with pilasters on either side. A built in cupboard is to the left and a walk in closet to the right, both with two double sets of doors framed with an arch.

Of special significance to this room is the naval scene painting on the wood panel above the fireplace. Apparently painted in the mid-18thC., the painting shows ships flying both French and English flags. Also, the panelling, pilasters, cornice moldings, and chair rails are decorated in blue designs (apparently painted following a pattern rather than a stencil). The decoration was discovered during restoration under seven layers of paint and is clearly the original layer of the woodwork.

The original kitchen wing was extensively remodeled by later owners and recent additions had to be removed during restoration. The original roof was reconstructed based upon nail marks and indentations in mortar and plaster at the east gable end of the main structure and the exposed rafters were replaced using nail marks and discoloration in the framing as a guide. The two rafters nearest the main structure are original. Flooring, woodwork, and window frames have been restored and the walls replastered in the kitchen. A large hearth and bake oven on the east wall was reconstructed with old brick on top of the remaining foundation of the original hearth. To the left is a door opening to a boxed stairway leading to an open attic.

The milk shed, entering the kitchen, is a speculative reconstruction based upon common practices in this area. Its existence is documented in contemporary records.

Congressional Rep: Harrison Williams

~~Clifford Case~~  
James Howard, 3rd Dist. GPO 921-724