

PH 035 657

DATA SHEET

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED JAN 11 1977
DATE ENTERED OCT 5 1977

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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

1 NAME

HISTORIC **The Feigenspan Mansion** **
AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER: 710 High Street
CITY, TOWN: Newark
STATE: New Jersey
VICINITY OF: 10th
COUNTY: Essex
CODE: 034
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: 013

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"/> BUILDING(S) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE | <input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> BOTH | <input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS | <input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SITE | PUBLIC ACQUISITION | ACCESSIBLE | <input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT |
| <input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT | <input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS | <input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED | <input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED | <input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED | <input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> NO | <input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY |
| | | | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER: OFFICE |

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME: American Red Cross - Essex County Chapter
STREET & NUMBER: 710 High Street
CITY, TOWN: Newark
STATE: New Jersey 07102

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Essex County Hall of Records
STREET & NUMBER: High Street
CITY, TOWN: Newark
STATE: New Jersey

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE: New Jersey Sites Inventory
Historic American Buildings Survey
DATE: 1965, 1968
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: P.O. Box 1420 Library of Congress
CITY, TOWN: Trenton, Washington
STATE: New Jersey

7 DESCRIPTION

| CONDITION | | CHECK ONE | CHECK ONE |
|--|---------------------------------------|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT | <input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED | <input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD | <input type="checkbox"/> RUINS | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED | <input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> FAIR | <input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED | | |

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Feigenspan Mansion is a three story brick residence. It's form could be called Second Renaissance Revival. The building is rectangular and had 3 bays in the front and five bays along the side. There is a small extension in the rear. The hip roof overhangs the 3rd floor by a considerable distance. The 3rd floor windows are set within a frieze.

The building is entered through a small vestibule with niches on either side. There are four rooms on the ground floor including a dining room and a library. All of the major rooms on the ground floor have central wall fireplaces with interior chimneys against the sidewalls of the building.

The stairhall terminates in a 3 sided bay window projection on the side of the building.

Other notable interior features are the palmroom and the boudoir. The palmroom is a glazed-in area which is located in the rear extension. The boudior which is on the second floor is interesting because of its oval plan.

The exterior walls are Roman brick, finely pointed, with a sandstone trim. Inlcuding in the trim are the quoining, the window frame, the base and watertable, and the molding which defines the frieze on the 3rd floor.

The central bay on the front facade has an entrance arch inscribed in a full aedicule motif with free standing tuscan columns and a stoop. This is surmounted by a heavy parapet, the central portion of which forms a balustrade. This is surmounted by a second story window which has an elaborate baroque frame with a segmental pediment and large scrolls near the base. The side bays have arched windows on the ground floor with balustraded balconies. The arches have carved spandrels with cornice caps. The 3rd floor windows are paired in each bay.

To the rear of the house is a thre story carriage house with a cupola.

Although the mansion was converted for use as an office, the room divisions were applied rather than the basic plan being altered.

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/HUMANITARIAN |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799 | <input type="checkbox"/> ART | <input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING | <input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC | <input type="checkbox"/> THEATER |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899 | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE | <input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT | <input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY | <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900- | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY | <input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT | <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION | | |

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Feigenspan Mansion has two major areas of significance; 1) Architecturally it was designed with consideration of the problems of the handicapped Mrs. Feigenspan; and 2) it was the home of Christain Feigenspan, who at one time was the owner of the larger brewery in Newark, New Jersey and one of the largest in the United States.

Born in Germany in the 1840's and emigrating to Newark in 1869, Christian Feigenspan became widely known as the manufacturer of a beer, that was called the "Pride of Newark."

In 1869 he began brewing his beer in the cellar of the first home on Belmont Avenue, but as the business expanded a need for larger quarters was felt. He moved all of his equipment and set up a brewery on land he had purchased on Raymond Boulevard in the early 1870's.

Feigenspan's product grew in reknown as did his business, eventually having his export lager win the silver medal at 1891 Paris Exhibition. The superiority of the beer was further demonstrated by the fact that within a few years it grew to be the largest brewery in the United States and one of the largest in the world with a capacity of well over 400,000 barrels of beer a year and over 300,000 bottles being produced daily.

The coming of prohibition severely affected the Pride of Newark. It forced the temporary closing of the brewery on August 1, 1927. At that time the Feignespan coal and oil company run by the family on Glenwood Avenue, East Orange, had all the brewery's ale shipped to Heinz Pickle Company to be made into vinegar. Once the prohibition act was repealed the Feigenspan's went back to work at making beer and ale, reaching their full capacity tha same year after an extensive modernization.

The brewery reached its peak in 1939 when the claimed the largest and most modern brewery in America. In 1943 the entire business was sold to the Ballantine Brewers and the Pride fo Newark was produced no longer.

Besides the mansions association with Christain Feigenspan it is also significant architecturally. First as an example of the Second Renaissance Revival Style it is of only a few remaining in Newark.

The mansion was designed by Warrington G. Lawrence in 1905. The mansion, his first design of an urban mansion can probably be seen as his most significant work.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Withey's Biographical Dictionary of Architects Deceased, H. Withey, 1955.
 Behind the Scenes at a Great American Brewery, The Feigenspan Brewery Inc., 1939
 Cunningham, John C. Made in New Jersey, New Brunswick: Rutgers University
 Press, 1954, pp. 81-87

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 0.97
 UTM REFERENCES

A 18 568980 4508650
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING
 C

B
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING
 D

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

| STATE | CODE | COUNTY | CODE |
|-------|------|--------|------|
| STATE | CODE | COUNTY | CODE |

11 FORM PREPARED BY

(Revisions Johathan Fricker, Nanci Kostrub,
 Historic Sites Section, DEP, 609-292-2023)

NAME / TITLE

Joe Flock & Tom MacDonald; architectural & historical researchers

ORGANIZATION

Newark Preservation & Landmarks Committee

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

10 Bank Street

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Newark

STATE

New Jersey

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL STATE LOCAL X

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

David J. B...

TITLE Commissioner, Department of Environmental Protection DATE

December 27, 1976

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

ATTEST: *Charles...* DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION
 DATE 10/15/77
 DATE 9-21-77
 KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

Feigenspan Mansion
Newark
Essex County
New Jersey 07102

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 1

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED JAN 11 1977

DATE ENTERED OCT 5 1977

SIGNIFICANCE (Continued)

The most unique aspect of the Feigenspan Mansion was designing it to be easily accessible to handicapped Mrs. Marie Feignespan. Being confined to a wheelchair, her mobility was decreased. To make the house and its thirty-seven rooms useful to her, Lawrence made an elevator car, in an almost centrally located core, an important device in the home. It's location not only allowed direct ascent from just off the lobby to her boudoir, but its first floor proximity to the kitchen and lower storeroom allowed it to double as a dumbwaiter therefore making it a more sensitive and useful element. Level rooms on all floors (no step-ups or step-downs, minimum door views), and wide doorways made the rooms of her children, guests, and servants extremely accessible. Lawrence also took care of her bathing problems, installing a unique "bar and bench" apparatus to a low shower making it possible to here to take seated showers. Although the building has been altered to accommodate office space, the features Lawrence added were not destroyed in the process, but rather covered over so that they are still there to be studied for the future.

Feigenspan Mansion can also be viewed as an example of Second Renaissance Revival architecture. It is one of the best example of this style in Newark.