

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Rhode Island	
COUNTY: Kent	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER 11.10.44.0026	DATE 10/7/71

1. NAME

COMMON:
General Nathanael Greene Homestead

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
40 Taft Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Anthony, ~~Coventry~~

STATE Rhode Island	CODE 02816	COUNTY: Kent	CODE 003
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3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure 	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both 	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress 	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
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)

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Nathanael Greene Homestead Association

STREET AND NUMBER:
40 Taft Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Anthony, Coventry

STATE: Rhode Island	CODE 02816	CODE 44
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5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Town Clerk's Office, Coventry Town Hall

STREET AND NUMBER:
75 Main Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Coventry

STATE Rhode Island	CODE 44
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6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:

DATE OF SURVEY: Federal State County Local

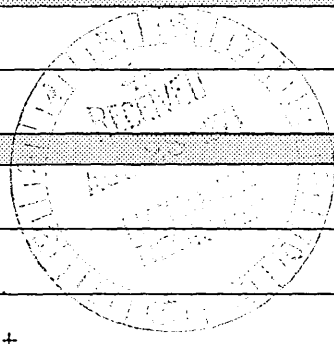
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:

STATE:	CODE:
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SEE INSTRUCTIONS



STATE:
 COUNTY:
 ENTRY NUMBER
 DATE
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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 type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Built by Nathanael Greene in 1774, the Nathanael Greene Homestead is a well preserved and maintained eighteenth century farmhouse of simple, yet refined, design. Situated above the Pawtuxet River on thirteen acres of open field and woodland, the two-and-one-half story, five-bay-wide, rectangular, clap-board house, with its two interior brick chimneys, is set on a foundation of random, sandy-brown granite ashlar. The four room, center hall plan provides two rooms to either side of a central hall on each floor.

Facing east, the central entrance with its eight panel door and transom is embellished with fluted pilasters supporting a triangular pediment carved with dentils and a fan motif. The double-hung windows, with their twelve-light sashes and simple, pegged frames, are capped on the second story by the broken-out main cornice on both the front and rear facades.

The original interior remains intact and has been sympathetically restored and contains Greene memorabilia. A fine stairway rises at the rear of the hall in two runs. The turned balustrades, set three to a stair, and the turned newels support the rail which is not ramped. Except for the kitchen on the first floor, each room is very similar in appearance with cased cornerposts, cornice moldings, paneled doors, and simple mantel-pieces composed of large, plain panels. The fireplace in the kitchen, with its paneled side ovens, is quite wide. The hardware throughout is original and is believed to have been forged nearby at the Greene family iron works.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. 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) 1774

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal	<input 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 Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian	_____
<input 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

The Nathanael Greene Homestead is significant for both its architectural merit and its historical association with General Nathanael Greene, who was second only to Washington in command of the Revolutionary War. The house is an exceptionally fine example of a simple, yet quite refined, eighteenth century Rhode Island farmhouse. Originally set on two thousand acres, the house still retains a setting of open fields and woodland along the Pawtuxet River. It has been very well preserved and was sympathetically restored in 1919 by the Nathanael Greene Homestead Association, Inc. Since that time it has been opened to the public as a museum.

The house was designed and built by Nathanael Greene in 1774. Greene's father had prospered as a forge and mill owner in Warwick and expanded his business to Coventry. By 1770 it was decided that his son, Nathanael, should make his home at the new iron works. While living there, Greene was instrumental in organizing the Kentish Guards in East Greenwich, chartered on October 29, 1774. Upon hearing the news of Lexington on April 19, 1775, Greene joined the Guards as a private soldier of war. His merit quickly promoted him through the ranks and eventually he was made a General.

During the first year of the Revolution, the house was used as a convalescing hospital for officers who had been vaccinated against smallpox. Greene returned to the homestead after the war, but moved his family to Newport in 1783. Eventually he moved to Mulberry Grove, a plantation near Savannah, Georgia, which had been given to him by that state as an appreciation for driving the British out of the South. He died at Mulberry Grove on June 19, 1786.

The house remained in the Greene family until 1899.

(1742-1786)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Downing, Antoinette F. Early Homes of Rhode Island. Richmond (Va.): Garrett and Massie, Inc., 1937.

Nathanael Greene Homestead Association. The Nathanael Greene Homestead. Printed pamphlet.

OTM REF
 78-9-76-011
 19/288500/H618570
 19/288500/H618810

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	° ' "	° ' "		41° 41' 38.5" N	71° 32' 40.39" W	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: Less than one acre.

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS
 19/288500/H618570
 19/288500/H618810

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Clifford M. Renshaw III, Consultant

ORGANIZATION: **Rhode Island Historical Preservation Commission** DATE: **April 20, 1971**

STREET AND NUMBER:
Room 124, State House

CITY OR TOWN: **Providence** STATE: **Rhode Island 02903** CODE: **44**

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: *Frederick W. Howner*

Title: State Liaison Officer

Date: August 19, 1971

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

Ernest A. Connally
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation
OCT 7 1971

Date: _____

ATTEST: *William B. Stewart*
 Keeper of The National Register
SEP 29 1971

Date: _____