

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED JUL 23 1979
DATE ENTERED SEP 12 1979

**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 **Ensley-Mount-Buckalew House**

AND/OR COMMON **Lakeview**

LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER **Buckalew Avenue**

CITY, TOWN **Jamesburg**

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
4th

STATE **New Jersey**

VICINITY OF
CODE **34**

COUNTY
Middlesex

CODE
023

CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
			<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
			<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME **Estate of Charles E. Paxton**

STREET & NUMBER **Buckalew Avenue**

CITY, TOWN **Jamesburg**

STATE
New Jersey

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, MIDDLESEX COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

STREET & NUMBER **John F. Kennedy Square**

CITY, TOWN **New Brunswick**

STATE
New Jersey

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE **Middlesex County Inventory of Historic and Architectural Resources**

DATE **1979**

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS **Middlesex County Cultural and Heritage Commission**

CITY, TOWN **841 Georges Road, North Brunswick**

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Located in the center of Jamesburg near the site of the mill its former owners operated, Lakeview is presently an L-shaped building with side wing. This configuration is the result of a series of additive construction projects extending from the eighteenth century through the third quarter of the nineteenth.

The oldest part of the structure is the 2-story rear ell. This presently consists of two rooms on the first floor with a chimney between them. These rest almost directly on the ground, and have noticeably low (approximately 7 foot) floor-to ceiling heights on the first floor. The second story rooms project over these on both the northwest and southeast fronts, supported on log posts. The larger of the rooms on the first floor may have been the core of an original one-room, 1 1/2-story house. It has two entrances with board and batten doors, one on each front, that to the southeast flanked by a window with 6/6 sash on each side, the door on the opposite side being flanked by a window and a door giving access to a storage room. The northeast wall is occupied by a large cooking fireplace with iron crane and adjacent oven. The smaller room to the northeast has a shallow fireplace surrounded with simple board molding that shares the same chimney. The two, in effect, form a hall and parlor plan.

The main section of the house, oriented southwest and facing the road, was originally a two or 2 1/2-story, 5-bay house, with adjacent 2-bay wing. It is of frame on a stone foundation. The cellar, divided by brick partition walls, exhibits hewn joists and bearing beams and heavy arched brick chimney supports, construction details typical of the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. In plan the house consists of a center hall flanked by two rooms on either side, those to the right on the first floor now being connected by sliding doors.

Surviving details are also suggestive of a date not later than the first quarter of the nineteenth century. Among these is the doorway, with its delicate transom and sidelights, framed by slender pilasters with knife-edge reeded moldings, and with both exterior and interior lintels with a bowed central portion, a form common to Federal mantel shelves in central New Jersey. Similar knife-edge moldings appear on door and window frames in the rooms to the right of the hall.

Other Federal details include wooden mantels with paneled corner and central blocks in the rear rooms on the second floor; raised six paneled doors, some with beaded paneling, between the hall and rooms of the second floor; a closet door with three raised panels in the west front room on the second floor; the profile of muntins on both the first and second floor; and some surviving simple beaded baseboards applied prior to plastering.

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7. DESCRIPTION (continued)

In the third quarter of the nineteenth century a major remodeling brought the house to its present appearance. Additions included a third story to the main section, constructin of a 1-story conservatory adjoining the southeast gable, and a 1-story porch, with Italianate posts, across the front. The third story was given the form of a deep cornice by the use of flush boarding. It is pierced by 1/2-size windows between which are paired bracket. The conservatory is a glazed arcade withstilted segmental arches resting on simple pilasters and a bellcast roof.

On the interior, mantels in the principal rooms were replaced with central cartouche in marble and marbled slate. The stairrail with turned balusters and newel also dates from this renovation as does the statuary niche at the turn of the stair.

The only surviving outbuilding on the property is a rectangular brick smokehouse.

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NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

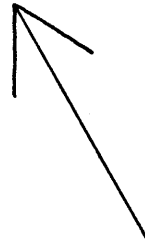
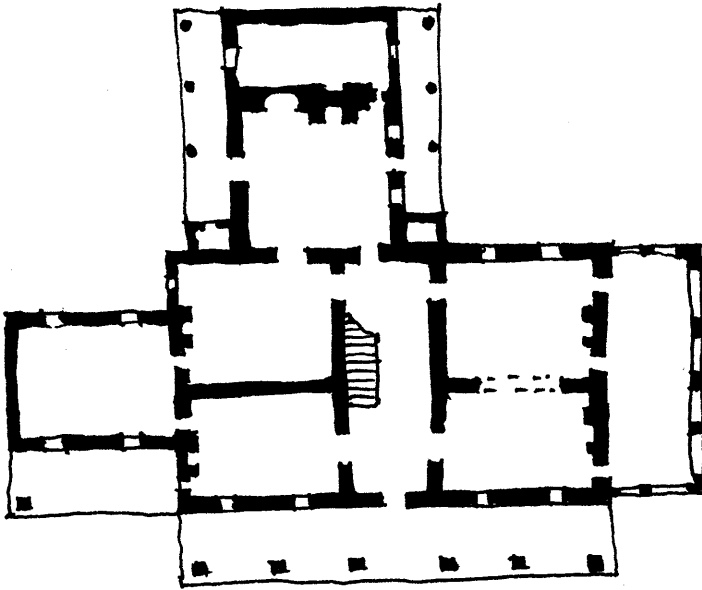
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8 SIGNIFICANCE

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input 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

From the eighteenth century through most of the nineteenth Lakeview was the residence of men whose activities were the economic backbone of the village of which it became the center. Its most important owner, from 1832 to 1869, was James Buckalew, for whom the town of Jamesburg was named. Buckalew became a regional leader in the fields of transportation, commerce, industry, agriculture, education and finance.

The rear portion of Lakeview was probably constructed in the eighteenth century as a residence for the operator of the adjacent mill. The mill is mentioned in a Middlesex County road return dated 11 September, 1787, at which time it belonged to William Ensley. In 1792 Ensley conveyed the property to George Rozell; who in 1800 conveyed it to John Mount.¹ Mount, who managed the property until he turned it over to his son-in-law, William Gordon, in 1818, probably built the 5-bay Federal house that James Buckalew purchased in 1832.

The mills consisted of a grist mill, sawmill, and fulling mill. The naming of the town attests to their importance; it was called successively Ensley's Mills, Mount's Mills, Buckalew's Mills and, after 1847, Jamesburg. Buckalew expanded manufacturing activities at the mill site to include the production of drainage tile and brick.

While Buckalew continued to operate the mills, he employed his capital in many other ventures. His primary interests were in transportation. He was a contractor for the Camden and Amboy Railroad, constructed between 1830 and 1832. From 1840 to 1865 he also supplied, by contract, the mules for the Delaware Raritan Canal, housing up to 700 of them in brick barns behind his residence. In 1845, in partnership with Nathaniel Rue, he established a stage route between Freehold and Jamesburg, to transport the agricultural products of Monmouth County to the Camden And Amboy Railroad. This became the right-of-way of the Freehold and Jamesburg Agricultural Railroad, constructed between 1851 and 1853, of which Buckalew's son, Isaac became supervisor. As the railroad attracted business and travelers to the town, Buckalew built, in 1856, a hotel known as the Jamesburg House. Late in life he undertook construction of a short-haul railroad from Freehold to the Squankum marl pits.

This venture arose from another of Buckalew's many interests, scientific farming. He applied the latest in agricultural techniques to the 4,000 acres he kept under cultivation. These included the early use of marl as fertilizer.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Clayton, W. Woodford. History of Union and Middlesex Counties, New Jersey.
Philadelphia: Everts and Peck, 1882.

Everitt, B.S. and Hill T. Wilton. Centennial and Historical Exercises at
Jamesburg, N.J. 1876. Philadelphia: Allen, Lane and Scott, 1876.
See Continuation Sheet

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1 1/2 acres

QUADRANGLE NAME Jamesburg

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24000

UTM REFERENCES

A 18 | 548060 | 4466240
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B | |
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C | |

D | |

E | |

F | |

G | |

H | |

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The property occupies Jamesburg Municipal Tax Block 15, Lot 2.

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE Constance M. Greiff, Director

ORGANIZATION Heritage Studies, Inc.

DATE February, 1979

STREET & NUMBER RD #4, Box 864, Mapleton Road

TELEPHONE 809-452-1754

CITY OR TOWN Princeton

STATE New Jersey 08540

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.

Deputy *John Wilton*
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

7-5-79

TITLE Deputy Commissioner, Department of Environmental Protection DATE

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

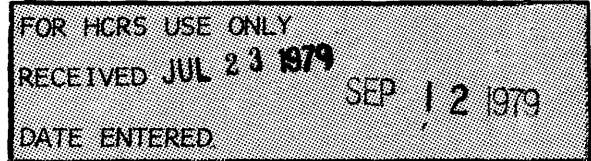
John A. Skell
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE 9-12-79

ATTEST: *John A. Skell*
CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

DATE Sept 11, 1979

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8. SIGNIFICANCE (continued)

Buckalew was also a pioneer in the cultivation of cranberries. He founded, in 1853, the Jamesburg Agricultural Society, which, for a brief period, sponsored an annual fair.

Under the national banking laws of 1862, Buckalew consolidated his financial interests through establishment of the First National Bank of Jamesburg in 1864.

In addition to his business enterprise, Buckalew engaged in numerous local philanthropies. Of particular interest was the contribution to local education. In 1846 when the Monroe Township authorities refused admission of a Negro boy to the public school, Buckalew had a substantial brick school house erected, which became the Jamesburg Public School. It was at the dedication of this building that the name "Jamesburg" was first used. Buckalew also gave the land and funds for building the First Presbyterian Church of Jamesburg and the land for Fernwood Cemetery, a romantically landscaped burying ground on the outskirts of the town.

In addition to its associative values, Lakeview is of interest as a vernacular dwelling with some high style features developed over almost a century by a succession of relatively prosperous owners. Of particular interest is the conservatory, an almost folk-like version of this fashionable form. According to local tradition it and the third story of the house were added by Buckalew's widow shortly after his death.

When Jamesburg was mapped in 1876, nine years after James Buckalew's death, properties with whose development he and his family were associated dominated the town. These included Lakeview, the Italianate villas of his sons, an enormous complex of barns and stables, the mills, the school, the hotel, and the church. Of these only the church and Lakeview remain.

Lakeview has been virtually unaltered since the third quarter of the nineteenth century. It remains intact, but is currently in urgent need of attention, especially painting and repairs to roof and gutters. Some deterioration of the fabric is already noticeable and will obviously increase if repairs are not carried out. The property is presently in the hands of an estate. The Jamesburg Historical Association hopes to acquire the house to use as a headquarters and museum of local history.

¹Middlesex County Deeds, 8, 567. The deed is dated 15 November 1800, although it was not recorded until 1810.

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9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES (continued)

Federal Writers' Project. Monroe Township Middlesex County 1838-1938. n.p.:
1938.

Kerwin, Louise Johnson. The Presbyterian Church, Jamesburg, N.J. - A History
1854-1954. Jamesburg: Jamesburg Press, 1954.

Information supplied by Louise Johnson Kerwin (Mrs. William) Historical
Researcher of the Monroe Area Historical Association.