

DATA SHEET

Form 10-300
(Rev. 6-72)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: New Jersey
COUNTY: Morris
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE MAY 12 1975

1. NAME

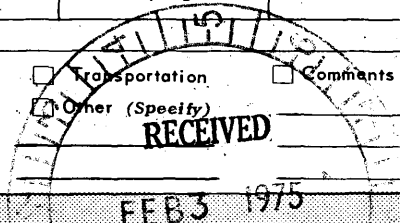
COMMON: Half Way House
AND/OR HISTORIC: Ellis Cook House <i>Weather</i>

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: 174 Mount Pleasant Avenue			
CITY OR TOWN: East Hanover		CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: 5th	
STATE New Jersey	CODE 34	COUNTY: Morris	CODE 027

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"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input 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 type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" 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: Mrs. W. H. Rowley			
STREET AND NUMBER: 174 Mount Pleasant Avenue			
CITY OR TOWN: East Hanover		STATE: New Jersey	CODE 34

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Hall of Records			
STREET AND NUMBER: Court Street			
CITY OR TOWN: Morristown		STATE: New Jersey	CODE 34

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: Historic American Buildings Survey (NJ-676) (NJHSI-964.17)			
DATE OF SURVEY: 1940		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local	
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Library of Congress			
STREET AND NUMBER:			
CITY OR TOWN: Washington		STATE: D.C.	CODE 11

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

(Check One)
 Excellent Good Fair Deteriorated Ruins Unexposed

(Check One) Altered Unaltered Moved Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

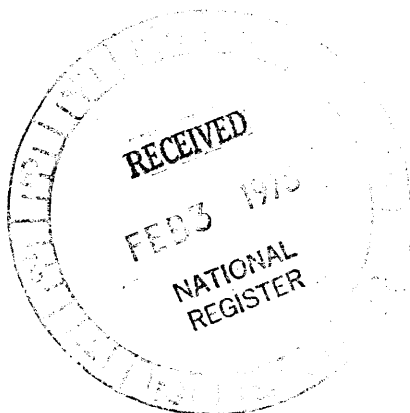
Half-Way House

Exterior: This mid 18th century house is a simple rectangular 1 1/2 story building with a small kitchen wing off the rear. It has a center door with two windows on each side and retains its original form with a single chimney on both gable ends. A series of early photographs show numerous alterations to the front facade. The earliest photo shows the house with a one story porch across the entire front in the Greek Revival style of the early 19th century. A later photo shows a Victorian porch and 1/1 sash windows replacing the original 12/12 sash windows. Restoration work after 1925 reintroduced the 12/12 sash windows. Also three additional dormers were added matching the two existing dormers. The large porch was removed and replaced by the present small porch at the center entrance door.

Interior: The floor plan has a center through hall with two rooms on each side. Two chimney stacks, one on each gable end serve two back-to-back corner fireplaces. Three of the four original fireplaces remain. The three remaining fireplaces retain their original 18th century wood panelled chimney breasts carried to the ceiling. Two have 19th century Greek Revival mantels applied onto the 19th century panelling. The ceilings are open beam beaded corners on the finished beams. The rooms reflect their 18th century character.

The front door and side lights are from the early 19th century in the Greek Revival style. The original stair in the center hall had been replaced by a Victorian stair. This in turn was replaced, after 1925, by the present open stair dating circa 1800.

The second floor is entirely of the mid-19th century. All the doors and trim are from this period. The cellar and attic reveal their original hewn oak timber framing of the mid-18th century.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

B. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian | 16th Century | 18th Century | 20th Century
 15th Century | 17th Century | 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) **ca. 1751, 1773-1797**

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input checked="" 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 checked="" 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

Ellis Cook was a Lt. Colonel in the Morris Militia during the American Revolution and was accorded honors during the conflict for having personally saved the East Jersey Proprietary records.

Cook was also a political figure of some note in Morris County. He was a member of the New Jersey Provincial Congress and the Assembly as well as a County Judge and Justice of Peace.

Architecture:

This house reflects its original basic mid-18th century character. Its form and plan is intact. Many of its major architectural features are intact, specifically the corner fireplaces with panelled chimney breasts and open beam ceilings. Both the interior and exterior have retained their 18th century flavor of a modest house.

Military/Political/Commerce:

This 18th century modest New Jersey colonial structure was probably built by John Williams, cordwainer, shortly prior to 1751 when Williams granted to his daughter, Mary Williams Cook, wife of Ellis Cook, a tract of land estimated at 40 acres with dwelling. Mary Cook, however, as a woman had few property rights and although it is surprising she was granted land of her own it does not appear that she had full control over the property since it was further mandated by Williams that in the event of Mary's death the property would be divided among the five children of Ellis and Mary Cook.

Mary died in 1754 at the age of 38. Her father, John Williams died the next year and Ellis Cook the year after.

Ellis Cook may have been killed in a skirmish during the French and Indian War (1755-58). He and two of his sons were in the New Jersey Regiment which under Colonel Aaron Schuyler was sent to Oswego. The two sons returned, but Ellis Cook, apparently an officer, died there.

Ellis Cook, son of Ellis Cook, was born in 1732 and lived his adult life in this house. His first marriage was to Margaret Griswold Cocker who provided Ellis with seven children

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

New Jersey Archives: Newspaper Extracts: 1772-1773
 (p. 235), 1773 (p. 455)
 New Jersey Tax Ratables. Hanover Township. 1778-1796
 New Jersey Wills.
 Ellis Cook, Hanover Township, Morris County, 1756
 (Liber F, p. 404)
 Ellis Cook, Hanover Township, Morris County, 1797
 (Liber 37, p. 228)
 History of Morris County, New Jersey. W.W. Munsell, New York:
 1882 (pp. 25-6, 75-78, 188, 193)

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

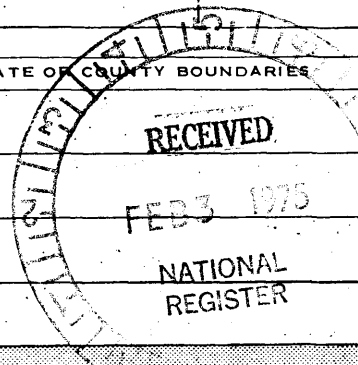
LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "	40	48	06	
NE	° ' "	° ' "	74	21	51	
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

18/553620
 4516730
 CD

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 1.79

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR 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: T. Karschner, Historian-Curator and C. Tichy, Restoration Architect
 ORGANIZATION: Historic Sites Section
 Department of Environmental Protection
 STREET AND NUMBER: Box 1420
 CITY OR TOWN: Trenton
 STATE: New Jersey
 CODE: 34
 DATE: 8/14/74

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: David J. Bardin
 Title: Commissioner, Department of Environmental Protection
 Date: December 19, 1974

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

Ernest A. Connelly
 Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 5/12/75

ATTEST
Ronald M. Gumberg
 Keeper of The National Register

Date: 5/19/75

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(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	New Jersey	
COUNTY	Morris	
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		MAY 12 1975

(Number all entries)

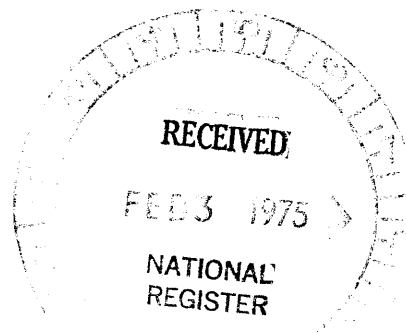
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East Hanover
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8. Significance (cont'd.)

before her death in 1777. The second wife was Lucy Ely Perkins, daughter of Captain William Ely and first wife of Dr. Abjah Perkins.

Cook was quite prominent in the County and State during the Revolutionary Era. In addition to owning and operating a tavern (ca 1772-79) in Hanover, perhaps in this house, Cook was also: a member of the New Jersey Provincial Congress in 1776, a member of the New Jersey Assembly from 1776-1790, a Morris County Judge (1793-97), Justice of Peace (1793-97) and selected to New Jersey's Governor's Council for three years.

During the Revolution Ellis Cook served actively in the Morris County Militia as a Lt. Colonel. He was personally credited with having personally saving the East Jersey Proprietary records in the Surveyor-General's Perth Amboy office just prior to the British occupation of the city in 1776.



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(Number all entries)

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East Hanover
Morris County
New Jersey 34

9. Bibliography (cont'd.)

"Ellis Cook House History", S. Avery Raube, Florham Park,
New Jersey: 1974. Unpublished research.
numerous documents in the possession of E. W. Rowley, owner.

