

PH0356484

DATA SHEET

Form 10-300
(July 1969)

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:	Cumberland
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	MAY 12 1977

1. NAME

COMMON:
** Old Stone Church

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: W of Cedarville on NJ 503
Fairton-Cedarville and Sayres Neck Roads

CITY OR TOWN:
Fairton Township - Cedarville via 2nd Cong. Dist.

STATE: New Jersey CODE: 34 COUNTY: Cumberland CODE: 011

3. CLASSIFICATION

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

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religious		
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific		

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Presbytery of West Jersey Rev. James W. Muir

STREET AND NUMBER:
48 Wagon Bridge Run

CITY OR TOWN: Moorestown STATE: New Jersey 08057 CODE: 34

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:
Cumberland County Court House

STREET AND NUMBER:
Broad and Fayette Streets

CITY OR TOWN: Bridgeton STATE: New Jersey CODE: 34

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Historic Sites Inventory
Historic American Building Survey NJ -6- 273

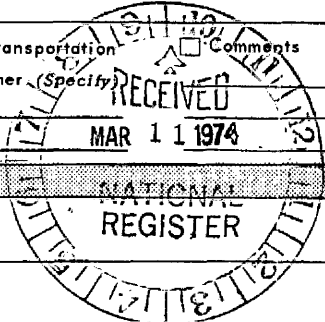
DATE OF SURVEY: 1936 & 1960 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Historic Sites Inventory 1390 John Fitch Plaza
Library of Congress

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Trenton STATE: New Jersey CODE: 11
Washington D.C.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



STATE: New Jersey

COUNTY: Cumberland

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ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

7. Description

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" 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

The Old Stone Church of Fairton Township is a one story building with a gallery. It has a slate roof that is gabled. It is three bayed with twelve over twelve sash windows. The doors, there are two, are rectangular with eight panels. The shutters are also panelled. It has a stone water table.

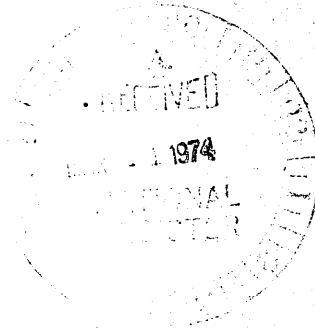
There are two side aisles that are brick in the herringbone pattern. The floors are of the original wood elsewhere. There is a closed string staircase to the gallery with applied molding.

The canopy over the pulpit is fluted and very ornate. There are two windows on either side of the pulpit.

New Description is contained on the included Continuation sheets.

CONGRESSIONAL REPRESENTATION

- Hon. Harrison A. Williams
- Hon. Clifford P. Case
- Hon. Charles E. Sandman
(2nd District)



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
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INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

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RECEIVED FEB 4 1977

DATE ENTERED MAY 12 1977

CONTINUATION SHEET #1

ITEM NUMBER #7 PAGE

The "Old Stone Church" built in 1780, is a two story, rectangular plan consisting of three bays on a side, with a slate covered pitch roof. All walls are comprised of ironstone, those on the gable ends are laid up in rubble, while the side walls are course stone. Entrance to the church is obtained through two, eight panel, doors, located in each corner of the west wall under the end bays. Surmounting this structure is a box cornice, which is carried across all four sides of the building, portions of which on the gable ends are surmounted by short pent roofs. Contained in the north, end gable is an incised oculus.

The church and adjacent graveyard are surrounded by a cast iron rococo fence. All windows are twelve over twelve double hung, those on the ground floor have three panel shutters.

Old Stone Church has a one room floor plan, being that the second floor contains only a balcony, which extends along three sides of the building, on the fourth side is a high pulpit with a fluted canopy. There are two side aisles which are composed of brick, in a herring bone pattern. Random width floor boards comprise the remaining floor space. Most of the original fabric remains throughout the structure.

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1780

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
(Local history) |
| <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 type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

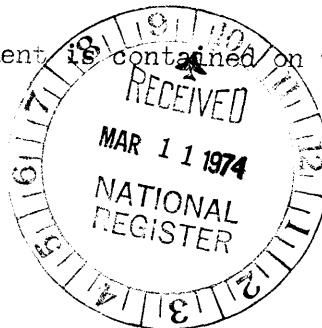
When the Presbyterian settlers of the Cohansey River Valley arrived from Fairfield, Connecticut they brought their own minister with them. Around 1680 they built a log meeting house in the town that was known as Fairfield or New England Town after their residence in Fairfield Connecticut. The Presbyterian settlers from the neighboring towns of Greenwich and Bridge Town came to worship.

The second church that these settlers built was erected around 1715 a mile east of the first building. This church, though crude, served its parishoners well until 1775 when it became so run down that the benches were moved outside and, when the weather was clement, the preacher would give his sermons under a huge oak tree.

In 1775, 1776, after the site for the new church was chosen, two hundred loads of stone and eight hundred feet of lumber were delivered. War, however, interrupted the building of the church because the British seized the material and built a wharf along the Cohansey River. In May of 1780 the first stone was laid for the new church and in September the church was consecrated.

In 1850 the congregation transferred to a new building in Fairton, and since that time the Old Stone Church has been used only for special services.

A new revised Significance Statement is contained on the following pages.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Barber, J.W., Howe, Henry Historical Collections of the State of New Jersey, New York, S. Tuttle, 1845.
 Cushing, I., Shepard C.E. Histories of the Counties of Gloucester, Salem and Cumberland, New Jersey, Philadelphia, Everts and Peck, 1938.
 Elmer, L.Q.C. History of the Early Settlement and Progress of Cumberland County, New Jersey, Bridgeton, George F. Nixon, 1869.
 Mulford, William Historical Tales of Cumberland County, New Jersey, Bridge- ton, New Jersey, News Company, 1951.
 Historic American Building Survey

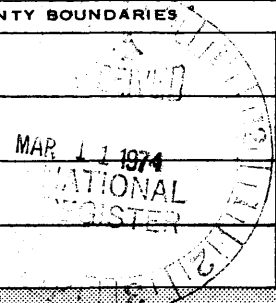
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

UTM'S: 620 4356-580		LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES							
18 480 580 easting		4360 620 northing		LATITUDE			LONGITUDE		
				grees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
				°	'	"	°	'	"
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"			
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"			

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: Less than 1 acre.

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



11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Historic Sites Office Revised By: George A. Chidley IV, Research Asst.

ORGANIZATION: Historic Sites Section DATE: March 8, 1973

STREET AND NUMBER: Box 1420

CITY OR TOWN: Trenton STATE: New Jersey CODE: 34

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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: August 8, 1973

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

George A. Chidley IV
 Keeper, National Register

Date: 5/12/77

ATTEST: Charles A. Henry
 Keeper of The National Register

Date: 5-10-77

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CONTINUATION SHEET #1 ITEM NUMBER #8 PAGE

The "Old Stone Church" exemplifies the phenomenon of a spread of cultural forms, these being the Quaker vernacular architectural modes, being the dominant form in this area to a non-dominant culture, the newly settled Fairfield Presbyterians. This is demonstrated in the appearance and basic configuration of the church which is that of a Quaker meeting house. The church is a good surviving example of the "Builder Georgian" identified with this portion of New Jersey.

The founding fathers of the Presbyterian Society which built the "Old Stone Church," in 1780, came from Fairfield, Connecticut and settled in the Cohansey River Valley. Approximately 1680 the Society built a log meeting house in the town known as Fairfield or New England Town. This being the only place of Presbyterian worship in an otherwise Quaker community, Presbyterian settlers from other towns (Greenwich, Bridgetown, etc.) came to worship here. A second church was erected circa 1715 and stood until 1775.

In 1775 a site for a new church ("Old Stone") was chosen, and two hundred loads of stone and eight hundred feet of lumber were delivered to the site. The construction of the church was interrupted by British seizure of the above mentioned materials for the purpose of building of a wharf along the Cohansey River. In May of 1870, the first fieldstone was laid, by September of that year construction was completed. In 1850, "Old Stone" was abandoned for a new structure. It is still owned by the church and is presently used only for special services.