

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY  
RECEIVED JAN 3 1979  
DATE ENTERED MAR 7 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

The Joseph Shinn House

AND/OR COMMON

The Old Red House

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

68 North Main Street

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Woodstown

VICINITY OF

Second

STATE

CODE

COUNTY

CODE

New Jersey 08098

Salem

33

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

OWNERSHIP

STATUS

PRESENT USE

DISTRICT

PUBLIC

OCCUPIED

AGRICULTURE

MUSEUM

BUILDING(S)

PRIVATE

UNOCCUPIED

COMMERCIAL

PARK

STRUCTURE

BOTH

WORK IN PROGRESS

EDUCATIONAL

PRIVATE RESIDENCE

SITE

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

ACCESSIBLE

ENTERTAINMENT

RELIGIOUS

OBJECT

IN PROCESS

YES: RESTRICTED

GOVERNMENT

SCIENTIFIC

BEING CONSIDERED

YES: UNRESTRICTED

INDUSTRIAL

TRANSPORTATION

NO

MILITARY

OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

W. A. McReynolds

STREET & NUMBER

68 North Main Street

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Woodstown

VICINITY OF

New Jersey 08098

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Salem County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

94 Market Street

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Salem

New Jersey

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

# 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    |   |   |

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## DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Joseph Shinn house is a detached rectangular Georgian frame dwelling. It is 2 1/2 stories high, 7 bays wide, and has a 1 1/2 story leanto at the northwest corner. The main axis of the house runs approximately north and south. There is a cellar under the southern two-thirds of the house.

The house is of post and beam construction. The southern two-thirds of the house were constructed in the eighteenth century while the northern third was completed in the early nineteenth century. The exterior is a combination of clapboard and butt jointed sheathing. Pilasters were added in the renovation of 1946-47 to divide both the front and the rear facades into thirds. The butt jointed sheathing forms the southern two-thirds of the front (east) facade and the middle third of the rear (west) facade. The windows are a mix of eighteenth and nineteenth century types with glass dating from 100 years or earlier. In the 1946-47 renovation old glass was collected and used to replace all missing window lights. Downstairs there are panelled shutters while upstairs there are louvered ones. There is a tin gable roof which was placed over the original shake roof in the nineteenth century.

The house foundation is stone which forms the cellar walls. There are two chimneys: 1) there is a modern rectangular one on the south wall of the house, and 2) the original eighteenth century chimney in the center portion of the house. This original chimney is triangular in shape with a fireplace in each on the two center rooms downstairs and a fireplace in the upstairs front room. The other upstairs fireplace was removed sometime in the nineteenth century. The original brick vaulting to support the first floor fireplace hearths is in the cellar.

The outstanding feature of the exterior is the Georgian entry with its original divided "Dutch" door. The entry is formed by pilasters topped by a capital with incised carving of a stylized vine or vine and flowers. Surmounting the entry is a triangular pediment which surrounds a circular fan light.

There are five rooms on the first floor, six rooms and two baths on the second floor, and three rooms in the attic. In all rooms but one there are wide board pumpkin pine floors (including the attic). Originally there were seven rooms on the first floor, but in the 1946-47 renovation the two rooms at the north end were combined and similarly for the two rooms at the south end. The interior walls in the southern two-thirds of the house are formed of partition board which in all cases except the staircase and the downstairs south room are standing vertically.

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The most significant features of the interior are the front reception hall, the bedroom above this reception hall, and the Sheep and Shears fireback in the back hall fireplace. The front reception hall has a corner fireplace. The fireplace wall and the wainscoting on the other walls are raised paneling. Above the wainscoting are vertical partition board walls. There is a small barrel back corner cupboard with a carved shell top over the barrel back in the southeast corner of the room. This cupboard is contemporary to the house and are of cedar. The fireplace mantle is a superb gouge carved Federal one which was installed in the house in the early 1800's. Another unique feature of this room and the bedroom directly above it are the partition board ceilings.

The upstairs bedroom which is directly above the front reception hall has a corner fireplace with a similar arrangement of fireplace wall panelling, wainscoting, and partition board walls. However, the wainscoting does not extend completely around the room. The western wall is vertical partition board.

There is an iron Sheep and Shears fireback in the fireplace in the room directly behind the front reception hall. This fireback has a date of either 1742 or 43. The last digit is not distinguishable. This fireback has been used previously to date the house.

The Joseph Shinn house was renovated in 1946-47. At this time these changes were made in addition to those noted: a bay window was added to the south side of the southeast upstairs bedroom, the bulkhead was moved from the front to the rear, a chimney and fireplace were added downstairs on the south side, a terrace was built at the rear, two baths and a half-bath were added upstairs, and heat, water, and electricity were added. Latter in 1969-70, a concrete floor was poured in the cellar over the original brick floor.

## 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 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 type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE                | <input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT | <input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY                     | <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1900-                | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS          | <input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY               | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT | <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)     |
|   |  | <input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION              |   |  |

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Shinn house is a fine example of southern New Jersey 18th century frame architecture. Architecturally, the Shinn house contains many outstanding features which date to the eighteenth century. These include the Georgian entry, the front reception hall, the Sheep and Shears fireback, the original brick vaulting for the downstairs hearths, the corner chimney, an enclosed stairway out of the front reception room, and the upstairs bedroom directly above the front reception hall. It was originally built as a one room wide by two rooms deep 2 1/2 story town house. This is based on local traditions, the placement of the fireplaces and an examination of the house itself. The southern portion of the house is supposed to be constructed from a moved 17th century Indian trading post and was added sometime after the original town house was built. The northern portion was added on either at the end of the 18th century but prior to 1820. Throughout the house there are many original windows, doors and wide-board pumpkin pine floors.

The house is believed to be built by Samuel Shivers in 1742. His daughter Ann Sylenia Shivers married Joseph Shinn and were deeded the house in 1758. For the next century, the Shinn family and house played a prominent role in Woodstown and in New Jersey.

Joseph Shinn was a member of the state Constitutional Convention from Salem County. This Constitutional Convention wrote the 1776 State Constitution. His son, Isiah Shinn, was the next owner of the house. Isiah was a General in the New Jersey state militia and a member of the council (now the state Senate) in 1805-6 and from 1809-13. Joseph Shinn had another son, Joseph Jr., who was an assemblyman in 1798-99. Joseph Jr. died in 1802.

In the next generation, the Shinn house was owned by Isiah's son William Shinn. He was the first state senator from Salem County under the State Constitution of 1844 and was the first President of the First National Bank of Woodstown. The First National Bank of Woodstown was chartered on February 16, 1864. It is the first national bank to be chartered in Salem County and is still in existence as the Woodstown branch of the First People's National Bank.

William Shinn did not live in the Shinn House from 1820 to the 1850's. During this time the house was still owned by him but was occupied by several different tenants. These tenants used the house as a general store, a millinery store, and as a boarding house.

Everett Shinn (1876-1953), the noted American artist of the Ashcan Group, was born in Woodstown and lived there until 1888. He was the great-great-grandson of General Isiah Shinn. While Everett did not live in the Shinn house, he used the house as the model for the Goldwyn Pictures interior sets in the movie POLLY GOES TO THE CIRCUS in 1917. Edith de Shazo, Everett's biographer, owned the house from

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

(See Attached Continuation Sheet)

## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 0.271 acres

UTM REFERENCES Scale 1:24,000

A 18 471730 4389200  
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B           
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C         

D         

### VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The boundry of the Shinn House is shown on the accompanying map entitled:  
"Survey of Premises, 68 North Main Street" 3/28/70

### 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

W. A. McReynolds (owner of Shinn House)

ORGANIZATION

68 North Main Street

DATE

(609) 769-0486

STREET & NUMBER

Woodstown

TELEPHONE

New Jersey 08098

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

## 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

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

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

*Greg Wilson*

8-2-78

TITLE Deputy Commissioner

DATE

### FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

*W. M. ...*

DATE

3/7/79

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST: *Bill Lebovich*

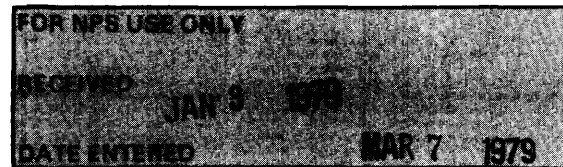
DATE

March 5, 1979

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

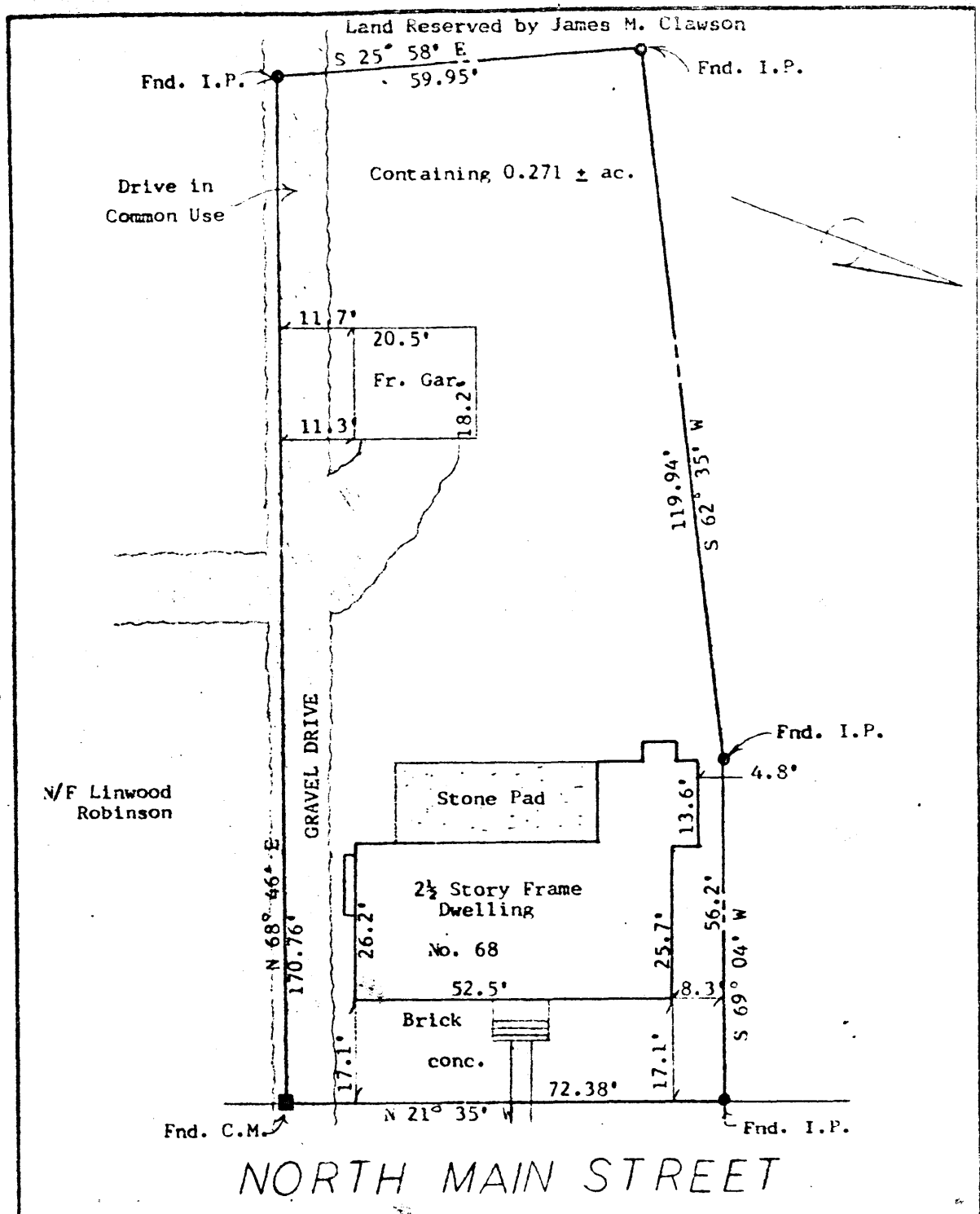
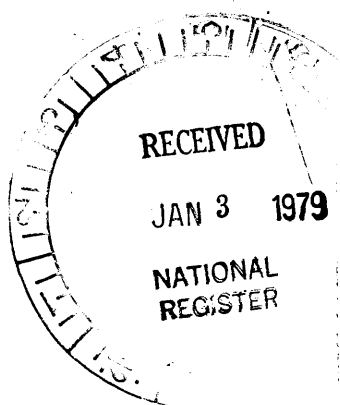
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- 1       Sickler, Joseph S.; The Old Houses of Salem County, 2nd Edition; Sunbeam Publishing Co.; Salem, New Jersey (1949) pp 101-104.
- 2       De Shazo, Edith; Everett Shinn, 1876-1953, A Figure in his Time; Clarkson N. Potter, Inc., New York, New York (1974) pp 1-22, 113, 115.
- 3       First National Bank of Woodstown; Almanac and Yearbook, 1901-1921; John Fenwick Colony Tercentenary Committee; Salem, New Jersey (1974) pp 124-131.
- 4       Salem County Hist. Sec.; Open House in Fenwick's Colony; Private, Salem, New Jersey (1975) entry 28.
- 5       New Jersey, State of; Scenic and Historic Tours of New Jersey, Crossroads of the Nation; State of New Jersey Department of Labor and Industry; Trenton, New Jersey (1976) pp 25-26.
- 6       Robinson, Mr. and Mrs. Linwood; 64 North Main Street; Woodstown, New Jersey; Mr. and Mrs. Robinson have owned the property next door to the Shinn house since 1938. They are familiar with all of the changes which were made in the renovation of 1946-47 and were used as the source of these changes in the description.



| Survey of Premises<br>68 North Main Street   |   |       |         |        |         |        |         |        |     |     |        |
|--|---|-------|---------|--------|---------|--------|---------|--------|-----|-----|--------|
| Situate<br>Borough of Woodstown<br>Salem County, New Jersey  |   |       |         |        |         |        |         |        |     |     |        |
| <b>ALBERT N. FLOYD</b><br>LAND SURVEYOR<br>NEW JERSEY LIC. NO. 21759<br>22 POLARIS ROAD<br>TURNERSVILLE N.J.   |   |       |         |        |         |        |         |        |     |     |        |
| TO THE OWNER<br>TO THE INSURER OF TITLE relying hereon<br>in consideration of the fee paid for<br>making this survey in accordance with<br>the description furnished I hereby cer-<br>tify to its accuracy (except such ease-<br>ments, if any that may be located<br>below the surface of lands or on the<br>surface of the lands and not visible)<br>as an inducement for the insurer of<br>title to insure the title to the lands<br>and premises shown hereon.<br>New Jersey Lic.<br>No. 21759 | <table border="1"> <tr> <th>Date</th> <th>Scale</th> <th>Drawn</th> <th>Checked</th> <th>Number</th> </tr> <tr> <td>3/28/77</td> <td>1"=20'</td> <td>DKF</td> <td>ANF</td> <td>77-117</td> </tr> </table> | Date  | Scale   | Drawn  | Checked | Number | 3/28/77 | 1"=20' | DKF | ANF | 77-117 |
| Date   | Scale   | Drawn | Checked | Number |         |        |         |        |     |     |        |
| 3/28/77  | 1"=20'  | DKF   | ANF     | 77-117 |         |        |         |        |     |     |        |
| <i>Albert N. Floyd</i><br>ALBERT N. FLOYD, LS  |   |       |         |        |         |        |         |        |     |     |        |