

Form 10-300 (Rev. 6-4)

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: DEC 30 1974

1. NAME
 COMMON: Samuel Ford, Jr.'s Hammock Farm
 AND/OR HISTORIC: "The Hammock"

2. LOCATION
 STREET AND NUMBER: 310 Columbia Turnpike
 CITY OR TOWN: Florham Park CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: 5th - Peter Frelinghuysen, Jr.
 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<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 checked="" 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) _____ _____ _____
Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No			

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY
 OWNER'S NAME: Elizabeth Caroline Reynolds
 STREET AND NUMBER: 310 Columbia Turnpike
 CITY OR TOWN: Florham Park 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: New Jersey Historic Sites Inventory (1132.33)
 DATE OF SURVEY: 1962, 1973 Federal State County Local
 DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Historic Sites Section, Dept. of Environmental Protection
 STREET AND NUMBER: Box 1420
 CITY OR TOWN: Trenton STATE: New Jersey CODE: 34

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: New Jersey
 COUNTY: Morris
 ENTRY NUMBER: DEC 30 1974
 DATE: _____
 FOR NPS USE ONLY

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered			<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered		
				<input type="checkbox"/> Moved		
				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Samuel Ford, Jr. House appears to have been built in two sections. The stone section was constructed prior to the American Revolution, possibly as early as 1721. The clapboard addition was built in the second quarter of the 19th century.

The earliest section, which was built by Samuel Ford, Jr., colonial counterfeiter, is a 1 1/2 story gambrel roof random fieldstone structure. The windows are 6/6 sash. The entrance to this section is somewhat obscured by the open front porch and modern enclosed vestibule. Other exterior alterations include two dormers on each side of the roof, asbestos siding on the gable end which presently extends about three feet below the eave on two sides, and an 18th century door which was glassed in the top half for light. The stone wing is rectangular, and, by size, 35 feet by 18 1/2 feet. The stone walls are 1'10" thick. There are three rooms and a pantry on the first floor. The largest room (16' by 16') was originally the kitchen. This room has a large open fireplace with mantel and a bee-hive baking oven on the side which protrudes to the outside and is presently braced on the exterior by a brick support and covered with cement. The ceiling of the kitchen is open with five hand-hewn beams parallel to the fireplace. The floorboards are nearly 12 inches wide. There is a three foot high wide-board wainscoating along the walls. This wainscoating may be part of the 19th century renovations. The stone walls are coated with animal-hair plaster.

The kitchen takes up half of the building and the other rooms are divided out of the second half. The elements of these rooms are similar to the kitchen except for the absence of wainscoating, the wider floorboards, and modern kitchen facilities.

The upstairs was probably originally just a high loft for storage and sleeping, perhaps crudely finished off into rooms. Presently there are two rooms, two bathrooms, and a hall on the second floor. Indications are that the rooms were completely finished off in the second half of the 19th century with 20th century plumbing.

What is now the attic has a Queen-post frame and framing which is probably mostly original. The rafters are nearly all hand-hewn and joined by mortise and tenon, except for two or three beams which are obviously modern replacements.

The cellar under the stone section was lowered about a foot and the floor cemented in the 20th century when the new oil furnace was installed, about 1940. The supports in the basement are hand-hewn joined by mortise and tenon with a center beam which is nearly one foot square. A few of the beams are logs just smoothed on one side.

Greek Revival Wing. The clapboard wing, which is nearly square (35 feet by 31 1/2 feet), was probably constructed sometime in the second quarter of the 19th century. The addition was possibly built by Colin Robertson, sheriff of Morris County

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. 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) **1766-1773**

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | <u>Economy,</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | <u>Finance,</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | <u>Monetary</u> |
| <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

Samuel Ford, Jr. (1735- after 1773) was New Jersey's most notorious colonial criminal. Ford, a cousin to John Ford, Jr., of the Ford Mansion (Morristown National Historic Park), Morristown, married Grace Kitchell (1741-1818) in 1757. She was the sister of Aaron Kitchell, later a State Senator.

The known career of Samuel Ford, Jr. began quite calmly. He purchased an iron forge in Hibernia in 1763. Two years later he sold one-third of the forge to Benjamin Cooper, and one-third to James Anderson.

Cooper, apparently, ignited the criminal temperament in Ford convincing Ford and Anderson that while waiting to make profits in their forge they should combine their various talents and print their own currency.

Perhaps their first attempts were unsatisfactory, or maybe Ford wanted to learn his trade from professionals before he began practicing. Whatever the case, late in 1765 Samuel Ford left for Ireland. At that time Ireland was best known in the criminal world as having the best counterfeiters in the world. It seems that Ford went there to perfect his counterfeit plate-making.

In 1766 he returned to the colonies with his second wife, who he had married in Ireland. Evidently Ford introduced her to his first wife and the Irish bride quickly ran off in horror, never to be heard of again.

At the same precise time Ford had returned from Ireland, New York and New Jersey experienced an influx of counterfeit New Jersey notes. The next year Ford sold his remaining third of the iron forge, probably in order to devote full-time to the counterfeiting. That same year he was arrested in New York for forgery, but the case was dismissed due to insufficient evidence.

In 1768 the East Jersey Treasury was robbed of over £ 6,000, an enormous sum for the period. The thief or thieves were never actually apprehended although one of Ford's partners in

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Scott, Kenneth. Counterfeiting in Colonial America, New York, 1957, (pp. 238-250).
 Tuttle, Reverend Joseph F. The Early History of Morris County, New Jersey. Morristown, NJ, 1870, (pp. 25-30).
History of Morris County, New Jersey. W.W. Munsell & Co., New York, 1882, (pp. 112-3).
 Map for the American Continental Army. Compiled by Robert Erskine. Map #104-C, dated 1780 and located in the New York Public Library. This map indicates that Mrs. Ford was living on the "Hammock" at this time. (cont'd.)

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

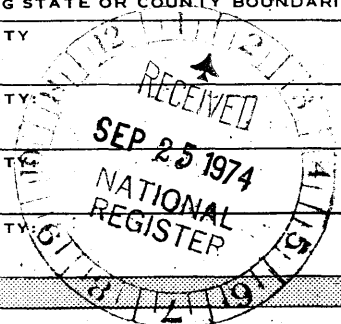
LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		40° 47' 25"	74° 24' 36"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

UTM
 18/549780
 4515450
 CD

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **3**

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Terry Karschner, Historian-Curator

ORGANIZATION: **Historic Sites Section, Dept. of Environmental Protection** DATE: **02/27/1974**

STREET AND NUMBER:
Box 1420

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

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
 David J. Bardin

Title: Commissioner, Dept. of Environmental Protection

Date: September 20, 1974

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

AP Montrose
 Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 10/30/74

ATTEST:
[Signature]
 Keeper of The National Register

Date: **DEC 27 1974**

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet) 1.

STATE	New Jersey	
COUNTY	Morris	
FOR NPS USE ONLY		
ENTRY NUMBER		DATE
		DEC 30 1974

(Number all entries)

Samuel Ford Jr. Hammock Farm
Florham Park
Morris County 027
New Jersey, Code: 34

7 Description (cont'd.)

about that time, who bought the property and completed numerous repairs. The building is attached to the stone section on the gable end and is 2 1/2 stories high. The entrance is on the other gable end. There are three bays and a side hall. The windows are 6/6 sash with louvered shutters. The door is a double-door, possibly later than the rest of this section. The transom over the doorway is semi-elliptical. The roof is gable with a brief overhang and return and decorative brackets under the cornice. The first floor has a narrow side hall and a large family room to the front and two identical square rooms to the rear (adjoining the stone section). The family room and study have fireplaces and mantels. The study also has a projecting Victorian bay window. The floors are 6 to 8 inch wide board. The hall stair is typically Greek Revival. The second floor is basically identical except for two modern bathrooms and the stairway to the attic. The attic is unfinished and the rafters are circular-saw cut. There is a basement under half of this section of the house, completely divorced from the stone wing cellar.

Attached to the open porch in the colonial stone section is a modern 20th century garage facility.

The Samuel Ford, Jr. House is situated high on a hill and overlooks most of the surrounding area, which used to be swamp-land, but was drained in the 19th century. Because of its location, the farmhouse has always been referred to as "The Hammock", which seems to be a Lenni Lenape word meaning 'hill rising out of the swamp'.



**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Continuation Sheet) 2.

STATE New Jersey	
COUNTY Morris	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	DEC 30 1974

(Number all entries)

Samuel Ford, Jr. Hammock Farm
Florham Park
Morris County 027
New Jersey, Code: 34

8. Significance (cont'd.)

crime, Benjamin Cooper, testified in 1773 that Samuel Ford, then safe in far away policies, had masterminded the entire robbery. Cooper's testimony, however, seems to have been derived under threat of execution and is possibly invalid. Additional data indicates that Stephen, the treasurer, may have performed the crime himself. Samuel Ford, nonetheless, was of such infamy that many people were quite willing to believe he robbed the treasury.

Samuel was arrested for counterfeiting in 1773 at his home called the "Hammock" and taken to the Morristown jail. Ford quickly escaped from the jail, due in part to a sympathetic sheriff, and hid from the authorities in the highlands of Hibernia, an area he knew so well. Soon the searchers got too close and Samuel Ford, Jr. fled to Virginia where he changed his name to Baldwin (his mother's maiden name) and remarried. Little is known of his life in Virginia, but Ford descendants seem to feel that he led a lawful existence the rest of his life.

The four other men arrested with Ford were unable to escape and were tried and found guilty. They were all sentenced to death, but three of them, each of a notable 18th century family, were pardoned. The other, apparently of no substantial means, was duly executed.

Counterfeiting records indicate that perhaps Samuel Ford, Jr. was the most resolute and skillful counterfeiter of the entire colonial period. His overall notoriety was exaggeratingly described by the Morris County Court as "the most accomplished villian that this county every produced".



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet) 3.

STATE	
New Jersey	
COUNTY	
Morris	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

DEC 30 1974

(Number all entries)

Samuel Ford Jr. Hammock Farm
Florham Park
Morris County 027
New Jersey, 34

9. Bibliography (cont'd.)

Tuttle, Reverend Joseph F. Hibernia Furnace & the Surrounding County in the Revolutionary War. (p. 156).

Stewart, Elizabeth Cobb. The Descendants of Andrew Ford of Weymouth, Massachusetts. Vermont, 1968, (p. 51).

Deeds; Morris County Deeds, Books L, p. 102, & K4, p. 197.

Proceedings of the New Jersey Historical Society. "The Robbery of the Treasury of East Jersey in 1768 & Contemporaneous Events" by W. A. Whitehead. Volume V-1850 (pp. 50-65)

New Jersey History. "Politics & prerogatives. The Aftermath of the Robbery of the East Jersey Treasury in 1768" by Larry W. Gerlach. Volume 90, Autumn, 1972.

verbal information supplied by:

Reverend Ford of Morristown, New Jersey.

Emily Reynolds of 310 Columbia Turnpike, Florham Park, New Jersey

research compiled by:

Emily Reynolds, 310 Columbia Turnpike, Florham Park, NJ

