

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

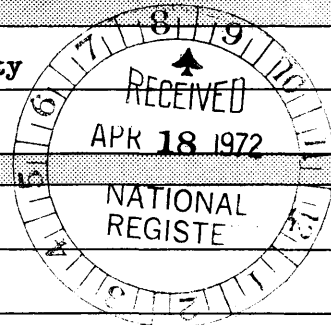
STATE: <b>New Jersey</b>	
COUNTY: <b>Gloucester</b>	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER <b>OCT 18 1972</b>	DATE

HD  
 218  
 710000710

**1. NAME**

COMMON: **Gloucester County Historical Society**

AND/OR HISTORIC: **Hunter-Lawrence House**



**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER: **58 North Broad Street**

CITY OR TOWN: **Woodbury**

STATE: **New Jersey** CODE: **34** COUNTY: **Gloucester** CODE: **015**

**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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious		
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific		

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNER'S NAME: **Gloucester County Historical Society**

STREET AND NUMBER: **58 North Broad Street**

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

**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: **County Clerk's Office, Gloucester County Courthouse**

STREET AND NUMBER: **Broad and Delaware Streets**

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

**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY: **New Jersey Historic Sites Inventory**

DATE OF SURVEY:  Federal  State  County  Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: **Office of Historic Sites**

STREET AND NUMBER: **Box 1420**

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

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: **New Jersey**  
 COUNTY: **Gloucester**  
 ENTRY NUMBER: **OCT 18 1972**  
 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 Hunter-Lawrence House was built ca. 1765 with a rear wing added in the early 19th century probably replacing an earlier frame rear wing. The older front portion of the house was extensively altered by its owner Judge John S. Jessup ca. 1875.

1. Exterior - The exterior of the house is red brick (Common bond) now painted grey. There is a water table and belt course on the west front. The building is two-and-a-half stories on the front with a mansard roof (formerly gable), and two stories in the rear portion with a gable roof. The mansard roof has wood brackets ca. 1875 on the front portion. The rear portion has a brick modillion cornice and with its general proportions and decorative details appears to be stylistically of the early 19th c. Both roofs have slate shingles. The front entry porch and bay window are 1875 additions, as are all the front window frames, stone sills and sash. The windows of the rear portion appear to be early 19th century. There is a Venetian (Palladian) window on the north stair landing, executed by W. H. Fletcher, master carpenter, during renovations of the 1930's.
  
2. Interior - The front portion of the house is a center-hall plan with a large parlor on the north (now used as historical society library) and two smaller parlors on the south. The interior trim and stairhall have all been renovated ca. 1875 in this front portion of the house. The rear of the house is a series of interconnecting rooms with a stairway to the cellar and to the second floor. The interior trim of these rear rooms is late 18th century with delicate fireplace mantels and stairway trim, which was installed in the house in the 1930's from Miss Sybil Tatem Jones's old house on South Broad Street, Woodbury, under the direction of Harold M. Klaisz, a well-known Gloucester County architect. Since the Society purchased the house in 1924 from the Jessup estate, 14 museum rooms and two library rooms have been opened to the public.
  
3. Site - The house faces west on the main street of Woodbury. There is a small yard to the south and east of the rear wing. Additional property directly east of the present rear yard has been purchased by the historical society for a new library building.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



**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) **Built ca. 1765, renovations ca. 1875**

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |                                         |                                                 |                                               |                                          |
|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal     | <input checked="" 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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Military    | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation       | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music                  |                                               | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation   |                                                 |                                               | _____                                    |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

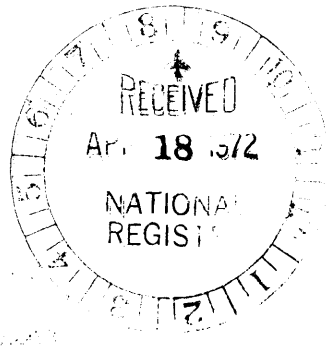
This house has had several notable occupants. It was built in 1765 by Judge John Sparks, a member of the Provincial Congress and the County Court. In 1792 it was purchased by Reverend Andrew Hunter, who had been one of the "tea burners" of Greenwich. This incident involved a group of Colonists, dressed as indians, who removed quantities of British tea from storage and burned it on the night of December 22, 1774. Hunter was also a leading Presbyterian clergyman, scholar, chaplain in the Continental Army and an educator. He founded and taught in two Woodbury schools, Hunter's School, which may have been started in this house, and Woodbury Academy.

Later, James Lawrence lived here with his older brother, John, a practicing attorney who had purchased the house from Hunter in 1798. During the War of 1812 Captain James Lawrence commanded the U. S. Frigate Chesapeake, and at the height of a sea battle with the British Frigate Shannon, was mortally wounded. His last words to Officers and crew, "Don't give up the ship," made Lawrence famous and the phrase has since become a motto of the United States Navy.

Congressional Representation

- Honorable Clifford Case - U.S. Senator
- Honorable Harrison Williams - U.S. Senator
- Honorable John E. Hunt - Congressman (First Congressional District)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Clark, Frances B. "A Palladian Window," Bulletin of the Gloucester County Historical Society, Vol. 2, No. 1, September 1949, p. 1  
 Gorska, Hanka, Inventory of Historic Sites, Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission, 1969, p. 168.  
 "Open House in Gloucester County," Gloucester County Historical Society, Woodbury, N. J., May 9, 1970, #1.

**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	° ' "	° ' "		39° 50' 27"	75° 09' 07"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **Less than one acre**

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE:  
**William B. Bassett, architectural historian**

ORGANIZATION: **John M. Dickey, architect**      DATE: **March 4, 1971**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**206A West State Street**

CITY OR TOWN: **Media**      STATE: **Pennsylvania**      CODE:

**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: *Richard J. Sullivan*  
 Richard J. Sullivan

Title: Commissioner, Department of Environmental Protection

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

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

*Robert M. Utley*  
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 10/18/72

ATTEST:  
*William H. Hunt*  
 Keeper of The National Register

Date: 10-16-72

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section number \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_\_

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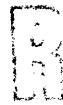
Hunter-Lawrence House  
*Jessup*

Gloucester County, NEW JERSEY

ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATIONAL APPROVAL

*Patrick Andrus*

*7/22/92*



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

DATE OF REPORT  
BY

Section number 1, 8 Page 1 Hunter-Lawrence-Jessup House amendment  
Woodbury, Gloucester County, NJ

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## 1. NAME OF PROPERTY

Proposed amendment to historic name and property name as listed:

Hunter-Lawrence-Jessup House

Proposed amendment to other names:

Museum Headquarters of the Gloucester County Historical Society

## 8. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Proposed new applicable National Register criteria:

Criterion C

Proposed expanded applicable National Register criteria:

Criterion B

Proposed expanded area of significance:

Government and Politics

Proposed new significant person:

Judge John S. Jessup

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 1Hunter-Lawrence-Jessup House amendment  
Woodbury, Gloucester County, NJ

## HUNTER-LAWRENCE-JESSUP HOUSE

SIGNIFICANCE AMENDED

The Hunter-Lawrence-Jessup House, museum headquarters of the Gloucester County Historical Society, is a c.1765 National Register property that is significant not only for its association with the Rev. Andrew Hunter and James Lawrence, but also for the integrity of the building's Second Empire architectural character and its association with Judge John S. Jessup, the man responsible for its remodeling. The significance of the structure includes its evolution from the eighteenth century, when it was built, into the early twentieth century. Both the 1888 remodeling and the 1930s alterations reflected changing architectural attitudes prevalent not only in Victorian Woodbury, but in growing cities throughout the United States.

The man responsible for the present form of the Hunter-Lawrence-Jessup House was John S. Jessup, Esq. Prior to his ownership of the house, the Georgian residence was bought by sisters Mary and Elizabeth Lord. In 1855, the Lords sold the northeastern portion of the Hunter-Lawrence-Jessup property to the "Gloucester County Bank." Construction of this bank was begun in December 1855 and was completed in 1856. That this building was designed in the Renaissance Revival style indicated that architectural tastes were beginning to change in mid nineteenth century Woodbury.

Significant growth occurred in Woodbury during the early-to-mid nineteenth century. A 1826 map of the town shows that there were a relatively small number of structures standing along the main street. In less than 30 years, as shown by an 1854 map, the large lots along Broad Street and Cooper Street had been sub-divided into long rectangular lots — many filled with new structures. The West Jersey Railroad linking Camden and Philadelphia to many New Jersey towns had laid tracks east of Broad Street in Woodbury. The rapid industrialization and growth of railroads lead to change in house design. The growing industrialization permitted mass produced house components that could be easily shipped to towns such as Woodbury.

In 1856, David C. Ogden purchased the property from the Lords. By 1860, Ogden had witnessed the development of Woodbury as density along Broad street increased up to the Woodbury Creek where the Green Grist Mill was located. New residences lined Cooper Street to the railroad and lots were further sub-divided, now parallel to railway lines. Secondary and tertiary streets, such as Bank Street adjacent to the Ogden property, are noted on an 1860 map of Woodbury as the complexity of the town plan increased.

In the 1870 census, John Jessup, "Attorney at Law," was listed as being a resident of the house owned by Ogden. Jessup had his law office operating out of one of the front rooms on the main floor.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 2

Hunter-Lawrence-Jessup House amendment  
Woodbury, Gloucester County, NJ

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In September 1871, John S. Jessup's father, Joseph, purchased the property from Edith Ogden, David's widow. The time of purchase occurred shortly before John's impending marriage to Mary Howell, whose family lived across the street from the Hunter-Lawrence-Jessup House. Mary Howell's father, Benjamin P. Howell, was a prominent physician from an illustrious Gloucester County family.

John S. Jessup was born in 1842 in Harrison Township to Joseph and Mary Clark Jessup. He was the fourth of eight children. John S. Jessup graduated from the West Jersey Academy at Burlington in 1862 and graduated from Princeton College three years later. At the Law Department at Harvard University, Jessup studied law for a year and then he spent two years under the tutelage of the Honorable Frederick Frelinghuysen of Newark, New Jersey. Frelinghuysen later became Secretary of State. John Jessup was admitted to the New Jersey Bar on June 4, 1868 and then as a Counselor on June 8, 1871.

Jessup gained prominence in the community through his thriving practice and many civic activities. He served as Commissioner of the West Jersey Presbytery, Treasurer for the stockholder's extension of the West Jersey Railroad to Mullica Hill, Solicitor for the First National Bank, fifteen-year President of the Woodbury Real Estate Loan Association, Clerk of the Board of Chosen Freeholders, and Special Master in Chancery.

Through the 1870s and into the 1880s, John S. Jessup saw the growth of Woodbury continue. An 1886 "Bird's Eye View of the City of Woodbury" shows a new train station at the intersection of Cooper Avenue and the railway tracks. This development made accessibility to Woodbury even more convenient to cities like Camden and Philadelphia. This view shows Woodbury of 1886 as a prosperous town with large factories sited along the railway line. Factories are also located along the Woodbury Creek. The creek is filled with small boats illustrating a more traditional method of transporting goods from place to place. The expansion of the Green grist mill from a small mill along the creek in 1856 to a larger factory in 1886 shows the importance of navigable waters to Woodbury's growth.

As well as illustrating the town's industrial growth, the changing architectural tastes are also noticed in the "Bird's Eye View of the City of Woodbury." Several large and rambling Second Empire mansions spot the landscape on either side of the railway tracks. Larger three and four story structures as well as smaller two story picturesque Victorian dwellings are located in the less developed area east of the train tracks. A steel railroad bridge on Hunter Street crossing the tracks shows that the development of iron and steel technology had reached Woodbury.

Following the mid-nineteenth century trend to remodel earlier buildings, John S. Jessup, in 1888, made extensive alterations to his residence on Broad Street. That he chose to carry out alterations



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in the Second Empire style was significant because this style was a consciously "modern" movement deriving its inspiration from contemporary Paris. This attitude towards architectural style in part reflected the modern changes occurring in Woodbury. It was a style of the time, not one looking back to the past, such as the neighboring Renaissance Revival bank. The Second Empire style became the great style of public buildings in the United States, as exemplified in Philadelphia's City Hall of 1874. It began to be popular in domestic architecture in the 1870s and 1880s.

Second Empire architectural alterations noted in the Hunter-Lawrence-Jessup House include the high concave mansard roof with dormer windows on the steep lower slopes. A molded cornice bounds the roof slope both above and below. Decorative paired brackets support the eaves at both the upper and lower cornice. Decoratively patterned slate tiles cover the mansard roof. The arched dormer windows with scrolled wood surrounds also typify this style. The transformation from the gabled roof to the mansard roof was also considered functional as it allowed for greater use of attic space, a necessity for the Jessups with their seven children.

Other Victorian Second Empire alterations to the house include the one-story bay addition, the paired entry doors with covered porch, and the one story side porch. On the wooden bay addition, the long and narrow proportions of the paired windows were typical for the period. Simple pilasters support ornate paired wood brackets. The front porch is composed of two chamfered wood posts resting on carved wood pedestals and two pilasters on applied pedestals, each with wedge shaped brackets supporting a prominent bracketed cornice. A similar design was carried out on the side porch.

The interior of this house was also completely remodeled in 1888. It too has a distinctly Victorian character with ornate wood doors and windows with embossed metal hardware. Pocketed double doors between double parlors, glass and metal lighting fixtures, and a staircase with intricately carved newel posts, rails and bannisters also are Victorian in character.

After Jessup's death, the property was purchased by the Gloucester County Historical Society in 1924. Sybil Tatum Jones, whose great-uncle David Ogden had once owned the house, became resident curator for the Historical Society. She was responsible for the 1930s alterations made to the rear wing where she remodelled the interior in the Colonial Revival style. This style emphasized a greater attention to historical detail and a return to the Hunter-Lawrence-Jessup House's eighteenth century roots.

The most prominent element of the 1930s remodeling is the grand Palladian window placed in the added stair hall. Other colonial details added include raised panelling with a classically inspired fireplace in the first floor rear parlor. Just as the house changed to match Victorian tastes during

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National Park Service**

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Jessup's time, so Jones in the twentieth century changed portions of the rear wing to reflect current architectural attitudes of her time.

The architectural evolution of the Hunter-Lawrence-Jessup House and the significance of John Jessup and the integrity of his 1888 alterations support additional areas of significance within the property's existing National Register listing.