

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED JUN 21 1979

DATE ENTERED

AUG 24 1979

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

South Church Manse

AND/OR COMMON

Former Church Parsonage

LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

138 West Church Street

— NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Bergenfield

— VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

9th

STATE

New Jersey 07621

CODE

34

COUNTY

Bergen

CODE

003

CLASSIFICATION**CATEGORY** DISTRICT BUILDING(S) STRUCTURE SITE OBJECT**OWNERSHIP** PUBLIC PRIVATE BOTH**PUBLIC ACQUISITION** IN PROCESS BEING CONSIDERED**STATUS** OCCUPIED UNOCCUPIED WORK IN PROGRESS**ACCESSIBLE** YES: RESTRICTED YES: UNRESTRICTED NO**PRESENT USE** AGRICULTURE COMMERCIAL EDUCATIONAL ENTERTAINMENT GOVERNMENT INDUSTRIAL MILITARY MUSEUM PARK PRIVATE RESIDENCE RELIGIOUS SCIENTIFIC TRANSPORTATION OTHER:**OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Mrs. Emorie A. Leiby

STREET & NUMBER

138 West Church Street

CITY, TOWN

Bergenfield

— VICINITY OF

STATE

New Jersey 07621

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Bergen County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

355 Main Street

CITY, TOWN

Hackensack

STATE

New Jersey

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

New Jersey Historic Sites Inventory (406.5)

DATE

1973

 FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Office of Historic Preservation

CITY, TOWN

Trenton

STATE

New Jersey

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input 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		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This twelve room house, constructed of hard-burned brick, has the mark and general appearance of a mid-19th century house. The gable roof is slate covered. The white-bracketed cornices on the porch columns and the medallioned entrance door have fine Victorian details. These details are similar to the details of the South Church entrance porches.

The side hall provides entrances at both east and west sides of the building. The detailing of 10' high ceiling rooms have rich plaster cornices and a plaster medallion for the central hall lighting fixture. The parlor and library fireplaces are white marble. The hand-carved mahogany newel post and balusters are features of the main staircase.

The three bay 2 1/2 story unit has floor to ceiling 6/9 sash on the front facade. The lintels are sandstone as is the foundation. The gabled roof has a return with brackets under the eaves. Appended to the south of this three bay unit is a two story two bay wing. The south wall is of random coursed sandstone (giving credence to the tradition of an earlier building on the site), but was apparently completely rebuilt when the main unit was constructed in 1861.

Entrance from the front porch on the east side of the unit through the medallioned double doors leads into the side hall, 8'6" wide, facing the mahogany-railed staircase with a panelled base, under which is a stairway to the cellar, and the west side double doors. On the right of the hall is the living room, 16' x 17', with two large east windows reaching to the floor (6/9) and 1 north window (6/6) and a marble face fireplace. The north and west windows have panelling to the floor.

On the left of the hall is the dining room, 22' x 15', with a restored fireplace, panelled and framed with a bolection molding, a built-in cupboard, and a back stairway. The south wall of the house is red sandstone taken from the original house. The cellar runs the length and width of the house and consists of two large rooms, a photography darkroom, and a preserve closet. There is a modern brick fireplace in the larger room.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

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Bergenfield Borough
Bergen County New Jersey 034

CONTINUATION SHEET DESCRIPTION ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 2

The second floor of the main wing has two bedrooms matching the first floor and dressing room and bath (added); the smaller wing has three bedrooms and bath, with a square hall leading to the back stairway. There is a crawl space over the small wing and a large high attic over the main wing.

There are two front porches extending the length of the house on the east leading on to a flagstone and brick patio, surrounded by Old English boxwood.

The outbuildings are a three-room cottage, early 19th century, attached to a carriage house of the same vintage as the main house and now used as a garage. The small building is an original tool shed. Below the shed is a large spring, emptying into Long Swamp Brook. It is believed that this spring was a deciding factor in building the South Church on its site across the street from the house, as it provided fresh water for the horses and the congregation which enjoyed their noonday meal in the fine weather between morning and afternoon services.

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 checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

1861

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Architecture

The South Church Manse is a good example of a vernacular Victorian house of the third quarter of the 19th century. Perhaps the best example of its type in Bergenfield, the house has a traditional New Jersey block form with a linearly projecting wing. The floor to ceiling first floor front fenestration is relatively uncommon in New Jersey, but particularly rare is the 6/9 sash in these windows. Otherwise the building exhibits a very conventional plan and was probably derived from an architectural plan book of the period. Its standard form, traditional motifs, but detailed features indicate that this building was constructed by one of Bergenfield's best mason/architects.

Religion

The former parsonage of the South Schraalenburgh Dutch Reformed Church served as the home of a series of domines from 1861 through 1918. The original parsonage on this site was partially destroyed by a Tory raiding party in 1776. Following the building of a new church in 1799, the parsonage was renovated and restored in 1806. In 1861 a major reconstruction left the house as it presently appears. It served as a parsonage and theological seminary until 1918 when it was bought as a residence by the family of the present owner, who made substantial interior restoration.

The house stands today on two handsomely landscaped acres, bound on the east by Long Swamp Brook and facing Cooper Park and the South Church and cemetery on the north. The church house, on extensive grounds, adjoins the house on the west.

The parsonage has therefore a rich, historic past and is an integral part of an impressive, unified assemblage of an architecturally harmonious group in a well landscaped setting.

The Manse was involved in countless social activities of the church since it was the only visible edifice within sight of the church for many years.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

The Early Dutch and Swedish Settlers of New Jersey, (Van Nostrand) 1964
The Huguenot Settlement of Schraalenburgh, (Bergenfield Free Public Library) 1964
The Hackensack Water Company, 100 years Bergen County Historical Society) 1969
The Buildings of the South Church, 1969
The United Churches of Hackensack & Schraalenburgh, 1686-1822, (Bergen

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY two +

QUADRANGLE NAME Hackensack QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24000

UTM REFERENCES

A	1,8	5,8,3	9,6,0	4,5	3,1	1,2,0	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING				
C							D			
E							F			
G							H			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Block 71, Lot 1A

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

(Terry Karschner, Office of Historic Preservation, Trenton 609-292-2023)

Mrs. Emorie A. Leiby

ORGANIZATION

DATE

138 West Church Street

(201) DJ4-2424

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

Bergenfield

New Jersey 07621

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 *[Signature]*
 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

5-18-79

TITLE Deputy Commissioner, Dept. of Environ. Prot. DATE May 18, 1979

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

[Signature]
 KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE *8-24-79*

ATTEST: *[Signature]*
 CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

DATE *August 04, 1979*

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CONTINUATION SHEET SIGNIFICANCE ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 2

The Manse was later the home of Adrian Coulter Leiby, a foremost historian on New Jersey, from childhood until his death in 1976. He was a lawyer, author and historian. He graduated from Middlebury College in 1925 and from Columbia Law School in 1929, where he was an editor of the Law Review. In 1929-30 he served as law clerk to Mr. Justice Harlan F. Stone, and thereafter practiced law in New York City, and was for many years a senior partner in the New York and Washington law firm of LeBoeuf, Lamb, Leiby and Mac Rae.

History became his avocation, particularly the history of Dutch New Jersey and the Dutch Reformed Church.

MAP OF PROPERTY AT
BOROUGH OF BERGENFIELD,
BERGEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

COGGAN & THOMAS
ENGINEERING & SURVEYING
20 HUNT, N.J.

South Church House
BERGENFIELD
BERGEN COUNTY
NEW JERSEY 034

17-40

June 15, 1973

CHURCH STREET

