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Batsto Village is a remnant of a bog-iron community. The iron furnace originally built in 1766, rebuilt in 1786 and again in 1829. Cast iron until 1848. The furnace supplied iron to a forge and a relland slitting mill from ore that was dug in the local bogs. It was made into pigs, munitions, holloware, water pipe and stoves.

The Village that grew around the furnace included a saw mill, grist mill, store, and workers cottages sufficient to house over 500 people. A limekiln, charcoal house, and stamping mill augmented the production of iron. A church to the west of the village supplied the religious needs of Batsto and Pleasant Mills.

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The land supplied the raw materials: Ore, flux, charcoal and water power for the furnace and mills. The water also supplied the transportation to cities as near as Philadelphia and New York.

The people lived in a near wilderness that was diminished in proportion to the productivity of the furnace and the land.

The economic decline of the iron industry 1855 and the subsequent glass factory 1867 left batsto a dying town in <u>1876</u> when it was purchased by Joseph Wharten. He rebuilt the mansion and made many other changes. He increased his holdings to over 140,000 acres.

In 1954 this property now reduced to 96,000 acres was purchased by the State of New Jersey. Batste Village encompassing about 15 acres was part of this purchase. Included were the grist mill, saw mill, barns, mansion, workers cottages, and blacksmith shop.

Since 1957 there has been an on-going restoration program at Batste. To date the source, grist mill, blacksmith shop, saw mill, barns and several workers cottages have been restored. These are small (24' x 15') two story structures with a kitchen addition.

The mansion is in an excellent state of preservation. The interior has been furnished and is open to the public as part of a tour. The building now has a Victorian appearance. The earliest section is the center part. It, like all former additions, is obscured by the Victorian embellishments. The center part was built circa 1790. The eastern section was built in the first quarter of the 19th century. The western section was built circa 1830. The Victorian structure was created by Joseph Wharton in 1878-1880. when he added the tower, dining room, the third and fourth stories on the eastern section and changed many of the doors, windows and moldings. He also added a new staircase, bathrooms and did extensive interior remodling.

2 1970

NATIONAL RECISTE 8. Statement of Significance PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate) 16th Century Pre-Columbian I8th Century 20th Century 19th Century 15th Century 17th Century SPECIFIC DATES) (If Applicable and Known) 1766 AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate) Urban Planning Abor iginal Education Political Prehistoric Engineering Other (Specity) Religion/Phi-Historic X Industry historical losophy Invention Science .87 Architecture Landscape Sculpture Art Architecture Social/Human Literature Commerce itorian Communications Military Theater Conservation RISTER Music Transportation

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Batsto Village is significant because it has remained basically unchanged since its industrial era. The iron furnace, glass house, saw and grist mills were all parent industries that aided in the development of American industry. The present setting of an industrial-agricultural community totally removed from encroaching civilization is unique. Its value as an educational and a living museum are borne out in an annual visitation of over 190,000 people.

The furnace produced munitions for the Revolutionary War and the War of 1812. The furnace owners are significant in our nation's and New Jersey's history. They include Charles Reed, Joseph Ball, Chorbes Petit, Charles Thompson and Nathaniel Greene. William Richards and his son Jesse are the most significant people involved with the iron manufacture.

It is an excellent example of an 18th and 19th Century self-sufficient industrial community and contains all aspects of this era from workers cottages and general complimentary craft buildings (blacksmith, miller, etc.).

The presence of so many varying types of barns from different periods is unique. The stone stable is 1830. The cattle barn, threshing barn, mule barn and wooded stable are from that period also. The forage pits and sheep shed are circa 1865. The water tower and piggery are part of the Wharton complex of the 1870's. The structure used as a piggery was moved to the site and used as such.

They were built for the glass workers 1846-1853. These are all that remain of approximately 75 houses. Most of the others were built for the iron workers. The one remaining earlier house dates from the first quarter of the 19th century.

The grist mill, 1828, and the saw mill are working mills. The store is in operation as an operating post office and exhibit and concession area.

The mansion holds all the remnants of its four building periods. It includes part of the 18th century and three periods of the 19th century, a good example of eclectic architecture with heavy Victorian overtones. Extensive records from the Wharton period can trace most of the changes in the mansion. Time books denote the workmen who affected the changes.

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES					
		ledger and time books State Libra and History, Trenton, New Jersey	ry		
Pierce, Arthur D. <u>Iron In T.</u> Brunswick, N.J		es Rutgers University Press. New 7			
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NAME AND TITLE:			C		
Charles I. Wilson Jr., Archaeol	ogist		O		
Historic Sites Section, Depa	ntmont	Environmental Protect. 8-6-70			
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Box 1420, John Fitch Way Plaza		• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	z		
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12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION		NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION			
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As the designated State Liaison Officer for the		I hereby certify that this property is included in	the		
tional Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Publ 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inc		National Register.			
in the National Register and certify that it has					
evaluated according to the criteria and procedu		Thank the Company Her			
forth by the National Park Service. The recom	mended <sup>*</sup>	Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preser	rvation		
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Date September 11, 1970		Date			

Form 10-300a (July 1969)

## UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

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(Continuation Sheet)

(Number all entries)

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Batsto Village Batsto New Jersey 34, Burlington 005 #6. Representation in existing surveys New Jersey Historic Sites Inventory #242.1 Historic Sites Section, Department of Environmental Protection Box 1420 John Fitch Way Plaza Trenton, New Jersey 08625 34

CONTINUATION FORM 10-301 MAP FORM

The bounds of the Batsto District are formed by longitude  $74^{\circ}$  30' on the east, latitude 39° 39' on the north and on the west and south by the Nescochaque Creek and the MullicaRiver. The larger area was described to include the Batsto Forge and a ship building site at the confluence of the Mullica and Batsto Rivers.

