

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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RECEIVED JUL 3 1978
DATE ENTERED DEC 11 1978

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
Woodruff House
AND/OR COMMON
Woodruff House

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
111-113 Conant Street
CITY, TOWN
Hillside Township
STATE
New Jersey
VICINITY OF
11th
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
11th
COUNTY
Union
CODE
34
CODE
035 39

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO at present	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<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:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
T. Winslow Woodruff
STREET & NUMBER
330 Sheridan Avenue
CITY, TOWN
Roselle Park
STATE
New Jersey
VICINITY OF

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.
Union County Courthouse
STREET & NUMBER
Broad Street
CITY, TOWN
Elizabeth
STATE
New Jersey

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
New Jersey Historic Sites Inventory (1473.1)
DATE
1977
—FEDERAL STATE —COUNTY —LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS
Office of Historic Preservation, Dept. of Env. Prot.
CITY, TOWN
Trenton
STATE
New Jersey

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 type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The original 2 1/2 story, four room house with hall and stairway, has mostly 6 over 6 sash, some 6 over 9, some 4 over 4 panned windows, nine inch clapboard siding, and two fireplaces. The living room fireplace has a good Adamesque mantel with center sunburst. In the attic is a smoke house in the first constructed chimney.

Later there was a need for an addition which is also two stories. This section contains eight rooms, four on the first floor, four on the second floor. The fireplace in the keeping room has the original crane. The kitchen fireplace is back to back with the one in the keeping room and the same chimney services both. One of the few alterations in the original structure was the division of the borning room into two bathrooms, one to service the family in the original section and one to service the family in the addition. These sections have been rented since the 1930's.

The basement has the original dirt floor with the original fireplace in the older section.

A one story clapboard store was added in the early 1900's. It measures 14'3" by 23'7". It is presently used for storage and has not been utilized as a store since the 1930's.

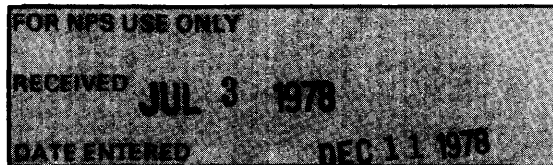
The house is similar to others in the Union County area, notably the Miller-Cory house in Westfield (National and State Register - 1972). Without pretensions of great style, closely hugging the ground, they share the common characteristics of high-end chimneys, stepped-down roofs, small-paned windows and sheltering porch.

The Woodruff House has three major sections of construction--an 18th century 2 story 3 bay unit; a 1 1/2 story 3 bay wing on the gable end, and a one story flat-roofed frame structure added to the front around 1900 and used as a small general store.

The earliest section, built sometime in the 18th century, has a 3 bay, side hall form. Two stories in height, this frame unit has fenestration only on the first floor level and a high knee-wall extending to the eaves. This is a characteristic New Jersey form, the gable end providing light to the second floor level. The chimney is on the gable end. The windows are 6/6 sash with louvered shutters in the front, but there is a 6/9 sash in the rear facade of this section.

The foundation is random fieldstone. Entrance to the earliest section is made via a side doorway protected by a small 20th century classical portico. The door opens to a through hall with a stairway against the outside wall. On the other side of the hall are two large rooms, front and back. The rear room is slightly smaller than the front. In the front room the fireplace is flat against the outside wall and the mantle is a late 18th century design. The central ellipse, engaged collenettes, and broken shelf give off Adamesque characteristics. The rear room has a corner fireplace, but the mantel is very simple with little detailing. Floorboards throughout this section are approximately 14" wide. Construction details in the

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Woodruff House
Hillside Township
Union County New Jersey 034

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7

PAGE 1

attic - 3 1/2 feet between rafters, mortise and tenon pegging, and the lack of a ridge pole - all suggest an 18th century erection date, but the vertical sawn rafters tend to contradict this.

The 1 1/2 story frame wing with stone foundation off the gable end is thought to be a later addition, but probably was constructed before the second quarter of the 19th century. This unit has four apertures on the first floor front facade and three on the second floor. The first floor windows are 6/6 sash. The upper floor windows at the eaves are knee-wall 3 pane windows. The gable end has two full 6/6 sash. Shutters are louvered. Across the front is a one story porch. The rear has a projecting modern bay. This unit has a central tapering chimney. There are four rooms per floor in this section, but only the front rooms have a fireplace.

Projecting out of the end bay of this section is a one story frame structure built around 1900 as a commercial facility for the next thirty years. This early 20th century addition has a large glass storefront facade (boarded up) and a flat roof.

The property is in a primarily residential neighborhood.

9. Bibliography

"Map of part of Hillside and Vicinity at the time of and previous to the Revolutionary War." Published for the New Jersey Historical Society. Grassman Publishing Company, 1964. Originally titled, "Section of Elizabethtown, New Jersey, At the time of the Revolutionary War (1775-1783)." Prepared by Ernest L. Meyer, C.E., 1879.

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 checked="" 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 checked="" 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: 1700-1800

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Built sometime before the Revolution, the Woodruff House is the best preserved colonial building in Hillside and is a representative example of the farmhouses which dotted the New Jersey landscape in the 18th century.

Of English ancestry, the Woodruff family acquired huge tracts of land near Elizabethtown in the late 17th century. The land was gradually divided into smaller farmsteads as the family increased. The property of 113 Conant Street was part of that huge tract of land and while there is little historical documentation to positively establish the date of erection of the house, the construction details confirm an 18th century date.

The last Woodruff family to occupy the house was Charles T. Woodruff and his wife, Theresa Coyne Woodruff. Four sons were born to this couple, Charles Grumman Woodruff, George Coyne Woodruff, author of the History of Hillside and Vicinity, 1934, Ezra F. Woodruff and Timothy Winslow Woodruff, only survivor and present owner.

Charles T. Woodruff, last of the family to actively farm this land, specialized in extensive orchards, both apples and peaches. As his forebearers, he continued to produce cider and vinegar on a site near the original cider mill that had stood on adjacent land. He was an active member of the New Jersey Horticulture Society. Charles T. Woodruff and his four sons gradually sub-divided the land into building lots for construction of homes during the 1920's. The original house now stands on a lot 94' x 150' remnant of the original land grant.

Commerce

At the turn of the 20th century, Charles Woodruff added a small general store onto the front of the farmhouse. While the family probably always sold their own products locally, the construction of a small store to do so indicates a change from farmer/merchant to merchant/farmer.

Politics/Government

Operating from around 1900 to 1930, the Woodruff store provided for a myriad of political and community services.

Due to the centralized location and easy accessibility, the store (added in the late 1800's) functioned not merely as a general store but for governmental activities and a myriad of functions ranging from tax collection center, where Mr. David Doremus, Union Tax Collector, would collect the taxes. The store also held Election Board Meetings, served as meeting place where the plans for incorporation of Township of Hillside were made, Volunteer Fire Department meetings

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- George Coyne Woodruff, A History of Hillside and Vicinity, 1934.
 Jean Rae Turner, Along the Upper Road, 1976.
 Staff-Hillside National Bank, Eight Colonial Homes, 1955.
 Hillside Historical Society, An Historic Walk Along Conant Street, 1975.
 Hetfield, History of Elizabethtown.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 94' x 150'

UTM REFERENCES

A	<u>18</u>	<u>565900</u>	<u>4504130</u>	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Block 1703, Lots 56 & 57 on the Hillside Township Tax Map

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Jane Eaton Schoor, Vice President

⁶⁰⁹⁻⁹⁸⁴⁻⁶⁰¹²
 (revisions by Terry Karschner,
 Office of Historic Preservation)

ORGANIZATION

Hillside Historical Society

DATE

11/1976 & 12/1977

STREET & NUMBER

158 Conant Street

TELEPHONE

(201) 354-8964

CITY OR TOWN

Hillside

STATE

New Jersey

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL X

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

TITLE

Terry Karschner
 Deputy Commissioner, Dept. of Env. Protection

DATE

6-14-78

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DATE

12-11-78

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

REGISTER

REGISTER

ATTEST:

Lynn A. Beebe

DATE

Dec. 10, 1978

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER