Form No. 10-300 REV. (9/77)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE		
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FAIR	UNEXPOSED				

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Longsteet Farm, situated on six acres on Longstreet Road in Holmdel Township, consisted of 22 structures ca. 1900. Nineteen remain, 3 of which were relocated in the present century. The house and associated outbuildings are all of frame construction and are predominantly rectangular and gabled. They span the period from the late eighteenth to the late nineteenth centuries.

All major structures are in good condition. Three have been structurally altered during the present century. The remainder have received minor changes but still retain their 19th century character. Other features include 3 cisterns, 2 dug wells, and a drive well (all in good condition).

Restoration to the period of the 1890's is in progress.

Blg. 222 - The Farm House ca. 1790 - 1810 is a 2 story structure with a 1 1/2 story ell, gabled, with timber frame. The two enclosed end chimneys on the west wall each service two fireplaces, with stepped site jambs, on the first and second floors.

Large shingles and horizontal beaded siding remain on the original sections, clapboards on ca. 1840-1860 addition. The facade cornice on the main section is late Federal with modillion blocks surmounting a guilloche embellished frieze. Original 12/12 D.H. sash is pegged frames, paneled shutters and hardware which are intact on back (north elevation), had been replaced with late Victorian windows and shutters on the front (south elevation).

The front "dutch" door with gothic arched overhead transom lights opens into a central hallway which retains its original flooring, cornice (a cyma crown moulding), wainscoting, and stairs. Adjacent to the Adamesque chimney breast in the principle parlor is an original built-in cupboard with scalloped shelves and moulded plate rails.

Structurally, the original house has been altered twice. Circa 1840-1860 the ell was extended to twice its length, in so doing two fireplaces, a bake oven, and an 18" x 60" chimney were demolished for one small fireplace, a new kitchen with a wood stove, additional bedrooms, and a summer kitchen. An Ionic tetrastyle portico replaced an earlier dutch stoop, and the overhanging shed roof (south) was extended to create a kitchen wider than the ell.

1900-	COMMUNICATIONS	_INDUSTRY	POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	OTHER (SPECIFY)	
1800-1899	COMMERCE	EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	PHILOSOPHY	TRANSPORTATION	
_1700-1799	ART	ENGINEERING	MUSIC	THEATER	
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£1400-1499	ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	CONSERVATION	LAW	SCIENCE	
PREHISTORIC	ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	COMMUNITY PLANNING	LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	RELIGION	
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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

SIGNIFICANCE

The Longstreet Farm buildings with their individual techniques of construction, accretions, and justaposition against each other, show evolution of a farmstead through a century of agricultural growth into the heights of the Industrial Revolution. Unique because it retains all of its major features in good condition and most of its ancillary structures once typical of much of the Mid-Atlantic region settled by the Dutch. Documentary and archaeological evidence indicate that existing structures may be the second generation of buildings to occupy the site, as was often the case in properties owned by prominent individuals.

Originally, the Longstreet Farm was a portion of an 1800 acre plantation acquired by Richard Stout and his noted wife, Penelope in 1665 as part of the Monmouth Patent which they settled one year earlier.

In 1688, a 250 acre parcel adjoining their homestead was given to son Jonathan and his wife, Anna who sold it to a Doctor James Hubbard of Long Island in 1704. Doctor Hubbard probably constructed the first house (from which the early joists in Building #221 may be from) on this property. Circa 1729, the property was transferred to "Ensign" Elias Covenhouen through his wife's inheritance, then to his son, Colonel John ⁴ who sod the ⁵ house and 150 acres to his brother-in-law, Hendrick Hendrickson. ⁵ Hendrick was LAY JUDGE of the county common pleas court between 1786 and 1801, a presiding judge, and held numerous notes and mortgages for county residents.

Documentation does not exist which will establish actual construction dates; however, Hendrickson's daughter and son-in-law, Aaron Longstreet (who died in 1800) "resided upon the property."

Hendrick Longstreet purchased the property from his grandfather, Hendrick Hendrickson, in 1806. He is evidently the individual who started the development of the farm into what it is today. At his death in 1859, his estate was valued at \$196,278, the bulk of which was bonds and notes covering business firms and farmers.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

(See attached)

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CONTINUATION SHEET DESCRIPTION ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 2

Circa 1911, three dormers replaced four eyebrow windows on the south elevation of the ell, and one on the north. A narrow, open porch over the cistern, east end, was replaced with an enclosed "sun" porch.

Interior changes involved replacing the ca. 1840-1860 chimney, fireplace, etc. with an other, and the addition of a chimney to service a wood stove in the remodeled kitchen. At this time, "colonial revival" accretions appeared throughout the interior.

Blg. 207 - The Carriage House is a later 19th Century frame, modified rectangular 1-2 story structure with gable and shed roof and clapboard siding. A truss creates a 32' x 48' room for vehicle storage, two box stalls, and two straight stalls. Interior walls are finished with an oiled, horizontal wainscot. Circa 1900, 12' x 12' wash and harness room was added to back (west) elevation. All elements are in excellent condition.

All elements in this English style barn are in excellent condition.

Blg. 210 - The principle structure in the farm yard complex is this Dutch barn. Dating from the late eighteenth century, or very early nineteenth, it is probably contemporary with the farm house. This "H" frame structure is four bays deep, three bays wide, and has a root cellar. The fifteen foot, double doors in each gable end opens onto a thrashing floor approximately 25' x 40'. The original hand rived shingles, fastened with hand wrought nails remain on all but the front (north) elevation.

During the late nineteenth century, a four bay shed (Blg. #209) was added to the entire east wall. This frame appendage has not structurally damaged the main building, but has served to protect the original unpainted siding from the weather. It was probably at this period, that the hay fork was installed in the mow.

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CONTINUATION SHEET DESCRIPTION ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 3

Circa 1938 the north facade had two, six light windows installed, clapboards replaced the original shingles, and sliding doors took the place of swinging doors. At this time, a 10' x 10' concrete block milk room was built into the NE corner, a silo constructed on the south wall in the barnyard (only the crumbling base remains), and several doors were cut to facilitate the adjoining dairy.

With the exception of the appended lean-to, this building is in excellent condition.

Blg. 211 - This early to mid-nineteenth century 2 story, five bay, rectangular, barn with shingle siding retains all its original hewn frame elements in the second story, and most of its exterior walls on the ground floor. Originally conceived as a stable, and/or general purpose barn, it had double doors on both the northern and southern exposures, which probably opened onto a drive through area. Access to the mow was through a small door, centrally located on the north wall, two doors equally spaced on the south facing the barn yard, and via ladders on the interior. During the late nineteenth century, a hay fork was installed in the mow which extends out the west gable end.

At the turn of the present century, a shed, erected in two stages, was appended to the length of the south wall. In 1938, this building and adjoining Blg. #212 were converted into a dairy. The ground floor was gutted, south wall removed, poured concrete floor installed, and steel lolly columns replaced verticle members. The original doors were replaced by sliding doors, and numerous windows were installed on the north, west, and south walls.

This building is currently in fair condition and is restorable, with some reconstruction.

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR HCRS USE ONLY RECEIVED JUN 1 9 1979 DATE ENTERED. NOV 2 9 1979

CONTINUATION SHEET DESCRIPTION ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 4

Blg. #212 - This gabled, two story, rectangular building, constructed in the early to mid-nineteenth century, retains all of its hand hewn frame components. Verticle board sliding covers all but the first floor of the western elevation which has sawn shingles. Doors centered in each of the four bays provide access to the mow on the west elevation. Circa 1938, when this and the adjoining Blg. #211 were converted to a dairy, the ground floor was altered by a poured concrete floor over what was probably a dirt floor, stanchions were installed, the double door at the north end of the west wall was replaced by a sliding door, an additional sliding door was placed on the east wall, and windows were cut into all but the south wall.

This structure is in good condition, and can be taken back to its nineteenth century appearance without major restoration.

Blg. 213 - The one story rectangular shaped cow shed with verticle board siding completes the enclosure of the barnyard. Constructed during the late nineteenth century, the steep eastern slope of the gabled roof provides an overhanging shelter for livestock. The entire eastern side, has eight doors entering the four bays. Only one door, centrally located, pierces the back (north). Good condition.

Blg. 214 - The mid to late nineteenth century, rectangular ice house was moved from location E on site plan during the 1930's to its present location. The clapboard siding, double doors, and cupola on the gable roof are all original. Its interior walls, and insulation have been removed, however, with the exception of modern hinges, and a very early wrought hasp, it retains all of its original character, and is in very good condition.

Blg. 215 - This late nineteenth century, frame log house with shed roof is structurally sound. The verticle board siding has deteriorated, and must be replaced. The 5 six light windows are in good condition. Several extra doorways have been cut through, but it retains its original character.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR HCRS USE	ONLY	
RECEIVED	IUN 1 9 1979	
DATE ENTERED		29 Ig79

CONTINUATION SHEET DESCRIPTION ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 5

Blg. 216 - The main section of this mid to late nineteenth century chicken house contains the roosts. A later nineteenth century one room addition with board floors was probably built for storage of supplies and/or brooder room. Both sections have shed roofs, and are in fair condition.

Blg. 217 - This five hole frame, turn-of-the-century privy has two windows, gabled roof and clapboard siding. The ceiling and interior walls are finished with wainscot. Moved from its original location ca. 1930 to be utilized for tool storage, it is not over a pit. Its original flooring disappeared, probably at that time. All other elements are intact and in good condition.

Archeological evidence, and photographs have located its previous position between Blg. #221 and 222 (structure I on site plan).

Blg. 218 - This portion of the Summer Kitchen, a $14' \times 16'$ structure is contemporary with the ca. 1840-1860 addition to the farmhouse. It is rectangular, has a gable roof and is frame.

The early double doors, center south, and two windows with shutters on the north and east, and clapboards on the south and west. The west end was constructed during the early 1920's when this building was moved here from location A. At this time a privy was installed in the northeast corner.

As originally conceived it was a building 34' long, with two rooms, and a chimney centrally located. The above section is the eastern half. The southwest corner of the demolished portion abutted the northeast corner of the house.

Many elements in this building are in poor condition, but with this as a pattern, and the archeological data, an accurate reconstruction is possible.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR HCRS USE ONLY RECEIVED JUN 1 9 1979 DATE ENTERED 10 12 9 1000

CONTINUATION SHEET DESCRIPTION ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 6

Blg. 206 - This mid-nineteenth century double Corn Crib is framed with hewn elements. Tenons go through the mortises, and are pegged on the exterior walls. The exterior fabric has been repaired, and possibly replaced. The center double doors on each end provide an area for wagon storage and most hardware is original. Cribs are sided with vericle slats covered with hardware cloth. Gable ends are clapboard above the doors. Good condition.

Blg. 219 - The two bay rectangular Wagon House is early to mid-nineteenth century, with large hewn framing. The steep gable roof provides ample space for storing wagon bodies and implements by hanging them from the rafters. It has verticle and clapboard siding. This building is in excellent condition.

Blg. 220 - This late eighteenth or early nineteenth century, 2 story "Potato House" is set on a full brick cellar. The five casement windows in the cellar are covered with a very early iron Cellar access was through a hatch from the first floor arillwork. until the addition of an exterior stairway in the mid to late nineteenth century. The south gable end retains its original double doors, two 4/2 D. H. windows, and door to the second floor. Above that, the winch is still in place in the gable extension. Hand rived shingles, fastened with wrought iron nails covers both gable ends. The splayed sides suggest that one of this barn's original functions was that of a corn crib. All interior framing for the cribs was removed during the mid-nineteenth century. The original siding on the west wall was replaced at that time, then again in the 1960's, with verticle board siding. The crib lath remains on the east wall because the attached mid to late nineteenth century shed, enclosed with clapboards, serves as the exterior. A built in work bench and tool storage room cover the west wall first floor. Access to the second story is via a stairway in the southeast corner. A built in work bench with harness vise and two early closets complete the second story. Circa 1890, an exterior chimney was attached to the north wall to service stoves on both floors.

Structurally, the building is in excellent condition. Only minor work is required for restoration to a nineteenth century appearance.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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CONTINUATION SHEET DESCRIPTION ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 7

Blg. 221 - The Shop, a 1-1/2 story clapboard covered, frame structure was partially assembled from salvaged building materials, probably in the mid-nineteenth century. Of particular interest are two early eighteenth century floor joists, re-used at plate level. They retain vestiges of thin red paint, both are smoothly hand planed and their lower edges are embellished with a decorative bead. The south gable end has a pair of double doors leading into each bay. A concrete floor was installed over the dirt floor in the 1930's. Shortly after initial construction a 2-bay open shed was appended to the east side, which created intersecting gables. This building is in very good condition.

Blg. 223 - The rectangular Pump House with gabled roof retains only its original mid-nineteenth century framing and double doors at each end. Prior to the turn of the century it was widened by approximately three feet, had a small door added to the east end, and exterior chimney to the west end. At that time a small electrical generating plant, (remnants of which are still in place), and pumps for the dug well were installed. A patch in the roof, directly over the well, and miscellaneous parts discovered nearby, suggest that a windmill may have stood over this building.

Circa 1911, when "modern" windows were installed in the parlor of the house, the old 12-light sash were relocated here, two on the north, one on the south, and one on the west. A poured concrete floor also went in. The board and batten siding replaces the original vertical fabric.

This building is in good condition, but several minor changes are required to return it to its nineteenth century condition.

Blg. 224 - This octagonal Well Curb is a reconstruction of the mid-nineteenth century structure which occupied the site. Built in 1975, it retains the original roof ornament, and well pulley.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR HCRS USE ONLY RECEIVED JUN 1 9 1979 DATE ENTERED

CONTINUATION SHEET DESCRIPTION ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 8

Other features include the excavated foundations of an $8' \times 10'$ frame smokehouse (structure F), and an $8' \times 8'$ frame building of undetermined function (structure G).

To date, archeological excavations have been completed in and around the house and in areas known or suspected to yield information about structures which have been moved or destroyed since the turn of the present century. Portions of eighteenth century foundations have been located under the Carriage House (Blg. #207) and in several of the exercise lots. It is felt that these sites may yield data pertinent to the farm's early history after an excavation.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR HCRS USE ONLY RECEIVED JUN 1 9 1979 DATE ENTERED NOV 2 9 1979

CONTINUATION SHEET SIGNIFICANCE ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 2

Jonathan Longstreet, Hendrick's son, was admitted to the bar as an attorney in 1854 and as a counselor in 1857. In that year, he retired to manage his father's farm and in this period he also acquired two additional farms bringing the property to 489 acres. Jonathan held numerous mortgages, stocks and bonds as his father had done.

During his lifetime he was a very admired and well-trained individual, having visited Europe in 1863 and several trips through the USA. He was also president of the Holmdel Fire Insurance Company and the Keyport and New York Transportation Company.

In 1889, May Ann Longstreet purchased the property from her brother Jonathan's estate. It was then worked on shared by her nephew, Jonathan I. Holmes, who inherited it on her death in 1911. Upon his death in 1924, everything was left to his daughter, May Duncan, who sold off the bulk of her inheritance.

In 1962, Monmouth County purchased 131 acres of the farm and has subsequently developed it into Holmdel Park. In 1967, the county purchased the six acres containing the house and outbuildings. Mrs. Duncan retained a life tenancy. After May Duncan's death in 1977, the county took possession of the house and immediate grounds, then started restoration work.

This farmstead of traditionally constructed vernacular buildings is typical of a 19th century progressive farm. Fortunately, adaptive reuse during the present century has preserved most of its early character. Continued development of the site as a living historical farm encusres the retention of its fine 19th century integrity and restoration of its missing elements.

¹James S. Brown. "Historical Background of the Longstreet Farm-Holmdel County Park" December 1977, Unpublished Manuscript available through the Monmouth County Park System, Newman Springs Road, Lincroft, New Jersey. Page 3.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR HCRS USE ONLY RECEIVED JUN 1 9 1979 DATE ENTERED NOV 2 9 1979

CONTINUATION SHEET SIGNIFICANCE ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 3

- ²Frankling Ellis, HISTORY OF MONMOUTH COUNTY NEW JERSEY, Cottonport, Louisiana: Polyanthos, Inc. 1974. Pages 63 and 518.
- ³For the story of Penelope Stout, see Smith's History of New Jersey (1765) and later Monmouth County histories.
- ⁴George C. Beekman. EARLY DUTCH SETTLERS OF MONMOUTH COUNTY, NEW JERSEY, New Orleans, Louisiana: Polyanthos, Inc. 1974. Page 21. Colonel John Covenhoven represented Monmouth County in the Provincial Congress, member of council of safety, Colonel of state troops and the Monmouth Militia.
- ⁵Son of Hendrick, builder of Holmes-Hendrickson House, another National Register property 1/4 mile away.
- ⁶Franklin Ellis, HISTORY OF MONMOUTH COUNTY NEW JERSEY, Cottonport, Louisiana: Polyanthos, Inc. 1974, page 298.
- ⁷Ibid. Page 312.
- ⁸Ibid. Page 229.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR HCRS USE ONLY JUN 1 9 1979 RECEIVED NOV 2 9 1979

CONTINUATION SHEET

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