

DATA SHEET

Form 10-300
(Rev. 6-72)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: New Jersey
COUNTY: Salem County
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE FEB 24 1975

1. NAME	
COMMON: Sarah and Samuel Nicholson House	
AND/OR HISTORIC:	

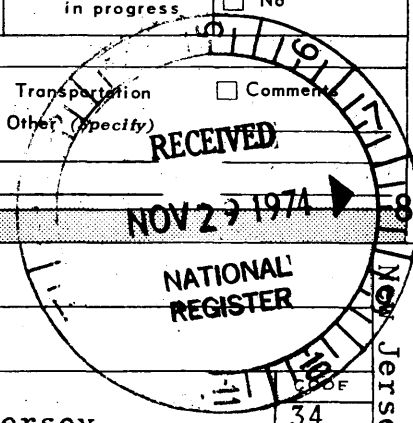
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: 2 mi S of Salem on Amwellbury Rd. Amwellbury Road (closest to intersection with Featherbed Lane)			
CITY OR TOWN: Elsinboro Township		CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: 2nd - Charles Sandman	
STATE: New Jersey	CODE: 34	COUNTY: Salem	CODE: 033

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 type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<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 (Specify) <input type="checkbox"/> Comments

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY	
OWNER'S NAME: B. Harold Smick, Jr.	
STREET AND NUMBER: Amwellbury Road	
CITY OR TOWN: Elsinboro Township	STATE: New Jersey

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION	
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Salem County Court House	
STREET AND NUMBER: 94 Market Street	
CITY OR TOWN: Salem	STATE: New Jersey
	CODE: 34

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS	
TITLE OF SURVEY: New Jersey Historic Sites Inventory 1025.4 - HABS - 0-259	
DATE OF SURVEY: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Federal <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local	
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Historic Sites Office	
STREET AND NUMBER: Box 1420	
CITY OR TOWN: Trenton	STATE: New Jersey
	CODE: 34



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: New Jersey
COUNTY: Salem
ENTRY NUMBER: FEB 24 1975
DATE: [blank]
FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input 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

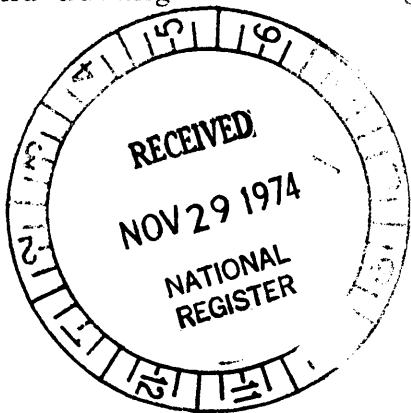
The Sarah-Samuel Nicholson house is a 2 1/2 story, 2 level brick home with a one story frame addition (1948). It was built to serve as the residence of the Nicholsons. Patrick Rocat did the carpentry work, while Joseph Moore did the plastering.

The brickwork is Flemish bond with glazed headers. The South wall has patterned or diaper work across it. On that wall are the date of construction "1752" and the initials S N S (Sarah and Samuel Nicholson). The house has a box cornice and plain window trim, while the windows have brick hoodmolds above them. It has a pent roof across the front of the house that originally turned and extended several feet along either side. According to pictures taken during the 1930's, an identical pent roof also extended across the rear of the house. The rear also has a brick watertable across it. The doorway has fluted pilasters, architrave, cornice, dentils, and louvered door shutters (that have been added later). The house has inside end chimneys on either end and 9 X 9 windows.

Inside, the house has original random-width hardwood floors throughout. Each room also has a broad chairrail along each wall. Each room has a working fireplace, most of which have their original mantles. The fireplace in what was originally the kitchen is one of the largest in Salem County. Next to it is an equally large brick alcove that served as a warming oven. The living room and the two bedrooms directly overhead have back-to-back corner fireplaces. Originally, this section of the living room was two rooms with one fireplace to serve each room. The cellar is paved with bricks with buttressed abutments to make several compartments.

The house was repaired, but not significantly altered, by Thomas Fogg in the 1850's. It underwent significant restoration by Bernard A. Hilliard in 1948. Among the alterations were the closing up of a large hearse door in the rear and the addition of a one story frame wing that served as a garage. Since 1963, the Smicks have undertaken additional restoration including replacement of the original cedar shake roof with colonial blend gray asphalt shingles and adding a detached garage with dormers.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



8. 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 type="checkbox"/> 19th Century	

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture	_____
<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Music		_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation			_____

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Architecture

The Sarah-Samuel Nicholson house is most significant architecturally. Built in 1752, the house is one of the great houses of pre-revolutionary New Jersey that did not undergo extensive "modernization" during the Greek revival or Victorian periods. The only substantive alterations include the frame addition, the sealing off of the hearse door, and the removal of an interior wall to provide a larger living room. Thus, in many respects the house retains much of its original appearance.

In many respects, the Nicholson house typifies the more elegant houses constructed prior to 1776. The Flemish bond brick, the patternwork on the South wall, the large kitchen fireplace, the back-to-back corner fireplace, and the interior floorplan are all characteristic of South Jersey architecture. The Nicholson house vividly illustrates the type of home occupied by the wealthier colonists and the manner and style in which these persons lived. Few other existing homes demonstrate so clearly the lifestyle of the prosperous settlers during the first century of Fenwick's Colony.

Political

The Nicholson house also has political significance of local importance. Samuel Nicholson was the son of Abel Nicholson and the grandson of Samuel Nicholson, both of whom were among the original settlers of Salem County, arriving with John Fenwick in 1675 aboard the "Griffin". After moving to his permanent residence in 1752, Samuel Nicholson played an active role in local politics and held several local offices. He openly supported the patriots during the Revolution, although age and illness limited his activities to verbal support.

The owners of the house are as follows: Samuel Nicholson, 1752-1794; Samuel N. Thompson, 1794-1837; Thomas Fogg, 1837-1885; Joshua Collins, c. 1897-1911; Dilwyn Cuff, 1911-1934; Clifford Cuff, 1934-1948; Bernard A. Hilliard, 1948-1963; B. Harold Smick, Jr., 1963-present.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Letter by Miss Susan Fogg, May 14, 1858, Salem County Historical Society, Salem New Jersey, Scrapbook 24, p. 39.
 New Jersey State Library, Trenton, New Jersey, NJA-21:541 and NJA-21:562.
 Salem County Court House, Salem, New Jersey, Deed book "N."
 Salem County Historical Society, Salem, New Jersey, Record Group #197 and 198, *passim*.
 Sickler, Joseph S. History of Salem County (Salem: Sunbeam Publishing Company, 1937), 35-47.
 -- . The Old Houses of Salem County, 2nd. ed. (Salem: Sunbeam Publishing Company, 1949), 57, 63-64.

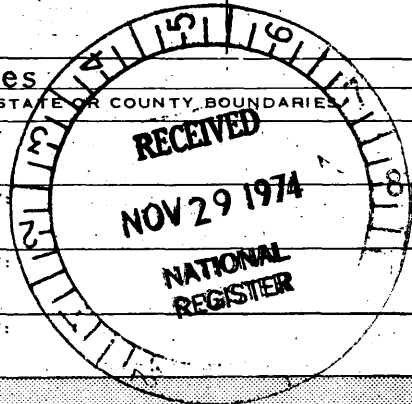
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES			
CORNER	LATITUDE				LONGITUDE			
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds		
NW	39 °	32	49	75 °	29	31		
NE	39 °	32	49	75 °	29	08		
SE	39 °	32	07	75 °	29	08		
SW	39 °	32	07	75 °	29	31		

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 75 acres

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS
 NW 18/458 270/4377 390
 SE 18/458 270/4376 070
 SW 18/457 750/4376 090

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Historic Sites Staff; Research: Art Sewell, Salem County

ORGANIZATION: Department of Environmental Protection DATE: June 21, 1974

STREET AND NUMBER: Box 1420

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

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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: David J. Bardin
 Title: Commissioner, Department of Environmental Protection
 Date: November 21, 1974

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

AR Mortensen
 Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 2/24/75

ATTEST:
Ronald M. Rosenberg
 Keeper of The National Register

Date: 2/21/75

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

(Continuation Sheet) 1.

STATE New Jersey	
COUNTY Salem	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	FEB 24 1975

(Number all entries)

Sarah and Samuel Nicholson House
Elsinboro Twp.
Salem County 033
New Jersey 34

10. Geographic Data Cont.

Follow the property lines of lot 26, Tax Map Sheet numer 9, on the South side of Amwellbury Road. Thence Proceed North across the road, following the line of property of lot 10, Tax Map Sheet number 8.

