

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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**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 **Wyckoff-Bennett Homestead**

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
1669 East 22nd Street

__ NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN
Brooklyn

__ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
16th

STATE
New York

CODE

COUNTY CODE
Kings

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 type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
Mr. and Mrs. Frank C. Williams

STREET & NUMBER
1669 East 22nd Street

CITY, TOWN
Brooklyn

__ VICINITY OF

STATE
New York 11229

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. **City Register's Office, Kings County**

STREET & NUMBER
Municipal Building, Borough of Brooklyn

CITY, TOWN
Brooklyn

STATE
New York

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
New York City Landmarks Commission

DATE
1968

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS **305 Broadway**

CITY, TOWN
New York

STATE
New York

7 DESCRIPTION

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

"The Wyckoff-Bennett House is rectangular in plan with an extension on the north side containing a kitchen and a room said to have been used as a milk house. In the late 1890's, when the land was divided into lots and streets were laid out, the one-and-one-half-story house which had faced south was turned westward and placed upon a brick foundation. Dormers were added at this time, along with six slender columns on the existing full-length west porch to support the roof which sweeps down over the veranda in a gentle curve. The wood-frame structural system of the main part of the house and the extension on the north are sheathed by shingles except the front elevation of the former which is covered by clapboards. Two chimneys in the main house and one in the extension service the structure.

"Much of the handsome 18th century panelled woodwork is intact including panelled closets flanking the parlor fireplace, notable too, for several original Dutch tiles. The structure also contains original sash windows and panes, and a horizontally divided front door penetrated by two original, thick, bluish-green bulls eye glass windows.

A wood-frame barn near the house was built in the 1890's, about the time the house was moved. The barn whose inscribed beam aids in dating the property is no longer standing."¹

1. New York Landmarks Commission files and the National Register form.

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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input 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 type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES circa 1766

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Wyckoff-Bennett House is a superb example of the Dutch Colonial style that survives with little or no change and has been continuously occupied since its construction as the main house of a working farm. The present owners have inherited the property and maintain it beautifully giving visitors a unique glimpse of the early 18th century. The panelling survives and is of museum quality. The house also has important historical associations with the Revolutionary War.

"In the two centuries of its existence, only two family names are associated with this house. In 1835 the farm, consisting of about one hundred acres and certain meadows and woodlands, as well as pew number sixty-two in the old Gravesend Dutch Reformed Church, were bought by Cornelius W. Bennett. The land was farmed by the family until the turn of this century. Four generations of the Bennett family have lived in the house since it was purchased from the Wyckoffs.

"From an inscription found cut in a beam in the old barn, we can assume that the house was standing in 1766. It is believed the farmhouse was built by Henry and Abraham Wyckoff. During the American Revolution, Hessian officers were quartered there. At least one of them recorded a lasting impression on the four-by-seven window panes with a sharp instrument, possibly a diamond. Two of these original panes are carefully preserved by the owners of the house. One is inscribed with the name "Toepfer Capt. of Regt. de Ditfurth" and the other "M. Bach Lieutenant Hessen Hanau Artillerie".¹

The owner of the house has just published a fascinating book on the German mercenaries quartered there: The Hessian Lieutenant Left His Name.

"Singularly distinguished by its fine scale and proportion, this one and one-half story frame dwelling is a handsome example of one of the few remaining Eighteenth Century Dutch Colonial farmhouses still standing in Brooklyn. It is modest in size and in an excellent state of preservation; two hundred years of wear have done little to diminish the simple beauty of its clear cut profile and the dignity of its related parts. It has been declared, by Maud Dilliard the historian, to be the most beautiful example of Dutch Colonial architecture in Brooklyn."²

1. New York Landmarks Commission Report, 1968

2. Ibid.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

"Wyckoff-Bennett Homestead." Report of the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission, 1968.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY approximately one acre
UTM REFERENCES

A	1 1 8	5 8 8 6 6 0	4 4 9 5 8 8 0	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The national historic landmark boundary is coterminous with the legal property boundary for the 200 by 220 foot plot as delineated on the enclosed plot map.

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 Carolyn Pitts, Architectural Historian	DATE August 1976
ORGANIZATION Historic Sites Survey, National Park Service	DATE
STREET & NUMBER 1100 L Street, NW.	TELEPHONE 523-5464
CITY OR TOWN Washington,	STATE D. C.

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.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

TITLE

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION
ATTEST:

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER