

PH0356875

# DATA SHEET

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY  
RECEIVED APR 6 1976  
DATE ENTERED NOV 7 1976

## 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 *la* Huff House and Farmstead  
*\*\**

AND/OR COMMON

### 2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER River Road, At South Branch of Raritan River

CITY, TOWN *Flagtown vic.* Hillsborough Twp. VICINITY OF *NOT FOR PUBLICATION* CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE New Jersey CODE 34 COUNTY Somerset CODE 035

### 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	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<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 Stanley Kanach

STREET & NUMBER South Branch Road

CITY, TOWN Somerville VICINITY OF STATE New Jersey

### 5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. County Clerk's Office

STREET & NUMBER County Office Building

CITY, TOWN Somerville STATE New Jersey

### 6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE New Jersey Historic Sites Inventory (1467.2)

DATE  FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Department of Environmental Protection, Historic Sites

CITY, TOWN Trenton STATE New Jersey

# 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

---

## DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Set on a large flat parcel of farmland, surrounded to the east, north, and west by the South Branch of the Raritan River, the Huff Farmstead has remained wholly intact and basically unaltered since the buildings' construction in 1842. The farm itself consists of some 200 acres.

The Huff House is a 2 1/2 story L-form domestic Greek Revival farmhouse.

The main unit of the building is a 2 1/2 story rectangular 5 bay clapboard structure with a gable roof that has a short overhang in the front. The roof has wooden shingles. There are double chimneys on each gable end facade. The west facade has exposed brick firebacks.

The center hall entranceway has the typical Greek Revival rectangular sidelights and fanlight. Appended to the front facade is a one story porch over three bays, said to have been built shortly after the house's construction. This porch has four support columns of the Ionic order; three of which are original, the fourth a crude modern simulation.

The windows of the front unit are 6/6 sash with the second floor having louvered shutters and the first floor paneled shutters.

Most of the East facade (gable end) is shielded by a one story wooden porch with four columns. The columns have crude flat Ionic capitals and the entire porch appears to have been added either in the late 19th or early 20th century. A side doorway, appearing to be late Victorian, has been added to this gable end facade, further giving credence to the theory of the later addition of the porch.

The foundation is constructed of roughly coursed rubble stone, indigenous to the region.

The interior of the main unit is very simple; having a center hall with two rooms to either side of the hall. The stairway in the hall is off to the side, against the partition of the east rooms. The front rooms are somewhat larger than the back rooms and all have fireplaces with Greek Revival mantels. The upstairs floor plan is identical to the first.

The roof, with its hand hewn rafters, is mortise and tenoned at the ridge line, but lacks a ridge pole.

(cont.)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

Huff House and Farmstead  
Hillsborough Twp.  
Somerset County New Jersey 034

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED APR 6 1976

DATE ENTERED NOV 7 1976

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

7

PAGE

1

The wing to the rear of the structure is a long 4 bay two story clapboard unit which probably functioned as kitchen facilities, as it does presently. This unit creates the L-form of the farmhouse. The wing is not as high as the main unit and has a lower pitched gable roof. The windows are all small paned 6/6 sash with louvered shutters. The brick chimney with corbeled cap is near the end, between the first and second bays. There is a full length one story wooden porch along the linear facade of this wing. The northern third of this porch is enclosed. The opposite facade has a smaller one story wooden porch covering the first three bays; two of which are doorways. The foundation of the entire wing is rubble stone.

The interior of the entire building has been little altered throughout the years. Only the most necessary improvements have been completed.

Electricity, of course, was added, probably in the 1930's. And the kitchen is also of that period. Sanitary facilities, however, are not provided in the structure. Instead, a 1930's detached outhouse exists just to the rear of the wing.

Other buildings on the farm include two large two story barns with double sliding barn doors on the linear facade. In addition, there are several smaller sheds and outbuildings, all dating from the late 19th or early 20th century, to complete this farm complex.

# 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 type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input 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 checked="" 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      1842                                      BUILDER/ARCHITECT      Tunis Huff

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE  
Agriculture

This farmhouse and outbuildings, by their few exterior alterations, reflects the relative stability of New Jersey farms throughout the second half of the 19th century and first half of the 20th century.

Owned and operated as a farm by the Huff Family until 1972, a member of the Huffs still resides in the house, acting as caretaker to the premises.

Tunis Huff (1797-1850's) constructed the house in 1842. In 1850 Huff, a farmer, owned 175 acres of improved land and 25 acres of unimproved land valued at \$13,000. Not a major agricultural farmer, Tunis, was typical of the numerous agricultural farmsteads of the mid-19th century. Fast disappearing throughout New Jersey the survival of this farmstead in its original configuration, even down to the acreage, is somewhat of a rarity in the county and township.

According to the 7th United States Census Huff possessed 7 horses, 8 cows, 2 oxen, 2 cattle, 20 sheel, 17 swine - live-stock valued at nearly \$1,000 in 1850. He also produced 350 bushel of wheat, 75 bushel of rye, 1500 bushel of corn, and 800 bushel of oats. The relative size of Huff's farm was somewhat larger than the average farm within the township, but not exceptionally huge, by any means.

Abraham T. Huff, son of Tunis, according to the 8th United States Census owned the farm ten years later. While essentially the same acreage, the farmstead was then valued at \$17,000; indicating either an increase in real estate value or an inflationary spiral.

Political

While Tunis Huff was not known to hold any political office, Abraham was a surrogate for Somerset County during the 3rd quarter of the 19th century, an officer in the Franklin Agricultural Society of Somerset, New Jersey (Inc. 1857), vice-president of the Farmers and Manufacturer's Association (Inc. 1870), and a member of the New Jersey Assembly in 1868; further indicating the regional importance of the farmstead and its owners.

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

7th United States Census, New Jersey, Somerset County, Hillsborough Township, Schedule #1 and 4.

8th United States Census, New Jersey, Somerset County, Hillsborough Township, Schedule #1.

(cont.)

# 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 2 acres

UTM REFERENCES

510			000						
A	1,8	52,3000	4,485	5,10		B			
	ZONE	EASTING		NORTHING			ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C						D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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 Terry Karschner, Historian-Curator

ORGANIZATION Historic Sites Section, Dept. of Env. Pro.

DATE 12/1975

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE (609) 292-2023

CITY OR TOWN Trenton

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.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE *David J. Bond*

TITLE Commissioner, Dept. of Environmental Pro.

DATE March 15, 1976

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

ATTEST: DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE 11/9/86

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE 4/1/76

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

Huff House and Farmstead  
Hillsborough Twp.  
Somerset County  
New Jersey 034  
**CONTINUATION SHEET**

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED APR 6 1976

DATE ENTERED NOV 7 1976

ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE 1

Atlas of Somerset County, F. W. Beers, 1873. (pp. 51-2)

History of Hunterdon and Somerset Counties, New Jersey.  
James Snell, 1893. (pp. 642-3)