

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: New Jersey	
COUNTY: Salem	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER 7012340015	DATE 12/18/70



H13  
E 460400  
Zn18 N 4373000

**1. NAME**

COMMON:  
Hancock House

AND/OR HISTORIC:

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
-

CITY OR TOWN:  
Hancocks Bridge

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Comments: state-owned historic site

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNER'S NAME:  
New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Box 1390, John Fitch Plaza

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

**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:  
Salem County Court House

STREET AND NUMBER:  
-

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

**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
Historic American Buildings Survey N.J.#6-54

DATE OF SURVEY: 1935       Federal       State       County       Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:  
Library of Congress

STREET AND NUMBER:  
-

CITY OR TOWN: Washington      STATE: District of Columbia      CODE: 08

STATE: New Jersey  
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7. Description

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Hancock House is typical of many that were built in Salem County during the eighteenth century. It was built in 1728 and enlarged in 1734 by William and Sarah Hancock.

The house was built on a large parcel of land that extended on both sides of Lower Alloway Creek adjacent to a bridge that had been built in 1708. Tidal water and salt marsh extended to the bridge. The bridge was within 100 yards of the house and lead to Salem six miles away.

The building is brick on a stone foundation with the gable oriented in and east west direction. The brick is a Flemish bond pattern with glazed headers. The western end is laid up in a zig-zag pattern from ground level to the attic floor line. Above this point there are the initials H.W.S. and the date 1734. These are made with glazed bricks.

The windows are of the sash type, 16 over 16 and are placed symmetrically across the front and rear of the 1734 section. The windows and door are placed proportionally across the front and side of the house. Small windows, four lights, each were placed in the rear of the closets along the gable ends.

There are two rooms on each floor of the 1734 sections and three rooms and loft in the 1728 section. All the rooms have fireplaces. Dormers on each of the sections are different but original. The fireplaces, molding, floors and paneling are original.

The only significant difference in the physical appearance of the building is the encroachment of a highway and twentieth century structures. There are still 2½ acres of land around the property.

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) 1734, (March 21, 1778 - massacre)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal	<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Political	<input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning
<input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> Engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input type="checkbox"/> Industry	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	<u>Historical</u>
<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Music		_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation			_____

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

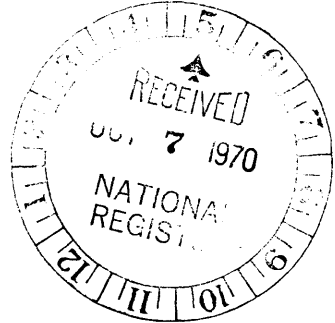
The Hancock House is significant for a massacre during the American Revolution and for its architecture. The attack was in reprisal for the fact that the citizens of Hancock's Bridge sent 300 head of cattle to Washington's army at Valley Forge, Pa., during the bitter winter of 1777-1778.

During the Revolution Thirty men were stationed in the house in order to guard the bridge and to aid foraging parties through the area. On March 21, 1778 Major\*Simcoe with approximately 300 British soldiers, mercenaries and fellow travelers, attacked the house, killing the sentries. They then charged the house forcing the men to the attic where they were bayoneted to death.

Architecturally the brickwork is typical of many early houses in the Salem area. Blue-glazed headers and stretchers were used to create patterns in the brick which often included geometric designs and the initials of the owners. Only a few of these houses remain. The Hancock House is the only one that is state-owned.

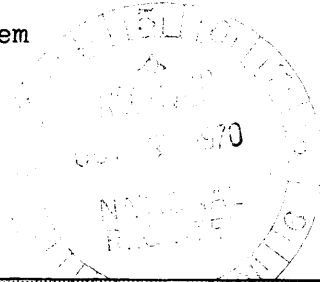
SEE INSTRUCTIONS

\*Connection - Col.



**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Sickler, Joseph S. Old Houses of Salem County, Salem Sunbeam Publishing Co. 1934  
 Stewart, Frank H. Salem County and the Revolution, Salem Salem Standard and Jerseyman, 1934



**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	LATITUDE		LONGITUDE
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees	Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds
NW	° ' "	° ' "	39	° 30 ' 57 "	74 ° 30 ' 07 "
NE	° ' "	° ' "			
SE	° ' "	° ' "			
SW	° ' "	° ' "			

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 2 1/2

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE:  
 Charles I. Wilson, Jr. Archeologist

ORGANIZATION: Environmental Historic Sites Section, Department of Protection DATE: July 1970

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Box 1420, John Fitch Plaza

CITY OR TOWN: Trenton STATE: New Jersey CODE: 08625  
 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: Richard F. [Signature]

Title: Commissioner, Department of Environmental Protection

Date: September 11, 1970

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

[Signature]  
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation  
 DEC 18 1970

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST:

[Signature]  
 Keeper of The National Register  
 NOV 27 1970

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE New Jersey	
COUNTY Salem	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
70.12.340015	12/18/70 J

(Number all entries)

Hancock House  
Hancock's Bridge  
New Jersey, Code: 34  
Salem 033

6. N.J. Historic Sites Inventory #1360.3  
1961 State  
Historic Sites Section  
Department of Environmental Protection  
Box 1420, John Fitch Plaza  
Trenton, N.J. Code: 34  
Mercer County 021

