

NEW JERSEY OFFICE OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY #
INDIVIDUAL STRUCTURE SURVEY FORM

HISTORIC NAME: Horner House
 LOCATION: 44 East Water Street
 MUNICIPALITY: Dover Township
 OWNER/ADDRESS: Cowdrick, Frances
 44 East Water St., Toms River, N.J. 08753
 ORIGINAL USE: Residence
 USGS QUAD:

COMMON NAME: Horner House
 BLOCK/LOT: 664/9
 .21 acres
 Ocean
 UTM Reference: 18/568640/4422420
 PRESENT USE: Residence

DESCRIPTION
 Construction Date: c. 1824
 Architect:
 Style: Vernacular Georgian Survival
 Foundation: Brick
 Structural System: Wood frame
 Exterior Wall Fabric: Clapboard
 Fenestration: 5 bays wide, 6/6 DHS with louvered shutters.
 Entrance Location: South, centrally located within enclosed porch.
 Roof/Chimneys: Pitched gable/ 1 interior.
 Additional Architectural Description:

Deed Records, bk m 2,
 Source of Date: p. 444., bk n 2, p. 303.
 Builder:
 Number of Stories: 2
 Form/Plan Type: Rectangular

In the late 1800's the north and east sections were added for use as a kitchen and upstairs bathroom. The porch was also added at this time. These alterations have not marred the building's integrity. Roof probably redesigned to accommodate box gutters, mid-late 19th century.

PHOTO



MAP (Indicate North) See map 2

(1) Horner House
 Old Village of Toms River
 Multiple Resource Nomination
 Photographer: Charles Gaertne
 Date of photo: Spring 1978
 Negative: Ocean County Museum
 View: Northeast

SITING AND RELATED STRUCTURES:

The Horner House is 35 feet long by 28 feet wide, located on a one quarter acre lot closely fronting East Water Street. A garage is located behind the north facade of the house.

SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT: Open Space [] Woodland [] Scattered Buildings []
Suburban [] Urban [] Residential [x] Agricultural [] Industrial []
Downtown Commercial [] Highway Commercial [] Other [x]

The character of the neighborhood is a mixture of residential with some of the older homes adapted to professional offices. An incompatible parking garage is located west of the Horner House.

SIGNIFICANCE:

Built in 1824, the Horner House is the oldest existing structure in Toms River. Since the British burned the village in 1782, the Horner House along with its neighboring Crawford, Giberson and Stewart houses, are the remnants of the town's early and mid-nineteenth century vernacular architecture. Through their historical association, these wood frame structures also reflect Toms River's maritime history when East Water Street was known as Captains Row.

The Horner House has served as the residence for two families. After marrying and moving from New York, Captain Stephen Gulick had the house built in 1824. Captain Gulick operated a daily ferry service from Toms River to Forked River. In 1832, the house was purchased by Martha Horner, the widow of Joseph Horner who owned one of the local stores in the village. Today, the house remains the residence of a Horner descendant.

PHYSICAL CONDITION: Excellent [X] Good [] Fair [] Poor []
REGISTER ELIGIBILITY: Yes [X] Possible [] No [] As part of district []
THREATS TO STRUCTURE: Roads [X] Development [] Zoning [] Deterioration []
No Threat [] Other []

COMMENTS: East Water Street, from its intersection with Hooper Avenue to Horner Street, is thirty feet wide and cannot accommodate the heavy flow of traffic during peak rush hours. In the mid 1970's, the county widened a segment of the road from Main to Horner Street. If further widening continues the historic houses along Captains Row would be threatened.

REFERENCES:

Cowdrick, Frances. Interviewed by Pauline S. Miller, Toms River, 1978 Monmouth County Courthouse. Deed books. Freehold, N.J.

RECORDED BY: Pauline S. Miller and Kevin McGorty
ORGANIZATION: Ocean County Cultural and Heritage Commission
DATE: Summer 1978