

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

PH 0668907

FOR NPS USE ONLY		DATA SHEET
RECEIVED	MAY 17 1978	
DATE ENTERED	OCT 19 1978	

# 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 Smalley-Wormser House

AND/OR COMMON Cameron's "Rose Hill"

## 2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER *W of Plainfield at*  
84 Mountain Avenue

CITY, TOWN <del>Warren Township</del> <i>Plainfield</i>	VICINITY OF	CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT <i>5th</i>	NOT FOR PUBLICATION
STATE New Jersey	CODE 34	COUNTY Somerset County	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 Mr. and Mrs. Edward L. Cameron

STREET & NUMBER 84 Mountain Avenue Somerset County New Jersey

CITY, TOWN Warren Township VICINITY OF (Somerset County) New Jersey

## 5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Somerset County Hall of Deeds

STREET & NUMBER Somerset County Administration Building

CITY, TOWN Somerville STATE New Jersey

## 6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE New Jersey Historic Site Inventory (NJHSI #3209.4)

DATE 2/1975  FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Office of Historic Preservation, DEP

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

The Smalley/Wormser House, "Rose Hill", was originally built in approximately 1765 as a country farmhouse and home. It is architecturally similar to numerous New Jersey Colonial homes. It sits on a knoll two hundred feet from a small stream with the back of the house, where the original kitchen was located, facing south, thus ensuring good light even in the winter. The house is of wood construction, 24 feet wide and 33 feet long, with two chimneys, one on either side of the house. A large bee hive Dutch oven can be seen on the west side of the house by the original kitchen. The windows on the second floor are the small "eyebrow" or "knee" windows. The original beams are exposed in the living room, where also are found the original fireplace and Dutch oven. Wide floor boards are found in the 1850 section of the house.

The house was originally built in C. 1765 in what may have been the "half house" style, being one room wide and two rooms deep, and 2 and 1/2 stories high, with the front side of the house on the first floor appearing as a half house with two windows in the center and the front door positioned at the end of the house rather than in the middle of the windows and house. This was done often to enable the owner of the house to enlarge the house by adding another half to the house, by adding a second identical side of a house with two windows beyond the existing door on the first floor. Therefore, the frontal exterior would boast of two windows, original door now in the center and two more windows. This procedure was followed in this house in question, 84 Mountain Avenue, in approximately 1848-50, when Mr. Wormser bought the property and so enlarged the house.

The 1765 house apparently consisted of, on the first floor, a front living-sleeping room and a back room which served as the kitchen-living room. This is the area where the fireplace and large Dutch oven still are to be found. The second floor consisted of two bedrooms, one in the front of the house and one in back. The third floor may have been a sleeping loft as it has quite a high ceiling which makes it quite usable.

In 1848-50 the house size was doubled but the character of the house did not seem to be changed. The exterior of the new half was made to look the same as the older section, with, for example, the second story windows being made a matching "eyebrow" window (although the 1850 window is much shallower than the 1765 window). The house in 1850 then was as follows: on the first floor, the 1765 living room became the dining room, and the back

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Description (continued)

room remained as the kitchen. A hallway separated the 1850 half which consisted of front and back sitting rooms. The second story consisted of the two 1765 bedrooms, hallway and two new bedrooms, one front and one back. The attic or sleeping loft was matched almost exactly to the 1765 half with the exception of the type of jointing construction and quality of lumber used. The beams in the older section of the attic are obviously rougher and older, barely more than trimmed tree trunks, whereas the 1850 half's beams are somewhat more refined. The beams in the earlier half are joined by round wooden pegs where the beams in the 1850 section are not. Some of the beams have arrows scratched on them, indicating the direction in which the beam was to be raised and connected in the original construction.

The present 1977 house consists, on the first floor, of the living room, being the older half of the house with the two original rooms being opened to form one larger room, but the two former rooms are still distinguishable by a major beam in the middle of the room's ceiling. The 1850 addition now consists of the dining room and modern kitchen. The second story consists of the four original bedrooms. Dormers and an upstairs bathroom were added in the 1950's.

# 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 checked="" 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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) Local History
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

### Architecture

The Smalley/Wormser House, built in approximately 1765, is significant for it is the only original house still standing in Smalleytown, one of the small villages that comprised colonial Warren Township. The first Smalley, John, settled about one mile from this house in about 1740. Architecturally the house is a good example of a colonial New Jersey farmhouse in the New Jersey colonial style. The front exterior of the house has changed little in 200 years and is quite simple in its original purity. The "eyebrow" windows and beehive Dutch oven are in evidence. Culturally, the interior has been restored quite simply and it is a good example of modern living in a restoration, as well as affording a good example to visitors of how exactly a colonial family might have lived. The Dutch oven is still operable.

### Military

Historically, the house is thought to have been built and owned by David Smalley, a large landowner in the Warren Township area. David Smalley was a patriot, being listed as "Captain, First Battalion, Somerset" in the Official Registry of Officers and Men of New Jersey in the Revolutionary War by William Stryker. He signed up for his first post on July 5, 1776 as an "Ensign, Col. Hunt's Battalion, Heards Brigade." Captain Smalley was also a Justice of the Peace and a judge of the Interior Courts of Common Pleas. Captain Smalley's brothers and descendants also were men of education and civic responsibility, holding local and state offices.

This assumption, that Captain David Smalley owned this house, is based on several facts. The property has been traced back to a deed of 1828 conveying land and premises from the estate of David D. to Martha Dunham. Martha Dunham was probably the sister of David Dunham. Although John Littel does not mention a Martha, he lists Patty Smalley marrying John Dunham. Patty was probably a nickname for Martha, since in David Smalley, Sr.'s will of 1816, he did mention leaving \$550 to his daughter, Martha, who was not yet married. Martha could have still been living in her father's old home and bought it in 1828 to avoid it going out of the family.

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

D.A.R. Patriot Index  
Washington, 1966

Littell, John, Family Records or Genealogies of the  
Passaic Valley Above Chatham, Feltville Press, 1851

# 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 3.11

UTM REFERENCES

A	1 8	5 4 4 4 4 0	4 5 0 0 7 5 0	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The property nominated occupies city block 610, lot 4 and is approximately 200' X 150' in size

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

# 11 FORM PREPARED BY

(Terry Karschner, Office of Historic Preservation, Trenton, 609-292-2028)

NAME / TITLE Eileen K. Cameron, Secretary and Trustee

ORGANIZATION Warren Township Historical Society DATE October 24, 1977

STREET & NUMBER 84 Mountain Avenue TELEPHONE (201) 647-5648

CITY OR TOWN Warren, New Jersey 07060 STATE  

# 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 procedure set forth by the National Park Service.

Deputy *Terry Wilson*  
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

4/27/78

TITLE Deputy Commissioner, Dept. of Environmental DATE Protection

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER	
<u><i>William Lebourch</i></u>	DATE <u>10/19/78</u>
ATTEST: <u>William Lebourch</u>	KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER	DATE <u>Oct 17, 1978</u>

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Significance (continued)

Therefore, the property was owned by a Smalley and a house was standing there in 1828. In John Littel's book on the settlers of the Passaic Valley, he states that David French, who lived in Union Village center, which is exactly a mile from 84 Mountain Avenue, lived about a mile from David Smalley's "homestead." Also, in David Smalley's will of 1816, in caring for his wife, Hannah's welfare, he gave her "the use of the North room of my house and the privilege in the kitchen during her life..." In the house at 84 Mountain Avenue, the present living room was once two rooms, the back or south room being the kitchen where an original Dutch oven still remains, and the front room on the north, which had been a sitting room or parent's room. This room on the north is the logical room which would have been given to the widow. The two bedrooms on the second floor would probably have been used by whichever son had remained living at the homestead with his family.

This house was purchased in 1848 by the Wormser family and owned by them for almost a hundred years. Consequently, it is referred to by some as the "Wormser home." The house was doubled in size by Bartholomew Wormser who added two rooms on the first floor to serve as parlors and two additional bedrooms on the second floor.

The Cameron house, "Rose Hill", is a charming example of a colonial farmhouse and is significant since so few of its type are being saved in this area. Historically it was owned by a locally prominent family who, like so many other hard-working families, helped establish the framework of our nation, each in their small, but productive way.

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Significance (continued)

OWNERS

Deeds to 84 Mountain Avenue, Warren-Somerset County Deed Hall

<u>Grantee</u>	<u>Grantor</u>	<u>Book</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Acres</u>
Cameron, Edward & E.	Drews, William		December 1970	3.11
Drews, William	Crehore, Catherine		1967	3.11
Crehore, Austin & Catherine	Smith, Ervine & Ruth	825	1954	3.11
Smith, Ervine & Ruth	Shrewsbury, William & Janet	825	Devember 21, 1950	3.11
Shrewsbury, William & Janet	Nothstein, George	726	December 10, 1949	3.11
Nothstein, George	Reich, Caroline & Bernales, C.	657	August 20, 1946	3.11
Reich, Caroline & Bernales, C.	Wormser, Barth. & Caroline	H24	November 23, 1937	3.11
Wormser, Barth. &	Reina, Carman	A20	July 24, 1925	54.
Reina, Carman	Wormser, Barth. & Caroline	A20	July 24, 1925	54.
Wormser, Barth., Jr.	Wormser, Barth.	P5	September 16, 1879	54.
Wormser, Barth.	Wormser, Margaret	Will Book 5	November 19, 1869	54.
Wormser, Margaret	Wormser, John	B4	November 19, 1869	54.
Wormser, John	Wormser, Barth.	B4	November 19,	54.

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Significance (continued)

1869

Wormser, Barth.

- |                    |                  |                |                       |              |
|--------------------|------------------|----------------|-----------------------|--------------|
| a) Wormser         | Smalley, David D | F3             | July 8, 1859          | 16.          |
| b) Wormser         | Ackon, John      | S2             | February 27,<br>1854  | 22.          |
|                    | Ackon, John      | Clark, William | P                     | June 6, 1832 |
|                    | Clark, William   | Dunham, Martha | P                     | May 16, 1832 |
| c) Wormser, Barth. | Clark, William   | F2             | September 13,<br>1845 | 16.          |
|                    | Clark, William   | Dunham, Martha | P                     | May 16, 1832 |

Dunham, Martha

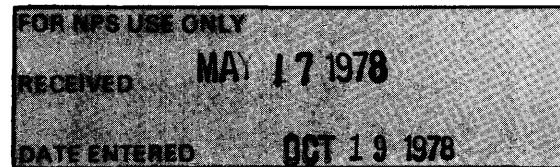
Smalley, David D. O June 21, 1831 401  
Littel, Luther Adm.  
David D. Smalley died in 1828. His estate was insufficient to pay his debts so property was sold at public auction. Martha Dunham was the highest bidder at \$360.

Smalley, David D.

Clark, William's property is noted on John Littell's 1845 map (Family Records or Genealogies of the Passaic Valley Above Chatham, 1851) as the same house as 84 Mountain Avenue.



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#9 Bibliographical References (continued)

Snell, James P., History of Hunterdon and Somerset  
Counties, N. J., Everts and Peck, Phila, Pa. 1881

Somerset County Hall of Deeds  
Somerville, New Jersey

1. Smalley David  
Will - Will Book B  
Page 166  
October 1, 1816
  
2. Smalley, David D.  
Inventory - Inventory Book Vol. D  
Page 158  
October 7, 1828

Order of Court Book - Admeasurement of Dower  
Vol D.  
Page 57

Assignment of Dower to Eliz. Smalley  
Vol A  
Page 244

Stryker, William, Official Register of the Officers and  
Men of N.J. in the Revolutionary War. Trenton, N. J., 1872