



926

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

NATIONAL
REGISTER

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Isaac Collins House

other names/site number Collins-Jones House

2. Location

street & number 201 Broad St. (NE Corner Broad & York Sts.) not for publication

city or town Burlington City vicinity

state New Jersey code 034 county Burlington code 005 zip code 08016

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

[Signature]
Signature of certifying official/Title

6/16/92
Date

Assistant Commissioner for Natural & Historic Resources/DSHPO

[State]
State of Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

- entered in the National Register. See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register.
- removed from the National Register.
- other, (explain:)

Signature of the Keeper

[Signature]

Entered in the
National Register

Date of Action

7/24/92

Isaac Collins House
Name of Property

Burlington, NJ
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1 (House)	1 (Garage)	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
1	1	Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Domestic/Single Dwelling

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Vacant/Not in Use

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

Federal

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Stone
walls Brick with stucco applied

roof Wood

other

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

See continuation sheet.

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations N/A

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Literature

Period of Significance

c.1785-1817

Significant Dates

c.1785

1808

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Isaac Collins

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS): N/A

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

Burlington County Historical Society

Isaac Collins House
Name of Property

Burlington, NJ
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less than one acre

Bristol PA-NJ Quad

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	1, 8	5, 1, 1, 3, 4, 0	4, 4, 3, 6, 2, 5, 0
	Zone	Easting	Northing
2			

3			
	Zone	Easting	Northing
4			

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Margaret Westfield, R.A.; Martin Shore

organization Westfield Architects & Preservation Consultants date 3/2/92

street & number 425 White Horse Pike telephone (609) 547-0465

city or town Haddon Heights state NJ zip code 08035

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name Burlington County Historical Society

street & number 457 High St. telephone (609) 386-4773

city or town Burlington state NJ zip code 08016

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

Isaac Collins House, Burlington City,
Burlington County, New Jersey

ISAAC COLLINS HOUSE

Burlington County, New Jersey

DESCRIPTION

The Isaac Collins House is a late eighteenth century residential townhouse located at the heart of the City of Burlington, New Jersey, on the northeast corner of Broad and York Streets. Built in c.1785 in the Federal Style of architecture, it reflects the stability and confidence of the early American republic. Minor alterations and additions to the house display the evolution of the late eighteenth century residence into the Victorian era of the nineteenth century.

Built in three sections, the house fronts Broad Street. The main, original portion is a two-and-a-half story brick building with a shingled gable roof. An early nineteenth century, two story, gable-roofed addition adjoins the main house at its rear facade to the north. Directly behind this structure, further to the north, is a one story kitchen addition, which dates to the second half of the nineteenth century. There is a double-storied porch on the east of the two story middle section as well as a pair of wooden entry porches to the north. The property includes a small rear yard with a twentieth-century garage along York Street to the northwest.

The main house has three bays on its main (south) facade fronting Broad Street and is four bays, comprising two rooms, in depth along York Street. The house is symmetrically disposed on each facade, however the main entrance on Broad Street is offset at its eastern-most bay. The scored-stuccoed brick building sits on a stuccoed stone base, whose division is emphasized by a brick water table. There are two window wells at the basement level. At the first floor are a pair of nine-over-nine single-hung wood sash windows with wooden sills, three-panel shutters and original hardware. All windows on the first floor main house are treated similarly. The main entrance has a delicate semi-circular fanlight over a six-panel wood door. The elaborately detailed surround is classically inspired. A Victorian screen door was added with its large rectangular pane of glass surrounded by small square panes. The wooden entrance porch, now with brick floor and cast iron railings, has been altered. A brick belt course divides the first from the second floors on each of the facades with the exception of the east. The second floor of the main house has three windows on the south facade, four on the west and one on the north facade. Each of these windows is a nine-over-six single-hung wood sash window with wooden sills and wooden louvered shutters. Above these windows on the north and south facades is a simple wooden box cornice topped with an asphalt shingled roof. There are four gabled dormer windows, two to the north and two to the south. The south dormers contain arched-head windows with tracery and flanking decorative pilasters. A rectangular, masonry gable-end chimney projects through the front half of the roof. Originally there was a second chimney on the back half of the gable end facade, but it has been removed.

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Burlington County, New Jersey

It is on the two additions to the north where nineteenth century alterations are most notable. Although the form and proportions of the middle two story addition have not changed notably from the original, a two story wooden porch addition to the east is Victorian in character. Wood louvered screen doors and decoratively carved entry canopies to the east and west also reflect middle to late nineteenth century taste. A porch on the one story kitchen addition to the north creates a cross-gabled form covered with a standing metal seam roof. Both additions contain tall masonry chimneys that project through the roof ridge at the north gable ends.

The interior of this townhouse features a hall parlor plan. Just as the greatest articulation is noted about the south exterior entry with its semi-circular fanlight and classically inspired surround, the delicacy of these details is carried through into the interior, especially at the main hall. The simplicity of the painted wood floors, white plaster walls, and ceiling contrast with the highly carved wood details noted at the baseboards, staircase panelling, and door surrounds. The elliptical motif noted on the exterior is continued at the hall passageway to the north, with its abstracted classical details. The hall is further dramatized by the sweeping arc of the stairway opening illuminated by a grand window at the landing.

Entry into the west parlor room is off the hall. Each of these rooms was identical in plan, with a center fireplace in the west wall projecting into the room, flanked by windows. The front (south) parlor has two windows along the south wall, while the back parlor has only one window in the north wall. The rooms are connected by a large rectilinear passageway that at one time contained paired doors. The classically inspired detailing of the fireplace surround is evident in the back parlor. At the middle wing, is a winder stair to the second floor and the stair to the basement. The rooms to the north have wood floors with plaster walls and ceilings. The baseboards are carved wood, but with less detail than the main house.

The second floor of the main house contains two large rooms to the west and one small room to the north. The stair hall is again generous, both in its dimension and its ornamentation, as the fine wood detailing is carried up into the level. The intricacy of the detailing is noted at the window muntins where the profile is much thinner in comparison to earlier Georgian window muntins. Each of the west rooms originally had fireplaces, wood baseboards, chair rails, and similar fenestration. The denticulated wood fireplace surround is still noted in the north room, but there are no windows on the north wall. The rooms are connected by a four-panel wood door.

The hall stairs lead to the attic of the main house. The attic is arranged with three small rooms and a hall. The west rooms contained a fireplace and a pair of windows. The windows along the north and south walls are dormers that contain fanlit arched windows.

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Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 1Isaac Collins House, Burlington City,
Burlington County, New JerseyISAAC COLLINS HOUSE
Burlington County, New JerseySIGNIFICANCE

The Isaac Collins House, built circa 1785 is significant architecturally as a typical example of a high style Federal residence along one of Burlington's main thoroughfares, Broad Street. This house displays the prominent architectural features of this style that immediately followed the American Revolution. The house was built at the time of great confidence and growth in the early republic and became the final residence of one of New Jersey's important early citizens, Isaac Collins. Collins was important to the revolutionary cause as a printer that published New Jersey's first newspaper, the *New Jersey Gazette*, from his shop in Burlington, New Jersey. Isaac Collins and several successive generations of the Collins family occupied this townhouse on the northwest corner of Broad and York Streets from 1808 until 1871. During this time, the house became a focal point of arts and literature in the area. In 1883, a second prominent Burlington family moved into this residence. Franklin Gauntt, a noted physician, and two generations of his family occupied this house until 1989. While the Gauntt family owned the house, it became the first site of the Home of Aged Women in Burlington.

Isaac Collins was born on February 16th, 1746 in New Castle, Delaware. His father, Charles Collins emigrated to Delaware from Bristol, England in 1734 at the age of 16. Charles became a farmer and much of Isaac's early life was spent farming. His father managed to get Isaac apprenticed to a printer in Wilmington. After a short time, he moved to Philadelphia and formed a partnership with John Crukshank with whom he learned the trade well. A man who took full advantage of opportunities, Collins noted that the official printer in New Jersey for King George died. Collins applied for this vacancy and on the basis of his growing reputation as a fine printer, was awarded the position as King's printer for New Jersey.

It was at this time in 1771 that Collins moved to Burlington, New Jersey. Burlington had grown into an important town in West New Jersey. As early as 1676 the proprietors of West Jersey were granted authority to layout the town, which became West Jersey's colonial capital. As the main town in the province of West Jersey, Burlington was also involved in the shipping trade along the Delaware River. As Burlington grew and became important as the provincial capital, it made sense that Collins settled there to start a communications center, his printing shop.

In 1771 Collins printed the *New Jersey Almanac* and continued to do so for the next 26 years. Perhaps Collins most important contribution to the revolutionary cause was the *New Jersey Gazette*, the State's first weekly newspaper. This newspaper espoused the cause of the revolution and provided essential information concerning British military strategies. The paper was read by George

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Burlington County, New Jersey

Washington and helped influence his military operations, especially when the British occupied New Jersey. The *New Jersey Gazette* continued to be published through 1786 while the *New Jersey Almanac* continued through 1797. Collins also printed New Jersey's paper currency and several important early works such as *A History of the Quakers* and *Laws of New Jersey*. Collins stayed in Burlington until 1778 when he moved to Trenton. There he continued as a printer and published his most important work, *The King James Bible* in 1791, the second quarto edition in America and the first published in New Jersey.

Collins married Rachel Budd, a descendant of early Quaker settlers in the West Jersey area, in 1771. They had 14 children. Isaac Collins became involved with religious affairs as well as in education. As a Quaker, he was affiliated with Burlington Friends Meeting. He fell out of favor with the Friends due to his views about the Revolution; still he saw that his children maintained ties to the Quaker way of life. He founded an Academy in Trenton to which he sent his children. In 1796 he moved to New York where the Governor appointed him to establish public and private schools. In 1805 his wife died from yellow fever and the epidemic caused him to move back to Burlington in 1808.

A deed from July 18th, 1808 shows Isaac Collins purchased the property on the northeast corner of Broad and York Streets from James Smith. The house, on one and a half acre, cost a total of \$4,000. According to an 1893 source discussing the deed, the house was then 100 years old. (*Reminiscences*, p. 54). A second source states that the house was built prior to 1784. (Bisbee, p. 16). In any event, this house became the place where Isaac Collins began his retirement. In 1809 he married Deborah Smith, who, with her two children, moved into the home. He lived there until 1817 when he died.

The Collins family occupied the house until 1871. Several of his 14 children followed in the printing trade while others became farmers. Many followed in his philanthropic causes; Thomas Collins and Isaac Collins Jr. helped establish the Haverford School, a Quaker institution in Pennsylvania, where most Collins offspring attended. John Collins, grandson of Isaac Collins, lived in Burlington in the 1840s. John Collins was a lithographer who published several famous views of the City of Burlington. It was at this time that the house at Broad and York Streets became a focal point of arts and poetry in the area.

Franklin Gauntt, a prominent physician, purchased the house in 1883. Gauntt's ancestors, Quakers escaping religious oppression in England, settled in Massachusetts in 1650. Franklin's father, Benjamin, settled in Burlington in the late 1700s and had five children. Franklin, the eldest son, studied medicine and graduated from the University of Pennsylvania in 1847. Gauntt became very well known after delivering a set of lectures on chemistry at St. Mary's College and served as president, vice president and secretary for the State Medical Society of New Jersey. As a surgeon, he was appointed by the Governor to serve in the Civil War Hospital in Beverly, New Jersey and rose in rank to Major. In the city of Burlington, Gauntt was involved in public affairs of health and

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Burlington County, New Jersey

safety. He was influential in promoting an adequate local fire department, and proper drainage and water supply to the area.

Gauntt married Mrs. Jane R. Moffett in 1849 and had four children. One of his daughters, Caroline, and her husband, Samuel Wilkens Jones, with their nine children occupied the house after Franklin Gauntt's death in 1900. Two of their daughters, Caroline and Amy lived there until their deaths in 1966, and a third daughter Elma remained in the house until 1989 when she died. The house was donated by C. Ross Jones and his wife Lynn to the Burlington County Historical Society in 1991.

Architecturally, the Isaac Collins House is a typical example of high-style Federal residential architecture. Its use of materials, sound methods of construction, and fine hand-crafted interior wood detailing are representative of the Federal Style. This style was prominent in prosperous port cities of the east coast such as Burlington. The outward appearance of the house is simple in form and mass, yet utilized an architectural vocabulary which was a development and refinement of the preceding Georgian Style. The Federal Style expressed a certain level of sophistication and prosperity. The use of masonry as the primary building material is rooted in the conservative pragmatic tradition of brick construction brought to New Jersey from England by Quaker immigrants familiar with the rebuilding of London in masonry after the 1666 fire. Other elements of this vocabulary include wood panelled shutters, brick chimneys, wood entry porches, and wood-shingled roofs. The most prominent exterior Federal feature of this house is the main entranceway with semi-circular tracery fanlight over the six panelled door, and carved wood surround. Other notable features of the exterior include the Federal-profile window muntins, the arched-head dormer sash, and the later scored stucco and Victorian additions.

The main interior features a hall-parlor plan. The delicacy of exterior is brought into the interior as the hall, dominated by a dramatic wood panelled staircase and classically-inspired arched passageway are Federal in character as is the carved wood fireplace surround of the second floor northwest chamber.

For both architectural and historical reasons, the Isaac Collins house is a significant resource within the State of New Jersey and should be included within the National Register.

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Isaac Collins House, Burlington City,
Burlington County, New Jersey

ISAAC COLLINS HOUSE
Burlington County, New Jersey

BIBLIOGRAPHY

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Hixson, Richard F. *Isaac Collins, A Quaker Printer in 18th Century America*. New Brunswick, New Jersey: Rutgers University Press, 1968.

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Memoir of the Late Isaac Collins of Burlington, N.J. Philadelphia: Joseph Rakestraw, 1848.

Reminiscences of Isaac and Rachel (Budd) Collins. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Co., 1893.

Scott, J.D. Combination Atlas Map of Burlington County, New Jersey. 1876.

Woodward, E.M. *History of Burlington County, New Jersey*. Philadelphia: Everts and Peck, 1883.
(Reprinted Burlington County Historical Society, 1980).

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Block 131, Lot 38, Burlington

VERBAL BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

This boundary includes the house and all the remaining property associated therewith.

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Section number PHOTOS Page 1

Isaac Collins House, Burlington City,
Burlington County, New Jersey

ISAAC COLLINS HOUSE

Burlington County, New Jersey

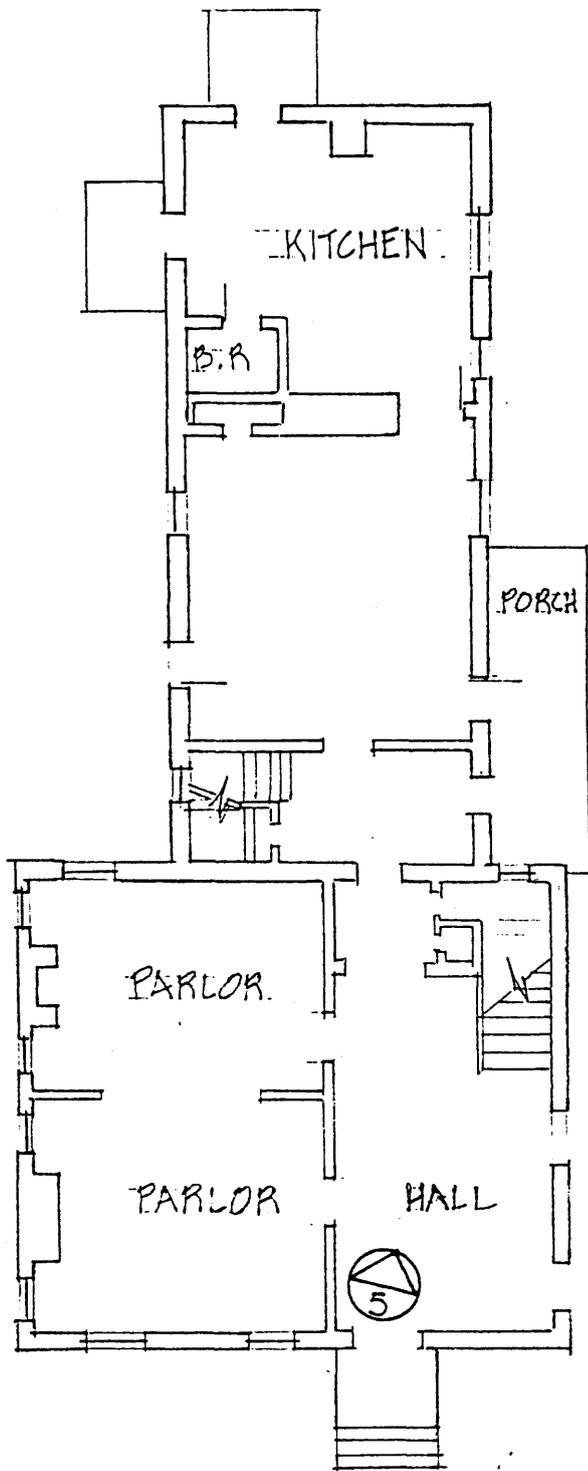
PHOTOGRAPHS

The following is the same for all photographs:

- 1.) Isaac Collins House
- 2.) Burlington County, New Jersey
- 3.) Martin Shore, Photographer
- 4.) February, 1992
- 5.) Negatives held by Margaret Westfield, R.A.
Westfield Architects & Preservation Consultants
425 White Horse Pike
Haddon Heights, N.J. 08035
(609)547-0465

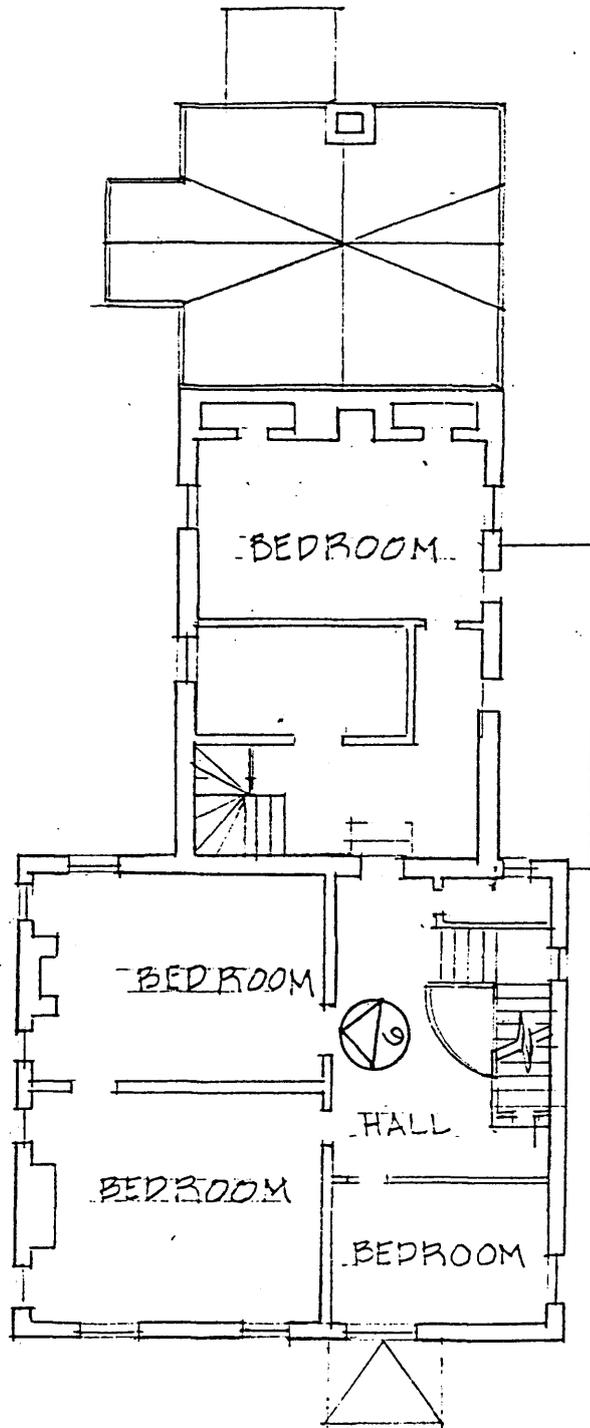
LIST OF PHOTOGRAPHS

- 6.) View of Isaac Collins House and yard looking northeast.
- 7.) Photograph 1 of 6
- 6.) View of the front (south) facade.
- 7.) Photograph 2 of 6
- 6.) View of the west side and rear (north) facades.
- 7.) Photograph 3 of 6
- 6.) View of the east side facade looking northwest.
- 7.) Photograph 4 of 6
- 6.) Interior view of stairhall looking north.
- 7.) Photograph 5 of 6
- 6.) Detail of second floor northwest chamber door and mantle.
- 7.) Photograph 6 of 6



COLLINS-JONES HOUSE, BURLINGTON, NJ
 FIRST FLOOR PLAN NTS



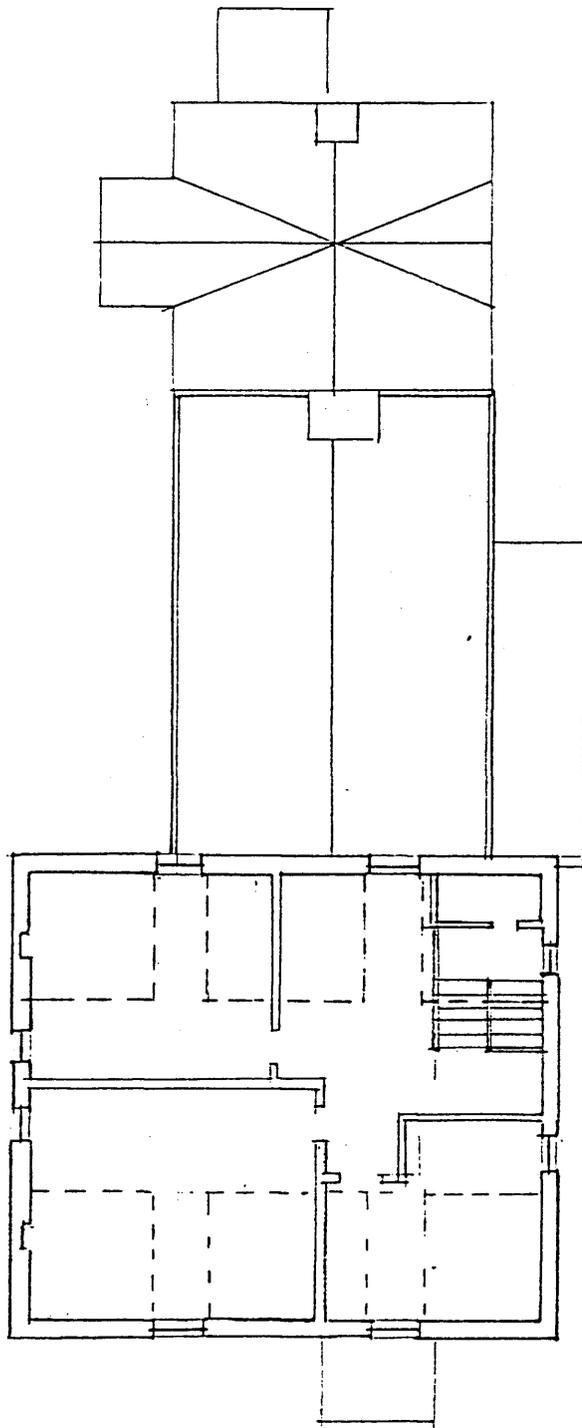


COLLINS - JONES HOUSE, BURLINGTON, NJ

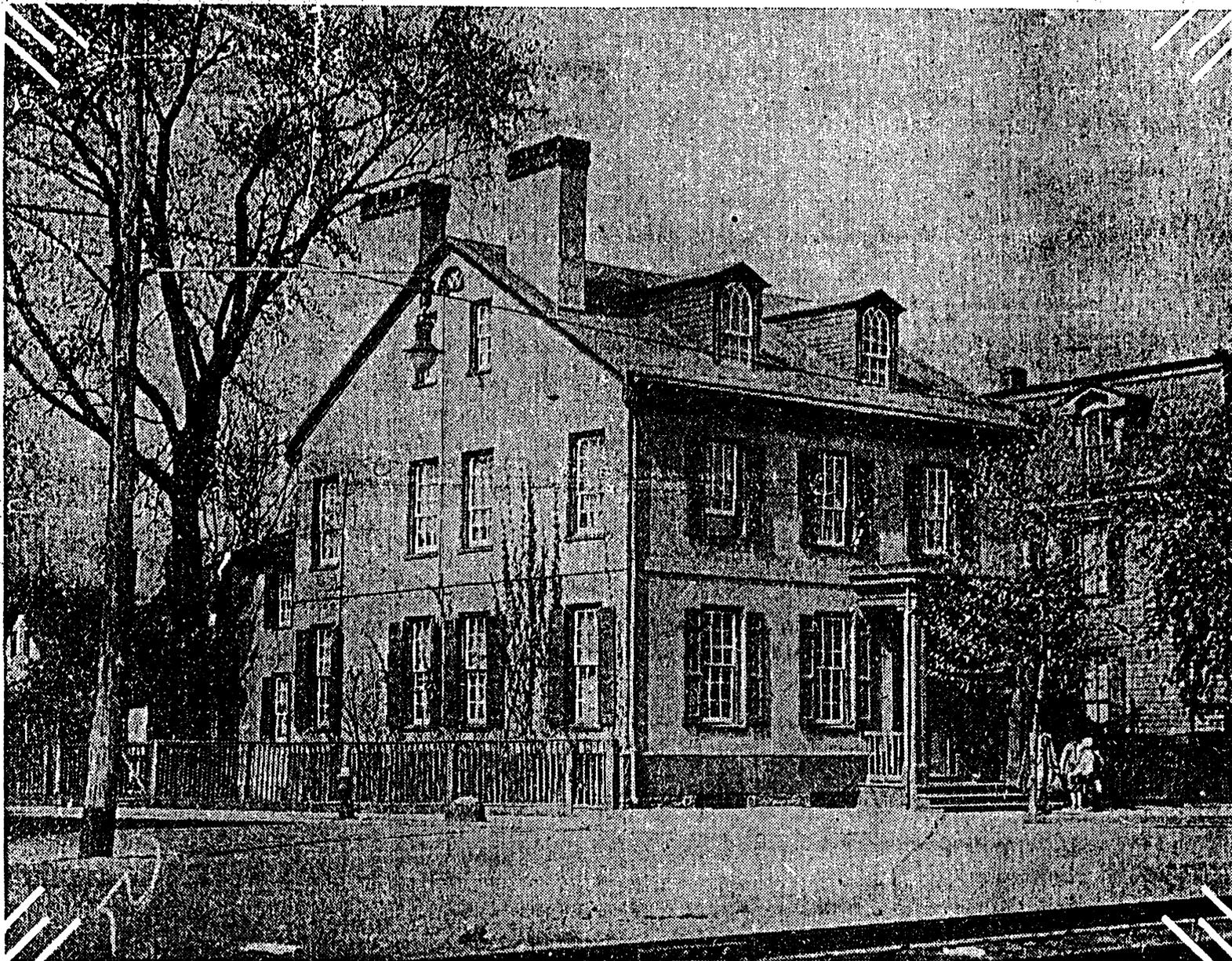
SECOND FLOOR PLAN

NTS





COLLINS-JONES HOUSE, BURLINGTON, NJ ↑
THIRD FLOOR PLAN NTS N



STRUCK BY BALL WHEN BRITISH CANNON BOMBARDED BURLINGTON

While the town was under fire during the days of the Revolution, a missile from an English mortar passed through the roof of the house, then the home of John Collins, and landed in the fireplace. The break was repaired when the house was renovated years later.

Historic Photograph of The Isaac Collins House, unidentified newspaper clipping from the collections of the Burlington County Historical Society.

Isaac Collins House, Burlington City, Burlington County, NJ



RESIDENCE OF ISAAC COLLINS, BURLINGTON N. J.

Where Isaac Collins lived from 1808-1817, followed by his son, Thomas and his family, and then by his grandson, John Collins and his family, until 1871. The house is still standing.

Historic Sketch of the Isaac Collins House from the Isaac Collins Vertical files of the Burlington County Historical Society.