

PH 367648

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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RECEIVED DEC 29 1976  
DATE ENTERED JUL 15 1977

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

## NAME

HISTORIC Perryville Tavern

AND/OR COMMON  
The Brick Tavern

## LOCATION

W of Clinton at foot of I-78 + SR 42

STREET & NUMBER  
Intersection of Interstate Route 78 and County Route 42  
— NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN  
Clinton, N.J.  
Union Township

STATE New Jersey CODE 034 COUNTY Hunterdon CODE 019

## 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 checked="" 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 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:

## OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME  
Edward H aynes

STREET & NUMBER  
Box 327

CITY, TOWN  
Flemington

STATE  
New Jersey 08822

## LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.  
Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER  
Main Street

CITY, TOWN  
Flemington

STATE  
New Jersey

## REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE  
New Jersey Historic Sites Inventory (#3098.6)

DATE  
1961

FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS  
Historic Sites Office, DEP

CITY, TOWN  
Trenton, New Jersey

STATE

# 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MOVED
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		DATE <u>1/1960</u>

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

Built in 1813 the Perryville Tavern is a 2 1/2 story brick building constructed in the Federal style of architecture.

The main unit is forty feet by twenty-six feet and has four bays. The off-set center entrance door opens directly onto the main room. This doorway is recessed with paneling, has a circular fanlight, and a door with six panels. The windows on the first floor are all 12/12 double hung sash with paneled shutters although a recent circular (ca. 1950) indicates the Perryville Inn did have at least two Victorian 2/2 windows before its rehabilitation in the early 1960's. The second floor has 12/8 double hung sash, but is accompanied by louvered shutters.

There is evidence of a one story porch which at one time extended across the entire front facade of the main unit.

The north exposed gable end facade has paired chimneys which are flanked by a window on each floor. An entrance door, a later addition, is in the center of the first floor on the gable end. This entrance appears to be unused.

The roof of this unit is gable with a box cornice and has slate shingles.

On the opposite end (south) of the main unit of the tavern is a single brick chimney projecting from the peak of the roof.

A two story small brick wing (21 feet by 17 feet) is attached to this gable end facade. This unit is original to the main block of the tavern and functioned as a kitchen. The front and rear facades have two windows which are 6/6 sash with louvered shutters.

An 1860 drawing of the tavern shows a one story frame leanto addition attached to the gable end facade of this kitchen unit, but has long since been removed.

This drawing also shows a one story porch over the main entrance, and an exterior cellar entrance on the north gable end facade. Otherwise the building has been altered very little since its erection in 1813.

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7. DESCRIPTION (continued)

The interior of the first floor of the main unit is divided into two rooms, both 19 feet by 25 feet. The north room has a quarter-turn stair butted against the wall partitioning while the south room is open and has an entrance door on each linear facade. The second floor is divided into three rooms and a hallway.

The wing is a one room unit on the first floor (16 feet by 20 feet) and has a one-quarter turn winding stair to the second. The end wall has a large walk-in kitchen fireplace. The second level has a hall, a large room, and two small rooms.

There are, in total, seven major rooms each with a fireplace. Several of the mantels are with Adamesque details.

The most elaborate Adams mantel, in the south room of the main unit, has end pilasters with reeded shafts and a double fan design at the top of the pilasters. There are two elliptical sunburst medallions flanking a central panel which has five pulvinated sections with vertical reeding. The shelf design is a plain front with a return over the center panel. The fireplace hearth is brick.

The other mantels are more restrained, but still evidence characteristic Adams designs and form.

Additional original interior details include the chair rail and baseboard moldings, doors and framing, and some interior window framing.

The Brick Tavern ceased to serve the public about 1900, then it became a private residence. In 1955 it was purchased and rehabilitated by Mr. and Mrs. Francis Marckstein. Situated close up to the intersection of the Hampton-Jutland road with the much-traveled U. S. Route 22, the attractive brick tavern continued to be a landmark, if not a stopping place, for travelers. Perryville continued to find a place on the county highway maps.

This brings the story to the days of the Eisenhower administration and the planning of the vast network of interstate highways. In this master plan Freeway 78 was projected to parallel roughly the old U. S. Route 22 and, straightening, leveling, and improving the curves, to lessen the 72 Easton-New York miles as the traveler hastens on his way.

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7. DESCRIPTION (continued)

As the surveyors staked out the freeway route in 1957, The Brick Tavern was found to be in its path. The Marcketoins, in 1959, reluctantly sold the Old Brick to the New Jersey Highway Department.

On the morning of September 8, 1959 the state sold the building to Robert Trubek, President of the Hunterdon Property, Inc., for the highest bid, the nominal sum of only \$250.00. The stipulations were, of course, that the massive brick building would need to be removed from the right of way within a specified time. Finally, a Wallington, New Jersey moving firm agreed to move the entire building intact 1000 feet south and across the Jutland road to a new lot for \$9,000. This move involved closing Jutland road for one day and taking down utility lines in the path. Unreasonable mild weather caused a thaw, preventing movers from completing the trip begun in November until mid-January, 1960.

On the new five-acre lot, Trubek's firm spared no effort and expense in rehabilitating, redecorating and landscaping that has caused Old Brick to take on a new elegance that only the trained eye had seen in the old location.

Since the 1960's, the Perryville Inn was operated as a restaurant. Recently, however, it has been closed to the public and its future remains uncertain.

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

SPECIFIC DATES 1813

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

Unknown

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Perryville Inn is a good example of Federal style architecture as practiced in rural New Jersey. The house, with its offset center door, is not symmetrical, but this characteristic is compensated somewhat by the small kitchen wing on the gable end facade. While quite restrained in its details, the building nonetheless projects an elegant appearance.

The interior details, particularly the fireplace mantels, represents the work of an excellent builder/craftsman who was familiar with the fashionable designs of the period, but has lack of a total understanding of these forms sometimes produced academically incorrect buildings and details. Consequently, Perryville Inn has some awkward moments, but this is certainly compensated for by the superior overall craftsmanship of the structure.

Further, the Perryville Inn becomes all the more significant architecturally since the Federal style was basically an urban building form not frequently adapted to the rural community. Consequently, the Perryville Inn is an important and relatively rare example of the Federal style in Hunterdon County and a subject to be compared and contrasted with similar period buildings of the more urban regions of the state and county.

## Commerce

One of the best known taverns in New Jersey, the Brick Tavern, or Perryville Tavern, was built on what was once the New Jersey Turnpike, an important stage coach route between Easton and New Brunswick. Named in honor of Commodore Perry, whose victory on Lake Erie took place in 1813 while the building was being completed, the tavern was a popular stopping place for drovers from the West and raftsmen of the Delaware until the coming of the Amboy-Easton Railroad in the 1850's.

In the 18th and 19th centuries, the tavern was one of the most important institutions in the country. Called variously inns, taverns, ordinances, victualling houses, or hotels these facilities provided rest, food, and libation for weary travellers passing through an area.

Respectable in the early 19th century, the sight of a tavern was a most welcome one to the weary traveler.

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- Atlas of Hunterdon County, New Jersey. Beers, Comstock, and Kline:  
New York, 1873.
- Farm Map of Union Township, Hunterdon County, New Jersey. Michael  
Hughes, 1860.
- A History of Hunterdon and Somerset Counties, New Jersey. James P.  
Snell. Philadelphia, 1881 (pp. 508-525).

# 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 5 acres

UTM REFERENCES

A	1,8	510,2	5,0,0	4,4	9,7	8,1,0	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 Office, DEP

DATE

8/19/76

STREET & NUMBER

P. O. Box 1420

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

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

*Doris J. Bahr*

TITLE Commissioner, Dept. of Environmental Protection

DATE

OCT 19 1976

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

ATTEST: *Charles...* DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION, NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION SERVICE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER DATE *2/15/77*

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER DATE *6-8-77*

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8. SIGNIFICANCE (continued)

Not quite the institution has developed into in England, the inn nonetheless provided a village with a central focus in which businesses and people could conduct their affairs and exchange ideas being among the few structures open to the public.

While the urban inn had a definite social hierarchy in which certain classes of people were excluded, the rural inns were not able to discriminate as freely and consequently entertained a more democratic clientele with merchants, drovers, and gentlemen often sharing the same bed, a commonly accepted practice in rural America.

The Perryville Tavern was constructed in 1813 by Cornelius Carhart. Carhart was a captain in the Third Regiment of the Hunterdon County militia and second major in the Second Regiment in the Revolutionary War.

As participants in the Revolution were usually given preference in the granting of tavern licenses it was not unusual for such a permit to be awarded to Carhart in the early 19th century. Patriotism was often rewarded with such favoritism despite the fact that a village might already have been saturated with public houses.

The Perryville Inn, however, was ideally located on the newly constructed New Jersey Turnpike which quickly became an active high-way from Easton to New Brunswick.

Cornelius Carhart settled in the area around 1788 where he built a substantial farmhouse and outbuildings and generally prospered as a farmer. About 1812, in response to the newly constructed New Jersey Turnpike, Carhart began building this hotel a short distance from his residence in order to better accommodate travelers. Tradition related that soon after the finishing touches were applied to the hotel news of Commodore Oliver Perry's victory on Lake Erie was received and workmen were so joyous that they named the hotel and sparse surroundings Perryville.

Made a post-town in 1818 the tavern in Perryville was the only major structure in the small village, and for decades entertained droves and droves of cattle and sheep; more than any one hotel in all the region and functioned as the business place for the transferral of much of this livestock.

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8. SIGNIFICANCE (continued)

The Amboy-Easton Railroad, built in the 1850's supplanted the New Jersey Turnpike road and signaled the gradual decline of the Perryville Inn.

The Inn, however, operated into the early 20th century, with John T. Leigh owning this hotel and post office in 1860.

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9. BIBLIOGRAPHY (continued)

- A Genealogical Record of the Descendants of Thomas Carhart. Mary E. (Carhart) Dusenbury. New York, 1880.
- A History of Union Township, Hunterdon County, Union Township Bicentennial Committee. 1976.
- Tavern Licenses. Hunterdon County. Cornelius Carhart.
- Easton Express. Easton, Pennsylvania. July 31, 1959 and September 28, 1959.
- Hunterdon County Democrat. Flemington, New Jersey. June 27, 1946; March 5, 1959; August 6-27, 1959; September 3-10, 1959; October 1, 1959; October 15, 1959; December 24-31, 1959; January 7, 1960.
- Newark Evening News. Newark, New Jersey. October 7, 1933.
- Newark Sunday News. Newark, New Jersey. October 11, 1959.
- Map of Hunterdon County, New Jersey. Cornell, 1851.