

PH 066 0345

DATA SHEET

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED JAN 16 1978
DATE ENTERED AUG 31 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

Benjamin Holmes House ("Holmeland")

AND/OR COMMON

Holmeland Faron

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

W of Salem
Fort Elfsborg-Hancock's Bridge Road

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

~~Elsinboro Township~~

X VICINITY OF Salem

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

2nd

STATE

New Jersey

CODE

034

COUNTY

Salem

CODE

033

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

PRESENT USE

- AGRICULTURE
- COMMERCIAL
- EDUCATIONAL
- ENTERTAINMENT
- GOVERNMENT
- INDUSTRIAL
- MILITARY
- MUSEUM
- PARK
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- RELIGIOUS
- SCIENTIFIC
- TRANSPORTATION
- OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Dr. George E. Webster

STREET & NUMBER

R.D. #3

CITY, TOWN

Salem

VICINITY OF

STATE

New Jersey

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Salem County Court House

STREET & NUMBER

92 Market Street

CITY, TOWN

Salem

STATE

New Jersey

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

H.A.B.S. (Historic American Building Survey)
N.J.H.S.I. (New Jersey Historic Sites Inventory)

DATE

1938
1975

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

National Archives
Office of Historic Preservation, 109 West State St.

CITY, TOWN

Washington
Trenton

STATE D.C.
N.J.

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

Holmeland, built by Colonel Benjamin Holmes, Jr., c.1784 in the Georgian style, is a three part telescoping brick farmhouse. A description of the interior and exterior is as follows:

Exterior Main unit:

This unit, built c.1784, is a 2 1/2 story, 3 bay by 2 bay, brick (Flemish bond) structure with molded brick watertable. Surmounting this structure is a wood shingled, gable roof with box cornice, end returns and interior chimney. A wood shingled pent roof extends across both the front and rear facades at the intersection of the first and second floors. The windows are 6 over 9 double hung with architrave trim, jack arches and keystones. There are two 6 over 6 double hung windows with architrave trim located in each of the gable ends. Windows at the ground floor contain solid, three panel shutters. Entrance is obtained through an eight panel (beveled) door with a four pane, flush mullion, jack arch and keystone.

Exterior Central unit:

The central unit incorporates both the walls and foundation of the original c.1729 farmhouse which was burnt by the British in 1779. All other interior and exterior construction dates back to 1784.

This unit is a smaller 2 story, 3 bay by 2 bay brick (Flemish bond with scattered glazed headers) structure with brick watertable. Surmounting the dwelling is a tin covered gable roof with cove cornice and interior end chimney. A wood shingled pent roof extends across the front facade at the intersection of the first and second floors. Windows at the ground floor level are 6 over 9 with three panel shutters, while those on the second floor are 6 over 6. All windows in this unit are double hung and have architrave trim. Entrance is obtained through a centrally located Dutch door.

Attached to the rear of this unit is an early 19th century, 2 bay by 1 bay, brick kitchen wing with tin covered shed roof and interior end chimney. All windows are 6 over 6, double hung with architrave trim.

Connected to the rear of the above unit is a 1 story, wooden, screened-in sun porch with wood shingled shed roof.

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

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

SIGNIFICANCE

Holmeland is of state significance for the following reasons. Architecturally, the house is a good example of the Jersey Georgian style. Also, the house and property are closely associated with Colonel Benjamin Holmes, who played an important role in both New Jersey's Political and Military History.

Architecture:

Holmeland was erected c.1729, then later burned in a British raid in 1778. In 1784 the present structure was built following the dwelling's original massing and using those walls which were still extant. This dwelling stands as a good example of a New Jersey Georgian Farmhouse in the Salem County and surrounding areas. Notable exterior features include: Flemish bond brick work; jack arches with Keystone; box cornice with end returns (on the main unit only); and cove cornicing (on the central unit only). Holmeland's interiors are among the most noteworthy in the State. The unusually large amount of Georgian paneling, carved ornamentation, along with the Adamesque fireplaces and other high style sophistication, are rare in the plain Quaker architectural tradition of South Jersey.

Military:

Benjamin Holmes, Jr., is noted for his activities in the American Revolution; he served as a commissary Paymaster, Lieutenant Colonel and Colonel in the Second Regiment, Salem County Militia. British commander-in-chief Lord Howe felt Holmes to be of such importance that a price of one hundred pounds was placed on his head, dead or alive.

In March, 1778, Colonel Holmes and his militiamen engaged the British, under the command of Colonel Mawhood, at Quintons Bridge. Retaliatory action against Holmes was taken by the British (commanded by Colonel Mawhood) on March 24, 1778. This action resulted in the sacking and burning of the farmhouse and outbuildings. A month prior to this action British Colonel Abercrombie had burned Holmes ferry which operated between Elisnborough Point, New Jersey, and Port Penn, Delaware.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Historic American Buildings Survey, NJ481, Washington, 1938.

Historical Records Survey, New Jersey. Index of the Officers and Men of New Jersey in the Revolutionary War. 1941. (Reprinted: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1965).

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 180 acres

UTM REFERENCES

A	18	456090	4378200	B	18	456690	4377650
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C	18	455610	4376110	D	18	455330	4376300
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Beginning at the point on Fort Elfsborg-Hancocks Bridge Road 2800 feet SE of the New Jersey-Delaware border; thence proceed 1800 feet SSW; thence proceed 800 feet SE; thence proceed 1000 feet SW; thence proceed 1200 feet SE; thence proceed 3800 feet NE; thence proceed 2600 feet ENE; thence proceed 2700 feet NW; thence proceed 3400 SW; thence proceed 200 feet SE; thence proceed 600 feet SSW to the point of origin.

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

George A. Chidley IV, Research Historian

October 4, 1976

ORGANIZATION

Office of Historic Preservation

DATE

(609) 292-2024

STREET & NUMBER

109 West State Street

TELEPHONE

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 XX

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.

Deputy

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

George A. Chidley IV

12-19-77

TITLE Deputy Commissioner, Dept. of Environmental Protection DATE

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

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION
 ATTEST: *Charles W. ...*
 KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE *8/30/78*
 KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER
 DATE *8.15.78*

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

Holmeland
Elsinboro Township
Salem County
New Jersey 034
CONTINUATION SHEET

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DESCRIPTION (cont'd)

Extending from the side of the central unit is a mid 20th century elongated, 1 story, 2 bay by 2 bay, brick garage. Surmounting this structure is a wood shingled gable roof, containing two gabled dormers and interior end chimney. The roof line contains box cornicing with small, end returns. All windows are 6 over 6 double hung.

The most noteworthy feature of this house is its interiors, a description of which is as follows:

Interior Main unit:

Contained in the side entry hall of the 2 1/2 story main unit is a fine staircase with Tuscan column, balusters and volute scroll bracketing. Located to the right of this hall are two parlors facing front and rear. Between these two parlors is a chimney flue serving back to back fireplaces.

The fireplace in the front parlor is of the Ademesque style. It is surmounted by a shelf, supported in turn by 3 panel blocks with inset accantus leaf clusters. There is also a raised earmolded overmantle. The earmolded fireplace in the rear parlor is surmounted by an end paneled frieze with mantle, shelf and a simple paneled overmantle.

Each of the two 2nd floor bedrooms contains interior walls with raised paneling, which incorporates into it both the fireplaces and closets. Located above these bedrooms is an unfinished attic or garret.

Contained throughout this unit are deep chair-rails. All of the original flooring and doors remain, as does most of the hardware.

Interior Central unit:

The two story central unit has, and has always had, one large ground floor room. The end walls have 18th century raised paneling with a massive bedmolded fireplace, enclosed niche, and enclosed (by paneling) spiral stair. One end wall in the second floor master bedroom has a similar paneled fireplace. Chair-rails are located throughout this portion of the house.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
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Holmeland
Elsinboro Township
Salem County New Jersey 034

CONTINUATION SHEET

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7 PAGE 2

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RECEIVED	JAN 16 1978
DATE ENTERED	AUG 31 1978

DESCRIPTION (cont'd)

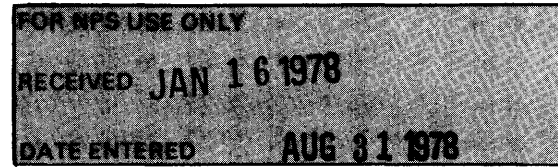
All of the original random width flooring, paneling and doors remain, as does most of the hardware.

The two story kitchen wing, which is attached to the rear of the above, contains one large fireplace with simple plain wooden mantle and shelf. All of the original random width flooring remains, as does some of the original woodwork and hardware.

Setting:

The house is set amid rural farmland and hence retains the setting and character of the 18th century.

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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Elsinboro Township
Salem County
New Jersey 031

CONTINUATION SHEET

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SIGNIFICANCE (cont'd)

Political:

Holmes assumed an important role in both county and state political affairs. He was a freeholder from 1758-59. Later he became a member of the Committee for Correspondence, Commissioner of the Peace, Judge of the Common Pleas Court and a Legislator, both Colonial and State. Holmes further served as a guardian, and in several other capacities which dealt with the settling of estate claims.

History:

The first of the Holmes family in America was John who came from Somerset, England. He sailed on "The Desire" and landed in Philadelphia on June 25, 1686. Ten years later, he moved to Salem County. His grandson was Colonel Benjamin Holmes, Jr., the builder of "Holmeland."

Benjamin was born in 1727. In 1762, he purchased the property which was then owned by one David Morris. During the Revolution he was made a colonel of the American Militia for the Southern Counties and operated with Colonel Elijah Hand of Cumberland.

In 1778, the British burned the 1729 farmhouse and outbuildings. It wasn't until 1784 that Benjamin Holmes reconstructed his house.

The property remained in the Holmes family until 1890 when it was deeded to Morris H. Carpenter. After this, the house passed through a quick succession of owners, including Isaac Pedrick and Michael Hogar. Robert Vanneman owned the property from 1910 to 1950. Holmeland is presently owned by George E. Webster and wife (September, 1977).

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
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CONTINUATION SHEET Significance ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE

The Holmeland farmhouse and its 180 acre tract are deemed inseparable elements, which if separated through property acreage restrictions would affect the integrity of this nomination as it pertains to its ambiance as an 18th century farm.

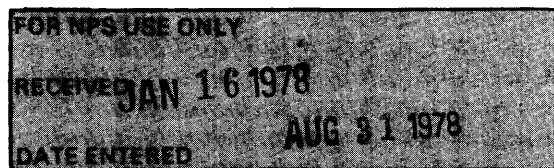
This property was first purchased as a 203 acre tract by one David Morris c. 1720. The boundaries of said property have remained virtually intact as evidenced by comparison of a) a 1729 map by surveyor Thomas Miles, and b) a 1970 Conservation Plan Map, prepared by the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture (see attached maps).

These tract boundaries have remained in the above configuration for over 249 years and through numerous owners.

The property afforded Benjamin Holmes the financial security which rebuilt his farm and adjacent outbuildings (burned by the British in 1778) and allowed him to enter into both County and State political affairs.

For the above reasons both the New Jersey State Review Committee and the State Historic Preservation Officer approved the inclusion of all 180 acres in this nomination.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE



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

Holmeland
Elsinboro Township
Salem County

New Jersey 031
CONTINUATION SHEET

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UTM's Continged:

E 18 455490 4376540
F 18 455290 4376680
G 18 455510 4377360

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

Holmeland
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Salem County
New Jersey 034
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BIBLIOGRAPHY (cont'd)

N.J. Archives: Newspaper Extracts

1st series:	<u>Vol. XXIV</u>	1773-1774	p. 423
	<u>Vol. XXVII</u>	1772-1773	p. 97
	<u>Vol. XXVI</u>	1770-1771	p. 151
	<u>Vol. XI</u>	1704-1739	p. 58
	<u>Vol. XXIV</u>	1756-1761	p. 625
2nd series:	<u>Vol. V</u>	1780-1782	p. 372
	<u>Vol. III</u>	1779-	p. 151
	<u>Vol. III</u>		p. 321

Pratt, Dorothy and Richard. Treasury of Early American Homes. 1959.

Salem County, Book of Wills, Vol. VII, p. 181

Salem County, Book of Wills, Vol. 12, p. 344

Sickler, Joseph S., The History of Salem County. Salem, 1937.

Shourds, Thomas, A History and Geneology of Salem County. Bridgeton, New Jersey, 1876.

Stryker, W.S., Official Register of the Officers and Men of New Jersey in the Revolutionary War. 1872. (Reprinted: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1967).

file

CONSERVATION PLAN MAP

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE

cooperating with

SALEM

Soil Conservation District



OUR SOIL ★ OUR STRENGTH

Owner Dr. George Webster

Operator Same

Plan No. _____ Date May 1970

Scale 1"=1320' Acres 180

Approximate

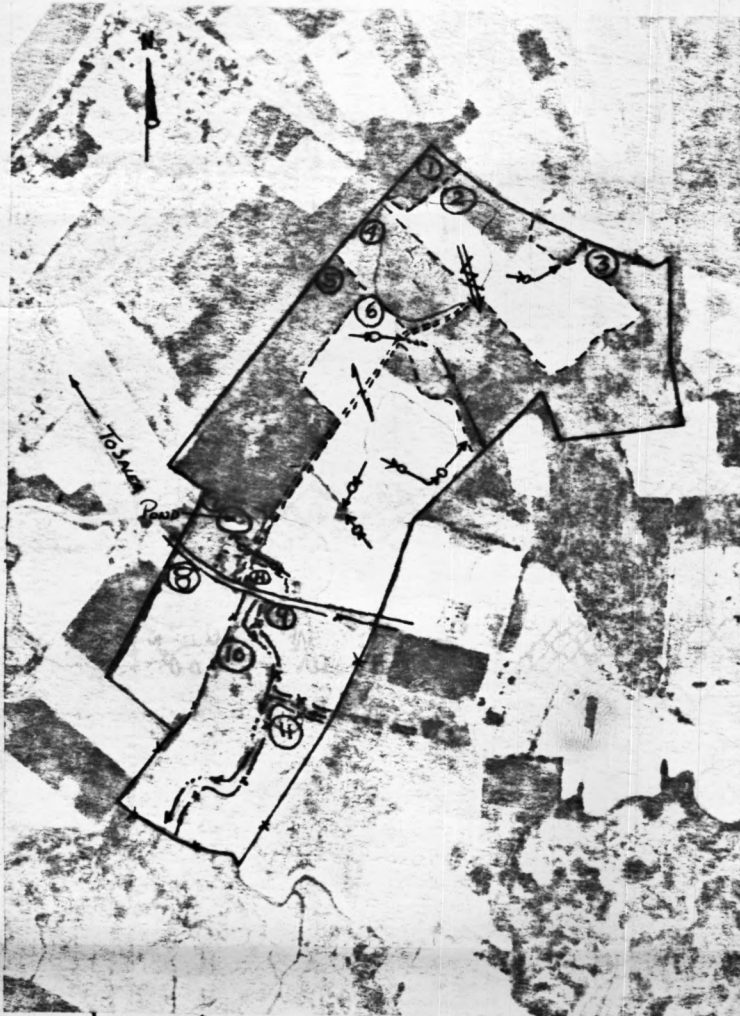
Salem

County

N.J.

State

Photo No. SHEET # 27



FIELD#	LAND USE	ACRES
1	Woodland	2
2	Cropland	23
3	Wildlife	31
4	Cropland	9
5	Woodland	23
6	Cropland	36
7	Pasture land	6
8	Cropland	12
9	Pasture land	10
10	Pasture land	14
11	Pasture land	14

AUG 31 1978

The
 Draft of 1000 acres of
 Land called Ellsborough
 Divided between Joseph Mor-
 ris Lewis Morris and David
 Morris Surveyed and divided
 in the year of our Lord
 1729 and 1731
 By Thomas Miles
 Surveyor

