

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: New Jersey	
COUNTY: Hunterdon	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	JAN 8 1974

1. NAME

COMMON:
Clinton Historical Museum

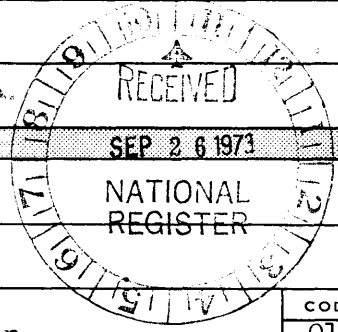
AND/OR HISTORIC:
David McKinnays Mill (1763) *Use this name.*

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
56 Main Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Clinton

STATE: New Jersey CODE: 34 COUNTY: Hunterdon CODE: 019



3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No			

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Clinton Historical Museum, Inc.

STREET AND NUMBER:
56 Main Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Clinton

STATE:
New Jersey

CODE:
34

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Hall of Records

STREET AND NUMBER:
Main Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Flamington

STATE:
New Jersey

CODE:
34

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
New Jersey Inventory of Historic Sites #725.1

DATE OF SURVEY:
 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Historic Sites Section, Department of Environmental Protection

STREET AND NUMBER:
P.O. Box 1420, John Fitch Plaza

CITY OR TOWN:
Trenton

STATE:
New Jersey

CODE:
34

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

71-110
2-11-74
41981-100

STATE: New Jersey
COUNTY: Hunterdon
ENTRY NUMBER: JAN 8 1974
DATE: JAN 8 1974
FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. Description

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered		<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

A four-story red mill on 5.93 acres, the land making a long configuration along the west banks of the South Branch of the Maritan River and the Spruce Run. A picturesque limestone cliff forms a backdrop along the western line of property, providing beauty and protection for the site. The four-story wood frame mill stands beside the river at the southerly end of the property. A dam about 167' long spans the river at the mill site. The approach and spillway of the dam drop the water about 12', in an even sheet across the length of the dam, and the flow is constant throughout the year. The mill wheel has been restored and is operable. The tail race is in good condition as are the other stone-foundation sections of the mill.

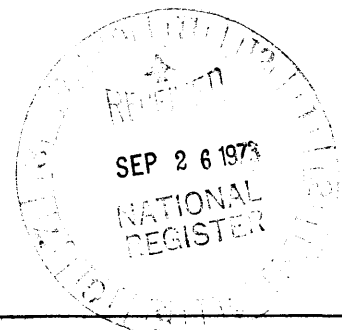
A description and conveyance dated 1763 describes the property beginning at a point "below the lowermost part of the square frame of D. McKinney's mill dam", etc. A firm of professional civil engineers and land surveyors has plotted the full description in this old conveyance and compared it with contemporary surveys. Their conclusion is that the contemporary acreage "is without question meant to be the same tract of land" as that described in the 1763 conveyance. This firm has supplied our museum with several maps that make their conclusion obvious. (Firm is Studer and McDowney, P.A., Clinton, New Jersey)

An advertisement to sell the mill property, in 1780, describes it as "5 miles from Pitts-town, and about 12 miles from the Delaware River, 28 from Brunswick landing, and 30 from Trenton". Also "the situation is remarkably healthy and pleasant, and in a fine part of the country". The mill was described as "36x44 feet" (same measure as old section of present foundation) "With two pair of stone and two water wheels, the merchant and country coults, hoisting works and rolling screen are all in good order and go by water. Also an oil mill built last summer, " etc. Eighty-five years later, when the town of Clinton took land across the river from Union Township, it took "a mill once famed for making flaxseed (linseed) oil".

The mill was enlarged beyond the original 36'x44' section to the present approximate 58'x44' stone wall foundation. This addition is probably late 18th or early 19th century as indicated by the hewn oak framing. The mill is frame coast action for the 2½ stories above the ground floor stone walls. Changes have been made to the mill through out the 19th century for the various changes in milling operations. Much of the mill equipment is still intact.

The skeletal beams are original as is the 36'x44' stone foundation. The original peak or top remains inside the mill. (The point where the original mill was.) The westerly side of the front door to end of mill is an addition. (Direction corresponds to photo.) This is easily detected on the interior of the mill.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian	<input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 18th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 20th Century
<input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century	

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) Foundation c. 1763

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal	<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Political	<input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning
<input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> Engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input type="checkbox"/> Industry	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture	_____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Art	<input type="checkbox"/> Literature	<input type="checkbox"/> Theater	_____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Music		
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation			

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Deed searches by Mr. D. S. Hammond show the following mill lot title chain: Mahlon Kirkbrudem 1751 -- David McKinney, 1761 -- Mahlon Taylor, 1776 -- Daniel Hunt, 1778 -- David Miller, 1806. David McKinney was a Miller, as was his father Mordecai and Brother William at the north branch. The mills were also Millers and thus the earlier name for Clinton of Hunts Mills. The mill stands at the junction of the south branch of the Raritan and the Old Easton Turnpike. Millers shipped some of their finished products east by wagon to Raritan landing. Other products went west to the Delaware. The "Great Road" running north and south joined the Philadelphia-Trenton area with the northerly sections of the state. Although in a semi-wilderness, the mill was centrally located. Goods were also shipped by boat on the Raritan itself, but this was generally limited to the time of spring freshets.

Commerce

Early in its history it was an oil mill, grinding flax seed oil. Since diversification was necessary for survival this mill was also a grist mill and salt mill.

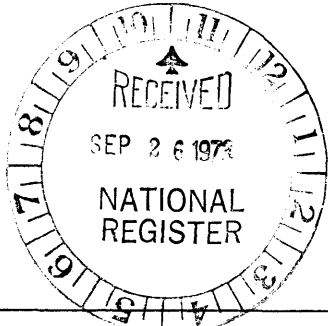
Architecture

The original skeletal square frame remains while the siding is new. The mill has been restored and an addition constructed on the most westerly end of the building. The 36' x 44' original foundation is intact and the point or peak where the original mill was remains inside the mill.

Until it became a museum, the building has always been a mill. Now it stands as a symbol of New Jersey's heritage. Through its unique setting, its architecture, and the many exhibits it houses, it expresses the qualities of inventiveness, determination and independence that became synonymous with the American spirit.

Congressional Representation

- Harrison Williams - U.S. Senator
- Clifford Case - U. S. Senator
- Joseph Maraziti - Congressman - 13th District



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Deed searches, Trenton, Flemington
 Newspaper extracts and microfilm - Trenton, Phila., N.Y.
 Tax records, N.J. State Archives, Trenton
 Will records, N.J. State Archives, Trenton
 Map research, Rutgers, N.Y. Public Library, N.Y. Historical Society
 Descendants of Mordecai McKinney, Gerald Petty

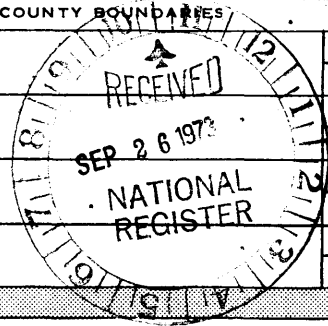
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	0 . .	0 . .		40°	38'	11"
NE	0 . .	0 . .		74°	54'	48"
SE	0 . .	0 . .				
SW	0 . .	0 . .				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **5.93 acres**

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: **Clinton Historical Museum: (Lois C. Riehmman)**
Walter J. Young (Trustee) & Historic Sites Office Staff (Historian)
 ORGANIZATION: **Historic Sites Office** DATE: **July 12, 1973**
Department of Environmental Protection
 STREET AND NUMBER: **John Fitch Plaza, Labor and Industry Building**
 CITY OR TOWN: **Trenton** STATE: **New Jersey** CODE: **34**

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION **NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name: *Richard J. Sullivan*
Richard J. Sullivan
 Title: _____
Commissioner, Department of Environmental Protection
 Date: September 18, 1973

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

A. H. Mortimer
~~XXXXX~~ Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation Director,
 Date: 1/8/74
 ATTEST:
Charles A. Bennett
 Acting Keeper of The National Register
 Date: 1-7-74

SEE INSTRUCTIONS