Form No. 10-300 (Rev. 10-74)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

DATA SHEET

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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п	Bu	ck, Jeremiah, House			
AN	ND/OR COMMON	Elman Innathan Harr			
		Elmer, Jonathan, Hous	se 		
2 L	OCATIO	N			
ST	REET & NUMBER		_		
		297 East Commerce	e Street	NOT FOR PUBLICATION	
CIT	TY, TOWN			CONGRESSIONAL DISTR	ІСТ
		dgeton	VICINITY OF	2nd	
ST	ATE New	Jersey	CODE	county Cumberlan	d code 34001
			<u> </u>		34
	LASSIFI	LATION			
	CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	DDEC	ENT USE
	_DISTRICT	_tPUBLIC	*OCCUPIED		
	_DISTINICT *BUILDING(S)	*PRIVATE	UNOCCUPIED	AGRICULTURE	MUSEUM
	_STRUCTURE		· ·	COMMERCIAL	PARK
	_SITE	BOTH PUBLIC ACQUISITION	WORK IN PROGRESS	EDUCATIONAL	*PRIVATE RESIDENCE
			ACCESSIBLE	ENTERTAINMENT	RELIGIOUS
_	_OBJECT	IN PROCESS	*YES: RESTRICTED	GOVERNMENT	SCIENTIFIC
		BEING CONSIDERED	YES: UNRESTRICTED	INDUSTRIAL	_TRANSPORTATION
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110	Mrs.	Margaret F. Huber			
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CIT	Y, TOWN			STATE	
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CONDITION

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★EXCELLENT —GOOD

__FAIR

__DETERIORATED

__UNEXPOSED

__RUINS

__UNALTERED

*ORIGINAL SITE
-MOVED DA

DATE____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

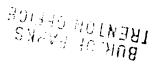
The Jeremiah Buck House is a 2½ story Federal dwelling. It is constructed of brick in a Flemish bond pattern. It has a box cornice with dentils across the facade. There are parapeted inside end chimneys on both sides and a large widow's walk with square balasters. The railing has small dentils on the outside. There are two pedimented dormers with returns and dentil work. The windows are 6 lights over 6 lights flanked by three panel shutters on the first floor and louvered shutters on the second. The main entrance is covered by a large portico with dentils and full entablature. It is supported by thick Doric columns. The six panel front door is flanked by reeded pilasters and louvered shutters and surmounted by an arched fanlight with detailed trim.

Inside, the house has a central hall plan with a fanlight at either end. The fanlight between the hall and dining room is similiar, although slightly smaller, than the exterior one. The stairway, which is off the hall, is open to the third floor and has turned balusters. It is alleged to be a replica of a stairway in Independence Hall in Philadelphia. The interior trim around the doorways and window openings consists of reeded pilasters. There are five wooden mantles with reeded pilasters and carved friezes, each of which has high and narrow chimney closets tucked on either side. There is also one original black and white marble mantle imported from Italy.

Over the decades, several alterations have been made to the house. Most significant, there are two unoriginal wings added to the rear of the house, thus giving it a U-shape. Each of these wings is two stories in hight. The eastern wing is rectangular with a flat roof, while the western one has a gable roof. Interior alterations consist primarily of providing for a modern kitchen, bathrooms, and heating, electrical, and plumbing facilities.

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8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW
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PREHISTORIC	ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	COMMUNITY PLANNING	LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	RELIGION
1400-1499	_ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	CONSERVATION	_LAW	SCIENCE
1500-1599	AGRICULTURE	ECONOMICS	LITERATURE	SCULPTURE
1600-1699	*ARCHITECTURE	EDUCATION	MILITARY	_SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
1700-1799	ART	ENGINEERING	MUSIC	THEATER
초 4 800-1899	COMMERCE	EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	PHILOSOPHY	TRANSPORTATION
1900-	COMMUNICATIONS	★ INDUSTRY	*_POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	*_OTHER (SPECIFY)
		INVENTION		Medicine

SPECIFIC DATES 1808

BUILDER/ARCHITECT J. Buck, builder

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Buck House enjoys significance in several areas, all of which have contributed to the historical importance of the house.

Industry: Jeremiah Buck, the builder, purchased the East Lake grist mill in 1807 when he bought the land for his house. In 1809, Buck constructed a dam to enlarge the pond, modernized the grist mill, and built a saw mill. Two years later, he enlarged his industrial operation by erecting a cotton and woolen factOry. Until the depression after the War of 1812 when financial problems forced Buck to assign his assets to his creditors, Buck's industrial and manufacturing complex played a crucial part in Bridgeton's early economic development.

Medicine: Dr. William Elmer, who purchased the house from Buck in 1820, was Bridgeton's foremost physician. One of the earliest graduates of the Medical School of the University of Pennsylvania, Elmerquickly established himself as Bridgeton's most popular doctor as measured by the size of his practice and his popularity. After he inherited a considerable sum from his father, he gradually began to phase out his practice and by the end of the 1820's he was virtually retired.

Politics/government: Jonathan Elmer, son of Dr. William Elmer and grandson of the famous revolutionary politician Jonathan Elmer, resided in the Buck house all his life and devoted his entire adult life to local politics. He served on the Cumberland County Board of Freeholders for nearly fifty years, twenty-one of which he was Director. He also served several terms on City Council. The length of his political service is unprecedented in Bridgeton political history.

Architecture: The Buck House is the premier extant example of Federal architecture in Bridgeton. Its grandeur in both size and architectural detail more closely resembles the stately townhouses of cosmopolitan areas. The large portico and columns, the five carved wooden mantles, the one black and white marble mantle imported from Italy, the open winding stairway, the large interior fanlights, and the reeding on the interior trim are all representative details found on the more ornate Federal houses. The absence of substantial interior alterations make the house even more significant.

The chain of title runs as follows: Jeremiah Buck, 1808-20; Dr. William Elmer, 1820-36; Jonathan Elmer, 1836-94; Thomas H. Bowen, 1894-1919; Mrs. Gertrude A. Huber, 1919-37, Mr. and Mrs. L. Albertson Huber, 1937-present

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Cushing, Thomas and Sheppard, Charles E. <u>History of the Counties of Gloucester</u>, <u>Salem</u>, <u>and Cumberland</u> (Philadelphia, 1883), 594-97.

"We Women," December, 1958, p. 10.

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ORGANIZATION Dr. Arthur	F. Sewall, Histor	rian	DATE
	ud-1 Commission		
Bridgeton Bicenten STREET & NUMBER 274 East Commerc	nial Commission		April 1, 1975 TELEPHONE
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city or town Bridgeton		1	New Jersey
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12 STATE HISTORI			
THE EV	ALUATED SIGNIFICANCE	OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN	THE STATE IS:
NATIONAL	ST	ATE	LOCAL
As the designated State Historic	c Preservation Officer for the	e National Historic Preservatio	n Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I
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criteria and procedures set forth			
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