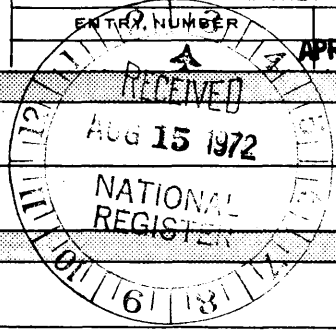


NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: New Jersey	
COUNTY: Passaic	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
4	APR 3 1972



1. NAME

COMMON:
Colfax House

AND/OR HISTORIC:
Schuyler-Colfax House

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
2343 Paterson Hamburg Turnpike

CITY OR TOWN:
Wayne

STATE: New Jersey	CODE: 34	COUNTY: Passaic	CODE: 031
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3. CLASSIFICATION

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

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Dr. Jane A. Colfax (Jane Colfax DeNike)

STREET AND NUMBER:
2343 Paterson Hamburg

CITY OR TOWN:
Wayne

STATE: New Jersey	CODE: 34
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5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Passaic County Courthouse, Register's Office

STREET AND NUMBER:
City Hall

CITY OR TOWN:
Paterson

STATE: New Jersey	CODE: 34
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6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
HABS N.J. 6-122

DATE OF SURVEY: **1932** Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Library of Congress

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
Washington

STATE: D.C.	CODE: 11
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SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: New Jersey
COUNTY: Passaic
ENTRY NUMBER: APR 3 1972
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DATE

7. Description

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input 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

Two story Dutch colonial 10-room structure constructed from exact Dutch pattern, Holland brick, hand-hewn timbers and native fieldstone with clay and straw mortar; 42 foot long beams; stone cellar foundation under main part of house; 18" outside walls. Six fireplaces with original blackened firebricks (one hearth hidden in kitchen) Unique suspended fireplace over-hang in kitchen wing (which is oldest portion of house.) Date 1696 carved on attic beam. Two main halls in house run 40 foot depth. Most floors original. Front porch and dormers added in 1850. These kitchen wing dormers removed later. Original HL hinges cross panels (protection against witches!) Fan light above front door. Original well supposedly dug by A. Brockholst. Rooms restored in 1963.

The old Colfax bridge crossed the Ramapo River directly in back of the house. Under an agreement in 1836 with General William Colfax, the Morris Canal and Banking Company erected another bridge 200 yards south of the house.

A milestone on the front lawn reads "23 miles to Hoboken or Jersey City" along the Paterson Hamburg Turnpike built in 1804 "66 feet wide and as straight as the land will permit." A tollkeepers house still stands across the street, where a Colfax collected tolls and supplimented his income by making boots and shoes.

The family burial ground is 100 yards north of the house. A pylon monument marks the graves of General William Colfax and his wife Hester.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. Significance

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian 16th Century 18th Century 20th Century
 15th Century 17th Century 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

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 | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

In 1683, Arent Schuyler bought from the Minisi Indians living in this area, 5,500 acres on June 16, 1695 for merchandise and wampum worth £250 with other purchasers Anthony Brockholst, Samuel Bayard, George Ryerson, John Mead, Samuel Berrie, David and Hendrick Manderville from Proprietors of the East Jersey Company. These family names remain today here.

Captain Schuyler had won his commission in the British Army in the Indian wars between the French and English in Canada and was familiar with this territory when he was sent to treat with the Indians by the Governors of New York and New Jersey. Here he built his home in 1695 in the "wonderous beautiful valley" on the banks of the Ramapo River. He moved to New Barbadoes Neck (Belleville) in 1710, where he operated a copper mine.

Here, Captain William Colfax, who had come from Connecticut and was second in command of General George Washington's Life Guards, met, courted and then married Hester Schuyler, daughter of Casparus Schuyler, granddaughter of Arent Schuyler, on August 27, 1773. They raised 3 sons-Schuyler, whose own son was to become vice-president of the United States under U.S. Grant, -Dr. William and George Washington Colfax. The last two were residents of the town.

George and Martha Washington came to the house when his namesake was christened. Mrs. Washington knitted a nightcap for George Colfax which is now in the possession of Dr. Jane Colfax. Other items of interest are chairs occupied by Washington, a Warner mirror (1741) Lafayette crockery, beaver hat belonging to George Schuyler, poke bonnet of Hester Colfax, cannonballs and other relics found on the property.

Fourteen slaves lived here in 1861 and into the 1900's.

A most interesting observation is the eighth generation of Colfax's occupy the home today. It is one of few homes in our country, built before 1700, never sold and is still lived in by descendant of the original owner. Dr. Colfax and her brother, Dr. Richard Colfax of Pompton Lakes remain as direct descendants.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

<u>History of Bergen and Passaic Counties</u> , W.W. Clayton	1882
<u>Life of Schuyler Colfax</u> , O.J. Hollister, N.Y. & London	1886
<u>Some Colonial Homesteads</u> , Marion Harland, page 167	1899
<u>Commander-In-Chief's Guard</u> , Carlos E. Godfrey, M.D. Revolutionary War, Washington, D.C.	1904
<u>Paterson and Its Environs</u> , William Nelson	1920
<u>Pre-Revolutionary Dutch Houses</u> , Rosalie Fellows Bailey	1920
<u>New Jersey Architecture</u> , Lars de Fagerberg	1956
<u>The Forgotten General</u> , Albert H. Heusser, page 158	1928
<u>Under the Sign of the Eagle</u> , William Berce	1964

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	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	0 ' "	0 ' "		40° 59' 14" N	74° 16' 45" E	
NE	0 ' "	0 ' "				
SE	0 ' "	0 ' "				
SW	0 ' "	0 ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: About 1 acre

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:
Mrs. Kenneth G. Sills, preservation and research committee

ORGANIZATION: **Wayne Township Historical Commission** DATE: _____

STREET AND NUMBER:
Wayne Museum, 533 Berdan Avenue

CITY OR TOWN: **Wayne** STATE: **New Jersey** CODE: **34**

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

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: August 2, 1972

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

Robert M. Utley
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 4/3/73

ATTEST:
Madford
Keeper of The National Register

Date: 3/22/73

4/

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet) 1

STATE	
New Jersey	
COUNTY	
Passaic	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	APR 3 - 1972

(Number all entries)
Colfax House
New Jersey 34
Passaic 031

9. Bibliographical references (con't)

First Reformed Church, Pompton Plains, N.J.
1736-1936 Reverend Eugene H. Keator 1936

Congressional Representation
Honorable Clifford P. Case, U.S. Senator
Honorable Harrison A. Williams, U.S. Senator
Honorable Robert A. Roe, Congressman, 8th Congressional District

