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Form 10-300 (July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

STATE: New Jersey COUNTY: Camden FOR NPS USE ONLY

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DESCRIPE THE OPERAL AND OPERAL (If bears) PHYSICAL ADDRAWAGE									

The Hillman Hospital House was built in 1756 as attested to by the date in the West gable end. It is a two and one half story structure with dormers which are not original. There is common bond brick on the two gable ends and Flemish bond on the front and the rear is uncoursed fieldstone. The water table is also stone. It has three bays and the lower level is twelve over twelve sash and the upper level is eight over twelve sash. The windows have plain trim and the shutters are panelled. The The side windows have brick arches. The door is rectangular with six panels. There are exposed sawed off joists in the facade supporting a torn off pent roof. The woodshed roof in the rear is not original.

It has a center hall floor plan with two rooms on each side. There is a single flight of stairs enclosed between walls. There are three remaining fireplaces. There are four bedrooms on the second floor.

CONGRESSIONAL REPRESENTATION

Hon. Harrison A. Williams Hon. Clifford P. Case Hon. John E. Hunt (1st District)



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

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

Hillman Hospital House Glendora Camden County FOR NPS USE ONLY RECEIVED IAN 171977

DATE ENTERED

JUL 14 1977

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1

Description Addendum:

The Hillman Hospital House is situated atop a grassy ridge which is surrounded by intermittently spaced trees. The setting retains a rural pastoral appearance to this day.

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The house itself dates from 1756, as attested to by the gable end date, and survives with relatively minor alterations. The 2 1/2 story house is square in plan, with 3 irregular bays and a pitched roof. The exterior walls are of masonry with brick on 3 sides and rough field stone in the rear. The interior spaces are disposed as follows. The house is divided into front and rear halves by a masonry bearing wall. All other interior partitions are wooden. The front (northern) half contains 2 roughly equal rooms. The rear half contains two rooms with a small vestibule and stairhall between. The vestibule has an exterior door which occurs in the center of the rear facade.

All of the ground floor rooms have corner fireplaces except for the rear room on the west side. These fireplaces are serviced by 2 interior chimneys which occur between the front and rear rooms against the side walls of the house.

The room arrangement on the ground floor is repeated on the second floor with minor variations. Evidently the present interior woodwork was added in about 1820. Many of the doorframes have fluting and corner blocks with inscribed bull's eyes. The ground floor fireplaces are all of the Adams type, with the finest one in the east front room. This mantle has a full aedicule motif with fluted pilasters, a denticular cornice, and end panels in the entablature. The end panels have bulls' eyes which are similar to the ones inscribed in the door frame cornerblocks. The only difference is that the fireplace endpanel bull's eyes are not truly "inscribed". They rest in areas of panel facia much larger than themselves. The fireplace in the rear east room is similar but withour bull's eyes.

The exterior is articulated as follows:

The 2 1/2 story 3 bay facade has a degree of irregularity which is caused by the fact that the ways are not evenly spaced, and the middle window upstairs is not directly above the central frontdoor. At one time the ground floor was surmounted by a skirting roof. Evidence of this can still be seem in the string course, which occurs below the second story windows, and in the slits in the flemish bond brick work where beams were framed. The facade is surmounted by a box cornice. The pitched roof has a pair of dormers which are of recent origin. The upstairs windows are 8 over 12 with 12 over 12 sash windows downstairs. The entrance door and transom is framed in flutted boards with corner blocks and bull's eyes.

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Description Addendum Continued!

The ground floor windows have 3 panel shutters.

The side walls are laid up in English Bond with shallow brick archest over the windows. Near the top of the east gable the date "1756" is inscribed in burned headers. The stone rear facade has a wide porch and a pair dormers similar to the front.

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Sign	ificance			
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SPECI	FIC DATE(S) (If Applicabl	e and Known) 1756		
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13	☐ Commerce	Literature	itarian	
1 3	☐ Communications	Military	☐ Theater	
	☐ Conservation	Music	☐ Transportation	

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

James Hiliman built this house in 1756 after having married Mary Smallwood in 1754. He died leaving his house to his son James who was a Colonel in the American Revolution.

During the Revolution the house was used as military headquarters for the Gloucester County Militia. The Hessians were said to have crossed the Timber Creek close to the house as they marched to the Battle of Red Bank. The house was used as a hospital following the Battle of Red Bank and other casualities throughout the war.

James Hillman died intestate and the property descended to his sisters, Mary and Elizabeth. Mary was the wife of Paul Troth and Elizabeth was the wife of William Zane. Zane sold his wife's portion to Mary and Paul Troth in 1786.



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Significance Addendum

The Hillman Hospital House is a good surviving example of 18th century south Jersey regional domestic architecture. To begin with the vocabulary is derived from the English Georgian style but the window placement is irregular. Secondly, the house has a gable end date, a feature which is absolutely characteristic of houses of this type. Finally, there is the box cornice, the varying use of brickwork, and the irregular room plan, ample but without a hall.

In addition to its 18th century character, the house also features some fine interior woodwork of the FEderal period.

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Significance Addendum

The house, dated in the chimney 1756, was built by Gabriel Davis for use as a Public House or Inn. He held a Tavern License here from 1756 to 1761.

The wording in these license applications is interesting. The first application describes Gabriel Davis yeoman (farmer) as "a person well qualified to keep a Public House of Entertainment in the house where he now dwells (he is now living at a Public Landing, where a great number of people frequently Resort, which often proves bothersome to him.")

In 1761 and 1762 Thomas Briant held a Tavern License here. In the application for the license is stated: "Where he (Briant) Now Dwells Where Davis Lately Dwelt."

William Davis's application for a Tavern License in 1763 gave as a location: "Where Gabriel Davis and Thomas Briant lately Dwelt on the Road from Gloucester to Eggharbour." (The Irish Road).

Gabriel Davis returned in 1764 stating in his application that the "...house Being Convenient for both Travelers and Watermen..." In September of the same year William Falkner applied for a license: "In the dwelling house of Gabriel Davis." Falkner was again licensed in 1765.

The years of 1766 and 1767 saw yet another tavern keeper, Thomas Bishop, "at The house of Gabriel Davis. Timber Creek."

Gabriel Davis died prior to June 1767. His Tavern property was offered for sale in a newspaper ad... "Contains 178 acres of land, on which is a good brick dwellinghouse, two stories high, with four rooms on each floor, a good barn and orchard, 40 acres of land cleared, the rest well timbered, and is good strong land, also about 15 acres of meadow."

Apparently the Tavern was not sold because Sarah, Gabriel's widow received a Tavern License in 1768 and 1769, becoming the sixth and last tavern keeper in this house. In 1768 the "Chews Bridge" was completed and "a new and more convenient" road laid out to Gloucestertown. The traffic which once passed the door of Gabriel Davis's Tavern now used the new road a half mile to the west. The tavern that had served the travelers and watermen for thirteen years was now out of business. Sarah Davis tried to keep it going by securing a license in 1769, but this was the last license issued for use in this house.

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(Significance Addendum continued)

The next owner of this house was Benjamin Pitfield, who was elected in 1774 to the Committee of Observation, (a committee to advise the County on the course to take in the impending war with England.) Benjamin Pitfield was taxed between 1773 and 1778 for ten horses and cattle, a riding chair and two servants.

In 1779 George Payne purchased the property and added another 100 acres to the plantation to the south along the creek. Payne is listed in the Gloucester Township Tax Records as a "trader" and is taxed for a rolling chair, covered wagon, one slave and varying numbers of horses, cattle and hogs (even in the same year) which substantiates the applied title of trader.

During the Revolutionary War George Payne was a major in the Egg Harbor militia. He saw action at the second Battle of Trenton and the Battle of Princeton.

George Payne apparently did not keep up his mortgage payments to Benjamin Pitfield, because in 1783 the property was seized by Sheriff Thomas Denny and sold at auction to Joshua Lippincott for 711 pounds. Joshua transferred the property to his son Nathan in 1805 for "5 shillings and natural love and affection."

Nine years later Nathan Lippincott sold the property to John Keen and George Breck for \$9,000.

By 1850 M.I. Morgan was the owner. Then came Edward H. Warrick. The Warrick family held title from 1860; followed by the Jaggard family until the 1920's when William Schuck, the present owner, took possession.

Mr. Schuck made many improvements. The house was repaired and restored; electric lines were buried, the gardens and lawn manicured. The interior was restored to its colonial simplicity and furnished with period antiques.