

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: New Jersey	
COUNTY: Morris	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	APR 9 1978

**1. NAME**

COMMON:  
Woman's Club of Morristown

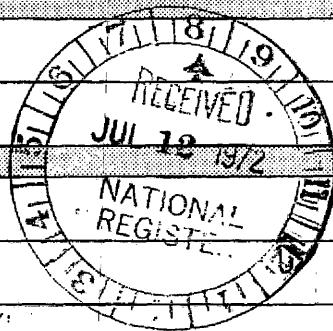
AND/OR HISTORIC:  
*use this* Dr. Lewis Condict's House - 1797

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
51 South Street

CITY OR TOWN:  
Morristown

STATE: New Jersey      CODE: 34      COUNTY: Morris      CODE: 027



**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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input 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"/> Comments <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <u>Woman's Club with outside community activities</u>

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNER'S NAME:  
Woman's Club of Morristown

STREET AND NUMBER:  
51 South Street

CITY OR TOWN: Morristown      STATE: New Jersey      CODE: 34

**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
Morris County Court House, Current Property Title

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Washington Street

CITY OR TOWN: Morristown      STATE: New Jersey      CODE: 34

**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
New Jersey Historic Sites Inventory #2064.20

DATE OF SURVEY: C. 1964       Federal       State       County       Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:  
Department of Environmental Protection, Bureau of Parks, Sites Sec. Historic

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

CITY OR TOWN: Trenton      STATE: New Jersey      CODE: 34

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

HIS E 543820  
 2018 N 4515340

STATE: New Jersey  
 COUNTY: Morris  
 ENTRY NUMBER: APR 9 1978  
 DATE:

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

The house is a white clapboard Federal style building of two and a half stories, with a gambrel roof, corner pilasters, and stone foundation. It has a central hallway and stairways ascending to the second and third floors. There are three rooms on the west side consisting of the club office and two parlors used for small club functions. Back of these rooms is the auditorium used for monthly club meetings and numerous community activities. On the east side are two rooms rented for commercial offices, a cloakroom, a pantry, a kitchen and two rest rooms.

On the second floor there are nine bedrooms, two baths, and a small apartment for the custodian. There are two bedrooms on the third floor. The bedrooms are occupied by club members.

The original house was smaller. The rooms on the west side consisted of parlors, the last of which was a library. On the east side were located the dining room, pantry and kitchen. Our reference for this description is Miss Grace Vogt, a ninety-eight year old charter club member. Through the years she has spoken of attending D.A.R. meetings in the library when it was occupied by Dr. and Mrs. Kinsley Twining who were renting the house from Dr. Condict's youngest daughter, Mrs. John Brandegee (the former Martina Condict).

On the first floor, the staircase from the central hallway to the basement remains as it was when the house was built. It is thought that the staircase to the second and third floors were added in about 1810 during the first alterations.

The roof has pegged rafters and hand-hewed roof beams which have markings as was a practice in early days, indicating that they were fitted on the ground and then matched when the roof was built. Nails are in evidence which are square and hand-wrought. Cement in chimneys and plaster in old areas contain hair.

On the second floor and in the attic there are original floor boards of random width, some measuring thirteen and a half inches.

There is evidence that the original house was thirty feet in depth. This is substantiated by the fact that the old beams and the heavy stone foundation in the basement extend to that distance. On the first floor this corresponds with a pilaster on the east wall and a protrusion on the west wall. On the second floor closets on the south side of the house are thought to have been exterior windows.

In the basement at the base of three large chimneys, against both east and west walls, there are three round-topped openings, presumably used for ovens.

The exterior has had a number of additions to the 1797 construction. The dormer on the front of the house is late 19th century, possibly 1870's.

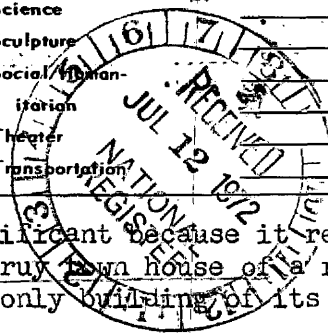
A porch, as shown on early photographs, dates from the same period. This porch was removed and replaced by a small porch at the front door, probably in the 1920's.

The additions extending from the rear of the house are of a later period.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. Significance

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian	<input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 18th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 15th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 19th Century	
SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) - 1797			
AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
Aboriginal <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric <input type="checkbox"/> Historic <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture <input type="checkbox"/> Art <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce <input type="checkbox"/> Communications <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> Education <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering <input type="checkbox"/> Industry <input type="checkbox"/> Invention <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture <input type="checkbox"/> Literature <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Music	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Political <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy <input type="checkbox"/> Science <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian <input type="checkbox"/> Theater <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) Medical History
STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE			
<p>This building is architecturally significant because it represents an excellent example of a late 18th century town house of a rather well-to-do professional person. This is the only building of its type in this section of town.</p> <p>The significance of this building lies, not only in the fact that it dates back to a period shortly after the Revolution, but also that its building and first resident was the Honorable Lewis Condict, M.D., a distinguished physician and statesman who was born in 1772 and died in 1862. A letter from Dr. Condict, dated December 30, 1797 states, "I have completed my house...Sylvester Russell is now practicing law and lives next door to me". According to an abstract of the title the house was located next to the Russell lot. Thus the date of the building of the house and its location are verified. The land was originally owned by Silas Condict, member of the Continental Congress in 1776 and 1777, the uncle who brought up Lewis. The deed shows that Silas Condict sold his nephew eleven acres on South Street at the price of 1400 pounds.</p> <p>Lewis Condict's medical education began in his fourteenth year when he studied with the Reverend Doctor Timothy Johnes, the pastor of the Presbyterian Church who is reputed to have given communion to George Washington. Lewis Condict received his medical degree from the University of Pennsylvania. His diploma is signed by Dr. Benjamin Rush, former general of the Continental Army.</p> <p><u>Dr. Condict</u> was a forward-looking man in his profession. He accepted the new vaccine which was being used to stamp out smallpox in England, vaccinated his two-year old daughter in one hand and innoculated her other hand with smallpox. The experiment was successful and as a result, Dr. Condict took part in having an act of Congress passed which permitted the vaccine to be sent through the mail free of charge.</p> <p>When the Morris County Medical Society was organized in 1816, he was elected president. He served as president of the Medical Society of New Jersey from 1816 to 1819 and became second vice president of the American Medical Association in 1853. In 1830 he was elected president of the First National Convention for the Decennial Revision of the United States Pharmacopoeia and is credited with uniting the factions in the medical profession for a national pharmacopoeia. He was re-elected president in 1840 and continued in office until 1850. Governor Pennington of New Jersey appointed him chairman in 1843 of a commission "To ascertain the number and condition of the lunatics in this state". This report was presented to the legislature and finally the first asylum in the state was built in Trenton in 1845. Dr. Condict became one of its commissioners.</p>			



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

(Continued)

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Coit, Henry L. "A Sketch of the Life of Honorable Lewis Condict, M.D.", reprint from the Journal of the Medical Society of New Jersey, 1910.  
Munsell History of Morris County, New Jersey, W.W.Munsell & Co., New York City, 1882, pp. 26,29,69,74,77,78,150,153,160,367.  
 New Jersey Historical Society News Series: Vol. 5, January-October, 1920, page 236.  
Palladium of Liberty, Morristown, New Jersey, Issue 7/13/1825 and Issue 7/21/1825.  
 Vogt Brothers, Morristown 1895, pp. 41 and 42.  
Will of Dr. Condict.

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			OR	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	° ' "	° ' "		40°	47'	41"
NE	° ' "	° ' "		74°	28'	50"
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 778

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE:  
Margaret Eckman, Club Historian

ORGANIZATION: woman's Club of Morristown DATE: 9/22/71

STREET AND NUMBER:  
51 South Street

CITY OR TOWN: Morristown STATE: New Jersey CODE: 31

**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: June 29, 1972

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

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

Date: 4/3/73

ATTEST:  
Bradford  
 Keeper of The National Register

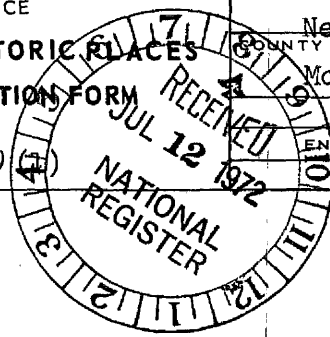
Date: 3/22/73

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE New Jersey	
COUNTY Morris	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	APR 3 1975



(Number all entries)

Woman's Club of Morristown  
 New Jersey Code: 34  
 Morris Code: 027

Section 8: Continued

Dr. Conduct's practice in Morristown was successful. In addition to his private patients he also attended prisoners confined to the jail. He made abstracts of the testimonies of Revolutionary soldiers who were asking for pensions. He probably presented their claims and gave testimony in court on their behalf. These abstracts appear in his notebook now in possession of the New Jersey Historical Society founded in 1845. Dr. Conduct was an original member.

Dr. Conduct was prominent in the political life of his era. In Morristown he had terms of sheriff, county judge and justice of the peace. In 1805 he was elected to the State Assembly and served in this capacity two terms (1805-1810; 1816-1817). He was speaker of the house in 1808, 1809, 1816 and 1817. He ran for the United States Congress in 1811 as an anti-federalist. He held office during the twelfth, thirteenth and fourteenth Congresses (1811-1817) and returned to the seventeenth and five successive congresses (1821-1833), thus serving during the administrations of Monroe, John Quincy Adams and Jackson. He was always elected with a large majority. He sometimes acted as speaker pro-tem and was a friend of Clay, Calhoun and Webster.

As United States Congressman he backed Clay's stand against Great Britain's seizure of American sailors, supported the policy which led to the War of 1812 and favored a strong navy. Later he urged that American slaves be freed and sent to the West Coast of Africa. He was a strong temperance man and presented a bill which would have prevented the manufacture of distilled spirits.

In 1825 the voting for president of the United States was split in such a way that no one received a majority. Thus the members of the House of Representatives had to decide the winner. Dr. Conduct voted for Jackson, not his personal choice, but in obedience to the popular vote of New Jersey.

He was influential in the civic life of his county and town. He was one of the proprietors of the Morris Aqueduct to whom a charter was granted in 1799. In 1804 he was appointed a member of the commission which settled the boundary between New York and New Jersey. Prominent in forwarding the construction of the Morris and Essex Railroad in the thirties, he became its first president and donated to the railroad a large block of land from the rear of his property facing Maple Avenue.

An exciting incident in Dr. Conduct's life took place in 1825 when he was a member of the committee which made the arrangements for Lafayette's visit to Morristown. The welcoming speech was delivered by Dr. Conduct, then a member of Congress. A facsimile of Lafayette's letter of thanks hangs on a wall in the office of the Woman's Club of Morristown.

The salient qualities that Dr. Conduct possessed are set forth by Dr. Henry L. Coit at a meeting of the Medical Society of New Jersey in 1910. He was described as a "man of strong convictions, sound judgment and exceptional organizing ability". In THE RECORD, published by the Presbyterian Church of Morristown, December 1883, Dr. Conduct is spoken of as an individual who

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INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet) (2)

STATE	
New Jersey	
COUNTY	
Morris	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	APR 9 1973

(Number all entries)

Woman's Club of Morristown  
New Jersey Code: 34  
Morris Code: 027

Section 8: Continued

"took a deep interest not only in public affairs, but also in matters pertaining to the first church. For many years he occupied a place in the choir and ...up to his death he was constant in attendance upon the services of the sanctuary".

Congressional Representation

Peter Frelinghuysen, Jr., Congressman (5th District)  
Clifford P. Case, U.S. Senator  
Harrison A. Williams, U.S. Senator

