

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:  
New Jersey  
COUNTY:  
Mercer  
FOR NPS USE ONLY  
ENTRY DATE  
OCT 29 1974

1. NAME

COMMON:  
Joseph, Stout, House  
AND/OR HISTORIC:  
Hunt House

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Province Line Road  
CITY OR TOWN:  
Hopewell vicinity  
STATE: New Jersey  
CODE: 34  
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:  
Thirteenth  
COUNTY:  
Mercer  
CODE: 021

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	<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

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious		
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific		

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:  
Alan Collins  
STREET AND NUMBER:  
Province Line Road  
CITY OR TOWN:  
Hopewell  
STATE:  
New Jersey  
CODE:  
34

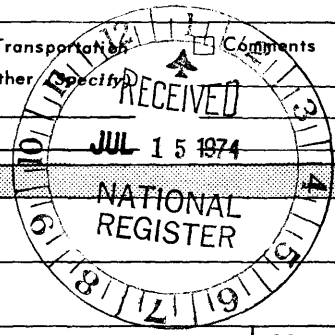
5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
Mercer County Court House  
STREET AND NUMBER:  
209 South Broad Street  
CITY OR TOWN:  
Trenton  
STATE:  
New Jersey  
CODE:  
34

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
HABS NJ-289; NJHSI 1516.6  
DATE OF SURVEY: 1930; 1960  
 Federal  State  County  Local  
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:  
Library of Congress; Historic Sites Office, Dept. of En. Prot.  
STREET AND NUMBER:  
Box 1420  
CITY OR TOWN:  
Washington; Trenton  
STATE:  
D.C.; New Jersey  
CODE:  
34

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



STATE: New Jersey  
COUNTY: Mercer  
ENTRY NUMBER: OCT 29 1974  
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

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

The Hunt House is located on a farm situated on a hilltop. The north elevation, originally the rear, is on the crest of the hill and is two stories. The south front elevation is on the slope of the hillside, giving this elevation three stories. The house is constructed of fieldstone. The main unit is five bays on the south and three bays on the north, being 45' in length and 35' in depth. The windows have solid stone lintels with 6/6 sash. The gable roof has paired brick chimneys on both gable ends, typical of the first half of the 19th century. The present cornice and boxed gutters are mid-19th century. The cornice brackets have been removed since the HABS survey. There are both a north and south center door connected by a through stair hall. The south main entrance is on the second floor on the south elevation (same level as the first floor of the north elevation). Originally this entrance had a porch with steps to grade level below. This south entrance doorway had sidelights and transom typical of the early 19th century, but all this has been removed since the HABS survey. The north doorway still remains and is also typical of this period, with blind louvered sidelights and a blind louvered semi-circular fan.

A landscape painting done of this house probably in the early 1800's shows it as it probably existed when it was built in 1752. Major alterations were probably made during the second quarter of the 19th century, as indicated by the Greek Revival details throughout. The painting shows the front entry with a pediment over the door and a platform with steps down to grade. The HABS drawings show a covered porch. A major alteration was the chimney placement. Originally, as shown in the painting, the house had a single chimney stack on each gable end. Undoubtedly, the rooms had back to back corner fireplaces. Presently there are a pair of chimney stacks on each gable end with gable end wall fireplaces, typical of the early 19th century. Originally there were no windows on the west gable end except two in the attic. In the remodeling, windows were added on the first and second floors of this elevation. The painting shows a small 1 1/2 story building to the east of the house. This 33' by 13' building is presently connected to the main house by a 14' by 22' stone addition.

The floor plan is basically a center hall with two rooms on each side, with alterations. The original kitchen and dining room were in the lower level in the two south rooms. The large kitchen fireplace remains intact. The interior details are Greek Revival, probably second quarter 19th century. The door and window casings have the Greek ear with the tapered plain pilaster. The fireplace mantels have simple pilasters

**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) **1752; mid 19th century**

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 checked="" 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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Military |   |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation   | <input type="checkbox"/> Music               |   |  |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

**RELIGION**

The present farm area was the property of Jonathan Stout, one of the first settlers of Hopewell. The farm passed to his son Joseph at his death in 1722. Joseph was active in community affairs. He was involved in the formation of the First Baptist Church of Hopewell. When the church meeting house was to be erected, Stout wanted it built on his land where it had been organized. When the other members objected due to its inconvenient location, Stout was so annoyed that he resolved to build a house larger than the church. This explains the grandeur of the house he built in 1752. The stone bearing the date 1752 is present in the house today.

**MILITARY**

Colonel Stout left the house to his son Joseph, Jr., who did not live on the farm during the American Revolution. However, his father's brother in law, John Price Hunt, did. Hunt offered the residence to Gen. George Washington while the American army was encamped in the hills of Hopewell during its pursuit of the British across New Jersey. Since Washington only knew that he was using the Hunt residence, he had his correspondence addressed to him at Hunt House, from which the name is derived.

The council of war held at the house on June 24, 1778 is believed to be one of the greatest assemblies of military talent to be held during the Revolutionary War. In addition to Washington, Generals Greene, Lee, Sterling, Lafayette, Steuben, Knox, Poor, Wayne, Wood, Ford, Patterson, Scott and Duportail were in attendance. The meeting preceded the Battle of Monmouth.

In 1789 Wilson Stout conveyed the property to Jacob Weart. In 1851, Spencer Weart took possession of the house. In 1853 he is supposed to have done extensive alterations to the house. The farm remained in the Weart family until 1928 when the present owners' family bought it.

The house is historically significant. The meeting of Washington and his generals on June 24, 1778 gives the house a significance to the State of New Jersey as well as to the national struggle during the Revolutionary War.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

HABS Survey NJ-289  
Pioneers of Old Hopewell; Ralph Ege, pages 156-7.  
The Jersey Midlands, Henry Charlton Beck, pages 235-7.  
 Copy of Gen. Washington's letter, in possession of Collins family.  
The Battle of Monmouth, William Stryker, pages 73-78.  
New Jersey Archives, Newspaper Extracts, 1782, page 391.

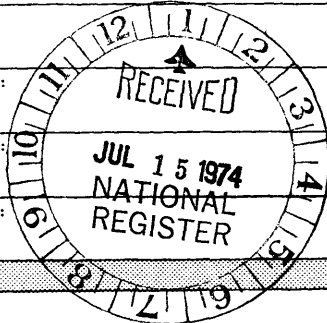
**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

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			
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds		
NW	40	24	44	74	45	00		
NE	40	24	44	74	44	29		
SE	40	24	23	74	44	29		
SW	40	24	23	74	45	00		

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **54.11 (see continuation sheet)**

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE: **Historic Sites Staff; Nancy Israel; assisted by Carolyn Woodward**

ORGANIZATION: **Dept. of Environmental Protection**      DATE: **March 1, 1974**

STREET AND NUMBER: **Box 1420**

CITY OR TOWN: **Trenton**      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: *David J. Bardin*  
**David J. Bardin**

Title: Commissioner, Dept. of Environmental Protection

Date: July 1, 1974

**NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

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

*Robert M. ...*  
 Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 10/29/74

ATTEST:

*Wm. M. ...*  
 Keeper of The National Register

Date: 10-22-74

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

2.

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE New Jersey	
COUNTY Mercer	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER OCT 29 1974	DATE

(Number all entries)

The Joseph Stout House  
Hopewell, New Jersey 34  
Mercer County 021

7. Description

supporting a plain entablature. The open staircase has turned newels and balusters. The interior of the house was considerably altered in detail at this time, if not totally.

A 1782 advertisement describes the farm as having "a large stone dwelling-house, two stories high, with nine rooms well finished, six fireplaces, a large entry through the center; a cellar and cellar kitchen...." The stone walls appear to remain intact though the interior has been completely remodeled in details. The plan appears to be appropriate to the early stage.

Numerous outbuildings remain including a stone pig sty and stone spring house.

8. Significance.

The fact that the original owners of the farm were important figures in the founding and early history of Hopewell gives the farm additional local importance.

10. Geographic Data

As described on the Hopewell Township Tax Map, July 1941, revised December, 1973, lot number 8 in section 1, belonging to Alan Collins.

