

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

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**SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD**

NRIS Reference Number: 02001483 Date Listed: 12/4/2002

Property Name: Staats House County: Somerset State: NJ

\_\_\_\_\_  
Multiple Name

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This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

Patrick Andrus  
Signature of the Keeper

12/4/2002  
Date of Action

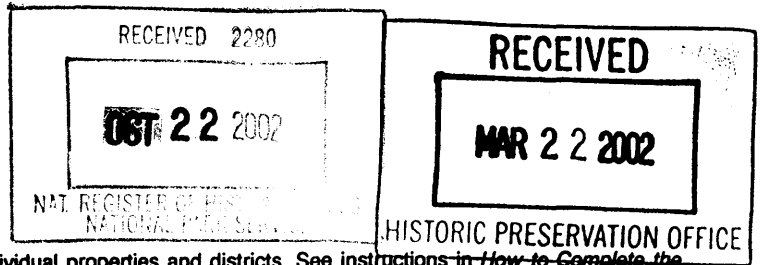
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Amended Items in Nomination:

This SLR makes a technical correction to the form. Section 3 of the form was not fully completed by the State. The staff of the NJ SHPO has informed us that the form should have noted that the nomination meets the National Register Criteria and that the State is recommending it at the State level of significance for its association with military history, and that it is of Local significance for its architectural importance.

**DISTRIBUTION:**  
**National Register property file**  
**Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)**

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

1482



### National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

#### 1. Name of Property

historic name STAATS HOUSE

other names/site number Abraham Staats House; General Baron Von Steuben Headquarters

#### 2. Location

street & number 17 Von Steuben Lane  not for publication

city or town South Bound Brook Borough  vicinity

state NJ code 034 county Somerset code 035 zip code 08880

#### 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this  nomination  request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant  nationally  statewide  locally. ( See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

Assistant Commissioner, Natural & Historic Resources DSHPO  
State of Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. ( See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

#### 4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

entered in the National Register.  
 See continuation sheet.

determined eligible for the National Register  
 See continuation sheet.

determined not eligible for the National Register.

removed from the National Register.

other, (explain): \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

Patrick Anderson

12/4/2002

Name of Property

5. Classification

Ownership of Property  
(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property  
(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property  
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
2	1	buildings
		sites
2	2	structures
		objects
4	3	Total

Name of related multiple property listing  
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed  
in the National Register

0 0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions  
(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

DOMESTIC/duplex

DOMESTIC/secondary structure

AGRICULTURE/storage

AGRICULTURE/animal facility

Current Functions  
(Enter categories from instructions)

WORK IN PROGRESS

7. Description

Architectural Classification  
(Enter categories from instructions)

COLONIAL/Dutch Colonial

EARLY REPUBLICAN/Federal

MID-19TH CENTURY/Greek Revival

Materials  
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation STONE:sandstone

walls WOOD:shingle

WOOD:weatherboard

roof ASPHALT

other CHIMNEYS-BRICK

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Name of Property

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE  
EXPLORATION?SETTLEMENT  
MILITARY

Period of Significance

c. 1740-1936

Significant Dates

c. 1740  
1779  
c. 1820-25

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Staats, Abraham

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # NJ-57
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:



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(Note: Rooms numbers and numbers for windows and doors are taken from drawings prepared by Historic Buildings Architects)

The Staats House occupies a lot of slightly less than 3.5 acres in the Borough of South Bound Brook bordered on the east by the Delaware and Raritan Canal. There is an apartment complex to its north and developed subdivisions of single family houses on small lots to the west and south. The approach is via a short dead-end road known as Von Steuben Lane. The house presently consists of three distinct sections and represents four or five building campaigns over a period of 200 years. These are a 1 ½-story, 5-bay center section; a lower 1 ½-story presently 2-bay western wing, and a 2 ½-story, 3-bay eastern wing. Individual features of these sections are described below according to their date of construction or installation. The foundations of all sections are red sandstone faced in random rubble. There is a cellar under the eastern two bays of the center section and the southern half of the east wing. (See HABS drawing "Foundation and Cellar Plan") The walls of the central section and west wing are sheathed with straight-butt shingles, while the east wing is clapboarded. Each of the three sections is covered by a gable roof, with the roof of the eastern wing extended to the rear as a catslide. All chimneys are brick above the roof and centered on the ridge of their respective sections. Most windows are flanked by three-paneled shutters, probably dating to the early twentieth century. Also on the property are four outbuildings related to its agricultural past, two of which are in ruinous condition. They are: a Dutch-framed wagon house; a smoke house; a corncrib; and a barn, to which are attached a green house on a cement foundation, and a stone stable. In addition, there is a wooden, roofed wellhead in front of the house.

The central section, 1 ½-stories high, is five bays wide. On the south or front façade an entrance door, slightly off center, is flanked by two 12/12 windows to either side, fitted with shutters with three recessed panels. (Photo 1 and HABS sheet 4) The doorway, approached by three stone steps, has a plain molded surround. Over it is a tapered board, the remains of an early twentieth-century pergola. The six-panel Dutch door, hung on strap hinges, has four raised panels; its two upper panels are in-filled with oval bull's-eye glass. The upper part of the door is original; the bottom has been replaced by a reproduction.

Three evenly spaced gabled dormers with 8/8 sash punctuate the southern and northern roof slopes. The fenestration of the rear of the central section is irregular, with a large bay window toward the eastern end. (Photo 2 and HABS sheet 5) The west wall has two 12/12 sash on the first floor, butted closely against the junction with the west wing. In

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the gable there are six-paned sash at the northern and southern ends and a 6/6 sash above the northern slope of the west wing roof. There are brick interior chimneys at either end.

On the interior, the plan and details reveal what the off-center placement of the entrance door suggests. There is a central stair hall with two rooms to each side. The front room (Room 102) on the east side is slightly wider than the front room west of the hall. Behind it is what is now a long, narrow room (Room 103), incorporating what once was a separate room behind the hall. This and the other rear room are noticeably smaller than the front rooms. This section is the result of three separate builds — 1738-40, c. 1770, and c. 1800-1815 — carried out by Hendrick and Abraham Staats, as well as alterations made by subsequent owners. The upper floor, originally an open garret, has been divided so as to form a large hall, at the rear off center, with a bedroom under the eaves on each side. A bathroom and closet occupy the space in front of the hallway.

The west wing is also 1 1/2-stories wide, but is considerably lower than the center section. Its southern façade is now two bays wide, but originally was three, with a narrow door between the two 6/6 sash, which are fitted with batten shutters. (Figure 2) There is a single gabled dormer in the center of the roof. On the northern side, a single 4/4 sash window and narrow batten door are crowded at the east end; there is a 6/6 sash window off-center. A 6/6 gabled dormer is centered on the roof. There is an interior chimney at the west end with its rubble stone foundation exposed at the level of the first floor. A 6/6 sash window has been inserted at the northern end of the west facade, probably replacing a bake oven. A batten door at the south end originally led to a one-story shed that stood against this wall. (HABS sheet 4 and Figure 1) The gable is sheathed in shingles and has two evenly spaced four-paned sash. On the interior an original partition separates an entry from the kitchen. (Room 108) A winding stair is boxed into the northeastern corner of the western room created by this partition. Newer partitions define a bathroom. A large brick hearth stretches across most of the western end of the kitchen. A brick fireplace with exposed flue is more or less centered on the western wall. (Figure 7)

Most of the eastern wing probably was built c. 1820-25 by Isaac Staats. (Photo 3 and HABS sheet 4) It is 2 1/2-stories high and three bays wide, with a side hall plan. The original configuration of the front half, under a gable roof, has been maintained. The most striking feature of the exterior is the entrance doorway, with leaded sidelights and transom. (Figure 11 and HABS sheet 7) Although the ornamental leading in the sidelights was in good condition in 1936, when the Historic American Buildings Survey recorded the building, several pieces now are missing. Windows on the front and east side of this section are 6/6 sash, including two small windows in the east gable. On the interior the staircase is located in the side hall in this section of the wing. The remainder of the plan

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in the front section is occupied by a capacious square room on each floor, with a hall bedroom on the second. Each of the major rooms has a fireplace flanked by windows in its eastern wall. The rear section of this wing originally was one bay deep under a shed roof. This subsequently was extended another bay and the pitch of the roof was altered to produce a "catslide." This section of the building houses a rear hall, lavatory, pantry, and kitchen with bedrooms and bathrooms above. A one-story shed-roofed addition at the rear is occupied by a bedroom and laundry.

Construction and alteration of the house occurred over a span of approximately 200 years.

### Hendrick Staats

Without documentation, it is impossible to determine definitively when the oldest section of the house was built. Samples from six timbers in the oldest part of the cellar were examined by dendrochronology.<sup>1</sup> However, a result could be obtained from only one, the large summer beam in the cellar. This produced a date of 1724, which relates to the 1722 date when Garrett Beekman sold the property to his daughter Cornelia Van Dam. Yet both Beekman and Van Dam remained in Manhattan and it is unlikely that so substantial a house would have been built for a tenant. Furthermore, there is no evidence for the source of the timber, which could have been reused from some other structure. Finally, no other suitable samples from the building were available for comparison. Dendrochronology is not so exact a science that conclusions can be drawn from a single sample. Rather a cluster of the same approximate date must be found before this method can be used with accuracy. It still seems most likely that the original part of the house was built for Hendrick Staats between 1738 and 1740.

Unfortunately, almost no specific features of the Hendrick Staats House can be identified because of later alterations and additions. Its location and plan, however, can still be discerned. Although the Raritan River and eventually a road lay to its east, the Hendrick Staats House, like most early dwellings, faces south. Originally it was far smaller than the existing building, consisting of what is now the part of the central section that includes the double parlors and approximately the western third of the stair hall, that is, the area now occupied by the staircase. The plan featured a single large room facing

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<sup>1</sup> Richard Veit and Alice Gerard (Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory), "Dendrochronological Study of the Abraham Staats House, September 2001." This report has been incorporated in a Historic Structure Report prepared by Historic Buildings Architects, LLC for the Borough of South Bound Brook, March 2002.



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south and one or two small rooms to the north, with the enclosed staircase rising from the northwestern room. The stair led to an open garret.

Alterations have destroyed evidence of the former locations of doors and windows. Possibly window 102-1 originally was an entrance doorway on the south side and, given the location of the original stair, there probably was another entrance on the north side, which has been obliterated by the present large bay window.

The extent of the original house is still defined by the structural system. It is framed in the Dutch manner by a series of six "H" or anchor bents, with extraordinarily long beams spanning 28' from north to south. Evidence of the location of the original west wall can still be seen in two locations. A large north-south beam in the stair hall, located over the stair railing and now boxed in, has notches for the studs of the original western exterior wall. In the upper garret, the collar or tie of the corresponding end rafter exhibits more exposure to the weather than its companions, another indication that this was the location of an exterior wall.

The roof of this section is supported by seven rafters, measuring approximately 4" by 4" and set 4' on center. They are tapered, and tenoned and pinned without a ridge pole in the Dutch fashion. It is likely that originally the house was clad with round-butt shingles. A few unpainted shingles of the latter type, remnants of the original east wall of the building's central section were found in the attic. They are 5 inches wide and 36 inches long.

No sign of framing for a jambless fireplace could be found on the large beam defining the location of the west wall. If such a feature existed, it probably was on the east wall, with its remains obliterated by construction of the existing back-to-back corner fireplaces.

**Abraham Staats**

When Abraham Staats acquired the property, c. 1770, it is likely that he almost immediately made several improvements to the house, for the style of the paneling and woodwork is consistent with such a date. By this time the Dutch were becoming acculturated and were adopting decorative elements of the prevailing English Georgian style. Thus the design of the raised paneling and the cornices of the back-to-back fireplaces in Rooms 102 and 103 and the corner cupboard in Room 102 are typical of the rather restrained version of the Georgian style favored in central New Jersey. (Photos 8, 9, and 10) They are similar, for example, to the William VerBryck House in

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Hillsborough Township, believed to date to the late 1760s. Nevertheless, the Dutch retained a preference for some features not found in houses built by other ethnic groups. They continued to construct unusually large fireplaces, perhaps a reminder of the old jambless fireplaces. Often these incorporated small cupboards, as does the fireplace in Room 102. For hanging large doors, they also favored cross-garnet or strap hinges, hammered into a round nailing plate near the hinge and with bean pod or pointed finials. At the Staats House, such hinges can be seen on the front door of the older section and and throughout the interiors of the central section. (See HABS drawing, sheet 17, "Hardware Details")

Abraham also enlarged the house at this time by extending the western wall six feet to the west, creating space for an entrance hall with a staircase against its east wall and a small room behind it. This extension is marked in the crawl space by a row of rough stone piers and in the attic by two added rafters. The new entrance doorway to this hall was hung with a "Dutch" door with oval bull's-eye windows in its upper half. As the 1821 inventory indicates, the staircase led to an unfinished garret. The closed-string stair dates to this period, but is unusual in lacking balusters. (Photo 7) The plain, square newel and handrail are similar to those at the VerBryck House and the Van Doren House in Montgomery Township on River Road south of Millstone. Its end consists of hand-planed vertical boards and string board.

Creation of the entry hall also established a new north-south partition approximately four feet east of the location of the former western end wall. This formed a small room behind the hall, now the "leg" of Room 103. Within the remaining space were two rooms (102 and 103) with large back-to-back corner fireplaces along the east wall, fully surrounded by deep-cut paneling with raised fields. The south or front room was the larger of the two and the paneling surrounding its fireplace is therefore the most extensive. It incorporates two small closets near the upper corners. (Photo 9) While the paneling around the fireplace occupies the room's northeast corner, the southeast corner is filled by a cupboard with paneled doors, with the upper set arched. (Photo 10) The doors are attached to the cupboard's architrave by wrought-iron butterfly hinges. The interior is fitted with finely carved butterfly shelves. The door between this room and the center hall is of an interesting design. Instead of the usual even number of panels, it has five raised panels, two vertical ones in the spaces above and below the lock rail, with a horizontal panel directly above the rail.

The old kitchen in the west wing poses a number of questions about its date of construction, which cannot be answered without some destructive testing and other additional forms of investigation. Nevertheless, there is some evidence that it was once a

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free-standing building. Its foundation is not connected to that of the central section. When the 1821 inventory was made, the manner in which it is written suggests that the men taking it had to exit the main house before entering the kitchen.

A number of details suggest that this wing predates the two-room deep western addition to the central section. One of these is the manner in which the windows of the west wall of the central section are awkwardly squeezed against the wing's north and south walls. The framing is clearly of Dutch construction. Now six bents in length between the east and west walls, it has lighter beams than what is believed to be the original section of the house. Nevertheless, there is a possibility that it, or at least the western part of it is, in fact, the oldest section. Its size, approximately 17' by 18' is a common one for early eighteenth-century houses. Again, further investigation, including archaeology adjacent to the foundation, might provide an accurate date.

It is difficult to determine what the original plan of the west wing was because a bathroom was inserted in the 1930s. Room 108, however, appears to be intact and may represent the original extent of the building. The kitchen fireplace against the west wall was once much larger as evidenced by the width of the hearth. Probably there was a bake oven in the present location of window 108-3. It may have been a jambless fireplace with the unusually large (10") beam above it supporting the original hood. Certainly the existing jambs, of different brick from the back and hearth, were added to configure and narrow the fireplace opening some time after its original construction. (See Figure 7 and HABS sheet 15, "Interior Details of Old Kitchen")

A boxed stair is against the wall opposite the fireplace in a location common in Dutch houses. Hardware is hand-wrought. In the door between the entry and Room 108 and the door to the stairs this consists of strap hinges with leather pads under the nails in the round nailing plate and wrought-iron Suffolk latches with bean pod nailing plates. Door CC1, adjacent to the fireplace, led to a shed sheltering the oven, which would have protruded beyond the west wall. The shed still was there in 1848 when Benson Lossing sketched it. (Figure 1) There also was a narrow exterior door between the two windows on the south façade. (Figure 2)

Clearly this once was an out kitchen. But whether it preceded the larger house built by Hendrick Staats, was contemporary with it, or was added by Abraham Staats is a question requiring further study. If it can be established that this structure indeed had a jambless fireplace, it is more likely to date from before 1750 or 1760, rather than later.

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Some time after the Revolutionary War, Abraham Staats enlarged the house considerably by creating a two-room deep addition between the center hallway and the west wing. This could have occurred any time after 1781, when, under the terms of his father's will, he actually became the owner of the property. The south room is the larger. A fireplace is centered on the west wall with a window to its left and a closet to the right. There are two windows in the south wall; a door at the south end of the east wall leads to the entrance hall, while a door in the north wall leads to the rear room (Room 105). In a survival of Dutch custom, this room has no fireplace. It has a single window in the north wall. Another window and a door leading to the kitchen are jammed awkwardly into the southwest corner. A door in the southeast corner leads to the entrance hall.

The style of the woodwork, especially of Room 104, suggests a date in the late eighteenth or early nineteenth century. The details of the fireplace, slender pilasters, shaped mantel shelf, and the oval in the center panel of the frieze are typical of work dating from c. 1790 to c. 1815.

The detailed room-by-room inventory taken in 1821 provides considerable information about the location of rooms and their uses. James Van Duyn and John Voorhees, who took the inventory, began in the oldest section of the house. They first inventoried the "Dwelling Room." This is readily identifiable as Room 102 because the list includes the contents of the "Corner Closet" and the "Mantle Closet." The room behind it, Room 103, served as a bedroom. Like the front room it had a fireplace because the contents included "HandIrons, sh[o]v[e]l Tongs & B[e]ll[ow]s." Van Duyn and Voorhees then evidently crossed the hall to the "Parlour," Room 104, which was well fitted with tea equipage, and in which the "2 Likenesses" were hung. It also was the only room with window curtains. They then returned to, or at least listed, the "Entry," before proceeding to the "Room Back of the Parlour," Room 105. Close to the kitchen wing, this seems to have served the combined function of bedroom and dining room, containing both a bed and a dining table. The chairs, however, were in the parlor, so perhaps the table was moved in there for dining. There also was the "Bedroom Back the Entry," now part of Room 103. This was a small room and although a bedstead was listed, appears to have been used primarily for storage of various items, including two barrels of whiskey. The men taking the inventory must have passed through Door Q1, because they then went up the stairs to the garret. This was undivided and probably unfinished, used for storage and work space; it contained wheat, casks of meat, tools, and two wheels and reels for spinning wool. Returning downstairs, they went to the kitchen wing, probably entering it from the outside, for they first listed the pantry and "linter [?] room" before inventorying the contents of the kitchen. There also was a kitchen garret. They then listed the shed, which contained a "Lot of Tubs, &c." Sheds along the exterior end walls of kitchen wings were

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common in central New Jersey. They served to shelter the bake oven, which protruded beyond the chimney wall. Sometimes they also were used as laundries, as suggested by the extensive list of linen inventoried next. The listing of five slaves immediately after the entry for the shed suggests that they were housed in this area of the house, probably in the garret over the kitchen.

Between the end of the Revolutionary War and his death, Abraham Staats had therefore almost doubled the size of his house. Having first altered it to a side hall plan with an out kitchen, he had filled in the space between the existing house and the kitchen, thus creating a center hall plan, with two major rooms to either side of the hall. Probably he had enlarged the building to accommodate his growing family, his son and five daughters.

### Isaac Staats and the Staats Sisters

During the Staats siblings' long ownership, they made a number of changes. These undoubtedly eased the sharing of the house by what, were, in effect, two separate families. The most major of these was the addition of a new east wing, for which it is generally believed that Isaac was responsible. It contrasts with the older sections of the house because it is constructed with English rather than Dutch framing. Two-and-a-half stories high and three bays wide, this wing provided a capacious entrance hall (Room 109) and a large room on the first and second floors, as well as a small hall bedroom on the second. Although Room 111 later became a dining room, it probably initially was a parlor for Isaac's family, while Room 211 was a chamber. Behind the main part of this wing was a lower two-story section with shed roof. This probably contained the kitchen and sleeping quarters for servants and/or a hired hand. Originally it was not as deep; the rear wall was in the same plane as the rear of the oldest section.

Various dates have been suggested for the east wing. The Historic American Buildings Survey used 1820. Other sources date it as 1825. Isaac married Martha A. Ross, probably in 1812; their first and only child, Margaret, was born in 1813.<sup>2</sup> At this time, of course, Abraham was still alive and it is not known whether he would have built the wing for his son and daughter-in-law. If, as seems more likely, Isaac waited until his father's

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<sup>2</sup> Lewis D. Cook, "The Family of John Staats of Hillsborough," in *Genealogies of New Jersey Families from The Genealogical Magazine of New Jersey* ed. Joseph R. Klett, Baltimore, MD: Genealogical Publishing Co. (1996), 824.

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estate was settled, he would have built the wing after 1823. Probably the safest date is c.1820-1825.

This date would accord well with the Federal-style front doorway with its leaded sidelights and transom. (See Figure 11 and HABS, sheet 7, "Entrance to 1820 Wing") Typical of fine early nineteenth-century work, the doorway features attenuated Tuscan columns, backed by blocks beveled to simulate rusticated stone. The repetition of the columns on the interior, in the form of pilasters, is especially notable. The staircase, with its slender balusters, also dates from this period. (Photo 12)

Other interior trim, however, appears to date from a later period. This includes the mantels in Rooms 111 and 211, with their robust Greek Revival columns, modified Ionic on the first floor and Tuscan on the second. (Photos 12 and 13) The door and window surrounds in the entry hall and Room 111 with their square corner blocks and knife moldings are particularly characteristic of the Greek Revival. Also telling is the manner in which the window architraves extend to the floor, framing panels below the windows. This treatment was particularly fashionable in the 1830s and 1840s. Furthermore, the unusual fireplace liner in Room 111, with its beribboned garlands, appears to feature portraits of the young Queen Victoria and Prince Albert. If this is the case, it would again suggest a date of c.1840. Perhaps the occasion for refurbishing the interior was Isaac's remarriage. On November 26, 1840, he took Mary A. Matthews as his second wife. Their first child, Abraham, arrived on February 22, 1841; four more children followed.

Isaac may have made another alteration to the east wing. It would be expected that a Federal doorway, like that on the Staats House, would be fronted by a portico that echoed its forms. Wooden porticos, however, are notoriously subject to decay. At some time this portico was replaced by a porch running the whole width of the façade. A photograph taken in the 1890s and an early twentieth-century postcard illustrate a porch with Italianate columns resting on substantial pedestals. (Figures 2 and 3) Isaac could have replaced the portico before his death in 1869; more probably the work was a "modernization" undertaken by the Latourettes shortly afterward. These photographs show that by the late nineteenth century there also was a stoop at the front door of the older section of the house. This had a shed roof supported by turned posts and incorporated benches. Both entries were approached by flights of wooden steps.

Probably both Isaac and his sisters made important alterations to the older parts of the house, finishing the garret. This was accomplished through the insertion of partitions and a ceiling. The latter created an upper, unfinished garret, in which the roof structure can

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still be seen. The work probably was undertaken for a number of reasons. Social change, in which privacy acquired great importance, dictated a separation of functions. It was no longer acceptable for rooms to be used for sleeping and other purposes, as Room 105 and the space behind the stairs had been in Abraham Staats's day. Furthermore, both parts of the family had increased. Isaac and Sarah each had one daughter and, by 1840, although Isaac's daughter had married and left, he had remarried and was starting a new family, and the widowed Jane had returned with her daughter.

Based on the appearance of its mantel, the western room in the garret (Room 206) probably was created around 1840. (Photo 15) There already were two windows in the gable, which rose above the kitchen wing, and a larger one was added, so that no dormers were required to provide light and air. This room is elevated one step above the remainder of the garret because the floor-to-ceiling heights in Rooms 104 and 105 are greater than those in Rooms 102 and 103. The door from the hall to this room is a five-panel door, reused from somewhere in Room 102 or 103.

The eastern end of the garret posed a different problem. Because of the presence of the higher east wing, dormers were a necessity. They certainly existed on the south side, and probably on the north side as well, by the 1840s. Gabled and relatively small, they lit the eastern two-thirds of the garret. Benson Lossing illustrated them in the first volume of his *Pictorial Field Book of the Revolution*. (Figure 1) He noted that he had visited the house in 1848, but the dormers may well have dated to construction of the east wing.

Another change was the reconfiguration of the staircase rising from the entrance hall in the center section. Originally another run, rising over this, led to the upper garret. (Evidence for this run can be seen in a closet now in the northeast corner of Room 204.) Both runs were enclosed in board walls to keep heat from rising from the lower floor to the garret. After the attic was divided, this run was closed. However, when the interior of the east wing was "modernized" c. 1840, a new stairway was run up to its garret. Never painted, the railing of this stairway exhibits square-headed cut nails typical of the period.

These various changes produced a central hall flanked by two large rooms in the former garret, with possibly a third room to its south, now converted to a bathroom.

The sisters probably altered the kitchen fireplace in the first half of the nineteenth century, as it became common knowledge that fireplaces with smaller openings were more efficient.

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The LaTourettes

The LaTourettes made few changes to interior finishes, but markedly altered the exterior. The earliest of their changes that can be documented was the addition of large, shed-roofed dormers to the front of the kitchen wing and the front and rear of the older section of the house. There was a dormer with a single sash over the front entrance and double-sashed dormers to either side over the spaces between the first floor windows. (Figure 4)

They made other alterations to the front of the house, removing the door to the kitchen wing and replacing the east wing's porch, or at least its columns, with square posts with a low parapet between them. (Figure 4) The LaTourettes also replaced the small portico at the entrance to the central section of the house with a pergola that featured benches.<sup>3</sup> (Figure 8) At the rear they extended the east wing by about eight feet. This required a slight change in the pitch of the shed roof. The Latourettes added a one-story shed behind it and a shed-roofed porch to shelter the rear door. (Figure 5) This certainly provided more convenient kitchen facilities. Cooking must have been done on a coal or wood-burning stove. A tall chimney to carry off the smoke rose at the rear. They also added the large bay window at the rear of Room 103. It probably was during this construction that the partition was removed between this room and what had been a small room at the rear of the stairs.

Possibly the old kitchen had remained in use up to this time. With the newly enlarged kitchen in the east wing complete, Florence LaTourette fitted up the old kitchen as a sort of museum with objects she discovered around the house, such as old cooking utensils, swords and guns, and a spinning wheel. (Figure 7) To make the new kitchen more convenient, she eventually, in 1926, had a door (I1) cut between it and Room 111, by then used as a dining room. Appreciative of the building's history and design, she sought out a grandson of the man who had built (or possibly altered) the east wing. The tale goes that, having retained his grandfather's planes, he was able to replicate the older woodwork exactly.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>3</sup> Rosemary Fellows Bailey, *Pre-Revolutionary Dutch Houses*, reprint, New York: Dover Publications (1968), 458.

<sup>4</sup> Wyckoff, Staats-LaTourette House



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Subsequent Owners

A team from the Historic American Buildings Survey recorded the Staats House in 1936. They were under the impression that the then owners, the Riddells, had added to the rear of the east wing and the bay window at the rear of the oldest section of the house. Photographs indicate, however, that these additions were already present while the LaTourettes owned the house. What may have confused the HABS team is that the Riddells probably were responsible for the present configuration of the kitchen.

The HABS drawings indicate that the Riddells did make a number of other changes. They removed the porch from the east wing, leaving the doorway finished off with a plain, somewhat awkward frame. It also was they who replaced the wooden steps of both porticos with the stone steps that still remain in place. Another feature removed was the bulkhead over steps leading to the cellar at the front of the old section. (Figures 8 and 9) Removing the old shed dormers from the central section and kitchen wing, they replaced them with smaller gabled dormers with small-paned sash. They also installed new wood shingle roofing; rebuilt the chimneys; and removed clapboard from the exterior of the first floor of the kitchen wing, exposing a wall constructed of stone laid as random rubble; and fitted the central wing with reproduction 12/12 windows.

Subsequent owners have made few alterations to the house that impacted the exterior. These have been confined to removal of the portico from the front entrance of the central section and installation of a stained glass window in Window 110-1.

North of the house, outbuildings are arranged in a courtyard formation, although one side of the courtyard is defined only by a small smoke house. This is the most intact structure of the group. It is a small, gable-roofed building, sided in clapboard. It is put together with wire nails, suggesting that it is of late nineteenth or early twentieth-century date. It is reputed to have been used as a smokehouse and, indeed, the interior shows evidence of charring. Because it relates to the property's agricultural past, it is contributing.

Directly to the north of the house, with its entrance facing south, is a small barn or wagon house. This is of Dutch construction, consisting of a series of seven H-bents. It has been patched and repatched numerous times. Most of the visible beams are relatively modern machine-sawn replacements, but some hewn posts remain and some of the connections between beams and posts are visible. (Photo 4) Despite its deteriorated condition, it retains enough of its form and construction techniques to be contributing.

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Behind and to the north of the wagon house is a small corncrib with typical sloping, slatted sides. Like the smokehouse, it is put together with wire nails and appears to be of late nineteenth or early twentieth-century construction, but also is a contributing structure related to the property's agricultural past, it is contributing.

The largest of the outbuildings is set perpendicular to the wagon house to its east. It actually is composed of three separate elements. The largest is a two-story barn probably dating to the late 19<sup>th</sup> or early 20<sup>th</sup> century. (Photo 5) However, its condition is so deteriorated that it is not possible to determine its original form or method of construction. It has therefore lost so much integrity as to be non-contributing.

A 1940s greenhouse on a concrete foundation is attached to the barn's east end. It is outside the period of significance and is therefore non-contributing.

At the rear of the barn is a one-story (now roofless) contributing stable with rubble stone walls. (Photo 6) At its south end this afforded stalls for three horses, within which the wooden feeding troughs are still intact, although in various stages of disrepair. There is a relatively large room to the north end, which may have served as a tack room. Although its age cannot be definitively determined, it is within the period of the property's significance and is contributing.

The wellhead in front of the house is over the position of a well shown in an early twentieth-century photograph. The present wellhead is of fairly recent construction, however, and is therefore a non-contributing structure.

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### Significant Dates

c. 1835-40  
1906  
1936

### Significant Person

Von Steuben, Baron William Frederick

The Staats House in South Bound Brook is significant under Criteria A, B, and C. It is one of the finest remaining buildings from the second phase of Dutch immigration and settlement in the Raritan Valley.<sup>1</sup> Built in several stages over the course of a hundred years, it retains significant features, many of them characteristically Dutch, from each building campaign. Perhaps the fact that it changed through accretion rather than remodeling is due to the fact that it remained in the ownership of one family for approximately two centuries. In addition, the property is associated with significant personages. Its second owner, Abraham Staats, was important locally, serving in several official positions in Somerset County: tax collector, recorder of damages suffered at the hands of the British during the Revolutionary War, and probably freeholder. It also is significant as the headquarters of Baron William Frederick Von Steuben in the spring of 1779 during the second Middlebrook encampment.

Although there were settlements at New Brunswick and Bound Brook in the late seventeenth century, the penetration of European settlers into the upper reaches of the south side of the Raritan River occurred a generation or two later. During the period when the Dutch controlled New York and New Jersey, from 1614 to 1664, they paid relatively little attention to settlement west of the Hudson River.<sup>2</sup> Essentially their interests were commercial. Concentrating on fur trading with the Indians, they made few active moves toward attracting settlers, except for granting large patroonships in the Hudson River Valley. Early agricultural settlements were concentrated across the East

<sup>1</sup> The term Dutch applies to a number of ethnic groups from northern Europe, including those from the Netherlands, Belgium, France, Germany, and other countries. By the eighteenth century in central New Jersey, they were united by religion (the Dutch Reformed Church), language, custom, and material culture.

<sup>2</sup> Accounts of the Dutch era and early settlement patterns in New Jersey can be found in Richard P. McCormick, *New Jersey from Colony to State, 1609-1789*, rev. ed. Newark: New Jersey Historical Society (1981), 2-5, 10-37; John E. Pomfret, *Colonial New Jersey: A History*, New York: Charles Scribner's Sons (1972), 13-18; and Peter O Wacker, *Land and People*, New Brunswick: Rutgers University Press (1975), 160-169.

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River from Manhattan on Long Island, in what are now Queens and Brooklyn, and on Staten Island. Two attempts to settle what was known as Pavonia, the vicinity of Hoboken and Jersey City, proved abortive because of attacks by Native Americans. By 1664 a fortified town was built at Communipaw, but the New Jersey side of the river remained largely uninhabited.

After the English took New Jersey from the Netherlands, their management proved more attractive to the Dutch. Although there would be a number of disturbances over property rights, particularly in East Jersey, individuals could purchase land with relatively clear title on fairly favorable terms. By the last decades of the seventeenth century, Dutch families (primarily moving across from Manhattan or down from the Hudson River Valley) were well established in what is now Bergen County. Dutch families also were beginning to move into the Raritan and Millstone River Valleys in what is now Somerset County. Most of these were from the second, third, or even fourth generation of families that had settled on Long Island earlier in the seventeenth century. A Dutch Reformed Church was established at New Brunswick in 1699 and there were at least three other congregations in the Raritan's watershed formed before 1720. By the end of the eighteenth century, Bergen and Somerset Counties had the largest percentage of Dutch population in the Jerseys. In Somerset County, the Dutch tended to populate areas west and south of the Raritan. Although there also were Dutch families on the north and east side of the river in the eighteenth century, that area remained predominantly English, a category that included Scots and Scotch-Irish.

Gradually the Dutch moved up the Raritan, although the population along the river was sparser than in what is now southern Franklin Township, where a group of eight Dutch men from Brooklyn bought 10,000 acres from John Harrison in 1701.<sup>3</sup> There was a road up the north side of the Raritan as early as 1684.<sup>4</sup> Although not officially recorded, there also evidently was a road along the south bank at an early date, but the area of South Bound Brook does not appear to have been settled until between 1735 and 1745.<sup>5</sup>

<sup>3</sup> James P. Snell, *A History of Hunterdon and Somerset Counties*, 803-804.

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.* 574.

<sup>5</sup> Although this road is not in the early Middlesex County records or in the earliest Somerset County Road Book, it was shown on John Hills 1781 map of Somerset County [Map 1], which in turn was based on Benjamin Morgan's map of 1766. There are many references to Hendrick Fisher having settled in the area at an early date, but documentary records show him and/or his father, also named Hendrick, in New Brunswick. Hendrick Fisher's name is not on the 1745 Franklin Township tax rolls and his name does not appear in the area as an adjoinder until the conveyance of the Staats property from Hendrick to John Staats in 1769.

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The northern part of Somerset County was set off from Middlesex County in 1688, with the Raritan then forming the county's southern boundary. Somerset was extended southward to its present boundary in 1714, although administratively it remained within Middlesex until 1720. Probably around 1735, the date of the first tax list, it was separated into three municipalities called Precincts. The area around the Staats House was in what was known as the Eastern Precinct. In 1798, this became Franklin Township. It was not until 1907 that the Borough of South Bound Brook was set off as a separate municipality, although the name had been in use earlier. However, there was an incorporated town on the south bank of the Raritan by the mid-nineteenth century, although administratively it still was in Franklin Township. At first it was called South Bound Brook, but from about 1860 until the formation of the present borough, this was known as Bloomington.<sup>6</sup>

The change in the town's municipal status was the result of development, largely related to improvement in transportation. Construction of the New Jersey Turnpike in 1807 improved travel by road along the south side of the Raritan. In 1834, the Delaware and Raritan Canal opened on the path of the old road along the south bank of the Raritan. Although the canal might have been expected to engender activity immediately, the long depression following the Panic of 1837 evidently inhibited growth for several years. In 1841, the extension of the Elizabeth and Somerville Railroad to Bound Brook directed development to that side of the river. Nevertheless, by 1850, there was an agglomerated town on the south side of the river at the point where the bridge crossed the Raritan. There were several stores and a sawmill. There also was a dealer in grain and coal. The next decade witnessed more extensive development. There now were two steam sawmills (one belonging to an inhabitant of the Staats House), a sash and blind factory, and a lumber yard. Thus finished timber was the town's main industry.<sup>7</sup>

Residential development followed increased business activity, gradually consuming farmland to the south. By the early twentieth century, the property surrounding the Staats House had been reduced to thirteen acres. Still, this was then one of the largest residential properties in the area.

<sup>6</sup> John P. Snyder, *The Story of New Jersey's Civil Boundaries: 1606-1968*, Trenton: Bureau of Geology and Topography (1969), 222, 225

<sup>7</sup> H. Kels Swan, *Borough of Bound Brook*, 1964, 11-12.

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### Owners and Occupants

#### Hendrick Staats

The man who first settled on the Staats House property probably was Hendrick, the son of Peter Staats of New Utrecht in Brooklyn. By the time he was born, his branch of the Staats family had been established in Brooklyn for three generations.<sup>8</sup> The deed by which his father obtained the property on which the house stands has been published in Rosemary Fellows Bailey, *Pre-Revolutionary Dutch Houses and Families in Northern New Jersey and Southern New York* (451-452). It recounts the history of the property's ownership. The title originated as part of a large tract belonging to East Jersey Proprietor William Dockwra. Garrett Beekman and Lefferts Peterson of New York (i.e. Manhattan) purchased this land from Dockwra and divided it into six lots, each taking half of them. In 1722 Beekman sold Lot 1 to his daughter Cornelia Beekman Van Dam, also of New York, who conveyed it to Peter Staats of Brooklyn in 1738. It then consisted of 305 acres. (All later documents, however, describe it as consisting of approximately 250 to 270 acres.) He in turn, through an attachment to the 1738 deed, granted the land on April 29, 1740, to his son Hendrick Staats "for the Consideration of the Natural love and affection" plus the token sum of five shillings. All of the previous owners were identified as living elsewhere, but Hendrick Staats was described as "of the within County of Somerset." It can therefore be assumed that he was resident on the property in 1740 and may have built the house by that time.

Based on a misreading of this deed, some secondary sources have maintained that there already was an "old house" in existence by 1738. At least one dates it as early as 1696. There is, however, no mention of an old house in the document. What does appear in the 1738 deed is the phrase "all and singular the Houses Edifices Buildings Orchards Gardens pastures Swamps Cripples (*sic*) Woods Woodlands Waters Water Courses Mines Minerals." This language, however is, in effect, eighteenth-century boiler plate. Similar language appears in many deeds of the period.

<sup>8</sup> Richard W. Cook, "The Staats Family" in *Genealogies of New Jersey Families from The Genealogical Magazine of New Jersey*, ed. Joseph R. Klett, Baltimore, MD: Genealogical Publishing Co. (1996), 813-818.

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Hendrick Staats's name does not appear on the 1735 tax list for Franklin Township, but he was listed in 1745. At that time he owned 250 acres and ten cattle, taxed at 9s.4d.<sup>9</sup> He undoubtedly was responsible for the initial construction of the eastern part of the central section and possibly for the kitchen in what is now the west wing.

### Abraham Staats

In 1769, for reasons that are not known, Hendrick Staats and his wife Maghtal conveyed his property on the Raritan to his brother John.<sup>10</sup> By this time, the property was described as only 272 acres, which included 90 acres purchased from Christian Van Dorn on December 1, 1768, and on which John Staats held a mortgage. So perhaps Hendrick had not been as successful a farmer as his brother. John Staats was established on a large farm in Hillsborough Township and turned the South Bound Brook property over to his son Abraham. The transfer of possession, if not ownership, to Abraham probably was made in anticipation or celebration of his marriage to Margaret Dubois in November 1770. Eventually John left the property to Abraham in his 1781 will.<sup>11</sup> It was a common practice among the Dutch to give use of a farm to a mature son, but not to convey ownership until the father's death.

Abraham was a respected citizen of Somerset County, holding a number of civil offices. In May 1775 the county paid him for "numbering the people of the eastern precinct."<sup>12</sup> This probably means that he was the tax collector because the early tax records serve as a sort of census. He served as tax collector for the county from 1790 to 1820. He also probably was a freeholder.<sup>13</sup> In 1781 he and Jacobus Godine were managers of the bridge across the Raritan at Bound Brook.<sup>14</sup> He also was one of the men responsible for collecting accounts of damages incurred at the hands of the British during the Revolutionary War. His own losses were relatively minor, consisting of used clothing, livestock, a pewter teapot, and a coffee pot.<sup>15</sup>

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<sup>9</sup> William Brahms, *Franklin Township, Somerset County, NJ*, Franklin Township Public Library (1998), 170-171.

<sup>10</sup> Somerset County Deeds [hereafter SCD], A-1: 51.

<sup>11</sup> Somerset County Wills, 659R.

<sup>12</sup> Snell, 569.

<sup>13</sup> *Minutes of the Meetings of the Justices and Chosen Freeholders for the County of Somerset, May 13 1772 to Sept. 2, 1822*, Somerville: Somerset County, 1977, passim.

<sup>14</sup> "Was 'Queen's Bridge' the Bound Brook or Van Veghten's Bridge," *Somerset County Historical Quarterly*, 1 (1912): 268-271.

<sup>15</sup> Revolutionary War Damages, 126, NJSA.

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He was not only respected, but also prosperous. Late eighteenth and early nineteenth century tax records for the Eastern Precinct and Franklin Township consistently show him as among the half dozen or fewer wealthiest men in the municipality.<sup>16</sup> He not only was a farmer, but also, according to family tradition, taught mathematics, surveying, and navigation.<sup>17</sup> That he indeed was a surveyor is shown by the surveyor's instruments among his effects at the time of his death in 1821. These were among his most valuable possessions, worth \$48.00, only \$2.00 less than his chair and harness.<sup>18</sup> He also had money out at interest and owned shares of New Jersey Turnpike stock. Some of his capital probably was derived from the sale of a right-of-way to the turnpike company in 1807. The old road up the southwest side of the Raritan had run between the river and the house. The turnpike ran behind the house and virtually divided the property in half. (Map 2)<sup>19</sup>

Late eighteenth-century and early nineteenth-century tax returns show Abraham Staats owning 260 acres, which is approximately correct, one or two slaves, and between four and seven horses and seven and eleven cattle. In 1806 he also owned a covered wagon and a dog.<sup>20</sup> Like many others, it is probable that Abraham minimized the number and value of his possessions, although he was the tax collector. When an inventory was made at the time of his death, he owned five African-American slaves. Two were men, Harry and Jack, the former worth \$75.00 and the latter worthless because of ill health. There also were two women, Deyon [?] and Hannah, the former worth \$20.00 and the latter \$75.00. Most valuable was a fifth, a boy Frank, who would become free in eleven years under New Jersey's gradual emancipation act. He was valued at \$125.00

<sup>16</sup> Tax Rateables, Eastern Precinct and Franklin Township, Somerset County, NJSA.

<sup>17</sup> Elizabeth Porter Wycoff, "LaTourette-Staats House," 1929, 20, typescript transcribed by Joann McCrath, 1983. This tradition is based on three notebooks found in the house. These relate to the three subjects, setting out both principles and problems. One of the books has a log and beautifully drawn Mercator chart of a voyage from Londonderry to New York. It is signed Abraham Staats, but dated 1759. It is unlikely that it was kept by the Abraham Staats who lived in the Staats House. He would have been only sixteen years old in 1759. Perhaps it had belonged to the great-uncle for whom he was named. These books, along with school notebooks of Sarah and Phebe Staats, are in Special Collections, NJR under Staats, A., Cipher Books. There also are surveyor's notes in the Staats-Bayles-Dubois-LaTourette Papers, Ac. 3049, in the same repository.

<sup>18</sup> Inventory, May 10, 1821, Somerset County Wills, C: 278. A chair or chaise was a light carriage.

<sup>19</sup> There is no deed for this transaction. Perhaps Abraham received his stock in the company as payment for the land. The route is shown on the "Map of the New Jersey Turnpike Road, surveyed by Henry Plume, 1807," NJSA. Unfortunately this oversize map has been bound in sections and cannot be readily reproduced.

<sup>20</sup> Tax Ratables, Eastern Precinct and Franklin Township, 1788, 1791, 1806.



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Abraham also had acquired personal property that included such luxury items as an eight-day clock, and looking glasses. Among the most expensive items were bedsteads fully fitted out with bedding and curtains. There also were "Tea China," probably Chinese export porcelain, and silver spoons, sugar bowl, and cream jug. Further evidence of his wealth was his ownership of "2 Likenesses." These were pastel portraits of Abraham and his wife, which have been attributed to the Monmouth County painter Micah Williams.<sup>21</sup>

Soon after acquiring the property, Abraham Staats "modernized" the house built by Hendrick Staats by installing stylish paneling in Rooms 102 and 103, replacing a small, narrow boxed stair on the north side with a more ample straight run rising from the south. He also enlarged the building to the west to provide a side entrance hall with a room behind it. Before his death in 1821, probably in the first decade of the nineteenth century, he doubled the size of the house by adding two room in the western part of the central section and joining them to the west wing.

### Isaac Staats and the Staats Sisters

Abraham Staats died on May 4, 1821. His wife followed him almost exactly a year later on April 22, 1822. Abraham left six surviving children: a son, Isaac (b. 1791), and five daughters: Jane (b. 1773), Phebe (b. 1775), Margaret (b. 1781), Mary S. (b. 1784), and Sarah (b. 1787).<sup>22</sup>

Abraham Staats's will left a life estate in all his property to his wife. After her death, his land was to go half to his son and half in equal shares to his daughters, three of whom were unmarried. The house and garden were divided in the same way, that is, with half going to his Isaac and half to the daughters. Isaac was to receive two-thirds of the other buildings and the orchard, with the remaining third going to his sisters. The personal property was somewhat more evenly divided. Isaac's share was the most valuable slave, the boy with eleven year of servitude remaining, a musket, and turnpike stock. The

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<sup>21</sup> Many of the items listed in Abraham Staats's inventory remained in the house until the 1930s, when the owner, a descendant, felt compelled to sell them during the Great Depression. Interpolations in Wyckoff, "LaTourette-Staats House," list some of the buyers, notably Henry DuPont and Mrs. A. V. Stout. No mention was made of the sale of the portraits. They still exist, however, and are listed in the Bicentennial inventory of American paintings taken by the Smithsonian Institution in the 1970s. Unfortunately, the space for the name of the owners is blank.

<sup>22</sup> Lewis D. Cook, "The Family of John Staats of Hillsborough Township" in *Genealogies of New Jersey Families*, 819-826. The birth and death dates come from a family bible.

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remainder, including the other slaves, was to be divided among Abraham's daughters, who also received stock. The will went to great lengths to assure that Sarah's husband, William Bayles, would not get his hands on her share. It was to be held by Abraham's executors, Isaac Staats and John Frelinghuysen, who were to pay her a reasonable income on its proceeds. Only after William's death would Sarah receive her share outright.<sup>23</sup> In December 1821 Margaret died; her share was divided among her surviving sisters.<sup>24</sup>

In 1823, the surviving sisters executed a deed of partition with their brother Isaac, under which his share was calculated at 132.42 acres.<sup>25</sup> It lay east of the turnpike. Thus, the dwelling house, in which all the siblings had inherited a share, lay entirely on Isaac's land. Nevertheless, all the siblings eventually lived in the house. Phebe and Mary never married and remained in continuous occupation. Jane married Joseph Doty in 1808 and had a daughter named Elizabeth, but returned to the family homestead in her widowhood. Sarah, who had a daughter named Margaret Ann, had left her unsatisfactory husband by 1817 and also returned.<sup>26</sup>

Both Isaac and Phebe Staats appear in the 1830 federal census as heads of household. Generally Phebe was considered the head of the sisters' household. According to family tradition, she managed their share of the farm. She also was the only female member among forty-one males who formed a "vigilance committee" for "the detection of thieves, and the recovery of stolen horses, mules and other property belonging to an person, who is, or who may hereafter become a member of this company."<sup>27</sup> Such groups were not uncommon in the nineteenth century, when organized police forces were rare and improved transportation brought strangers into once entirely rural areas. Mary was the housekeeper, while Sarah tended to the welfare of the slaves and their children and the flower garden.

Some of the 1830 census entries were not entirely accurate. Isaac's for example, lists only one free white male, aged 20 to 30, whereas, Isaac was 39 at the time. There also was a white female, aged 30 to 40, presumably his wife. There also were two white

<sup>23</sup> Abraham Staats, Will, Aug., 17 1819, Somerset County Wills, C: 24.

<sup>24</sup> Margaret Staats, Inventory, Feb. 22, 1822, Somerset County Wills, C: 349. It is clear that this is the inventory of the daughter, not the mother. It lists some of the property specified in Abraham Staats's inventory and also mentions the legacy left by her father at his death on May 10, 1821.

<sup>25</sup> Somerset County Deeds [hereafter SCD], 12 November 1823, L: 65-66. The 1825 tax rateables for Franklin Township, however, give the acreage of each half as 128. See "Franklin Township Inhabitants," SCHQ, 7 (1918): 128-131.

<sup>26</sup> Cook, "John Staats of Hillsborough," 826.

<sup>27</sup> Wyckoff, "LaTourette-Staats House."

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females, one 10-15, the other 15 to 20, although Isaac only had one surviving daughter. In addition, there was a male slave, age 24-36, and listed under "free colored person" another male of the same age, a female aged 10-24, and three children, two boys and a girl. These probably were farm laborers and house servants. This account may not have been correct in listing only one slave. Subsequently Isaac manumitted two male slaves, Caesar on March 9, 1831, and Simon on March 10, 1834.<sup>28</sup>

Under Phebe's name, three of the sisters appear to have been in residence. As would become a pattern, they seem to have given their ages to the census taker as something less than they actually were. Also in the household was a girl, aged 10 to 15, probably Margaret Ann Bayles, born in 1815, and a free white male, aged 20 to 30, probably the hired man. There were also one male and two female slaves, as well as two free colored children.

In 1834, Isaac had something of a windfall. He and his wife sold 28.05 acres to the Delaware and Raritan Canal Company for just under \$2,000.<sup>29</sup> This must have concluded an earlier agreement, because construction of the canal began in 1830 and it opened to traffic in June 1834. In this area the canal followed the route of the old road up the southwest side of the Raritan, which had been made obsolete by construction of the New Jersey Turnpike.

Isaac and Phebe appear as heads of household again in the 1840 federal census. Isaac's wife had died in 1838, leaving one daughter, Margaret, who married Reuben Freeman that year.<sup>30</sup> There were now living with him a free white male, aged 30 to 40, probably his son-in-law, and two white females, 20 to 30, probably his daughter and a servant. There also were two white children, a girl and a boy. Isaac no longer owned slaves, but free colored persons included two males, aged 10 to 24, a female of the same age, and a boy. There were thus a total of ten people, four of whom were engaged in agriculture.

All four of the Staats sisters now were living in Phebe's household, with their ages this time listed accurately. There also was a free white woman, aged 20-30, a female child under 5, and a boy of approximately the same age. There also was a white male, 20-30, two free colored males, aged 10-24, and two free colored females under 10. Phebe and her sisters still owned two female slaves; the free African-Americans may have been their

<sup>28</sup> "Manumissions of Slaves in Somerset County," SCHQ, 2 (1913): 46-51.

<sup>29</sup> SCD, Dec. 10, 1834 (recorded April 1, 1835), R: 582.

<sup>30</sup> Cook, "John Staats of Hillsborough," 824.

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children. Large as the household was, only one person was engaged in agriculture. Perhaps other farm laborers lived across the turnpike on the sisters' land.

Increased business activity in the area is reflected in the occupation of the new head of household in the Staats House in the federal census of 1860. This was Cornelius Wyckoff LaTourette, aged 45, a lumber manufacturer. LaTourette, had married Margaret Ann Bayles, who was a year his junior, becoming her second husband. He had not appeared in the 1850 census because he had gone to California as a "forty-niner." He evidently failed to find gold or else acquired enough to found a business, because he returned to New Jersey and started the Somerset Sawmill.<sup>31</sup> By 1860 the couple had two young children, Louis B., 5, and Eugene, 2. LaTourette's business was not located on the Staats property. He is listed as owning real estate worth \$2,000 and personal property worth \$300. In contrast, the three surviving Staats sisters, still resident in the house, owned real estate worth \$10,000, their half of the farm, as well as personal property worth \$5,000. Also in the household were a servant girl, born in Ireland, and two young male farm laborers. Isaac Staats, aged 72, and remarried to a woman 24 years his junior, probably also was living in the house, along with their five children, aged six months to fourteen years. He still owned real estate worth \$6,000, although he valued his personal property at only \$100.

Isaac Staats died in 1869. But long before his death he had deeded his property to Margaret, his daughter by his first wife. She had married Reuben Freeman and, in 1838, Isaac had given them 4.38 acres, possibly so they could build a house. On the 1850 map of Somerset County two houses identified as R. Freeman's are shown considerably to the west of the Staats House. Isaac married again on November 26, 1840. Soon afterward he deeded 95.83 additional acres to Margaret Freeman and then, for fifty cents, "the farm on which I now live." This property was approximately 100 acres, bounded north and east by the Delaware and Raritan Canal, south by land of Mrs. Fisher and lands of Phebe Staats and others, west by B. Brokaw, J. Staats, R. H. Freeman and others.<sup>32</sup> Census records suggest that despite this last transaction he and his second family continued to occupy half the Staats House until Isaac's death. That same year, Reuben H. Freeman, then of Iowa, Isaac's son-in-law, conveyed the thirteen acres on which the house stood to Cornelius LaTourette for \$5,225, subject to Sarah's life use of half the house.<sup>33</sup> As noted, LaTourette and his wife, Sarah's daughter, were already living there.

<sup>31</sup> A. Van Doren Honeyman, *Northwestern New Jersey*, New York: Lewis Publishing Co. (1927), 3: 20.

<sup>32</sup> SCD, U-546, May 23, 1838; W-549, Dec. 15, 1840; Y-409, Nov. 4, 1842.

<sup>33</sup> SCD, Y-3, 528, April 26, 1869.

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In January 1871, the last of the Staats siblings, Sarah, died. Abraham Staats and his children had thus occupied the house for 100 years. The LaTourettes remained in possession, but did not own the entire fee of the house. Among them the sisters had only two direct descendants, Margaret Ann Bayles LaTourette and Elizabeth Doty, Jane's daughter, who married Benjamin Bonney. Each sister made a will, disposing of her share of their common property. Jane Doty, the eldest, was the first to die in 1859. Her daughter having predeceased her, she left a life interest in her real estate to Bonney. It then would pass to his children by Elizabeth. Mary Smith died in January 1863, having willed her share to Margaret LaTourette. Phebe died in December of the same year. Her interest in the farm and her residual estate went to Benjamin Bonney for life and then to his children. Sarah left her share to her daughter Margaret.<sup>34</sup> After Jane's death, the surviving sisters had partitioned the farm, so that the descent of that land was clear cut.<sup>35</sup> No mention was made of the house however. Thus, after the purchase from Reuben Freeman and Sarah's death, the LaTourettes owned three-quarters of the house, with the remaining quarter belonging to the Bonney heirs, who lived in New Brunswick. The divided ownership does not appear to have caused problems and finally was resolved in the next generation.<sup>36</sup>

According to tradition, these complicated nineteenth-century living arrangements were made possible because Isaac Staats built the east wing to house his family. He probably did so after coming into his inheritance from his father, which would place its date in the 1820s. He also seems to have updated what was built as a house in the Federal style with Greek Revival interior woodwork. This probably occurred either in 1835, when he received money for selling land to the Delaware and Raritan Canal Company, or in 1840, when he married for the second time. Some time before 1848, probably also in the period 1835-1840, he and his sisters finished off the garret.

### Eugene and Florence LaTourette

Like the other women of the Staats family, Margaret Anne Bayles LaTourette was long-lived. When she died intestate in March 1906, her only surviving son, Eugene, was her sole heir. He already had purchased the remaining interest of the Bonney heirs in the Staats property.<sup>36</sup>

<sup>34</sup> Somerset County Wills, 3691R, 3964R, 4027R, 4435R.

<sup>35</sup> Sarah Bayles et al to Benjamin Bonney, Feb. 22, 1861, SCD I-3, 416.

<sup>36</sup> Jane Bonney, executrix to Eugene D. LaTourette, Mar. 6, 1900, SCD, E-9: 12.

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Eugene Dubois LaTourette was a prominent local citizen in the Bound Brook area. Born in 1857, he began his career in 1876, alternating between working in New York City for a bank and insurance companies and farming in South Bound Brook and Virginia. Insurance proved more congenial, or perhaps more lucrative, and in 1891 he established a business as an independent fire adjuster, retiring in 1922. Meanwhile, in 1921, he had formed the Somerset Supply Company, dealing in feed and coal. He was a civic leader. President of the Bound Brook Water Company, he served several terms on the Borough Council and was the first Mayor of South Bound Brook.<sup>37</sup>

In 1882, Eugene married Florence DeCamp. They came to live at the Staats House around 1890. This was at the beginning of the Colonial Revival and Florence shared this sensibility. She listened to her mother-in-law's reminiscences about her family and life in the house. Because the Staats sisters had continued to live there together, few of the family heirlooms had been scattered. Many of the items in Abraham Staats's inventory also can be identified in the inventories filed with his daughters' wills. With the help of her mother-in-law, Florence LaTourette identified the furnishings still in use and also rescued and identified objects that had been relegated to the garrets. She fitted up the old kitchen as a sort of museum, displaying old cooking implements, spinning wheels, lanterns, and guns.

This undoubtedly occurred after extension of the east wing to the rear. With ownership of the house finally in one branch of the family, it was possible to construct a new kitchen in that location, using Room 111 as a dining room. During the LaTourettes' occupancy they added large shed dormers to the central section and the west wing, and also were responsible for the addition of a bay window to Room 103.

The Great Depression put an end to family ownership of the Staats House. Eugene LaTourette began to sell family heirlooms. Porcelain figures of Milton and Minerva went to Henry DuPont, along with other china and the brass sconces from the parlor fireplace paneling. Mrs. A. V. Stout of Red Bank purchased much of the silver. A Mrs. Robinson of Wilmington bought the dining room table and six chairs; the table was a DeCamp not a Staats piece.<sup>38</sup>

<sup>37</sup> Honeyman, *Northwestern New Jersey*,

<sup>38</sup> Wyckoff, LaTourette-Staats House. Mrs. Wyckoff, a cousin, wrote this piece in 1929. She, or someone else, later entered information about the sales in the early 1930s.

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By 1935, Eugene LaTourette and his second wife, elderly and probably in financial difficulties, sold the house to Mr. and Mrs. Richard Riddell.<sup>39</sup>

### Later Owners

The Riddells would be responsible for restoration and changes, including returning the windows to a 12/12 configuration, repairing the chimneys, removing the LaTourettes' shed-roofed dormers, and removing the front porch from the east wing. However, they owned the Staats House only briefly. In 1938 they sold it to Prentiss and Amy Bassette.<sup>40</sup> Mrs. Bassette owned the property for almost a decade, selling it to Charles G. and Lucia W. Hollister of Trenton in 1946.<sup>41</sup> They in turn conveyed it to Walter and Josephine Bielicky in 1957.<sup>42</sup> Mr. Bielicky, by then a widower, conveyed it to the Borough of South Bound Brook in 1997, retaining a life estate.

### Architectural Significance

The Staats House is significant because so much original fabric survives from building periods in the eighteenth century and the first half of the nineteenth century. It is also unusually well documented, having a thorough room by room inventory taken in 1821. Through this and physical evidence, it is possible to establish the developmental history of the building. The eastern part of its central section and the west wing, which may originally have been an out kitchen, retain the form and plan of pre-Georgian vernacular Dutch domestic buildings of the first half of the eighteenth century, as seen in central New Jersey, as well as on State Island and Long Island. The c. 1770 paneling in Rooms 102 and Room 103 and the corner cupboard in Room 102 are among the finest remaining examples of pre-Revolutionary Dutch joinery in Somerset County. The east wing retains typical detailing, probably from two periods in the first half of the nineteenth century, c. 1820-25 and c. 1835-40.

<sup>39</sup> Eugene D. and Helen C. LaTourette to Richard John and Jean Montgomery Riddell, Aug. 12, 1935, SCD, J-6, 293.

<sup>40</sup> SCD Z-23: 153.

<sup>41</sup> SCD, Jan. 23, 1946, 648:80.

<sup>42</sup> SCD, Sept. 11, 1957, 902: 474.

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By the eighteenth century, the New World "Dutch" had developed some characteristic building forms. Although based on New Netherlands predecessors, these Anglo-Dutch building forms were distinctive types, adapted to climatic factors and the availability of building materials in the American environment.

The Dutch families who settled the upper Raritan Valley and other parts of central New Jersey largely came from the western part of Long Island, bringing with them the frame building traditions practiced there. Several examples of these predecessors still were evident in the early twentieth century in what now are the New York City boroughs of Queens, Brooklyn, and Staten Island, and a handful still survive. The Staats House is no exception to this tradition, although many of its original features have been obliterated by later alterations and additions.

Hendrick Staats's house fits a pattern that can be seen in Dutch houses in central New Jersey, i.e. in Middlesex, Monmouth, and Somerset Counties. These houses, generally built by the third or fourth generation of "Dutch" in the New World, relate to the buildings of their immediate forebears on Long Island. Usually, like early houses built by other ethnic groups, these buildings are oriented to the south. And, indeed, the Staats House faces south, even though the Raritan River and an early road lay to its east.

In contrast to the Dutch architecture of northern New Jersey with its stone houses, the prevailing construction of these Central New Jersey buildings is frame. Gabled roofs with a relatively steep pitch are the usual form. The plan of two rooms side-by-side, with a separate exterior door to each section often found in North Jersey, is rare in these Central New Jersey counties. Instead, the rooms are aligned front to back. The plan of the Staats house, with a single large room at the front and one or two small rooms behind is a relatively common one, originally shared in Franklin Township by the Wyckoff-Garretson House on Middlebush Road, believed to date c. 1730, and the 1722 Symen Van Wickle House off Easton Avenue. The result is a house that is deeper than it is wide. In the case of the Staats House, the original width was approximately 20 feet, while the original, and still existing, depth is about 28 feet.

Shape alone is not, however, necessarily an identifying feature of a Dutch house. Settlers of English background also built one-and-a-half story, gable-roofed houses. Some had one-room plans. Others were two rooms deep. Thomas Wertenbaker's seminal 1949 publication *The Founding of American Civilization: The Middle Colonies* was one of the first to use material culture as a source of history. He identified a one-room deep English house as the East Jersey Cottage. Peter Wacker in *New Jersey's Cultural Landscape*



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*Before 1800* added the definition of a two-room deep house in English cultural areas as the Deep East Jersey Cottage. To apply these terms to Dutch houses, however, because of a superficial similarity in plan is incorrect. In fact, the plan of the two types tends to be different. In the English-derived house, the winding stair usually is located adjacent to the large fireplace in the front room. Although not always the case, Dutch houses characteristically box in a straighter stair, often in one of the small spaces at the rear, and on the wall opposite the fireplace. At the Staats House, the position of this stair in what is now Room 103 can still be identified by the notches for the studs supporting its enclosing wall, still visible on the west face of the fourth beam from the east, and the presence of a header. This is similar to the position of a stair in a back entry as seen at the Symen Van Wickle House (Comparison Drawing 1) and the Wyckoff-Garretson House.

A far greater difference than the distinction in plan between English and Dutch buildings is structural. English construction utilizes a braced frame with major posts at corners and room divisions. These are connected by beams to form a box or series of boxes depending on the size of the building. Floor joists are independent of the structural system. Dutch builders employed a series of "H" or anchor bents. These bents consist of posts rising from sill to roof plates, connected by beams forming the joists of the garret or of the second floor if there was one. These almost always are exposed, with the floor boards resting on them forming the ceiling of the first floor. Sometimes the posts also were left exposed, as is the case in the Symen Van Wickle House and the rear rooms of the Wyckoff-Garretson House. Because the posts were so heavy, no intermediate framing was necessary, in contrast to English-framed houses where thinner studs formed verticals between the major posts. Another result was that door and window openings in Dutch houses were placed between the bents.

Exterior doors often were divided horizontally into two parts, each of which opened independently, thus forming what is still known as a Dutch door. This was a persistent characteristic. The front door of the Staats House, which dates to a c. 1770 enlargement of the building, is of this type. The exteriors of these houses were weatherboarded or sheathed with straight or round-butt shingles. A few unpainted shingles of the latter type,

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remnants of the original east wall of the building's central section were found in the attic of the Staats House. They are 36 inches long, with the lower third exposed to the weather.

Interior finishes of Dutch houses were simple. Because the Dutch employed built-in beds, a form of cupboard for sleeping, and the rear chambers were small, these back rooms usually were not equipped with fireplaces. The built-in beds might be defined by flat board partitions. Although there is no evidence of bed cupboards in the Staats House, it did have typical small rear rooms, probably without any fireplaces. Another characteristic of early Dutch houses was the jambless fireplace. Requiring less material to construct than a fireplace with jambs (masonry sides), this would have consisted of a hearth and a projecting hood. Although further investigation is necessary to prove the hypothesis, there are some indications that the fireplace in the west wing of the Staats House was jambless. If so, it would be one of a handful of surviving examples in the New World.

Although alterations made by Abraham Staats obliterated details of Hendrick's house, they are themselves significant as typical of Dutch preferences in the pre-Revolutionary period. These include the design of the staircase and the inclusion of small closets or cupboards in the paneling of the fireplace in Room 103. Even later details like the oval central block in the mantel in room 108, while not exclusively Dutch, were especially popular among that ethnic group.

The east wing added by Isaac Staats is a good example of the styles preferred by a moderately well-to-do family in the first half of the nineteenth century. Neither its construction nor its details can be associated with uniquely Dutch ownership. It represents the acculturation that had taken place among the Central New Jersey Dutch by this time.

### Military Significance

During the winter of 1778-1779 and well into the following spring, the Continental army was in quarters in what is known as the Middlebrook encampment.<sup>43</sup> Although troops

<sup>43</sup> For the best account of this encampment, see Carl E. Prince, *The Middlebrook Encampment, 1778-1779*, master's thesis, Rutgers University, 1957. The thesis was published as a pamphlet for the Somerset County Historical Society under the title *Middlebrook: The American Eagle's Nest*. See also Peter Angelakos,

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from Virginia, Pennsylvania, and Maryland were encamped in the vicinity of Middlebrook, in fact the various components of the army were widely scattered. Suitable accommodations for the officers were particularly difficult to find, so that George Washington made his headquarters at the Wallace House in Somerville and General Henry Knox was at Pluckemin with his artillery. Life was far easier at Middlebrook than at Valley Forge or Morristown. Distinguished visitors came and some of the generals' wives joined their husbands. The officers found time for dances and other forms of socializing, in which young ladies living in the area joined them.

By March 26, Baron Steuben had arrived and took up his quarters at the Staats House.<sup>44</sup> Steuben was a Prussian officer, who at Valley Forge, through training and discipline, had begun to organize the ragtag American army into an efficient fighting force. He had remained in Philadelphia in 1778 to compose his manual, "Regulations for the Order and Discipline of the Troops of the United States," to which he may have put the finishing touches while at the Staats House. A visit was expected on May 1 from the French Minister to America, Conrad Girard, and the Spanish Minister, Don Juan de Miralles. In preparation, Steuben drilled four of the best battalions of Maryland troops in special maneuvers. It was during this visit that Girard informed Washington that the French would increase the flow of supplies and that Count D'Estaing's fleet would be put at his disposal.

After a successful review, about sixty generals and colonels joined Steuben for dinner. Among those in attendance probably were: Washington, Knox, Nathanael Greene, Baron Johanne DeKalb, and William Alexander, Lord Stirling; Charles Scott, William Woodford, and Peter Muhlenberg of Virginia; and Arthur St. Clair and William Irvine of Pennsylvania. Among the colonels, Washington's aides, Alexander Hamilton, James McHenry, and Tench Tilghman probably also attended.<sup>45</sup> The dinner was served in a large tent or marqu e erected in a grove near the Staats House. Jane Staats Doty, a child of almost six at the time, recalled almost seventy years later that some of the officers'

<sup>44</sup>"The Army at Middlebrook, 1778-1779," *Proceedings of the New Jersey Historical Society*, 70 (1952): 97-120.

<sup>44</sup> Wycoff, "La Tourette-Staats House," bases the dates of his arrival and departure from the Staats House on Steuben's papers and correspondence at the New-York Historical Society.

<sup>45</sup> The highly charged and romanticized version of this event in Mrs. Mary Hartwell Carter's, "The Staats' House and Baron Steuben," *SCHQ*, 2, 2 (April 1913): 80-87 cannot be depended on. She includes among the guests, for example, Anthony Wayne, who had left the area months earlier. For a list of officers of field grade at Middlebrook, see Prince, *The Middlebrook Encampment*, Appendix A, 185-186.

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wives were present. She also remembered another occasion on which General and Mrs. Washington and several ladies came to tea.<sup>46</sup>

On April 27, Steuben was named Inspector General of the Army. He then began visiting the different brigades to see that they were conforming to the regulations he had written. As the encampment ended he held reviews of the state lines. Steuben remained at the Staats House until after the departure of the army in late May, perhaps until mid-June.

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<sup>46</sup> Benson J. Lossing, *Pictorial Field-Book of the Revolution*, New York: Harper and Brothers (1850-1852), 1: 333.

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<sup>+</sup> All documents cited (with the exception of recent deeds, which are at the Somerset County Courthouse) can be found on microfilm at the New Jersey State Archives.

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Section number \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_\_

Section 10 Page 1

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The boundaries of the Staats House coincide with the boundaries of Block 75, Lot 8 in the Borough of South Bound Brook. The eastern boundary overlaps the boundary of the Delaware and Raritan Canal New Jersey and National Register Historic District.



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

STAATS HOUSE  
Somerset County, NJ

Section number \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_\_

Historic Illustrations

- 
- Figure 1. Engraving from Benson Lossing, *Pictorial Field-Book of the Revolution*, 1848.  
Figure 2. Photograph from southwest, F.N. Voorhees, c. 1890, Special Collections, Rutgers University Library.  
Figure 3. Postcard, view from southeast, Somerset County Historical Society.  
Figure 4. Photograph from southwest, c. 1925-1935, Somerset County Historical Society.  
Figure 5. Photograph from northwest, c. 1925-1935, Somerset County Historical Society.  
Figure 6. Fireplace in southeast room, central section, *Northwestern New Jersey*, 1927.  
Figure 7. Kitchen fireplace, *Northwestern New Jersey*, 1927.  
Figure 8. Photograph taken for Rosemary Fellows Bailey's book, *Pre-Revolutionary Dutch Houses and Families in Northern New Jersey and Southern New York*, 1932-1933, Special Collections, Rutgers University Library.  
Figure 9. View from south, Historic American Buildings Survey, 1936.  
Figure 10. Fireplace and corner cupboard, southeast room, central section, Historic American Buildings Survey, 1936.  
Figure 11. Front doorway, east wing, Historic American Buildings Survey, 1936.
- Map 1. John Hills, Map of Somerset County, New Jersey, 1781.  
Map 2. James S. Westcott, Map and survey of the Delaware and Raritan Canal and Feeder, 1833.  
Map 3. Otley and Keily, *Somerset County, New Jersey*, 1850.  
Map 4. F.W. Beers, *Atlas of Somerset County New Jersey*, 1873.

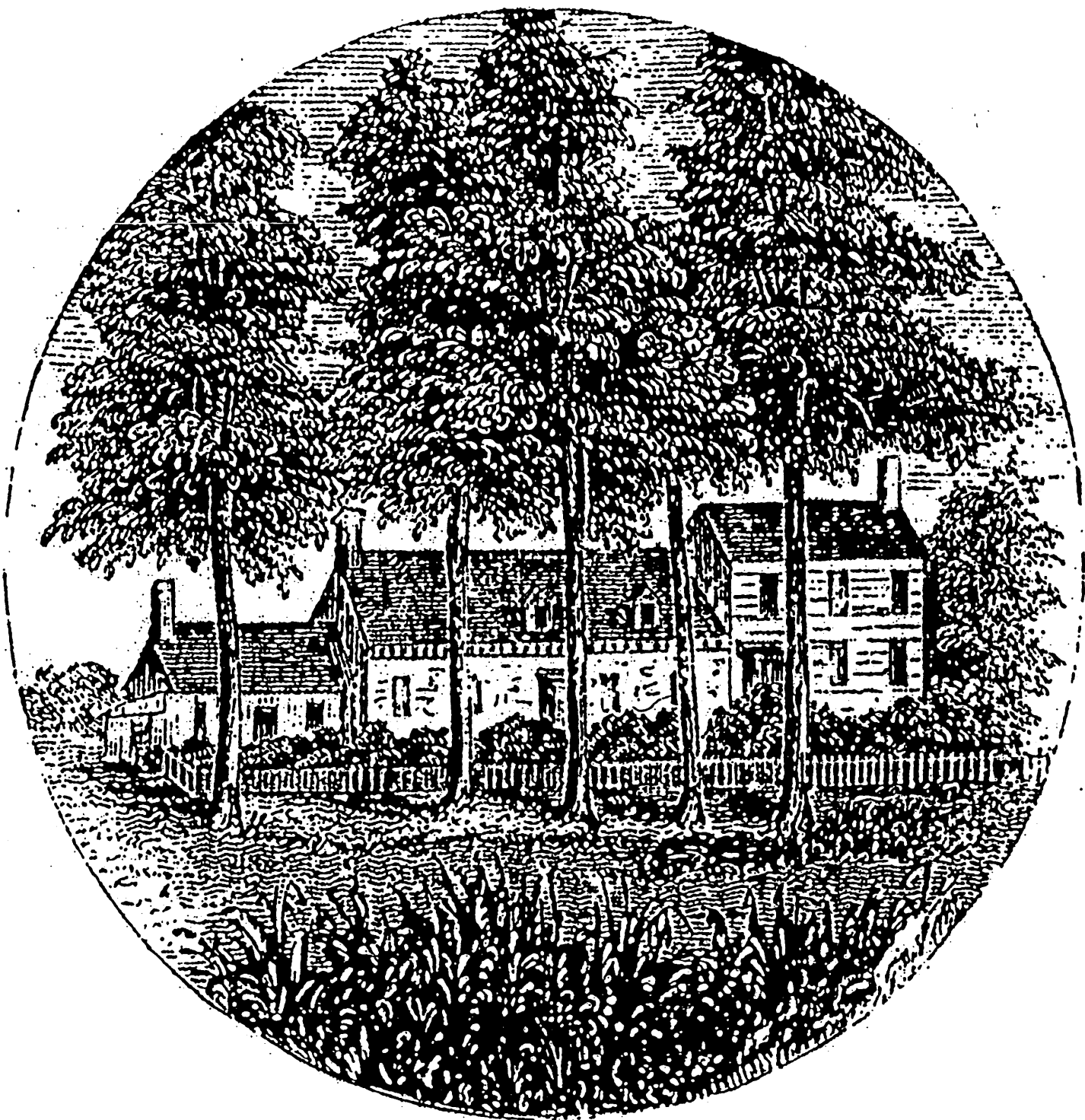


Figure 1. This engraving (much enlarged here) appeared in the first volume of Benson Lossing's *Pictorial-Field Book of the American Revolution* on page 332. Lossing noted that he had visited the site on September 14, 1848. Despite the lack of detail caused by the engraving's size, it is possible to see a number of features. These include the porticos in front of both entries, the additional door in the center of the west wing, the small dormers in the eastern half of the central section, and the shed attached to the west wing. Note also that there was a fenced dooryard stretching across the entire front.



Figure 2. Taken at the close of the nineteenth century by F. N. Voorhees, this view from the southwest shows several surviving early features, including the small, gable-roofed dormers in the central section and the door centered on the southern façade of the kitchen. The photograph also shows the wooden steps leading up to the front entrances of both the central section and the east wing. The bake oven in the west wall of the kitchen wing has already been removed and replaced by a window. The outbuildings depicted behind the house no longer exist. *Special Collections, Rutgers University Library.*



Figure 3. An early twentieth century postcard depicts the house from the southeast and confirms many of the features shown in the Voorhees photograph. Note the 12/12 sash in the central section and the bulkhead between its two eastern windows. Although early postcards often were hand tinted and thus not always reliable, this one correctly depicted the building's color scheme of yellow body with white trim and green shutters. *Somerset County Historical Society.*



Figure 4. By the time this photograph was taken in the late 1920s or early 1930s, the LaTourettes had installed large shed-roofed dormers on the central block and the east wing and removed the southern door to the west wing. *Somerset County Historical Society.*



Figure 5. By the early twentieth century, there also were shed-roofed dormers at the rear of the central section and the bay window had been installed. The extensions to the rear of the east wing also were in place. *Somerset County Historical Society.*



Figure 6. What Abraham Staats's inventory had called the "Dwelling Room" became the LaTourette's living room. It was furnished with antiques, many of which had been in the house since the eighteenth century. This photograph appeared in *Northwestern New Jersey*, published in 1927.

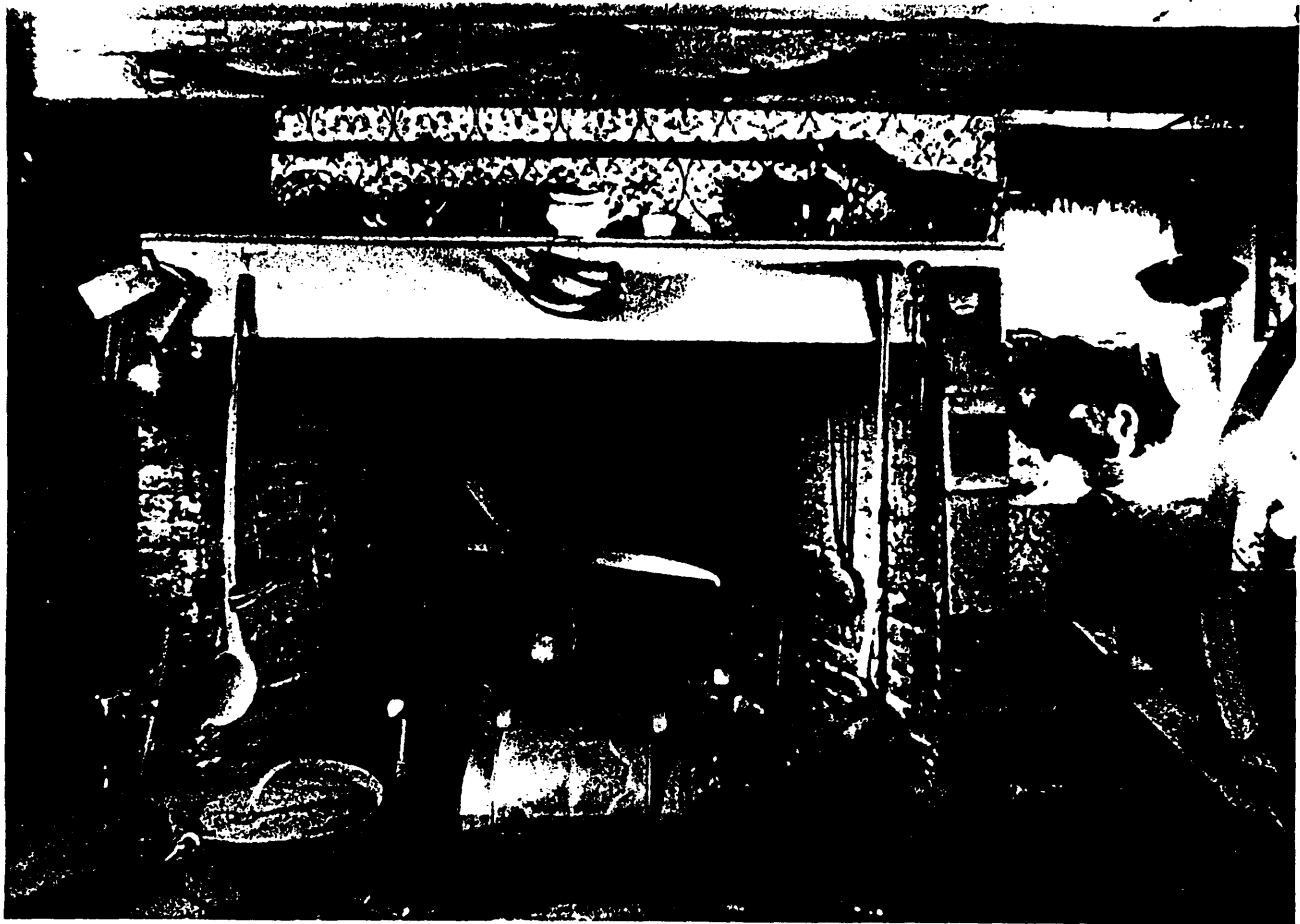


Figure 7. Florence LaTourette set up the old kitchen in the west wing as a sort of museum, fitted out with a variety of objects found in the house. A roaster and large covered pot stood on the hearth. A powder horn adorned the mantel shelf, while a gun and swords hung above the fireplace. A candle mold can be seen left of the fireplace, while a large spinning wheel stands to its right. This was another of the illustrations in *Northwestern New Jersey*.





Figure 8. Rosemary Fellows Bailey preparing her book, *Pre-Revolutionary Dutch Houses and Families in Northern New Jersey and Southern New York*, made field trips in 1932 and 1933. The photograph of the Staats House shows that the bulkhead still remained under the windows of the east end of the central section. The wooden steps had not yet been replaced by stone. The stoop at the front door, however, had been replaced by the pergola that still appears in the Historic American Buildings Survey drawings. An original print of this and several other photographs made for the book are at *Special Collections, Alexander Library, Rutgers University*.



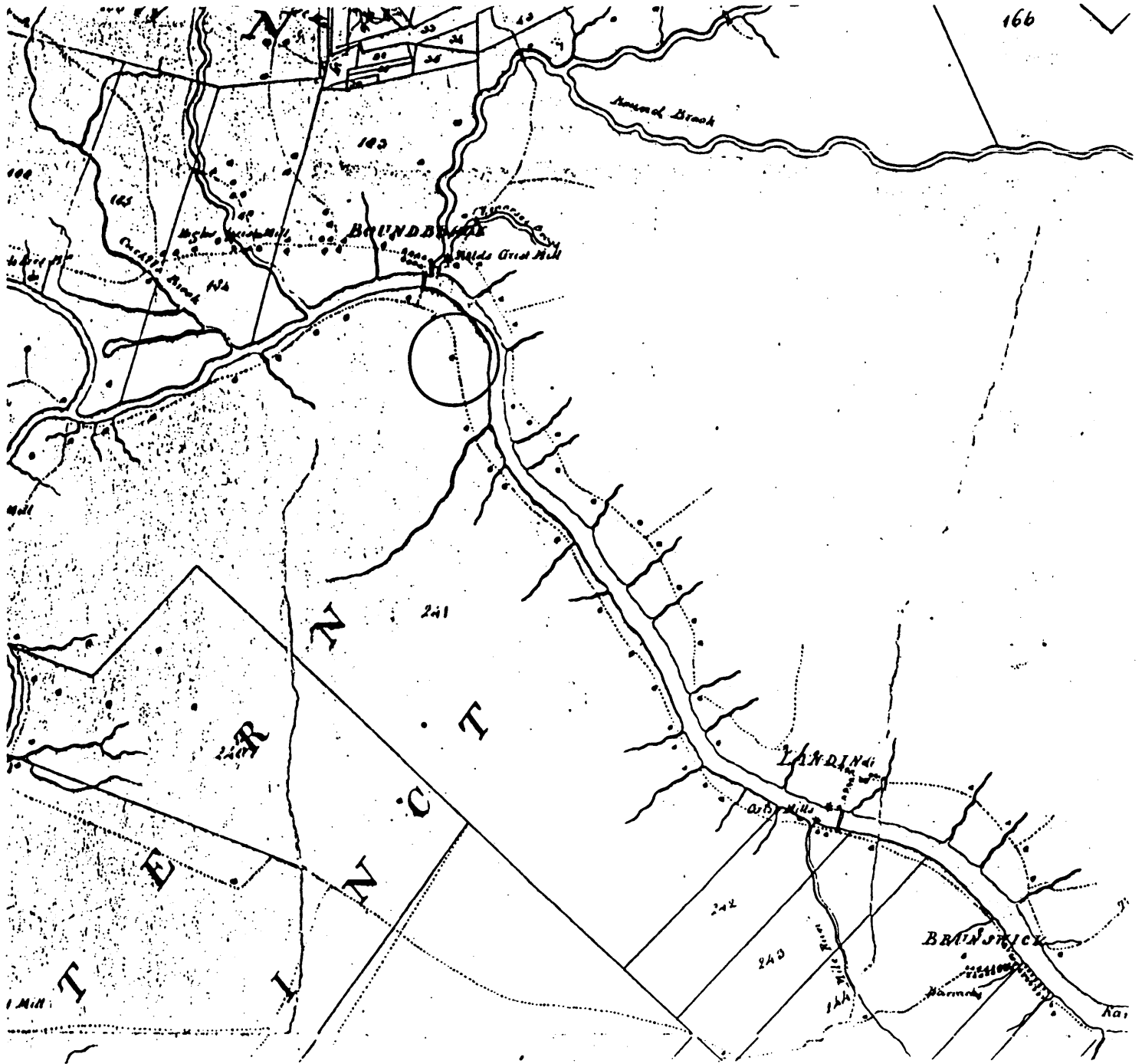
Figure 9. By the time the Historic American Buildings Survey photographed the Staats House in 1936, the Riddells had removed the shed-roofed dormers, replacing them with the gable-roofed dormers that still survive.



Figure 10. Without the distraction of furnishings, Abraham Staat's paneled fireplace and corner cupboard show to advantage in this Historic American Buildings Survey photograph.



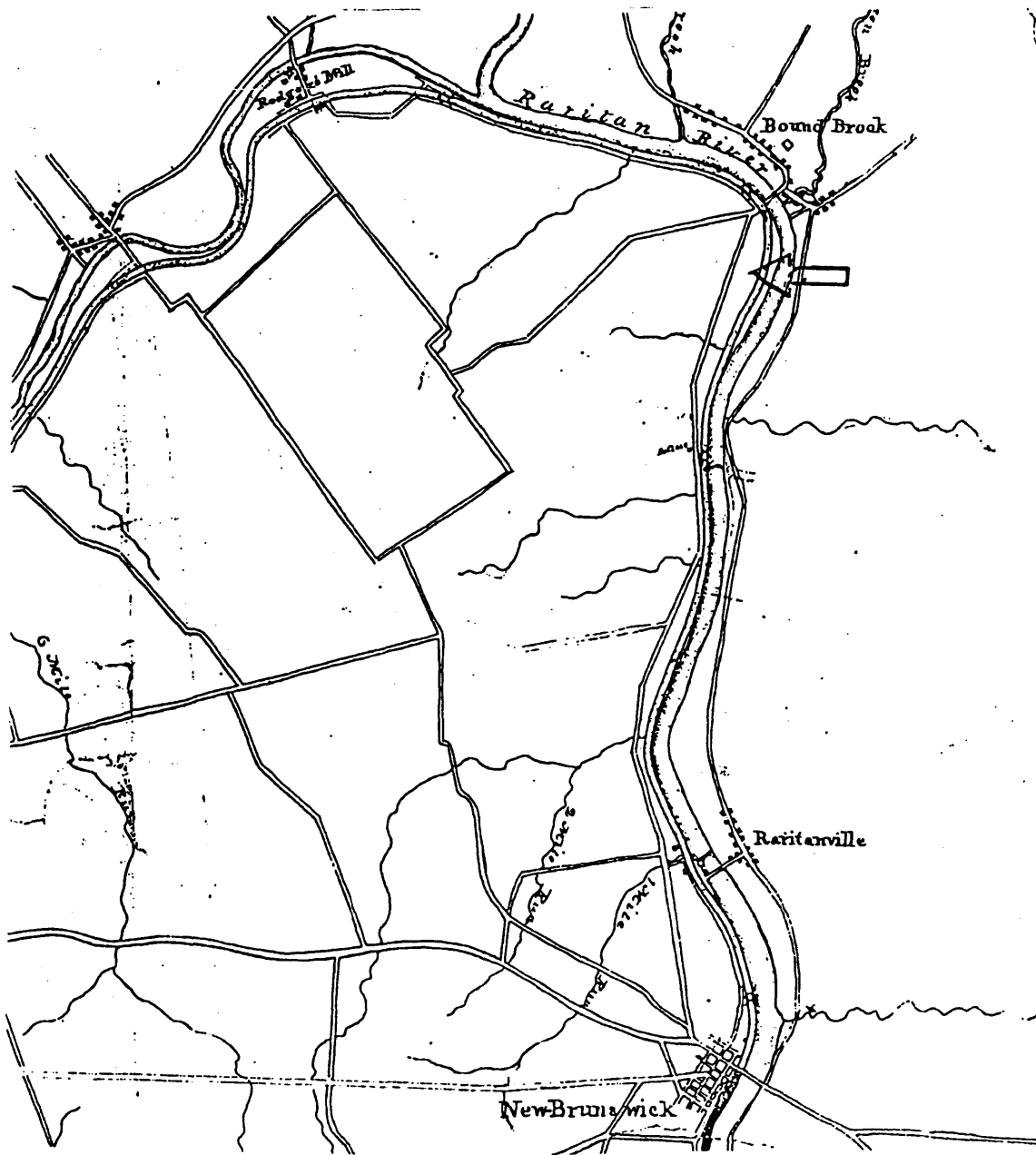
Figure 11. By the time the HABS team visited in 1936, the porch had been removed and stone steps built in front of the east wing. The ornamental lead in the sidelights and transom still was in excellent condition.



Map 1. John Hills, Map of Somerset County, New Jersey, 1781. The Staats House is shown in relation to the old road.

STAATS HOUSE

Somerset County, NJ



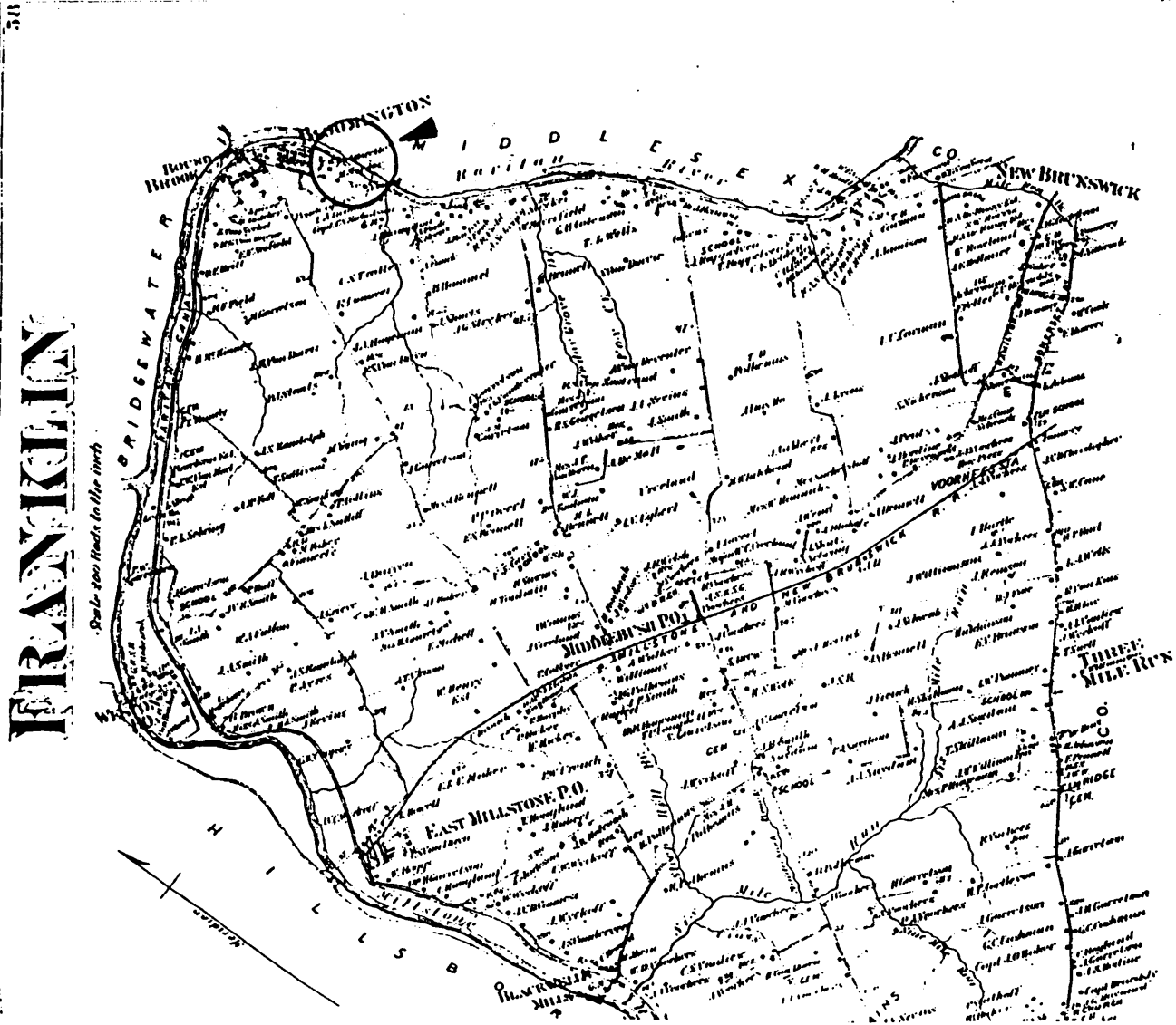
Map. 2. James S. Westcott, Map and Survey of the Delaware and Raritan Canal and Feeder, 1833. Although this does not show the Staats House, it does illustrate the difference between the location of the Delaware and Raritan Canal, which followed the route of the old road, and the New Jersey Turnpike. The approximate location of the Staats House is indicated by an added arrow.



State	
Townships	Sq. Acrs
BERNARDS,	2,056
BEDMINSTER,	18,640
BRIDGEWATER,	23,550
BRANCHBURG,	11,200
HILLSBOROUGH,	30,230
FRANKLIN,	23,000
MONTGOMERY,	10,100
WARREN,	18,110
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>179,870</b>

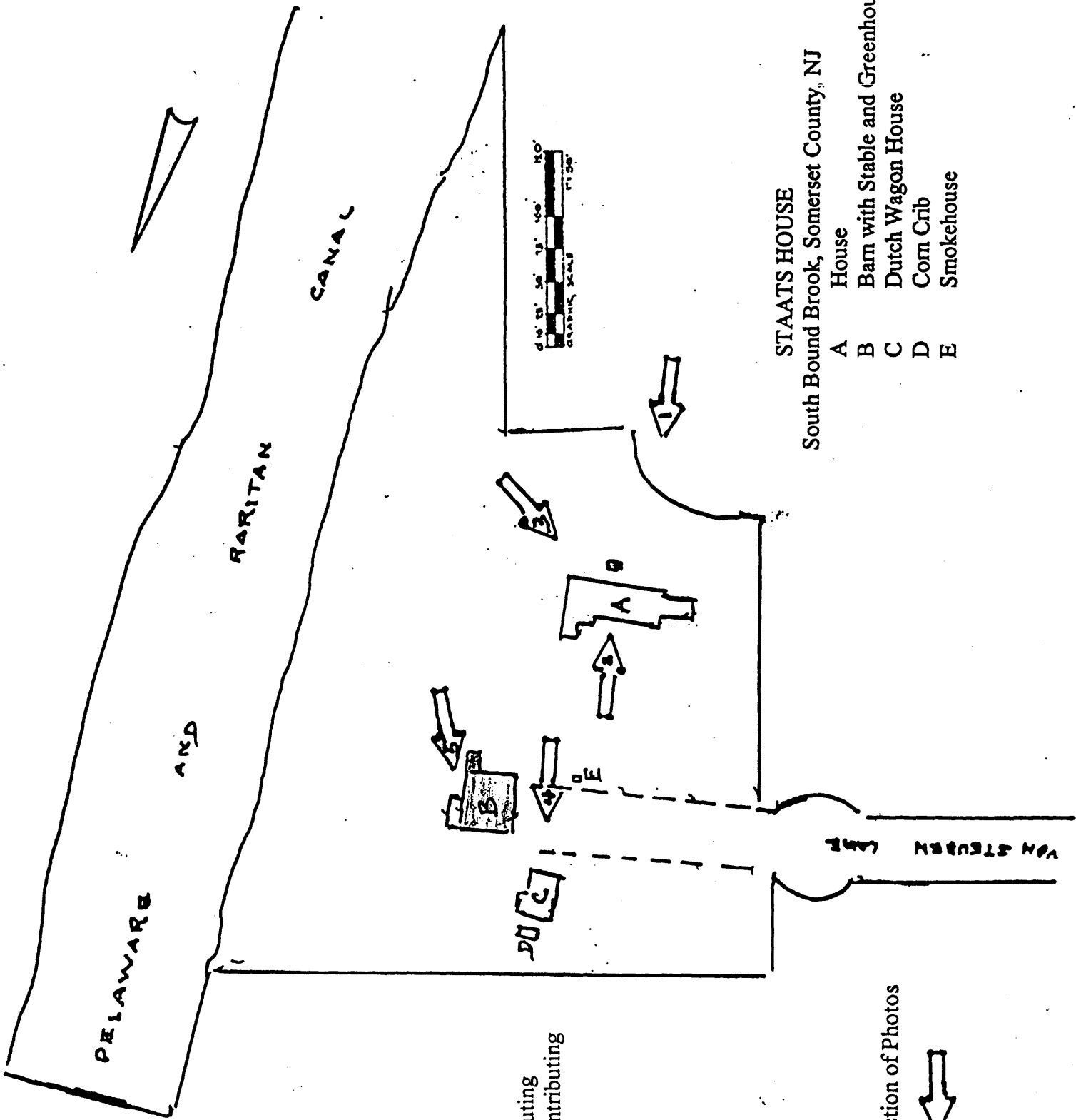
- III
- S. H. Hester
- S. M.
- G. M.
- Ch.
- P. Ch.
- D. R. Ch.
- Rep. Ch.
- M. Ch.
- E. M. H.
- H. S.
- W. S.
- P. O.

Map 3. Otley & Keily, Somerset County, New Jersey, 1850. The house appears under the name of Mrs. Bayles.



Map 4. F.W. Beers, *Atlas of Somerset County, New Jersey*, 1873. The house is shown under the name of C.W. Latourette





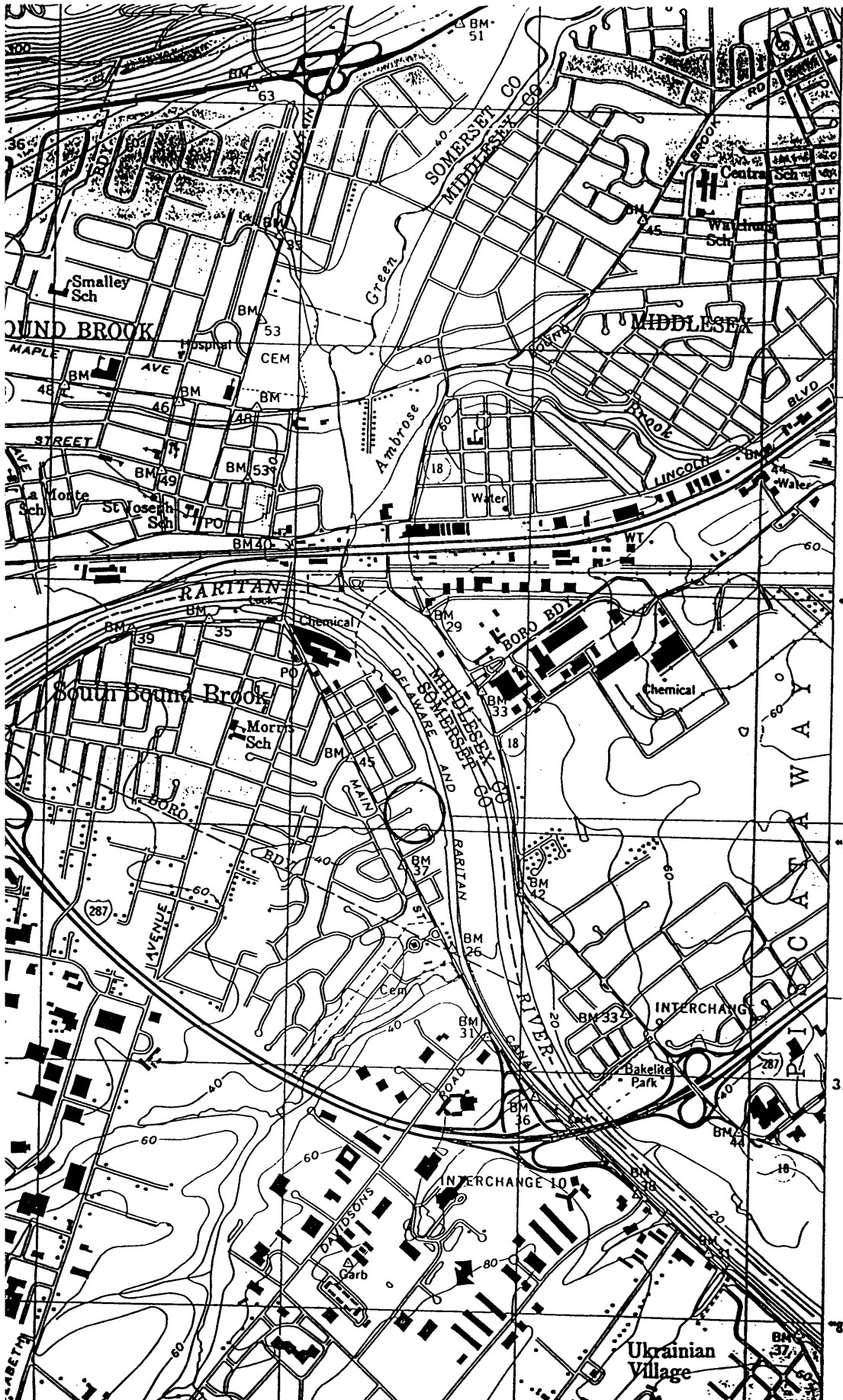
STAATS HOUSE  
 South Bound Brook, Somerset County, NJ

- A House
- B Barn with Stable and Greenhouse
- C Dutch Wagon House
- D Corn Crib
- E Smokehouse

□ Contributing  
 ■ Non-contributing

Direction of Photos  
 ↓

BOUND BROOK QUADRANGLE  
NEW JERSEY  
7.5-MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)



State House  
South Bound  
Brook  
Somerset County, NJ

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

STAATS HOUSE  
Somerset County, NJ

Section number \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_\_

Photographs Page 1

The following information is the same for all photographs

Name of Property: Staats House  
Address: 17 Von Steuben Lane  
South Bound Brook  
County and State: Somerset County, NJ  
Name of Photographer: Constance M. Greiff  
Date of Exterior Photographs: May 22, 2001  
Date of Interior Photographs: October 30, 2001  
Location of Negatives: State Historic Preservation Office

1. House  
Direction of view: From south
2. House  
Direction of view: From north
3. House  
Direction of view: From southeast
4. Dutch wagon house  
Direction of view: From south
5. Stone stable  
Direction of view: From southeast
6. Central section, hall, Room 101  
Direction of view: From southwest
7. Central section, Room 102, fireplace  
Direction of view: From southwest
8. Central section, Room 102, corner cupboard  
Direction of view: From northwest
9. Central section, Room 103, fireplace  
Direction of view: From northwest
10. Central section, Room 104, fireplace  
Direction of view: From east
11. East wing, hall, Room 109  
Direction of view: From southeast
12. East wing, Room 111, fireplace and window  
Direction of view: From southwest

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

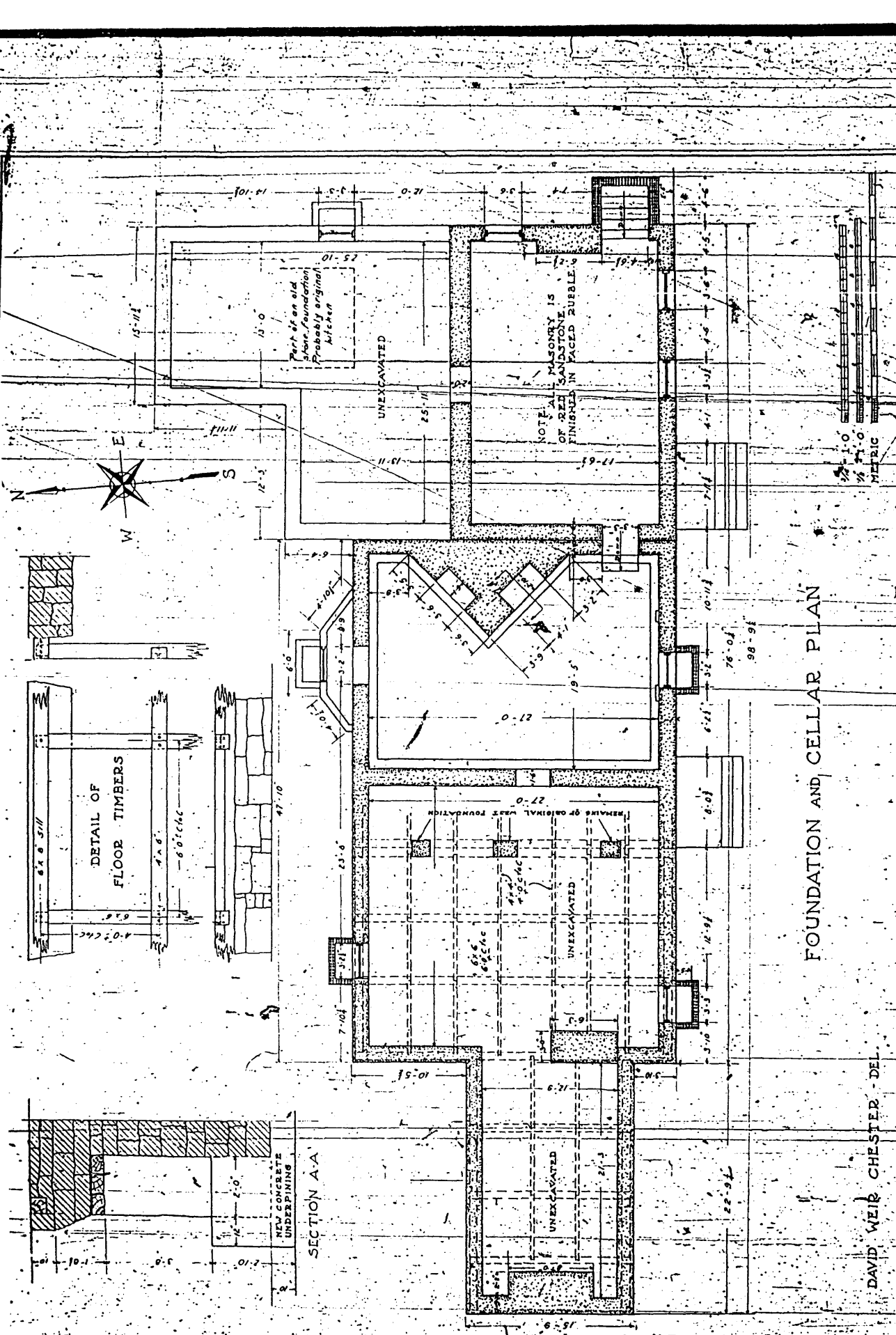
STAATS HOUSE  
Somerset County, NJ

Section number \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_\_

Photographs Page2

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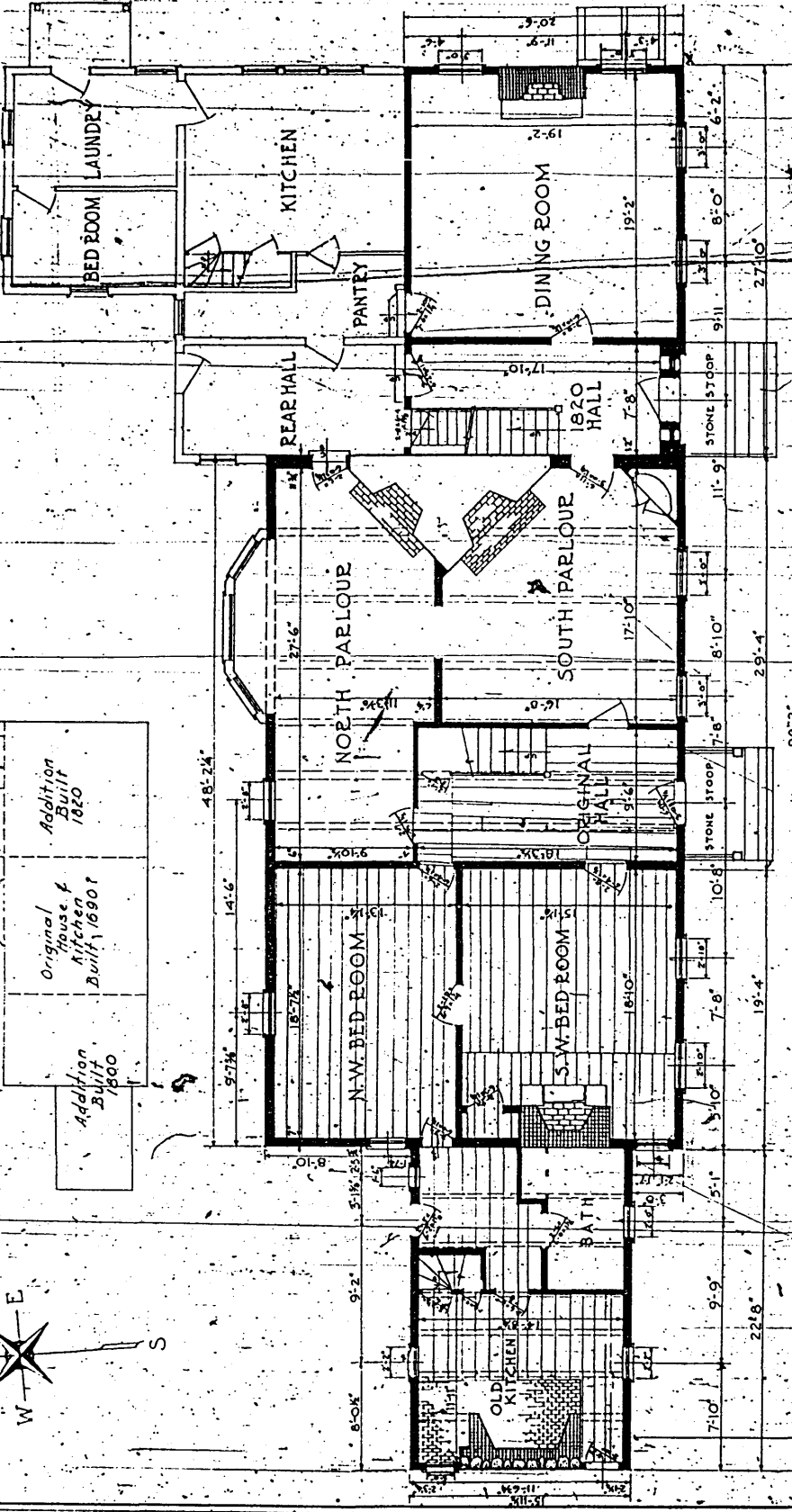
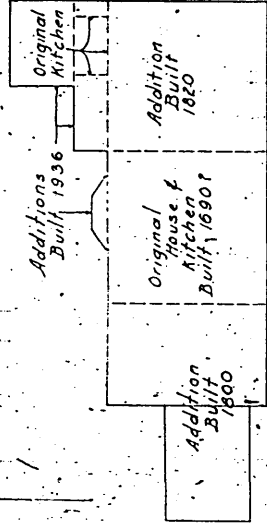
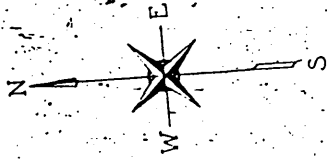
13. East wing, Room 211, fireplace and window  
Direction of view: From west
14. Central section, Room 206  
Direction of view: From east



FOUNDATION AND CELLAR PLAN

DAVID WEIR CHESTER DEL.

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION OFFICIAL PROJECT NO. 65-1715 UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL TRAIL SERVICE, BUREAU OF PLANS AND DESIGN	NAME OF STRUCTURE <b>THE ABRAHAM STAATS HOUSE</b> ON CANAL ROAD, SOUTH BOUND BROOK, NEW JERSEY	UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY SHEET 3 OF 17
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FIRST FLOOR PLAN

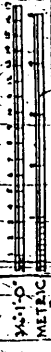
JOE BARBORA - DEL  
DAVID WEIR CHESTER - DEL

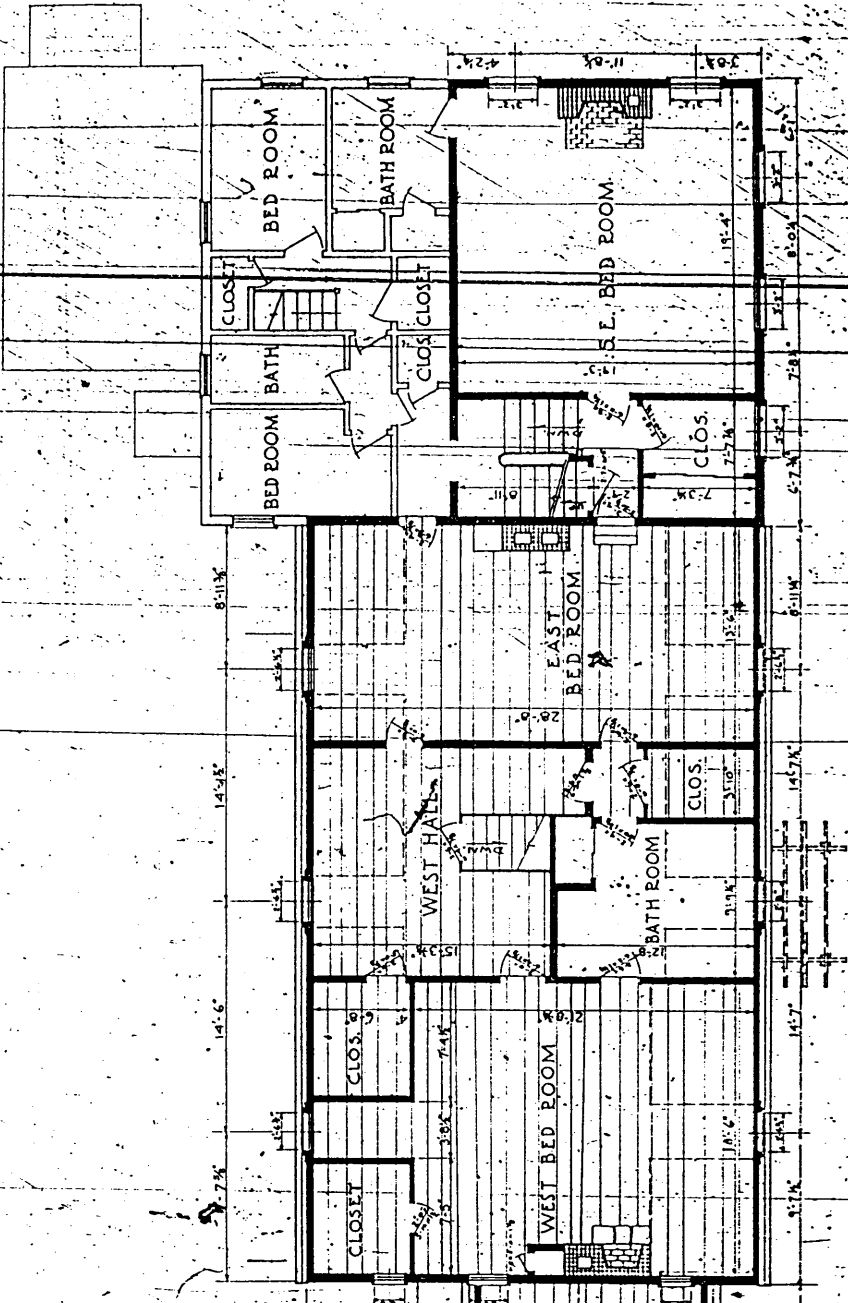
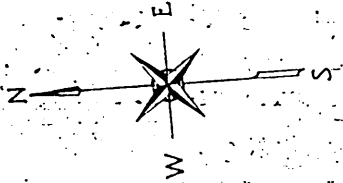
WORKS - PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
OFFICIAL PROJECT NO. 63-171E4  
UNDER DIRECTION OF UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, BUREAU OF PLANNING AND DESIGN

NAME OF STRUCTURE  
THE ABRAHAM STAMTS HOUSE  
ON CANAL ROAD, SOUTH BOUND BROOK, NEW JERSEY

DATE  
6-57

HISTORIC AMERICAN  
BUILDINGS SURVEY  
SHEET 2 OF 7 SHEETS



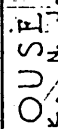


SECOND FLOOR PLAN

JOE BARBORKA - DEL.  
DAVID WIZIR CHELSTE - DEL.

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
OFFICIAL PROJECT NO. 651115  
UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND SYSTEM  
NATIONAL ARCHITECTURAL SERVICE

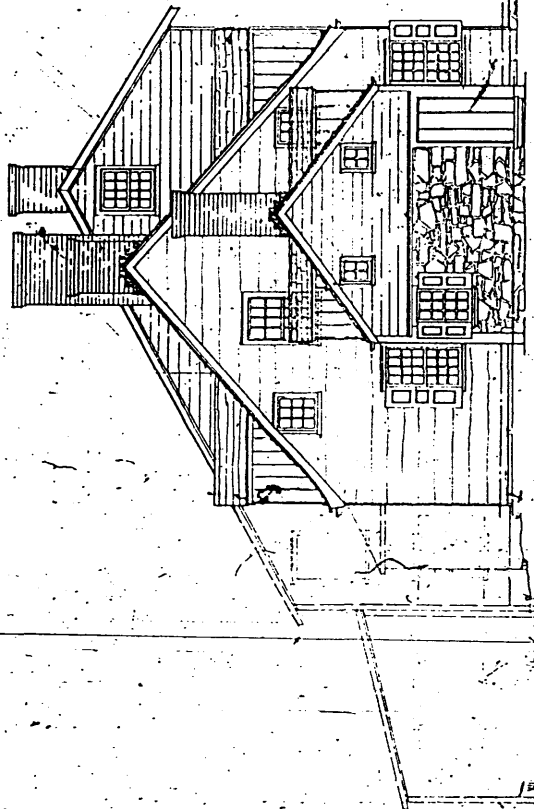
NAME OF STRUCTURE  
THE ABRAHAM STAATS HOUSE  
ON CANAL ROAD, SOUTH BOUND BROOK, N. J.



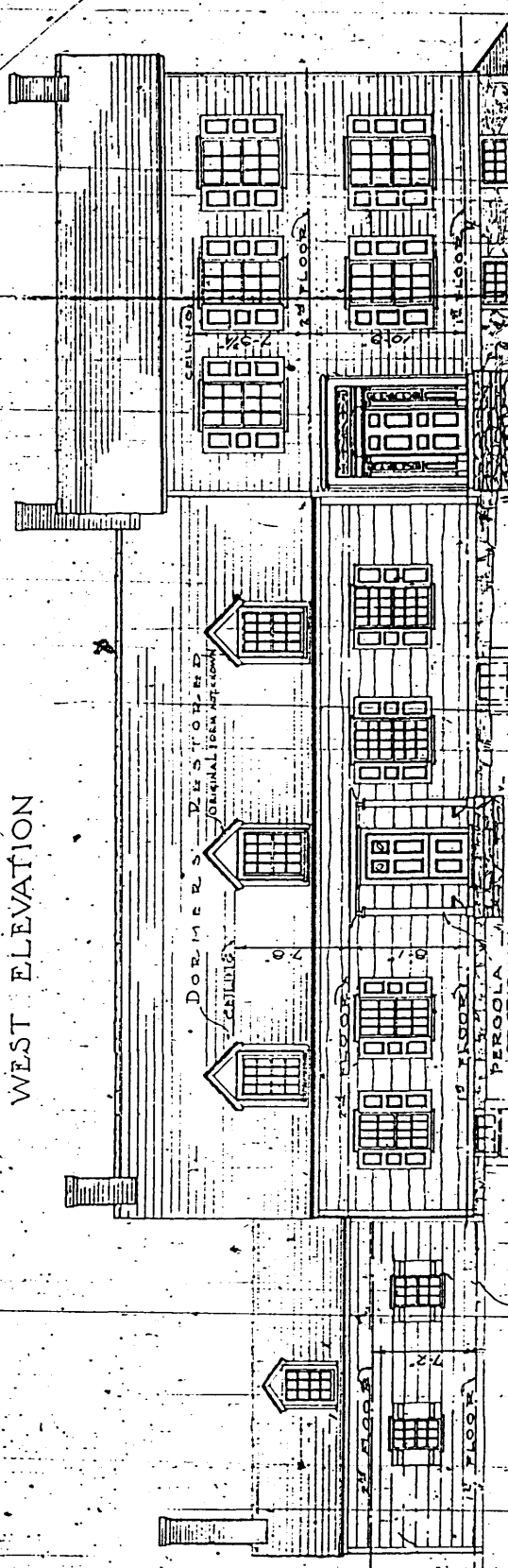
HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY  
SHEET B OF 12 SHEETS

6-07

SCALE  
3/4" = 1'-0"  
METRIC



WEST ELEVATION



SOUTH ELEVATION

• LOLLY M. HORLECHNY • DILL.  
 • LOUIS • SONTAG • DILL.

• WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION •  
 • OFFICIAL PROJECT NO. 65-1715 •  
 UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
 NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, BRANCH OF PLANS AND DESIGN

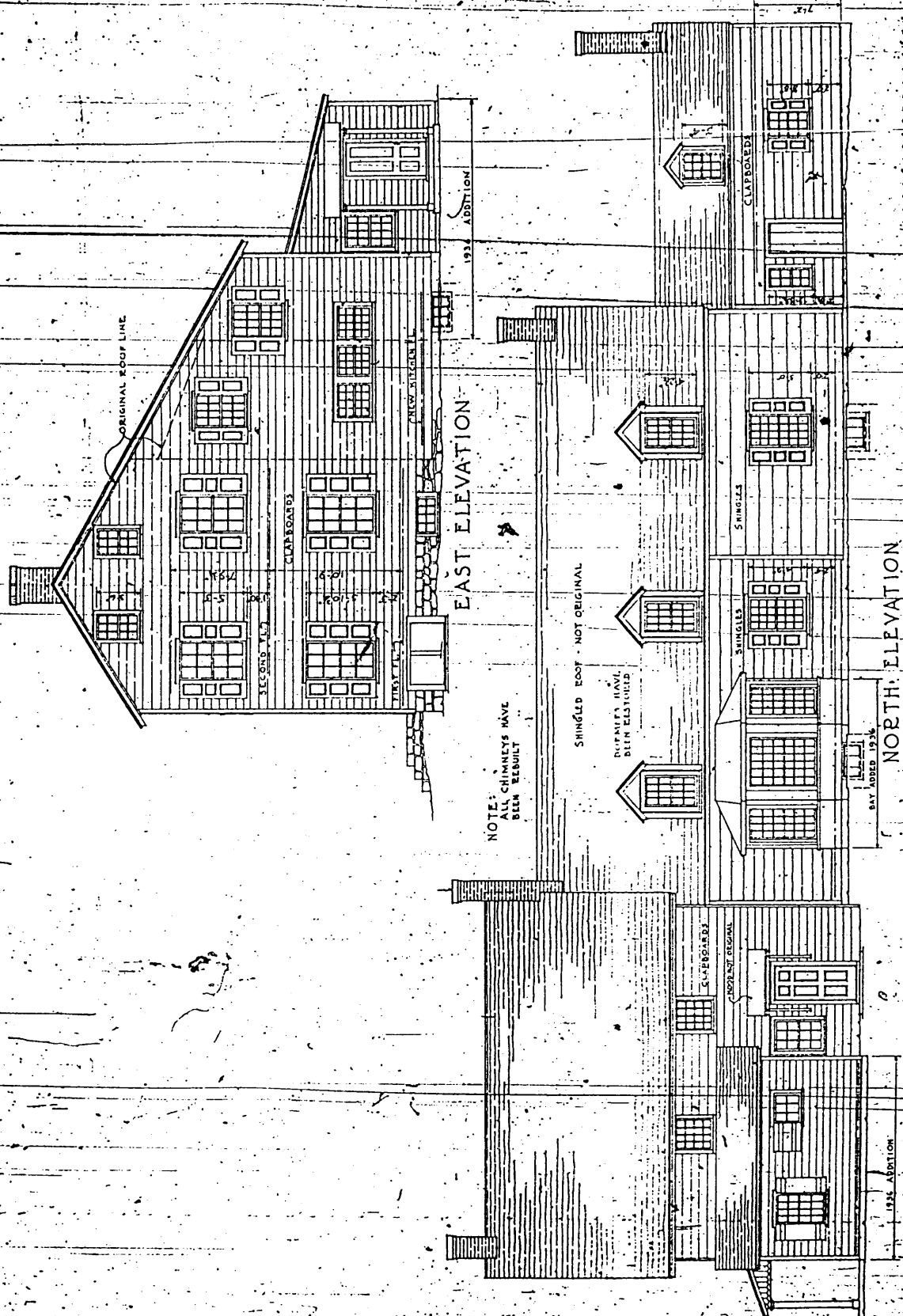
NAME OF STRUCTURE  
 THE ABRAHAM STATTS HOUSE  
 ON CANAL ROAD, SOUTH BOUND BROOK, NEW JERSEY

DATE OF SURVEY  
 6-57

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY  
 SHEET 4 OF 17 SHEETS

1/8" = 1'-0"  
 METRIC





NOTE: ALL CHIMNEYS HAVE BEEN REBUILT

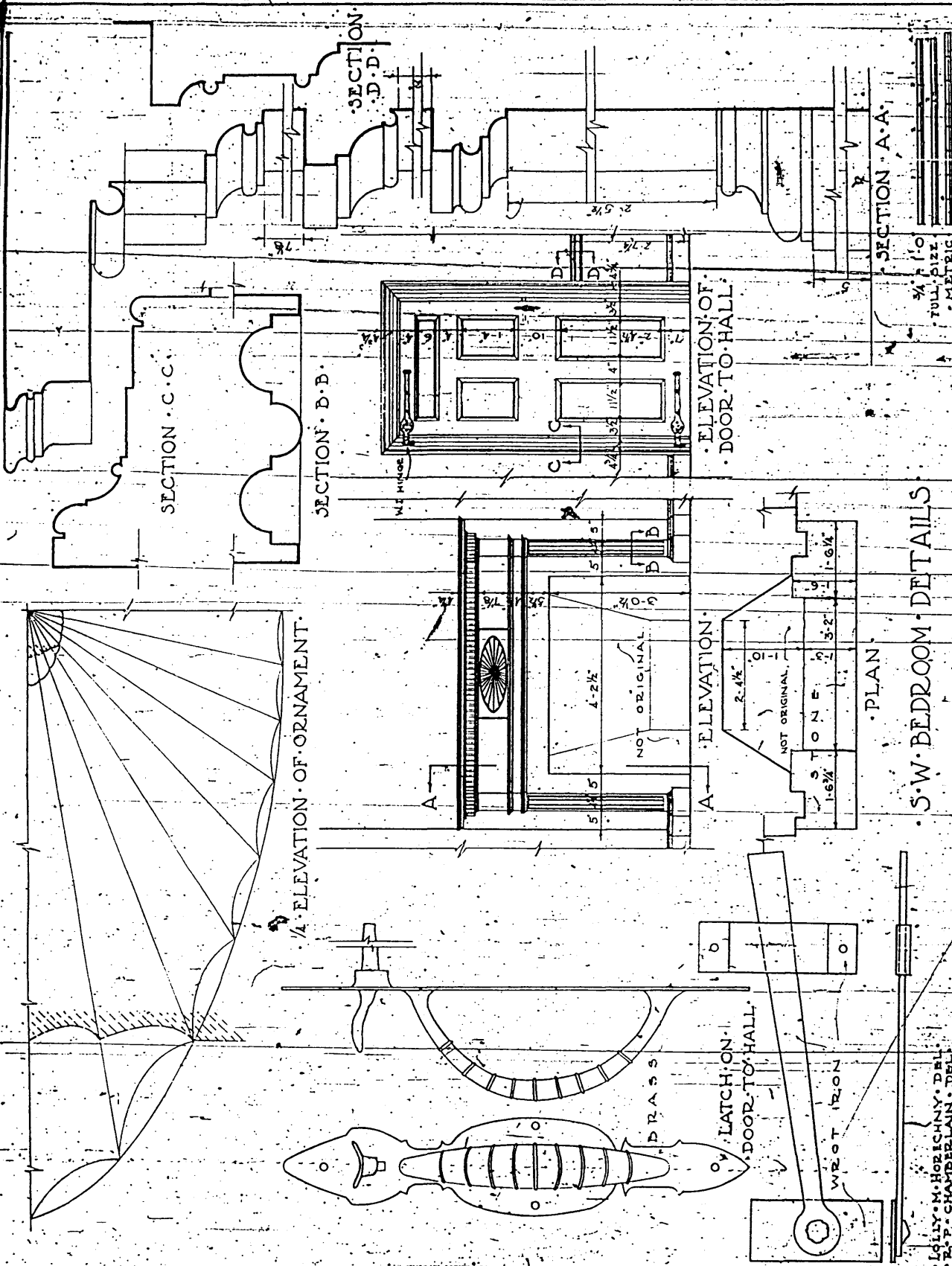
SHINGLED ROOF - NOT ORIGINAL  
CHIMNEYS HAVE BEEN REBUILT

SCALE  
1/4" = 1'-0"  
METRIC

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
 OFFICIAL PROJECT NO 634-1713  
 DEL. STATE ARCHIVES  
 JOE BARBOZA - DEL.  
 LOUIS SORTAG - DEL.

NAME OF STRUCTURE  
**THE ABRAHAM ST. AATS HOUSE**  
 ON CANAL ROAD, SOUTH BOUND BROOK, NEW JERSEY.

SURVEY NO.  
**657**  
 HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY  
 SHEET 9 OF 7



A. ELEVATION OF ORNAMENT.

ELEVATION OF DOOR TO HALL.

A. ELEVATION.

PLAN.

S.W. BEDROOM DETAILS.

SECTION A.A.

SECTION D.D.

SECTION B.B.

SECTION C.C.

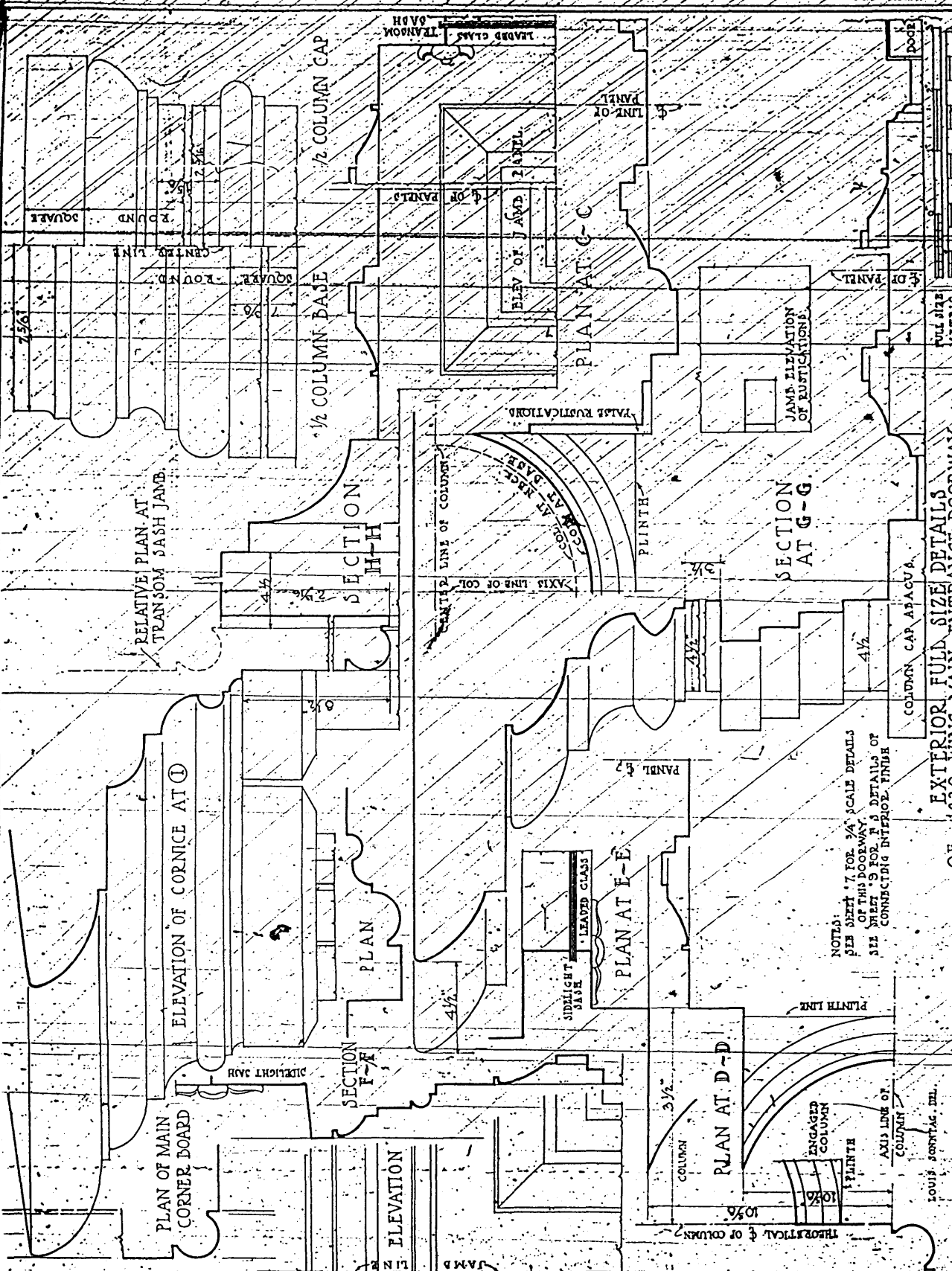
3/4" 1" 0  
FULL SIZE  
METRIC

LILLY M. HOECHLY, DEL.  
 P. P. CHAMBERLAIN, DEL.  
 WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
 OFFICIAL PROJECT NO. 65 H 15  
 UNDER A LICENSE OF THE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
 NATIONAL FIRE SERVICE SCHOOL OF PLUMBING AND HEATING

NAME OF STRUCTURE  
 THE ABRAHAM STAMTS HOUSE  
 ON CANAL ROAD, SOUTH BOUND BROOK, NEW JERSEY

SERIAL NO. 6-57  
 HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY SHEET 67 OF 171 SHEETS





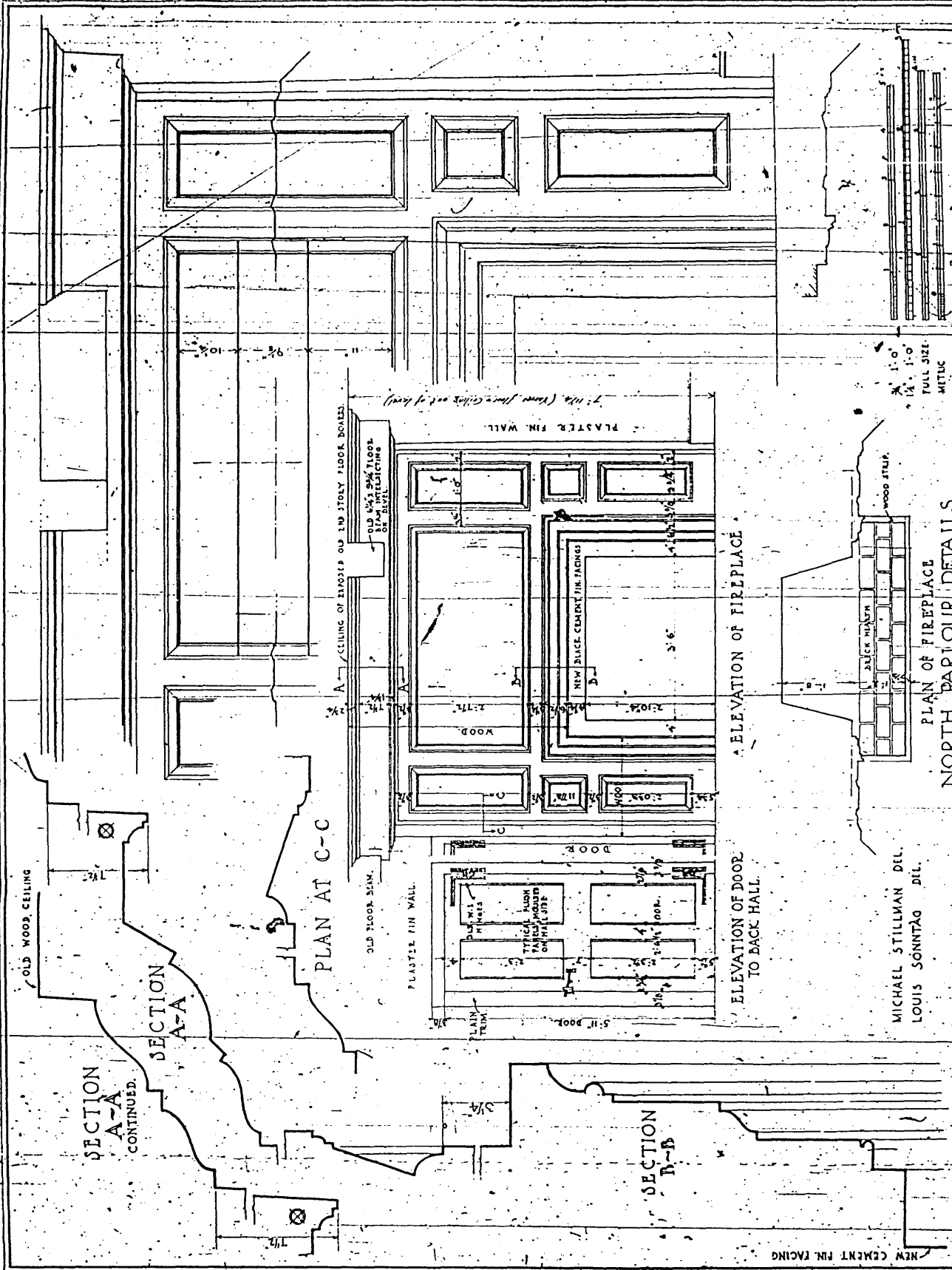
NOTES:  
 SEE DETAIL 17 FOR 3/4" SCALE DETAILS  
 OF THIS DOORWAY  
 SEE DETAIL 9 FOR 1/2" DETAILS OF  
 CORNER BOARD INTERIOR FINISH

WORKS: PROJECTS ADMINISTRATION  
 OFFICE: PROJECT NO. 69-1715  
 UNDER DIRECTOR GENERAL SUPERVISION OF PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS  
 NATIONAL PARK SERVICE BUREAU OF PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS  
 LOUIS ROSENTHAL, INC.

EXTERIOR FULL SIZE DETAILS  
 OF  
 THE ABRAHAM STUART'S HOUSE  
 ON CANAL ROAD, SOUTH BOUND BROOK, NEW JERSEY

HISTORIC AMERICAN  
 BUILDINGS SURVEY  
 SHEET 8 OF 17 SHEETS  
 G-37





WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
 OFFICIAL PROJECT NR 65-1715  
 UNDER DIRECTION OF UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
 BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT, WASHINGTON, D. C.

SURVEY NO. 657  
 HISTORIC-AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY  
 SHEET 10 OF 17 SHEETS

NAME OF STRUCTURE  
**THE ABRAHAM STUARTS HOUSE**  
 ON CANAL ROAD, SOUTH BOUND BROOK, NEW JERSEY

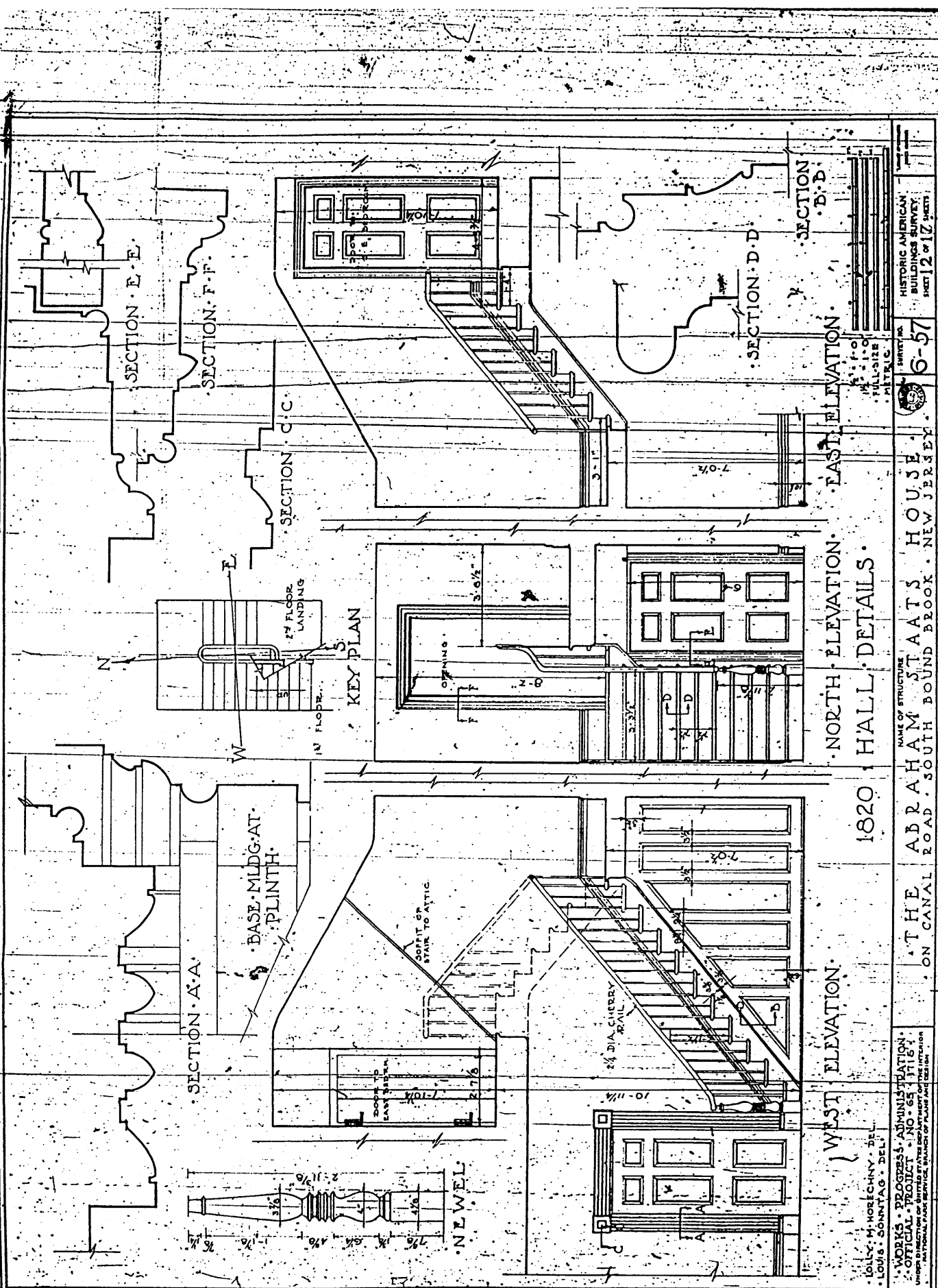
MICHAEL STILLMAN DEL.  
 LOUIS SONNTAG DEL.

PLAN OF FIREPLACE  
 NORTH PARLOUR DETAILS

ELEVATION OF FIREPLACE  
 ELEVATION OF DOOR TO BACK HALL

OLD WOOD CEILING  
 SECTION A-A CONTINUED  
 SECTION A-A  
 PLAN AT C-C  
 OLD FLOOR BEAM  
 PLASTER FIN. WALL  
 TYPICAL FLOOR PANEL JOIST OR WELLS JOIST  
 5'-11" POOF  
 PLASTER FIN. WALL  
 NEW SLICK CEMENT FIN. FACINGS  
 WOOD STAIR  
 FULL SIZE MITTIC  
 NEW CEMENT FIN. FACINGS  
 SECTION B-B





SECTION E-E

SECTION F-F

SECTION C-C

SECTION D-D

SECTION D-D

N

E

W

2<sup>ND</sup> FLOOR LANDING

1<sup>ST</sup> FLOOR

KEY PLAN

SECTION A-A

BASE MLDG. AT PLINTH

GOFFIT OR STAIR TO ATTIC

2 1/2 DIA. CHERRY RAIL

NEWEL

NORTH ELEVATION

EAST ELEVATION

WEST ELEVATION

1/2" = 1'-0"  
FULL-SIZE METRIC

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY SHEET 2 OF 2 SHEETS

SHAW-WALKER ARCHITECTS

6-57

NAME OF STRUCTURE: THE ABRAHAM STAATS HOUSE  
 ADDRESS: ON CANAL ROAD, SOUTH BOUND BROOK, NEW JERSEY

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
 OFFICIAL PROJECT NO. 55-1715  
 UNDER A CONTRACT OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
 NATIONAL HISTORIC BUILDINGS SURVEY, BRANCH OF PLANS AND ELEVATIONS



SECTION A-A

SECTION OF DOOR

SECTION E-E

SECTION C-C

SECTION B-B

ELEVATION of CAP

1/2 TRIM SECTION

1/2 CORNER BLOCK SEC.

PLASTER FOR CEILING AND WALLS

TYPICAL DOOR

TYPICAL WINDOW

DETAIL of BASE SEC D-D

JOE BARBORIA DEL.  
MICHAEL STILLMAN DEL.

DINING ROOM DETAILS

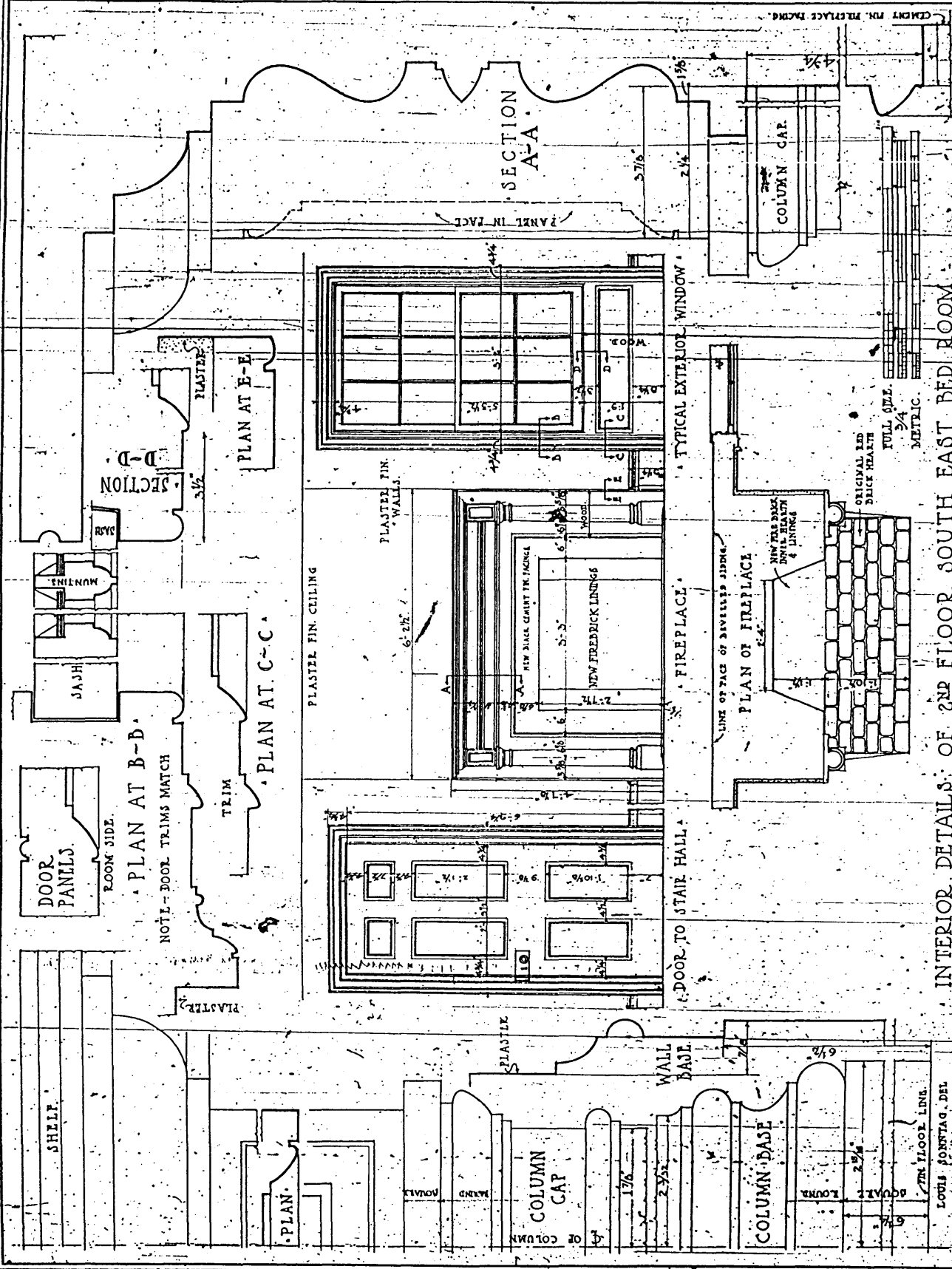
1" = 1'-0"  
FULL SIZE  
METRIC

WORKS FLOORLESS ADMINISTRATION  
OFFICIAL PROJECT NO. 65-1715  
UNION ARCHITECTURE OF UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
FOR TECHNICAL AND SPECIAL DIVISION OF PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS

NAME OF STRUCTURE  
THE ABRAHAM STAATS HOUSE  
407 CANAL ROAD, SO. BOUND BROOK, NEW JERSEY

NUMBER  
657

HISTORIC AMERICAN  
BUILDINGS SURVEY  
SHEET 15 of 17 SHEETS



WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
 OFFICIAL PROJECT NO 65-1715  
 OFFICE OF ARCHITECTURE AND PLANNING DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
 NATIONAL ARCHITECTURAL ARCHIVE FOR THE 20TH CENTURY

LOTUS FONTAG, DEL

NAME OF STRUCTURE  
 THE ABRAHAM STAAK HOUSE  
 ON CANAL ROAD SOUTH BOUND BROOK, NEW JERSEY

SURVEY NO.  
 HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY  
 SHEET 14 OF 18 SHEETS

6-57

INTERIOR DETAILS OF 2ND FLOOR SOUTH EAST BED ROOM

GRADE  
225 SANDSTONE RUBBLE WALL FACING  
NEW BAVELLED SIDING

2'-7"  
IN. 1st FLOOR.

HAND  
Hewn  
PLANKS

ORIGINAL  
BRICK

SECTION THROUGH  
FIREPLACE.

ORIGINAL HEIGHT OF  
3 1/4" X 7 1/4" TO 7 3/4" X 2 1/4"  
RED BRICK Laid PLAT  
AND TIGHT WITHOUT  
MORTAR IN JOINTS.

3/4"  
METRIC

HISTORIC AMERICAN  
BUILDINGS SURVEY  
SHEET 15 of 17 SHEETS

657

CEILING OF EXPOSED OLD 1st STORY FLOOR BOARDS.

ORIGINAL HAND HEWN WHITE PINE BEAM.

PLASTER FIN. WALL.

NEW WOOD SILL AND FACIA.

OLD WILLOW

RESTORED SASH  
AND BRICK

PLASTER FIN. WALL.

NEW WOOD LIZ

ELEVATION OF WEST END OF ROOM.

RED SANDSTONE RUBBLE WALL FACING.

NEW WOOD SILL.

100%

100%

100%

100%

100%

100%

100%

100%

100%

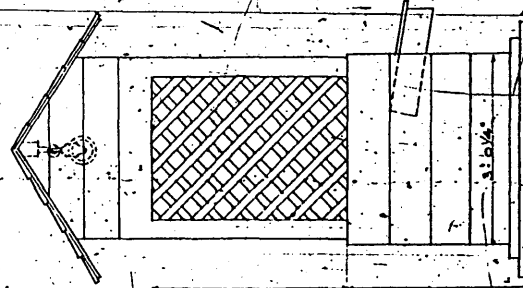
PLASTER FIN. WALL

FACE OF EXTERIOR BRICKS

PLAN

INTERIOR DETAILS OF OLD KITCHEN

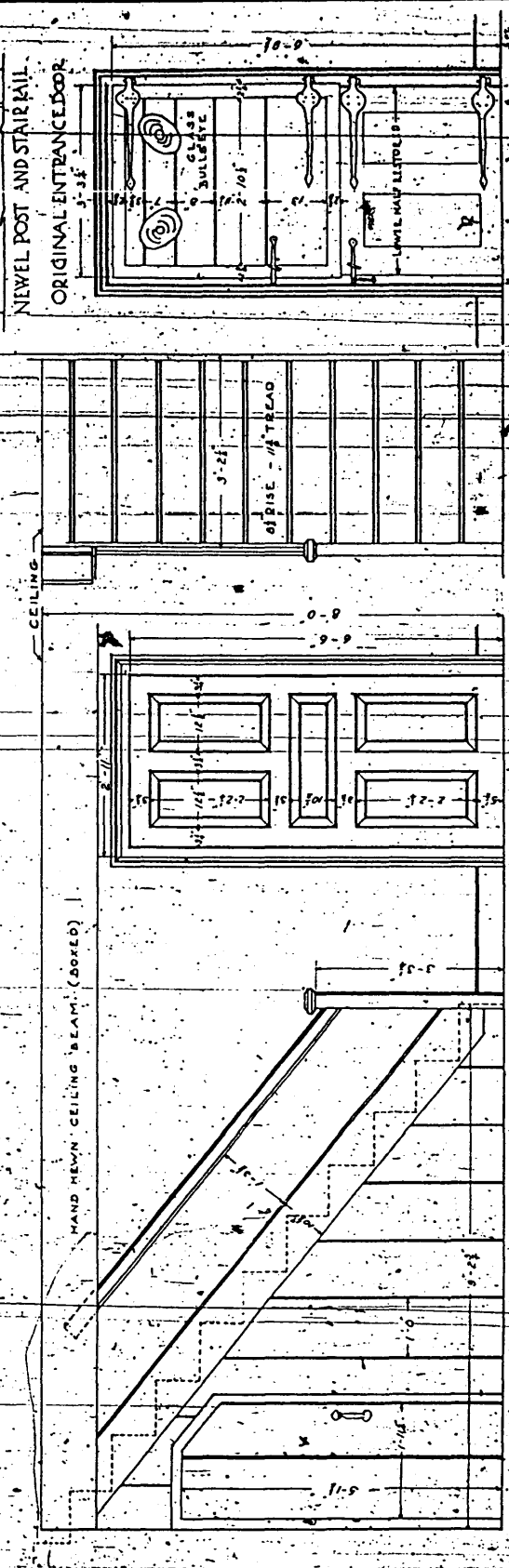
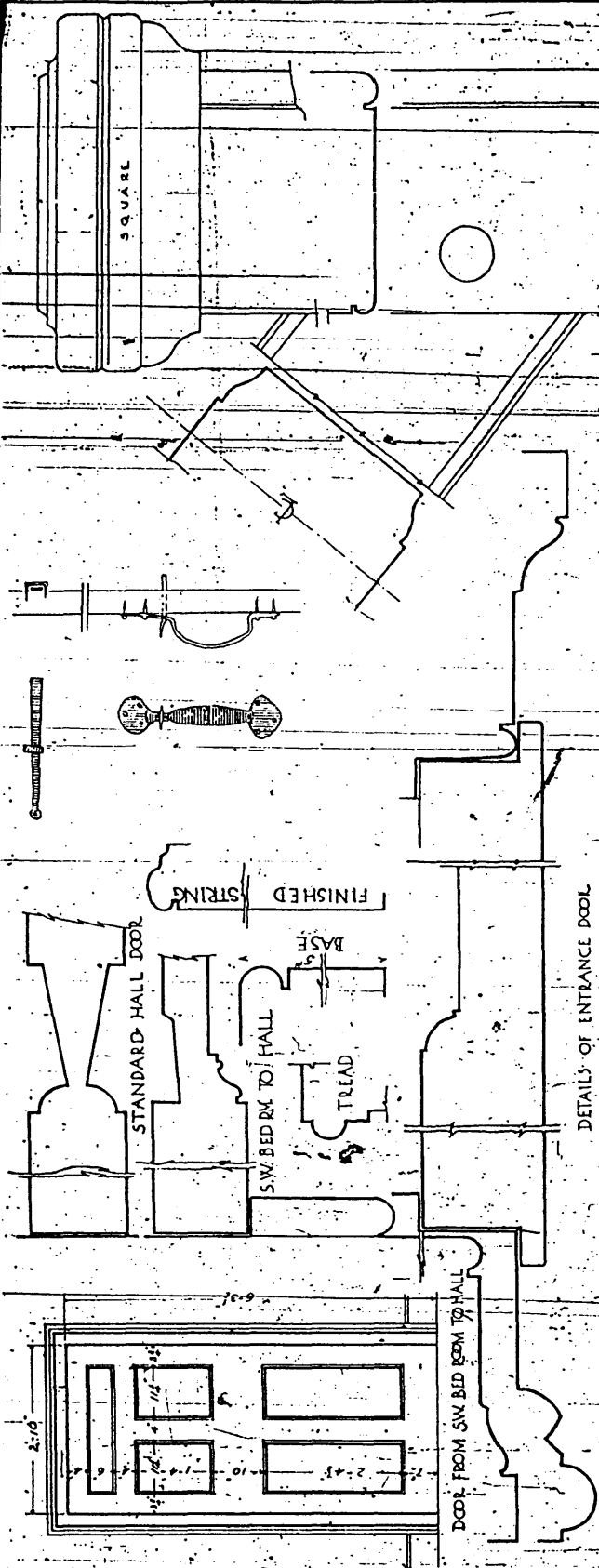
LOUIS GOODE, D.D.S.



SIDE VIEW OF WOOD  
WELL HEAD IN YARD

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
OFFICIAL PROJECT No. 65-1715  
UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND STATE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
HISTORIC BUILDINGS SURVEY

NAME OF STRUCTURE  
THE ABRAHAM STAATS HOUSE  
1400 CANAL ROAD, SOUTH BOUND BROOK, NEW JERSEY

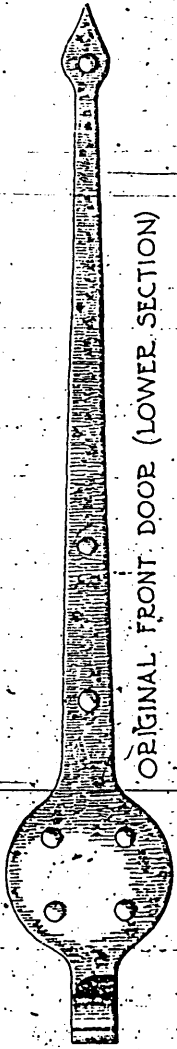


MICHAEL STILLMAN DEL WEST (ORIGINAL) STAIRWAY LOOKING EAST  
 DAVID W. CHESTER DEL

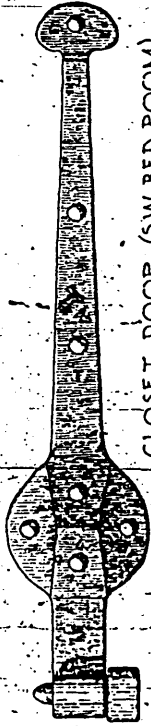
WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
 OFFICIAL PROJECT NO. 65-1715  
 UNDER DIRECTION OF UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
 NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, BRANCH OF PLANS AND DESIGN

NAME OF STRUCTURE  
 THE ABRAHAM STAATS HOUSE  
 ON CANAL ROAD, SOUTH BOUND BROOK, NEW JERSEY

DATE  
 6-57  
 SHEET NO.  
 SHEET 16 OF 12 SHEETS



ORIGINAL FRONT DOOR (LOWER SECTION)



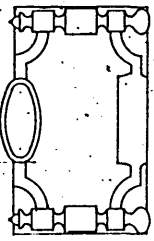
CLOSET DOOR (S.W. BED ROOM)



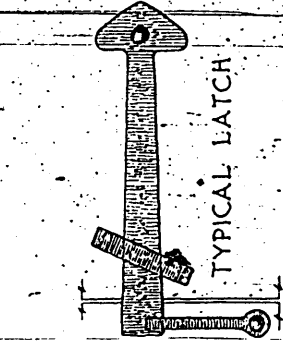
TYPICAL HINGE (N.W. ROOM)



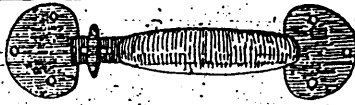
DOOR TO HALL (S.W. BED ROOM)



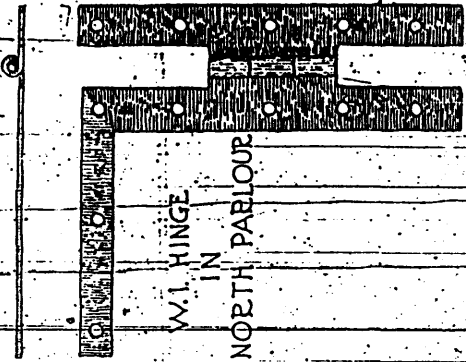
BRASS KNOCKER  
ORIGINAL DOOR



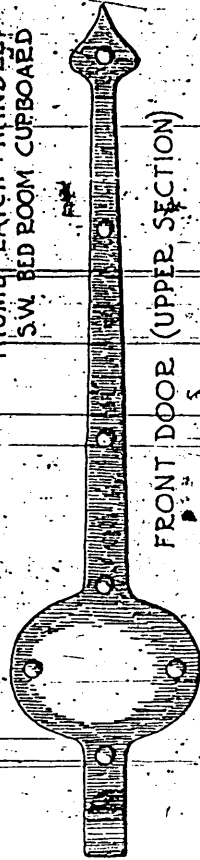
TYPICAL LATCH



THUMB LATCH HANDLE  
S.W. BED ROOM CURBOARD



W.I. HINGE  
IN  
NORTH PARLOUR



FRONT DOOR (UPPER SECTION)

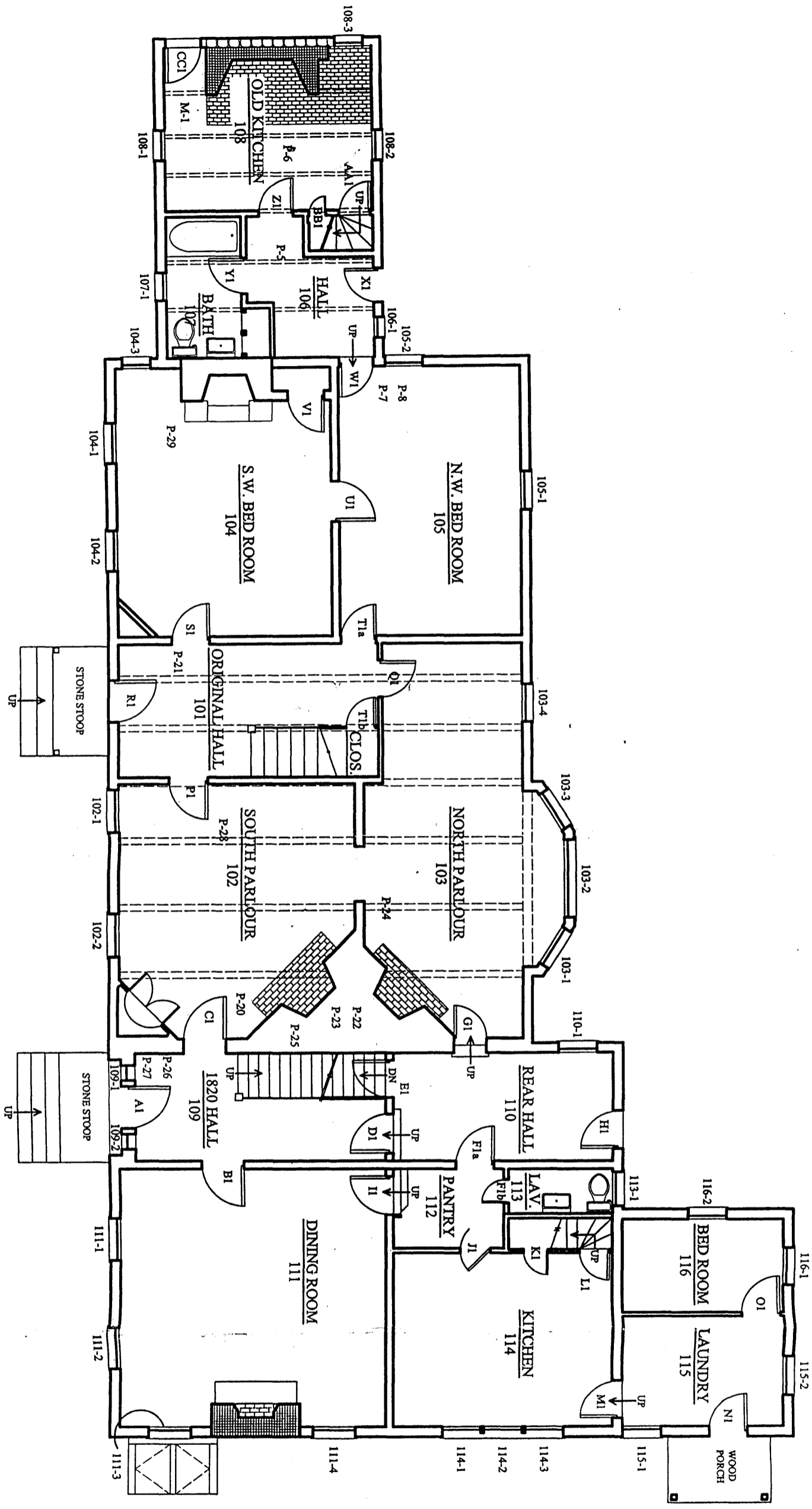


6-1/8" METRIC

HARDWARE DETAILS

JOE BARBORKA - DEL.

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION OFFICIAL PROJECT NO. 65-1715 UNDER SUPERVISION OF UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT	NAME OF STRUCTURE THE ABRAHAM STAATS HOUSE ON CANAL ROAD, SOUTH BOUND BROOK, NEW JERSEY	SURVEY NO. 6-57	HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY SHEET 17 OF 17
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**Historic Structure Report**  
**Abraham Staats House**  
 17 Von Steuben Lane  
 South Bound Brook, New Jersey

**Historic Building Architects, LLC**  
312 West State Street, Trenton, New Jersey 08618 Tel 609-393-3999 Fax 609-393-4333  
Certificate of Authorization # AC245 Expires 01/31/2002

ANGELIQUE WOLFFE-DEWNER R.A. NJ # 13778  
MICHEL CHAFFIN R.A. NJ # 08029

Revisions & Submissions	Date

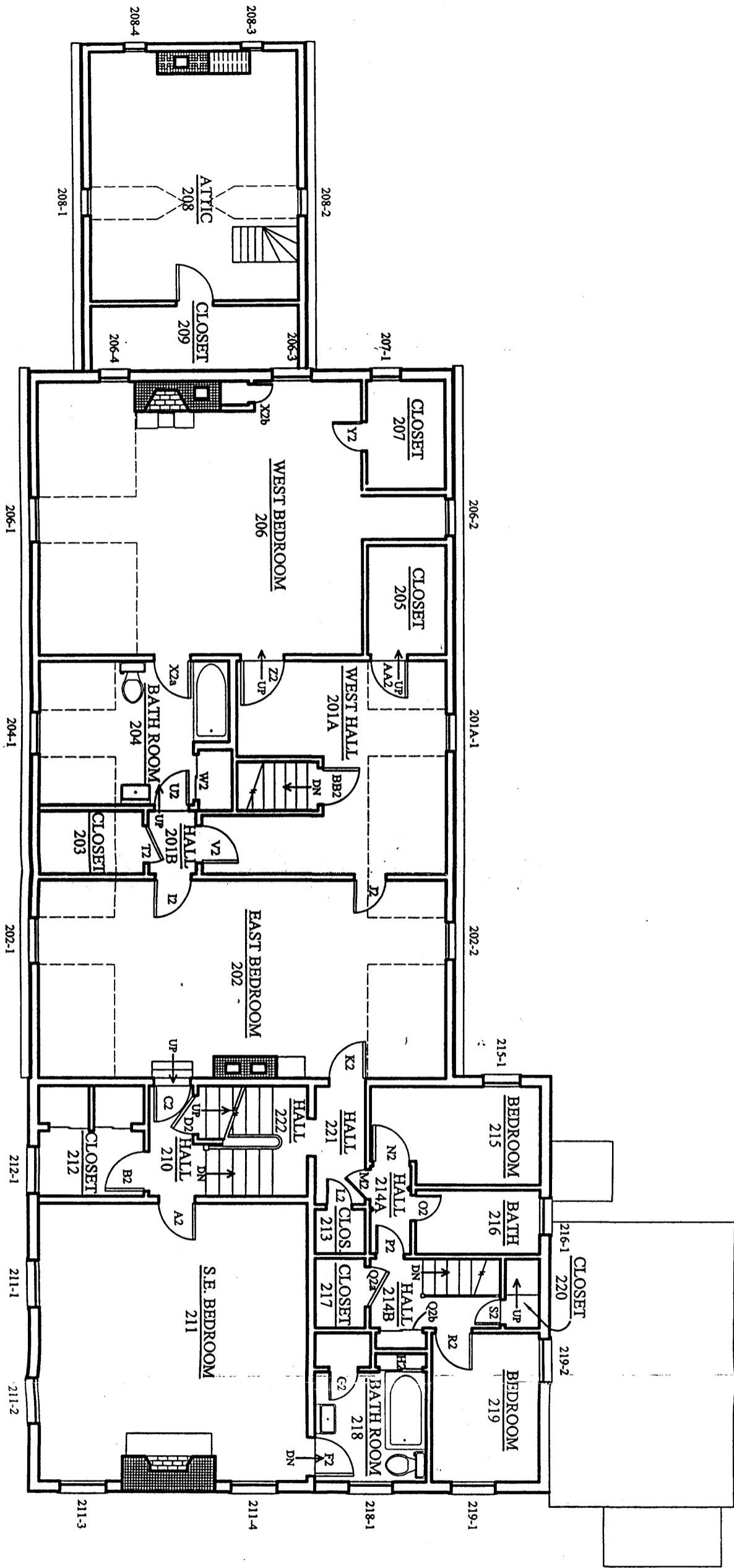
**First Floor Plan**

Date:  
 6/27/2001

Drawn by:  
 MGB/MSH

Scale:  
 1/8" = 1'-0"

**A-1**



Historic Structure Report  
 Abraham Staats House  
 17 Von Steuben Lane  
 South Bound Brook, New Jersey

**Historic Building Architects, LLC**

312 West State Street, Trenton, New Jersey 08618 Tel 609 393-3999 Fax 609-393 4333  
 Certificate of Authorization # AC245 Expires 01/31/2002

Revisions & Submissions Date

Second Floor Plan

Date:  
7/03/2001

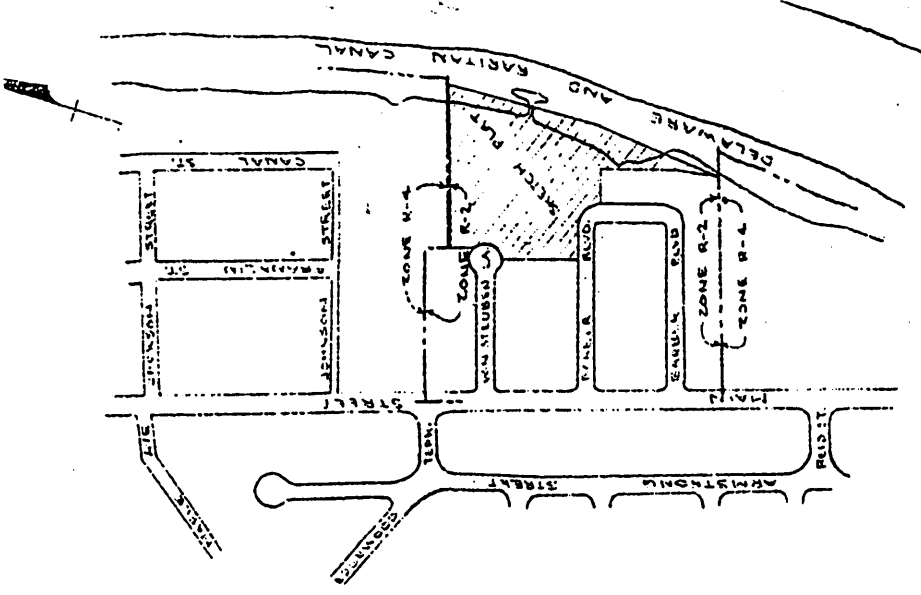
Drawn by:  
MSH

Scale:  
1/8" = 1'-0"

MANUELLE RADCLIFFE-TRENNER, R.A. NJ# N 13776  
 MICHAEL CALAFATI, R.A. NJ# N 08029

A-2

STAAI'S HOUSE  
 17 Von Steuben Lane, Block 75, Lot 8  
 South Bound brook, Somerset County, NJ

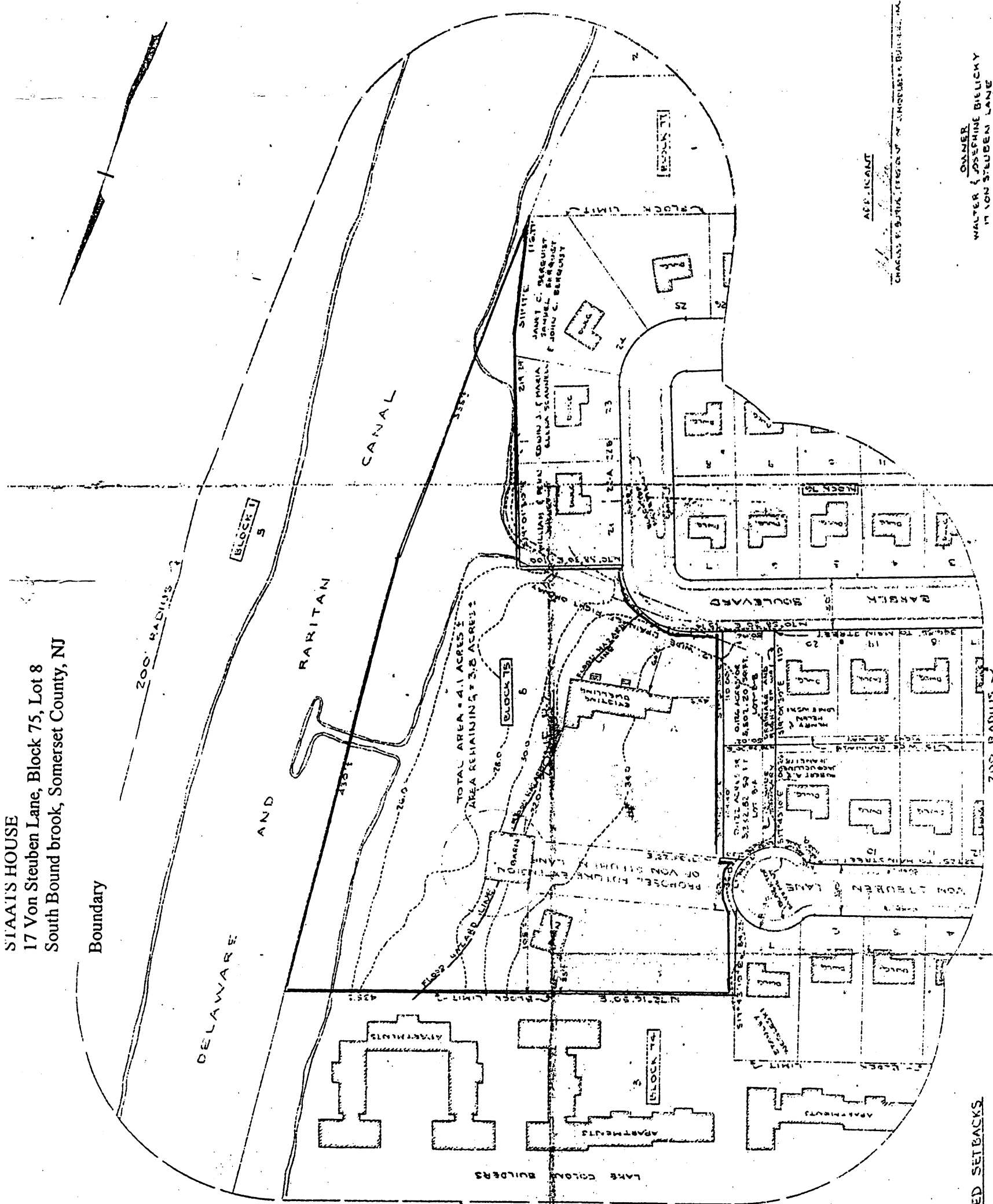
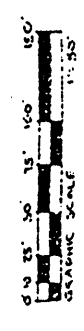


KEY MAP  
 SCALE 1"=250'

APPROVAL OF  
 SOUTH BOUND BROOK PLANNING BOARD

DATE \_\_\_\_\_ CHAIR \_\_\_\_\_  
 DATE \_\_\_\_\_ SECPL \_\_\_\_\_  
 DATE \_\_\_\_\_ BOROUGH ENL \_\_\_\_\_

SUBDIVISION APPLICATION NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_



MINIMUM REQUIRED SETBACKS  
 FRONT YARD = 25'  
 SIDE YARD = 6' (AGGREGATE WIDTH OF 2 SIDE YARDS COMBINED MUST EQUAL 25% OF THE LOT WIDTH AT THE BUILDING LINE.)  
 REAR YARD = 25'

NOTE: SANITARY SEWER, WATER AND GAS ARE AVAILABLE FOR PROPOSED LOTS TA & 20.

APPLICANT

WALTER & JOSEPHINE BIELICKY  
 17 VON STEUBEN LANE  
 SOUTH BOUND BROOK, N.J. 08850

OWNER  
 WALTER & JOSEPHINE BIELICKY  
 17 VON STEUBEN LANE  
 SOUTH BOUND BROOK, N.J. 08850

SKETCH PLAN FOR LOTS 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15 SHEETS OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH BOUND BROOK TAX MAP - SOMERSET COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

WALLACE M. GRAVES ASSOCIATED, INC.  
 - LAND SURVEYORS -  
 401 EAST MAIN STREET  
 BRUNSWICK, N.J. 08809  
 PHONE 386-0012

JOSEPH VU, C  
 LAND SURVEYOR  
 GEORGE S.  
 LAND SURVEYOR

J. MILDRED EX EULDERLING, INC.  
 400 EAST 10TH AVENUE  
 BRUNSWICK, N.J. 08809

CHAS. F. BARTLE, ENGINEER OF SURVEYORS, BRUNSWICK, N.J.