

PH0356492

DATA SHEET

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED JAN 11 1977
DATE ENTERED NOV 16 1977

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

**

The Old Manse of the Caldwell Presbyterian Church

AND/OR COMMON

Grover Cleveland Birthplace

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

207 Bloomfield Avenue

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Caldwell

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

011

STATE

New Jersey

CODE

34

COUNTY

Essex

CODE

013

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

OWNERSHIP

STATUS

PRESENT USE

DISTRICT

PUBLIC

OCCUPIED

AGRICULTURE

MUSEUM

BUILDING(S)

PRIVATE

UNOCCUPIED

COMMERCIAL

PARK

STRUCTURE

BOTH

WORK IN PROGRESS

EDUCATIONAL

PRIVATE RESIDENCE

SITE

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

ACCESSIBLE

ENTERTAINMENT

RELIGIOUS

OBJECT

IN PROCESS

YES: RESTRICTED

GOVERNMENT

SCIENTIFIC

BEING CONSIDERED

YES: UNRESTRICTED

INDUSTRIAL

TRANSPORTATION

NO

MILITARY

OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection

STREET & NUMBER

P.O. Box 1390, Labor & Industry Bldg. John Fitch Plaza

CITY, TOWN

Trenton

VICINITY OF

STATE

New Jersey 08625

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Essex County Court House

STREET & NUMBER

470 High Street

CITY, TOWN

Newark,

STATE

New Jersey

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Historic American Buildings Survey

N.J.-179

DATE

1936

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Library of Congress

CITY, TOWN

Washington

STATE

D.C.

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The "Old Manse" of Caldwell was constructed under the direction of Rev. Baker Johnson, in the spring of 1832 at a cost of \$1,490.00. The house as originally built, consisted of a central portion 2 1/2 stories high, with a one story kitchen extension and a one story lean-to. A one story kitchen extension was added in 1870 and the original kitchen raised one story to provide a pastor's bedroom.

In 1936 restoration was done by the W.P.A. part of this restoration included the removal of the one story 1870 kitchen addition.

The house is a 2 1/2 story structure having a wood shingled medium gable roof. This roof has box cornice with a plain return and a chimney. All the siding is clapboard with corner-boards and the foundation is a low stone construction with a plain wooden water table. The front of the central portion is four bays wide; the windows are 9 over 9 double hung with louvered shutters and architrave molding. An intersecting central gable on the front facade has box cornice with a plain return and a round head sash. There is a three step portico, with tin roof and a door with seven recessed beveled panels.

Across the front of the kitchen addition is a three bay open porch with tin roof. Opening on to the porch is a four panel door. All the windows in this section are 6 over 6 double hung sash with architrave molding and louvered shutters. The roof is a gable with plain box cornice and has a single stack chimney. The exterior of the house has been painted in the authentic color (light tan).

The floor plan for the house is that of a central block with side hall and southern wing. Contained in this side or main hall is a half turn open staircase with two landing. The stair has simple turned newel posts and balusters, also clyma handrails. To the left of the hall is a room of two bays with a centrally located fireplace. This fireplace is of medium size and has a Adams mantel with stepped shelf and center panels with reeding. There are two rooms to the rear of the house, a one bay bedroom and a two bay den. Adjoining the main hall in the kitchen wing is a three bay dining room. In this room is a Georgian fireplace with a plain shelf, bedmolding and frieze.

The second floor has been converted to accommodate the caretaker. But the floor plan still remains in its original condition and is the same as that of the first floor. The front

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE

DESCRIPTION

bedroom contains a fire place similar in description to the one in the first floor livingroom.

The attic consists of 4 rooms. There is a room of one bay centrally located in the gable dormer. Adjacent to the room are two one bay rooms facing north and south. The northern room contains a stair case leading to the second floor. A three bay rectangular open attic faces the rear of the house.

The outbuildings consist of one carriage barn, situated behind the Manse. The barn is a one story clapboard structure with an imbricated shingle pattern in the gable ends of the structure. Across the front are three sets of double barn doors. There is also a dormer with a door which leads to the loft. All the windows in the barn are 2 over 2 double hung. It is presently being used for storage.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
—PREHISTORIC	—ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	—COMMUNITY PLANNING	—LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	XX—RELIGION
—1400-1499	—ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	—CONSERVATION	—LAW	—SCIENCE
—1500-1599	—AGRICULTURE	—ECONOMICS	—LITERATURE	—SCULPTURE
—1600-1699	XX—ARCHITECTURE	—EDUCATION	—MILITARY	—SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
—1700-1799	—ART	—ENGINEERING	—MUSIC	—THEATER
—1800-1899	—COMMERCE	—EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	—PHILOSOPHY	—TRANSPORTATION
—1900-	—COMMUNICATIONS	—INDUSTRY	—POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	XX—OTHER (SPECIFY) (LOCAL HISTORY)
		—INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

On December 5, 1784 the First Presbyterian Society of Horse Neck was formed with forty members (the first such organization in Caldwell). At this time the church-parsonage was only in the planning stages. The decision by the Society to build the church-parsonage came on February 27, 1782.

On August 3, 1787, Rev. Stephen Grover of Tolland, Connecticut, was installed as pastor of Horse Neck (now Caldwell). Five years later (1792) the pastor proposed at a church meeting that a new church be erected. After some delay the plan to erect a church was adopted. The site on which it was constructed is that of the present day Brownstone Church of the Society.

The duties of the pastorate became too strenuous for Mr. Grover, and in 1828 Rev. Robert Canfield was employed as his assistant. Mr. Canfield remained a short time only. In 1830 Mr. Grover was retired as pastor emeritus and Rev. Baker Johnson was chosen the old pastor's colleague. It was agreed that Mr. Johnson was to receive a salary of \$400 and was to be furnished with a house.

The Manse, located on the north side of Bloomfield Avenue at Arlington Avenue, was constructed under the direction of Mr. Johnson in a vernacular style. The structure was completed in 1832 at a cost of \$1,490.00. At this time it was thought to be a large price to pay for a house. Mr. Johnson resigned as pastor in the following fall of 1833.

On May 12, 1834 Rev. Richard F. Cleveland of Baltimore was chosen by the Society as pastor, a position which he held until his retirement in 1840. He remained in Caldwell until the following spring when he moved to Buffalo, N.Y.

Two events transpired in Caldwell during Mr. Cleveland's pastorate, the first being the remodeling of the church at a cost of \$22,000. The second was the birth on March 18, 1837, in the

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

1. Lockward, Lynn G. A Puritan Heritage, The First Presbyterian Church in Horse-Neck.
2. Rev. C. T. Berry The First Presbyterian Church, Caldwell, N.J., 1871.
3. Norwood B. R. Old Caldwell, A Retrospect 1699-1926 Caldwell, Progree Publishing Company, 1927.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 2.14 acres

UTM REFERENCES

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4	5	2	0	7	5	0
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 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B

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 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

George A. Chidley, -IV

Research Assistant

ORGANIZATION

N.J. Historic Sites Section, Dept. of Environmental Protection

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

John Fitch Plaza

TELEPHONE

292-2023

CITY OR TOWN

Trenton

STATE

New Jersey 08625

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

James J. Bond

TITLE

Commissioner, Department of Environmental Protection

DATE

Dec. 27, 1976

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Robert B. Pettig

DATE

11/16/77

ATTEST:

Charles A. ...

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

11-14-77

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

PAGE

SIGNIFICANCE

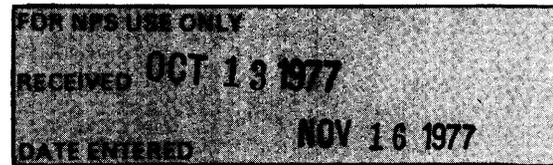
old Manse, of a son to Mr. & Mrs. Cleveland. The boy was named Stephen Grover in honor of the first installed minister of Caldwell. Grover Cleveland, as he was later to be known, became the 22nd and 24th President of the United States.

In 1913, the Grover Cleveland Birthplace Memorial Association acquired the Manse, and it remained in their hands until 1934 when the State of New Jersey took over the site.

The "Old Manse" of Caldwell is one of the two oldest buildings in town. It is the larger of the two and has not been appreciably altered. Whereas the other building has undergone extensive alterations. The Manse is one of the best documented buildings in the area. In addition the house is a fine surviving example of builder vernacular architecture of the period. It exemplifies the way in which simple residences were treated with hesitant touches of Greek and or Federal styling.

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CONTINUATION SHEET REVISED ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE

The Old Manse of the Caldwell Presbyterian Church is of local significance for the following reasons. Architecturally the manse is a fine surviving example of the builder vernacular architecture of the period. Furthermore, it is associated with the first Presbyterian society and church of Caldwell and, thus, the religious and local history of Essex County.

Architecture:

The "Old Manse" of Caldwell, erected in 1832, stands as a fine example of the builder vernacular style architecture in Caldwell Township and surrounding areas. It exemplifies the way in which simple residences were treated with hesitant touches of Greek and Federal styling. Notable exterior features include: box cornice with plain returns; 7 panel door (main unit); round head sash; and architrave trim. The manse's interiors are among the most noteworthy of its type in Essex County. Interior features include both an Adamesque and Georgian fireplace, and Federal staircase (with continuous ramped and raised ballusters etc.).

This manse is one of the two oldest buildings in Caldwell. It is the larger of the two and has not been appreciably altered, whereas the other building has undergone extensive alterations.

Religion & Local History:

An interrelation exists between the First Soecy of Horse Neck, founded on December 5, 1784, and the Old Manse of Caldwell. This society was the first such organization in Caldwell (then Horse Neck) and served as a major impetus in local affairs. Horse Neck at that time consisted of a log meeting place (owned by the society) and a few homes. These structures were later to be the geographic center of the township of Caldwell. On February 18, 1787, the congregation voted to change the name of the settlement from Horse Neck to Caldwell, in honor of Rev. James Caldwell ("The Fighting Parson") who had been instrumental in the formation of the church society.

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CONTINUATION SHEET REVISED ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE

In 1792, a plan to erect both a church and parsonage was approved by the congregation. A wooden frame church was the first of the two structures to be erected and was completed on April 6, 1796. It wasn't until 1832 that a parsonage was erected.

The need for a manse was hastened by a contract made with one Rev. Baker Johnson who was to replace the retiring Rev. Stephen Grover. This contract stated that Reverend Johnson was to receive a salary of \$400 and was to be supplied with a house. The manse, located on the north side of Bloomfield Avenue and Arlington Avenue, was constructed in 1832 under the direction of Reverend Baker Johnson, at a cost of \$1,490.

In 1872, the 1796, First Presbyterian Church at Caldwell was destroyed by fire. The "Old Manse" is the oldest known extant structure associated with the society and the original church. Furthermore, the manse is one of the best documented buildings in the area.