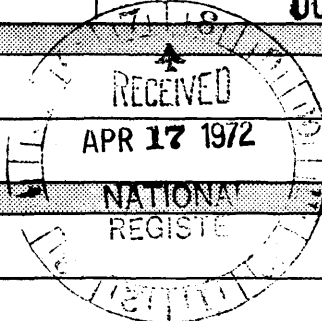


**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: New Jersey	
COUNTY: Mercer	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	OCT 18 1972



H13 E 518420
 218 N 4063240

1. NAME

COMMON:
The John D. Hart House

AND/OR HISTORIC:
Same

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
Curlis Avenue

CITY OR TOWN:
Pennington

STATE: New Jersey CODE: 34 COUNTY: Mercer CODE: 021

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____ _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
William Howe

STREET AND NUMBER:
Curlis Avenue

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

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Mercer County Court House

STREET AND NUMBER:
Broad Street

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

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
HABS

DATE OF SURVEY: 1936 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Library of Congress

STREET AND NUMBER:
Washington

CITY OR TOWN: Washington STATE: D.C. CODE: 11

STATE: New Jersey	FOR NPS USE ONLY
COUNTY: Mercer	
ENTRY NUMBER: 01	DATE
DATE: 1972	

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

7. Description

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered		<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

2/16-58

The original five bay section of this house constitutes an excellent example of the small 18th century beaded clapboard house in Mercer County. We quickly notice the original sash-nine over six on the first floor, six over six on the second, the masonry fireplace back on the outside end wall and the beaded barge boards on the gable ends. Original shutters and doors survive at the first floor openings.

The interior arrangement is an abbreviated center hall plan, because of the overall small size of the house. The narrow steep staircase that divides at the top occupies the whole hall area, so that the rear back door lets out of the original kitchen to the right. Upstairs the center hall essentially contains two cherry railed balconies, each of which leads to a side bedroom, now separated at the front facade by a bathroom. The door and window frames and the arch leading up the stairway are strips of sharp finned Greek Revival molding.

The most important aspect of this house is the fact that some of the decorative features correspond to the Lawrenceville area, and more specifically, to the John White Homestead on Cold Soil Road in that town. The living room to the left displays an imposing Federal fireplace with bowed mantle and reeded pilasters, capitals and center panel, carefully notched in Adamesque swag patterns and two ovular fans. A slightly smaller version stands in the "borning room" in the Welling house next door. One is almost forced to conclude that the same imaginative craftsman was employed in all three houses. These fireplaces, along with the simplified versions in one bedroom in each of the newer houses, are virtually identical. No doubt others by this un-named man will be recognized.

Light, small panelled cherry doors throughout this house forge another link with Lawrenceville.

The old kitchen (now a dining room) on the right side shows a huge fireplace opening for cooking. An iron band supports the broad brick segmental arch. The brick baking oven, now hinted at by the blocked up opening, is gone. The 19th century addition is of little architectural consequence, although the new kitchen completed a decade or so ago utilizes old timbering in an ingenious manner.

In conclusion, this house is not only a fine example of the small clapboard house in this area, but also an interesting addition to our knowledge of the decorative style of a specific personality. This man must have worked at other places. The connection with Lawrenceville destroys the insularity of Pennington at this time.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



8. Significance

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian | 16th Century | 18th Century | 20th Century
 15th Century | 17th Century | 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

John D. Hart, who built this house around 1800, must have been some relation to the signer John Hart from Hopewell, perhaps a nephew. He has been noted only for his activities as a merchant, succeeding John Carpenter who kept a store in the building opposite the Presbyterian Church in 1800, and later taking in Henry Baker as a partner. Also, he married Elizabeth Velling, who owned the Dutch Colonial cottage next to this property. It was perhaps at this time that Hart deemed it more fitting for him and his new wife to move into a more modern, more elegant house. The two properties were in his estate, and were conveyed by his executors to Charles Velling by deed April 3, 1839.

Congressional Representation

Clifford P. Case - U.S. Senator
 Harrison A. Williams - U.S. Senator
 Frank Thompson, Jr. - Congressman (4th District)



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

O'Connell, Margaret, PENNINGTON PROFILES, privately printed, 1966.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		40 ° 19 ' 18 "	74 ° 46 ' 59 "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 2 acres

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Constance Greiff and Channing Blake

ORGANIZATION: Heritage Studies DATE: Sept. 8, 1971

STREET AND NUMBER: 17 Clover Lane

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

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

National State Local

Name: Richard J. Sullivan
 Title: Commissioner, Department of Environmental Protection

Date: 3-17-72

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

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

Date: 10/18/72

ATTEST: William M. Stewart
 Keeper of The National Register

Date: 10-26-72

SEE INSTRUCTIONS