Form No. 10-300 (Rev. 10-74)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
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
Dunn, Zaccheus, House
AND/OR COMMON
Pissant, John, House

2 LOCATION
STREET & NUMBER
East Lake Road (near Woodstown-Alloway Road) _NOT FOR PUBLICATION
CITY, TOWN
Pilesgrove Township
STATE
New Jersey

3 CLASSIFICATION
CATEGORY
DISTRICT __
BUILDING(S) _
STRUCTURE _
SITE _
OBJECT _

OWNERSHIP
PUBLIC X
PRIVATE _
BOTH _

STATUS
X OCCUPIED
UNOCCUPIED _
WORK IN PROGRESS _
ACCESSIBLE _
X YES: RESTRICTED
YES: UNRESTRICTED _
NO _

PRESENT USE
AGRICULTURE _
COMMERCIAL _
PARK _
EDUCATIONAL _
ENTERTAINMENT _
RELIGIOUS _
GOVERNMENT _
INDUSTRIAL _
X TRANSPORTATION _
MILITARY _
OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY
NAME
Charles Gordon Engel
STREET & NUMBER
Box 454C, R.D. 2
CITY, TOWN
Woodstown
STATE
New Jersey

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Clerk's Office, Salem County Court House
STREET & NUMBER
94 Market Street
CITY, TOWN
Salem
STATE
New Jersey

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS
TITLE
Historic American Building Survey;
New Jersey Historic Sites Inventory 2441.3
DATE
1937 1960 _
FEDERAL _
STATE _
COUNTY _
LOCAL _
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS
Library of Congress;
New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection
CITY, TOWN
Archives; Historic Sites Section,
Washington D.C. Trenton
STATE
New Jersey
The Zaccheus Dunn House sits approximately 100 yards off East Lake Drive and is reached by a dirt lane locally known as Old Farm Road. Originally a farmhouse, it sits on a slight hill overlooking a small pond which the owners intend to convert into a wildlife preserve.

The Dunn House is a 2 1/2 story Flemish bond brick building with glazed headers on all four walls. The west wall has the initials "Z D D" (Zaccheus and Deborah Dunn) and the date of construction "1743" in glazed headers. An interesting aspect about the brickwork is the fact that the headers on the first floor level are slightly smaller in size than those on the second floor, possibly suggesting that the Dunns added the second floor a few years after construction of the first.

The house has a box cornice, water table, and a pent roof (which has been temporarily removed for repairs). There are two inside end chimneys, one of which is parapeted. The windows have 12 lights over 8 lights. The sashes are not original, but have been reproduced exactly like the originals, including the wide muntin bars. Above the sashes on the exterior are brick hoodmolds.

Inside, the original house consisted of two rooms on each floor. During the early nineteenth century, the original partitions were removed to make one large room per floor. Restoration drawings call for the reinstallation of the partitions. Each room has its original random width hardwood floors. There are four fireplaces, the two on the west side being corner fireplaces and the two on the east side being centrally placed. Each fireplace has its original paneling above and around the mantles. The interior doors are all planked batten doors. An additional wing that Stephan Decatur built to house his kitchen was torn down in 1950 and replaced by a one story fram lean-to shed. Early in the nineteenth century, the cellar was excavated and currently serves as the kitchen and den.

Restoration activities, which recently began, call for the recreation of the original appearance, including the reproduction of the Decatur wing.
SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD

- PREHISTORIC
- 1400-1499
- 1500-1599
- 1600-1699
- 1700-1799
- 1800-1899
- 1900-

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

- ARCHITECTURE
- ARCHAEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC
- ARCHAEOLOGY-HISTORIC
- ART
- COMMERCE
- COMMUNICATIONS
- COMMUNITY PLANNING
- CONSERVATION
- ECONOMICS
- EDUCATION
- ENGINEERING
- EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT
- INDUSTRY
- INVENTION
- LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE
- LAW
- LITERATURE
- MILITARY
- MUSIC
- PHILOSOPHY
- POLITICS/GOVERNMENT
- RELIGION
- SCIENCE
- SCULPTURE
- SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
- THEATER
- TRANSPORTATION
- OTHER (SPECIFY)

SPECIFIC DATES

1743

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Dunn House has significance in several categories.

ARCHITECTURE: The Dunn House is one of the more significant extant examples of mid-eighteenth century architecture in Salem County. Built in 1743, the Dunn House, with its glazed headers and pattern work to memorialize the original owners, typifies the style of construction that became prevalent in this area during the eighteenth century. The interior floor plan, especially the positioning of the stairway immediately to one side of the fireplace, was also characteristic of early architecture in South Jersey. Furthermore, the house escaped the "modernization" of the Victorian period which destroyed the integrity of so many colonial homes. Although not unique in appearance and design, the brickwork, interior floor plan, mantles, and paneling are characteristic of South Jersey architecture. The Dunn House vividly illustrates the type of home occupied by the average colonial farmer of moderate means.

MILITARY: The house has military significance in that between 1803 and 1810 it served as the residence of Stephan Decatur. One of America's first naval heroes, Decatur captured three French privateers off Cape May during the Quasi War of 1798. Decatur's son of the same name became equally famous during the War of 1812. In 1810, Decatur sold the house to John Pissant, who served as a major in the Gloucester County militia during the War of 1812.

RELIGION: The original owner, Zaccheus Dunn, was a French Huguenot who fled France after the revocation of the Edict of Nantes. After a respite in England, the Dunns set out for America. They are the only known Huguenots to have fled France and settled in Salem County to seek religious freedom.
MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Salem County Planning Board. Salem County Heritage (Salem, 1971), 100.
Sickler, Joseph S. The Old Houses of Salem County (Salem: Sunbeam Publishing Co., 1949), 91.

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1 acre

UTM REFERENCES

ZONE EASTING NORTHING
A 1 7 2 0 6 9 B 4 3 6 7 4 0
C ZONE EASTING NORTHING
D

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE CODE COUNTY CODE

STATE CODE COUNTY CODE

FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE Dr. Arthur F. Sewall, Historian
(Revisions by Nanci Kostrub, Historic Sites Section, DEP, Trenton
ORGANIZATION Department of Community Development
STREET & NUMBER 90 Market Street
CITY OR TOWN Salem
STATE New Jersey

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL ___ STATE ___ LOCAL X

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

TITLE Commissioner, Department of Environmental Protection
DATE November 10, 1975

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE 11/10/77

DATE 11/10/77