

Isaac Collins House
Burlington, Burlington County, New Jersey

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PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA
District of New Jersey

Historic American Buildings Survey
Seymour Williams, A.I.A., District Officer
133 Central Avenue, Rahway, New Jersey

Isaac Collins House
Burlington, Burlington County, New Jersey

Owner: Caroline G. Jones

Date of Erection: Probably middle eighteenth century
or earlier

Architect:

Builder:

Present Condition: Good

Number of Stories: Two and one-half main section
Two for wing

Materials of Construction: Foundation - stone

Exterior walls - brick,
stuccoed

Interior walls - plaster

Inside brick chimneys

Roof - pitch with dormers

Historical Data:

The earliest Burlington County record dealing with this house reveals that Thomas Podman purchased the property in November, 1784 at Sheriff's sale. It had been seized as the property of John Neale. It appears that one Andrew Thomson died intestate in the County of Doplín, North Carolina, and that letters of

administration had been granted to John Neale by William Livingston then governor of New Jersey. This seems in some way to have been the cause of seizure.

Rodman conveyed the property by deed on April 18, 1803 to Thomson Neale, who devised the same to his executors Mary, William, and John Neale. From the executors it became the property by deed of Isaac Collins in 1808. It remained in the Collins family until it was sold in 1870 to Thomas R. Taylor. It had three owners until it was purchased by Caroline G. Jones in 1902.

It has not been possible in the deeds to get beyond the date 1784.

Barber and Howe have the following to say about this house:-

"On our way home, when we arrived at John Neal's corner of York and Broad Streets, he was standing at his door; and hearing the reports of the cannon fired in quick succession he accosted my father with 'Mr. _____ these are perilous times.' At that instant an eighteen pound double headed shot struck the back of the house, within less than twenty yards of us, broke a large hole through the wall, and lodged in the fireplace, driving the ashes out of the front door; which my father observing, said he thought they were firing red-hot balls. His wife was standing on the sill of the door, and in her fright sprang beyond the porch."

The Isaac Collins mentioned above as the owner of the property in 1808 was the printer Collins who had returned to Burlington in 1808. Collins was a printer to the crown; he printed colonial money. In his shop on

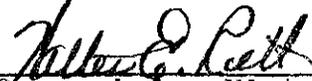
High Street near Pearl, formerly used by Samuel Jennings, early governor of West Jersey, and by Franklin when he printed colonial money, Collins established on December 5, 1717, the first newspaper printed in New Jersey, New Jersey Gazette, which was moved to Trenton on March 4, 1778. Here Collins also printed several books like Sewell's History of the Quakers and Allison Laws.

Bibliography:

Barber, J.W.)
Howe, H.) Historical Collections of
the State of New Jersey New York, S. Tuttle,
1845

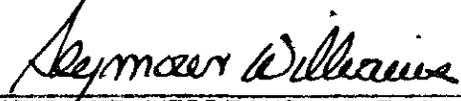
Title searched by F. A. Eckhart

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Supervising Historian

Approved:



SEYMOUR WILLIAMS, A.I.A.
District Officer

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