

HISTORIC STRUCTURES REPORT

MORR 070  
CRB 1000698  
337/132378

PART I

TERMITE & POWDER POST BEETLE TREATMENT

WICK HOUSE

MORRISTOWN NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK

STATUS OF HISTORIC STRUCTURES REPORT

MORRISTOWN  
PARK

PAR. I

Wick House

23

STRUCTURE/BUILDING #

PROJECT: Termite & Powder Post Beetle Treatment

<u>CLASS</u>	<u>AAA</u>
<u>MASTER PLAN</u>	<u>                    </u>
<u>PCP</u>	<u>                    </u>
<u>PROGRAMMED</u>	<u>                    </u>

SECTIONS:

Admin.

Called for                       
 Due                       
 Rec'd 11/23/64

His.

Called for                       
 Due                       
 Rec'd 11/23/64

Architecture

Called for                       
 Due                       
 Rec'd 11/23/64

Called for                       
 Due                       
 Rec'd                     

Called for                       
 Due                       
 Rec'd                     

DISTRIBUTED

Park                       
 EODC 11/27/64  
 Region 12/4/64  
 WASO 12/22/64

REVIEWED

Park 11/20/64  
 EODC 12/2/64  
 Region 12/22/64  
 WASO                     

APPROVED:

Region                       
 WASO 3/10/65



UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

Northeast Region		Initial and Date
<input type="checkbox"/>	Reg. Director	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Asst. to RD (PA)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Asst. to RD (Dev. Ly)	3/15/65
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Resource Studies Adv.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Asst Reg. Dir. Adm.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Finance & Prop.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Personnel	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Programs	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Asst. Reg. Dir.-Oper.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Interp. & VS	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Land & Water	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Maintenance	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Master Plan Coord.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Res. Manage. & VP	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Asst Reg. Dir.-Co-Act	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Fed'l Agency Assis.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	NPS Studies	
<input type="checkbox"/>	State Assistance	

IN REPLY REFER TO:

H30-DCA

MAR 10 1965

Memorandum

To: Regional Director, Northeast Region

From: Assistant Director, Design and Construction

Subject: Historic Structures Report, Part I, Wick House, Morristown NHP

*Posted  
Duf*

The divisions concerned have reviewed the subject report and they concur with the recommendation contained in your December 22, 1964 memorandum. I have approved the report this date.

*J. E. N. Jensen*  
J. E. N. Jensen

cc:  
Chief, EODC (2)  
Supt., Morristown

K30-RHA  
RRE

DEC 22 1964

*Wick House*  
*Ordered*  
*gmf*

Memorandum

To: Director

From: Regional Director, Northeast Region

Subject: Historic Structures Report, Part I, Wick House,  
Morristown NHP

Enclosed for your information is one copy of the subject report.

We understand this project has already been completed. Therefore, in order that there will be a detailed record of just what was done and what was revealed in the way of structural data in the process of removing some of the siding, we are requesting the Park, by copy of this memorandum, to prepare an Historic Structures Report, Part III.

(Sgd.) Ronald F. Lee

Enclosure

cc: Chief, EODC  
Superintendent, Morristown

P.S. to Park - Please submit RSP for preparation of Historic Structures Report, Part III, and date report may be expected.

MHNelligan/gmf  
General  
Daily  
Area

HISTORIC STRUCTURES REPORT, PART I, WICK HOUSE, MORRISTOWN NHP

REVIEW SHEET

1. Mr. Golub

OK 9-14-7

2. Mr. Lukens

I assume the "treatment" outlined in Admin. Data, Par. 1. f, includes some toxic application by an exterminator although it doesn't specifically say so - ? The replacement of wood members should be supervised by an EODC Exhibit Specialist or by an architect. Recommend approval with this comment. JBL 12/4

3. Dr. Nelligan





UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
Eastern Office, Design and Construction  
Philadelphia, Pa. - 19106

IN REPLY REFER TO:  
H30-H

December 2, 1964

Northeast Region		Initial and Date
DEC 3 1964		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Director	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Asst. to RD (PA)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Asst. to RD (Dev. Ly.)	12/2/64
<input type="checkbox"/>	Resource Studies Adv.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Reg. Dir. Adm.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Finance & Prop.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Personnel	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Programs	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Asst. Reg. Dir. Oper.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Interp. & VS	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Land & Water	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Maintenance	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mach. Equip. Coord.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Res. Management VP	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Asst. Reg. Dir. Object	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Fed'l Agency Assis.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	NPS Studies	
<input type="checkbox"/>	State Assista.	

Memorandum

To: Regional Director, Northeast Region  
From: Chief Architect, EODC  
Subject: Historic Structures Report, Part I, Wick House,  
Morristown

The Administrative, Historical and Architectural Data Sections of the subject report have been reviewed by the interested personnel of this office and were recommended for approval by Chief Hall this date.

*Posted  
mf*

Robert E. Smith  
By: Donald F. Benson  
Donald F. Benson, Acting

cc:  
Assistant Director, Design and Construction  
Superintendent, Morristown

H30-BHA

JUN 27 1964

*Noted  
11/27  
Posted  
Graf*

Memorandum

To: Chief, EODC

From: *Acting* Regional Director, Northeast Region

Subject: Historic Structures Report, Part I, Wick House, Morristown

Enclosed for your review and file is one copy of the subject report.

George A. Palmer

Enclosure

MHNelligan/bg  
General ✓  
Daily  
Area  
Mr. Whitcraft



UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
MORRISTOWN NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK  
MORRISTOWN, NEW JERSEY

IN REPLY REFER TO:

H30

November 20, 1964

Memorandum

To: Regional Director, Northeast Region  
From: Acting Superintendent, Morristown NHP  
Subject: Historic Structures Report, Part I, Wick House

We are submitting six copies of Historic Structures Report, Wick House, for the treatment of termite and powder post beetles.

*Frederick J. Brower*  
Frederick J. Brower

*Posted*  
*Inf*

Encl.

Northeast Region		Initial and Date
NOV 23 1964		
	Reg. Director	
	Asst. to RD (PA)	
	Asst. to RD (Dev. L)	
	Resource Studies Adv.	
	Asst. Dir. - Adm.	
	Finance & Prop.	
	Personnel	
	Programs	
	Asst. Reg. Dir. - Oper.	
	Interp. & VS	
	Land & Water	
	Maintenance	
	Master Plan Coord.	
	Res. Manage. & VP	
	Asst. Reg. Dir. - Co-Act	
	Fed'l Agency Assis.	
	NPS Studies	
	State Assistance	



APPROVAL SHEET

RECOMMENDED Frederick J. Brower DATE 11/29/64  
Acting Superintendent

RECOMMENDED Robert G. Hall DATE 12/2/64  
Chief, EODC

RECOMMENDED Donald F. Lee DATE 12/24/64  
Regional Director

APPROVED J. E. H. Jensen DATE 3/10/65  
ASST. DIR. DESIGN & CONSTRUCTION

Historic Structures Report

Part I

Wick House

Morristown National Historical Park

Prepared By

Sherman W. Perry  
Supervisory Historian

November, 1964

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1. Administrative Data

a. The name of the structure is the Wick House and the number of the building is 23.

b. This house is second only to the Ford Mansion in historical significance in the park. This house, restored in 1935 in the National Park Service, is an important part of the interpretive program in the park.

c. The Master Plan of 1941 justified the maintaining of this home in the following quotation: "This house, probably built about 1750..., was the home of Henry Wick...Major General Arthur St. Clair, who commanded the Pennsylvania Division at the time, made his quarters here during the winter of 1779-80."

d. The Wick House will continue to be operated by appropriated funds.

e. There is no cooperative agreement for furnishing or operating the structure.

f. The proposed construction activity is to supply all labor and equipment necessary to treat for termite and powder post beetles by removing the clapboards and shingle siding from the lower floor to expose the studs, headers, stops, etc., of the framing in the Wick House. Replacement of new shingles and siding may be necessary. Approximately 300 linear feet of 5/8" x 7 3/8" white oak siding and approximately 100 feet of 7/16" x 6" x 36" split white oak shingles will be required.

g. The cost of this construction as estimated is \$1,925.00.

h. Photograph of Wick House, see appendix.

### 3. Historical Data

The Wick House was built about 1750 by Henry Wick, a farmer from Suffolk County, Long Island. During the winter of 1777, the house served as quarters for several invalided Continental Army officers.<sup>1</sup> When the army returned to Morristown in December, 1779, the two brigades of the Pennsylvania Line encamped on portions of the land belonging to the Wick farm. Their commander, Major General Arthur St. Clair, used the house as his quarters. The Pennsylvania troops returned the following winter, but encamped on another site. The mutiny of the Pennsylvania Line on January 1, 1781 occurred close enough to the Wick House, however, to account for the Tempe Wick story.

Henry Wick died in December, 1780, willing the property to his wife, Mary Cooper Wick. Upon her death in 1787, the homestead went to her youngest daughter Tempe, and remained in the ownership of Wick descendants until 1871.<sup>2</sup> No significant description of the house has been found in any eighteenth-century documentary source, so physical knowledge of the structure is based upon archeological and architectural data.

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<sup>1</sup> Journal of Joseph Bloomfield, Jan. 19, Feb. 13, May 14, 23, 26, 1777, Morristown National Historical Park

<sup>2</sup> History of the First Presbyterian Church, Morristown, N.J., Part II: The Combined Registers, 1742-1885 (Morristown, 1885), 255-89. Wills of Henry Wick, Jan. 20, 1771, and Mary Wick, Mar. 13, 1786 (Morris County Wills, lib. 22 (1781), p. 239; and B-144). Tempe Wick Tuttle's daughter Mary C. Blackly sold the property to Mason Loomis by deed of July 1, 1781 (Morris County Deeds, D-3-1).

### 3. Architectural Data

Prior to its restoration in 1934, the Wick House had the appearance of a story and a half cape cod cottage. Restoration began with the stripping of all modern materials, leaving the frame entirely exposed. The framing of the front wall indicated that fenestration and type of wall covering was not original. The central door had not been changed in position, but had been heightened as the old plans for the head piece showed the original height of the door.

All the studs, posts and braces across the front were found to be notched out to receive battens, indicating that the wall had originally been shingled. The framing also revealed the fenestration of the other three walls of the house. The kitchen door was unchanged in location and size, the door frame being modern but the door itself very old. No changes had been made in the roof framing, although the aperture framed for the chimney suggested that it once had been larger. An examination of the ceiling indicated that the timbers had once been exposed, so all plaster was removed. All the inside partitions were found to be new. The chimney had been rebuilt in the nineteenth century.

For the most part the exterior restoration of the Wick House was guided by explicit evidence. A piece of old oak weatherboard found in the house served as a model for the restoration of the walls. Old oak was used at the windows whenever possible, or used as a pattern for new oak. Most of the old shutters were reusable. The exterior walls were not painted. In regard to the interior restoration, it seemed unlikely that the walls were originally plastered, as that wall

treatment of the rear rooms was followed throughout. The outside walls were sheathed horizontally and the partitions were constructed of vertical boards. The entry doors in the rear were fixed by the plan of the entry itself. The woodwork in the front rooms was painted with iron-oxide paint. No work was done in the two kitchen chambers except the clearing off of later coverings from the sheathing, and repairing it and installing new sash frames and trim. Sheathing had to be replaced on the east wall of the kitchen chamber.

The modern stair in the kitchen was removed, showing the old sheathing of the old stair, only the header of the wall remained, showing the original location. There was no information as to the actual stair detail. It was rebuilt as simply as possible.

The original chimney had been replaced in the middle of the nineteenth century. It was known from the marked ceilings of the front rooms that they had once had fireplaces. With the evidence found in an examination of the base of the chimney, and with the precedent of other houses of this type, the chimney was rebuilt using old brick wherever possible. The fireplaces were restored with only a simple trim, with no mantel shelf, as was characteristic of the period.

Sheathed and battened doors were used throughout. They were hung on jack studs that extend from the floor to the ceiling timbers. The original flooring in the house had largely been replaced by modern. It was replaced, wherever possible, by flooring from old houses nearby. During the succeeding two decades repairs have been made to the house as needed, including the partial replacement of the siding on the east wall and a rebuilding of the chimney.

4. Archaeological Data - not applicable

5. Landscape Data - not applicable

6. Furnishing and Exhibition Plan

The Wick House is completely furnished as a farmhouse of the Colonial Period. Its interior reflects the day to day life of a prosperous family of the eighteenth century. As an interpretive media, the Wick House is outstanding. See furnishing plan on file.



THE WICK HOUSE



Photo No.....Object Wick House

Location . MORRISTOWN NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK

Description . . . . . MORRISTOWN, NEW JERSEY

.....

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Date . . . . Exposure . . . . Taken By. Sowers