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FINAL CONSTRUCTION REPORT, RESTORATION OF
TEMPE WICK HOUSE AND OUTBUILDINGS, JOCKEY
HOLLOW, MORRISTOWN NATIONAL HISTORICAL
PARK, MORRISTOWN, NEW JERSEY, FEDERAL
PROJECT 437A P.W.A.

BY: DANIEL C. JENSEN

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FINAL CONSTRUCTIONS REPORT

RESTORATION OF TEMPE WICK HOUSE AND OUTBUILDINGS

JOCKEY HOLLOW - MORRISTOWN NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK

MORRISTOWN, NEW JERSEY

FEDERAL PROJECT 457A P.W.A.

PREPARED BY

DANIEL C. JENSEN

ASSISTANT ARCHITECT

1. NATURE OF WORK.

This project involved the restoration of the Wick House to the condition and appearance it was when built at about 1750, together with the repair and construction of a typical group of outbuildings.

The work was started on August 15, 1934 and closed down completely August 1, 1935.

The estimated cost of the buildings was \$15,200 and an allotment of \$15,600 was granted, which explains why some of the structures were not completed.

2. WICK HOUSE.

The house is a Cape Cod type farm house about 30' x 40', one story and attic in height, with a cellar about one-third of the area.

It was stripped of all weatherboarding and recovered with oak siding on three sides, and hand split oak shingles on the front. The foundation walls were all rebuilt under the unexcavated portion.

New sills for the entire house were installed and all framing in bad condition was replaced. All framing was treated with creosote.

A new roof of hand split oak shingles was put on. These shingles were laid up also with roof mastic. New sash and door frames were installed, with new sash, shutters and doors where the old ones were missing. Copper flashing was used throughout.

All plaster on the interior was removed. Existing chimney and Dutch oven were removed and replaced with one forming three fireplaces. All flues were lined with fire clay lining, with an extra furnace flue for heating which was bricked up in the cellar. Where interior wood sheathing was missing, it was replaced by new sheathing, making all the walls and partitions of wood, with the beam ceiling exposed.

Hall and northwest room was floored with old flooring from the house, and the remainder of the rooms were floored with material from two old local houses.

The stairs of the kitchen was removed and rebuilt at the front entry.

Hardware was used throughout, and old glass was used where possible, with the balance of modern reproduction.

34. ~~_____~~

One section of this barn was removed, leaving a structure 30' x 48'. Foundation walls were all rebuilt, new sills were installed throughout and all framing in bad condition was replaced with new. New cypress siding and doors were installed

and a new roof was laid with hand split cedar shingles.

4. COY SHED.

This building had collapsed and was entirely rebuilt, using all old material, with all connections mortised and tenoned together. It was covered with old weatherboards and roofed with split cedar shingles. The shed is 22' x 27'.

5. SHEEP BARN AND PIG STY.

This is a new structure, 12' x 18', and is left uncompleted. All material for completion is on hand, but part of the weatherboarding remains to be put on; the shingles are not laid and the doors are not fitted and hung.

6. CARRIAGE BARN.

This is an old building, 22' x 27', and was re-shingled with hand split cedar shingles. New sash were installed, the old cornice was cut back, the siding re-nailed, and the doors were rehung.

7. WOOD SHED.

This is a new structure, 10' x 23'6", and no work was started on it, due to lack of funds.

8. CORN CRIBS.

These are two new structures, 5' x 8', the existing corn crib being taken down. The framing and footings for these two cribs were completed and made of old material, mortised and tenoned together.

9. PRIVY.

The privy is entirely new and is 5' x 7'. The old walls

on which it was built were entirely rebuilt. The framing and exterior siding was constructed of oak, the interior sheathing is poplar and the shingles of the roof were split oak. It is entirely completed.

10. SMOKE HOUSE.

The smoke house is entirely new and is 6' x 6'. Foundation walls were built, oak framing and flush oak siding were used, together with split oak shingles for the roof. It is entirely completed.

11. WELL HEAD.

The well head is 3'4" x 3'8", and is entirely new. It is built of oak throughout with a split oak shingle roof. It is completed, excepting the pulley for bucket and rope.

12. CONTRACT PRICE.

The work was done under Force Account, and there was no general contract. There were contracts let for larger items, such as mill-work, siding, shingles and flooring.

13. LABOR EMPLOYED.

Carpenters and masons were principally employed, with one painter

MONTHS

1
3
3
3
3
0
15
17
23
30
3

PERIOD

August 1934
Sept.
October
November
December
January 1935
February
March
April
May
June
July

HOURS

427
258
168
79
248
287
83
0
558
1791
2632
2094
264

The rate paid the skilled labor was the P.W.A. rate of \$1.20 per hour, and for helpers 80¢ per hour.

14. MATERIALS AND WORKMANSHIP.

The materials used were in many cases old material taken from other houses to match the old work of the existing buildings. Oak, cypress and poplar were used to a great extent for all new material and over half of the oak for the shingles came from the park here. Workmanship was of the finest, care having been made in the selection of mechanics.

15. DEVIATION OF PLANS.

In cases where conditions were uncovered that were different from the plans, changes were made to meet these conditions. These were all approved and noted.

16. PHOTOGRAPHS.

Progress photographs were made at intervals when progress of the work warranted it, or some particular detail needed to be recorded.

17. LANDSCAPING.

No landscaping was included in this work.

18. FINAL INSPECTION AND ACCEPTANCE.

Final inspection of all these buildings was made by Mr. Peterson, Park Chief Architect, on August 6, 1935 on one of his routine visits to the park. The buildings have also been inspected and accepted by Superintendent Cox on October 31, 1935.

19. RECORDS.

A daily diary was kept together with the time record of the mechanics. A weekly report was also submitted.

FINALLY.

At present, there are still a number of the outbuildings to be completed, together with the fixtures of some of the barns. The house will, no doubt, need doors refitted and other odds and ends that occur with any new work. The atmosphere of the old house has been preserved and has received very high comment on the success of the restoration.