

Montague Ferry Keeper's House  
End of Old Bridge Rd. on east bank  
of Delaware River  
Montague Vicinity  
Montague Township  
Sussex County  
New Jersey

HABS No. NJ-821

HABS  
NJ,  
19-MOGU.V,  
3-

PHOTOGRAPHS

HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

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19-MOGU.V,  
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HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

MONTAGUE FERRY KEEPER'S HOUSE

HABS No. NJ-821

Location: At end of Old Bridge Road on east bank of Delaware River, .2 mile west of Old Mine Road, .3 mile northwest of Montague, Montague Township, Sussex County, New Jersey

USGS Milford Quadrangle, Universal Transverse Mercator  
Coordinates: 18.517150.4572820.

Present Owner: United States Government

Present Use: Demolished by 1980.

Significance: This story-and-a-half residence, featuring eyebrow windows common in upper Delaware Valley houses, probably dates from the first of the nineteenth century.

PART I. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement

1. Architectural character: This small stuccoed frame dwelling of the Upper Delaware Valley Type has characteristic eyebrow windows and is particularly important for its setting overlooking the Delaware River.
2. Condition of fabric: Good

B. Description of Exterior

1. This one-and-a-half-story house measures approximately 30' by 15', with an addition in the rear measuring 10' x 12'.
2. Foundations: Rubble stonework.
3. Wall construction, finish and color: Apparently wood frame structure from exterior observation; interior was inaccessible at time of site visit. Saw-cut wood lath (exposed on one part of exterior) has been stuccoed over (white), rough finish; modern addition also has stucco to match but metal lath over frame.
4. Structural system, framing: Inaccessible; could not gain access to house.
5. Porches, bulkheads: Covered portico extends 22' along the front of the original house. Hip roof supported by two columns and

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extended wing. The entry to the basement through double storm doors flush with porch floor suggests that porch might have been added later.

6. Chimneys: One small central brick chimney in main house appears to be connected to flue of pot belly stove in living room. No fireplaces apparent, although perhaps there is one upstairs.
7. Openings:
  - a. Doorways and doors: Two four-panel doors in front of original house. Door seems to be original but hardware is not. No rear door in original house.
  - b. Windows: The first-floor and gable-end windows in the main part of the house have wood frames and six-over-six-light sash. At the second level of the front elevation are four eyebrow windows of three lights each.
8. Roof: The gable roof over the original portion and the hip roof over the porch have wood shingles. The shed roof over the addition has a tar and gravel covering. There is a shallow overhang at the cornice with a simple eave and board fascia.

C. DESCRIPTION OF INTERIOR

The surveyor could not gain access to the building at the time of visit.

D. SITE

1. General setting: The building was supposedly the residence of the ferry keeper when the river was crossed at this point. A bridge was later built at this same location. A narrow winding road leads from the Old Mine Road down to the site where the building is nestled against the side of the hill about 30' above the water and about 50' back from the bank. A rubble stone wall has been built up to the level of the house, forming a terrace around the building. The house itself is 4' below the road level with a retaining wall buttressing the road. The house has the appearance, because it is set below the road level, of being smaller in height than it is. The site is pleasantly landscaped.
2. Outbuilding: There is a small privy behind the house and a small cottage up the hillside about 50' away, both of modern construction. Out beside the road is another small structure (approx. 5' x 10') which might have been the tollkeeper's booth. This is uncertain and the structure does not appear very old.

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Prepared by: John McRae  
Project Supervisor  
HABS  
August, 1971

PART III. PROJECT INFORMATION

This project was undertaken by the Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS) in cooperation with the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area, supervised by the National Park Service and funded by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The project, which extended from 1967 to 1971, was under the general direction of James C. Massey, Chief of HABS. The architectural data was written by John M. McRae, project supervisor, in 1971, and edited for transmittal to the Library of Congress in the summer of 1980 by Alison K. Hoagland of the HABS staff. The photographs were taken by George A. Eisenman in 1971.