

Spring Garden Inn
Ancora, Winslow Township
Camden County, New Jersey

HABS-NJ-534 HABS

N.J.

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PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA
District of New Jersey

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

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Spring Garden Inn
Ancora, Winslow Township
Camden County, New Jersey

Owner: Heirs of Josiah Evens Albertson

Date of Erection: About 1826(a)

Architect: Unknown

Builder: David Albertson (1801-1844)

Present Condition: Original, but neglected

Number of Stories: Two and one-half above cellar
in two main units, and one and
one-half in leanto

Materials of Construction:

Foundation - stone masonry

Exterior walls - timber frame, clapboarded,
those of main unit being brick filled

Interior walls - lath and plaster on studding

Chimneys - brick, built into inside of gable
end walls

Roof - wood shingled gable with dormer
windows; pitch roof on the leanto and front
porch

Historical Data:

The account of this large and finely pro-
portioned frame house in Ancora, a village on the
old White Horse Pike (Route No. 43) is traced from

(a) This approximate date has been "always understood"
by Mrs. L. M. Chew now, 1939 of R.F.D. No. 1, Berlin,
N.J., a granddaughter of this David Albertson (1801-1844)

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"about 1826"(a) at which time it was erected by David Albertson, son of the Josiah Albertson who owned the much older "Blew Anchor Tavern" (NJ-131) about three miles westward on another highway. Apparently, both of these public houses were on the same 750 acre tract, acquired by this Josiah Albertson (Jr.) from the estate of his wife's father, Robert Mattocks, as follows:

By a deed of 4 January 1812, Sarah Mattocks conveyed to Josiah Albertson Jr., for \$4000, "all that certain Plantation, Tavern, and tract of land, known by the name of Blewanchor", containing 750 acres (in that part of Gloucester County which in 1844 was set off as Camden County). Recital is made that this tract was surveyed to Abraham Bickley for 625 acres on 8 August 1743, that John Hider conveyed it on 13 July 1748 to John Brian, whose son Thomas Brian conveyed it with other land on 14 June 1757 to Richard Fry, who in turn passed it on 10 March 1762 to Robert Mattocks, whose executors conveyed the 750 acres on 18 January 1798 to Sarah Mattocks, the grantor first named above.(b)

Josiah Albertson Sr., who died 12 July 1827 aged 86, had by his wife Ann who died 25 May 1822 aged 81, a son Josiah Albertson Jr., who died 4 October 1859 aged 88, the purchaser of the Blew-anchor tract. The last named, by his wife Elizabeth (Mattocks) Albertson who died 28 July 1857 aged 86, had a son David Albertson, who died 24 April 1844 aged 43,(c) the builder of the Spring Garden Inn

(b) Gloucester County Deed Book P, page 522

(c) Names and dates from family burying ground at Blue Anchor, N.J., as transcribed by Mrs. L. M. Chew, 1939

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here considered, and who by his wife Rebecca Eyre (Evans) Albertson, a daughter of Layton and Elizabeth (Cooper) Evens, left as only son and heir, Josiah Evens Albertson. A metal stencil bearing this last name appears in the photograph of the great brick fireplace and oven in the kitchen shed, bound herewith. He died on 25 November 1925, and the Spring Garden Inn property came to his three children, Edward Smith Albertson who has since taken over the house and some 60 acres, Mrs. Lizzie May Chew and Mrs. Laura Evens Holton.

Bibliography:

A search of title in Land and Probate records of Gloucester and Camden Counties by Oscar F. Benjamin, H.A.B.S. abstractor

Percy D. Cook
Supervising Historian

Approved:

Seymour Williams
SEYMOUR WILLIAMS, F.A.I.A.
District Officer

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