

The Ford House
Old Post Road
Bonhamtown, Middlesex County, New Jersey

HABS-NJ-467

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12-BONTO
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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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The Ford House
Old Post Road
Bonhamtown, Middlesex County, New Jersey

Owners: A. Leo Ezekiel, Emma R. Ezekiel, August Ezekiel

Date of Erection: About the time of the Revolutionary
War or a little earlier

Architect:

Builder: Probably a member of the Ford family

Present Condition: Fair

Number of Stories: Two

Materials of Construction: Foundation - stone

Exterior walls - frame
construction, siding

Interior walls - plaster

Inside brick chimneys

Roof - pitch with dormers
of later date

Historical Data:

The earliest record at New Brunswick covering the tract of land upon which this house stands is a deed for the year 1807 when William Ford transferred the property to William W. Ford. This deed further states that William Ford acquired the property in part from a deed of James Van Horne and John Martin made on August 22, 1763 and in part through the last will and

testament of Charles Ford.

From the construction the house appears to have been built about the time of the Revolutionary War. We have assumed that Charles Ford was probably the builder. The property remained in the Ford family until the widow of William W. Ford sold in 1841 to William Parkinson. There are eight transfers recorded from that time until it came into the possession of the present owners in 1933.

Bibliography:

A letter from Mr. J. L. Grimstead, Metuchen, New Jersey

A search of Middlesex County court records by Frank P. Caufield, Essex County Office

Walter E. Reeth
Supervising Historian

Approved:

Stephens A. Williams
STEPHEN A. WILLIAMS, F.A.I.A.
District Officer

A D D E N D U M

Further proof of our assumption that this house was possibly built by Charles Ford is contained in a will at Trenton which is dated February 19, 1784. In this will Charles Ford leaves to his son William "one equal part of acres of my patent land". The widow was left current money. In the case of another son the deed mentions from whom Charles Ford had purchased. It would seem from this that William probably received the plot with the homestead on it.

Bibliography:

A search of records in the Secretary of State's Office by Robert M. Falcey,
Mercer County Office

Walter C. Rutt

Supervising Historian

Leymeister W. S. Williams