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Furnishing Plan for Wick House

Morristown National Historical Park

FURNISHING PLAN

for the

WICK HOUSE

MORRISTOWN NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK

APPROVAL SHEET

Recommended: _____
Director

_____
Regional Director

_____
Chief, EODC

(SGD.) FRANCIS S. ROYALLS

Approved: _____
Superintendent

Furnishing Plan for Wick House

a. This historic house is second only to the Ford Mansion in historical significance in the Park. It is a typical 18th-century farm house and was associated with the 1777, 1779-80, and 1780-81 encampments of the Continental Army. The house as an interpretive feature of the park enables the visitor to view a typical house with which the soldier of the Continental Army would have been familiar. In many cases it would be typical of the type of house in which the soldier would have lived as a civilian. This, then gives a picture of the life of a prosperous rural citizen of the Revolutionary period.

b. 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.[1] 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.[2] A native Pennsylvanian, St. Clair was a member of the Committee of Safety of Westmoreland County. In 1775 he was sent as a colonel to take part in the retreat of the American Army from Canada. St. Clair, as a brigadier general, served with Washington in the battles of Trenton and Princeton. His service here was so exemplary that Congress voted him a promotion to

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[1] Journal of Joseph Bloomfield, January 19, February 13, May 14, 23, and 26, 1777, Morristown National Historical Park.

[2] The Rochefontaine map of January 16, 1780 (Library of Congress) identifies a building on this site as "Mjr Genl St Clair's Quarters."

major general. St. Clair was later ordered to the defense of Fort Ticonderoga, but was forced to evacuate the fort due to circumstances beyond his control. Recalled by Congress, he was subsequently exonerated but never placed in a position to render conspicuous service again. He continued to serve with Washington's forces however, and his troops successfully manned outer defense lines during the winter encampment at Morristown. 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.[3]

Henry Wick died on December 21, 1780, a few days before the mutiny, willing his property to his wife, Mary Cooper Wick. Upon her death in 1787, the property was divided among the children, the homestead going to her youngest daughter, Tempe. It remained in the ownership of Wick descendants until 1871.[4]

c. No description of the house has been found in any 18th-century documentary source, so physical knowledge of the structure must be based upon archeological and architectural data.

Because of this lack of documentary information, an account of the furniture in the Wick House at the time of occupancy by General

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[3]Gen. Anthony Wayne to Col. Thomas Craig, November 15, 1780; Craig to Wayne, November 20, 1780; Wayne Mss., Historical Society of Pennsylvania. Diary of Capt. Joseph McClellan, Pennsylvania Archives, Second Series, XI (1896), 812. Letters of Lieut. Enos Reeves, Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography, XXI (1897), 72-75. For the Tempe Wick story see Joseph F. Tuttle, "Washington in Morris County", Annals of Morris County (n.d.) [1884?] 58-59.

[4]History of the First Presbyterian Church, Morristown, N.J., Part II: The Combined Registers, 1742-1885 (Morristown, 1885), 359-60. Wills of Henry Wick, Jan. 26, 1771, and Mary Wick, March 13, 1786 (Morris County Wills, Lib. 22 [1781] p. 229; and B-144) Tempe Wick Tuttle's daughter Mary C. Blachly sold the property to Mason Loomis by deed of July 1, 1871 (Morris County Deeds, D-5-1).

St. Clair is impossible. However, an inventory of the estate of Henry Wick taken less than a year after St. Clair's departure would indicate the approximate furnishings in the house at the time of the general's occupancy. Attached are inventories of Household Goods of Henry Wick dated April 6, 1781, and Mary Wick dated 1787, upon which, in part, was based the selection of furnishings of the period which are presently in the Wick House.

LIST OF HOUSEHOLD GOODS FROM THE INVENTORY OF THE PERSONAL ESTATE OF HENRY WICK, 1761

	£	s	d
1 loom and tackling	4	0	0
old casks	0	8	0
1 brass kettle	3	0	0
pots and kettles and trammels	3	10	0
andirons, pails and tongs			
gridiing irons and bellows	1	15	0
bidle and seive	0	2	6
pewter sundry	1	10	0
wheels and reels	1	10	0
milk room furniture	3	0	0
9 barrels cider	4	10	0
1 barrel whiskey	4	10	0
6 empty casks	1	4	0
salted provisions	4	0	0
3 beds and bedding	30	0	0
1 case with drawers	4	0	0
1 desk	2	0	0
4 chests	1	10	0
4 tables 9 chairs very poor	3	0	0
1 looking glass	0	12	0
2 pair steelyards	1	0	0
1 watch	3	0	0
1 gun	1	0	0
1 case of bottles	1	0	0
mens clothes	12	0	0

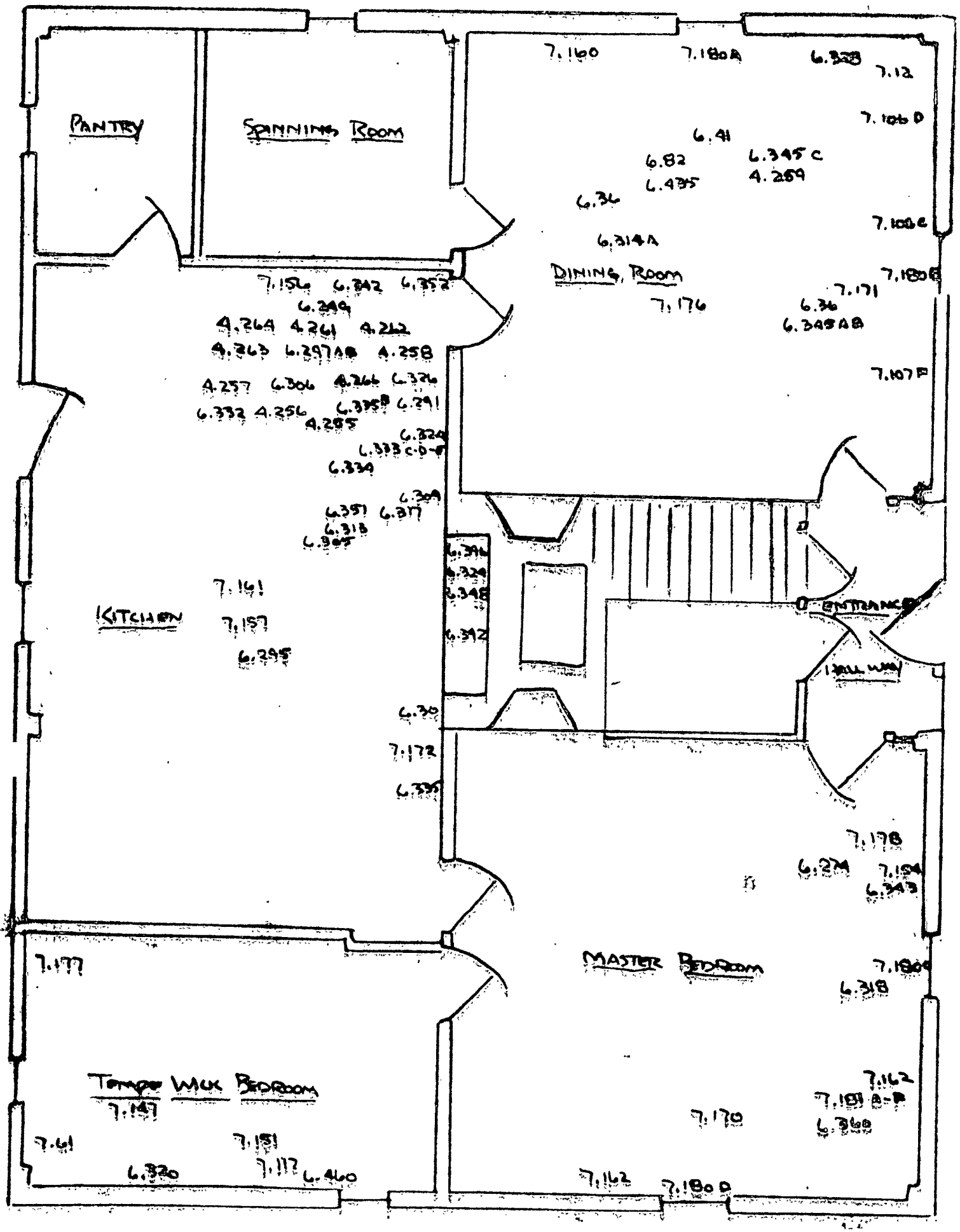
LIST OF HOUSEHOLD GOODS FROM THE INVENTORY OF THE

PERSONAL ESTATE OF MARY WICK, PROBATED JULY 20, 1797

	£	s	d
2 hatchets	0	12	0
1 pair of hand bellows and 1 grid iron	0	4	0
2 pair of steelyards	0	6	0
1 toast iron and spit	0	3	0
2 pair of old tongs and shovels	0	12	0
1 pair of andirons	0	13	0
2 trammels	0	2	0
1 frying pan	0	2	0
1 lanthorn and 1 lamp	0	3	0
2 knives	0	4	0
1 square and 2 augers	0	3	0
1 churn	0	2	0
1 barrel of pork	4	0	0
a part of a barrel of mathaglin	1	15	0
1 small cask of vinegar	0	5	0
2 casks of soap	0	15	0
2 iron kettles	1	0	0
3 iron pots	0	15	0
1 iron and copper teakettle	0	6	0
3 pewter basons	0	14	0
6 pewter plates	0	3	0
3 old pewter platters	0	3	0
4 earthern platters	0	2	0
24 earthern plates	0	8	0
4 small bowls a/0 & 2 ten pots a/0	0	3	6
2 brass and 1 iron candlesticks	0	5	0
1 coffee pot 1 tea canister and 1 grater	0	3	0
1 case of 11 bottles 5/ 1 looking glass 7/6	0	12	6
1 old silver watch 60/ 1 musket 7/7	3	7	6
2 smoothing irons 3/9 books 20/	1	3	0
16 common chairs 30/ 1 warming pan 10/	2	0	0
1 breakfast table 15/ 2 old tables	1	5	0
1 stand 3/ 1 old desk 7/	0	10	0

(Mary Wick Inventory Continued)

	£	s	d
1 chest 6/ 1 old case of drawers 7/	0	13	0
1 old case without bottles /9 2 chests 9/	0	8	0
1 feather bed and bedding	5	0	0
1 other feather bed and bedding	5	0	0
1 bed and bedding	4	0	0
2 bedsteads	0	12	0
5 blankets and 1 rug	2	0	0
womens wearing apparel	5	0	0
1 hunting saddle and 1 bridle	3	14	0
a quantity of linning	4	10	0
45 old casks 30/ 1 lye tub 10/	2	0	0
1 meal chest 2/ 1 loom 15/	0	17	0
1 quill wheel and swift	0	5	0
1 small spinning wheel 12/ 1 large wheel 4/	0	16	0
1 old tape loom	0	1	0
13 fleeces of wool	2	0	0


PANTRY
SPINNING ROOM
DINING ROOM
KITCHEN
ENTRANCE
HALL WAY
MASTER BEDROOM
TEMPORARY BEDROOM
7.160
7.180A
6.328
7.12
7.106D
6.41
6.82
6.345C
4.269
6.4355
6.36
7.106C
6.314A
7.180B
7.171
7.176
6.36
6.348AB
7.107B
7.152
6.342
6.352
6.349
4.264
4.261
4.262
4.363
6.397AB
4.258
4.257
6.306
4.266
6.326
6.332
4.256
6.395B
6.291
4.285
6.324
6.333C-D-E
6.334
6.309
6.351
6.317
6.318
6.305
6.316
6.329
6.348
6.312
7.161
7.157
6.395
6.30
7.172
6.335
7.178
6.274
7.154
6.343
7.177
7.180C
6.318
7.162
7.151A-B
7.170
6.360
7.147
7.61
7.151
7.117
6.460
6.320
7.162
7.180D

THE KITCHEN

Like all farm kitchens, this room was the center of family activity, especially during the winter when its large fireplace made it the warmest room in the house. The high-backed wooden settle was then drawn up before the fire, protecting its occupants against drafts from the doors and windows.

The fireplace is fitted with a swinging crane from which hangs griddles, a cooking pot, and a circular bird spit. Within easy reach are waffle and wafer irons, ladles, a wooden spoon rack, and a revolving trivet holding a saucepan. Other domestic duties are illustrated by a clothes drying rack, a copper tub for making apple butter, a three-legged "spider" for cooking over hot coals on the hearth, a wooden sap bucket, and a tin candle mold. In the center of the room is a hutch table and a burr bowl, and along the walls are cupboards containing eating and drinking utensils. Herbs from the kitchen garden hang from the ceiling beams to dry. This room is 22' L x 13' 10" W x 8' 8" h. Just off this room is a small pantry or storeroom.

KITCHEN - WICK HOUSE

Catalog No.	Description
4.255	Crock, Earthenware
4.256	Bowl, Earthenware
4.257	Mug. Earthenware
4.258	Mug, Earthenware
4.261	Plate, Earthenware
4.262	Plate, Earthenware
4.263	Plate, Earthenware
4.264	Plate, Earthenware
4.266	Plate, Earthenware
6.282	Waffle Iron
6.283	Wafer Iron
6.291	Spoon Rack, Wooden
6.292	Fireplace Griddle
6.294	Knife Box, Wooden
6.295	Bowl, Burled
6.296 A-B	Kettle, Copper and Iron Stand
6.297 A-B	Mortar and Pestle, Wooden
6.300 A-B	Andirons
6.301	Fire Tongs, Iron
6.302	Candle Mould, Tin on Iron Frame
6.305	Revolving Iron Trivet
6.306	Plate, Pewter
6.309	Dipper, Brass
6.313	Kettle with Handle
6.317	Dipper
6.321	Metal Candle Holder and Reflector
6.324	Grill, Iron
6.325	Iron Toaster
6.326	Kettle, Copper
6.327	Receptable, Wooden
6.332	Noggin, Wooden
6.333 C-D-E	Tablespoon
6.334	Tablespoon
6.335 C-D	Knives
6.336	Bucket, Wooden
6.342	Pail or Shovel, Wooden
6.347	Cheese Basket
6.348	Bird Spit
6.349 A	Splint Basket
6.351	Skillet
6.352	Bread Board
6.392	Griddle, Iron
6.394 A-B	Pot Hooks
6.396	Fireplace Crane, Iron
7.156	Open Cupboard
7.157	Table, Hutch
7.158	Settle, Pine
7.161	Chair, Arm Early American
7.164	Cupboard, Pine
7.173	Bench or Settle, Pine

THE PANTRY OR STOREROOM

No photograph of this room is included. This room is 7' 6" L x 3' 4" W x 8' 8" h, and contains the following items:

Catalog No.	Description
6.275	Iron toaster
6.276	Frog spear - 5 prongs
6.277	Flat iron
6.278	Flat iron
6.279	Waffle iron
6.280	Large wooden grain scoop or shovel
6.284	Wooden spoon
6.285	Wooden sugar scoop
6.286	Wooden butter pat
6.287	Wooden potato masher
6.288	Meat and vegetable chopper
6.289	Hand-forged meat cleaver
6.293	Fireplace trammel
6.303	Betty lamp of iron
6.310	Iron candle holder
6.316	Copper measuring cup
6.319	Iron shovel or peel
6.329 B	Wooden butter churn
6.331	Broom
6.337 A-B	Wooden scoop
6.339 A-B	Wooden bowl
6.341 A-B	Wooden salt bowls
6.344	Metal tinder box
6.346	Wooden funnel
6.349 B	Splint basket -
6.350	Wooden stick for stirring clothes
6.355	Wooden candle board - 8 pegs
6.356	Wooden egg box
6.358	Wooden bowl
6.438 A-B-C	Brass hand scales
7.166	Pine cupboard
7.168	Pine cupboard
8.80	Small wooden yoke
8.81	Screw auger
8.82	Screw auger
8.83	Screw auger
8.84	Screw auger
8.86	Screw auger
8.93	Hand-forged broad axe
8.94	Carpenter's brace
8.99	Carpenter's chest of pine
8.100 A-B-C	Woodworking bits
8.101 A-C-D-E-F	Chisel or gouge
8.102 A	Wooden handle for tool
8.102 B	Cobbler's gouge
8.102 C	Two-pronged cobbler's tool
8.104	Carpenter's plane
8.105	Beading plane of wood
8.106	Beading plane of wood
8.107	Grooving plane of wood
8.108	Carpenter's tonguing plane of wood
8.109	Carpenter's plane
8.110	Carpenter's jack plane of wood

PANTRY - WICK HOUSE (Cont.)

Catalog No.	Description
8.111	Carpenter's tonguing plane of wood
8.112	Carpenter's smoothing plane
8.113	Carpenter's smoothing plane of maple
8.114	Carpenter's brace of wood
8.115	Carpenter's square of wood
8.116	Carpenter's square of wood
8.118	Wooden compass or dividers
8.119	Adjustable wood marking gauge
8.120	Carpenter's gouge
8.121	Screw auger
8.210	Hammer, small

THE DINING ROOM

This probably served as the formal dining or sitting room of the house. The small fireplace with its paneled over-mantel was typical of New England farmhouses built around a central chimney.

The desk is a Wick family piece believed to have been in the house during the Revolution. Other furnishings in the room include a Queen Ann dining table, three "fiddle-back" chairs, and early scroll-back armchair, and a corner cupboard containing dishes of wood, pottery, and pewter. On the small table under the window are two iron candle-sticks. Also in the room is a wrought-iron tripod candlestand, an adjustable wooden candle-holder and a wooden foot warmer with a metal box inside for hot coals. This room is 15' 8" L x 15' 3" W x 8' 8" h. Adjoining this room is a small spinning room where wool and flax from the Wick farm were processed into homespun for the family.

DINING ROOM - WICK HOUSE

Catalog No.	Description
4.259	Jug, Earthenware
4.260	Plate, Earthenware Brown
6.36	Charger
6.41	Bowl or Basin, Pewter
6.51	Plate
6.55	Plate, Pewter
6.80	Plate
6.82	Plate, Pewter
6.89	Plate
6.299	Foot Warmer, Wooden
6.306	Plate, Pewter
6.307	Porringer, Two-handled, Pewter
6.308	Teapot, Pewter
6.314 A	Beaker, Pewter
6.323	Plate, Pewter
6.328	Candlestand, Tripod Iron
6.333 A	Tablespoon
6.335 B	Knife
6.338 B-C-D-E	Plates, Wooden
6.340 A-B-C	Bowls, Wooden
6.345 A-B-C	Candlesticks
6.359	Fireplace Shovel and Tong Holder
6.435	Plate, Wooden
6.436	Plate, Wooden
7.12	Desk
7.106 C	Chair, Fiddle Back, Dutch Style
7.106 D	Chair, Fiddle Back, Dutch Style
7.107 F	Chair, Fiddle Back, Dutch Style
7.149	Extension Rack
7.155	Bench, Red
7.159	Corner Cupboard
7.160	Chair, Fiddle Back
7.171	Table, Turned-leg, Small
7.178	Table, Queen Anne Style
7.180 A-B	Window Drape Rods

THE SPINNING ROOM

No photograph of this room is included. This room is 8' 6" l x 7' 9" w x 8' 8" h, and contains the following items:

SPINNING ROOM - WICK HOUSE

Catalog No.	Description
6.349 C	Splint Basket
6.353	Stocking Form
6.357	Boot Form
7.152	What-Not Corner
7.167	Table-Tilt-Top
8.78	Clock Reel or Wool Winder
8.79	Flax Wheel
8.158	Wool Wheel
8.201	Loom Shuttle
8.203	Loom Shuttle

THE FRONT HALL

No photograph of this room is included. This room is 8' L x 5' W x 8' 8" h, and contains the following items:

FRONT HALL - WICK HOUSE

Catalog No.	Description
6.304	Bucket, Leather
8.9 A-B	Door Knocker, Iron

THE MASTER BEDROOM

This room, identical in size and shape with the dining room, was probably used as a bedroom by Henry and Mary Wick. The small front entryway connecting the two rooms is typical of these houses, as is the leather fire bucket hanging from the ceiling there. Also opening off the entry is a good-sized storage closet and a door leading to the steep attic stairway and additional sleeping quarters for the family and guests.

The bedroom contains furnishings characteristic of the time and place. NO CURTAINS The window draperies and the hangings on the maple bed are made of handwoven linen. The 18th-century country furniture includes a pine dressing table, a handsome chest of drawers, a simple but comfortable pine board armchair, and a large painted wardrobe of Dutch or German origin known as a "Kas".

Lighting was provided principally by the double betty lamp hanging on the wall and the wrought-iron candleholder on the stand near the bed. This room is 15' 10" L x 15' W x 8' 6" h.

MASTER BED-ROOM - WICK HOUSE

Catalog No.	Description
6.274	Betty Lamp
6.318	Bed Warming Pan
6.343	Rush Light Holder
6.354	Rush Light Holder
6.360	Mattress
6.361 A-B	Cushions
7.138	Mirror, Fretwork Chippendale Style, Small
7.150	Table, Dressing
7.154	Candlestand
7.162	Four-Poster Bedstead
7.169	Kas or Wardrobe
7.170	Chest, Wooden
7.175	Chair, Pine
7.178	Chest, Pine and Maple
7.179 A-B-C-D	Window Drapes
7.180 C-D	Hand-Made Window Drapes Rods
7.181 A-B-C-D-E-F	Bed Canopy
7.209	Chair, Back Bannister

TEMPE WICK'S ROOM

This room contains a small Queen Ann looking glass above a "chest-on-frame", old wood-spring wagon seat used as a chair, cradle, candlestick holders and a child's writing desk. This room is 13' L x 8' 8" W x 8' 8" h.

TEMPE WICK'S BED-ROOM - WICK HOUSE

Catalog No.	Description
6.320	Betty Lamp, Iron
6.466	Candlestick, Iron
7.61	Chair, Wooden Wagon
7.117	Mirror, Queen Anne
7.147	Crib or Cradle, Child's
7.151	Chest on Frame
7.177	Desk, Child's Writing