

STATE:

COUNTY:

FOR NPS USE ONLY

ENTRY DATE

NOV 30 1973

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM
FOR FEDERAL PROPERTIES

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

1. NAME

COMMON:

Old Stone House

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:

3051 M Street, N.W.

CITY OR TOWN:

Washington

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: Congressman

Walter E. Fauntroy, D.C.

STATE:

CODE

COUNTY:

CODE

District of Columbia

11

District of Columbia

001

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY
(Check One)

OWNERSHIP

STATUS

ACCESSIBLE
TO THE PUBLIC

- ☐ District ☒ Building
☐ Site ☐ Structure
☐ Object

- ☒ Public
☐ Private
☐ Both

- Public Acquisition:
☐ In Process
☐ Being Considered

- ☒ Occupied
☐ Unoccupied
☐ Preservation work
in progress

- Yes:
☒ Restricted
☐ Unrestricted
☐ No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- ☐ Agricultural ☐ Government ☐ Park
☐ Commercial ☐ Industrial ☐ Private Residence
☐ Educational ☐ Military ☐ Religious
☐ Entertainment ☒ Museum ☐ Scientific

- ☐ Transportation
☐ Other (Specify)

Comments

SEP 7 1973

NATIONAL
REGISTER

4. AGENCY

Department of the Interior, National Park Service

REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS: (If applicable)

National Capital Parks

CITY OR TOWN:

Washington

STREET AND NUMBER:

1100 Ohio Drive, S.W.

STATE:

CODE

District of Columbia

11

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:

National Capital Parks

STREET AND NUMBER:

1100 Ohio Drive, S.W.

CITY OR TOWN:

Washington

STATE:

CODE

District of Columbia

11

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:

National Park Service survey in compliance with Executive Order #11593

DATE OF SURVEY: 1972 ☒ Federal ☐ State ☐ County ☐ Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

National Capital Parks

STREET AND NUMBER:

1100 Ohio Drive, S.W.

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11

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE:

COUNTY:

ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

(Check One)

☒ Excellent☐ Good☐ Fair☐ Deteriorated☐ Ruins☐ Unexposed

(Check One)

☐ Altered☒ Unaltered

(Check One)

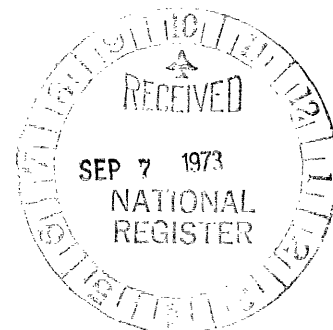
☐ Moved☒ Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Old Stone House faces south at 3501 M Street, N.W. The house is architecturally styled as Pennsylvanian and most of the exterior trim is original. It is T-shaped in plan, with a small wing in the rear projecting into the hill behind the house. This wing was added to the house in 1767, two years after the house was built. The panelling in the second floor dining room, also added by the second owner, is unique in that the only similar panelling found in America, now in the American wing of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, was found in a Long Island, (N.Y.) home built in 1739. The street level floor of the house, built by Christopher Layman as a shop and living quarters, has a well-proportioned room with a huge fireplace and original mantel. The kitchen on this floor which served the Layman family has a fireplace measuring 5 x 6-1/2'. On the outside front of the house is a stairway from the sidewalk that leads to a second story door, just above the ground floor entrance. The second floor has three rooms, one of which is the panelled dining room with an off-center fireplace. The third floor contains the living quarters: 3 bedrooms.

The exterior of the house is blue granite quarried locally. There are three windows facing the street beneath a pitched wood shingled roof with a chimney at either end of the house and two dormers in front.

There is a garden area behind the house which provides a quiet setting for the house and suggests the kitchen gardens typical of town dwellers during the period. In 1960, the National Park Service opened the house to visitors after restoring it to 18th Century appearance and furnishings.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| ☐ Pre-Columbian | ☐ 16th Century | ☒ 18th Century | ☐ 20th Century |
| ☐ 15th Century | ☐ 17th Century | ☐ 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1765

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|--|
| ☐ Aboriginal | ☐ Education | ☐ Political | ☐ Urban Planning |
| ☐ Prehistoric | ☐ Engineering | ☐ Religion/Philosophy | ☐ Other (Specify) |
| ☐ Historic | ☐ Industry | ☐ Science | <u>social history-</u> |
| ☐ Agriculture | ☐ Invention | ☐ Sculpture | <u>example of 18th</u> |
| ☒ Architecture | ☐ Landscape | ☐ Social/Humanitarian | <u>century middle</u> |
| ☐ Art | ☐ Architecture | ☐ Theater | <u>class home.</u> |
| ☐ Commerce | ☐ Literature | ☐ Transportation | |
| ☐ Communications | ☐ Military | | |
| ☐ Conservation | ☐ Music | | |

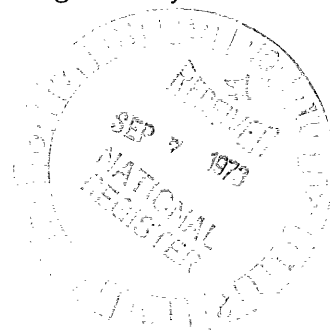
STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Old Stone House is believed to be the oldest pre-Revolutionary building in Washington, D.C. The house stands on what was called Bridge Street (now M Street, N.W.) in George Town, which was laid out in 1752. Bridge Street was a main thoroughfare for road traffic from the Western frontier and paralleled the canal, which after 1833 was heavily used for cargo traffic. The house was to be built on Lot 3, land first sold to John Clagett, one of George Town's Commissioners. In 1764, Christopher Layman, a cabinetmaker and his family purchased Lot 3 and built the Old Stone House for use both as a home and a shop. Layman died in 1765 and the house was sold to Cassandra Chew, who in 1767 added a wing to the rear of the house. Cassandra and her two daughters lived in the house until 1808 when it became the home of the eldest daughter Mary, and her husband Richard Smith. From 1826, according to the will of Mary, who had married twice, the house was divided among her several heirs and was continually used as a residence until 1953 when it was purchased for \$90,000 by the U.S. Government. Among the inhabitants of the Old Stone House were John Suter, Jr., Mary Smith's son-in-law, who used the ground floor of the building as a watchmaker's shop during Mary's residency there.

There have been various attempts over the years to prove that the Stone House was either George Washington's Engineering Headquarters and/or Suters Tavern, but neither of these ideas was ever substantiated, although, for a time, a plaque on the house designated it as Washington's headquarters.

The significance of the Old Stone House lies in its mixed residential-commercial use during the last quarter of the 18th Century as a reflection of the social, cultural and economic life of George Town, and as an example of pre-Revolutionary American architecture.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Heine, Cornelius, The Old Stone House, Washington, D.C. 1955.

Stanley, Joan H., Old Stone House, Washington, D.C. 1968.

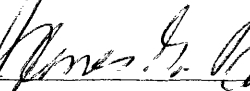
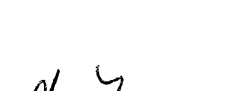
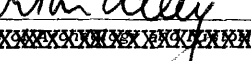
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES							
CORNER	LATITUDE		LONGITUDE		LATITUDE		LONGITUDE					
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds		Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds		
NW	°	'	"	°	'	"	38°	54'	20"	77°	03'	38"
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"						
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"						
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"						
APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:					.42							
LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES												
STATE:				CODE	COUNTY:				CODE			
STATE:				CODE	COUNTY:				CODE			
STATE:				CODE	COUNTY:				CODE			
STATE:				CODE	COUNTY:				CODE			

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Helen Dillon, Historian		DATE: Nov. 27, 1972	
BUSINESS ADDRESS: National Capital Parks, 1100 Ohio Drive, S.W.			
STREET AND NUMBER: 1100 Ohio Drive, S.W.		PHONE: 426-6957	
CITY OR TOWN: Washington		STATE District of Columbia	
		CODE 11	

12. CERTIFICATION OF NOMINATION

State Liaison Officer recommendation:		I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.	
☒ Yes			
☐ No			
☐ None			
State Liaison Officer Signature		Associate Director, Professional Services	
In compliance with Executive Order 11593, I hereby nominate this property to the National Register, certifying that the State Liaison Officer has been allowed 90 days in which to present the nomination to the State Review Board and to evaluate its significance. The recommended level of significance is ☐ National ☐ State ☐ Local		Date <u>11/30/73</u>	
Date <u>6/21/73</u>		ATTEST:	
Federal Representative Signature			
Dir, Nat Cop Parks		Acting Keeper of The National Register	
Title		Date <u>11-29-73</u>	



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

1. NAME		
COMMON	AND/OR HISTORIC	NUMERIC CODE (Assigned by NPS)
Old Stone House		NOV 30 1973
2. LOCATION		
STATE	COUNTY	TOWN
District of Columbia	District of Columbia	Washington
STREET AND NUMBER		
3051 M Street, N.W.		
3. PHOTO REFERENCE		
PHOTO CREDIT	DATE	NEGATIVE FILED AT
National Park Service	January 1960	National Capital Parks 1100 Ohio Drive, S.W.

4. IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.

South front and east side of the Old Stone House from the southeast

