

structure was erected about 1850, and used chiefly for shoeing horses, making tires for wagon wheels, dressing tools, sharpening axes and other such chores. The wheelwright shop repaired and fitted wheels and with the smithy, repaired wagons. This shop contains the original bench, many wooden templates and implements used by the wheelwright. The fully-equipped smithy has been restored and equipped through the efforts of Donald Streeter of Iona, New Jersey, antique iron reproduction expert.

10. *Ice house.* A stone building, wherein was stored the ice cut from Batsto Lake during winter months when it was frozen. Butter and dairy products were stored here.

11. *Horse barn.* This stone building, dated by an iron plaque marked "1830" is quite picturesque. The long vertical slots in the walls were for ventilating purposes to prevent the hay from moulding. The slots, contrary to legend, were not used for defensive purposes by militiamen defending Batsto during the American Revolution, indeed, the building was not even standing at the time. The British never were nearer to Batsto than Chestnut Neck, nearly 25 miles down river.

12. *The threshing barn.* A frame building built during the latter half of the 19th Century.

13. *Stable.* Here were stabled the riding and carriage horses.

14. *Water tower and piggery.* Great quantities of pork were consumed at Batsto during the town's heyday. Inside the piggery is a huge cauldron used for processing the animals, and

probably made at Batsto. The water tower is of uncertain date, although it is known there was a water tower in use prior to 1852.

15. *Carriage house.* Probably dates from the Richards' period of Batsto. Here were stored the wagons and carriages used for family transportation.

16. *Site of the Chicken house.* No special significance. Charles Read, founder of Batsto Furnace, was an authority on agriculture, his comments on farming and the raising of beef and poultry are still of value today.

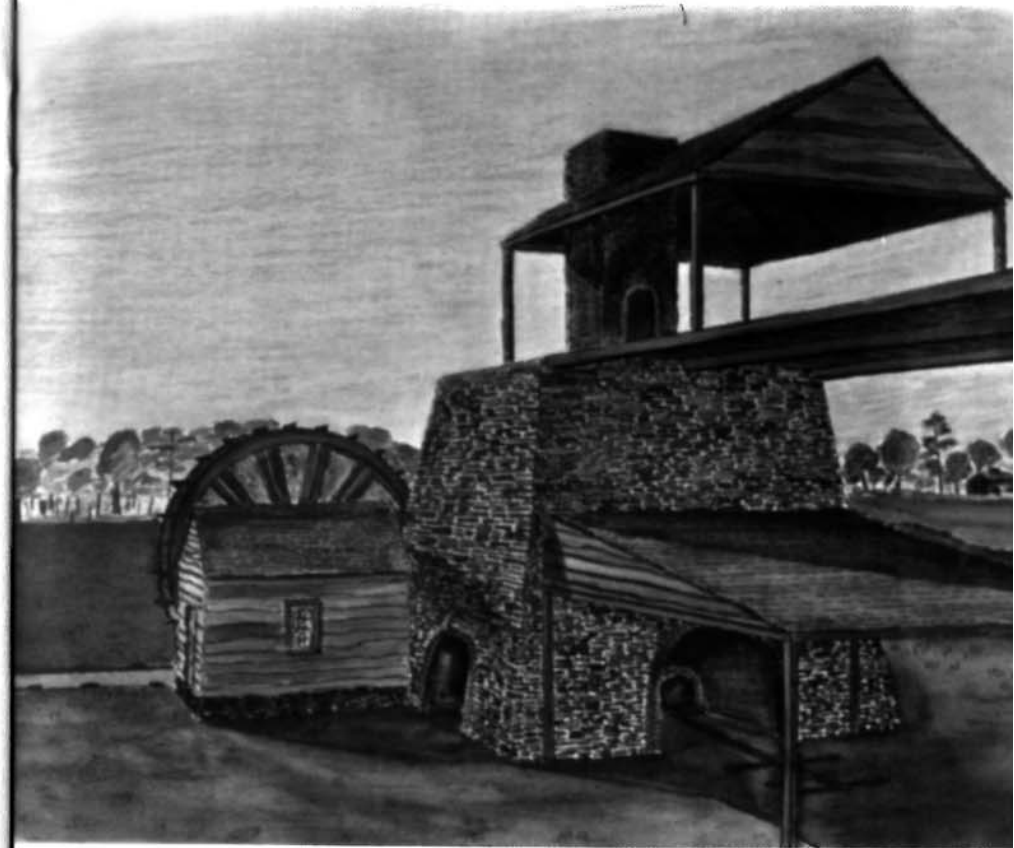
17. *Cattle barn.* Built by Joseph Wharton, who attempted stock breeding. Records reveal a total of 113 livestock in Batsto in 1884.

18. *Forage and sheep shed.* Used for storing feed for the cattle, and containing a pit silo, forerunner of the present day silo.

19. *VISITOR CENTER.* Start your tour of Batsto here. Contains an information desk, souvenir shop, rest rooms, public telephones as well as the administrative offices and a library and research center. Free car parking for your convenience is located here.

20. *Workmen's houses.* A characteristic, surviving settlement of 17 workers' homes, stark and simple to the point of crudity, but a correct expression of early industrial life in the Jersey Pines. Other than the 18th Century "Spy House", these were built in the early 19th Century. The small white cottage has been restored and furnished in the manner of a furnace worker's home and reflects his mode of living.

21. *Batsto - Pleasant Mills Church.* The present church, boasting a fine reconstructed



Batsto Furnace

(Artists conception by Bill Wood)



The General Store

high pulpit, was itself built in 1808, apparently on the site of churches built about 1712, and 1762 by Elijah Clark. Services are still held here on Sundays, and the congregation is very active. The Batsto-Pleasant Mills Church was an important stop for such circuit riding preachers of long ago as John and David Brainerd, and the Reverend Philip Vickers Fithian. Fithian noted in his journal of February 8, 1775 . . . "I preached in Mr. Clark's little log meeting house. Present about forty. I understand the people in this wild and thinly settled country are extremely nice and difficult to be suited in preaching."

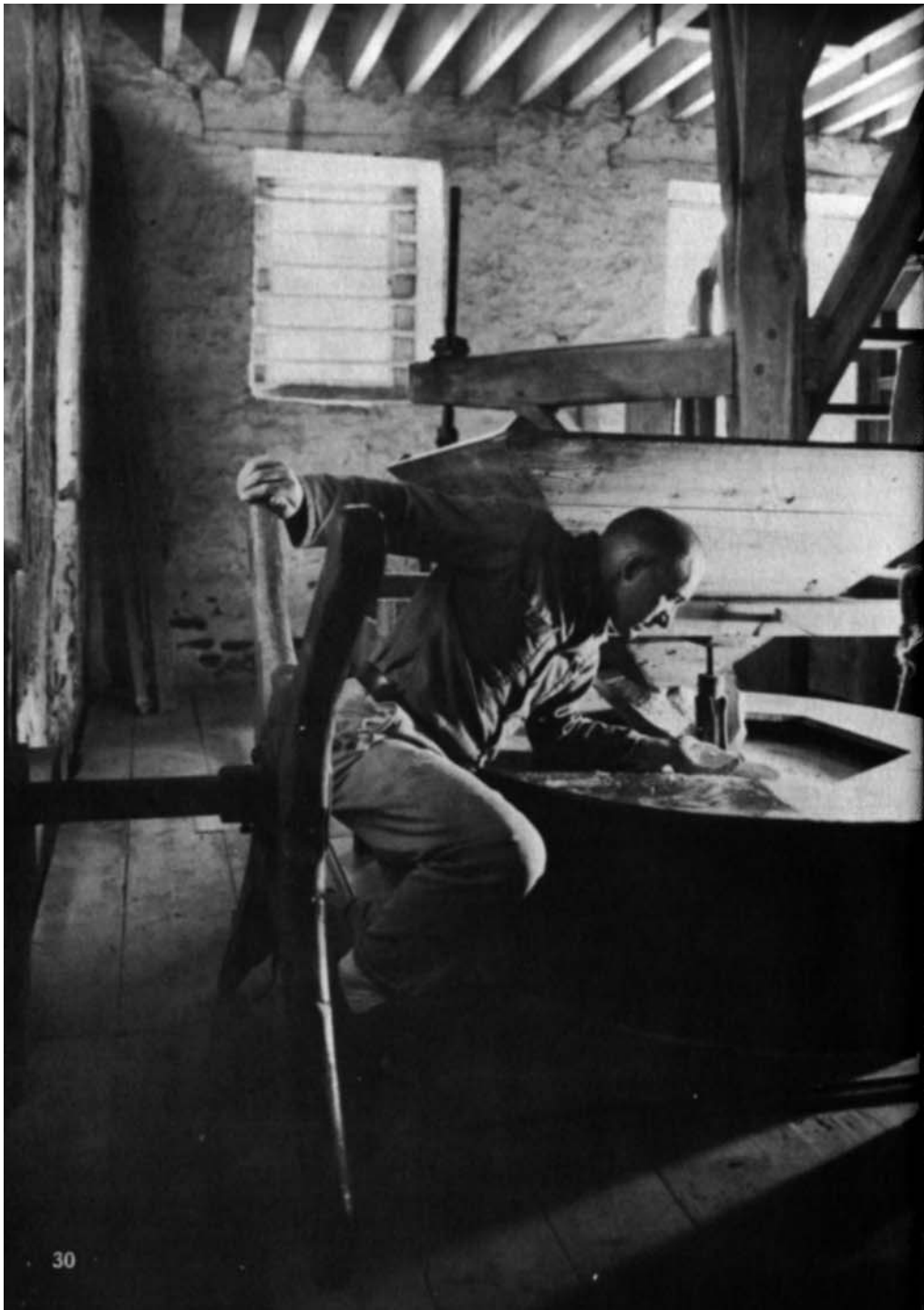
22. *Spy house.* Intelligence re-

ports concerning production at Batsto reached the British from time to time. Apparently, these originated from a Tory sympathizer living in this building. (See photo, page).

23. *Site of Batsto glasshouse.* Here stood the glassworks by which Batsto fought for survival as the iron industry crumbled. It operated from 1846 to 1867, making bottle and windowglass, although workers frequently may have made the curious "end of the day" pieces for which South Jersey glassblowers were noted. Two foundations were clearly visible during recent archaeological investigations. The glassworks will be restored in the near future.

Village Scene





The old grist mill at Batsto, built in 1828 by Thomas S. Richards.

The miller inspects the flow of grain from the hopper to the millwheels. The cross-shaped wheel to the left regulates the flow of water to the drive machinery.



Spy House



Horse Barn

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 WASHINGTON, D. C.
 THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT THE
 HISTORIC BUILDING
 KNOWN AS
Old Batsto Village
 IN THE COUNTY OF
Burlington
 AND THE STATE OF
New Jersey
 HAS BEEN SELECTED BY THE
 ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF THE
 HISTORIC AMERICAN
 BUILDINGS SURVEY
 AS POSSESSING EXCEPTIONAL
 HISTORIC OR ARCHITECTURAL
 INTEREST AND AS BEING WORTHY
 OF MOST CAREFUL PRESERVATION
 FOR THE BENEFIT OF FUTURE
 GENERATIONS AND THAT TO THIS
 END A RECORD OF ITS PRESENT
 APPEARANCE AND CONDITION
 HAS BEEN MADE AND DEPOSITED
 FOR PERMANENT REFERENCE IN THE
 LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

ATTEST
  
 Chief Architect Secretary of the Interior

BATSTO'S ARCHITECTURE

Batsto's old buildings are of such importance architecturally, that in the 1930's they were recorded by the United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service for the Historic American Buildings Survey collections in the Library of Congress, at Washington, D. C.

Elaborate documentation of the village, and especially the Ironmaster's Mansion, General Store, Richards Mill, and Richards Stable, was completed by a team of historic architects. The file includes architect's measured drawings, photographs, historical and architectural facts on each structure.

Certificates, such as the one reproduced above were awarded by the Secretary of the Interior, Harold L. Ickes, to the documented buildings. New photographs, taken by the author for the Historic American Buildings Survey during the past three years have been added to the survey collections, updating them. They are included in this booklet.

This has been the story of an empire in iron, a village called Batsto, and of the people who lived there. But the story of a century in American history, even centered upon a tiny single village nestled in the Jersey Pine Barrens, cannot be related in a book of this size. Much more is now known, and described elsewhere; far more remains to be discovered.

Let your visit to historic Batsto Village, your appreciation of this bit of America's heritage, whet your interest for further exploration, not only in a further visit to Batsto and the Wharton historylands, but in books, both old and new, which tell the story of New Jersey's rich history!

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

My especial thanks to Mr. Arthur D. Pierce, author of "Iron in the Pines" and other outstanding books dealing with this South Jersey Region for his interest and cooperation in checking the manuscript for authenticity and editorial comment; Mr. Raymond N. Baker, artist and historian for his map and sketch; and the countless other individuals who offered advice and research materials to help make this pamphlet possible.

J E B

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**Especially recommended for its wealth of material relating to Batsto.