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The Hottenstein Home

The Rainbow **Der Reggebooge** The Rainbow

A VISIT AT THE HOTTENSTEINS

Sooner or later every member of The Pennsylvania German Society gets to know the name *Hottenstein.* One member of the family sits on the Board of the Society; another is financial secretary, office manager, hostess at headquarters, and chief promotion agent! Together David and Mary DeTurk Hottenstein are two of the most charming Pennsylvania Dutchmen there are.

They live a few miles down the road from the society's headquarters in a village known to dialect speakers as Hutteschteeschteddel—Hottensteinville to the rest of you—on a tract of land Jacob Hottenstein purchased from the Penns over two centuries ago, in a house his son David erected in 1783. The contemporary David has restored the house to its original glory.

Since not everyone can visit in such a lovely home, the pictures with this article give you a sample of it. One room, the grand room of the second floor, has been removed to the Henry Francis DuPont Winterthur Museum, near Wilmington. With the room went the great wardrobe—*Shonk* in Pennsylvania Dutch, but frequently called a *Kas* (a Holland Dutch word) by antiques experts—which was the property of the original David and doubtless assembled in the room for the first time in 1781. This fact suggests that the date stone on the house was placed shortly after the building was completed.

The Hottenstein home is significant in Pennsylvania German architecture for several reasons: Its style is Georgian, an English style which rapidly supplanted continental building patterns among the Pennsylvania Germans. It is good Georgian building from the country—nothing shows that better than the finely dressed stone facade compared to the field stone in random masonry from the other three sides of the house. But it is also Georgian construction with a Germanic touch, from the Dutch door to the long strap hinges to the little mantles to the hearts, flat and puffy, on the date stones. Everyone who loves the finest of Pennsylvania German craftsmanship will join in an echo of appreciation to Dave and Mary for their painstaking restoration, not to mention their hours of faithful service to the members of Pennsylvania German Society.

The grand room from the second floor of the Hottenstein Home served as a ballroom at one point in the building's history. It was removed to Winterthur Museum in the 1950s. The great cupboard in it was made by a craftsman whose known inlaid pieces are all from the Kutztown neighborhood. "D V H S" are typical Germanic abbreviations for David Hottenstein.



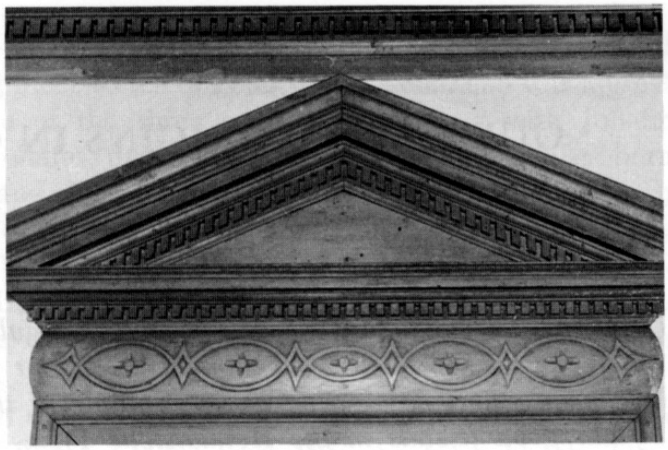




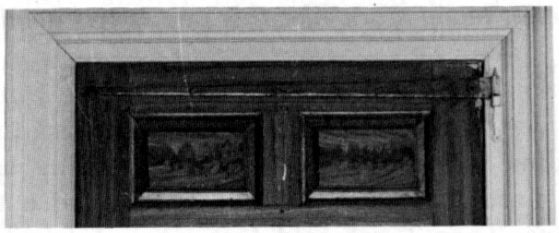
David and Catharine Hottenstein proudly left their names and their love as monuments in the side of their home.



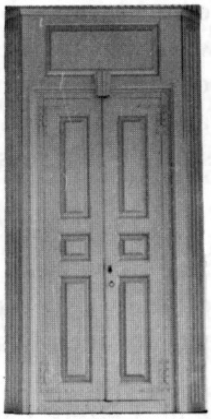
Detail of the rosette found in each corner of the roof overhang.



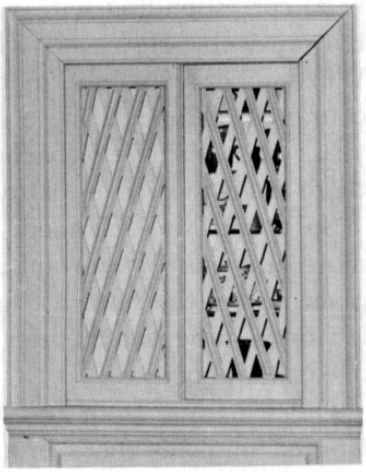
Georgian cornice over the entrance to the room and moulding around the trim.



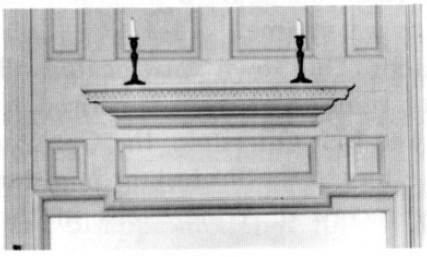
Long strap hinges betray a German blacksmith.



"HL" hinges on a built-in corner cupboard match its Georgian style.



Doors to a serving pantry through which food was passed to guests are latticed and so arranged that the maids could see through them to determine what might be needed next.



Germanic mantel over the fireplace.