

## Allee House

Bombay Hook National Wildlife Refuge/Delaware



This mid-18<sup>th</sup> century brick farmhouse and outbuildings are located on a tract of land that was originally purchased by John Allee, an upper middle class farmer of French Huguenot ancestry (Figure 9). His son, Abraham, built the house in 1753. Abraham was a prominent figure

**Figure 9. The mid-18<sup>th</sup> Century Allee House**

in the political life of Kent County, where the house is located. The house's brickwork pattern is laid in Flemish bond; its alternating short and long faces of brick serve as a prime example of early Delaware plantation architecture.

The House was restored in the 1960s. Those working on the project found much of the early wrought ironwork during restoration. They discovered the original colors of the house through paint analysis. Even the porcelain and furnishings placed throughout the house today are based on a 1775 inventory of the estate and the discovery of artifacts found in and around the house during excavation. Restoration was completed in 1966 and the house was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1971. It offers interesting opportunities for education and heritage tourism.