

**BERGEN COUNTY**  
**HISTORIC SITES SURVEY**

**BOROUGH OF ORADELL**

**BERGEN COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS**  
**BERGEN COUNTY OFFICE OF CULTURAL AND HISTORIC AFFAIRS**  
**BERGEN COUNTY HISTORIC SITES ADVISORY BOARD**  
**1980-1981**







# **Historic Sites Advisory Board County of Bergen**

355 Main Street  
Room 101  
Hackensack, NJ 07601

(201) 648-2882

August, 1983

Dear Reader:

You are about to take a tour of your architectural heritage. The survey that follows is a summary of Oradell's existing architecture. It is a two-dimensional tour, however, and as such can convey only a part of the historical character of the borough. The real three-dimensional heritage exists along the roads, streets and lanes, and in the wood, brick and stone of the buildings of your hometown.

As you read about the buildings of this survey, take the opportunity to go and see first-hand the skill of earlier builders. We have included a list of buildings which we feel merit particular note for their importance in local history or their architectural interest. We ask that you, the residents of Oradell, reflect upon the values and labor that created the borough in which you live. We then ask that you include the buildings that most represent that quality which is "home" to you in the Master Plan. In making new plans for future growth and development, we would like you to consider the conditions that created this borough, these buildings, this heritage. Then use this work as a guide to passing a part of your heritage to the future residents of Oradell.

If we can be of further assistance in discussing the means of conserving the architectural heritage of your community, please contact us.





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This historic sites survey was made possible by a grant-in-aid from the U.S. Department of the Interior, administered by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, Office of New Jersey Heritage, and matched by funds from the Bergen County Board of Chosen Freeholders.

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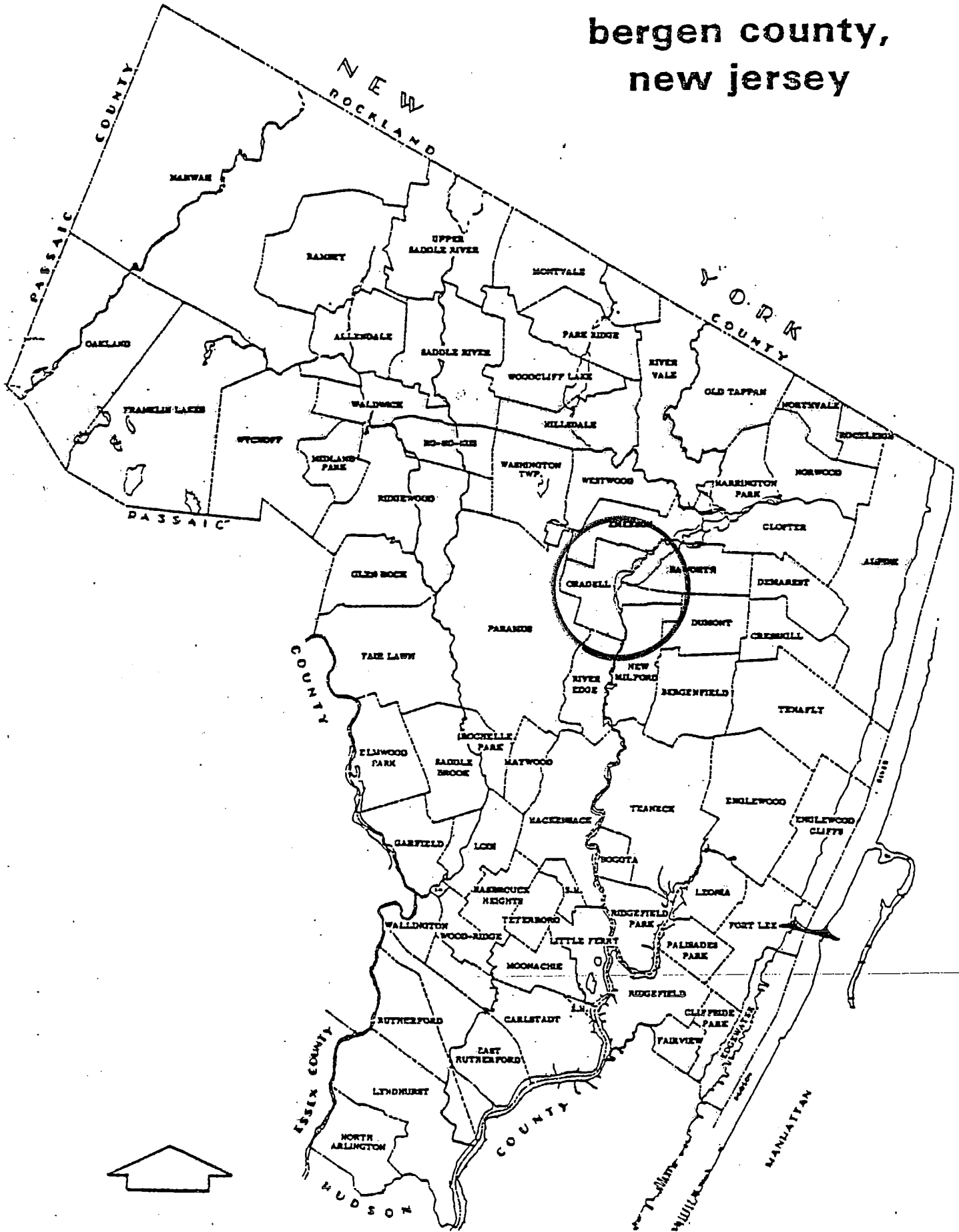
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# bergen county, new jersey



## INTRODUCTION

This report on the historic sites in the Borough of Oradell is part of the Bergen County Historic Sites Survey, an attempt to identify buildings, street-scapes, districts and sites of historical and architectural interest in the County. Properties are included which are readily recognized as being valuable for their historical associations or aesthetic design. Other properties are included which illustrate the architectural diversity of their communities and are remnants of the area's history of development. Many of these buildings are modest designs which are examples of vernacular architecture. They represent the conventional approach to architecture and construction in the locality. While the survey aims to be as comprehensive as possible, because of time limitations, not every building of interest has been included when there are numerous examples of a common building type or style. In such cases, the choice of a particular building for inclusion is often arbitrary as usually there are other examples equally worthy of record. However, often the chosen building retains its original appearance to a greater degree than other similar designs.

Many older buildings have been omitted from the survey due to extensive recent modifications which diminish the buildings' architectural significances and sometimes make their age unrecognizable. Such severely altered structures are included only when they are the only extant example of their type in the community or have special historical significance due to age or association with important persons or events.

There is no age requirement for properties included in this survey and it contains properties which are remnants of the area's history of development in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century as well as those associated with the earliest settlement periods. Occasionally recent buildings which have recognized architectural or historical significance are included. However, greater emphasis is placed on resources over fifty years of age. Additional information

on the "Criteria for Inclusion in the Bergen County Historic Sites Survey" is in the appendix.

Since time-limits restricted research, much additional research can be done to strengthen our understanding of Oradell's architectural history. One hopes that this report will both stimulate interest in Oradell's architecture and serve as a basis for further research, particularly on those properties identified as being of particular historical or architectural importance. Please send any additional documentation to be added to the survey to the Bergen County Office of Cultural Affairs, 355 Main Street, Hackensack, New Jersey 07601.

Properties included in this survey were chosen after review of previous historic sites inventories, the records of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, local histories, historic maps, and consultation with the local Municipal Historical Liaison to the Bergen County Office of Cultural Affairs. A visual inspection of the borough made by driving all roads in existence prior to 1876 and investigating all neighborhoods shown on early 20th century maps enabled the Historic Sites Survey staff to verify the locations, existence, and architectural integrity of previously identified properties and led to the identification of others of visual interest. Included with this report is a map showing all streets driven as part of the "windshield survey."

The "history" included in this report emphasizes the development of the area as represented by extant historic properties. It does not attempt to be a comprehensive history of the municipality, but rather provides a brief architectural history to be used in evaluating the significance of the properties included in the survey.

Properties judged by the survey staff to have greatest historical and architectural interest were recorded on New Jersey Office of Cultural and Environmental Services survey forms. Other properties of interest were recorded more briefly on inventory lists. The National Register of Historic Places Nomination Form is included for the Van Buskirk/Oakley House (0244-5) and the

Bergen County Stone House Survey Form for the Demarest House(0244-13.)

Historic Sites Survey volunteers assisted with the survey by doing research, photographing sites, and reviewing the draft report. Their work was coordinated by and supplemented by the survey staff.

The Bergen County Historic Sites Advisory Board advised on the conduct of the survey and provided invaluable assistance. The members of its Historic Sites Survey Committee evaluated the survey to determine which sites are of greatest interest. The results of this evaluation are included in this report. They also made corrections and suggestions which are incorporated into the final report.

Copies of this report with original photographs are on file in the Bergen County Office of Cultural and Historic Affairs and in the Office of New Jersey Heritage, New Jersey State Department of Environmental Protection, CN 402, Trenton, NJ 08675. The Oradell Mayor and Council and Planning Board are provided with copies to encourage and facilitate the use of this report in local planning. In order to make the survey available to the general public, copies of it will be deposited in the local public library and libraries in Bergen County with major local history collections.

The basic history information in this report is largely based on published local histories especially J. Irving Crump's Oradell, Biography of a Borough. This and other sources used in the preparation of this report are included in the bibliography.

Presented to the municipal officials along with this report is a copy of "Model Ordinances for Historic Preservation" issued by the New Jersey County and Municipal Government Study Commission. This publication contains model ordinances which if enacted would allow a local planning board to protect historic properties. Such an ordinance would provide a formal process for dealing with historic preservation issues in the community by locally designating as

landmarks those districts and properties judged to be of greatest importance in the municipality. It is hoped that the inventory contained in this report will aid in determining what should be preserved and that the "Model Ordinances" publication will supply the means to insure that irreplaceable historic properties continue to be a viable part of Oradell's future.



Sites in Oradell Considered by the Historic Sites Survey Committee of the Bergen County Historic Sites Advisory Board to be of Particular Historic or Architectural Interest.

<u>Survey Form #</u>	<u>Address; Name</u>
0244-D1	Van Buskirk Island in Hackensack River in Oradell and part of the Borough of New Milford (0238-D); Hackensack Water Company's New Milford Plant District. This district is probably eligible for SR and NR.
0244-D2	District including Oradell Railroad Station, park, building on southwest corner Oradell Ave. and Maple Ave.; and houses at 355-c.383 Maple Ave.; Oradell Railroad Station District. The Railroad Station building is included in the thematic nomination of Operating Railroad Stations in New Jersey which is being nominated to SR and NR.
0244-D3	515-353 and 516-532 Oradell Ave., 319-361 and 344-380 Grove St.; Oradell Avenue-Grove Street District. This district is probably eligible for SR and NR.
0244-1	447 New Milford Avenue; Collignon Chair Factory building (Cooper-Demarest Inc. building) <i>Demolished 1984</i>
0244-2	465 New Milford Ave., Jacob Van Buskirk House. The removal of the south wing probably makes this building ineligible for SR and NR.
0244-3	608-610 Brookside Avenue.; Thunise Cooper House. Further investigation is needed to determine if this house is eligible for SR and NR.
0244-4	467 Kinderkamack Road; Van Buskirk /Oakley House; NR 7/03/79, SR 3/29/79
0244-5	699 and 705 Kinderkamack Road; Atwood-Blauvelt Mansion and Carriage House. These buildings are probably eligible for SR and NR.
0244-6	700 Soldier Hill Road; John J. Van Wagoner House
0244-8	268 Grove St.; Demarest House; SR 10/03/80, NR 01-10-83, BCSHS # 119.
0244-9	437 Grove St.; W. King House

SR = New Jersey State Register of Historic Places

NR = National Register of Historic Places

BCSHS = Bergen County Stone House Survey, followed by Survey form number.

Survey Form #Address; Name

0244-10	355 Grant Ave.; Demarest-Cornwall-Blauvelt House. Further investigation is needed to determine if this house is eligible for SR and NR.
0244-13	355 Kinderkamack Rd.; Oradell Public School (Oradell Town Hall)
0244-14	In courtyard at 555 Kinderkamack Rd.; Gingko Tree
0244-15	455 Seminole St.; Charles Livingston Bull House
0244-17	Behind 272 Genther Avenue; Voorhis Cemetery.

## HISTORY OF ORADELL

### Geography

The Borough of Oradell in central Bergen County is a 2.578 square mile area with a residential suburban character. Oradell's land is located on both sides of the Hackensack River and includes several islands in the river. Located in the borough approximately where New Milford Avenue crosses the river, is the historic last point of navigation on the river. Since 1882 the character of the river has been greatly altered by the activities of the Hackensack Water Company whose New Milford Plant is located in Oradell on Van Buskirk Island(0249-D1). The Oradell Reservoir of this water company begins at the Oradell Dam(0249-21) located in the Hackensack River opposite Mill Lane in Oradell.

The Borough's terrain is varied. East of the Hackensack River is a low level plain which in the nineteenth century was designated, "The Flatts". West of the river the land rises gradually to 50 to 100 feet, then there is a plateau about six or seven hundred yards wide. Van Saun Mill Brook crosses the plateau. West of the plateau is a rise of perhaps another thirty feet and another plateau. This plateau is traversed by Herring Brook. The western ridge is known as Soldier Hill. Both ridges provide scenic views.

Oradell is an irregular tract of land bordered by six boroughs. The Boroughs of Paramus and River Edge are located at its southern edge. The Hackensack River forms a section of the eastern border with New Milford. Another part of the eastern boundary, that with Haworth, is located in the Oradell Reservoir. The arm of Oradell territory, known as the Flatts, which juts out at the east is bound by the boroughs of New Milford, Dumont and Haworth. The Borough of Emerson shares Oradell's northern boundary line which is irregular except at the western section where Soldier Hill Road functions as the boundary. Forest Avenue and Spring Valley Road are Oradell's western boundary with Paramus.

No super highways pass through Oradell. Kinderkamack Road, one of Bergen County's oldest land routes, is the major north-south throughfare. Ridgewood Avenue-New Milford Avenue, Oradell Avenue, and Soldier Hill Road function as primary east-west routes. The railroad tracks of the Passaic Valley Line of Conrail are located between the Hackensack River and Kinderkamack Road.

In general, streets laid out prior to World War II have grid patterns. However, the street pattern of the borough is far from regular as the curving river and Kinderkamack Road which echoes the river's course, as well as terrain and the shape of parcels being subdivided, influenced the street pattern. More recent streets, particularly at the east, north and northwest extremities of the borough have the curves and cul-de-sacs favored by modern developers.

#### Political Genealogy

Prior to 1894, the political genealogy of today's Borough of Oradell is very confusing. In 1894, the Borough of Delford was created from parts of four townships (Midland, Palisades, Washington and Harrington) (see bibliography for a brief outline of the pre 1894 political genealogy). Also confusing is that today the Borough of Oradell contains most of the old hamlet of New Milford as well as the mid-19th century hamlet of Oradell. The name "Delford" was created by combining the last syllables of Oradell and New Milford.

In 1920 the borough's name was changed to Oradell. Oradell means "edge of the dell" and was applied to the area near the junction of Oradell Avenue and Kinderkamack Road as early as 1876.

#### Early History to 1870

It is likely Oradell has sites of prehistoric archeological interest. In the past, prehistoric Indian artifacts have been discovered near Maple Avenue and near Grove Street.

In 1677 David des Marets (Demarest) received a deed from the Indians for a tract of land which included today's borough of Oradell. Subsequently the area was thinly settled by, among others, members of the Demarest, Cooper (Kupyer), Van Buskirk, and

Van Wagoner families. Most of the early settlers were farmers, but a few were also millers. A few saw and grist mills were built along the Hackensack River. (None of the mills exist today, although the appearances of both the Van Buskirk and Veldran mills are recorded in photographs. Both mills were demolished for facilities of the Hackensack Water Company.)

During the American Revolution from September 4th through 19th, 1780, Soldier Hill was the site of an encampment of the Continental Army. A Bergen County Historical Society Roadside Marker at the northwest corner of Kinderkamack Road and Soldier Hill Road commemorates this event. Military artifacts have been found in the area of this encampment and it is a site of historic archeological interest.

By 1837 the area around the end of navigation on the Hackensack River was known as New Milford or Upper Landing (from Van Buskirk Deed for mill site). The U. S. Coast Survey map of 1840 shows a small cluster of buildings at "New Milford". This map also label "The Flats" on the east side of the river. Van Buskirk, in addition to operating a lumber mill, had a fleet of boats which docked at his landing on the Hackensack River. The river was the community's main transportation route, and Kinderkamack Road was a major road leading northward. Van Buskirk's house (0244-2)

was a stop on the stage route which after 1859 connected with the Northern Railroad to the east at Lower Closter, (now Cresskill). "The map of the Counties of Bergen and Passaic" published by G. H. Corey in 1861 shows the area which is now the borough of Oradell, with about twenty-five houses at scattered locations with a greater density of structures in the hamlet labeled "New Milford". There is no hamlet of Oradell shown.

A number of buildings remain in Oradell which are associated with the early settlement period and the agricultural phase of development. These farm houses include the Jacob Van Buskirk House at 465 New Milford Avenue (0244-2), the Thunise Cooper House at 608-610 Brookside Avenue (0244-4), the Van Buskirk-Oakley House at 467 Kinderkamack Road (0244-4), the Demarest-Cornwall-Blauvelt House at 355 Grant Avenue (0244-10), the Isaac Demarest House at 516 Oradell Avenue (0244-D3; #19), and the Demarest House at 268 Grove Street (0244-8). These examples of early vernacu-

lar domestic architecture generally have 1½ stories, 3 or 5 bays, gambrel roofs and side wings. All except the house at 268 Grove Street are frame. It is misleading to cite their first known construction date since all have had additions and successive remodellings. What is notable is that except for the house at 516 Oradell Avenue all these frame houses retain pre 1870 proportions and have considerable architectural integrity. The Van Buskirk-Oakley(0244-9) has unusually fine vernacular Federal-Greek Revival style detailing. The Van Buskirk House has a charming main block with bracketed paneled cornice, bay windows, and veranda typical of mid 19th century architecture. Even the considerably altered Isaac Demarest House has a handsome Greek Revival style doorway with Ionic columns, sidelights, and transom.

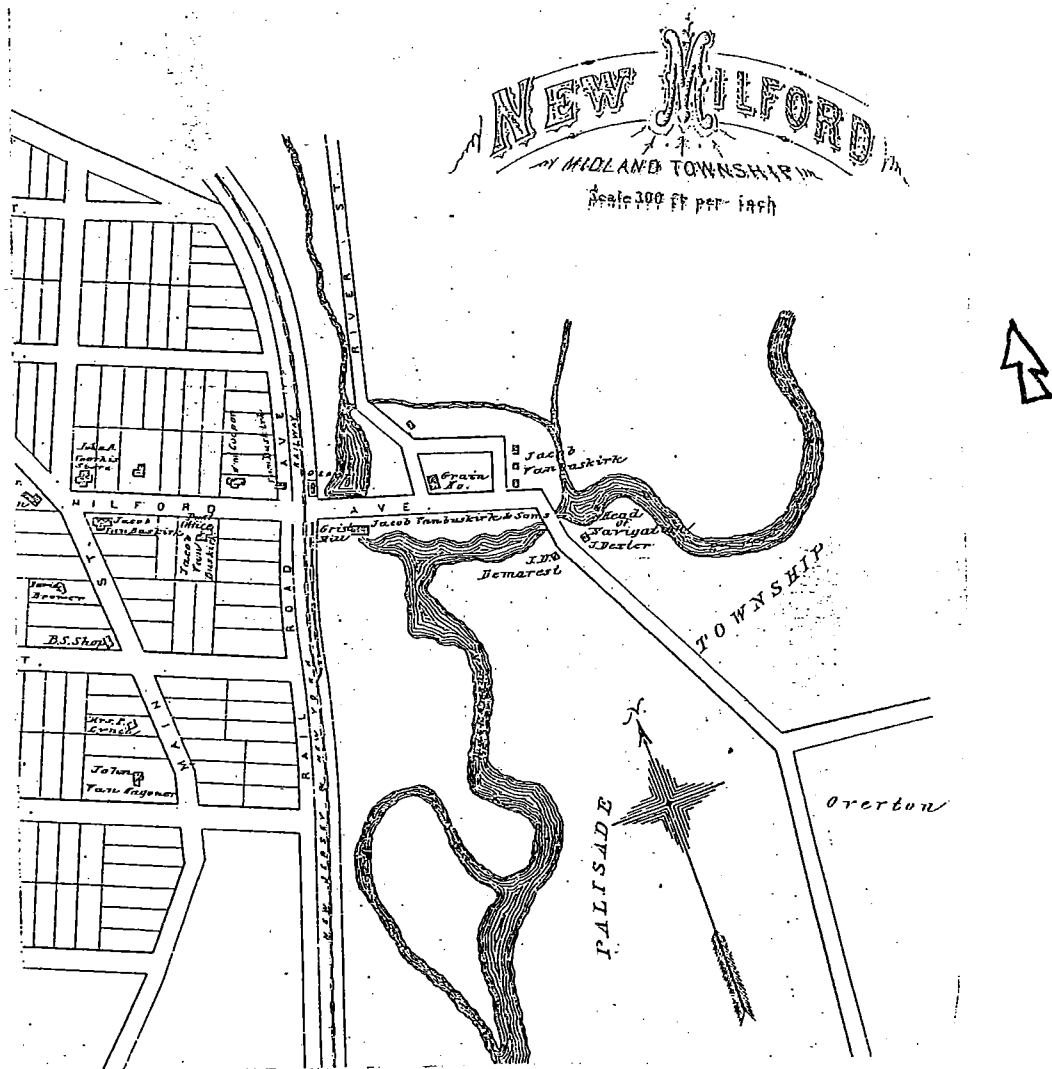
The gambrel roofed sandstone house now at 268 Grove Street(0244-8) was rebuilt at this location after being moved from Grant Avenue about 1912 by John G. Demarest, a descendant of the house's original owner. It is an example of the federal period house type which has 5 bay wide main unit which is 2 rooms deep and has a central hall and has a side wing.

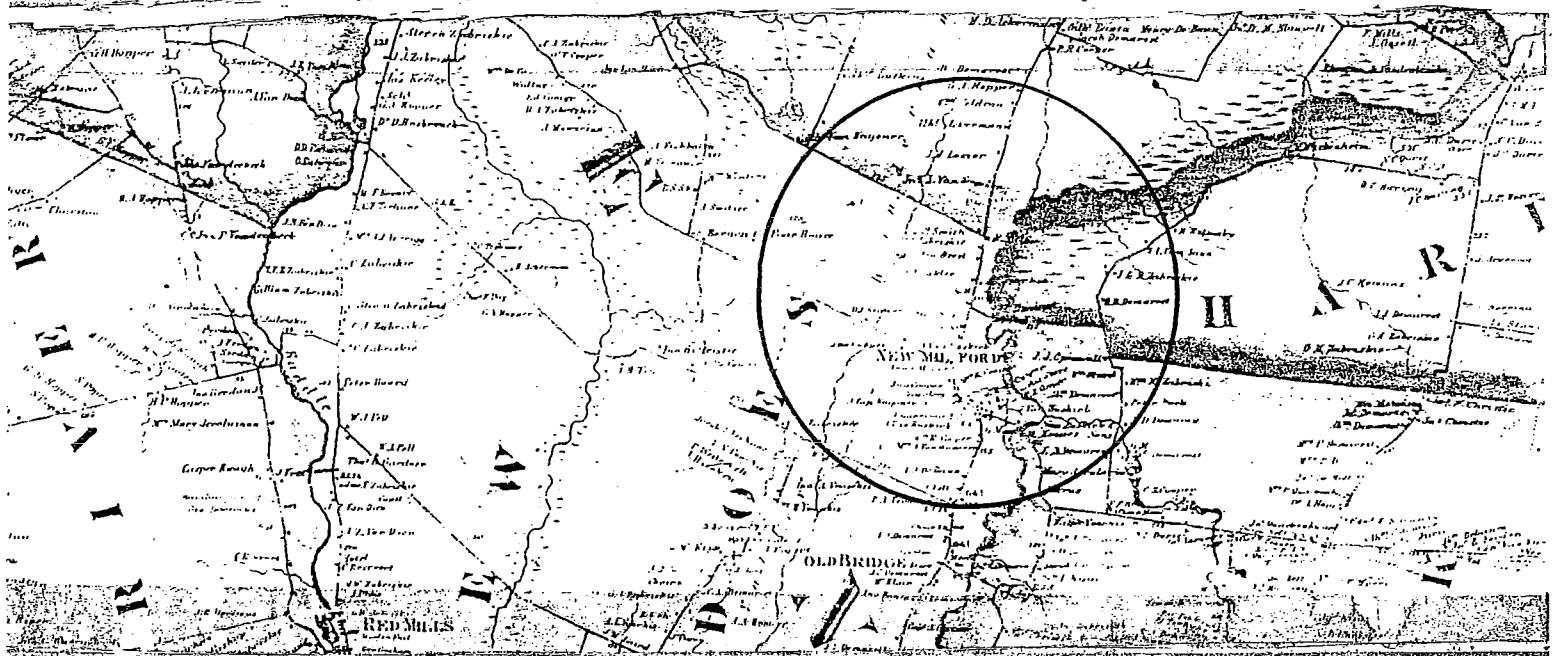
#### Period of Transition, 1870 to c.1940

In 1870 with the completion of the Hackensack and New Jersey Extension Railroad( later the New Jersey and New York Railroad, now the Passaic Valley Line of Conrail) Oradell could be developed as a commuter suburb of New York City. Today's borough of Oradell had two railroad stops; one at the existing hamlet of New Milford and another further north at "Oradell". Apparently the hamlet of Oradell developed because of the depot and its name was coined by Daniel Demarest, the son of Isaac Demarest who was instrumental in obtaining the railroad stop. The <sup>(1876)</sup> Bergen County Atlas/has detail maps of both New Milford and Oradell. They show Oradell with about twenty houses, a store and post office, a hotel, and a school house. New Milford also had a post office (0244-2), a store(0244-12), a blacksmith shop, the Van Buskirk mill, and a few houses.

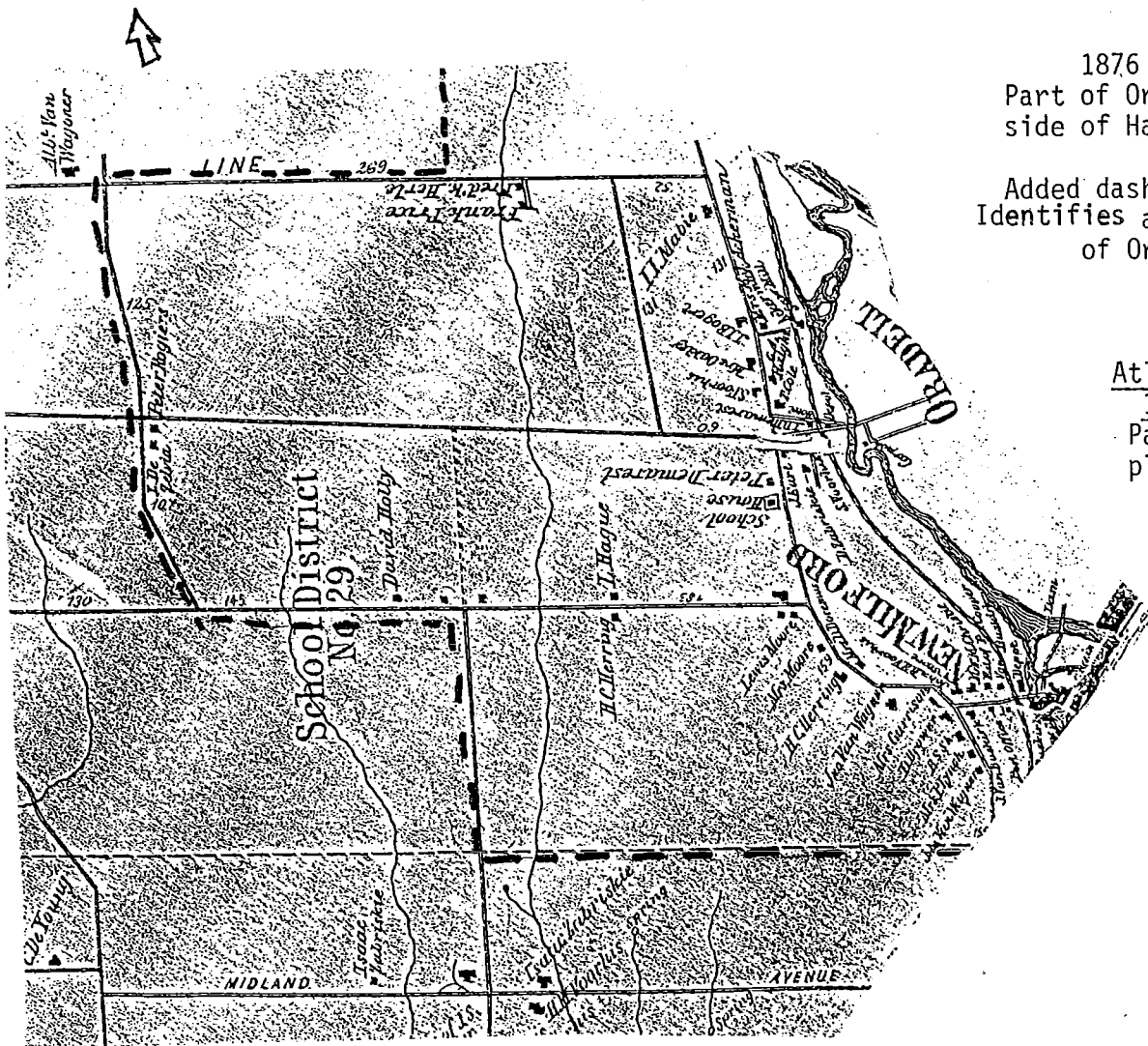
While the railroad near the railroad depots brought some residential development

The Hamlet of New Milford in 1876 from Walker, Atlas 1876, pl. 87.





1861, Circled area roughly identifies area of Borough of Oradell today  
From G. M. Hopkins, Surveyor, Map of the Counties of Bergen and Passaic,  
New Jersey, Philadelphia: G. H. Corey, 1861.



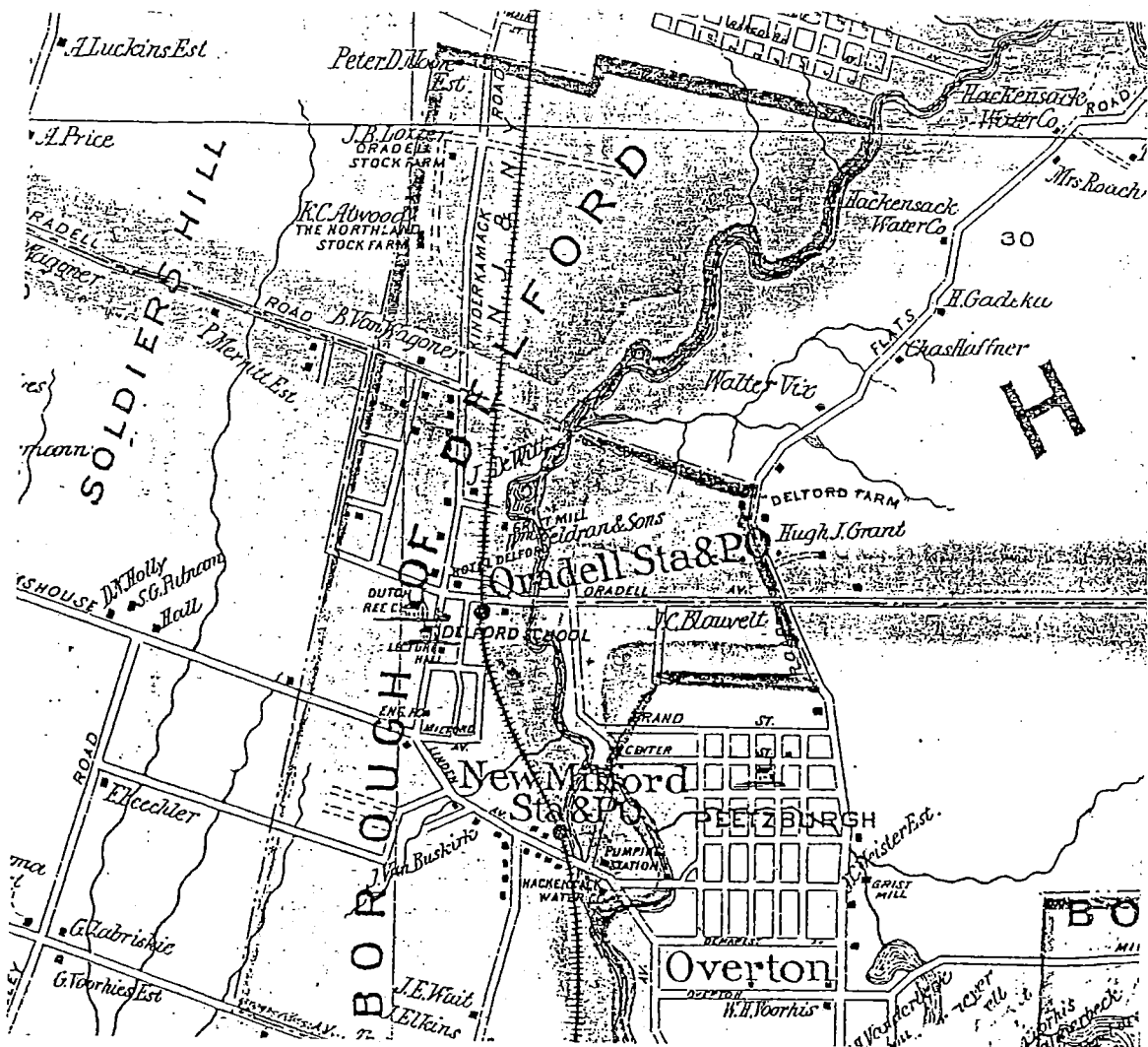
1876

Part of Oradell on west  
side of Hackensack River.

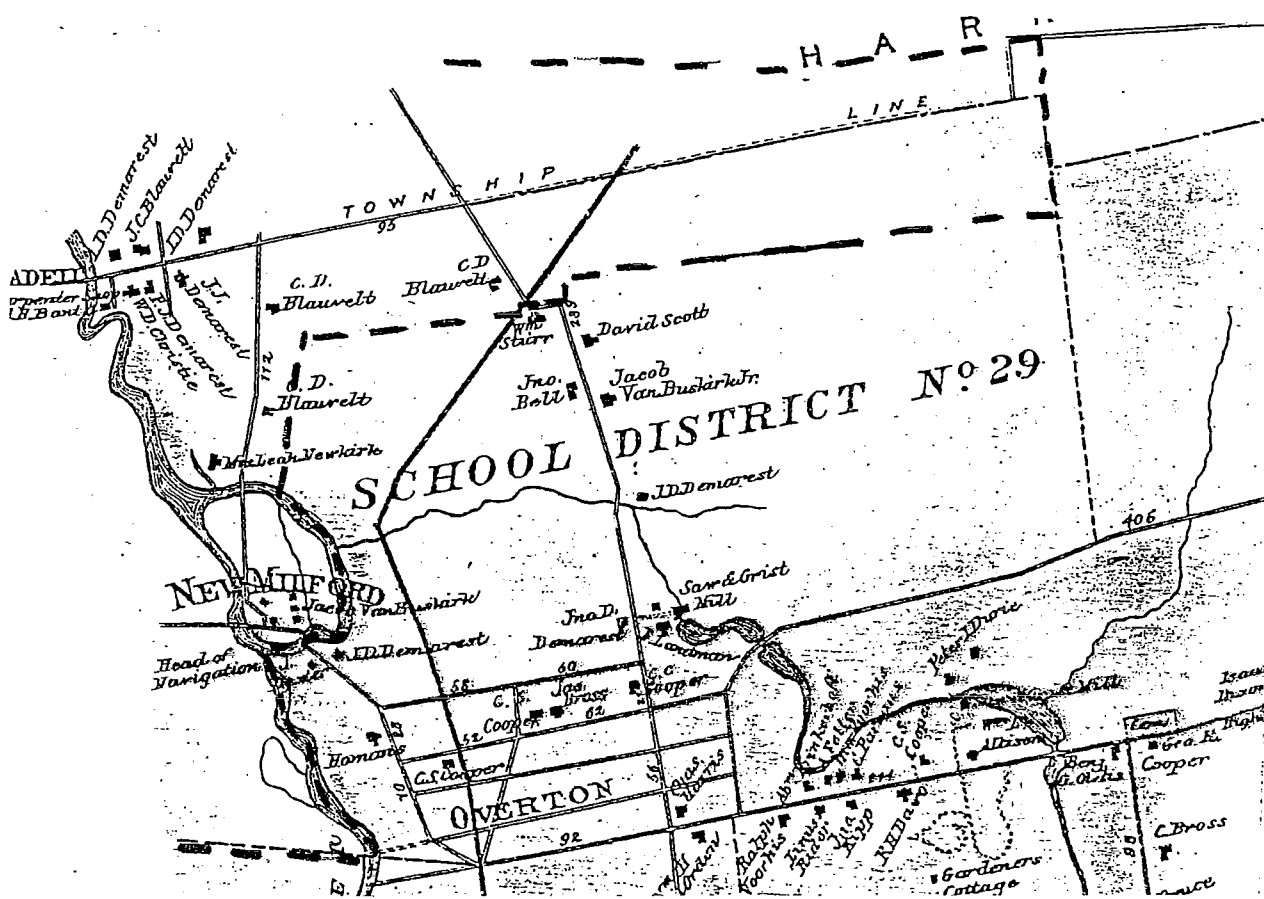
Added dashed line roughly  
identifies area of Borough  
of Oradell today.

From A. H. Walker  
compiler,  
Atlas of Bergen County  
1776-1876. Reading,  
Pa.: C.C. Pease, 1876,  
plate 40-41.





1902  
Borough of  
Delford (today's  
Oradell). From D.  
Robinson, compiler  
Map of Bergen  
County, New York:  
E. Robinson and Co  
1902



1876  
Part of Oradell  
east side of Hack-  
ensack River.  
Dashed line  
roughly identifies  
area of Borough  
of Oradell today  
From Walker,  
Atlas, pl. 80-81.



most of Oradell's land continued to be farmed. Residential growth in the 1870's was slowed by the Panic of 1873 and the financial difficulties of the railroad. In 1880 the railroad was reorganized when it was taken over by the Erie. However, growth in the borough did not begin to accelerate until the late 1880's. In 1887 the Oradell Land Improvement Company was formed and actively promoted development in the center of the borough. The formation of the Bergen County Building and Loan Association in 1888 to provide loans to home owners was another stimulus.

Oradell retains some <sup>high quality</sup> late 19th century suburban architecture. Particularly notable is the King House at 437 Grove Street(0244-9), a picturesque example of a High Victorian Gothic Revival style frame house. Its design is enlivened by steeply pitched gables with decorative fascia and king posts in gables and a veranda with decorative brackets with quatrefoil cutouts. The existing Oradell Railroad station building, probably built about 1890(0244-D3, #1), is an outstanding example of a <sup>suburban</sup> train depot in the Queen Anne Style. Its Queen Anne Style features include a picturesque outline, mixed wall sheathing materials(here clapboard and decorative shingles), ornate verandas with turned posts, and colored glass in windows and doors. Maple Avenue(0244-D1) has a number of Queen Anne style houses which compliment the adjacent depot. A larger grouping of interesting late 19th century frame houses are found in the area included in the survey as the Oradell Ave.-Grove St. District (0244-D3). Many of these houses have elaborate verandas with turned posts, turned balusters, and spindle friezes. The porch of 360 Grove Street is of special interest due to its octagonal corner projection (0244-D3, #12).

In the late 19th century and early 20th century in addition to typical farms, (0244-6) Oradell was the home of several large county estates or stock farms with elaborate main houses. The large houses of J.B. Lozier and Hugh J. Grant, a New York City mayor, are gone. The Atwood-Blauvelt Mansion and Carraige house (0244-5) with their ~~visually~~ prominent location on the ridge overlooking Kinderkamack Road remain showplaces of Oradell and Bergen County. Both buildings are large Shingle Style structures and their wood shingle wall covering is their dominant feature.

Both have multigabled expansive roofs and horizontal massing. The main houses irregular, picturesque massing, with wings, towers with conical roofs, and turret with polygonal roof, is unified by its massive high sandstone foundation where curving corners echo the towers.

In the late 19th century and early 20th century one of Bergen County's most important districts of engineering importance evolved on Van Buskirk Island in the Hackensack River(0244-01). The Hackensack Water Co. opened their New Milford Plant here in 1882. This plant allowed the company to supply water to Hoboken and its continuing expansion enabled Bergen County to have the water needed for suburban development. Today the plant retains to a high degree its pre-World War I appearance and is a noteworthy collection of Industrial Romanesque Revival buildings of the 1882-1914 period complimented by two early bridges and a small cluster of employee houses(located in the Borough of New Milford). The plant contains important machinery. Preeminent is Pump #7, a huge triple expansion Allis Chalmers steam engine installed in 1911 and said to be the largest stationary steam engine in New Jersey. The filtration plant of 1906 is an early employment of the rapid sand filter system which became the typical water filtration system throughout the country. The plant is also important as the location of George Spalding's successful experiments with using activated carbon in water treatment.

In 1900 the borough had only 746 residents and Robinson's "Map of Bergen" of 1902 shows few streets. At the turn of the century Asahel Chapin's Oradell Heights Land Company had divided land on the first ridge around today's Prospect and Seminole Streets into lots and was building houses. Subdivision maps for Oradell were filed in 1891 and in 1906. The company is said to have erected more than one hundred houses which are scattered through Oradell Heights among later infill houses. About 1926 Charles L. Reis began a housing development known as the Manor(0244-11), Reis(1901-1962) was a forerunner in the use of mass-production techniques in home building and the Manor was his earliest housing development in Bergen County. He eventually built about 15,000 houses. The houses in the

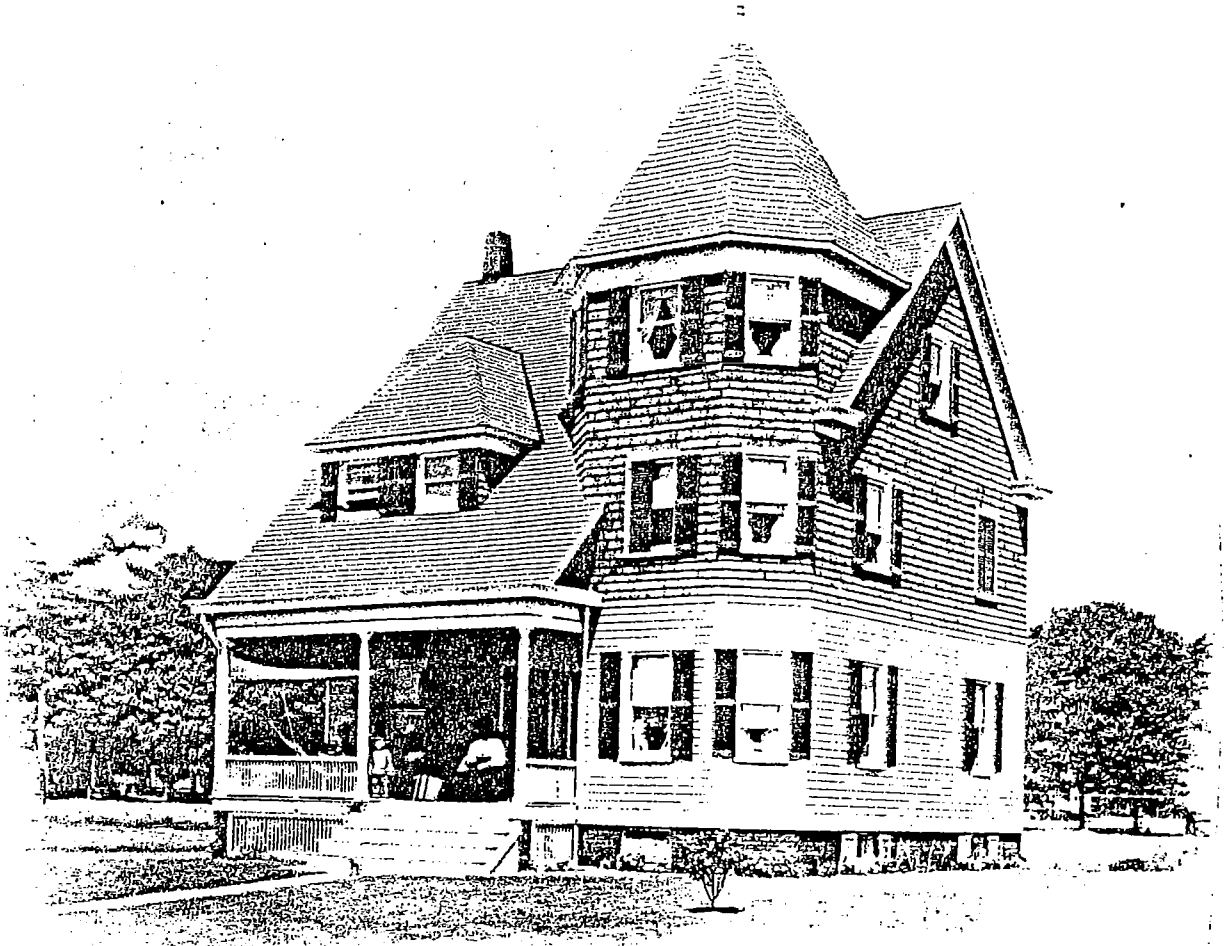


Fig. 1

Three house designs of local architect-builder John Demarest were published in Scientific American Building Edition. All three buildings were cited as being "at Oradell". Fig. 1 shows Milton Demarest's House published in Aug. 1900. Fig. 2 is John Demarest's own house published in Jan. 1901. Fig. 3 was published in Dec. 1901 as a "Colonial Dwelling at Oradell, NJ". Demarest also moved a Collignon Chair Factory building from River Vale to Oradell (0244-1) and the Demarest House (0244-8) to 268 Grove Street.



Fig. 2

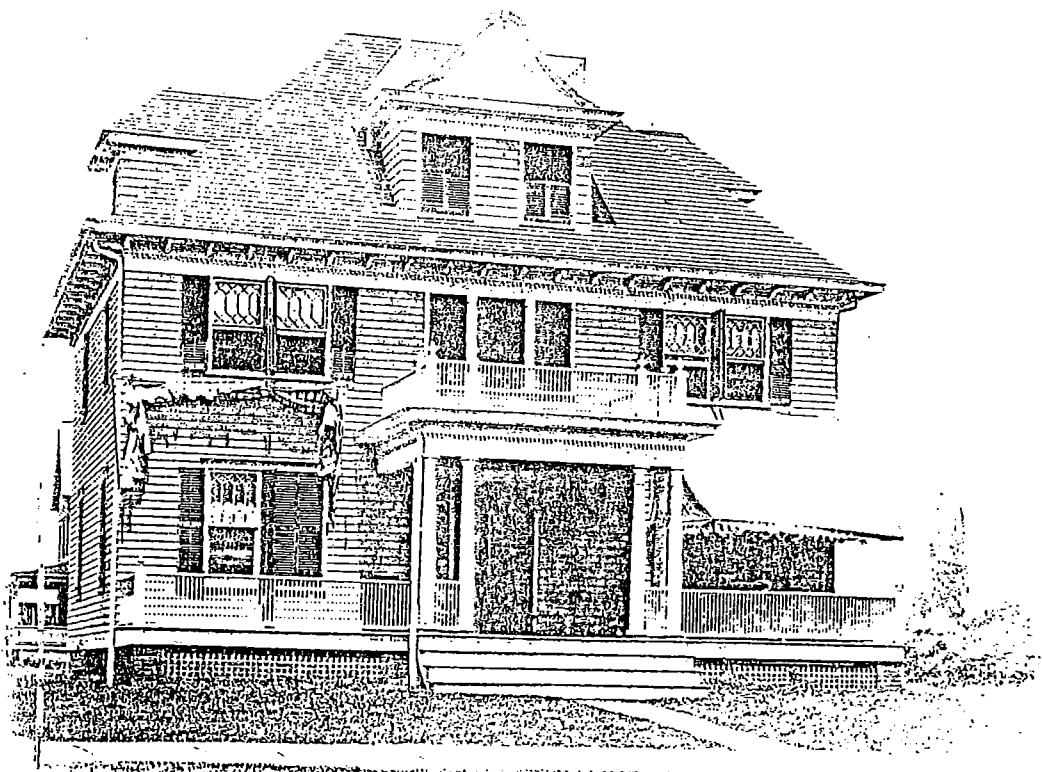


Fig. 3

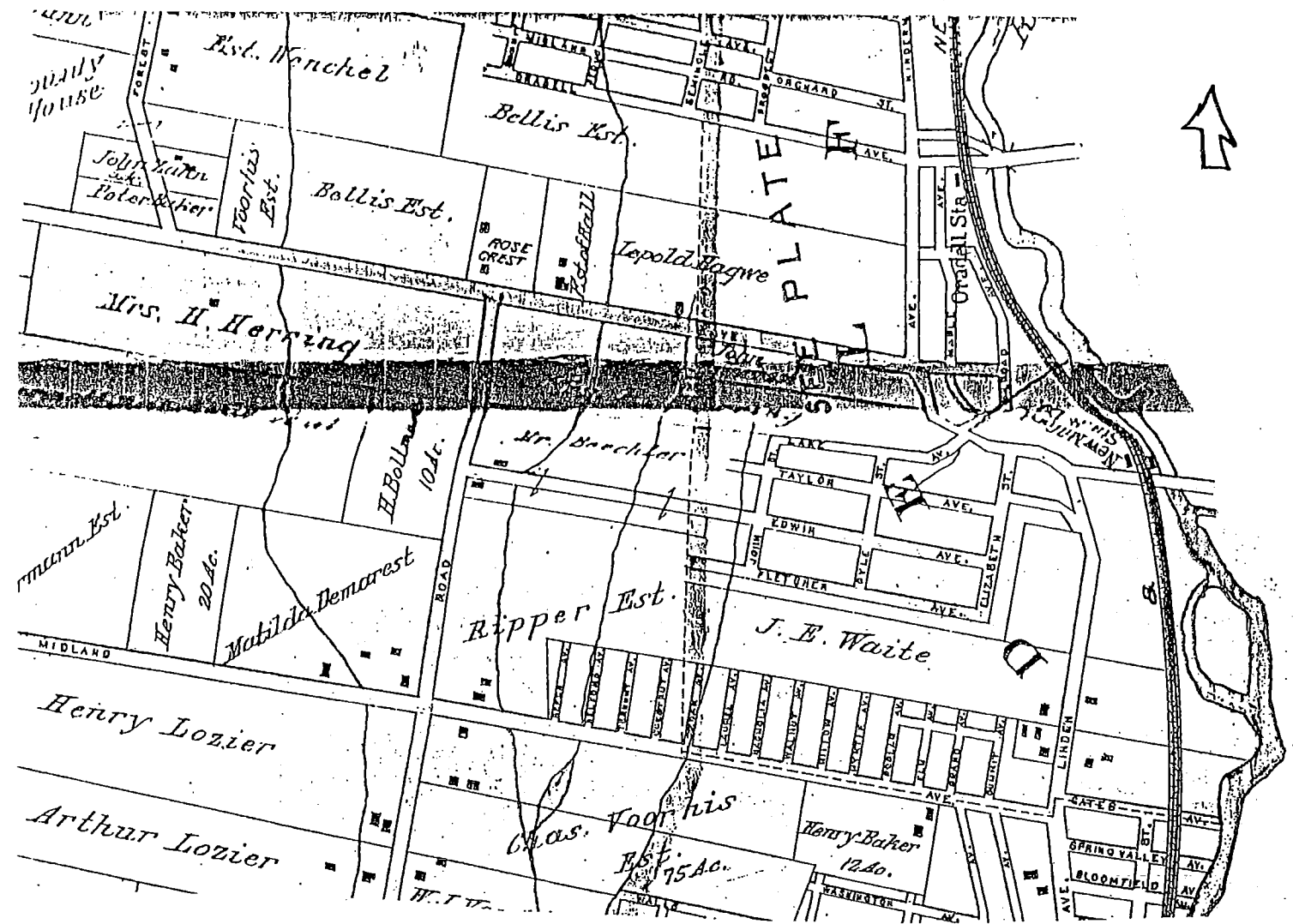


An example of the gambrel-roofed shingle covered house originally with recessed porch with shingled posts. Glazing of porch is an alteration. Several similar houses are found in Oradell Heights. This house at 737 Seminole St., for many years was the home of J. Irving Crump, editor of Boy's Life and author of Oradell, Biography of a Borough(neg. file #97935-19).



This house at 505 Prospect Avenue represents another house type used in Oradell Heights. Neg. file # 97935-20

Part of Delford (today's Oradell)  
in 1913 from Walter S. Bromley. Atlas  
of Bergen County, N. J. Philadelphia:  
G. W. Bromley and Co., II, 1913,  
plate 21.





Manor are unpretentious, closely spaced, freestanding, 2½ story buildings. The buildings are similar in scale and proportion and originally probably all had wood shingle exterior wall fabric. Roof shapes vary as there were several house designs employed.

Residential expansion resulted in the erection of several school buildings which are fine examples of early twentieth century educational architecture. The large brick Colonial Revival building, which now functions as Town Hall(0244-13), was built in 1901-2 as a school. The Oradell Elementary School complex(0244-7) was built in 1928-29 and enlarged soon after. Also Colonial Revival in style, this complex has a Georgian Revival, symmetrical, 5 part composition with U-shaped plan.

#### Post World War II History

Oradell's residential growth has continued in recent years as additional farms have been divided into lots and infill houses constructed in older subdivisions. By 1970 the borough had about 8,900 residents. In recent years a number of larger office buildings have been constructed along Kinderkamack Road.

Oradell also can claim a recent national hero. Wally Schirra, who grew up there(0244-02), orbited the earth on October 3, 1962.



# ORADELL HISTORIC SITES SURVEY BIBLIOGRAPHY

## Oradell Political Genealogy

1693-1871 Part is part of Hackensack Township  
 1775-1894 Part is part of Harrington Township, part is part of Washington  
 1871-1871 Part is part of New Barbadoes Township township 1889-95  
 1871-1894 Part in New Barbadoes becomes Midland Township  
 1871-1894 Hackensack Township part becomes Palisades Township  
 1894-1920 Delford borough, formed from parts of Midland, Palisades, Washington  
 and Harrington Townships.  
 1913 Part from Midland Township  
 1913 Part to Riverside borough  
 1920-to present Oradell replaces Delford borough

## Locations of Sources

O-: Oradell Public Library, 375 Kinderkamack Road, Oradell  
 H-: Johnson Free Public Library, 274 Main Street, Hackensack,  
 also houses collection of Bergen County Historical Society  
 (BCHS), preface "D"  
 FD-: New Jersey Room, Fairleigh Dickinson Library, 223 Montross  
 Avenue, Rutherford  
 BCOC&HA- Historic Sites Survey Office, Bergen County Office of Cultural  
 OC<sup>or</sup> and HA: & Historic Affairs, Room 101, 355 Main Street, Hackensack

Location followed by library call#

## I MAPS

Tax Assessor's office Oradell Boro Hall, 355 Kinderkamack Rd.	1981 Current tax maps, information also in Real Estate Data Inc., <u>Real Estate Atlas of Bergen County, N.J.</u> , 1980 and in Bergen County Tax Board office, 123 Hudson St., Hackensack
Princeton Un., Firestone Library Map Room	1923-30 Sanborn Insurance atlases, various years, 1912, vol. I; 1913, vol II
FD-NJ G1258 B4 B7 1912 S.C. H-R921 B78	George W. & Walter S. Bromley, <u>Atlas of Bergen County, N.J.</u> , Philadelphia: George W. Bromley & Co., 1912-13.
BCOC&HA	1876 "The Bicentennial Map of the Pascack Valley and Northern Hackensack and Saddle River Valleys", redrawn from 1876 <u>Atlas</u>

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FD-912.74921 W.S.C.

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BCOC&HA

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H-D974.921 Wes B  
H-R974.92 W52

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J. Irving Crump, Oradell, Biography of a Borough  
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Adrian C. Leiby and Nancy Wichman,  
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Leon A. Smith, ed. The Story of New Milford,  
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1964)

#### IV MISCELLANEOUS, PHOTOGRAPHS, PAMPHLETS, AND NEWSPAPER CLIPPINGS

O-

Ten looseleaf notebooks on Oradell history  
prepared by Floyd H. Winters

Photograph collection of Floyd H. Winters,  
Oradell historian and survey liaison, 334  
Kinderkamack Road, Oradell, telephone #265-0112

H-BCHS, pamphlet box #2  
filed under "deposit" sign

One Oradell Pamphlet

H-BCHS misc. file

"Oradell, N.J.," "Oradell, N. J. - Churches"

H-vertical file

"Bergen County: Cities and Towns: Oradell"  
file of clippings and pamphlets

BCOC & HA

Peter A. Miller, Robert A. Brooks & Assoc.,  
"Cultural Resources Reconnaissance of the  
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1850. Englewood, June 1978

#### V PREVIOUS SURVEYS OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES IN ORADELL

H-R720.9749 B29  
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BCOC and HA

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OC and HA

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OC and HA

Claire K.Tholl and office of Albin W. Rothe for the County of Bergen, State of New Jersey, Board of Chosen Freeholders, Historic Sites Advisory Board, Office of Cultural and Historic Affairs. The Early Stone Houses of Bergen County, New Jersey: A Survey. August, 1979. (Abbreviated BCSHS)

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Tholl, C. "Bergen County Houses in Jeopardy", May 1979.

OC and HA

Tholl, C. "Bergen County High Priority List of Old Houses." No date.

OC and HA

Historical Site Advisory Board County of Bergen, N.J., Historical Site. Inventory forms.

OC and HA

"Bergen County Historic Site Advisory Board Register of Important Structures and Sites" Survey Forms. (Abbreviated: BCHAB Register form).

OC and HA

"Bergen County Historic Sites Built before or During the 1880's" Inventory forms. (Abbreviated: Sites before 1880's Inventory).

OC and HA

Mrs. Robert Hague "Historic Sites in Oradell, N. J." no date

NJHSI 0244  
LIST OF PROPERTIES INCLUDED IN THE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY  
OF BOROUGH OF ORADELL  
BERGEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

<u>Survey Form #</u>	<u>Address; Name</u>	<u>Block/Lot#</u>
0244-D1	New Milford Ave., Elm St., Madison Ave.; Van Buskirk Island part in Borough of New Milford (0238-D); Hackensack Water Company's New Milford Plant District	
0244-D2	Oradell Avenue, Maple Avenue, Railroad Tracks; Oradell Railroad Station District	
0244-3	Oradell Avenue-Grove Street District	
0244-S 1	Gunther Avenue, between Ridgewood Ave. and Center Street, Streetscape	
0244-1	447 New Milford Avenue; Collignon Chair Factory building (Cooper-Demarest Inc. building)	11/ 3
0244-2	465 New Milford Ave; Jacob Van Buskirk House	10/3
0244-3	608-610 Brookside Avenue; Thunise Cooper House	13/1
0244-4	467 Kinderkamack Rd.; Van Buskirk/Oakley House NR 7/03/79, SR 3/29/79	208/39
0244-5	699 and 705 Kinderkamack Road; Atwood-Blauvelt Mansion and Carriagehouse	206 F/2 266 F/1
0244-6	700 Soldier Hill Road; John J. Van Wagoner House	206/1-C
0244-7	East side of Prospect Avenue corner Church St.; Oradell Elementary School	211/15
0244-8	268 Grove St. Demarest House; SR 10/03/80 NR pending, BCSHS #119	
0244-9	437 Grove St.; W. King House	23/6
0244-10	355 Grant Ave.; Demarest-Cornwall-Blauvelt House	46/7-A
<u>Inventory List #</u>		
0244-11	East of Kinderkamack Road between Borough of River edge, Waite Place, and railroad tracks; the Manor District	

SR = New Jersey State Register of Historic Places, followed by date listed.

NR = National Register of Historic Places, followed by date listed.

BCSHS = Bergen County Stone House Survey, followed by survey form number.

<u>Inventory List #</u>	<u>Address and Name</u>
0244-12	490 New Milford Ave.; NE corner Kinderkamack Road; John B. H. Voorhis Store.
0244-13	355 Kinderkamack Rd.; Oradell Public School, (Oradell Town Hall).
0244-14	In court yard at 555 Kinderkamack Rd.; Gin_kgo tree.
0244-15	455 Seminole St.; Charles Livingston Bull house.
0244-16	799 Soldier Hill Rd., Frederick Herle House; cottage to its west; and house behind it, Frank Price House.
0244-17	Behind 272 Genther Avenue; Voorhis Cemetery
0244-18	394 Oradell Ave.
0244-19	273 Grove St.
0244-20	473 Grove St.
0244-21	In Hackensack River approximately opposite foot of Mill Lane; Oradell Reservoir.

0244-022 Elm Street Bridge (SI+A #020044B)

0244-023 Oradell Railroad Station; part of 0244-02, given individual # as part of GIS update.

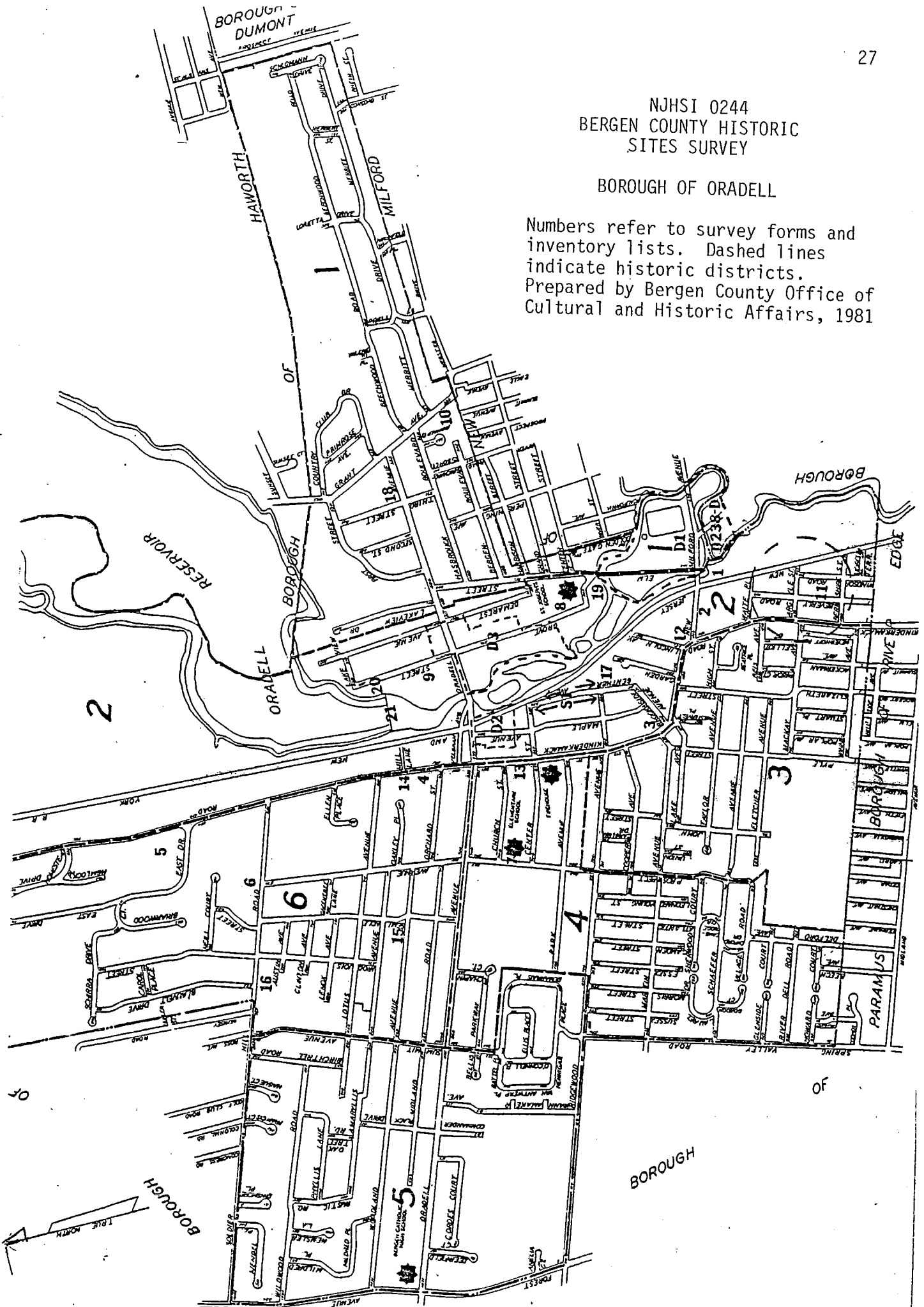
0244-024 Edward W. Hall House, 863 Midland Road  
 \*From GIS list\* 401/1  
 NR: 1/18/1990  
 SR: 8/20/1989



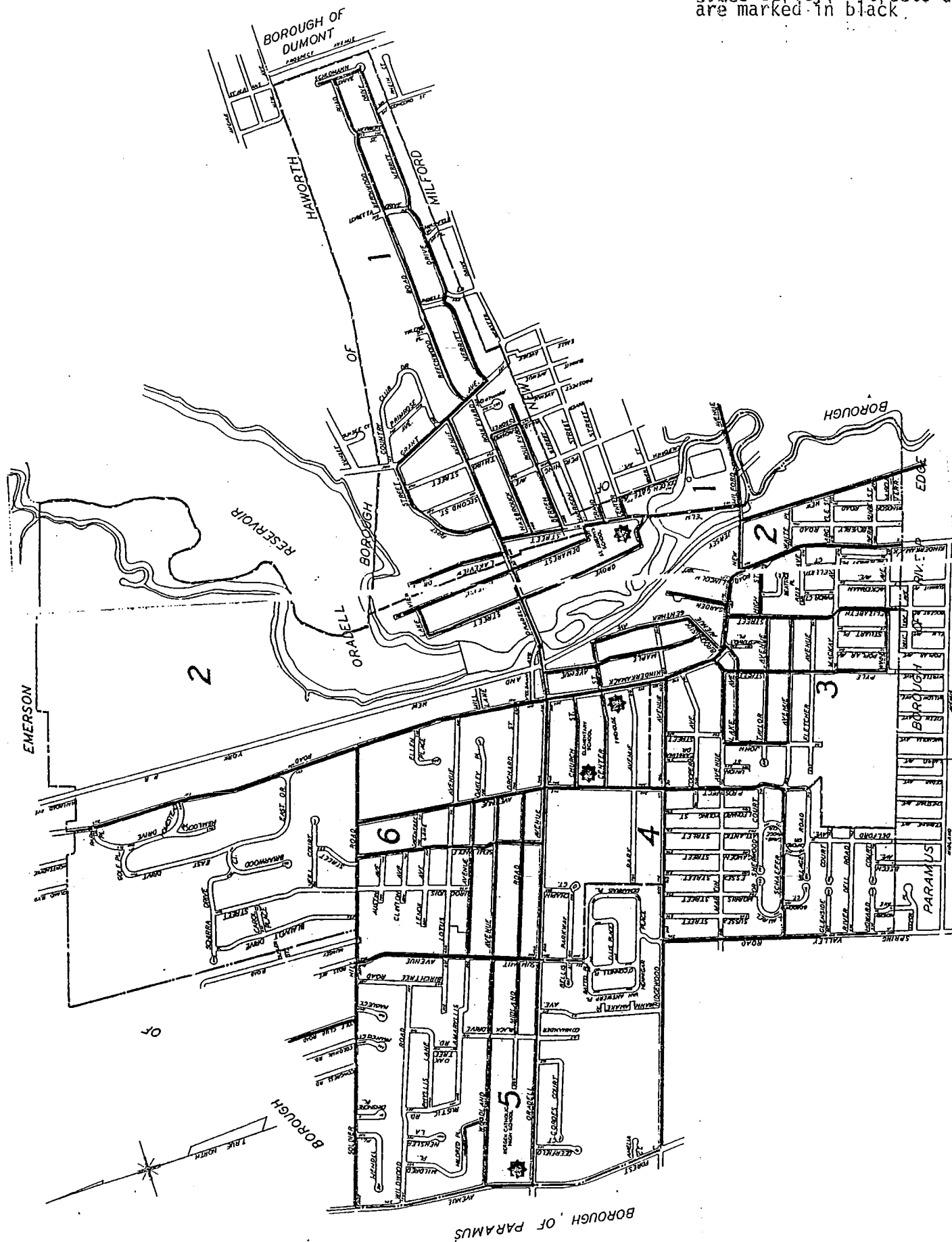
NJHSI 0244  
BERGEN COUNTY HISTORIC  
SITES SURVEY

BOROUGH OF ORADELL

Numbers refer to survey forms and inventory lists. Dashed lines indicate historic districts. Prepared by Bergen County Office of Cultural and Historic Affairs, 1981



Map of Streets Driven in Oradell  
during Visual Inspection  
for the Bergen County Historic  
Sites Survey. Streets driven  
are marked in black.







## HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

## HISTORIC DISTRICT SURVEY FORM GUIDELINES

**DISTRICT NAME:** Give the commonly known name of the district if there is one. A prominent structure within the district may provide a good, easily identifiable name, i.e. Abbott Farm Historic District, State House Historic District.

**TYPE OF DISTRICT:** Residential, commercial, industrial, agricultural, archeological, village, other--specify.

**MUNICIPALITY:** List incorporated borough, city, township, or village. Distinguish between similar names, i.e. Princeton Borough, Princeton Township.

**USGS QUAD:** give name of U.S. Geological Survey map for area.

**UTM REFERENCES:** Omit

**DESCRIPTION:** Give a general physical description of the district, including major streets, approximate number of structures, and overall setting. Describe and justify boundaries. If boundaries are somewhat arbitrary and would require re-evaluation for historic district designation, please indicate. Describe building types and architectural styles represented and comment upon the essential character, scale, materials, variety or homogeneity within the district. Comment upon original as well as present appearance, if known. Indicate both outstanding structures and intrusions.

**SIGNIFICANCE:** Discuss the importance of the district in terms of settlement patterns and social, architectural and economic development of the area. Include historically significant persons and events associated with the district. Evaluate building types and architectural styles represented with regard to quality, typicality, uniqueness. Elaborate upon the special qualities which distinguish the district from its surroundings. Comment upon special preservation activities within the district.

**MAP:** Sketch or attach a map of the district. Number all structures and indicate which structures are represented by 3"x5" photos. Label all roads and significant landmarks and natural features. Indicate north.

**REGISTER ELIGIBILITY:** Refer to National Register for criteria for evaluation., See Appendix.

**THREATS TO DISTRICT/LOCAL ATTITUDES:** Indicate roads, development, zoning, deterioration, alterations, other--specify. Are local attitudes toward preservation of the district positive, negative, mixed? Are there special groups/interests actively for or against preservation?

**COMMENTS:** Elaborate upon conditions, priority for National Register nomination if eligible, threats to structure, local attitudes.

**REFERENCES:** Include historical maps and representation in existing surveys as well as primary and secondary sources and interviews. Abbreviate references in the bibliographies.

**INDIVIDUAL STRUCTURES:** On separate sheets, give a brief description of each structure numbered according to sketch map and further identified by either historic or common name. Indicate negative file number. Description should, at minimum, include building type, style, approximate date, number of stories, exterior wall fabric, fenestration, roof and major alterations. Significant structures should be described in greater detail; an individual structure survey form may be used for important buildings.

## HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

### STREETSCAPE SURVEY FORM GUIDELINES

NJHSI#: Refer to inventory number code for counties and municipalities.

DESCRIPTION/SIGNIFICANCE: Give a brief physical description of the street as a whole. Discuss overall character of building types, styles, scale, materials, useage. Comment on sidewalk, foliage, utility poles, street furniture, signage, etc. Indicate major changes that have occurred to the street over the years and the extent and types of alterations on the buildings. Discuss the significance of the street to the neighborhood or city. If the two sides of the street differ in character, discuss each separately. Description of every individual building or site is optional. List those buildings or sites on which individual survey forms have been completed.

PHYSICAL CONDITION: This refers to physical condition of structures, not integrity or extent of alteration. Indicate as percentage of total structures on street.

REGISTER ELIGIBILITY: This refers to the whole street or street as part of a larger district. Complete an individual structure survey form for those buildings eligible for individual Register listing. See Appendix for Register criteria.

THREATS TO STREET: Indicate roads, development, zoning, deterioration, alteration, other - - specify.

COMMENTS: Elaborate upon condition, priority for National Register nomination if eligible, threats to street, local attitudes. Discuss physical condition of street if it differs from physical condition of buildings.

MAP: Include a city map which delineates areas of the municipality as part of the survey report and larger scale maps of each of those areas. Indicate north. The area maps should, at minimum indicate street names and sites (identified by survey number) on which individual structure survey forms have been completed. Area maps which indentify buildings by address, block and lot numbers, style, type, period or condition are optional. Label maps and indicate map name on which street is located on survey form.

PHOTOS: Photograph representative buildings, selecting views that show as many buildings as possible. Attach contact prints and/or 3" x 5" prints on back of streetscape form and identify buildings by address. Complete contact sheet file form for each contact sheet.

SLIDES: Indicate, by street address, buildings of which slides were taken.

REFERENCES: Include historical maps and photographs, representation in existing surveys, primary and secondary sources, and interview. If the sources are rare or not easily accessible, indicate where they can be found. If the same sources are used for several streets, you may include a bibliography for the area or city as a whole and abbreviate sources included in bibliographies.

# EXPLANATION FOR LISTS OF BUILDINGS ACCOMPANYING SOME DISTRICT AND STREETSCAPE SURVEY FORMS

Map # are keyed to district or streetscape maps.

Names and dates for historic owners are from city directories, dates of directories consulted are in parentheses.

Date erected: In most cases, construction took place between the two dates shown (i.e. a building with "1896-1908" given as its "date erected" was erected between 1896 and 1908). Dates were determined by consultation of historic maps, atlas, city directories, and for post-World War II structures, memories of residents. Visual dating preceded by "c." for "circa".

Sig. to District/Streetscape:

This is an evaluation of the relative importance of the building to the district or streetscape.

The codes are:

P for Pivotal: A little altered building which has special visual merit or historical importance; probably qualifies for individual survey form.

M for Matrix: A vernacular building which represents typical area architecture and has good exterior integrity.

F for Filler: An old building which has had its significance diminished by unsuitable alterations or sidings added, or one of lesser architectural interest. Age of structure is recognizable.

C for Compatible:

A building constructed since World War II so it has no historic value. It is compatible in scale and materials with the historic environment. May be distinctive or significant in its own right.

IC for Incompatible:

A modern structure which detracts from or is disruptive to the historic character or design of the streetscape. May be distinctive or significant in its own right. Could also be a severely altered old structure.

Description: See "Individual Structure Survey Form Guidelines" for definitions.

Neg. file #: Filing code for photographic negatives of property at Office of Cultural and Environmental Services, NJDEP.

## HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

## INDIVIDUAL STRUCTURE SURVEY FORM GUIDELINES

NJHSI #: Refer to inventory number code for counties and municipalities.

NAME: Sites inventoried should be listed by both historic and common names, if possible. If neither is known, a descriptive name or the name of the current owner may be listed under common name. Some sites are known by compound names and should be indicated as such.

LOCATION: Give the number and name of street. If there is no street number, or if it will aid in identification, include nearest roads or landmarks. Include local place name, (i.e. Ocean Grove, which is in Neptune Township).

UTM REFERENCES: Omit

MUNICIPALITY: List incorporated borough, city, township, or village. Distinguish between similar names, (i.e. Princeton Borough, Princeton Township).

USGS QUAD: Give name of U.S. Geological Survey map showing location of structure.

PRESENT USE: Indicate multiple use or vacancy as well as type of use, (i.e. residential, commercial, religious, industrial).

STYLE: Blumenson's Identifying American Architecture is recommended as a guide to stylistic nomenclature. Vernacular adaption with stylistic detailing should be labeled accordingly, (i.e. vernacular Italianate).

FORM/PLAN TYPE: Indicate configuration of main block (i.e. square, rectangular, T-shaped, L-shaped, irregular) and appendages (i.e. ell, wings). Include interior plan (i.e. central hall plan, side hall plan) if known. Sketch floor plan, if known.

FOUNDATION: Indicate material (brick, rubble stone, coursed stone, concrete, concrete over stone, other - specify) and height of foundation.

EXTERIOR WALL FABRIC: Clapboard, stone (indicate type of stone and coursing), board and batten, wood shingle, stucco, brick (indicate bonding), sheet metal, aluminum siding, asphalt shingle, other - specify.

FENESTRATION: Indicate number of bays and window sash on principal elevations. Window pattern, shape, surrounds, lintels, shutters and dormers may be included here or under additional architectural description.

ROOF/CHIMNEYS: Indicate roof type [i.e. gable, hip, gambrel, shed, flat, mansard, monitor and decorative trim (with cresting, with bellcast, with parapet)]. Indicate roofing material, if significant (i.e. patterned slate, wood shingles). Indicate number of chimneys and placement (4 interior end chimneys), and whether chimneys are original or replacements, if known.



**ADDITIONAL ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:** Indicate significant interior features. Elaborate upon exterior features and include major alterations and dates, if known. Evaluate impact of alterations on integrity of structure. On-site inspection and/or comparison with other buildings may lead to theories on construction, style, dates, alterations, etc. Discuss the basis for any theories set forth. Distinguish between fact and theory.

**PHOTO:** Attach a 35mm 3"x5" black and white photo that gives the most informative view of the structure. Generally, with a free-standing structure, a three-quarter view filling 75% of the print is recommended. A farm or other complex with significant related structures should include an overall photo of the complex and a photo of the main structure.

**MAP:** Sketch or attach a map labeling structures, nearby roads, significant landmarks, and neighboring structures. Indicate north.

**SITING AND RELATED STRUCTURES:** Indicate approximate size of site and location of main structure. Explain the relation among main structure, road, outbuildings, and surrounding landscape features. Describe significant outbuildings.

**SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT:** Check as many as applicable. Elaborate upon neighborhood character, land use, density.

**SIGNIFICANCE:** Identify the historical, architectural, archeological, or environmental reasons for including structure in the inventory. Historical significance should relate directly to the building. Do not include elaborate history of the property before the main structure was built or detailed genealogies. Indicate whether the structure is rare or representative of the area, and whether its integrity has been maintained or damaged by alterations.

**PHYSICAL CONDITION:** Based on inspection of the exterior, this refers solely to physical condition of structure, not integrity or extent of alteration.

Excellent: No visible repair work needed.  
 Good: Need for general maintenance.  
 Fair: In need of more than routine maintenance.  
 Poor: In need of major repairs.

**REGISTER ELIGIBILITY:** Refer to National Register criteria for evaluation, in Appendix.

**COMMENTS:** Elaborate upon physical condition, reason for National Register nomination and priority of National Register eligibility, threats to structure, and local attitudes.

**REFERENCES:** Include historical maps and representation in existing surveys as well as primary and secondary sources and interviews. Abbreviations and numbers refer to references cited in the bibliographies.



NEW JERSEY OFFICE OF CULTURAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION SECTION  
HISTORIC DISTRICT SURVEY FORM

HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY NO.

0238-D  
0244-D1

DISTRICT NAME: New Milford Plant of the  
MUNICIPALITY: Hackensack Water Company  
COUNTY: Oradell and New Milford  
TYPE OF DISTRICT: Bergen  
USGS QUAD: Industrial/Residential  
Weehawken

UTM REFERENCES: Zone/Northing/Easting  
A  
B  
C  
D

## DESCRIPTION: (General description of district as a whole and boundaries)

The New Milford Plant of the Hackensack Water Co District consists of Van Buskirk Island, an island in the Hackensack River which is owned by the Hackensack Water Company and is part of the Borough of Oradell, two historic bridges leading to this island (the Elm Street Bridge, Map #7, and the Madison Avenue Bridge Map #8), and the peninsula with six frame houses in the Borough of New Milford near the island. The district boundary is the center of the Hackensack River except the entire Elm Street Bridge is included and the boundary line extends southerly to include the peninsula on which the houses in New Milford are located. Boundaries were drawn to include all older structures which are associated with the history of the waterworks. The two New Milford Avenue Bridges are omitted as they are recent structures. The New Milford Avenue Bridge between Oradell and New Milford is being rebuilt now (October, 1981). The houses in New Milford on the west side of Madison Avenue are included because they were worker houses for the waterworks and related visually to it. At least one of them, map #9, was moved to its current location from the island.

The island contains a water pumping and filtration plant with buildings and structures dating from 1882 to the present. Dominating the scene are two large red brick Romanesque Revival buildings with numerous wings and two tall chimneys: the pumping station (map #1) and the filtration plant (map #2). These buildings to a remarkable degree retain their c. 1914 appearances. To the east of the buildings is a football-field sized settling basin surrounded by earth embankments. The metal gears of the intake screens (map #6) accent the western edge of the complex. The island also has several post WW II structures (electrical sub-stations on the west side of Elm Street at north end of the island, raw water station erected in 1980 on south side on New Milford Avenue on site of coal house, a refuge house north of the filtration plant, and a wash water tank for the filters north of the settling basin) which are compatible with the older buildings and structures.

Much of the equipment inside the pumping station and filtration plant is of historic interest. It is described in Appendix A.

The island is handsomely landscaped with lawns, formally cut shrubs, and trees. A high chain link fence surrounds Water Company property. The frame houses are set in open land, only the larger house (map #9) has an added driveway and garage.

See Appendix A for description of buildings, structures, and equipment.

APPROXIMATE NUMBER OF BUILDINGS or structures: 14 plus c. post WW II structures

PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURES: Excellent 100 % Good \_\_\_\_\_ % Fair \_\_\_\_\_ % Poor \_\_\_\_\_ %  
REGISTER ELIGIBILITY: ☐ Yes ☒ Possible ☐ No

THREATS TO DISTRICT/LOCAL ATTITUDES: At this time the water company plans to continue using these buildings and equipment. The company is proud of Pump #7 and cleaned and repainted it in 1977. Although it is unused it is maintained as a "historic relic" and is viewed as back-up equipment in case other pumps fail. While facilities have been added to update the plant, water company expansion has been located elsewhere.

COMMENTS:

The New Milford Plant of the Hackensack Water Company district is important in the development history of Northern New Jersey. Suburban growth would not have been possible without the water supplied by this waterworks. The district is a well-preserved complex of buildings and structures showing the evolution of the waterworks from 1882 when the first building was erected until the present. Most of the buildings obtained their configuration by 1914 and on the exterior the district has a pre World War I ambience. The Romanesque Revival style of the 1882 pumping station building is continued in its later wings and in the filtration plant building. Together, the pumping station (map#1) and the filtration plant (map #2) accented by two tall chimney stacks form a very picturesque assemblage with considerable architectural significance. The historic character of the insular waterworks is enhanced by two turn-of-the-century bridges providing access to the island and a small cluster of workers' houses on the mainland near the pumping station complex.

The facility has a number of machines which are rare surviving early equipment. Most notable is Pump #7, a huge triple expansion Allis Chalmers steam engine installed in 1911. It is said to be the largest stationary steam engine in New Jersey (Vopasek). The functioning cross compound Corless steam engine dating to 1915 is also of special interest.

The well preserved, although enlarged, rapid sand filter filtration plant which opened in 1906 is an early example of the employment of George W. Fuller's water filtration system. With plants in Louisville, Kentucky and Little Falls, New Jersey, this filtration plant is considered to have "laid the groundwork for most of the filter plants in the nation" (Leiby, p.134)

The Hackensack Water Company was awarded a water contract to supply water to Hoboken in September 1881 to take effect November, 1882. This contract provided the capital for the New Milford plant. By November 25, 1881, the island in the Hackensack River near the hamlet of New Milford was purchased from J. and H. <sup>Van</sup> Buskirk (this island had been the site of a mill since before the revolution). This site was considerably upstream from the company's earlier waterworks in River Edge. The new waterworks was completed by Nov. 1882.

The demand for additional water by growing suburban towns resulted in numerous enlargement of the pumping facilities. On May 4, 1903 the board of Directors approved the construction of the filter plant employing the new Fuller rapid sand filter system. This plant formally opened June 25, 1906. A major expansion took place between 1911-14 when a large wing (Building 1 section E) was added to the pumping station to house five new pumps (one of which survives) and the filter plant and reservoir enlarged. continued

REFERENCES: (Include representation in existing surveys)

Leiby, Hackensack Water Company, esp. pp. 66-69, 111, 143, 163, 174-75, 214-15; illustrations pp. 68, 88, 100, 143, 145, 215.

Crump, J. Irving, Oradell, Biography of a Borough

Oradell: The Borough, 1969, pp 160, 164-167

Smith, New Milford esp. pp. 62-63, 1907 photographs p. 16

Oradell Anniversary Issue, Bergen Evening Record, June 2, 1944, p.17

Walker, 1876

Bromley, 1912; p.319

Continued

ATTACHMENTS: (Indicate number)

MAPS: 4

PHOTOS: Appendix B, 20 SLIDES: 12

OTHER: (Specify) Appendix A: Description list

RECORDED BY: TRB /FN  
BCOC & HA

ORGANIZATION:

DATE: 10-81

Significance cont.

page 3

In the late 1920's George Spalding the Hackensack Water Company's sanitary engineer devised a method for using activated carbon in water treatment. He experimented with this system at the New Milford plant in 1930 and the process was adopted there in 1931. According to Leiby, "it is now standard in water systems throughout the World" (p.175). Spalding received the George W. Fuller Memorial Award of the American Water Works Association for developing this process.

In 1954 the efficiency of New Milford plant was increased 45% by adding 6 new filters and by installing electric pumps. Because its island location limited further expansion of the New Milford plant, The Hackensack Water Co. built new plants elsewhere. This has allowed the New Milford plant to remain a well-preserved example of a pre World War I facility updated to remain a continuing part of a modern water system.

Construction at the New Milford plant was under the direction of Charles E. Brush, the company's Chief Engineer until his death on June 4, 1897. He designed the original pumping station (Leiby, pp.88-89). Brush was a college professor, the engineer of three water companies, and a street railway company, and consulting engineer of the New York and New Jersey Bridge Company. According to C.V.R. Bogert III a building at the plant was designed by Hackensack architect, Cornelius V. R. Bogert. Unfortunately which building is not currently known. Bogert practiced between 1907 and 1955 and was a prominent figure in the local architectural profession. Myles Tierney and his son, John C., were the original contractors who built for the Hackensack Water Company. Tierney was Vice President of the Company and President of the Hudson Trust Company in Hoboken in addition to being a contractor (Leiby, pp 99-91)

References cont.

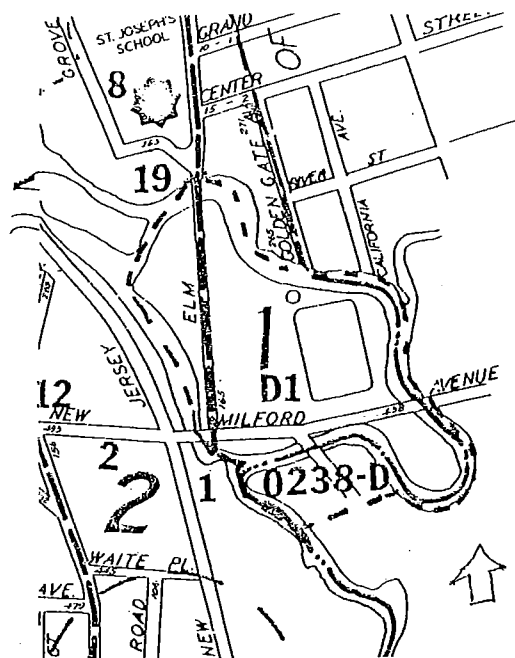
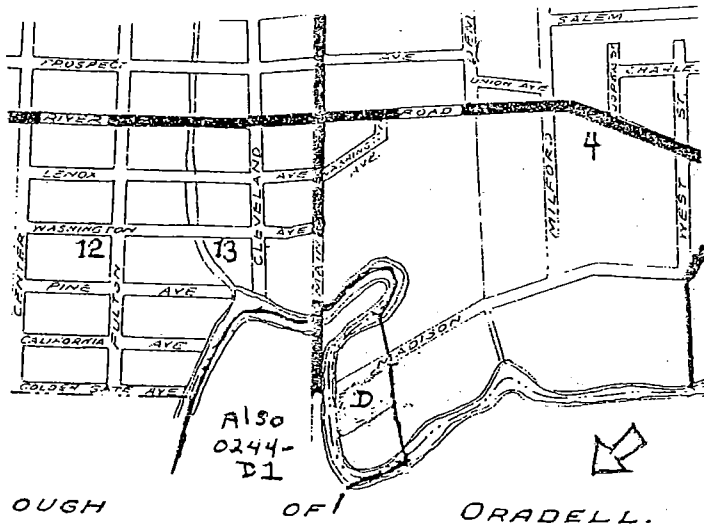
Van Valen, p.319

Frank Vopasek, "The Oradell Pumping Station", unpublished article, c.1981

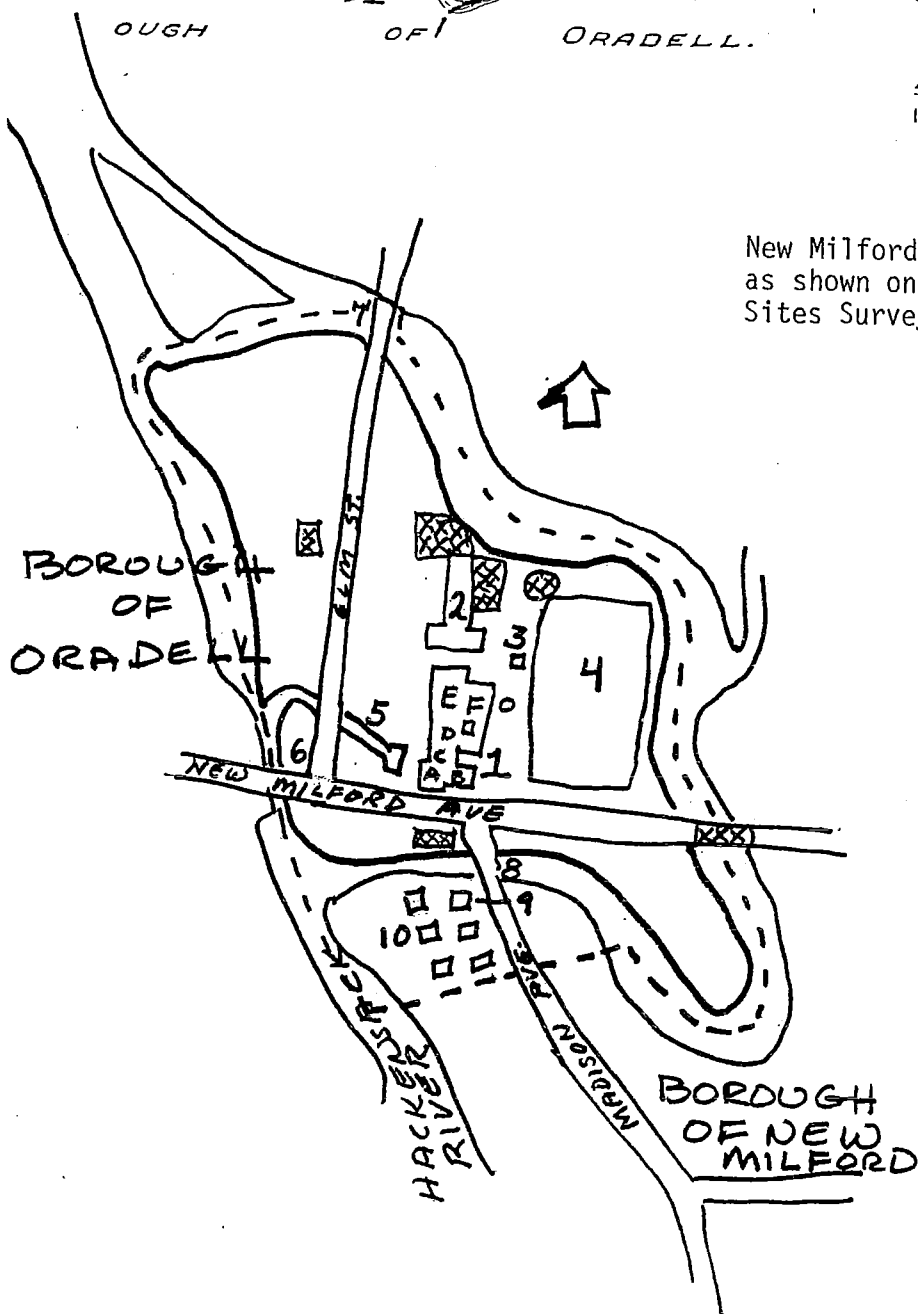
Tour provided by Walter Wilson, October 1981.

John Rymer, "A Relic from the Steam Age", Supplement to Post and Ridgewood News, Jan. 18 and Jan 19, c. 1970.

Letter from Cornelius V. R. Bogert III to T. RobinsBrown, April 20, 1980.  
"Cultural Resources Reconnaissance of the Proposed Lake Hackensack."



New Milford Plant of Hackensack Water Company  
as shown on Oradell and New Milford Historic  
Sites Survey Maps.



0244-D; 0238-D

New Milford Plant of the  
Hackensack Water Company

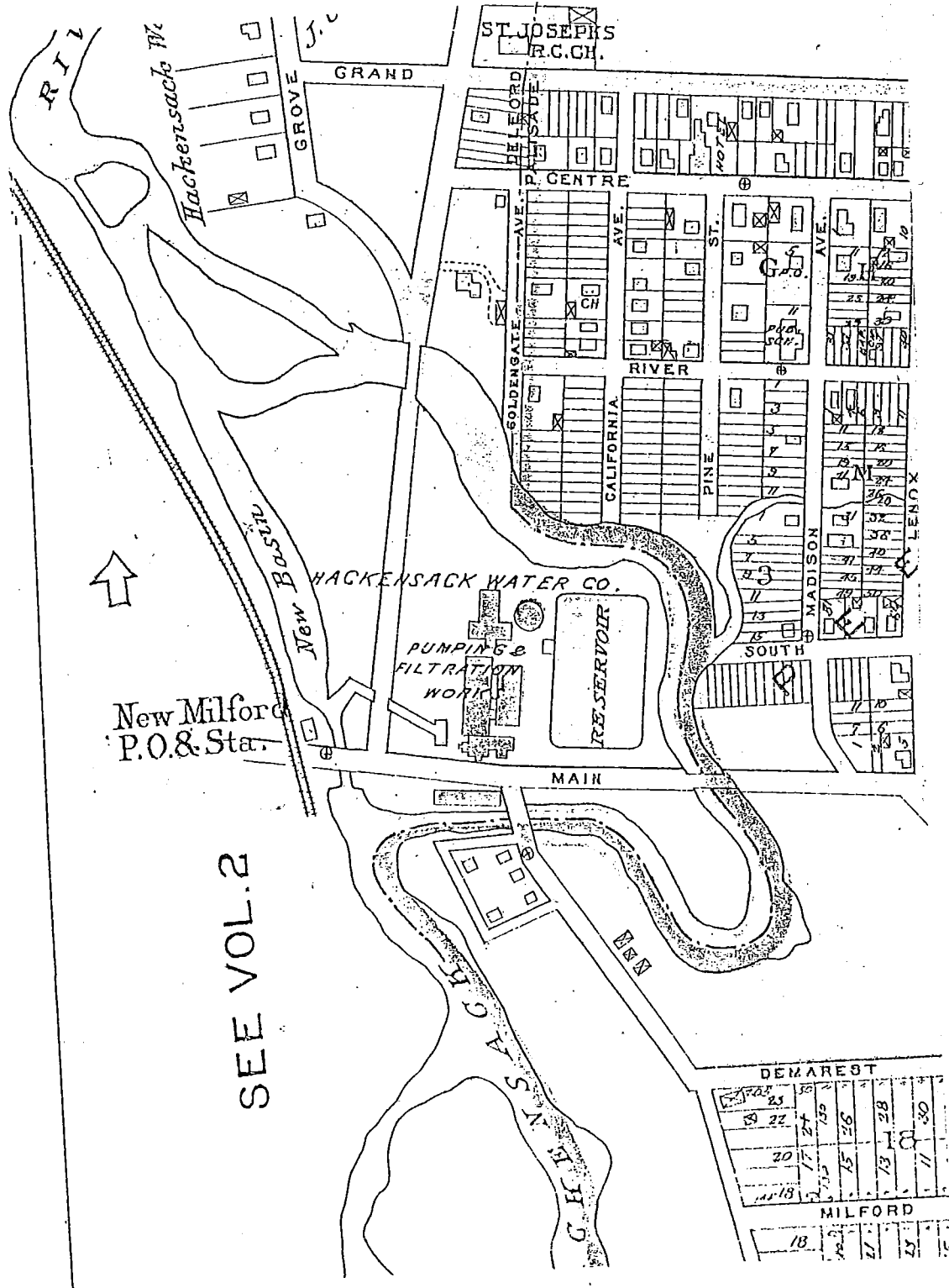
District, Oradell and  
New Milford, Bergen County, N.J.

1. Pumping Plant
2. Filtration Plant
3. Gatehouse for Settling Basin
4. Settling Basin
5. Intake Canal
6. Intake Screens
7. Elm Street Bridge
8. Madison Avenue Bridge
9. Superintendent D. W. Chase House
10. Employee houses

XXX Post WW II structures

Dashed Line shows approximate district boundary.

New Milford Plant of  
Hackensack Water Company  
in 1912



From George W. & Walter S. Bromley, Atlas of Bergen County, NJ. (Philadelphia: George W. Bromley & Co.) 1912, vol I, plate 20.

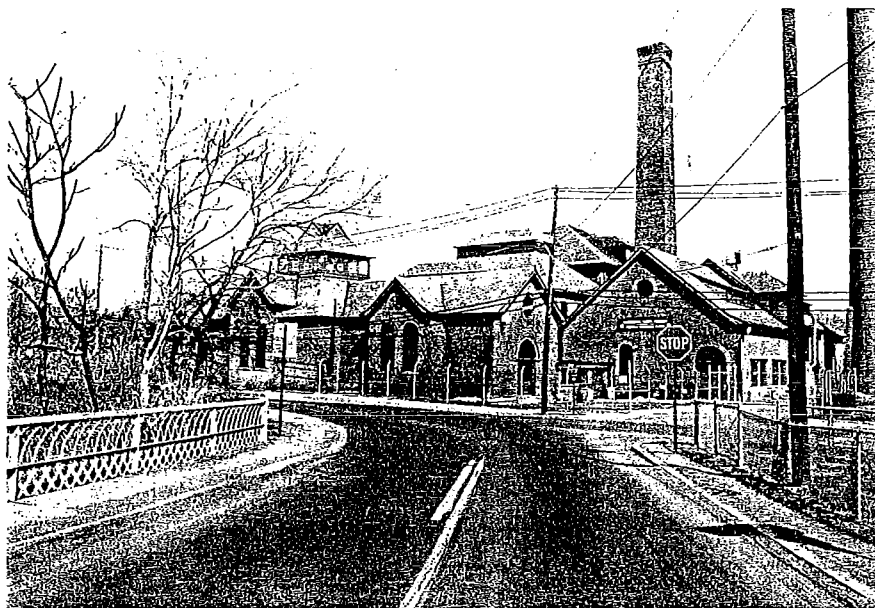
Map #	Address	Historic Owners Names Dates in ( )	Date Erected	Sig. to District/ Streetscape	Description (style; stories; ext. wall fabric; fenestration; roof; major features; alterations; etc.)	Neg. file #
1	NE corner New Milford Ave. and Elm Street	Pumping Station	1882, c. 1885, 1898, 1911	P	<p>Building Sections: all are Industrial Romanesque Revival Style, brick walls, slate roofs.</p> <p>Section A: Original building, erected 1882, approximately sq. with slightly projecting pavilions; 1½ stories; 3 bays, round headed openings, and oculi in gables, the few windows have multipane sash; flaring hip roof with central lantern with hip roof terminated by cross gables, gable roofed pavilions; brick around openings, date in medallions flanking west entrance Architect/engineer: Charles E. Brush.</p> <p>Section B: Attached to east of Section A, probably added in 1880's; 1½ stories; rectangular with projecting south pavilion; round arched windows, oculi in east end; Engineer/architect: probably Charles E. Brush.</p> <p>Section C: Attached to north side of Section A, probably added 1880's appears in c. 1885 photo (Leiby, p. 68) does not appear on 1881 drawing (Leiby, p. 80); 1 story; flaring gable roof with hipped ventilator; 2 bays.</p> <p>Engineer/architect: probably Charles E. Brush.</p> <p>Section D: Attached to north side of Section C; erected in 1898 (date on building); 2; hip with hipped lantern; 4 bays, rectangular 2nd story openings, round arched entrance and date in medallions in spandrels of rectangular frontispiece (shown in 1907 photo in The Story of New Milford, p. 26).</p> <p>Section E: Main Pumping Room; Attached to north side of Section D; erected in 1911 (date on building); 3½ stories; rectangle in plan, east side: 8 bays, windows vary from story to story; hipped roof with hip dormers; round arched entrance with date in flanking round medallions. Architect: possibly C.V.R. Bogert. General contractors: Myles and John C. Tierney.</p> <p>Section F: Attached to east sides of sections E and D. Date uncertain probably c. 1900, shows on 1912 map and in 1911 photograph, rectangular in plan; 1½ stories; east end has irregular fenestration; gable roof with shed and hip dormers. Chimneys or boiler stacks, freestanding cylindrical brick chimney 150' high. Chimney at east of Section D and E probably about 110' high and erected c. 1902-3, shown in 1907 photograph. A 135' high chimney was built in 1882, now gone. The existing large cylindrical chimney probably dates to 1911.</p> <p>Equipment: Pump # 7, located at East end of Section E, triple expansion Allis Chalmers engine; HP 34 x MP62 x LP94 x 3 (air pump) x 60; Corliss valve gear augmented by poppet valves; 2 flywheels, 22' in diameter; flyball governor; 52' high; 3 cylinders, 48" in diameter; on pump: "Allis - Chalmers Co. No. 801-1911 Milwaukee, Wis., USA" Could pump 20 million gallons a day, disconnected in 1957; "Restored", cleaned, etc. 1977; has not functioned since 1957, but intact. Probably largest stationary engine in New Jersey. Originally one of five steam engines installed in 1912. Others</p>	<p>22292-12 + 13 slides</p> <p>22292-12+13</p> <p>97935-12</p> <p>22292-13</p> <p>22292-12</p> <p>22292-12</p> <p>22292-13</p> <p>97935-15</p> <p>22292-12</p> <p>22292-13</p> <p>97935-15</p> <p>95792-33+36 slides</p>

Continued

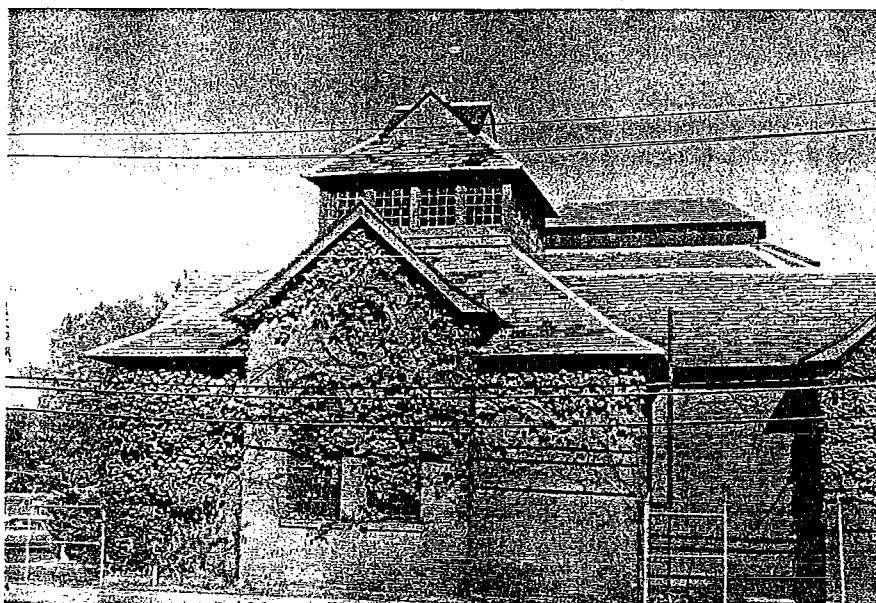


Map #	Address	Historic Owners Names Dates in ( )	Date Erected	Sig. to District/ Streetscape	Description (use; style; stories; ext. wall fabric; fenestra- tion; roof; major features; alterations; etc.)	Neg. file #
1	Continued				replaced in 1957 by turbine and electrically driven pumps . Wrench board in "pit area" 1915 Cross Compound Corliss Steam Engine, Allis-Chalmers Manu- facturing Co. A centrifugal raw water pump engine. Hp 12 x 24, LP 26 x 24; flyball governor. Other: Two Worthington single cylinder steam engine driven air compressors, 7 x 9/4 x 9, fly- ball governor. Ball and Wood 13 x 11 single cylinder steam engine direct current for overhead crane: flywheel (inertia governor) patent date: December 24, 1893. 2 Combustion Engineering 40,000 lb. per hour watertube boilers, brick set variety, formerly coal burners, connected to oil, fired on each boiler with three steam atomized burner "guns" which are lit off manually by the old torch method, c.1952. Reciprocating pump for fuel oil service-recent.	97935-4  95792-37 slide produces
2	East side of Elm Street. North of Pump station	Filtration Plant	1903-5, 1914 1950's	P	Filter water; Industrial Romanesque Revival; east end: 4 story central pavilion and 2 story wings, north wing: 1-2 stories. Red brick; regular bays. front (east): 3-3-3, 1st and 4th story have round headed windows; east section: hip, north wing: gable; T-shaped plan with long north wing; east end and c. 1/2 north wing built 1903; c. 1/2 north wing built 1914, small addition at end in 1930's. Equipment: George W. Fuller rapid sand filter system, coagulating basins in front of the filters, basins in north wing filled with graded sand, charcoal and crushed stone, air lines at at east end have 1904 date. Architect: possibly C. V. R. Bogert, contractor: Myles and John C. Tierney for 1914 addition and probably 1903-5 section as well; engineer: probably Geo. W. Fuller.	slides 97935-3, 6, 17
3	East of drive between Build- ings and 2	Gate house for settling basin	c. 1903-5	M	Gate house for settling basin; industrial vernacular; 1, red brick; 2 bays; hip. Built prior to 1912, probably part of 1911 expansion.	97935-6
4	East side of island	Settling Basin	c. 1903-5	M	Settling basin; rectangular in plan; originally had 110' circular in plan settling basin west of Building 1, section A. This large settling basin probably dates to the 1903-5 construction of the filtration plant.	07035-5
5	Goes under Elm street linking intake screens and Pumping Station	Intake Canal	c. 1911 ?	M	Canal linking intake screens and settling basin. Shows on 1912 map.	

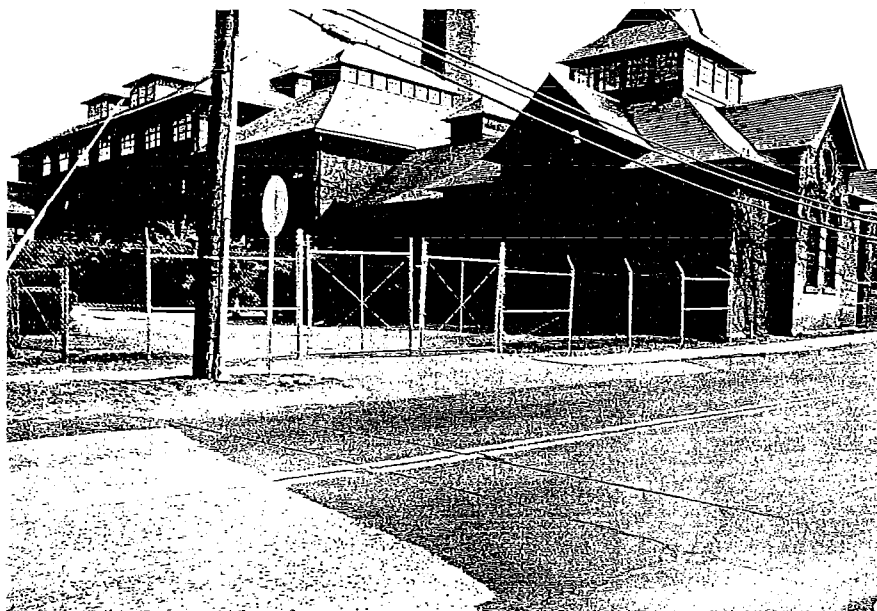
Map #	Address	Historic Owners Names Dates in ( )	Date Erected	Sig. to District Streetscape	Description (use; style; stories; ext. wall fabric; fenestration; roof; major features; alterations; etc.)	Neg. file #
6	NW corner New Milford Avenue and Elm Street partially in Hackensack River	Intake Screen	c. 1911 ?	M	Intake screens for canal linking settling basin. Plaque: Built by Calowell-Wilcox Co. Newburgh NY USA" Along sidewalk is handsome wrought iron fence with acorn finials.	slide 97935-8
7	Over Hackensack River at Elm Street	Elm Street Bridge	1892	M	Metal Truss bridge, Plaque: "Erected by T. W. Stagg 1892" grid deck; large structural beams have "Phoenix"; according to bridge roster had major rebuild in 1965; 73' span.	95792-29
8	Over Hackensack River at Madison Avenue linking Oradell and New Milford	Madison Avenue Bridge	1902	M	Metal truss bridge, over Hackensack River between Oradell and New Milford; Plaque: "1902... Engineer P. E. Van Buskirk. Contractor: F. R. Long Co., Hackensack. N.J." Span 46'; rebuilt 1927. F. R. Long was a prominent Bergen County bridge builder also responsible for Hackensack bridges (0223-52 and 53.)	97935-13 + 14 slide
9	1 Madison Ave. West side of Madison Ave. Close to River	Superintendent D. W. Chase's House	c. 1882	M	House, in New Milford; vernacular Italianate/ Queen Anne: 2; Replacement synthetic siding; 3 bays, 4/4; flat-bracketed cornice with paneled frieze; central chimney; wrap-around porch with turned posts, balusters, and spindle frieze. Moved from island c. 1898-1912.	22289-29 slide
10	Madison Ave.	Waterworks Employee Houses	c. 1900	M	In New Milford; five houses; vernacular; 2 1/2; replacement sheathings; 2 bays, 2/2; gables, ends face street; porches with shed roofs, pediment, all face Madison Avenue but three are set back a good distance from the street. Four of these houses shown on 1912 map. Possibly they were moved from the island.	22289-28 slide



View looking NW from  
Madison Avenue bridge  
showing part of Bridge  
(site #1) and pumping  
station (site #2).  
Neg. file #  
22292-13

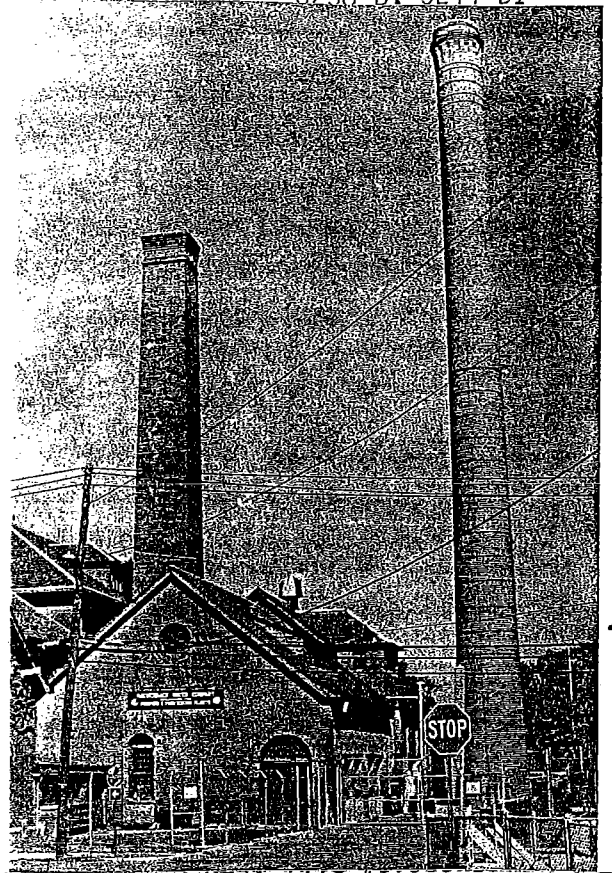


Site # 1, A view looking N  
showing oldest (1882)  
section of Pumping  
Station.  
Neg. file #  
97935-12



Site 1, A, C, D, E.  
View looking NE showing  
west and east sides of  
Pumping Station  
Neg. file #  
22292-12

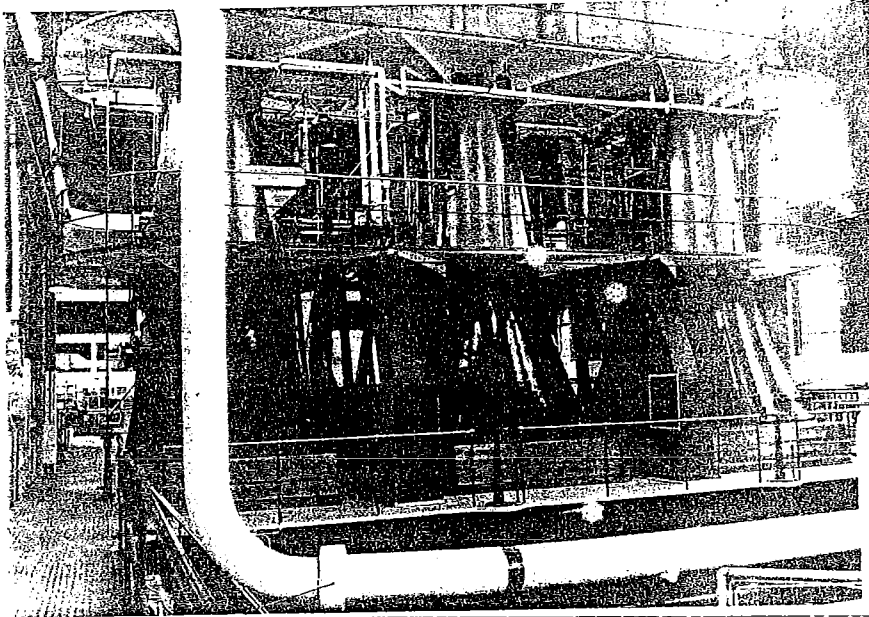
Site # 1, D  
View looking N showing Chimneys  
and part F of the Pumping Station  
Neg. file #97935-15



Site #1D and E  
View looking E showing  
Pumping Station, 1898  
and 1911 sections.  
Neg. file #  
97935-18

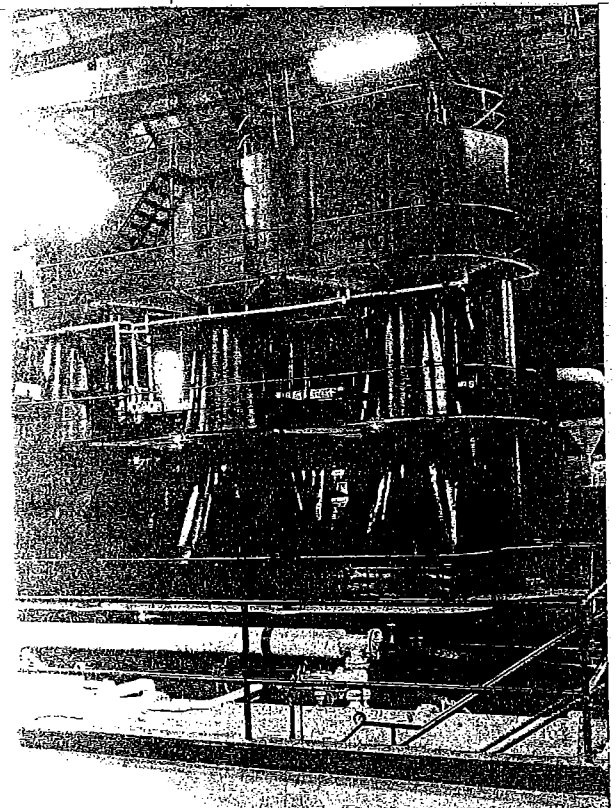


Site #1, D  
Detail of Pumping  
Station, 1898 section.  
Neg. file #  
97935-11

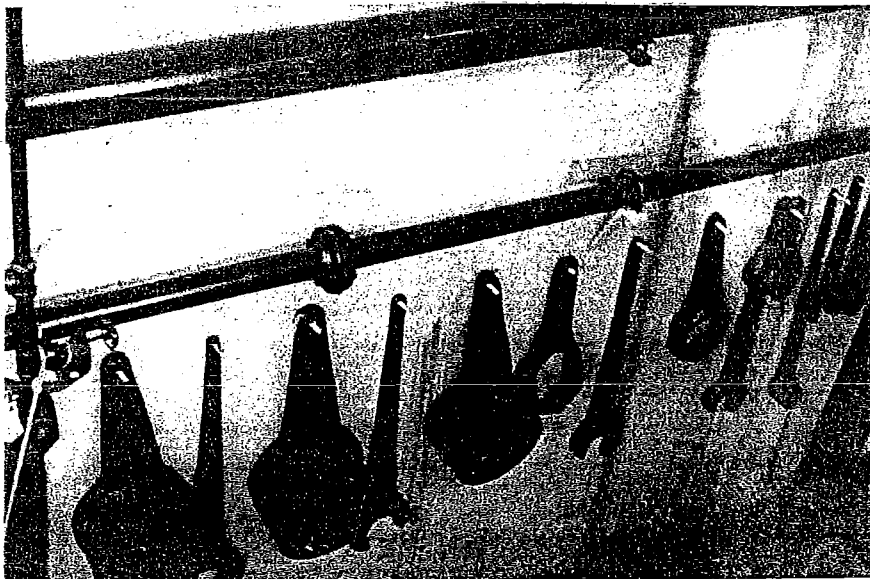


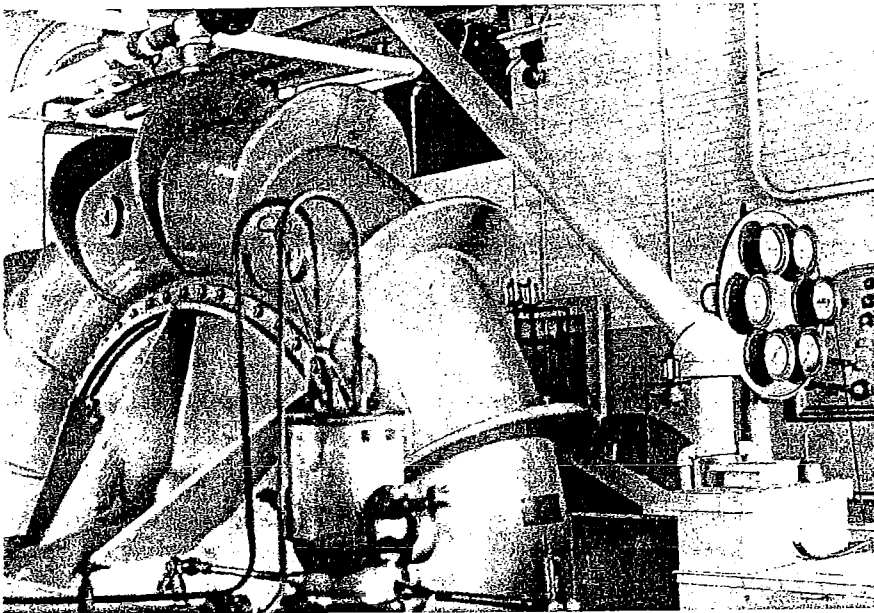
Site # 1, E  
Pump #7 in Pumping  
Station, looking NE  
Neg. file #  
95792-33

Site #1, E  
Pump #7  
Looking NW  
Neg. file #  
95792-36

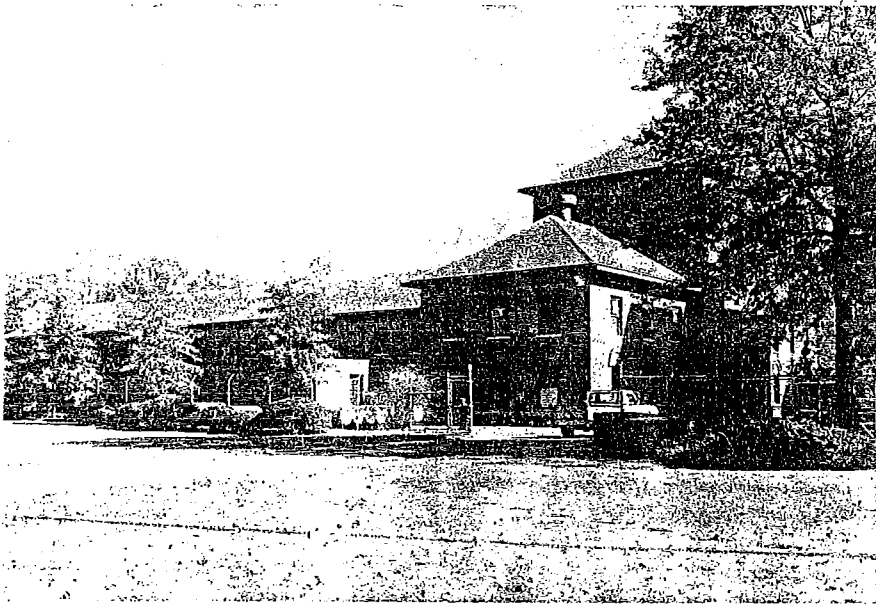


Site # 7, E  
Wrench Board for Pump #7,  
in pit area Pumping  
Station, 1911 section.  
Neg. file #97935-4





Site # 1, B  
1915 Cross Compound  
Corlis Steam Engine in  
Pumping station.  
Neg. file #  
95792-37

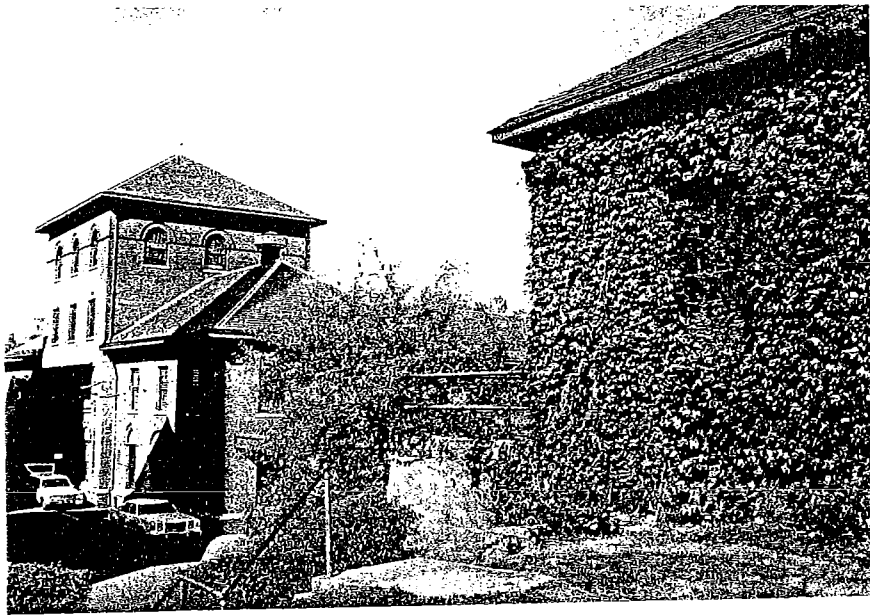


Site #2  
Filtration Plant  
Looking east  
Neg. file #  
97935-17

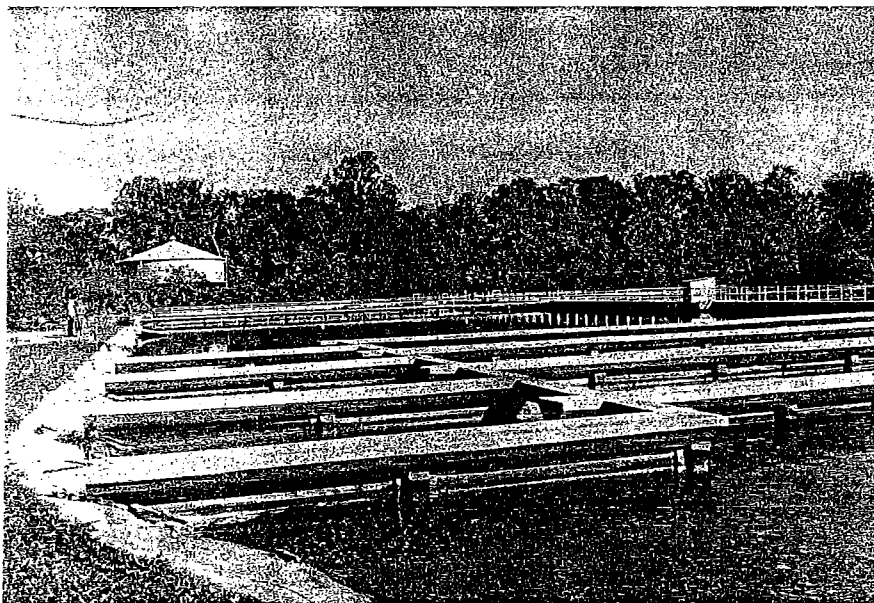


Site #2  
Interior of Filtration  
Plant, looking north  
Neg. file #  
97935-3

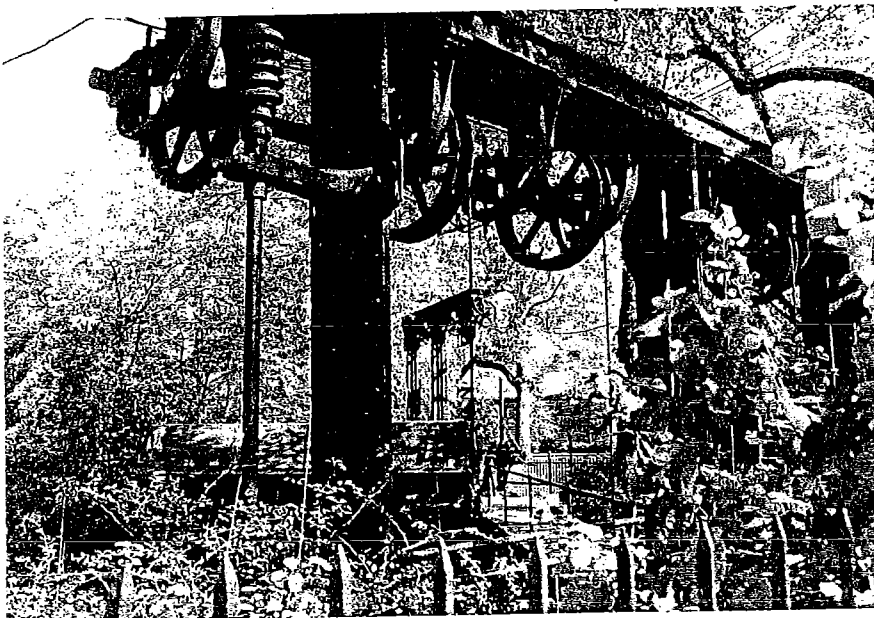




View looking NW showing  
parts of Gatehouse for  
Settling Basin (site #3)  
and Filtration Plant  
(site #2)  
Neg. file # 97935-6



Site #4  
Settling Basin  
Looking N.  
Neg. file # 07035-5



Site #6  
Intake Screen  
Looking NE  
Neg. file #  
97935-8

A black and white photograph showing a small, ornate bridge or walkway crossing a dense, overgrown garden path. The structure features decorative railings and is surrounded by thick foliage and trees. The bridge has a dark, possibly wooden or metal, frame with intricate railings. It spans a narrow, dark path that is heavily overgrown with plants and ferns. The surrounding area is filled with dense trees and bushes, creating a lush, somewhat wild garden atmosphere. The lighting is bright, casting shadows on the path and foliage.

1902

USS ARIZONA  
BATTLESHIP  
NO. 39  
NAVY DEPARTMENT  
WASHINGTON, D.C.  
U.S.A.

Site #8  
Detail showing plaque on  
Madison Avenue Bridge  
Neg. file #  
97935-14





0200 030211 02  
Site # 9  
1 Madison Ave.  
Neg. File #  
22289-29

15



Site # 10  
3 and 2  
Madison Ave.  
Neg. File #  
22289-28



NEW JERSEY OFFICE OF CULTURAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION SECTION  
HISTORIC DISTRICT SURVEY FORM

HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY NO. 0224-D2

DISTRICT NAME: Oradell Railroad Station District  
MUNICIPALITY: Oradell  
COUNTY: Bergen  
TYPE OF DISTRICT: Residential/Commercial  
USGS QUAD: Hackensack

UTM REFERENCES: Zone/Northing/Easting  
A  
B  
C  
D

## DESCRIPTION: (General description of district as a whole and boundaries)

The Oradell Railroad Station District includes the New Jersey and New York Railroad's Oradell station building located along Oradell Avenue at the south end of a park, the park around the station and to its south, the commercial building on the southwest corner of Oradell Avenue and Maple Avenue across from the station and seven houses along Maple facing the park. The district encompasses all buildings on Maple Avenue north of and including the house at 355 Maple Avenue and ending with the commercial building at the corner of Oradell Avenue. The district's western boundary is the rear property line of these properties along Maple Avenue. Oradell Avenue is the north boundary. The east boundary is the eastern side of the New Jersey and New York Railroad (now the Pascack Valley line of Con rail) tracks. The southern edge of the park and the south property line of 355 Maple Avenue are the south boundary.

Boundaries of the district were drawn to include the older buildings which relate to the railroad station or to the park. The recent apartment complex south of the park is omitted from the district and the houses at the southern end of the block of Maple Avenue because they do not face the park. The house south of 355 Main Street is a post World War II building. The two houses south of it are pre 1913 similar to other houses on this block of Maple Avenue. Formerly the Delford Hotel, a second Empire style building erected in 1870, was located on the north side of Oradell Ave. across from the station. This building has been replaced by Schirra Park which is not included in the district.

The focal point of the district is the Oradell Railroad Station building (map #1), a picturesque and little-altered example of a small Queen Anne style suburban railroad station. This building is located at the north end of a small park with grassy lawns, trees, shrubs, and sidewalks. The largest and only masonry building in the district is the three-story, brick commercial/residential building on the southwest corner of Oradell Avenue and Maple Ave (map #2). It is a very well preserved example of turn-of-the-century "Main Street" architecture, retaining its original store front. This building has a very small landscaped area with retaining walls in front of it and its Maple Avenue (east) building line abuts the sidewalk. The Maple Avenue houses in the district are set back from the sidewalk about 20 feet and have landscaped front yards. A number have low retaining walls along the sidewalk. The street is lined with trees.

All the houses in the district were erected between 1861 and 1913 except the post WW II house at 381 Maple Ave. (map #4). All the houses are examples of modest, frame middle-class suburban architecture. Two buildings were constructed between 1861 and 1876 probably in the early 1870's. Others are Queen Anne Style.

APPROXIMATE NUMBER OF BUILDINGS: 9 See Appendix A for description of buildings.  
PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURES: Excellent 100% Good \_\_\_\_% Fair \_\_\_\_% Poor \_\_\_\_%  
REGISTER ELIGIBILITY: ☐ Yes ☒ Possible ☐ No  
THREATS TO DISTRICT/LOCAL ATTITUDES:

The older houses south of the park have been replaced by recent apartment buildings.

COMMENTS:

## SIGNIFICANCE:

The Oradell Railroad Station district is a significant area with visual cohesiveness and strong sense of place which is important to the late 19th century history of Oradell as a railroad suburb. The picturesque railroad station, building in Bergen County is the focal point of the district. The park behind it is, also, an important feature defining the area. Bordering the park are modest suburban frame houses which represent the typical type of building erected in Oradell at the end of the 19th century. The well-preserved vernacular, Renaissance Revival brick buildings at the corner was the community's general store and in 1913-14 its post office. The district is also important due to its association with Walter M. Schirra Jr., who orbited the earth, October 3, 1962. He lived in one of the Maple Avenue houses before entering Annapolis.

In 1870 the Hackensack and New York Railroad (later the New Jersey and New York Railroad, now the Pascack Valley Line of Conrail) opened its Oradell station. The original depot was located on Oradell Avenue kitty corner to the current station building. Very soon a small hamlet grew up around the station and by 1876 this hamlet of Oradell had twenty houses, a store and post office building, a hotel and a schoolhouse. Two of the houses are in this district (map #3 and 5) and were the only buildings existing in 1876 within the boundaries of the district. S. Voorhis, the owner of one of the houses, owned undeveloped lots on today's Maple Avenue and the undivided land where the park and station are now located.

A map published in 1913 reveals that all but one building now in the district had been erected. The architectural styles of the buildings suggest that they were erected between 1885-1905. They are significant remnants of the development period.

Schirra's significance to New Jersey history was recognized when the New Jersey Committee for Historic Sites Evaluation selected Oradell as the site for the first roadside marker to designate a current event of future historical significance. The marker located near this district in Schirra park reads: "Oradell Home of Commander Walter M. Schirra, Jr., USA The First Jerseyman to Orbit the Earth October 3, 1962".

\* the best Queen Style railroad station

Anne

REFERENCES: (Include representation in existing surveys) NJHSI 2316.1  
Walker Atlas 1876 : Only two buildings shown  
Bromley 1913 vol II: plate 22  
Claire K. Tholl's list of "Early Structures Still Extant" in Bergen County,  
March 1978, updated May 1979  
Crump, pp 29, 86-91, 133-134, 237  
Bergen Evening Record, May 23, 1978.

Railroad Station included in Heritage Studies Railroad Station Survey

## ATTACHMENTS: (Indicate number)

MAPS: 2

PHOTOS: 4

SLIDES: 1

OTHER: (Specify) Appendix A: Descriptions of Buildings

RECORDED BY: TRB  
ORGANIZATION: BCOC & HA  
DATE: 10/81

0244-D2

## Appendix A: Descriptions of Building in Oradell Railroad Station District

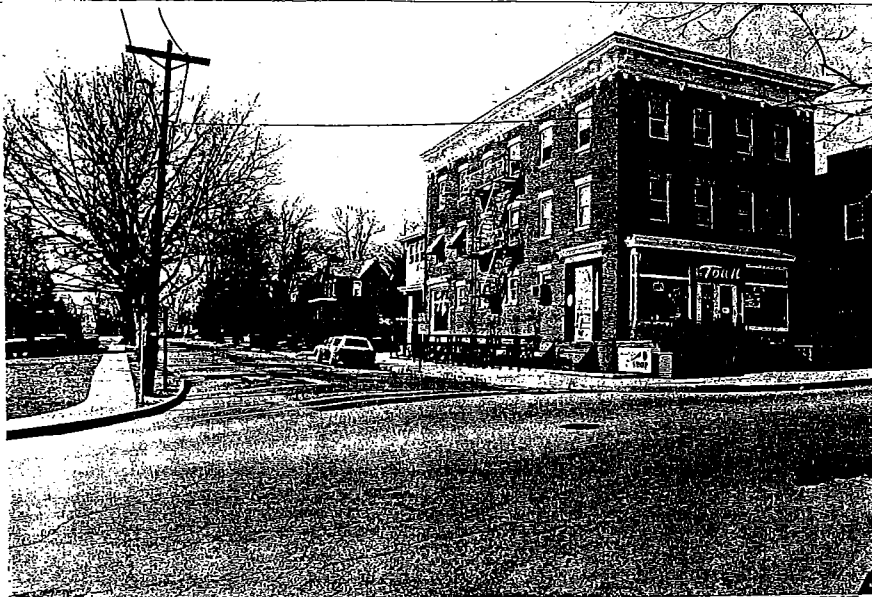
Map #	Address	Historic Owners Names Dates in ( )	Date Erected	Sig. to District/ Streetscape	Description (use, style; stories; ext. wall fabric; fenestration; roof; major features; alterations; etc.)	Neg. file #
1	Oradell Ave. at North end of Park be- tween Maple Ave. and railroad tracks.	Oradell Railroad Station	Bet. 1876- 1913, c. 1890	P	Railroad Station; Queen Anne; 1; clapboard and decorative shingles; irregular bays; original windows and doors with stained glass inserts; gabled hip with gablet and central cupola with square base and polygonal roof, slate roof; wrap around veranda under main roof; heavy turned posts and spandrels. This building is included in Heritage Studies Railroad Station Survey.	27690-31
2	Southwest corner of Oradell and Maple Ave.	Oradell Mercantile Co. of Oradell Van Buskirk and Landmann (1901) later just Landmann	1903 (Crump p. 203)	M	Commercial/Residential; Vernacular Renaissance Revival; 3 stories; brick; 4 bays by 6 bays, later rear(south) addition, 1/1; flat; handsome projecting cornice on three sides with paired brackets and modillions; stone or concrete sills and lintels; original storefront.	22292-2
3	North of 391 Maple Ave.	S. Voorhis(1876)	bet. 1861- 1876 probably 1870's	M	Vernacular; 2½; replacement synthetic shingles; 3 bays, 2/2; cross gable; round-headed window in gable, simple porch with chamfered posts, spandrel or brackets probably removed.	
4	381 Maple Ave.		Post WW II	C	House; vernacular, 1½; aluminum siding; gable end faces street.	
5	377 Maple Ave.	D. I. Zabriskie	Bet. 1861-76	M	House; Vernacular; 2½; replacement synthetic shingles; 3 bays, 2/2; cross gables; pointed-arched heads on gable windows, 3 bay veranda, striped of detail.	22292-7 + 8
6	371 Maple Ave.	Boyhood Home of Walter M. Schirra, Jr.	bet. 1876- 1913	P	House; vernacular Queen Anne; clapboard with decorative shingles 3 bay; gable; gable end faces street; porch altered; dormers.	22292-8
7	between 371 and Maple Ave. 367					
8	357 Maple Ave.	Charles Demarest House	Bet. 1876-1913	M	House; vernacular Queen Anne; replacement shingles; 3 bays, some Queen Anne style colored glass borders; gable end faces street; L-shaped veranda with turned posts, 2-story bay windows, fascia board on eaves with geometric designs.	22292-9
9	355 Maple Ave.		Bet. 1876-1913	F	House; vernacular Queen Anne; 2½; clapboard with pattern decorative shingles in gable; 3 bays, windows have colored glass borders; gable with side gablets; porch with turned posts, spindle frieze, north end turned into sunporch with glazing; bay window, concrete block retaining wall along sidewalk. Said to have had first bath tub in Oradell. House; vernacular; 2½; shingles; irregular, 1/1; cross gable; porch altered.	22292-9

Photographs of Oradell Railroad Station District



Oradell  
Railroad  
Station

Building #1  
Neg. file #  
27690-31



Maple Avenue  
looking SW  
from Oradell  
Ave. showing  
buildings #2,  
5. Neg. file #  
22292-7



Maple Avenue  
looking West  
showing 377  
and 371 Maple  
Ave. (buildings  
# 5,6)  
Neg. file#  
22292-8

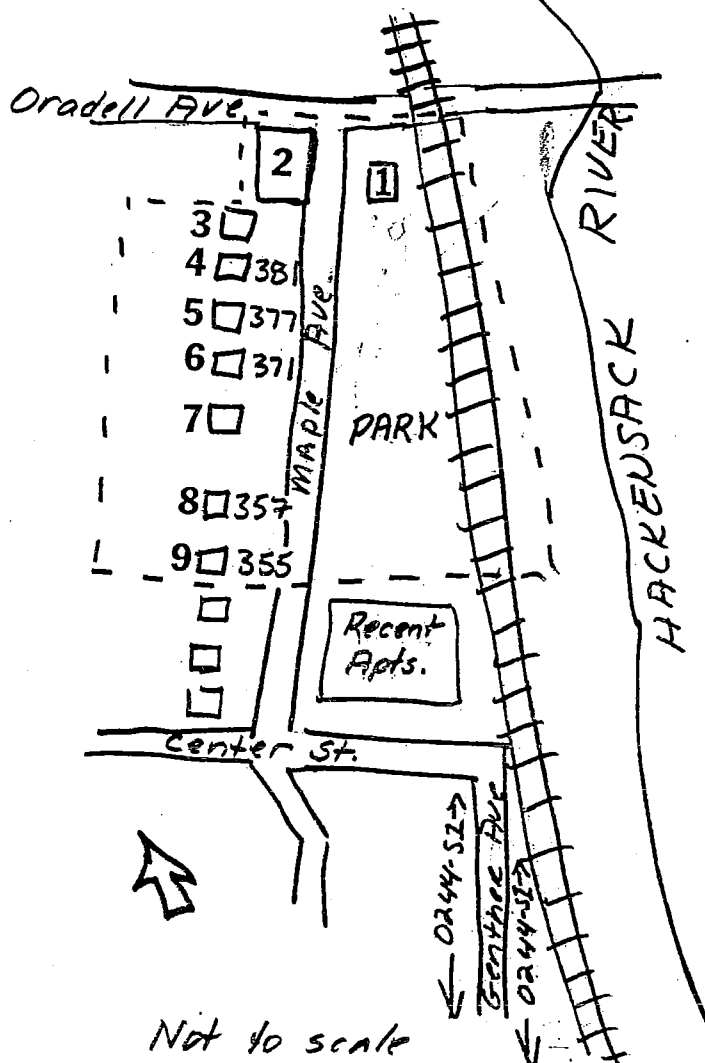
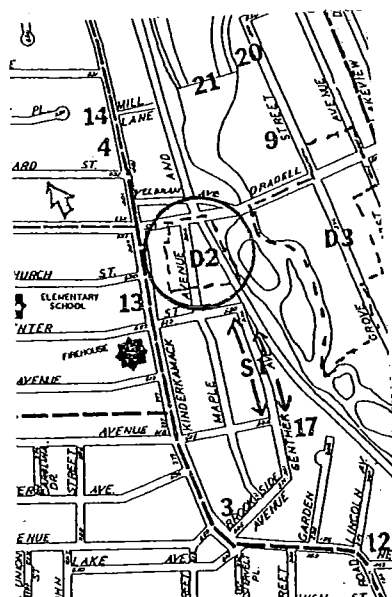
# Photograph of Oradell Railroad Station District



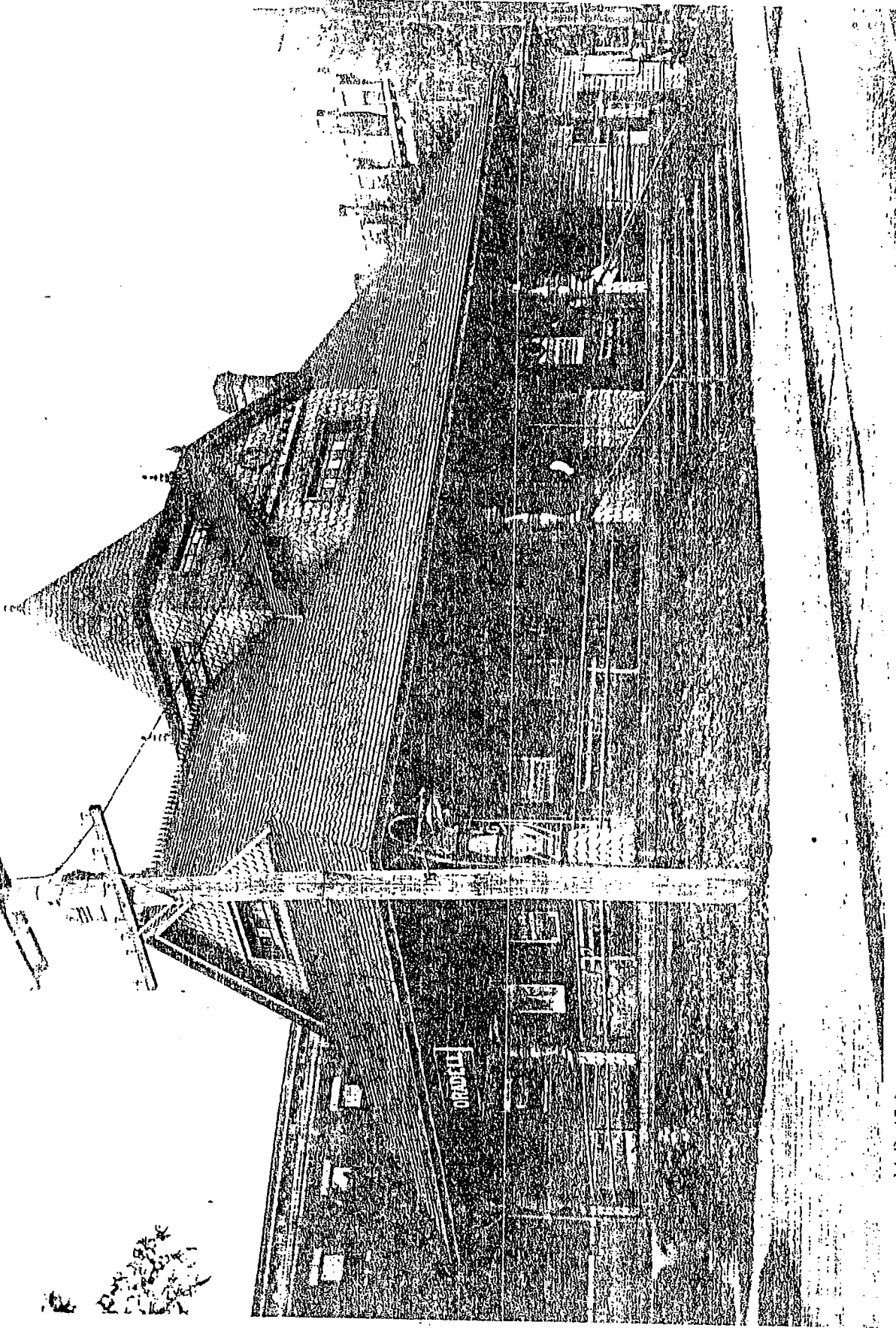
Maple Ave. looking  
west showing 355 and  
357 Maple Ave.  
(Buildings 8 and 9)  
Neg. file #  
22292-9

## Map of District

Dashed line shows  
approximate boundaries  
Single digit number  
refer to map # on  
Appendix A. Three digit  
numbers are house numbers.



## 6-4 Oradell Railroad Station (Next Station, Vol. II)



M.P.-17.9

The ornate station at ORADELL was built in 1890 and was situated at the end of N.J. & N.Y. double track. As it was a train register point its telegraph was busy. Call was CD. Ernest E. Hinds was agent.



## 1. IDENTIFICATION

A. Name: Common Oradell  
Historic

Line: Hoboken Division  
Pascack Valley  
(Erie) (NJ&NY)

B. Address or location:

400 Maple Ave.  
Oradell, N.J. 07649

County: Bergen  
Municipality: Oradell Borough  
Block & lot: part of 18 / 6

C. Owner's name: Oradell Borough  
Address: Oradell, N.J.

The Oradell complex is located on a relatively open park-like site at the east edge of the commercial district, S. of Oradell Avenue and just W. of the Hackensack River. It consists of a 1½ story wood frame station in Queen Anne style with adjoining Freight House and inbound platform. Tracks are aligned N-S. There are parking lots N. of the station (1) and NE of the station, just N. of Oradell Avenue (2). Immediately W. of the station is a loop drive from Oradell Ave. to Maple Ave. on the west. Pedestrian access is unrestricted.

Presently, the station is used as an office by an interior designer.

The station at Oradell, located west of the tracks, consists of a frame, one and one-half story rectangular block with a gable on hip roof, its main ridge paralleling the tracks. A short rectangular tower rises centrally astride the ridge. It is capped by a short octagonal spire. Adjoining the tower on the east is a shallow gabled projection and on the west a gabled dormer. Originally, a gabled porte-cochere sharing the eave line with the main roof adjoined the dormer on the west. This has since been removed. Gable ends, the dormer projection, and tower facades each contain a single linear multi-paned art glass window. All but those in the tower have been boarded over.

A veranda, sheltered by the main roof and supported by a single row of turned wood columns with shingled spandrels and bases, surrounds the enclosed portion of the block. The east facade contains a central 16 (radial concentric)/1 flanked on either side by a 15/1 facing the tracks and a 10/1 on the north and south facades respectively. Flanking the projection on either side are (from the center) a 16 (radial concentric)/3 panel door with 25 pane transom and a 20/1. The west facade is similar except that (2) 16-pane windows replace the projection. The north and south facades each contain a pair of 20/1's (those on the north are boarded). Adjoining the station on the north is a frame one-story freight house, its hipped roof on axis with the station roof. It contains a freight door with transom (boarded) on the east and west, (2) windows on the north and a window and door on the south. A rectangular brick chimney rises from the north end of the block (not original). Except for the roofing, materials appear original.

The spaces of the Oradell station are on one level. Originally, the block was probably divided roughly into thirds, the middle third comprising the ticket office (facing the tracks) and rest rooms. (facing the drive). The end thirds probably were waiting rooms. The north waiting room (1) remains intact, except that a new ticket office has been partitioned from the north-east corner. The north restroom is still in use. Other original partition walls are gone and the resulting space since converted to a design studio (not accessible).

FACILITY NAME: Oradell

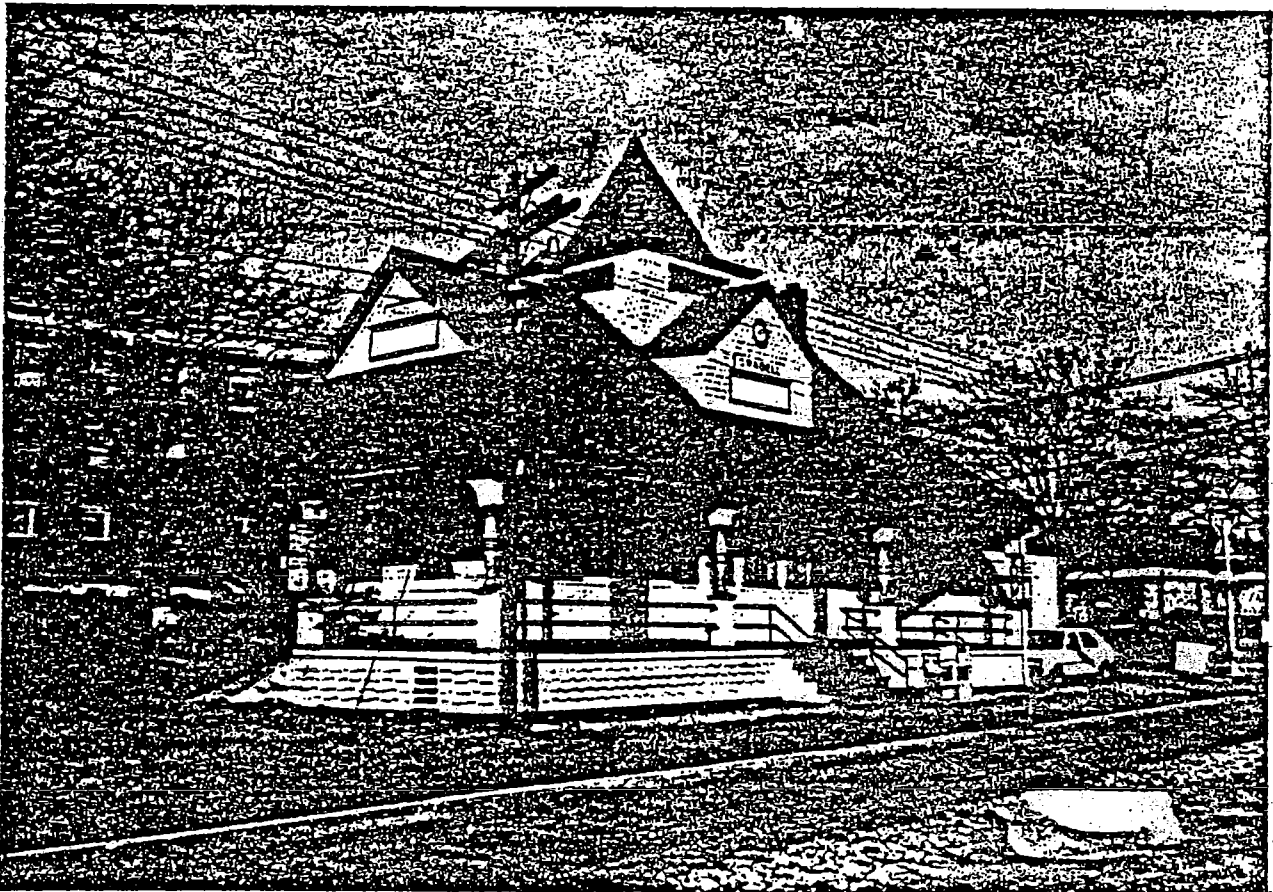
RR 0244-  
Survey # 6-4

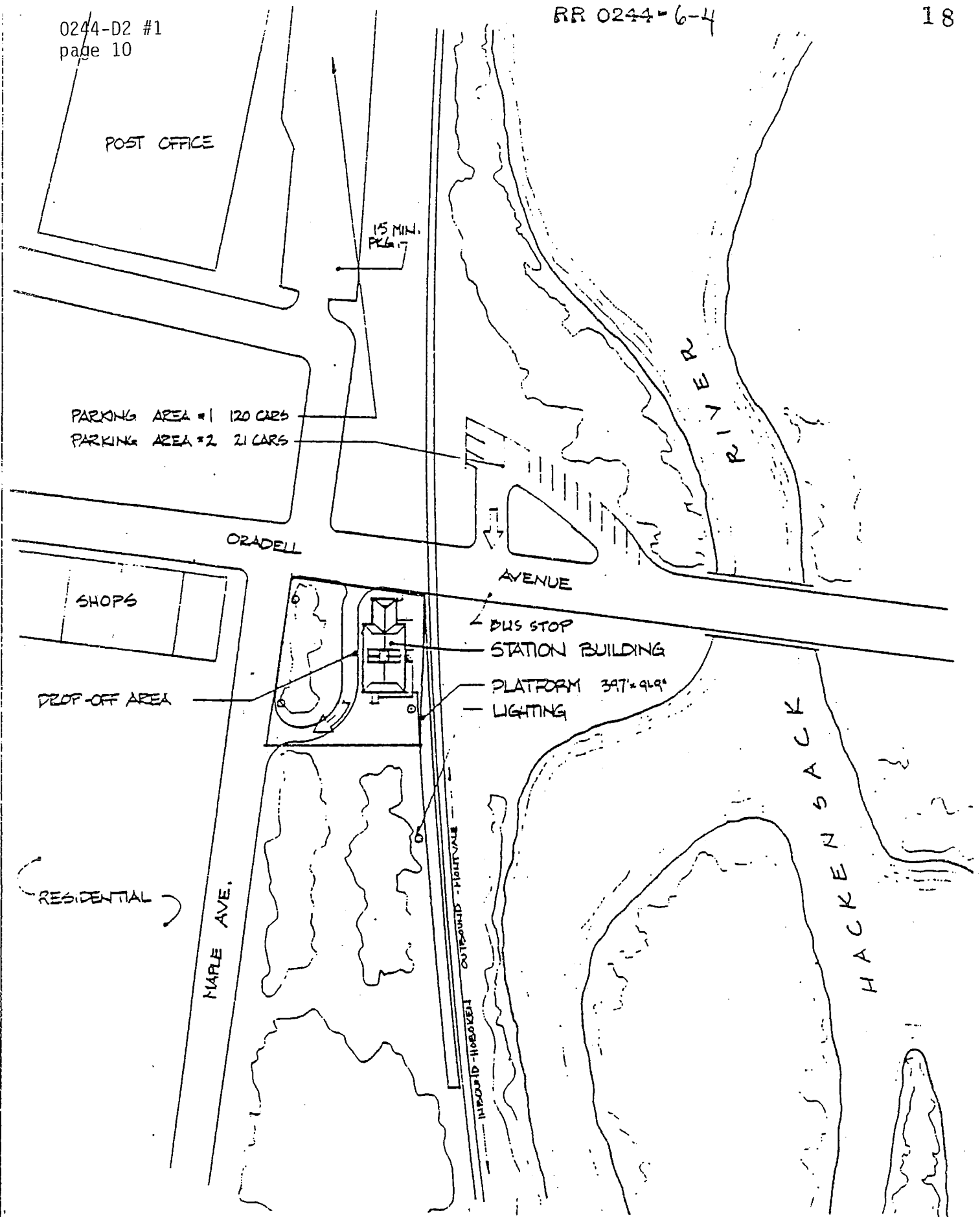
5. SIGNIFICANCE OF COMPLEX (ARCHITECTURAL/HISTORICAL):

Architect unknown source                       
Date 1890 Source (Next Sta.) Alteration dates unknown Source                       
Style Queen Anne  
# passenger trains/day (present) 14 in 1980 Peak (#, Yr.) 38 in 1930  
No Original station on site 10 in 1941  
31 in 1909

The Oradell station is a fine example of the Queen Anne style adapted to the functions of a late 19th century suburban station. Of particular note are the tower, steeple, and finials, corbeled chimneys, turned columns, and art glass windows (finials, chimneys, and some of the windows are missing).

Oradell has always been an important commuter stop, but the station gained additional significance as the end point of double-tracking from Rutherford Jct. and the control point for signals and switches. It was staffed around-the-clock, which may account for its relatively large size.





FACILITY NAME: Oradell

-7  
RR 0244-  
Survey # 6-4

## 6. GEOGRAPHIC DATA

Verbal boundary description (if Block/Lot not available)

Boundaries are outlined on the site plan.

Acreage: Less than one acre.

UTM coordinates: Zone: 18 / Easting: 5 8 1 5 9 0 / Northing: 4 5 3 3 8 4 0  
USGS Quad Hackensack Scale 1:24 000

## 7. REFERENCES

### BIBLIOGRAPHIC:

The Next Station Will Be ..., Vol. II, the Railroadians of America, 19<sup>th</sup> , n.p.

### ICONOGRAPHIC:

Stalton & Jones, Railway Historical Monograph, Crete, Neb., Railroad Station Historical Society, Jan. 1973, p. 12.

Carleton, Paul D., The Erie-Lackawanna Story, River Vale, N.J. author, 1974, p. 476.

## 8. PHOTO

Negative index # ??01 or NJT photo # - slide # 6-4  
Date 1978 Photographer Richard Browne Assocs.  
Loc. of negative N.J. Transit Direction of view: Station from East

SIGNIFICANCE:

The Oradell Avenue-Grove Street District contains the largest and most architecturally interesting concentrations of late nineteenth century domestic architecture in Oradell. In addition, it has an early 19th century house with a handsome Greek Revival style doorway and interesting historical associations (Building 19) and a 1930 mansion (Building 1), an architectural show place associated with an important Oradell public figure. The district is associated with the development of the hamlet of Oradell as a railroad suburb.

Isaac Demarest, the owner of the house at 516 Oradell Avenue (Building 19), was instrumental in obtaining the Oradell railroad stop. He built the Delford Hotel near the new railroad depot in 1870, the first store in the Oradell hamlet, and its first public meeting place (all gone). Demarest also was instrumental in organizing the borough of Delford. In 1876 he owned much of the land on which the houses in this district would later be built.

Isaac Demarest's son Daniel is credited with coining the name Oradell, meaning edge of the dell. He subsequently was the borough's second mayor. In 1912 he lived in the family house at 516 Oradell Avenue (Building 19). It is very likely that Daniel remodelled the house.

John W. Bellis, Oradell's mayor from 1916 to 1936, built the large mansion at 353 Oradell Avenue in 1930 (Building 1). The Jacob T. Demarest House was moved from the site to its current location at 473 Grove Street (0244-21). The Bellis House, an imposing Georgian Revival design, has a grand scale and is the second largest house extant in Oradell (only the Atwood-Blauvelt Mansion (0244-5) is larger). Bellis is said to be "the man who contributed more to the careful development of the Borough than any other single individual." (Frederick E. Wendel in Crump p. 77). He formed a syndicate to develop land in the center of the borough. The Oradell Land Improvement Company was formed in September 1887. It is probable that the company developed Grove Street and the section of Oradell Avenue in the district. Bellis took an active role in persuading families like the Maples family who built on Grove Street about 1888 to move to Oradell.

Grove Street was laid out in 1872 soon after the railroad came to Oradell. However, its development was delayed until the late 1880's. The Panic of 1873 and the financial difficulties of the rail line were likely factors causing this delay. The railroad was reorganized in 1880 when it was taken over by the Erie, but as late as 1888 the

(Continued)

REFERENCES: (Include representation in existing surveys)

ake Hackensack report, information of Buildings #1, 553 Oradell Ave.  
 ergen Evening Record 50th anniversary issue, June 2, 1944,  
 rump, p. 23, 221, Article by Frederick E. Wendel p. 77.  
 union League Inventory: "Isaac Demarest House, 516 Oradell Ave., C. 1850", Building #19  
 ergen County Historic Sites Built before or during the 1880's, Building #19  
 . S. Coast Survey Map. T97  
 opkins 1861  
 alker 1876  
 romely I: plate 20

ATTACHMENTS: (Indicate number)MAPS: 2

PHOTOS: \_\_\_\_\_

SLIDES: 7OTHER: (Specify)

Appendix A: Descriptions of Buildings in District

RECORDED BY: TRB

ORGANIZATION: BCOC &amp; HA

DATE: 10-1981

DPF-037  
6/81

## NEW JERSEY OFFICE OF CULTURAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

## HISTORIC PRESERVATION SECTION

## HISTORIC DISTRICT SURVEY FORM

## HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY NO.

DISTRICT NAME: Oradell Ave. - Grove Street	UTM REFERENCES: Zone/Northing/Easting
MUNICIPALITY: Oradell District	A
COUNTY: Bergen	B
TYPE OF DISTRICT: Residential	C
USGS QUAD: Hackensack	D

## DESCRIPTION: (General description of district as a whole and boundaries)

The Oradell Avenue-Grove Street district is a grouping of twenty-one houses located in the section of Oradell on the east side of the Hackensack River. The River forms the district's west boundary. The district contains the six houses on both sides of Oradell Avenue between Grove Street and Demarest Avenue between the River and Grove Street (Building #1). Also included are the houses lining Grove Street as it extends south from Oradell Avenue ending on the west side with the house at 319 Grove Street and on the east side with the house at 344 Grove Street. The boundaries were determined by the density of older buildings of architectural interest. Buildings adjacent to district boundaries are either newer structures or older structures of less architectural quality or extensively altered.

The character of the district is that of a residential suburb of 1885-1900 with a later, circa 1930 mansion (building #1) as its visual anchor. All buildings in the district are frame free-standing houses of moderate to large size except Building 1 which is a very large frame house. Each house is located on a landscaped suburban size lot except building 1 is on a parcel four to five times larger than others in the district.

Thirteen of the twenty-one principal buildings in the district are Queen Anne style houses. Many of these have decorative porches with turned posts and spindle friezes and windows with colored glass borders which are typical of the Queen Anne mode. Several of the houses (#s 2, 7, 12, 13) retain shingle and clapboard wall surfaces, a combination frequently found on Queen Anne style houses. Irregularity of massing, another Queen Anne feature, is displayed by several houses in the district, particularly buildings 3 and 7 with their corner towers. Several houses are examples of the colonial revival mode (buildings 8, 14, 15, 16) and several of the Queen Anne style houses have later colonial revival columnar porches (buildings 2, 13). The Bellis Mansion (building 1) is an excellent example of a Georgian Revival mansion. The other buildings in the district pre-date 1912. They appear to have been built between 1885-1910 except for building 19. Building 19, the Isaac Demarest House, was built before 1837. However, this house was probably remodelled about 1900 when columnar porch was added. It retains a handsome Greek Revival Style doorway with Ionic columns.

See Appendix A for description of buildings in this district.

\* and the large mansion on the south of Oradell Avenue

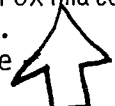
APPROXIMATE NUMBER OF BUILDINGS: 21  
 PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURES: Excellent 95 % Good 5 % Fair      % Poor      %  
 REGISTER ELIGIBILITY: ☐ Yes ☒ Possible ☐ No  
 THREATS TO DISTRICT/LOCAL ATTITUDES:

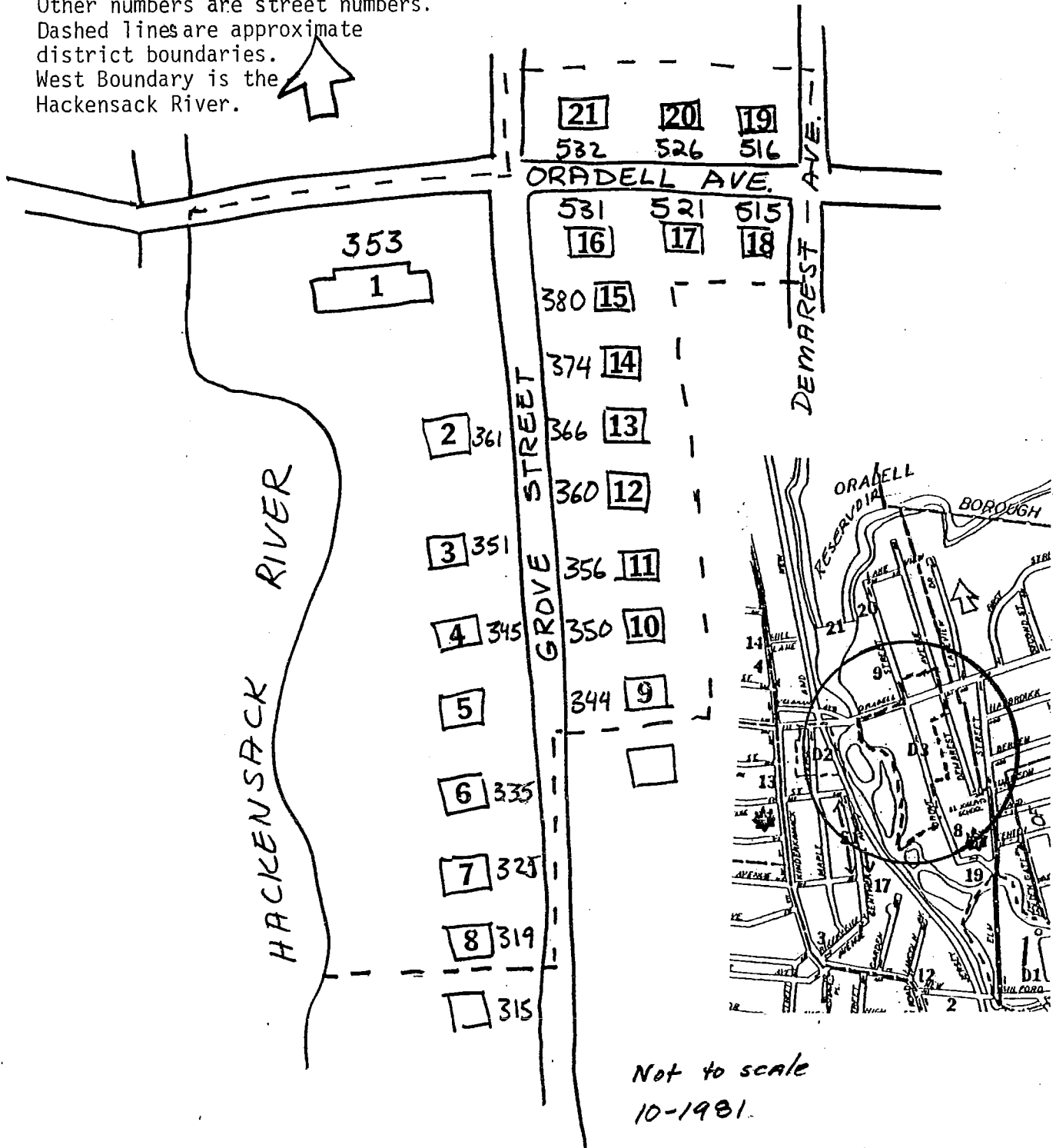
COMMENTS:

(Significance continued)

the Community had only 10 daily railroad commuters. In that year the Bergen County Building and Loan Association was established. This group probably helped finance the houses built along Grove Street and Oradell Avenue.

By 1912 most of the houses in the district had been erected. Many are fine examples of the picturesque Queen Anne style suburban houses while others are examples of the later colonial revival mode.

Numbers on buildings refer to map numbers on District List. Other numbers are street numbers. Dashed lines are approximate district boundaries. West Boundary is the Hackensack River. 



Map #	Address	Historic Owners Names Dates in ( )	Date Erected	Sig. to District/ Streetscape	Description ( style; stories; ext. wall fabric; fenestra- tion; roof; major features; alterations; etc.)	Neg. file #
1	553 Oradell Avenue	John W. Bellis (1930- )	1930. with 3 bays/side	P	Georgian Revival; 2½ with 2-story side wings; clapboard; 5 bays wings, 12/1; hips; central pavilion with triangular pediment, Corinthian pilasters, 1 story semi-circular in plan entrance porch with Corinthian columns, balustrade, doorway with sidelight and transom. Classical cornice with dentils; windows have cornices; west wing has 1st-story sunporch with columns between bays supporting full entablature, corner Corinthian pilasters, gable dormers with round-headed sash flanked by pilasters; massive interior chimneys on wings; expansive grounds, on rise overlooking Hackensack River.	22292-19
2	361 Grove Street		c. 1890	M	Queen Anne; 2½; 1st story: clapboard, upper stories: fishscale shingles and clapboard; 3 bays, 1/1, some Queen Anne style borders; gables: L-shaped basic plan, has rear wing (c. early 20th c), later columnar wrap-around porch; carriage house.	22292-23
3	351 Grove Street		c. 1890	M	Queen Anne; 2½; replacement synthetic shingles; 3 bays; sash with Queen Anne colored borders over 2; cross gables; corner 3-story tower, oculis on 3rd story, weathervane, wrap-around porch with turned posts and spindle frieze, round arched windows in gables, carriage house.	22292-23 95792-22
4	345 Grove Street		c. 1890	F	Queen Anne; 2½; replacement synthetic shingles; 3 bays, 1/1; gable; Queen Anne style window with colored glass border in gable; porch stripped except for turned posts, new garage awkwardly added at north side of porch.	22292-23 22292-22 95792-22
5	bet. 345 and 335 Grove Street		c. 1890	M	Queen Anne; 2½; clapboard; 4 bays, 1/1; gable; porch with turned posts and spindle frieze, bay window in north bay, central triangular pediment, needs painting.	22292-22 95792-20
6	335 Grove Street		c. 1900	F	Bungalow; 1½; replacement aluminum siding; 3 bays, 1/1; gable with flare which extends over porch; large gable dormer, paired entrance doors.	22292-21



0244-D3

Map #	Address	Historic Owners Names Dates in ( )	Date Erected	Sig. to District / Streetscape	Description (use; style; stories; ext. wall fabric; fenestration; roof; major features; alterations; etc.)	Neg. file #
7	325 Grove Street		C. 1890	M 3rd	Queen Anne; 2½ clapboard with decorative shingles on gable and story of tower; 2 bays; cross gables; wraparound porch, tower rises above an awkward 2nd story polygonal bay, tower has brackets and polygonal roof, tower, windows have Queen Anne style colored glass; 1st story obscured by shrubs..	22292-21
8	319 Grove Street		c. 1890	F	Altered colonial revival; 2½; replacement aluminum siding; 2 bays, paired windows; center clipped gable with side gambrel; 2nd story overhang, bay window, large int.-chimneys with shaped stacks, projecting side entrance pavilion.	95792-19
9	344 Grove Street		c. 1890	F	Altered Queen Anne; 2½; replacement synthetic shingles; 3 bays, 2/2; gables; L-shaped, paired windows with colored glass borders in gable, bay window; porch's trim covered.	22292-24
10	350 Grove Street		c. 1890	M-P	Queen Anne; 1½; replacement synthetic shingles; first story: 2 bays, 1/1 some Queen Anne style borders; gables; porch with turned posts, spindle frieze, shed roof broken in front of 2nd-story windows; decorative fascia board along eaves, side south window at rear with wall dormer and cat-slide roof, accessory building in rear with weathervane.	22292-24 95792-21
11	356 Grove Street		C. 1890	F	Queen Anne; 2½; replacement synthetic shingles; 3 bays, 2/2; gables; wraparound porch with turned posts and spindle frieze, 2-story side bay window, simple rectangular massing.	22292-24, 25
12	360 Grove Street		C. 1890	P	Queen Anne; 2½; clapboard with decorative shingles between windows and in gables; 3 bays, 1/1 with some Queen Anne style borders; gables; L-shaped, porch with octagonal corner projection, turned post and spindle frieze, polygonal ell with braces with drops under triangular pediment.	22292-24, 25 95792-23
13	366 Grove Street		C. 1890	M	Queen Anne; 2½ clapboard and shingles; 2 bays, 1/1; upper sash has Queen Anne style border; gable; columnar porch probably early 20th c.	22292-25
14	374 Grove Street	Bellis est. (1912).	C. 1900	F-I	Extensively altered colonial revival; replacement brick facing, shake shingles, synthetic shingles; cross gambrels; 2 bays on upper story, bay window and entrance on 1st.	22292-25

0244-D3

Map #	Address	Historic Owners Names Dates in ( )	Date Erected	Sig. to District Streetscape	Description (use, style; stories; ext. wall fabric; fenestration; roof; major features; alterations; etc.)	Neg. file #
15	380 Grove Street		c. 1930's	C	Colonial Revival; 1½; front is stone faced, ashlar, rock faced, sides: clapboard; 3 bays, 8/8; gable; ext. end chimney, frontis piece doorway.	
16	531 Oradell Avenue	W. H. Christie(1876) House probably replaced Bellis est. (1912)	C. 1900	M	Colonial Revival, 2½; clapboard; 3 bays, 9/9; gables; cornice wrap-around columnar porch, round headed window in gable.	95792-28
17	521 Oradell Avenue	Blauvelt (1912)	c. 1890	M	Queen Anne, 2½; replacement shingles, 3 bays, 1/1 with colored glass Queen Anne style borders, cross gables; porch with turned posts and Eastlake style brackets, frieze, decorative fascia board along eaves.	95792-25
18	515 Oradell Avenue	C. H. Storms(1912)	c. 1890	F-I	Altered Queen Anne; 2½; replacement aluminum siding; irregular, 1/1; gables, porch stripped so only turned posts remain.	95792-25
19	516 Oradell Avenue	Demarest(1861) I. D. Demarest (1876) Daniel J. Demarest (1912)	pre 1837	P	Vernacular some Greek Revival elements; 1½ stories with ½ story east wing; replacement wood shakes; 3 bay with 2 bay side wing, replacement sash, 1/1, cross gambrels, roof shape probably took current form c. 1900, columnar porch, c.1900, sandstone foundation on front part of east wing entrance has Ionic columns, sidelights and transom, replacement door(similar but lighter proportioned doorway on N. Reformed Church parsonage, 191 Washington Ave., Dumont(0210-3), soffit of gambrels have guttae.	22292-32 95792-24
20	526 Oradell Avenue		c. 1900	F	Vernacular; 2½; synthetic shingles; irregular, 1/1; hip, cornices, porch with posts.	
21	532 Oradell Avenue	H. A. Chapin(1912)	1890	M	Queen Anne; 2½; replacement synthetic shingles; 3 bays; some Queen Anne style borders; hip with gable wall dormer; porch with gable at entrance, turned posts, decorative railing, original terne roofing material, projecting pair of windows in gable.	95792-26 95792-27

Appendix B Photographs of Oradell Ave.-Grove Street  
Historic District, Borough of Oradell, Bergen County



Building #1  
353 Oradell ave.  
Neg. file #  
22292-19



View looking NW  
showing West side  
of Grove street and  
part of 345(#4)  
351(#3) and 361  
(#2) Grove Street  
Neg. file #  
22292-23



Part of 345(#4) and  
351(#3)  
Grove Street  
Neg. file #  
95792-22



View looking NW  
showing west side  
of Grove St. including  
Buildings 5, 4, and 3  
Neg. file #  
22292-22



Building 5,  
bet. 345 and  
335 Grove Street  
Neg. file #  
95792-20



Building 7 and 6,  
321 and 335 Grove  
Street looking NW  
Neg. file #  
22292-21



Building 7  
325 Grove St.  
Neg. file #  
95792-19



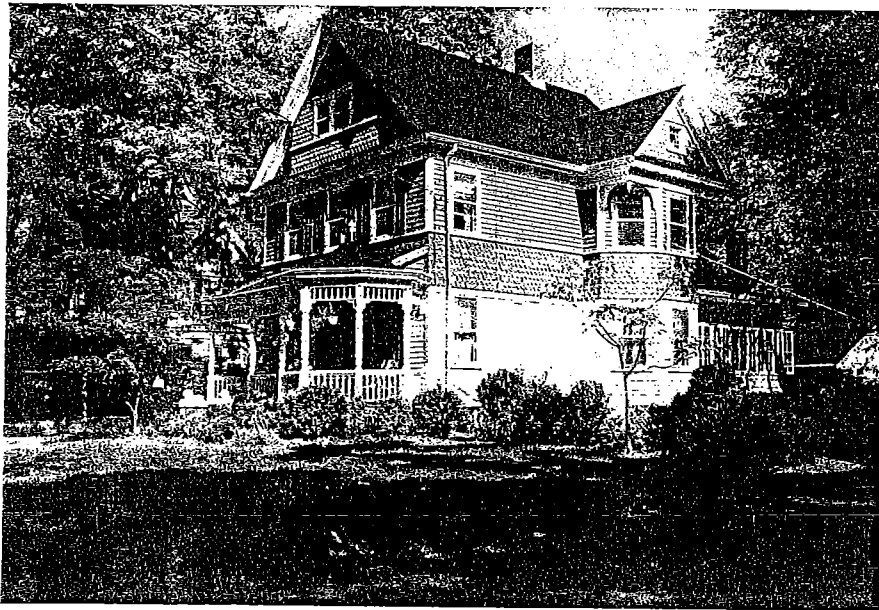
View looking  
NE showing  
East side of  
Grove St.  
Bet. 344 and 374  
(Buildings 9-14)  
Neg. file #  
22292-24



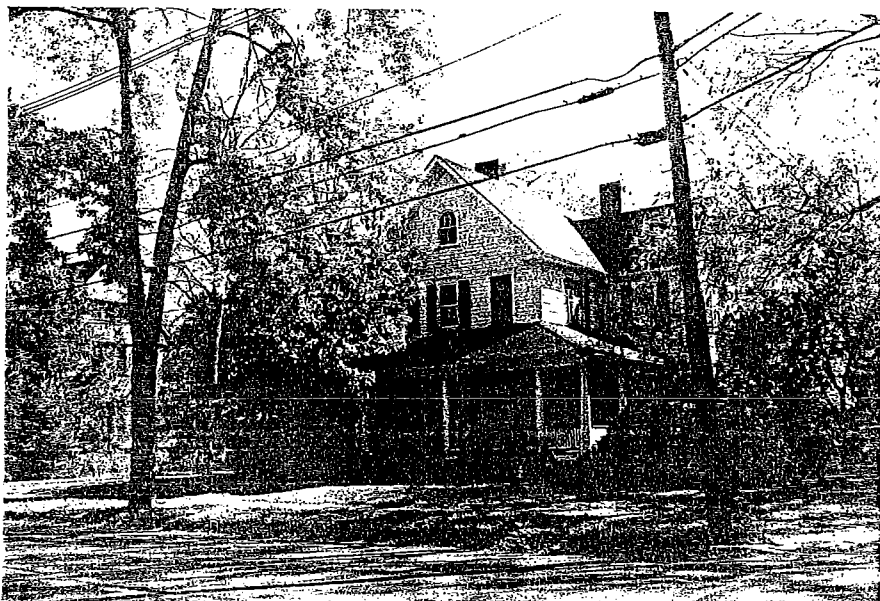
Building 10  
350 Grove St.  
Neg. file #  
95792-21



View looking NE  
showing east side  
of Grove Street  
and Oradell Avenue  
(Buildings 11-16)  
Neg. file #  
22292-25



Building 12  
360 Grove Street  
Neg. file #  
95792-23



Building 16  
531 Oradell Avenue  
Neg. file #  
95792-28





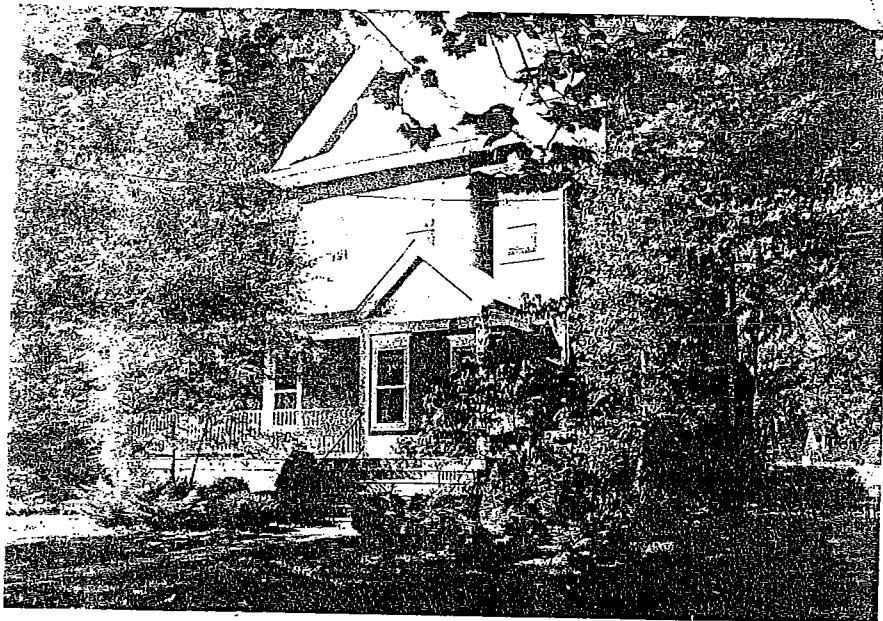
Buildings 18 and 17, 515 +  
521 Oradell Avenue  
Neg. file #  
95792-25



Building 19  
516 Oradell Avenue  
Neg. file #  
22292-32



Detail showing  
doorway of  
Building 19,  
515 Oradell Avenue  
Neg. file # 95792-24



Building 20  
526 Oradell Ave.  
Neg. file #  
95792-26



Building 21  
532 Oradell Ave.  
Neg. file  
95792-27



## STREETSCAPE SURVEY FORM

0244-S1

STREET NAME: Genther Avenue  
MUNICIPALITY: Oradell

CROSS STREETS: Ridgewood Ave., Center  
COUNTY: Bergen

## DESCRIPTION/SIGNIFICANCE:

This street is unusual as the houses are much smaller than is typical in Oradell. This streetscape includes both sides of Genther Avenue, a street of small  $1\frac{1}{2}$  to  $2\frac{1}{2}$  story frame worker houses. Eight of the nine houses lining the street were built between 1876 and 1912 and are examples of vernacular late 19th century architecture. The house at 289 is a recent house. Most of the older houses are two-bay wide structures with gable roofs. The gable ends of the houses at 295 and 297 Genther Avenue face the street. The ridge poles of the other houses parallel the street. The house at 286 Genther is embellished by a center gablet. Most of the houses have synthetic replacement exterior sheathing, however the houses at numbers 284, 296, and 298 are covered with wood shingles. Several of the houses have been enlarged by alterations and enclosures of porches. The house at 297 Genther retains its simple Queen Anne style porch with turned posts. Lots are small and the land slopes upward to the west. Several houses on the west side have concrete retaining walls along the sidewalk. The street is lined with large trees and houses are set back about 20' from street. They have front and side yards with grass, trees, shrubs and several have fences. Sidewalks are present in front of only a few houses. The houses on the east side back up to railroad tracks.

The development history of this street is not currently known. The houses were probably erected during the 1890-1910 expansion period of the hamlet of Oradell. They are located one block from the railroad station.

APPROXIMATE NUMBER OF BUILDINGS: 9PHYSICAL CONDITION OF BUILDINGS: Excellent      % Good 100 % Fair      % Poor      %REGISTER ELIGIBILITY: Yes      Possible X No      Part of Larger District     THREATS TO STREET: Roads      Development      Zoning      Deterioration      No Threat      Other X

COMMENTS: alterations

The buildings have undergone modification. There seems to be no particular historic preservation interest. Buildings are well maintained.

MAP: 2

SLIDES: 2

## REFERENCES:

Walker Atlas 1876, no building shown.

Bromley 1913 vol II plate 22

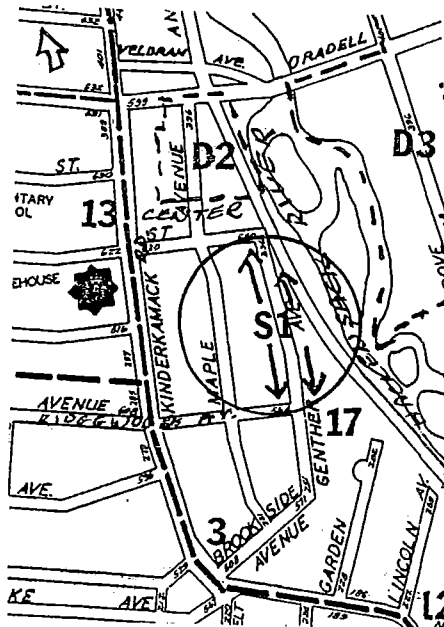
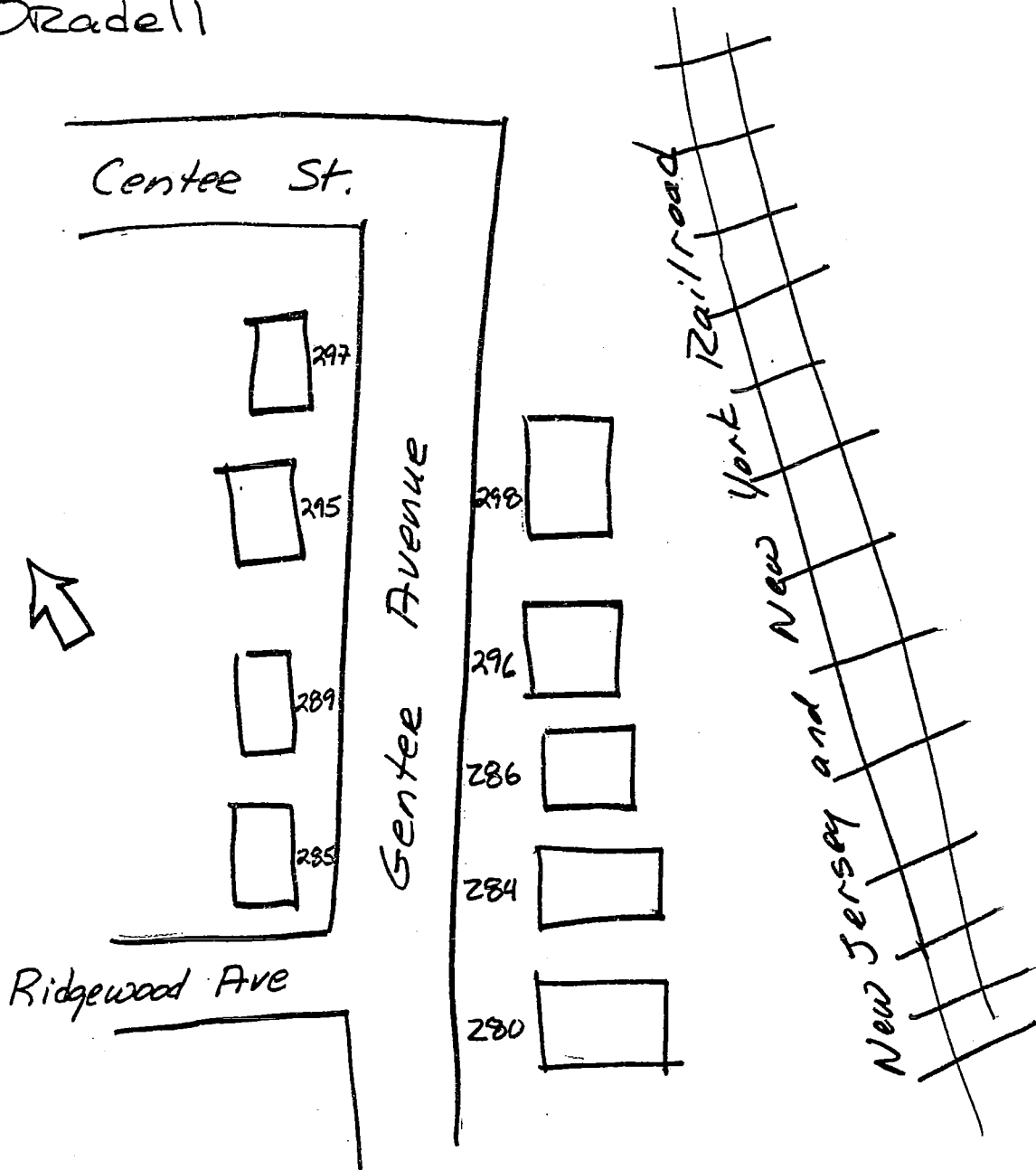
Claire K. Tholl's list "Early Structure still Extant" in Bergen County, March, 1978  
Updated May 1979.

RECORDED BY: TRB

DATE: 10-1981

ORGANIZATION: BCOG

# Genther Avenue Streetscape 0244-S1 Oradell



NOT TO  
SCALE



West side  
Looking west  
showing 285 and 289  
Genther Avenue  
Neg. file #22292-18



West side  
Looking SW  
showing 297 and 295  
Genther Ave.  
Neg. file #  
22292-16



East side  
looking SW  
298, 296, 286,  
284, 280  
Genther Ave.  
Neg. file #  
22292-17



NEW JERSEY OFFICE OF CULTURAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION SECTION  
INDIVIDUAL STRUCTURE SURVEY FORM

HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY NO. 0244-1

*Demolished*  
1984

HISTORIC NAME: Collignon Chair Factory Building  
LOCATION: Cooper+Demarest Inc.  
MUNICIPALITY: 447 New Milford Ave  
USGS QUAD: Oradell  
OWNER/ADDRESS: Hackensack  
PROBABLY: Heil Construction Co., Inc.  
178 River Road, New Milford, N.J.

COMMON NAME:  
BLOCK/LOT Probably 1/1/3  
COUNTY: Bergen  
UTM REFERENCES:  
Zone/Northing/Easting

## DESCRIPTION

Construction Date: pre 1876  
Source of Date: Atlas

Architect:  
Builder:

Style: Vernacular  
Form/Plan Type: Basically square

Number of Stories: 2½

Foundation: Low brick

Exterior Wall Fabric: narrow clapboard

Fenestration: (north) 4 bays, 1/1

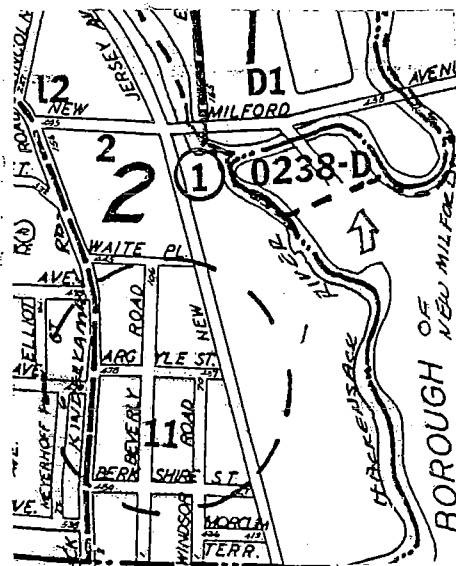
Roof/Chimneys: cross gables, int. chimney

Additional Architectural Description:  
Painted on north facade is "Antiques" othe sides have "Cooper-Demarest Inc., Building Materials"  
Moved from River Vale

PHOTO

Negative File No. 22292-35m slide

Map (Indicate North)



0244-1 SITING, BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION, AND RELATED STRUCTURES:

Located between Hackensack River and railroad tracks.

Triangular parcel

To south are series of frame sheds which were part of lumber yard

SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT: Urban ☐ Suburban ☐ Scattered Buildings ☐

Open Space ☐ Woodland ☐ Residential ☐ Agricultural ☐ Village ☐

Industrial ☒ Downtown Commercial ☒ Highway Commercial ☐ Other ☐

To south are Public Service facilities. Across railroad tracks to west is an apartment complex. Earlier the New Milford railroad station was located across New Milford Avenue (now gone).

SIGNIFICANCE:

This building was part of the Collignon Brothers Factory in River Vale where folding chairs were manufactured (Winters). It is probably shown in the illustration of this factory in the Bergen County Atlas published in 1876. The chair factory was an important local industry.

Prior to 1921 John G. Demarest dismantled the building and reassembled it at this site for use as his lumber yard's office (Winters). Demarest later moved the stone house now located at 208 Grove St. (0244-8).

This building is probably the oldest industrial building extant in Oradell.

ORIGINAL USE: Chair Factory

PRESENT USE: Antique Shop ?

PHYSICAL CONDITION: Excellent ☐ Good ☐

Fair ☒ Poor ☐

REGISTER ELIGIBILITY: Yes ☐ Possible ☒

No ☐ Part of District ☐

THREATS TO SITE: Roads ☐ Development ☐

Zoning ☐ Deterioration ☒

No Threat ☐ Other ☐

COMMENTS:

REFERENCES:

Telephone conversation with Winters.

Walker Atlas 1876, illustrated plates 104+105

"Cultural Resources Reconnaissance of the Proposed Lake Hackensack

Floyd H. Winters "Early Demarest Homes on the Flatts, Oradell" copy in BCOC+HA

RECORDED BY: TRB

DATE: 10-81

ORGANIZATION: BCOC+HA

HISTORIC NAME: Jacob Van Buskirk House

COMMON NAME:

LOCATION: 465 New Milford Avenue

BLOCK/LOT 10/3

MUNICIPALITY: Oradell

COUNTY: Bergen

USGS QUAD: Hackensack

UTM REFERENCES:

OWNER/ADDRESS: Louis Esler, P.O. Box 171, Oradell

Zone/Northing/Easting

DESCRIPTION

Construction Date: 1808, wing c. 1920, mid 19th c. porch and modifications. Source of Date: Tholl

Architect:

Builder:

Style: Vernacular

Form/Plan Type: Rectangular with side wing

Number of Stories: 1½ with 1½ wing

Foundation: low, coursed sandstone

Exterior Wall Fabric: Clapboard

Fenestration: east facade: 3 bays with 5 bay wing

Roof/Chimneys: main block: gambrel, int. end chimney  
Wing: Gable, int. chimney

Additional Architectural Description:

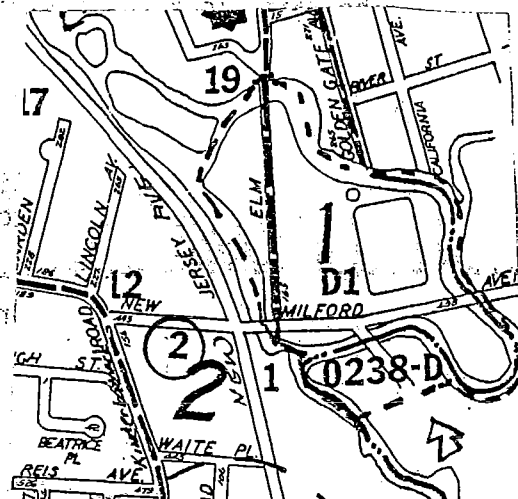
Main block; mid-19th c. ornamentation; 3 bay veranda on east side, decorative cutout scroll brackets and railing, decorative frieze; under eaves, paneled frieze and paired brackets; gable dormers with paired brackets and decorated tympanum; 2/2 windows; bay window on north side and large projecting polygonal bay on west side; double entrance doors.

South wing: Probably originally freestanding building moved to main block, eyebrow windows on upper story; first story has irregular fenestration with door, one 6/6 window, one 2/2 window; small later additions attached to south and west sides of wing; very low stone foundation. In December 1981 this wing was moved attached to rear of Van Buskirk/Oakley House (0244-4).

Continued

PHOTO Negative File No. 22292-14, slide

Map (Indicate North)



0244-2 SITING, BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION, AND RELATED STRUCTURES:

House does not face road, but rather river (now separated from it by other buildings)  
 North end is within feet of road. Free standing - Yard with trees and shrubs.  
 Well house and shed in east yard. ( now moved to 467 Kinderkamack Rd.  
 (0244- 4) 1-1982.)

SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT: Urban ☐ Suburban ☒ Scattered Buildings ☐  
 Open Space ☐ Woodland ☐ Residential ☒ Agricultural ☐ Village ☐  
 Industrial ☐ Downtown Commercial ☐ Highway Commercial ☐ Other ☐  
 To east is an apartment complex; two story  
 Across street are recent suburban houses.

SIGNIFICANCE:

The Jacob Van Buskirk House is significant for its association with the development of the hamlet of New Milford in the 19th century, and its association with the locally important Van Buskirk family. It is also important because it is an unusually little altered example of local vernacular frame architecture. The house has played a significant role in the history of the hamlet of New Milford (not to be confused with the borough of New Milford). This hamlet developed at the head of navigation of the Hackensack River. A mill was located here prior to the Revolutionary War. In 1837 Jacob Van Biskirk bought the mill, no longer extant, and very likely this house. The Van Buskirk family lived in this house on a small hill overlooking the river. The Van Buskirk dock at the river was the point of departure of sailing ships and the family owned several ships.

Several sources say that the "Spring Valley" post office was located in the Van Buskirk House in 1844 or 1847 ("The Mailman Cometh"; Town News; May 27, 1981). Further research is needed to substantiate this. The post office was at another site in 1861. From 1863-79 the house functioned as the local post office with Jacob Van Buskirk as postmaster. The small wing at the southwest corner was added to house postal functions. The house was also a stage stop

ORIGINAL USE: Res., office, post office PRESENT USE: Res. Continued  
 PHYSICAL CONDITION: Excellent ☐ Good ☐ Fair ☒ Poor ☐  
 REGISTER ELIGIBILITY: Yes ☐ Possible ☒ No ☐ Part of District ☐  
 THREATS TO SITE: Roads ☒ Development ☐ Zoning ☐ Deterioration ☒  
 No Threat ☐ Other ☒ alteration

COMMENTS:

The architectural integrity and the historical significance of this house  
 has been reduced by the recent removal of its end wing. (1-1982)

REFERENCES:

Junior League Survey  
 Bergen County Historic Sites built before or during the 1880's.  
 Mrs. Robert Hague, "Historic Sites in Oradell, N. J."  
 Crump, pp. 16-17  
 Claire Tholl, who did interior inspection 10-81  
Bergen Evening Record, Oradell 50th Anniversary Section, June 2, 1944  
 Walker 1876, pl. 87

Continued

RECORDED BY: TRB  
 ORGANIZATION: BCOC & HA

DATE: 10/81

additions 1/82



465 New Milford Avenue

Significance cont'd

before the railroad came in 1870. Travellers would wait here to board a stage coach taking them to the Lower Closter (now Creskill) Railroad station of the Northern Railroad built in 1859.

In 1881 Jacob Jr. and Henry Van Buskirk (Jacob Van Buskirk's sons) sold Van Buskirk Island and the mill to the Hackensack Water Company. The New Milford water works were erected on the island (0244-D1). In 1913 the house was owned by S. and M. Van Buskirk. Miss Helen Waite, a grand daughter of Jacob Junior, lived in the house for many years until her death in 1967. She was a children's librarian in the Oradell Public Library who wrote biographies of famous persons for children.

According to Claire Tholl the gambrel roofed main block has Federal period beginnings and part of the south wing was freestanding. Very probably the house was modified in the mid 19th century judging from the architectural character of the veranda, bracketed frieze, bays and dormers. These features are carefully integrated into the composition of the main block making it a particularly pleasing example of an older house with modifications of considerable architectural interest in themselves.

Description cont'd

Comments on interior by Claire K. Tholl:

The house is entirely Victorian in the interior and is rather plain in detailing. The main block has a stairway with a nicely turned Victorian balustrade. The front and rear parlors open to each other with wide sliding doors. The front parlor has a large bay window and a fireplace with a 1870-80's black marble mantel. The connecting wing is not original as it stands, having been done over at least once. There certainly was a kitchen wing here. It was probably one story originally. The main block has definite Federal beginnings as indicated by hewn beams thru out. It had a much larger fireplace formerly. The end unit was a separate 1½ story building which has lost its north end wall.

The south end wall of the early wing is also missing. The present wall is between the two. When this connection was made apparently the whole was raised and eyebrow windows added.

References cont'd

Town News, May 27, 1981

"The Mailman Cometh", article distributed at tag sale, 10/3/81

"Cultural Resources Reconnaissance of the Proposed Lake Hackensack"

Hopkins 1861

Bromley

Lieby, Hackensack Water Co., pp 67-68, 102

CTK List



NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, OFFICE OF CULTURAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION SECTION, 109 WEST STATE STREET, TRENTON, NEW JERSEY 08625 (609) 292-2023

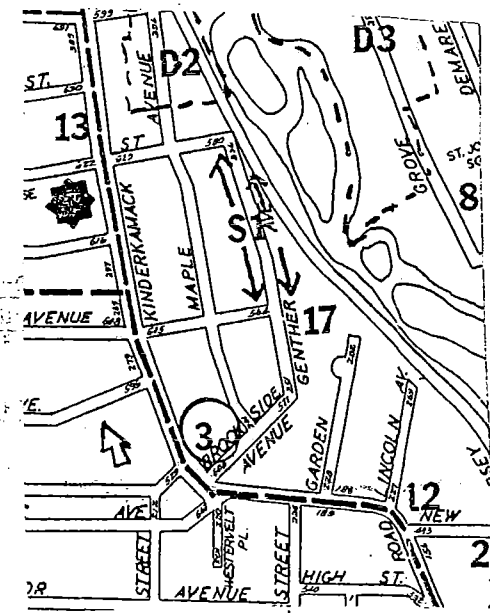
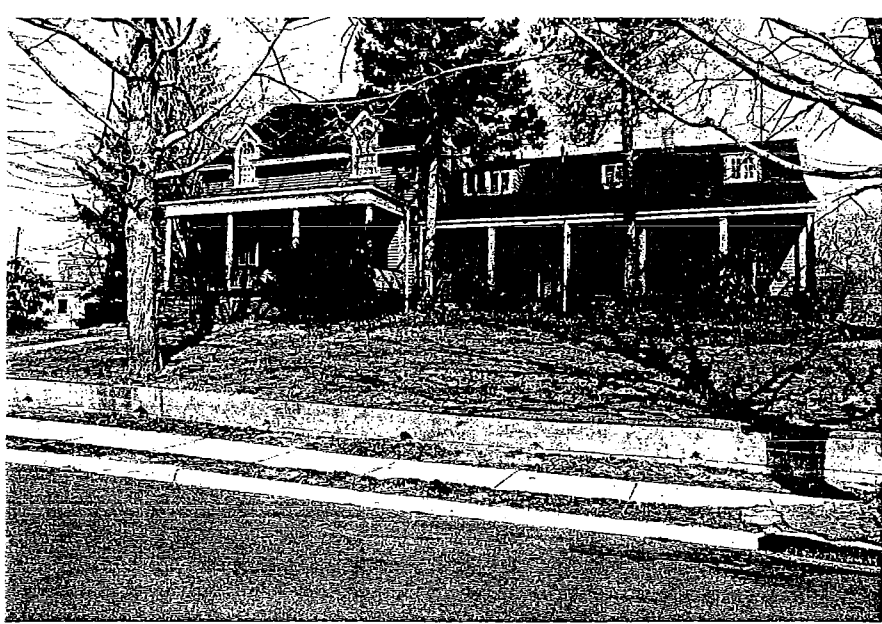
PF-054  
/80

HISTORIC NAME: Thunise(Teunis) Cooper House  
LOCATION: 608-610 Brookside Ave. NE corner Kinderkamack Rd.  
MUNICIPALITY: Oradell  
USGS QUAD: Hackensack  
OWNER/ADDRESS: Vandeweghe, Mary Ann, c/o A. Jones, 36 Jackson Ave., Hawthorn, N. J.  
COMMON NAME:  
BLOCK/LOT 13/1  
COUNTY: Bergen  
UTM REFERENCES:  
Zone/Northing/Easting

DESCRIPTION

Construction Date: pre 1791 with additions  
Source of Date: Bailey, p 283, Hague  
Architect:  
Builder:  
Style: Vernacular  
Form/Plan Type: square with side wing  
Number of Stories: 1 1/2 with 1 1/2 wing  
Foundation: low ashlar sandstone, painted  
Exterior Wall Fabric: narrow clapboard except rear (north) and east side of larger block covered with synthetic shingles  
Fenestration: Main block; 3 bays, wing 5 irregular bays  
Roof/Chimneys: Main block: gables with wall dormers, wing: gable which flares over porch on south side and has sweeping overhang on north side; int? chimney  
Additional Architectural Description:  
Main (west) block: 1 story bay window on west end, six panel front door, gable wall dormers; windows have round arched heads and key stones, pediments return, plain frieze. Eastwing: lesser height than main block, 6 panel (Dutch door) and and altered door in east bay, east of the east door are two panels set in the wall which appears to be a pass through employing panels taken from the east door; the three shed dormers appear to be added. There is a small projecting bay on the north side.  
According to Floyd Winters the roof of the wing was extended to form a porch roof around 1900.

PHOTO Negative File No. 22292-11, slide Map (Indicate North)



## SITING, BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION, AND RELATED STRUCTURES:

Freestanding, faces south

Corner Lot

Set back about 25' from Brookside Ave., about 20' from Kinderkamack Road.

Retaining wall along Brookside Ave., fence along Kinderkamack Road.

SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT: Urban ☐ Suburban ☒ Scattered Buildings ☐  
 Open Space ☐ Woodland ☐ Residential ☒ Agricultural ☐ Village ☐  
 Industrial ☐ Downtown Commercial ☒ Highway Commercial ☐ Other ☐

Residential to east

Across Kinderkamack Road is 1-story highway shopping center building.

## SIGNIFICANCE:

The Thunise Cooper House is significant for its association with the historic development of Oradell as a farming community during the 18th and 19th century. It is an interesting example of early local vernacular frame architecture. The east wing is believed to have been erected in two parts with the earlier part built by Thunise Kuyper (Cooper) who died in 1791. The house was sold by John Cooper, grandson of builder about 1870 (Bailey.) In 1876 it was owned by Mrs. D. Doremus (Walker). It has subsequently had numerous owners.

The date the main block was built is not specifically known. The 1760 date given by some sources needs substantiation. The house is an interesting example of a farmhouse whose design involved over years through sympathetic alterations and modifications.

Claire K. Tholl believes the main block probably was erected around 1820 and that the wing might date to 1760.

ORIGINAL USE: Residence

PRESENT USE: vacant

PHYSICAL CONDITION: Excellent ☐ Good ☒ Fair ☐ Poor ☐REGISTER ELIGIBILITY: Yes ☐ Possible ☒ No ☐ Part of District ☐THREATS TO SITE: Roads ☐ Development ☐ Zoning ☐ Deterioration ☒  
No Threat ☐ Other ☐

## COMMENTS:

The building is currently for sale. Some windows are boarded up.

## REFERENCES:

Junior League Survey

Bromley vol II, pl. 22

Walker, 1876

Rosalie F. Bailey Pre-Revolutionary Dutch Houses and Families in Northern New Jersey and Southern New York. (N.Y.: Wm. Morrow &amp; Co, 1936) p. 283

Mrs. Robert Hague, "Historic Sites in Oradell, N. J. " c. 1967

CKT List

~~Bergen County Historic Sites Built before or during the 1880's inventory form.~~

RECORDED BY: TRB

DATE: 10-81

ORGANIZATION: BCOC &amp; HA

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICENATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS**1 NAME**

HISTORIC Van Buskirk/Oakley House

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER 467 Kinderkamack Road

CITY, TOWN

Oradell

STATE New Jersey

34

VICINITY OF  
CODE

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

7th

COUNTY

Bergen

CODE

003

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS (proposed)	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC ACQUISITION	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME Louis Esler

STREET &amp; NUMBER P.O. Box 171

CITY, TOWN

Oradell

VICINITY OF

STATE

New Jersey 07649

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. County Courthouse - Registry of Deeds

STREET &amp; NUMBER Main and Hudson Streets

CITY, TOWN

Hackensack

STATE

New Jersey

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE New Jersey Historic Sites Inventory (#2316.2)

DATE

1977

☐ FEDERAL ☒ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

Office of Historic Preservation

CITY, TOWN

Trenton

STATE

New Jersey

## DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED      DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

---

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Built around 1834 the Van Buskirk/Oakely House is a virtually complete transitional Federal/Greek Revival farmhouse. The main unit is a one and one half story, 5 bay, center hall, rectangular frame and clapboard dwelling. The roof is gable with a return and dentil coursing beneath the molded eaves. There are gable end brick chimneys at the roof peak. The windows are all 6/6 sash with paneled shutters. On the front and open side facades the windows all have a decorative cornice. The center entrance has a six-panel Dutch door flanked by sidelights and topped by a transom; all with leaded glass. Covering this center entrance is a gable roofed one story portico with pent and delicate round columns. Original to the main unit this portico has flush board underneath and in the pent while the eave continues the dental coursing of the main unit. The foundation is coursed sandstone. The interior plan has a center hall with a major room (18' x 17') and fireplace to either side. The hall does not continue through to the other side, but opens to four much smaller rooms in the rear. There were apparently only three rooms in the rear originally. The second floor is an open loft with two small bedrooms. The dimensions of this main unit are 41' x 31'. The framing is queen-post with vertical sawn mortise and tenon.

Attached to this main unit at the south is an earlier 1 1/2 story kitchen - the framing of which indicates late 18th - early 19th century construction. While the framing and wide plank floor beneath a later one is still intact, this kitchen was extensively altered shortly before 1900. The alterations included changing the moldings, raising the floor and ceiling, and changing the configuration of the fireplace, removing most visible signs of the 18th-19th century construction. The kitchen is 18' x 18' with a loft above.

### Interior

Details of particular note in the main unit are the fireplace mantels, wide plank floors, paneled windows, several doors with curly maple wood grain painting.

The original building had a summer kitchen attached to the rear of the kitchen. This was removed sometime before 1900.

Located in an area zoned "limited business" the 2/3 acre lot and tree and shrubbery screening provides an aesthetic setting for the Van Buskirk/Oakley House.

**18 SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Van Buskirk/Oakley House is an unusually fine example of transitional vernacular Federal/Greek Revival style architecture in Bergen County. It is certainly the best building of its period in Oradell. Built around 1834 the house projects a feeling of massive formality, but without pretense. The Van Buskirk/Oakley House was probably constructed by a highly skilled, (but unidentified) carpenter/master builder. The paneled entablatures over the windows, the dentil molding beneath the eaves, the front two column portico covering the entranceway, the sidelights and transom with leaded glass creating circles and ellipses, the detailed moldings, semi-circular leaded windows just beneath the roof peak, and the fireplace mantels and window casements in the interior are almost perfectly intact making this building a pristine example of pattern book architecture of the second quarter of the 19th century.

While Bergen County is noted for its 18th century stone houses built by the Dutch settlers there is also an architectural heritage of substantially detailed and elegant frame dwellings from the late 18th-mid-19th centuries. This not unexpected considering the fine craftsmanship emanating from the Hackensack area in this period.

At least two other extant buildings in Bergen County exhibit features similar, although not identical to the Van Buskirk/Oakley House. The Jacob Zabriskie House (HABS-NJ-157), ca. 1824, in Paramus has similar massing and fenestration but a gambrel roof while the Parsonage of the Paramus Reformed Church (National Register 2/25/75), said to have been built by John C. Bogert in 1833, has similar details and a gable roof, but is only one room deep.

While the elegance of the Van Buskirk/Oakley House indicates that its owners were of some prominence in the area, they held no political or social offices. The house, therefore, is one of the last tangible remnants of the family in Oradell.

Chronological History of the Van Buskirk/Oakley Farmstead

- Colonial - Van Buskirks owned large tracts of land in the region before 1770.
  - Kinderkamack Road appears to date considerable before the Revolution.
  - Robert Erskine's Revolutionary War maps indicates the road and several buildings, but there is no building shown at this location.
- 1795 - Abraham Van Buskirk landholdings are divided; John J. Van Buskirk acquiring 180 acres on which the house was to be eventually built (Bergen County Deeds, 3/10/1795, Book M, p. 430).
  - As John J. Van Buskirk already had a home further to the north it is unlikely that he built the earlier wing at this time (R. McMahon interview 11/24/78).

Significance - cont. 2

- 1806 - Children of John given an equal, but undivided share in the farm.  
(Bergen County Deeds, 9/29/1806, Book 4, p. 358-65).
- Oldest son Abraham is heir apparent, but he died around 1822, still a young man. This complicates ownership later.
- 1820 - Earlier wing perhaps built for Abraham.
- Hetty Van Buskirk, the eldest, married Fanning Tucker Oakley; lived to the north.
- 1823-24 - Abraham's death creates legal ownership problems for next decade.
- Property up for auction, no mention of a house. (Bergen County Deeds, 1823, Book V2, p. 1 and Hackensack Star and Bergen Farmer 7/21/1824). Possibly a sheriff's sale.
- Land divided up by Orphans Court because of two underage children in claims. (Bergen County Orphans Court, 3/20/1824, Book D, p. 21).
- Fanning and Hetty Oakley mortgage property. No mention of buildings (Bergen County Mortgages, 7/10/1824, Book F, p. 258).
- As the result of a subsequent sheriff's sale the family loses possession of the property for a time.
- 1831 - Somehow reacquiring the farm Lucietta Van Buskirk, wife of John Van Van Buskirk and mother, of Hetty prepares a will which gives property to Hetty and her husband.
- 1831-36 - With the future legal title of the property confirmed Hetty and Fanning build the main house; oral family histories say 1834 or 1835. (R. McMahon, 11/24/1978).
- In the last years of her life Lucietta lived in the house in question with Hetty and Fanning.
- 1836 - Lucietta Van Buskirk dies. Property given to Hetty and Fanning (Bergen County Wills, 11/3/1836, Book E, p. 74).
- 1877 - Fanning Tucker Oakley (1797 - 1877) dies.
- 1881 - Hester (Hetty) Van Buskirk Oakley dies. (1799-1881).
- Abraham Oakley (1829-1900) inherits property, but probably was managing the farm years before.
- 1900 - Abraham dies intestate. Fanning T. Oakley II (1859-1943) ran the farm as his father aged. Two children divide the farm; daughter Margaretta Oakley (1862-1958), married to John Hoyt in 1885, receiving the lot on which the house stands. (R. McMahon letter, 3/13/1978).
- 1938 - John Hoyt dies.
- 1958 - Margaretta Oakley Hoyt dies.
- Cornelia Hoyt (1896-1977) inherits house.
- 1977 - Cornelia Hoyt dies.
- Property purchased from estate by Louis Esler, the current owner.

Building is presently (11/1978) being sensitively rehabilitated for a real estate office.



**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES****10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY .67

QUADRANGLE NAME \_\_\_\_\_

QUADRANGLE SCALE \_\_\_\_\_

UTM REFERENCES

A	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C			
E			
G			

B	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
D			
F			
H			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Block 208, Lot 39

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

H. Louis Esler, Jr. (revised by Terry Karschner, Office of Historic Preservation)

ORGANIZATION

DATE

STREET &amp; NUMBER

TELEPHONE

746 Amaryllis Avenue

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Oradell

New Jersey

**12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION**

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL ☐STATE ☐LOCAL ☒

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

TITLE Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST

DATE

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

9. Bibliographical References

Bergen County Deeds - Abraham Van Buskirk to John Van Buskirk 3/10/1795 Book M, p. 430; John Van Buskirk to children (equal share, undivided, of farm) 9/29/1806 Book 4, p. 358,361,365.

Bergen County Wills - Lucrietta Van Buskirk, wife of John, made 1831, proved 11/3/1836, Book E, p. 74.

Bergen County Mortgages - Fanning and Hetty Van Buskirk Oakley, 7/10/1824, Book F, p. 258.

Bergen County Orphans Court Book D, p. 21, 3/20/1824.

McMahon, Reg. Considerable data was supplied by McMahon, whose wife is a descendent of the Van Buskirk/Oakley family.

Unfortunately in December 1981 the rear wing of the Jacob Van Buskirk House (0244-2) was attached to the rear of the Van Buskirk/Oakley House. This new-old addition confuses the construction history of the Van Buskirk/Oakley House and its removal unnecessarily reduces the significance of the Jacob Van Buskirk house. TRB 1-1982

Van Buskirk/Oakley House  
Oradell 1978  
Bergen County view of front  
New Jersey 034 facade and  
North side  
camera view SW

Neg at: -  
Lou Esler  
467 Kinderkamack Road  
Oradell NJ



Van Buskirk/Oakley House  
Oradell 1978  
Bergen County 1978  
New Jersey 074 detail of front  
entrance

camera view W  
Neg at:  
Lou Esler  
467 Kinderkamack Road  
Oradell NJ



NEW JERSEY OFFICE OF CULTURAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION SECTION  
INDIVIDUAL STRUCTURE SURVEY FORM

HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY NO. 0244-5

HISTORIC NAME: Atwood-Blauvelt Mansion  
LOCATION: and carriage house  
MUNICIPALITY: 699 and 705 Kinderkamack Road  
USGS QUAD: Oradell  
OWNER/ADDRESS: Wells, Raymond R. & Betty L.  
699  
705 Blauvelt-Demarest Foundation

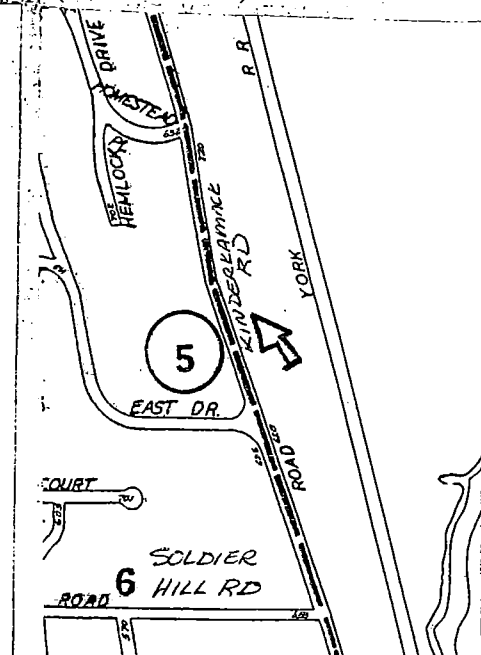
COMMON NAME:  
BLOCK/LOT 699: 266F/1 805/2  
COUNTY: 705: 206F/2  
UTM REFERENCES: Bergen  
Zone/Northing/Easting

## DESCRIPTION

Construction Date: 1893, -1895  
Source of Date: Bergen Evening Record, June 2, 1944;  
Architect: Builder: Current Owner  
Style: Shingle style  
Form/Plan Type: Irregular  
Number of Stories: 2½  
Foundation: very high, sandstone ashlar, rock-faced, has curving projections at corners  
Exterior Wall Fabric: brown wood shingles  
Fenestration: irregular grouped windows.  
Roof/Chimneys: gables, conical on corner towers, pyramidal on corner turret of wing, massive interior end chimneys.  
Additional Architectural Description: 3 bay 1 story porch on front, flanked by round corner towers, 1 bay porch on north wing. North wing has octagonal corner turret. South end of main facade has large gable facing the street.  
The foundation is said to be constructed of stone from the earlier house on this site, the Van Wagoner Homestead.

PHOTO Negative File No. 19823-0, slide

Map (Indicate North)



## SITING, BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION, AND RELATED STRUCTURES:

## Freestanding

On rise, has very high retaining wall-foundation. To North is carriage house: Shingle style, 1½ story; wood shingle covered, gable roofs with gablets and polygonal tower with polygonal roof, octagonal cupola with polygonal roof, windows of various sizes; replacement picture window, garage doors replacements.

SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT: Urban ☐ Suburban ☒ Scattered Buildings ☐  
 Open Space ☐ Woodland ☐ Residential ☒ Agricultural ☐ Village ☐  
 Industrial ☐ Downtown Commercial ☐ Highway Commercial ☐ Other ☒ complex of  
 large office buildings across Kinderkamack Rd. Recent suburban house to sides and rear.

## SIGNIFICANCE:

The Atwood-Blauvelt Mansion and carriagehouse are important because of their association with the large country estate era of Oradell's development. However, their greatest significance comes from the high quality of their architecture. The mansion, said to be perhaps the "most imposing home in the valley" (Bergen Panorama, p. 283), is one of Bergen County's outstanding example of late 19th century domestic architecture. Built in 1893, this house remains a grandiose example of Shingle Style house. The walls of this huge house as they rise above the high sandstone foundation are uniformly covered by unpainted wood shingles a key feature of the Shingle Style. Also characteristic is the multigabled, broad roof unbroken by dormers and securely visually anchored by massive brick chimneys. The curving corner projections of the foundation accent the round towers of the house. The building's irregular massing is characteristic of late 19th century picturesque architecture. The large carriagehouse is an excellent example of the application of the shingle style to a building of this type.

The architect who designed these buildings is not known. The buildings were erected in 1893 for Kimball C. Atwood, a New York insurance executive who was an enthusiastic horseman. It is probable that the buildings were designed by a New

(continued)

ORIGINAL USE: 699 Residence/05 Carriagehouse and servants quarters.

PHYSICAL CONDITION: Excellent ☒ Good ☐ Fair ☐ Poor ☐  
 REGISTER ELIGIBILITY: Yes ☒ Possible ☒ No ☐ Part of District ☐  
 THREATS TO SITE: Roads ☐ Development ☐ Zoning ☐ Deterioration ☐  
 No Threat ☐ Other ☐

## COMMENTS:

The carriage house's future is probably secure as it functions as a museum operated by the Blauvelt-Demarest Foundation. The current owner purchased the house in 1979 and adapted it for use as both his office and residence. Rising maintenance and heating costs may be threat in future. Also rising taxes for large parcel of land may cause the front yard to be developed.

## REFERENCES:

Bergen County Historic sites built before or during 1880's.  
Bergen Record May 30, 1979; June 2, 1944; WPA, Bergen Panorama, p. 283  
N. Y. Times April 21, 1974  
 Crump pp 190-192  
 Bromley 1913: K. C. Atwood  
 NJSI 2316.3  
 CKT List

RECORDED BY: TRB  
 ORGANIZATION: BCOC & HA

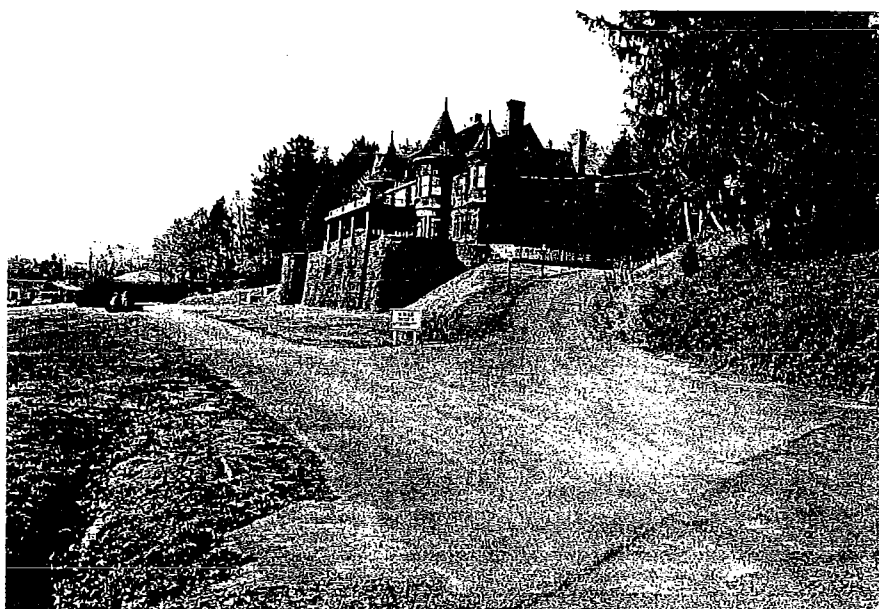
DATE: 10-31

York City architect. Atwood sold the estate to John Lozier.

In 1926 the estate was purchased by Elmer Blauvelt, a member of an old Bergen County family. The Blauvelt called the estate "Bluefield". Elmer's son, Hiram B. D. Blauvelt, owned the estate until his death in 1957. He was an outdoorsman who raised game birds on the property. Hiram bequeathed the estate to the Demarest Memorial Foundation (later named the Blauvelt-Demarest Foundation). In the 1960's the carriagehouse became a wildlife museum displaying Hiram's hunting trophies. By late 1970s most of the estate's acreage had been sold to finance the maintenance of the buildings. When the mansion lost its tax exempt status in the 1970's its future was uncertain. Its current owners rescued it from demolition and have been sympathetically rehabilitating the mansion.



The carriagehouse  
looking north  
neg. file #  
22292-4



The mansion looking  
SW  
neg. file # 22292-5





NEW JERSEY OFFICE OF CULTURAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION SECTION  
INDIVIDUAL STRUCTURE SURVEY FORM

HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY NO.

0244-6

HISTORIC NAME: John J. Van Wagoner  
LOCATION: 700 Soldier Hill Road  
Oradell

COMMON NAME:  
BLOCK/LOT 206/1-C

MUNICIPALITY:  
USGS QUAD: Hackensack  
OWNER/ADDRESS: Verrier, John and Jo-Ann

COUNTY: Bergen  
UTM REFERENCES:  
Zone/Northing/Easting

DESCRIPTION after 1876, c. 1880

Construction Date:

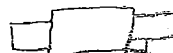
Source of Date: Atlas

Architect:

Builder:

Style: Vernacular with Colonial Revival

Form/Plan Type:



Number of elements

2½ with 2 story wing and 1 story

porch wing

Foundation: low, not visible

Exterior Wall Fabric: clapboard

Fenestration: 5 bays, 6/6, with 2 bay east wing and screened porch (west wing)

Roof/Chimneys: Gable with central gable, wings: gables, int. Chimney, end chimney

Additional Architectural Description:

Frontis piece entrance with columns, fanlight and sidelights.

Paired windows in gable with round arched heads.

Renovated in 1920.

PHOTO

Negative File No. 22292-3 slide

Map (Indicate North)



SITING, BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION, AND RELATED STRUCTURES:

Freestanding, set back circa 50' from road, faces street  
Large suburban lot  
trees, landscaping  
large barn at rear

SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT: Urban ☐ Suburban ☒ Scattered Buildings ☐  
Open Space ☐ Woodland ☐ Residential ☒ Agricultural ☐ Village ☐  
Industrial ☐ Downtown Commercial ☐ Highway Commercial ☐ Other ☐

SIGNIFICANCE:

This house is associated with Oradell's 19th century history as a farming community. It was the homestead of the 46 acre John J. Van Wagoner farm in 1913. The house has a mid-19th c. architectural character, but does not appear on maps of 1861 or 1876. The house was renovated in 1920 by David Bellis.

ORIGINAL USE: Residence

PRESENT USE: Residence

PHYSICAL CONDITION: Excellent ☒ Good ☐

Fair ☐ Poor ☐

REGISTER ELIGIBILITY: Yes ☐ Possible ☒

No ☐ Part of District ☐

THREATS TO SITE: Roads ☐ Development ☐

Zoning ☐ Deterioration ☐

No Threat ☒ Other ☐

COMMENTS:

REFERENCES:

Walker Atlas 1876, no building, J. I. Van Wagoner owns property  
Bromley 1913, II pl22: John J. Van Wagoner  
Bergen County Historic Sites Built Before or During the 1810's Inventory form

RECORDED BY: TRB  
ORGANIZATION: BCOC & HA

DATE: 10-1981

NEW JERSEY OFFICE OF CULTURAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION SECTION  
INDIVIDUAL STRUCTURE SURVEY FORM

HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY NO. 0244-7

HISTORIC NAME: Oradell Elementary School      COMMON NAME:  
 LOCATION: East side Prospect St. Corner of Church St.      BLOCK/LOT 211/15  
 MUNICIPALITY: Oradell      COUNTY: Bergen  
 USGS QUAD: Hackensack      UTM REFERENCES:  
 OWNER/ADDRESS: Oradell Board of Education      Zone/Northing/Easting

## DESCRIPTION

Construction Date: 1928-29, c. 1931 addition      Source of Date: Plaque in front hall  
 Architect: Coffin & Coffin      Builder: Alberg Construction Co.  
 Style: Georgian Revival      Form/Plan Type: U-shaped with additions at rear  
 Number of Stories: 2  
 Foundation: part of wall  
 Exterior Wall Fabric: Brick veneer, Flemish Bond  
 Fenestration: center block 12/12; appear double hung but actually casement  
 Roof/Chimneys: Center block: gable; hyphen and wings. hip; paired end chimneys.

## Additional Architectural Description:

5 part composition composed of center block, hyphen, and end wings.  
 Center block: slightly projecting one-bay center entrance pavilion. Pavilion flanked by 6 paired windows; has frontispiece doorway with reeded pilasters and leaded glass transom, arched pediment with coat of arms in tympanum, modillion cornice; windows have sandstone splayed lintels with keystone, double belt courses between stories, modillion cornice, central cupola on roof, octagonal with 8/8 arched windows and domed roof.

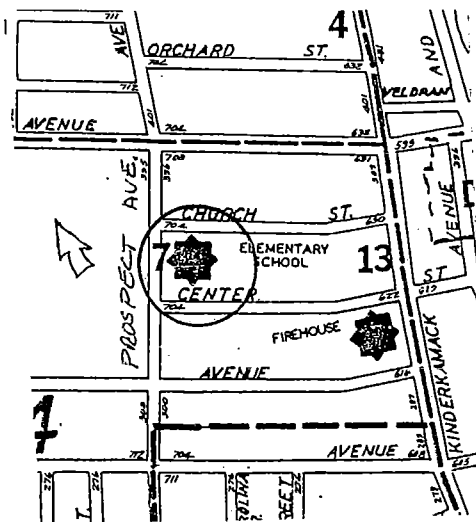
End wings: each has 2 bay, slightly projecting pavilion flanked by 1 bay; pavilions have entrances with elliptical fanlight, second story has 9 light windows, triangular pediment with oval window. Other windows of hyphens and end wings vary, include 6/6

## PHOTO

Negative File No. 22292-34, slide



## Map (Indicate North)



## SITING, BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION, AND RELATED STRUCTURES:

Freestanding  
Set back from sidewalk about 50'  
Nice landscaping, flagpole in front

SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT: Urban ☐ Suburban ☒ Scattered Buildings ☐  
Open Space ☐ Woodland ☐ Residential ☒ Agricultural ☐ Village ☐  
Industrial ☐ Downtown Commercial ☐ Highway Commercial ☐ Other ☒

Across Prospect Ave. are playing fields and a playground.

## SIGNIFICANCE:

The Oradell Elementary School is an excellent example of Georgian Revival educational architecture of the 1920's. It is one of a number of Georgian Revival school buildings of high architectural quality in Bergen County.

The building is significant also for its association with the evolution of Oradell's school system during a period of suburban expansion. Population was expanding so rapidly that the size of the building was increased within only two years.

ORIGINAL USE: School

PRESENT USE: same

PHYSICAL CONDITION: Excellent ☐ Good ☒ Fair ☐ Poor ☐

REGISTER ELIGIBILITY: Yes ☐ Possible ☒ No ☐ Part of District ☐

THREATS TO SITE: Roads ☐ Development ☐ Zoning ☐ Deterioration ☐  
No Threat ☐ Other ☒ Alteration

COMMENTS:

## REFERENCES:

Plaque in front hall  
Crump p. 54

RECORDED BY: TRB  
ORGANIZATION: BCOC & HA

DATE: 10-81

## EARLY DEMAREST HOMES ON THE FLATTS ORADELL

Although the area east of the river was aquired as early as 1677, by the first David Demarest, by purchase from the Indians and by a patent from Sir George Cartaret, no permanent dwellings ere established here until 1720, when the first home was built by Daniel, the grandson of the first David.

Daniel's father, David II, operated a saw mill on the west side of the river near the present New Milford Avenue. Trees were cut in the area of the Flatts and were sawed into lumber at the Mill. The area of the Flatts was thus gradually cleared.

When Daniel was a small boy, his father, David II was killed by a falling tree. The land recieved by Daniel was an inheritance from his Grandfather, who had left a full and equal share of his estate to the children of his deceased son, David Jr. Once cleared of trees, stumps and rocks, the Flatts was the best farm land in this area, and was destined to be that in years to come. The original site of the Homestead, was what is now Grant Avenue, then known as the "Flatts". It was located on the east side of the road, the end of the house facing the road, the front facing the South. It stood at a point where the present First Street joins Grant Avenue

Daniel was born 1685, was married in 1707 to Rebecca De Groot. Daniel was in his early thirties when he started to build the homestead and began his career as a farmer. In the year 1760, Daniel then age 75, divided his land between two of his sons, Peter and Jacobus. The two were to continue as the farmers of the Flatts. Peter received all of the land to the North of the dividing point, which was the "road to the Flatts", now Oradell Avenue. All the property of Daniel to the South of this dividing point was given to Jacobus. Daniel died four years later at the age of 79. Peter continued to live in the Homestead as with his decendants. In total the Demarests lived there for 7 generations, a period of over 150 years.

In the late 1800's , the Homestead and the land around it, was sold to Mr. Hugh Grant, who built a very beautiful home somewhat South of the Homestead, which was converted to a home for a tenant farmer and his family, Mr. John Koestner, who later was to be Oradell's first Police Chief. Just prior to 1912, Mr. John G. Demarest, purchased the Homestead from Mr. Grant, but this did not include the land it stood on. It was of particular interest to John Demarest, as his father had been born there and it as his great, great Grandfather who had built it in 1720. Having had the experience in restoring

## EARLY DEMAREST HOMES ON THE FLATTS ORADELL

buildings by taking them apart and re-assembling them. As he had done with his office which was once part of the Collignon Chair Factory in Rivervale. His office still stands on New Milford Avenue after being reassembled at that site. The Homestead was in good shape, many pictures were taken, each stone was carefully marked, each beam, window and door. The building was taken apart and re-assembled on a new site. Here, it was restored to it's exact original, each stone placed exactly where it had previously been.

Mr. Demarest with his wife and two children lived here until his death on March 8, 1943. The old Homestead, now located at 268 Grove Street, was sold to the St. Joseph Church and is still a part of their property. Recently, this old building was nominated by the New Jersey State Review Committee for Historic Sites. It was signed into the Register by the State and sent to the National Heritage Conservation Department in Washington, D.C. for consideration as a National Historic site.

by Floyd H. Winters  
Borough of Oradell Historian

# BERGEN COUNTY STONE HOUSE SURVEY

## INDIVIDUAL STRUCTURE SURVEY FORM

244



119

GENERAL

HISTORIC NAME: Demarest House

COMMON NAME:

LOCATION: 268 Grove Street  
(Block 30, Lot 34)

MUNICIPALITY: Oradell

OWNERSHIP: ☐ Public ☒ Private

OWNER/ADDRESS: St. Joseph's Church  
Educational Center  
305 Elm Street, Oradell

REFERENCE

MAP REFERENCES:

☐ Erskine (1778-80)

☒ Hopkins-Corey (1861) G.D. Demarest

☒ Walker's Atlas (1876) G.D. Demarest

☒ Bromley (1912) Hugh J. Grant

☐ Other

RECOGNITION:

☐ National Register ☐ BCHS Marker

☐ HABS ☐ Bailey

☐ Other

ENVIRONMENT

HOUSE ORIENTATION: S 5° W

IMPORTANT RELATED STRUCTURES:

USE

ORIGINAL: Residence

PRESENT: Residence for sisters

SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT:

- ☒ Residential
- ☐ Commercial
- ☐ Agricultural
- ☐ Open Space
- ☐ Other

THREATS

THREATS TO STRUCTURE:

- ☐ Roads
- ☐ Development
- ☐ Zoning
- ☐ Deterioration
- ☒ Other undecided as to use
- ☐ No Threat

COMMENTS:

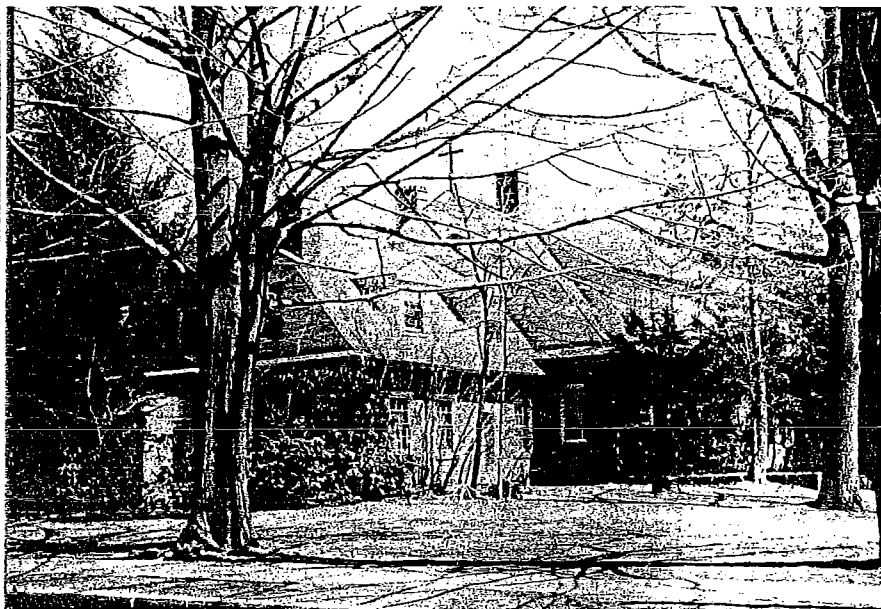
COMMENTS:

CONDITION

- CONDITION:
- ☐ Excellent ☒ Good
- ☐ Fair ☐ Deteriorated
- STATUS:
- ☒ Occupied
- ☐ Unoccupied
- ☐ Work in Progress
- ACCESSIBLE:
- ☐ Yes, Restricted
- ☐ Yes, Unrestricted
- ☐ No

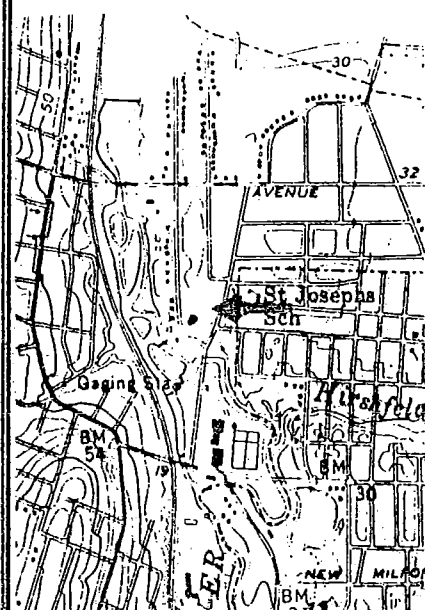
Although this house was moved by having been disassembled and rebuilt (the main section is an exact duplicate), the wing seems to have been made wider. A large sun porch was added to the east end. The second floor has been made more spacious with the addition of dormers - full on the main. The veranda on the old house was not reproduced. A porte cochere was added on the north.

PHOTO



MAP

USGS QUAD: Hackensack



## CONSTRUCTION DATE/SOURCE:

1819/Crump  
Wing may be earlier

## NUMBER OF STORIES: 1-1/2

CELLAR: ☒ Yes  
☐ No

## BUILDER:

a (probably Peter P.) Demarest  
FORM/PLAN TYPE:

"J" 5 bay, 2 rooms deep  
(48'0" x 35'9")

## CHIMNEY FOUNDATION: rebuilt

☐ Stone Arch  
☐ Brick Arch, Stone Foundation  
☐ Other

## FRAMING SYSTEM:

☒ Intermediate Summer Beam  
☐ Intermediate Bearing Wall  
☐ Clear Span  
☐ Other

## FLOOR JOISTS:

6" x 9" vert. sawn & hewn,  
24-32" apart.

## FIRST FLOOR CEILING HEIGHT:

8'11"

## FIRST FLOOR WALL THICKNESS:

20"

## GARRET FLOOR JOISTS:

not visible

## EXTERIOR WALL FABRIC:

Flemish bond brick facade w/ flush  
quoins, evenly cut sandstone other  
walls.

## GARRET:

☐ Unfinished Space  
☒ Finished Space

## FENESTRATION:

32-1/2" x 61" (6/6), trapezoidal board  
lintels w/ keystone motif.

## ROOF:

☐ Gable  
☒ Gambrel  
☒ Curb  
☐ Other

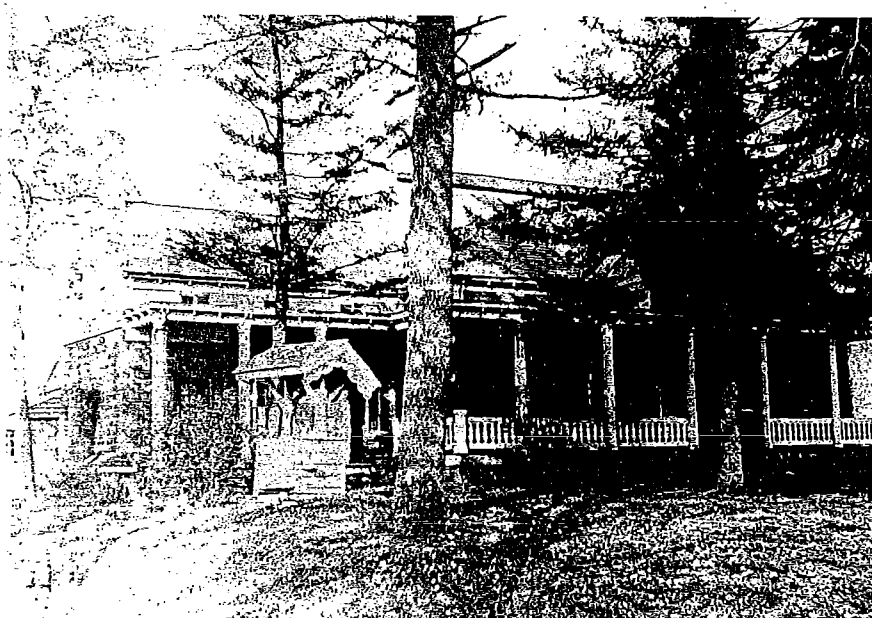
## ENTRANCE LOCATION/TYPE:

Now on the rear facade has been closed up  
w/ a projecting niche. Old 6 panel front  
door moved to new entrance 37-1/2" x 6'8".  
Had semi-circle fanlight in original  
location.

## EAVE TREATMENT:

☒ Sweeping Overhang (now)  
☐ Supported Overhang  
☐ No Overhang  
☐ Boxed Gutter  
☐ Other

This house is significant for its architecture and its association with the exploration and settlement of the Bergen County, New Jersey area. It is a reasonably well preserved example of the Form/Plan Type as shown and more fully described herein. As such, it is included in the Thematic Nomination to the National Register of Historic Places for the Early Stone Houses of Bergen County, New Jersey.



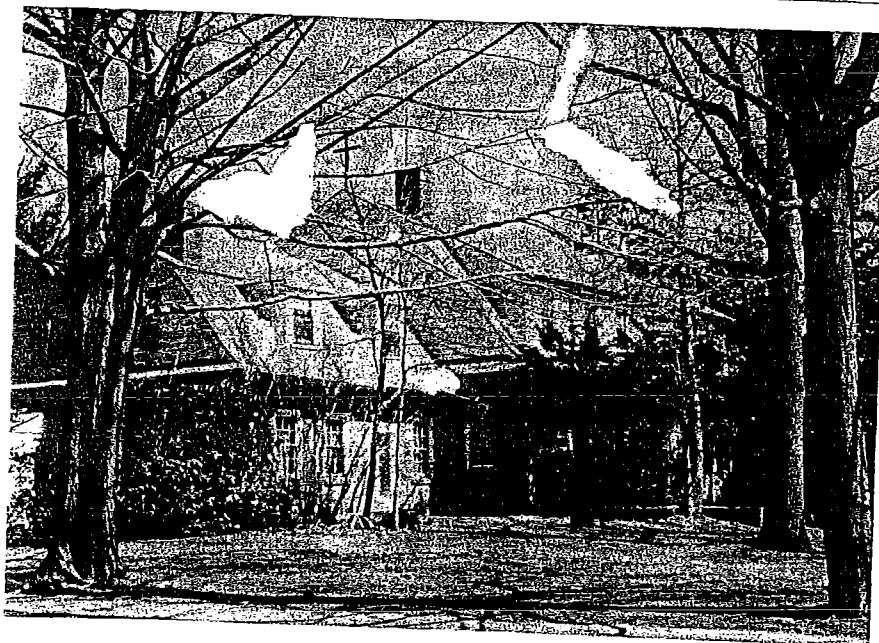


This house was located on a 300 acre tract of Daniel Demarest (1685-1767) and Rebecca De Groot, who built a house in the Dumont area in 1724. In 1763 he divided the land in two parts, the north 130 acres going to Peter Daniel Demarest who already occupied that part. His farm was called "The Flatts".

(Source: "The Demarest Family")

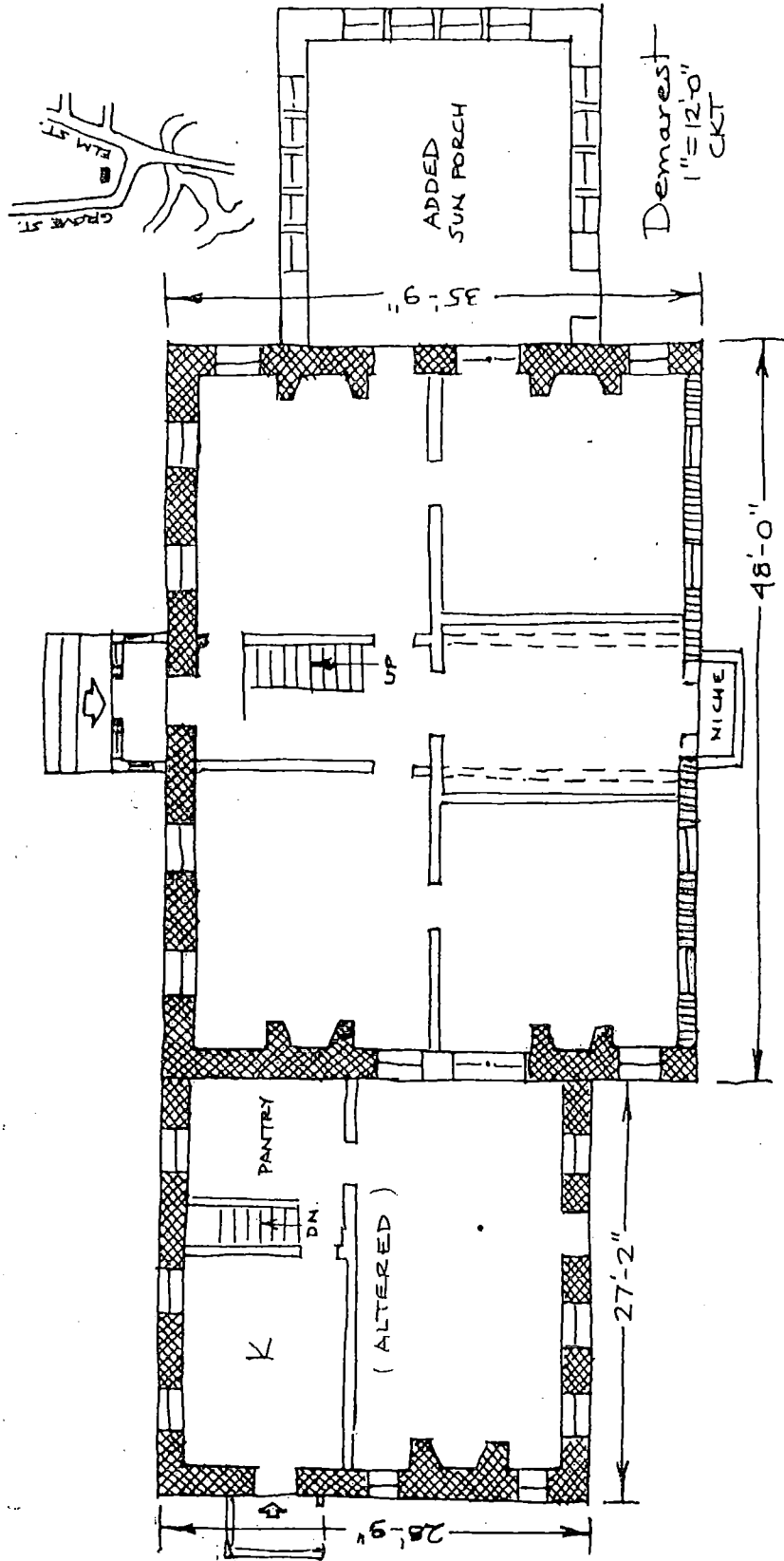
There had been two houses on the site before this one was erected in 1819, probably by Peter P. Demarest who inherited the property. He married Lea Demarest and died in 1847. The house remained in the family until about 1900 when it was sold to Hugh J. Grant, the Mayor of New York City, for his use as a summer home. He built his own house and the Demarest House was used by a caretaker for the estate until he built his own house and left this one empty. Grant gave the house to Peter's grandson John G. Demarest who was the fourth generation to have been born here. He meticulously measured and supervised the rebuilding of the house himself (he was Oradell's Building Inspector) in 1913. The house remained in the family until 1955 when it was sold to the Catholic Church.

(Source: Crump, "Biography of a Borough")



HISTORIC NAME: Demarest House  
 LOCATION: 268 Grove Street, Oradell

245



NEW JERSEY OFFICE OF CULTURAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION SECTION  
INDIVIDUAL STRUCTURE SURVEY FORM

HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY NO. 0244-9

HISTORIC NAME: W. King House  
LOCATION: 437 Grove St.  
MUNICIPALITY: Oradell  
USGS QUAD: Hackensack  
OWNER/ADDRESS: Parker, William & L.L.

COMMON NAME:  
BLOCK/LOT 23/6  
COUNTY:  
UTM REFERENCES: Zone/Northing/Easting

*But Blackfort*  
*W. King*

DESCRIPTION Post 1876

Construction Date: c.1880

Source of Date: Atlas

Architect:

Builder:

Style: Vernacular High Victorian

Form/Plan Type: T shaped with rear wing

Gothic Revival

Number of Stories: 2½

Foundation: low, brick

Exterior Wall Fabric: clapboard

Fenestration: 4 bays, 2/2

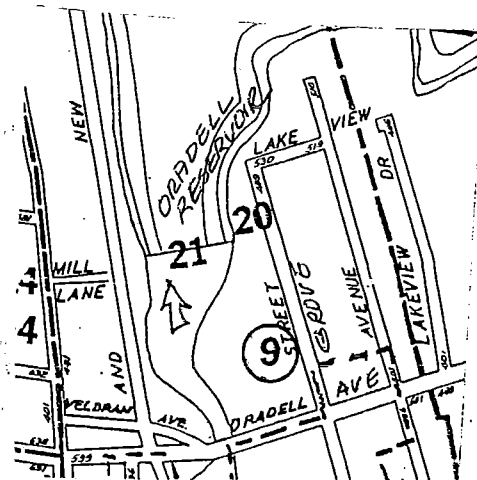
Roof/Chimneys: cross gables, patterned slate with rosette design  
int. chimney

Additional Architectural Description:

King posts in gables and fascia with cutout quatrefoils and other designs  
pointed arched double window in gable, wrap-around porch with quatrefoil design,  
creating spandrel effect, brackets, door with paneled transom and crossets  
appears to have been reworked in early 20th c., as door itself appears early 20th c.  
Windows have crossets and inappropriate recent shutters. In gables are paired  
windows in frames with pointed-arched head. Rear wing: side bay windows.  
1-bay north and south side porches on rear wing which are similar to front porch.

PHOTO Negative File No. 22292-26, slide

Map (Indicate North)



0244-9

## SITING, BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION, AND RELATED STRUCTURES:

Freestanding

large lot

large trees in yard

shrubs

evergreen trees in photographs have been removed.

SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT: Urban ☐ Suburban ☒ Scattered Buildings ☐  
 Open Space ☐ Woodland ☐ Residential ☒ Agricultural ☐ Village ☐  
 Industrial ☐ Downtown Commercial ☐ Highway Commercial ☐ Other ☐

To south is house of similar date, but altered

## SIGNIFICANCE:

The house is a well-preserved example of vernacular Gothic Revival domestic architecture. Its gable details, decorative fascia along eaves, porches and slate roof are noteworthy.

*Moved from near site of big*

ORIGINAL USE: residence PRESENT USE: residence

PHYSICAL CONDITION: Excellent ☒ Good ☐ Fair ☐ Poor ☐REGISTER ELIGIBILITY: Yes ☐ Possible ☒ No ☐ Part of District ☐THREATS TO SITE: Roads ☐ Development ☐ Zoning ☐ Deterioration ☐No Threat ☐ Other ☐

## COMMENTS:

Removal of shutters would enhance appearance.

## REFERENCES:

Walker, 1876-not shown

Bromley 1912: I: plate 22: W. King

RECORDED BY:  
ORGANIZATION:TRB  
BCOC & H A

DATE: 10-81



View looking SW  
Showing Main(east)  
and north facades  
Neg. file No.  
95792-31



NEW JERSEY OFFICE OF CULTURAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION SECTION  
INDIVIDUAL STRUCTURE SURVEY FORM

HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY NO. 0244-10

HISTORIC NAME: Demarest-Cornwall-Blauvelt  
LOCATION: 355 Grant Avenue House  
MUNICIPALITY: Oradell  
USGS QUAD: Hackensack  
OWNER/ADDRESS: Loeffel, Richard

COMMON NAME: Hague Farmhouse  
BLOCK/LOT: 46F/7A  
COUNTY: Bergen  
UTM REFERENCES: Zone/Northing/Easting

DESCRIPTION

Construction Date: pre 1840; said to be built c.1765 Source of Date: U. S. Coast Survey Map, Hague

Architect: Builder:

Style: Vernacular with Greek Revival elements Form/Plan Type: Rectangular with side wing

Number of Stories: 2

Foundation: Medium height, ashlar sandstone

Exterior Wall Fabric: narrow clapboard

Fenestration: 3 bays with side wings 6/6/windows on 2nd-story front eyebrow

Roof/Chimneys: gables, new exterior end chimney at east

Additional Architectural Description:

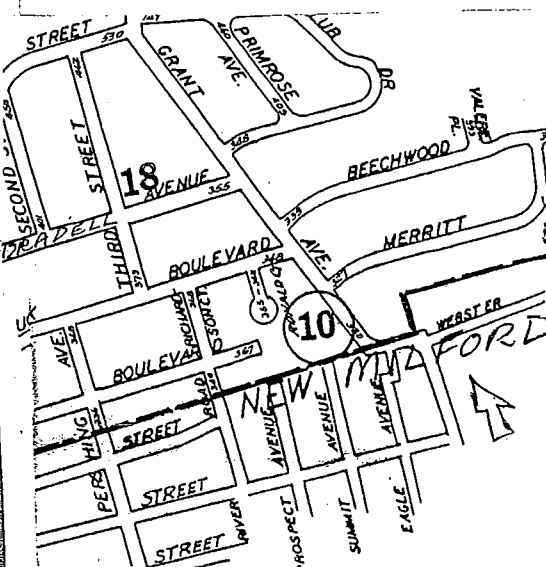
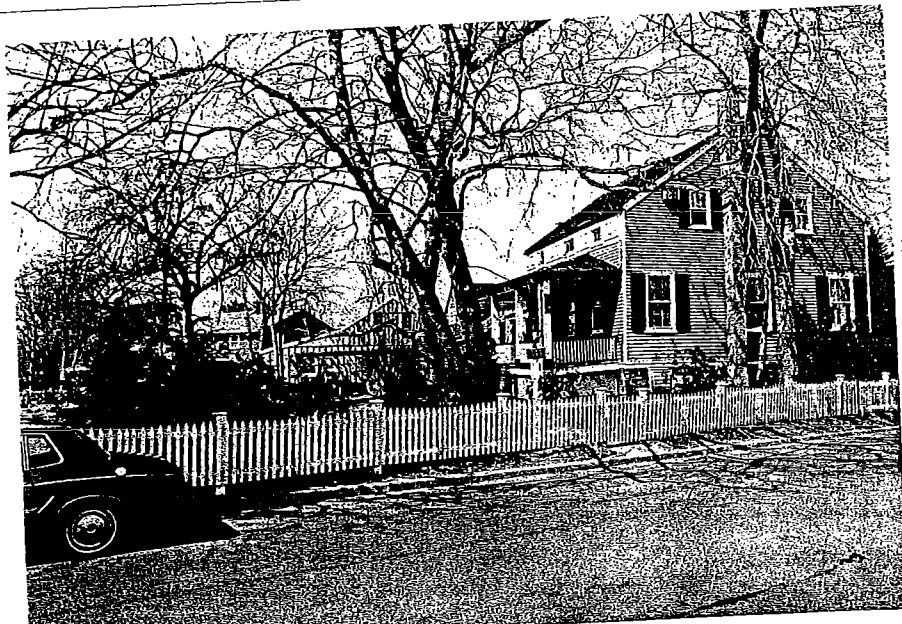
Main block: 3 bay porch appears to be a replacement Simple Greek Revival style doorway with sidelights and transom eyebrow windows part of paneled frieze Skylight added in roof of main block Westside wing: 2 story with eyebrow 2nd-story front windows 3 bays, 3 bay porch with piers, brick interior end chimney, low stone foundation

The building is said to have a sandstone cellar floor, an unusual feature (Crump p. 15-16)

PHOTO

Negative File No. 22292-30, slide

Map. (Indicate North)



## SITING, BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION, AND RELATED STRUCTURES:

Freestanding

Faces south

Side to street and at an angle, part only 7' from street

Picket fence along street

SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT: Urban ☐ Suburban ☒ Scattered Buildings ☐  
 Open Space ☐ Woodland ☐ Residential ☒ Agricultural ☐ Village ☐  
 Industrial ☐ Downtown Commercial ☐ Highway Commercial ☐ Other ☐

Playing field to one side at south-new houses in area

## SIGNIFICANCE:

This house is a significant remnant of Oradell's agricultural history. It was the homestead of a farm on "The Flatts".

It has a number of accessory buildings although several appear quite new.

The house is a reasonable well-preserved example of a three-bay-frame house with eyebrow windows and sandstone foundation. The eyebrow windows of the main block are incorporated into a paneled frieze. Similar treatment is found on other early frame houses in Bergen County (see 0260-21; Henry J. Demott Farmhouse 646 Teaneck Rd. Teaneck)

The construction chronology of this building needs further investigation. According to the most recent local history, part of this house (probably the west wing) may have been built in 1765 by Jacobus Demarest (Crump pp. 15-16). This source states that the owner was C. D. Blauvelt. The Blauvelt association is confirmed by the 1876 map. However the 1861 map associates the building with J. J. Cornwall. The 1840 U.S. Coast Survey Map shows two buildings near the site of this building. Although the 1861 map shows only one it is possible that the 1765 building with c. 1812 wing disappeared between 1840 and 1861. Mrs. Robert Hague's (continued)

ORIGINAL USE: Homestead of farm  
 PHYSICAL CONDITION: Excellent ☒ Good ☐ Fair ☐ Poor ☐  
 REGISTER ELIGIBILITY: Yes ☐ Possible ☐ No ☐ Part of District ☐  
 THREATS TO SITE: Roads ☐ Development ☐ Zoning ☐ Deterioration ☐  
 No Threat ☐ Other ☐

## COMMENTS:

This house is located within feet of the street.

## REFERENCES: Bergen County Historic Sites Built Before or During 1880's survey

Junior League Survey: "Jacobus Demarest House 355 Grant Ave. , 1760's

Crump, pp. 15-16

Hague: "Historic Sites in Oradell, N. J. "

U. S. Coast Survey map

CKT list

Hopkins 1861: J. J. Cornwall

Walker 1876: C. D. Blauvelt (owned 3 houses on "the Flatts"

Bromley 1912: Jas. C. Blauvelt est.

RECORDED BY:

TRB

DATE: 10-81

ORGANIZATION:

BCOC &amp; HA



list of "Historic Sites in Oradell, N. J." states that the oldest wing was built in 1765 by Garrett Demarest and that the larger wing was built in the early 1800's probably 1812. The "Bergen County Historic Sites Built before or during the 1880's" inventory form states: "Daniel, the father of Jacobus, probably built the home for his son when Jacobus was married in 1743. Daniel, the father, did not transfer the property to Jacobus until 1763. Four generations of Demarests lived here. It was then sold to J. C. Blauvelt, father of Elmer Blauvelt who owned the Atwood Mansion. It was later owned by John Hague."

The character of the main block suggests it was built in the mid-19th century due to its massing and Greek Revival style elements. The west wing appears to be older.

According to Floyd Winters/<sup>deeds</sup>show that this house passed directly from Peter J. Demarest to James C. Blauvelt.

## HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

### EXPLANATION OF INVENTORY LISTS

Inventory# The New Jersey Historic Sites Inventory numbers (NJHSI) which has been assigned the property.

Location; Name: Street address followed by property's historic name. Common name is shown in parentheses.

Date erected: Dates taken from historic maps or research unless preceded by "c" for "circa", in which case dating is from visual evidence.

Sig. = Level of Significance of Property. Each property has a designation of significance: Matrix or Filler, abbreviated to M and F.

M - Matrix: A building with historical significance as part of the general development of the area which also has architectural significance due to style, size, rarity of design, or rarity of building type.

F - Filler: a building which has historical significance as part of the general development of the area, but whose architectural significance is not great due to less interesting design or loss of detail and integrity.

Description: See "Individual Structure Survey Form Guidelines" for definitions. A brief statement of significance why the property is included in the historic sites survey is followed by historic owners' names taken from historic maps and other primary research sources. The date of source follows the owner's name.

Neg. file # : Film codes for photographic negatives which are filed with the New Jersey Office of Cultural and Environmental Services.

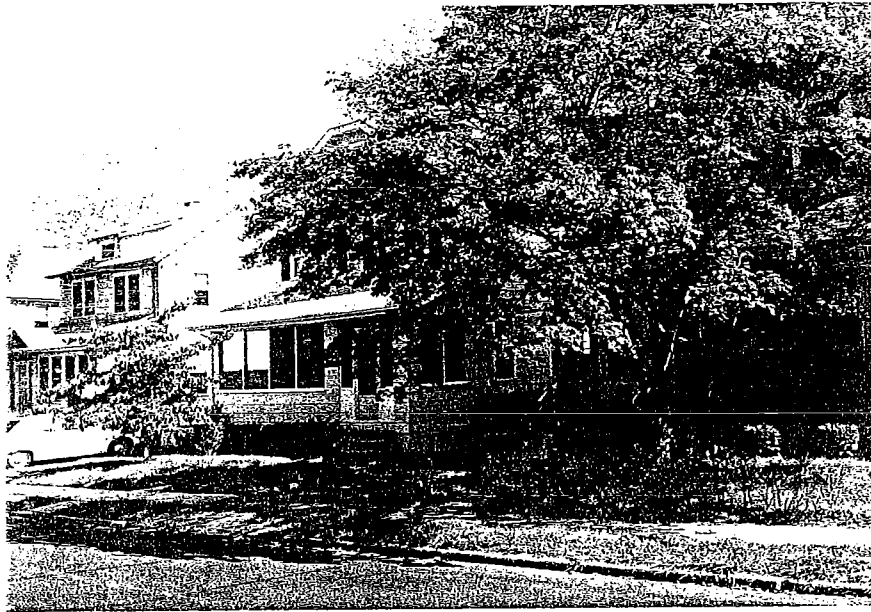
The chart is followed by photographs of the properties included on the inventory list. Each photograph is identified by inventory number, address, name of property shown and negative file number of the photograph.

All properties included on the inventory lists are mapped on the Historic Sites Survey Map.

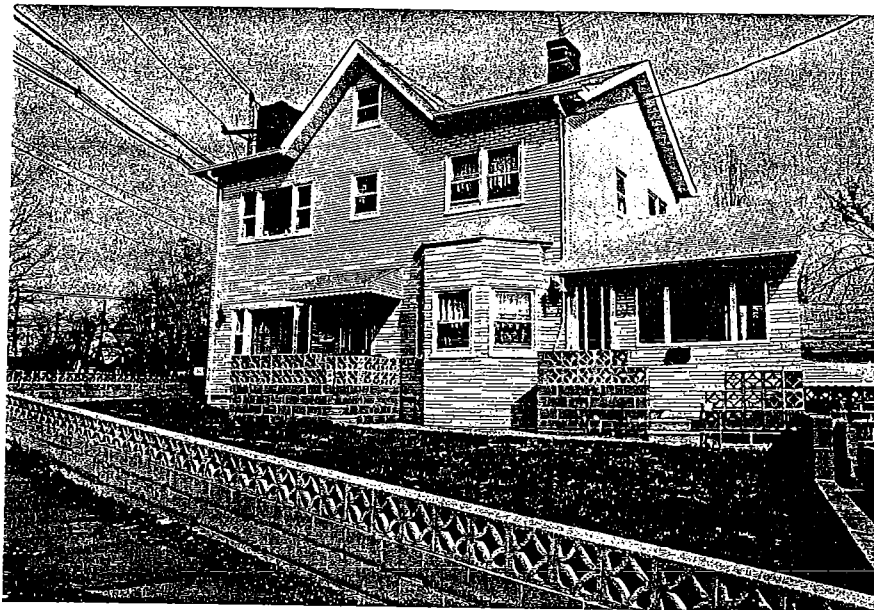
# INVENTORY LISTS FOR NJHSI- 0244, BOROUGH OF ORADELL, BERGEN COUNTY

Inventory # 0244	Location ; Name	Date erected	Sig.	Description (use; style; stories; ext. wall fabric; fenestration; roof; major features; alteration etc.) Statement of significance. Historic owners with dates in ( )	Neg. file Number
11	East of Kinderkamack Road between Borough of River Edge, Waite Pl. and Railroad tracks; The Manor District	c. 1926	F	Residential suburban sub-division of free standing, single-family frame houses on small lots. Houses are modest 2 1/2 story vernacular structures with enclosed porches across front. Originally sheathed in wood shingles; most have replacement synthetic sheathing today. Roof shapes vary including gables with clipped gables facing the street, gables with sides facing street, and gable with central gables. According to Chas. Reis' NY Times obituary, this was his first real estate development project. Reis became a major force in the suburban development of Bergen County and is credited with building 15,000 houses in Oradell. River Edge (0252-D3), Woodridge (0269-02), Tenafly, Englewood, Englewood Cliffs, Paramus and elsewhere.	97935-22
12	490' New Milford Ave., NE corner Kinderkamack Rd; John B. H. Voorhis Store	Bet. 1840-1861	F	Originally store, now house; Replacement masonry sheathing (permanence and brick); 3 bays, openings altered; gable with center gable; bay window; extremely altered. 1840 map: not shown. J. H. Voorhis store (1861), John B.H. Voorhis store (1876). The local post office was located here from 1879 to about 1890 (Crump p. 133). This building is so severely modified that its age is barely recognizable. Only its massing suggests it was erected in the mid-19th century.	22292-15
13	355 Kinderkamack Rd; Oradell Public School (Oradell Town Hall)	1901-2, 1952 alterations, 1971 addition	M	School, now municipal offices; colonial revival; brick; 4-2-4 bays 9/9; low hip; 1-bay Doric columnar entrance porch with full entablature, metal railing probably dates to 1952, earlier was wood; stone sills and lintels, full entablature with dentils, modillions, octagonal cupola with louvered openings, round fan light over entrance; remodelled on interior in 1952, William G. Beck, architect, and Alexander P. Kuehler, builder; 1971 rear additions, Charles S. Cleveland, architect. The construction of this substantial school building in 1901-2 reflects Oradell's growth at the turn-of-the-century. In 1931 the building became the Town Hall. It is a very pleasing example of a vernacular Colonial Revival style public building with fine exterior integrity. Its visual importance is increased by its spacious grounds and campus-like setting with churches flanking it.	22292-10
14	555 Kinderkamack Rd; Tree at Heritage Office Center	planted in 1750 ?	F	Ginkgo tree on property formerly of Cornelius Cooper homestead. According to legend this tree was planted by Cornelius Cooper in 1750. The handsome tree, a native of eastern China, was incorporated into a new office building due to local opposition to its removal. The tree is the focal point of a landscaped corner courtyard.	22292-6





0244-11  
Beverley Rd. looking  
South from 89 Beverley  
Rd.; The Manor District  
Neg. file #  
97935-22



0244-12  
490 New Milford Ave.  
NE corner Kinderkamack  
Rd.; John B.H. Voorhis  
Store Neg. file #  
22292-15



0244-13  
355 Kinderkamack Rd.  
Oradell Public  
School (Oradell Town  
Hall) Neg. file #  
22292-10



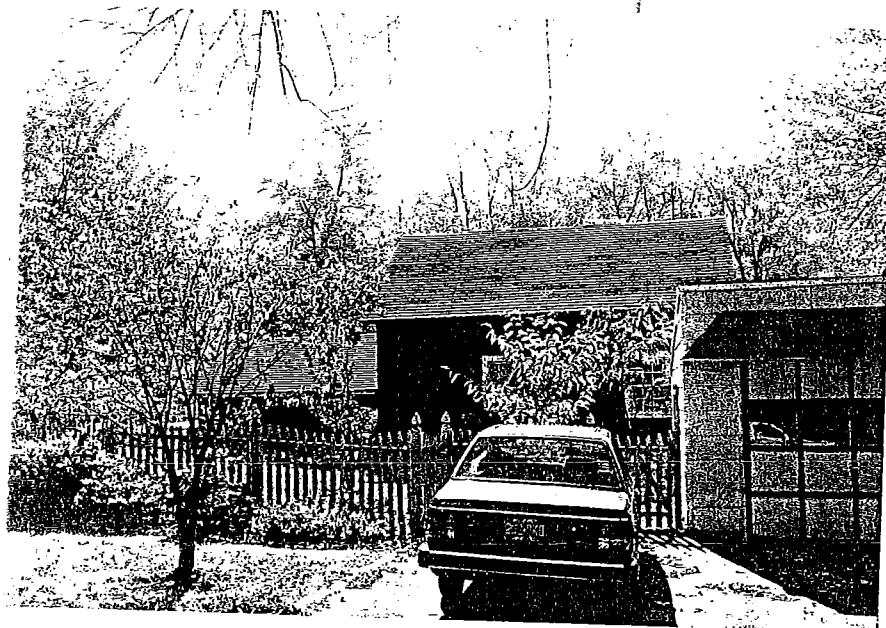
0244-14  
555 Kinderkamack Rd.;  
Ginkgo tree  
Neg. file #  
22292-6



0244-15  
455 Seminole St.;  
NW corner Woodland  
Ave.; Charles Livingston  
Bull House  
Neg. file #  
95792-32



0244-16  
799 Soldier Hill Rd.  
and house behind it;  
Frederick Herle House  
and Frank Price House  
Neg. file # 22292-2



0244-16  
Cottage to west of  
799 Soldier Hill Rd.;  
Neg. file #  
97935-21



0244-17  
Behind 272 Genther Ave.;  
Voorhis Cemetery  
Neg. file #  
97935-21



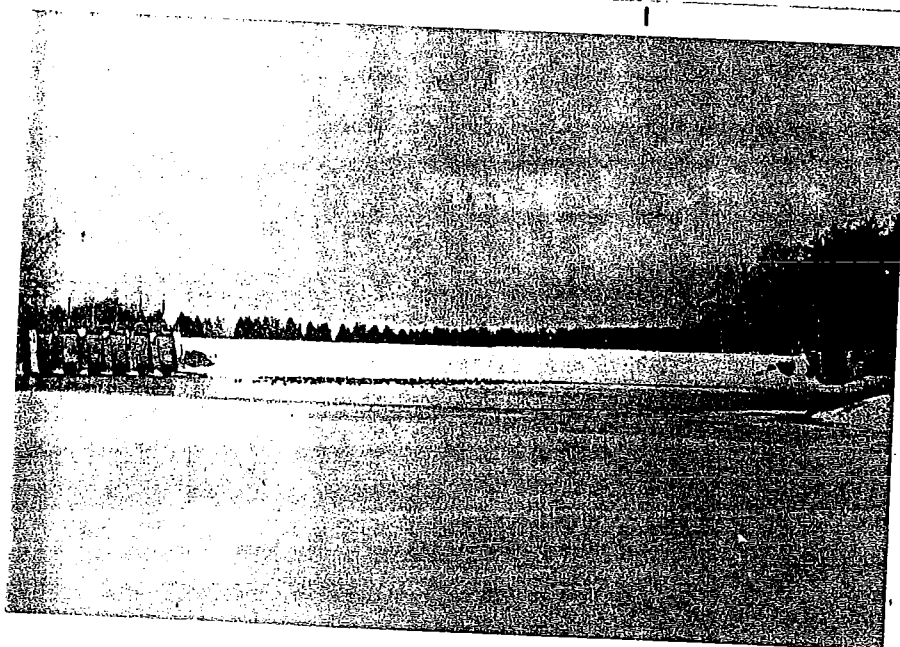
0244-18  
394 Oradell Ave.  
NE corner Third St.  
Neg file #  
22292-29



0244-19  
273 Grove St.;  
Neg. file #  
22292-28



0244-20  
473 Grove St.;  
Jacob Demarest House  
Neg. file #  
22292-27



0244-21  
In Hackensack River  
approximately opposite  
foot of Mill Lane;  
Oradell Reservoir  
Dam  
Neg. file #  
19822-37