



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. **Place additional certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).**

### 1. Name of Property

historic name Seward House  
other names/site number Willswood Farm

### 2. Location

street & number 30 Flanders Road (Turkey Brook Park)  not for publication  
city or town Mount Olive Township  vicinity  
state New Jersey code NJ county Morris code 027 zip code 07828

### 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this  nomination  request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

national  statewide  local

Rob Boony - Asst. Commissioner 9/23/13  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

NJ DEP  
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official Date

Title State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

### 4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register  determined eligible for the National Register

determined not eligible for the National Register  removed from the National Register

other (explain): \_\_\_\_\_

[Signature] 12/24/2013  
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

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**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**  
(Check as many boxes as apply.)

**Category of Property**  
(Check only **one** box.)

**Number of Resources within Property**  
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

- private
- public - Local
- public - State
- public - Federal

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Contributing	Noncontributing	
2		buildings
		sites
	1	structures
		objects
2	1	<b>Total</b>

**Name of related multiple property listing**  
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

**Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register**

N/A

0

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

**Current Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC/ Single Dwelling

VACANT/NOT IN USE

AGRICULTURE/ Agricultural Outbuilding

OTHER/ Storage, Maintenance building

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

**Materials**  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Italianate

foundation: STONE

walls: STONE

STUCCO

roof: ASPHALT

other:

**Narrative Description**

See Continuation Sheet.

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**8. Statement of Significance**

**Applicable National Register Criteria**

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Architecture  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Period of Significance**

ca.1865-ca.1875  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Dates**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Person**

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

\_\_\_\_\_

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Architect/Builder**

Unknown  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Criteria Considerations**

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

**Period of Significance (justification)**

See the Summary paragraph of the Significance Statement, on the continuation sheets.

**Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)**

N/A

**Statement of Significance**

See Continuation Sheet.

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

See Continuation Sheet.

### Previous documentation on file (NPS):

preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67 has been requested)  
 previously listed in the National Register  
 previously determined eligible by the National Register  
 designated a National Historic Landmark  
 recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_  
 recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_  
 recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # \_\_\_\_\_

### Primary location of additional data:

State Historic Preservation Office  
 Other State agency  
 Federal agency  
 Local government  
 University  
 Other  
Name of repository: \_\_\_\_\_

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned):

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 0.873 acres

### UTM Coordinates

Zone 18 523106mE 4523985mN

### Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

40.866608, -74.725843

Map Datum: WGS84

### Verbal Boundary Description

See Continuation Sheet.

### Boundary Justification

See Continuation Sheet.

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Margaret M. Hickey, Historic Preservation Specialist and Beth Bjorklund, Historic Preservation Specialist

organization Connolly & Hickey Historical Architects, LLC

date January 24, 2013

street & number P. O. Box 1726

telephone 973-746-4911

city or town Cranford

state New Jersey zip code 07016

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### Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.



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- **Continuation Sheets**
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

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**Photographs:**

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See Continuation Sheet.

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**Property Owner:**

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

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name Mount Olive Township  
street & number P. O. Box 450 telephone 973-691-0900  
city or town Budd Lake state New Jersey zip code 07828

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

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**Summary Paragraph**

The Seward House (Photograph 0001) is located at the entrance to Turkey Brook Park and faces Flanders Road to the north. It stands on the edge of a 267-acre parcel of land that once encompassed the Seward farm but today is part of Turkey Brook Park, a Morris County Park Commission property in the Budd Lake section of Mount Olive Township. **Only the immediate environs of the house, however, extending to a stone barn across the entrance road, are included in the nominated area (see the site map).** Approximately one-quarter of the larger park property has been developed with athletic fields for active recreation, but that part also includes a wide, paved entrance road, called "Seward Place" (non-contributing structure) that passes between the house and a 19<sup>th</sup>-century stone barn (contributing building). The rest of the park (outside the nominated area), the southern and eastern portions, remains as generally undeveloped woodland with some walking trails. The stream known as Turkey Brook runs northeast-southwest across the southern one-third of the park, and Maiers Pond, a manmade pond created by impounding Turkey Brook in the mid-twentieth century, is located at the southern end of the property. The northern border of the park is defined by Flanders Road, which runs approximately east-west at the entrance to the park. The Seward House is located west of Seward Place, and a stone barn is located opposite the house on the east side of Seward Place. This barn was constructed probably during the years immediately following the house, and is the only one remaining of several original farm outbuildings. Its masonry is similar to that of the house, although while the house was originally stuccoed the barn never was. A parking lot (outside the nominated area) is located southwest of the house and a war memorial (also outside the nominated area) is situated to the west; a paved walking path running north-south links both of them to the house. A chain-link fence currently encloses the house to discourage vandalism.

**Seward House**

**Exterior**

The Seward House is a farmhouse that consists of a two-and-one-half-story main block built ca.1865, added to a slightly older two-story rear wing probably built ca.1855-60. The main block is five bays wide and three bays deep and faces north toward Flanders Road, with the older rear wing centered on the south elevation of the main block. The north (front - Photograph 0001) and south (rear - Photographs 0008, 0010) elevations have symmetrical fenestration while the east and west side elevations are asymmetrical. The foundation and walls are of a local rubblestone construction, and were originally finished with a distinctive, tan-colored stucco that was a popular finish in this period for buildings throughout northwestern New Jersey. Much of the stucco, however, has been lost from moisture damage. The rear wing is two bays wide by two bays deep, with similar rubblestone walls that match the main block. Based on the rear wing's construction detailing, such as shorter ceiling heights, splayed windows and clear changes in the architecture so it works with the main house, the rear wing pre-dates the main house by several years. All of the windows on the building have original wood frames with contrasting bluestone lintels and sills, but all window and door openings are currently covered with plywood (Photo 0002).

A cross-gable roof over the main section of the house is currently clad with asphalt shingles, which were installed in 2008; the original roof likely featured slate shingles. Originally, a square, wood-frame cupola was centered where the perpendicular ridgelines cross, but only the base remains (Photo 0003). A 1940s photograph shows the square cupola with two four-light windows on each side (Historic Image 0001). The roofline features a molded wood cornice with paired brackets and cornice returns; these are original features but are severely deteriorated and missing in some locations (Photo 0004). The gable roof on the rear wing is also clad with asphalt shingles, though likely had slate shingles like the main roof. The wood cornice at the wing is similar to that on the main house, but has single brackets instead of paired ones (Photo 0005). The house originally had five interior brick chimneys, one inset from each of the corners of the main section and one centered on the south elevation of the wing. What remained of the chimneys was removed above the roofline in 2008 when the new roof was installed. The Township documented the chimneys

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through photographs prior to dismantling and stored the brick for future restoration.

Elevations

*Main House*

The north (front) elevation has five regular bays (Photograph 0001). The first floor has a central entrance flanked by two pairs of original French doors on each side. The central entrance is a pair of original paneled wood doors with a two-light transom above; the top panel on the doors is taller than the bottom and has an arched top. Each set of flanking French doors is a pair of one-light wood doors with a two-light transom above; these doors originally allowed access to the front porch, which no longer remains. The second floor originally featured a typical six-over-six hung wood window in four of the bays and a pair of narrow four-over-four hung wood windows in the center bay. Many of the sash have been lost but the original wood frames and bluestone lintels and sills remain in place; this is typical of all elevations; this opening is also finished with bluestone lintel and sill. In the central bay at the gable attic level is a small window with a half-round arched top, which is typical at the attic level on all elevations. There are two cellar-level windows on this elevation, one in each of the outer bays. The house originally had a one-story full-width porch that has been removed. Since the porch is missing, there currently is no access up to the entrance level; it is unknown when the porch was removed. Based on a photograph from the 1940s, the porch appears to have had a shallow hip roof with exposed rafter tails, square wood supports, decorative wood dentils and brackets, and a simple wood railing and balusters (Historic Image 0002).

The east (side) elevation has three irregular bays (Photograph 0006). The first floor has three typical six-over-six wood windows, one in each bay, but the central one is set off-center towards the south. The second floor has two typical windows, one in each of the outer bays. The first-floor windows are slightly taller than the second floor ones. Centered in the gable attic is a typical round-arch window. There are windows at the cellar level in the central and southern-most bay.

Much of the south (rear) elevation is covered by the rear wing, which is centered on this side. One bay is visible on either side of the rear wing. The western bay originally had a door on the first floor and a six-over-six hung wood window on the second floor. The eastern bay has a six-over-six hung wood window on each floor. A typical round-arch window is also located in the gable attic above the rear wing.

The west (side) elevation is a mirror of the east elevation (Photograph 0007). The first floor has three typical windows, one in each bay, but the central one is off-center towards the south. The second floor has two typical windows, one in each of the outer bays. Centered in the gable attic is a typical round-arch window. There is a window at the cellar level in the center bay.

*Rear Wing*

The east (side) elevation has two unevenly spaced bays, with a window in each at both the first and second floor (Photo 0008). The first floor windows are six-over-six hung wood windows. The second floor windows are three-over-three hung wood windows with a splayed window opening. The northern bay is located very close to the north end where the wing abuts the main section of the house. The southern bay is located farther in from the south end and is almost centered on the elevation. There is a window at the cellar level in the south bay.

The south (rear) elevation has two regular bays (Photo 0009). A modern six-panel door is located in the eastern bay of the first floor and a window was originally located in the western bay; this likely was a six-over-six hung wood window. The second floor has two six-over-six hung wood windows. The western bay at the cellar level originally provided access to stone stairs that lead down to the cellar. There is evidence that a structure with a low-pitched gable

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roof originally covered the first story. Based on a historic photograph from the 1940s, this appears to have been a one-story, wood-frame addition with wood siding. (Historic Image 0001)

The west (side) elevation is similar to the east elevation except the windows are different (Photo 0010). It has two unevenly spaced bays, both with windows at the first and second floors. The northern bay had a window at the first floor, though it is unknown what kind, and a small three-light wood awning window in a splayed opening on the second floor. The southern bay has a six-over-six hung wood window on the first floor and a small three-over-three hung wood window in a splayed opening on the second floor. The northern bay is located very close to the north end where the wing abuts the main section of the house. The southern bay is located farther in from the south end and is almost centered on the elevation. There is a window at the cellar level in the south bay.

**Interior**

*General*

Due to decades of vacancy and neglect, the interior of the Seward House suffers from considerable deterioration. The structure and finishes of many walls, ceilings and floors have been damaged. Modern repairs have been made to stabilize the building, and therefore modern lumber has been used to replace deteriorated or missing structural components throughout the house. Despite the years of damage and deterioration, the house still retains historic integrity. Many historic features, including original doors, gas fixtures ceiling medallions, and railing components, were removed and documented prior to stabilization and currently are in storage, available for re-installation.

The interior of the main section of the house is composed of three floors of living space over a cellar level. The main house is rectangular in shape with a center-hall plan. A half-turn staircase in the center hall connects the three floors. The first floor contains east and west parlors, a dining room and a music room; the second floor contains four bedrooms, a nursery, and a large hall closet; and the third floor contains two large open spaces.

The two-story rear wing is centered on the rear (south elevation) of the main house and is irregular in plan. It is composed of two floors of living space over a cellar level, but the second floor level does not align with that of the main house. A small hallway runs east-west at the north end of the wing and contains a quarter-flight staircase that connects the two floors. The first floor contains a kitchen, a pantry, and the small hallway; and the second floor contains two small bedrooms, a bathroom, and the small hallway.

*Cellar*

The cellar space of the rear wing is accessed by a staircase from the first floor hallway. The staircase is located near the northeast corner of the room and runs east-west; the original staircase was removed because it was in poor condition and has been replaced by a plain modern wood staircase. There is a stone bulkhead stair at the west end of the south wall that provides access to the exterior. (Photograph 0011) The space has an exposed dirt floor, rubblestone walls, and exposed wood framing at the ceiling. The east and west walls each have a window located off-center towards the south. The south wall has a stone bump out centered on it, which is the support for the kitchen fireplace. A brick knee wall encloses the area on the east side of the chimney base; it is unclear what purpose this knee wall serves. (Photograph 0012).

The cellar space of the main section is accessed from the rear cellar through a doorway centered on its south wall. There originally was a staircase that provided access from the first floor but this no longer exists; there is an opening in the ceiling towards the south end where the staircase was located. This section of the cellar is one large open space with exposed dirt floors, rubblestone walls, and exposed wood framing at the ceiling. (Photograph 0013) The north wall has two windows, one located near each corner. The east wall has two windows, one located near the southeast

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corner and the other located slightly off-center towards the south. The west wall has one window located slightly off-center towards the south. There are a number of modern repairs to the framing, which were done to stabilize the building.

*First Floor*

*General*

The front entry Vestibule leads into a Center Hall, which runs north-south and divides the main section of the house in half. There are two rooms off of the east and west sides of the hall, but these room configurations are not symmetrical. Access between floors is via a half-turn staircase that is located towards on the east side of the Center Hall towards the rear. A doorway at the rear (south) end of the Center Hall serves as the connection between the main house and the rear wing. A secondary staircase in the rear wing provides access between the first and second floors of that portion of the house. The majority of the first floor rooms have original plaster-finished walls and ceilings and original wood floors; the Kitchen and Pantry are the exception, which have beaded board on the walls and ceiling. The condition of wall, ceiling and floor finishes varies from room to room.

*Vestibule*

The primary entrance to the main house leads into the Vestibule. The walls and ceiling are finished with plaster and have base and crown moldings, and the floor is wood plank that runs north-south. The entrance is a pair of paneled wood doors with a two-light transom above, which is centered on the north wall of the vestibule. Because the building has thick exterior walls, the door jambs are wide and have inset molded panels that mimic the door panels. Opposite the entrance on the south wall is a pair of arch-topped doors that lead into the Center Hall; the doors each have one tall light over two small, vertical, recessed panels. (Photograph 0014)

*Center Hall*

The Center Hall runs north-south and bisects the entire main house (Photograph 0015). The walls and ceiling are finished with plaster and have base and crown moldings. The floor is wood plank that runs north-south. The main staircase is a half-turn staircase and runs north-south along the south end of the east wall. The wood staircase is a straight run to a landing at the second-floor level of the rear wing, and then turns one-hundred-eighty degrees and continues to the second-floor of the main section of the house (Photograph 0016). The bottom two stairs are circle-ended but the newel post, railing and balusters are missing; some of these have been removed and are in storage for future restoration. Below the staircase originally was a stair to the cellar that no longer exist; a doorway still provides access to where this stair existed. The doorway to the Vestibule is centered on the north wall of the hall. A doorway to the East Parlor is located north of the stairs on the east wall and the doorway to the Music Room is located south of the stairs. A doorway to the Rear Hall is approximately centered on the south wall; this serves as the connection between the main section of the house and the rear wing. A doorway to the West Parlor is located on the north end of the west wall, and a doorway to the Dining Room is located towards the south end of the west wall.

*East Parlor*

The East Parlor is located in the northeast section of the main house. The walls and ceiling are finished with plaster and have base and crown moldings as well as decorative molding on the ceiling plane (Photograph 0017). The floor is wood plank that runs north-south. A doorway from the Center Hall is located on the north end of the west wall. The north wall has two evenly-spaced sets of wood French doors that originally provided access to the front porch (Photograph 0018). Each set of doors has a pair of one-light wood doors with a two-light transom above. The door jambs have three molded inset panels and the heads have a single molded inset panel. The east wall has a fireplace approximately centered on it, which is flanked by six-over-six hung wood windows. The fireplace originally had a marble mantle but this has been lost; the brick firebox remains and has a segmental-arched opening. The window

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jambes have two inset molded panels and the window heads have a single inset molded panel. A wide doorway that leads into the Music Room is centered on the south wall; this doorway originally had pocket doors but the doors have been removed and the pocket opening covered with wood (Photograph 0019).

*Music Room*

The Music Room is located in the southeast section of the main house. The walls and ceiling originally were finished with plaster but most of these finishes have been lost and plywood covers some sections of the walls and ceiling. The floor is wood plank that runs north-south. A doorway from the Center Hall is located at the south end of the west wall, and the doorway to the East Parlor that originally had pocket doors is centered on the north wall. The east and south walls each originally had a typical six-over-six window, but the one on the south wall has been lost completely.

*West Parlor*

The West Parlor is located in the northwest section of the main house. The walls and ceiling are finished with plaster and have base and crown moldings. The floor is wood plank that runs north-south. Access from the Center Hall is from a doorway located on the south end of the east wall. The north wall has two evenly-spaced sets of wood French doors that originally provided access to the front porch. Each set of doors has a pair of one-light wood doors with a two-light transom above. The door jambes have three molded inset panels and the heads have a single molded inset panel. The east wall has a fireplace located on its south end and a typical six-over-six window on its north end (Photograph 0020). The fireplace originally had a marble mantle but this has been lost; the brick firebox remains and has a round-arched opening. A wide doorway that leads into the Dining Room is centered on the south wall; this doorway originally had pocket doors but the doors have been removed and the pocket opening covered with wood.

*Dining Room*

The Dining Room is located in the southwest section of the main house. The walls and ceiling are finished with plaster and have base and crown moldings. The floor is wood plank that runs north-south. Access from the Center Hall is from a doorway located on the north end of the east wall. A wide doorway centered on the north wall lines up with the pocket door opening on the south wall of the West Parlor; there is a closet on either side (east and west) of the intermediary space that is created between the two rooms (Photograph 0021). The closets appear to originally have had shelves in them. The west wall has a fireplace approximately centered on it, which is flanked by typical six-over-six windows. The fireplace originally had a marble mantle but this has been lost; the brick firebox remains and has a segmental-arched opening. A doorway on the west end of the south wall provides access to the exterior, while a door on the east end of the south wall provides access to the Pantry.

*Rear Hall*

The Rear Hall is located in the northeast section of the rear wing. The walls and ceiling are finished with plaster and the walls have base moldings. The floor is wide wood plank that runs east-west. A doorway on the west end of the north wall acts as the connection on the first floor between the main house and rear wing; a doorway opposite this on the south wall leads to the Kitchen. A quarter-flight staircase that provides access to the second floor of the rear wing runs east-west along the east end of the south wall; the staircase has a plain wood railing and balusters. Below the staircase is a access to the cellar via another quarter-flight staircase. The east wall has a small six-over-six hung wood window at its north end.

*Kitchen*

The Kitchen is located at the south end of the rear wing. The ceiling is finished with beaded board. The walls are also finished with beaded board above a chair molding with wider wood panels below. The beaded board likely was installed over the original plaster walls and ceiling in the early-twentieth century. The west wall features a metal sidewall covering on its lower half, which is now rusted. A doorway approximately centered on the north wall

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provides access from the Rear Hall. At the west end of the north wall is another doorway, which leads into the Pantry. The east and west walls each have a six-over-six, hung wood window in a splayed opening centered on them. Centered on the south wall is a large brick fireplace with a molded wood mantle (Photograph 0022). East of the fireplace is a doorway that provides access to the exterior; a modern six-panel door has been installed here. West of the fireplace is a window that is covered and not visible, but it likely was a six-over-six hung wood window. A wood shelving unit is built into the northeast corner of the room (Photograph 0023), and a porcelain over cast iron sink is located on the south end of the west wall. The floor is wood plank that runs east-west.

*Pantry*

The Pantry is a small space located in the northwest section of the rear wing. The room has wood plank flooring of varying widths that runs east-west. The walls and ceiling are finished with a narrow beaded board. Access from the Kitchen is through a doorway on the south wall, and a four-panel wood door on the north wall provides access to the Dining Room. A small window is located on the south end of the west wall that is not visible but is likely a six-over-six hung wood window in a splayed opening. Below the window is a porcelain-over-cast-iron sink. The east wall features built-in wood shelving.

*Second Floor*

*General*

The second floor is configured similarly to the first floor with a Center Hall that runs north-south and divides the main house in half. There are two bedrooms off of the east and west sides of the hall and one at the north end, above where the vestibule is located on the first floor. Access between floors in the main house is via the primary half-turn staircase. A doorway at the stair landing between the first and second floors serves as the connection between the main house and the rear wing; the second floor of the rear wing is set lower than that of the main house and aligns with the landing between floor levels (Photograph 0016). The secondary staircase in the rear wing provides access between the first and second floors of that portion of the house. The majority of the second floor rooms have original plaster-finished walls and ceilings and original wood floors; the three rooms in the rear wing are the exception, which have beaded board on the walls and ceiling. The condition of wall, ceiling and floor finishes varies from room to room.

*Center Hall*

The Center Hall runs north-south and bisects the entire main house. The walls and ceiling are finished with plaster and have base and crown moldings. The floor is wood plank that runs north-south. The main staircase is located at the south end of the hall (Photograph 0024). A doorway to the Northeast Bedroom is located on the north end of the east wall and the doorway to the Southeast Bedroom is located on the south end. Between the entrances to these two bedrooms is a large hall closet, which appears to originally have had shelving. A doorway to the Master Bedroom is located on the north end of the west wall, and a doorway to the Southwest Bedroom is located towards the south end of the west wall.

*Northeast Bedroom*

The Northeast Bedroom is located in the northeast corner of the main house. The walls and ceiling are finished with plaster and have base and crown moldings. The floor is wood plank that runs north-south; a significant portion of the finishes are missing in this room. A doorway on the south end of the west wall provides access to the room from the Center Hall. The north wall features two typical six-over-six windows. The east wall features a typical window on its north end and a fireplace on its south end; the fireplace mantle is missing, but the brick surround remains and has a segmental-arched opening. The south wall has a closet on its eastern end that connects through to the Southeast Bedroom. The closet has built-in shelves on its east and west sides and a pocket door on its south side that separates



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it from a closet that connects to the Southwest Bedroom (Photograph 0025).

*Southeast Bedroom*

The Southeast Bedroom is located in the southeast corner of the main house. The walls and ceiling are finished with plaster and have base and crown moldings. The floor is wood plank that runs north-south; a significant portion of the finishes are missing in this room. A doorway on the north end of the east wall provides access to the room from the Center Hall. The north wall has a closet at its eastern end that connects through to the closet in the Northeast Bedroom. The east wall features a fireplace that is slightly off-center towards the north and a typical window south of this; the fireplace mantle is missing, but the brick surround remains and has a segmental-arched opening. The south wall features a typical window on its east end.

*Master Bedroom*

The Master Bedroom is located in the northwest corner of the main house. The walls and ceiling are finished with plaster and have base and crown moldings. The floor is wood plank that runs north-south. A four-panel wood door on the south end of the east wall provides access to the room from the Center Hall. North of this door is a four-panel wood door that leads to the Nursery. The north wall features two typical six-over-six windows (Photograph 0026). The west wall features a typical window on its north end and a fireplace on its south end; the fireplace mantle is missing, but the brick surround remains and has a segmental-arched opening. The south wall has two doorways, the eastern one still containing a four-panel wood door, that leads into closets; both of these closets also connect through to the Southwest Bedroom. The eastern closet is a rectangular space with a four-panel wood door on its south wall that leads into the Southwest Bedroom. The western closet has built-in shelves on its east and west sides and a pocket door on its south side that separates it from a closet that connects to the Southwest Bedroom (Photograph 0027).

*Nursery*

The Nursery is located at the north end of the main house between the adjacent corner bedrooms. The walls and ceiling are finished with plaster, and the walls have a base molding. The floor is wood plank that runs north-south. The space is accessed from the Center Hall through a four-panel wood door on the west end of the south wall, and from the Master Bedroom through a four-panel wood door on the north end of the west wall. The north wall features a pair of small four-over-four hung wood windows.

*Southwest Bedroom*

The Southwest Bedroom is located in the southwest corner of the main house. The walls and ceiling are finished with plaster and have base and crown moldings. The floor is wood plank that runs north-south. A four-panel wood door on the north end of the east wall provides access to the room from the Center Hall. The north wall features two four-panel wood doors that lead into the closets that are shared with the Master Bedroom. The west wall features a fireplace that is slightly off-center towards the north and a typical window south of this; the fireplace mantle is missing, but the brick surround remains and has a segmental-arched opening. The south wall features a typical window on its west end.

*Rear Hall*

The Rear Hall is located in the northeast section of the rear wing. The walls and ceiling are finished with plaster and the walls have base moldings. The floor is wide wood plank that runs east-west. A doorway on the west end of the north wall acts as the connection on the second floor between the main house and rear wing; a doorway opposite this on the south wall leads to the rear bedrooms. A quarter-flight staircase that provides access between floors of the rear wing is located at the east end of the hall; centered on the east wall is a splayed window opening that likely originally contained a three-over-three hung wood window. A four-panel wood door on the north end of the west wall provides access to the Bathroom.

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*Bathroom*

The Bathroom is located in the northwest section of the rear wing. The space likely was a bedroom originally and was converted to a bathroom in the early-twentieth century; the bathroom fixtures have since been removed but there is evidence of plumbing. The walls and ceiling are finished with beaded board that likely was installed over the original plaster in the early-twentieth century; the walls have chair rail and base moldings. The floor is wood plank that runs east-west. A four-panel wood door on the north end of the east wall provides access from the Rear Hall. The west wall features a three-light wood window in a splayed opening located off-center towards the north.

*West Rear Bedroom*

The West Rear Bedroom is located in the southwest corner of the rear wing. A doorway on the east end of the north wall provides access from the Rear Hall. The walls and ceiling are finished with beaded board that likely was installed over the original plaster in the early-twentieth century; the walls have plain base moldings. The floor is wood plank that runs east-west. The west wall has a three-over-three, hung wood window in a splayed opening on its north end, and the south wall has a window opening centered on it that likely contained a six-over-six hung wood window. A small closet is located in the northwest corner of the room.

*East Rear Bedroom*

The East Rear Bedroom is located in the southeast corner of the rear wing. A doorway on the north end of the west wall provides access from the Rear Hall. The walls and ceiling are finished with beaded board that likely was installed over the original plaster in the early-twentieth century; the walls have plain base moldings. The floor is wood plank that runs east-west. The south wall has a six-over-six hung wood window in a splayed opening centered on it, and the west wall has a three-over-three hung wood window in a splayed opening centered on it (Photograph 0028). A small closet is located in the northeast corner of the room.

*Third Floor*

The main half-turn staircase continues to the third floor of the main house; the rear wing does not have a third level. At the landing at the top of the staircase are two doorways, one on the west wall and one on the north wall. The south wall of the stair features a round-arch window opening, but it is unknown what type of window originally filled the opening; this window is typical in the gable on all four sides of the third floor. The western doorway leads into a room that occupies the southwest corner of the third floor. This space is finished with plaster walls and ceiling and a wood-plank floor (Photograph 0029). The northern doorway at the landing leads into the remainder of the third floor space, which has exposed stone walls, wood framing, and full-height ceiling open to the roof rafters. This space has a combination of original and modern lumber, as many structural repairs had to be made to stabilize the roof.

**Seward Barn (Contributing)**

The two-story stone barn that stands east of the house and of Seward Place was probably constructed in the years immediately following construction of the house. Its walls are composed of the same stone, but unstuccoed, and its presence on the property would have been important once the Swards became full-time residents in 1870. Although apparently not present before 1868, it seems likely to have been constructed in the early 1870s and does appear on the 1887 map. It is three bays wide, one bay deep, and two stories tall. It has internal timber framing for the second floor and the roof. The barn has a gable roof with a ridge running east-west, though not in line with the house. A photograph from the 1940s reveals that there originally was a cupola at the center of the roof ridge and a chimney at the west end of the roof (Historic Image 0003); the cupola and chimney do not remain today and it is unknown when they were lost. There is a one-story concrete-block addition with a gable roof attached on the eastern end of the main barn; the addition is one bay wide and one bay deep and was constructed in the mid-twentieth century. Adjacent to the

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southeast corner of the addition, though not connected, is a row of four small sheds that extend to the south.

The north elevation has three even bays (Photograph 0030). There is a central entrance flanked by a window on either side at the first floor and three windows at the second floor. The entrance is a pair of wood doors that is original to the building; these at first would have been sliding doors but they subsequently were fixed and do not operate. All of the windows are modern vinyl one-over-one sash and were installed in 2003 when the building was repaired; some of the original oak lintels and bluestone sills remain. The north elevation of the addition has a wood door that is in poor condition centered on it.

The majority of the east elevation is covered by the addition and the section above the addition that is visible is blank. The east elevation of the addition is also blank.

The south elevation has three bays (Photograph 0031). The first floor has a central modern overhead garage door flanked by a window to the west and a modern paneled wood door to the east. The second floor has a fixed wood door flanked by two windows. Unlike the north elevation, this elevation has an additional window located between the center door and the eastern bay, which is a fixed window. All of the other windows are modern vinyl one-over-one sash. The south elevation of the addition has an overhead garage centered on it. The west elevation has no fenestration.

The interior of the barn has a concrete floor, exposed stone walls, exposed second-floor framing, and a modern stair that leads up to the second-floor level along the east wall. The second-floor level has exposed wood plank flooring and a queen post truss system for roof framing.

**State of Preservation**

Despite deteriorated conditions at the Seward House, the building maintains integrity due to overall structural stability and the existence of numerous character-defining original features. Prominent architectural elements such as the cross-gable roof, round arch windows, molded cornice on square brackets, and boxy massing convey the significance of the building as an example of a hybrid Gothic Revival/Italianate farmhouse. Other significant original features include the central grand stair, rubble fieldstone masonry walls, and retention of the original fenestration pattern. Some features, including what remained of the original chimneys and main stair balustrade, were recently removed by the Township and materials stored for a future restoration. The finer details of the building also remain but conditions vary from space to space depending on the impact from prolonged water infiltration. These include: lath and plaster walls and ceilings, molded plaster cornices, interior and exterior doors and windows including their molded surrounds, wood flooring, and wood wainscot.

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**Summary Paragraph**

The Seward House is locally important as an example of the Italianate architectural style applied to a vernacular stone farmhouse built to be the home of a gentleman farmer with prominent New York City business connections. (His father, Henry Seward, was a first cousin to William Henry Seward, the U.S. Secretary of State in the Lincoln administration.) Its period of significance extends from ca.1865, when the main block of the house was constructed, to ca.1875, in the early years of the Seward's full-time occupancy, and during which time the barn was probably also constructed. These years also witnessed the introduction of the Second Empire style, which quickly eclipsed the popularity of the Italianate style.

**Brief History of Mount Olive**

The area that is Mount Olive Township today, in which the Seward House is located, was first settled as early as 1713 when Peter Garbut and Francis Breck established a 2,500-acre settlement. Other settlers soon made large land purchases in the area, and some of the early families who came to reside there in the early-eighteenth century were the Batson, Smith, Salmon, Stephens, Drake, Budd and Bartley families.<sup>1</sup> The area became part of Roxbury Township, which was incorporated as the fourth township in Morris County in 1740.<sup>2</sup> The geological formation of Mount Olive Township accounts for its historic and economic development.<sup>3</sup> Mount Olive lies within the physiographic region known as the Highlands and is situated on the peak of iron-rich Schooley's Mountain. In the mid-eighteenth century, iron ore was discovered in the mountains, and iron mines and forges began emerging. Industry soon followed, attracted by the significant amount of iron ore found and the considerable amount of water power supplied by the area's streams. Mount Olive also developed agriculturally at this time due to the fertile lands in the southern portion of the Township and the fertile valley of the Musconetcong River that passes through the area.

The Township of Mount Olive split away from Roxbury in 1871 and took its name from Benjamin Olive, a local landowner.<sup>4</sup> Mount Olive remained minimally developed and was primarily an agricultural and mining community well into the late-nineteenth century. Increased growth was seen in the area as Budd Lake and Schooley's Mountain became popular summer attractions beginning in the mid-to-late nineteenth century with the Budd Lake resort and Flanders serving as the township's main developed areas. Mount Olive Township developed into a year-round community with the construction of Route 46 in 1923,<sup>5</sup> which made transportation to and from the resort town easier prompting permanent settlement throughout much of the mid-to-late-twentieth century.

**The Seward House**

Henry Seward was born in Orange County, New York in 1795.<sup>6</sup> He was a cashier at the National Bank of Orange County in Goshen, New York for many years before moving to Chester, New Jersey where previous generations of his family had been living for nearly a century before. In 1825, he married Beulah Ann Cooper, whose family was prominent in Chester and Morris County. The couple had two sons, Henry Clay Seward, born in 1829, and William H.

<sup>1</sup> Acroterion Historic Preservation Consultants, *New Jersey Historic Sites Inventory: Morris County Cultural Resources Survey for Mount Olive* (Prepared for the Morris County Heritage Commission, 1986), 1.

<sup>2</sup> RoxburyNewJersey.Com, "A Short History of Roxbury Township, Morris County, New Jersey", Internet, <http://www.roxburynewjersey.com/history.htm>, Accessed 27 July 2010.

<sup>3</sup> Acroterion Historic Preservation Consultants, 1.

<sup>4</sup> Rita L. Hilbert, *Mount Olive* (Charleston: Arcadia Publishing, 2001), no page number.

<sup>5</sup> Acroterion Historic Preservation Consultants, no page number.

<sup>6</sup> Henry's cousin, William Henry Seward (1801-1872), was a significant historical figure holding several important political positions during his life, including the Governor of New York, United States Senator, and Secretary of State under Presidents Lincoln and Johnson.

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Seward, born in 1841. The Swards settled in Chester in 1836, and Henry became a farmer<sup>7</sup> owning several properties in Chester and the surrounding area.

In the 1820s, Henry's wife, Beulah, and her brother, Nathan Cooper, inherited approximately 252 acres of land on present-day Flanders Road in the Village of Budd Lake in Mount Olive Township. The land had been in their family since 1791 when Samuel Wills, their ancestor, purchased it from Joshua Newbold;<sup>8</sup> the Newbolds first bought the property as part of one of the original land subdivisions of West Jersey in the early-eighteenth century.<sup>9</sup> Beulah received sole ownership of the property around 1850. Henry and Beulah maintained their residence in Chester while Henry operated the farm in Mt. Olive. According to the 1850 and 1860 Census of Agriculture, Henry grew wheat, rye, Indian corn, oats, Irish potatoes, buckwheat, and fruit; owned horses, dairy cows, other cattle, sheep, and swine; and produced hay, butter, clover seed, grass seed, and wood products. In 1850 his farm was valued at \$5,000 and by 1860 was valued at \$9,500.<sup>10</sup>

Henry Clay Seward was born in 1829 in New York, before his parents moved to Chester. In around 1850, Henry C. moved to New York City, married Marie Emma Allaire in 1855. Marie Emma Allaire was the daughter of Anthony J. Allaire<sup>11</sup> and Margaret Matilda Pearce Allaire of New York City. Marie and Henry had two children who lived to adulthood: Eloise A. Seward born in 1856, and Wills A. Seward born in 1865. Records indicate that from around 1854 to 1860 Henry C. worked for Daniel D. Badger, one of the pioneers of cast-iron architecture<sup>12</sup> at the firm Architectural Iron Works. From about 1861 to 1865, Henry C. then owned his own foundry on 17<sup>th</sup> Street in New York City; his foundry mark is found at 69 Clinton Street in New York.<sup>13</sup> By 1865, Henry C. Seward<sup>14</sup> was a partner at Rathbone Brothers & Co., insurance brokers, and by 1869 was a partner with Henry J. Hopwood at Seward, Hopwood & Co., also an insurance brokerage located in New York City. Hopwood, while living in Brooklyn, stated his occupation was "architect" in the 1860 U.S. Census. Henry C. remained in New York with his family until the early 1870s before moving with his family to Mount Olive.<sup>15</sup>

### Architectural Significance

The Seward House is significant at the local level under Criterion C in the area of Architecture, as it is an example of a

<sup>7</sup> 1850 United States Census, Chester Township, Morris County, New Jersey, page 39, line 23; 1860 United States Census, Chester Township, Morris County, New Jersey, page 29, line 18; 1870 United States Census, Chester Township, Morris County, New Jersey, page 18, line 16.

<sup>8</sup> *History of Morris County, New Jersey with Illustrations and Biographical Sketches of Prominent Citizens and Pioneers* (New York: W. W. Munsell & Co., 1882), 365.

<sup>9</sup> West Jersey History Project: NJA Vol. 21 - West Jersey Records - Liber B, Part 2 Available on the Internet: <http://www.westjerseyhistory.org/books/njaV21/nja>. Accessed: January 2013. Property transfer from Joshua Newbold to Samuel Wills referenced in the following deed conveyance: Agnes Louise Greig to Wills A Seward, 25 February 1897. Morris County Deed Book F15, Page 155.

<sup>10</sup> 1850 Census of Agriculture, Roxbury Township, Morris County, New Jersey, Schedule 2, line 1; 1860 Census of Agriculture, Roxbury Township, Morris County, New Jersey, Schedule 2, page 5, line 30.

<sup>11</sup> Anthony J. Allaire (1791 – 1859) was the younger brother to James P. Allaire (1785-1858) of the Howell Iron Works Company (Allaire Village today). Based on the genealogy, both Allaire brothers along with Marie Emma and her husband, Henry C. were buried in New Rochelle, New York, their family homestead.

<sup>12</sup> Walter Grutchfield, "H. C. Seward," <http://www.waltergrutchfield.net/seward.htm> (Accessed October 2011).

<sup>13</sup> Grutchfield, (Accessed August 2012).

<sup>14</sup> There are no records available to indicate why Henry C. changed professions in 1865. It is interesting to note that his partner in insurance beginning in 1869 is a former architect whom Seward may have met when operating his foundry.

<sup>15</sup> Grutchfield, (Accessed January 2013).

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center-gable, stone farmhouse featuring elements of the Italianate style constructed in the mid-nineteenth century. The Italianate style emerged in the 1840s and coexisted with the Gothic Revival style, until superseding it as one of the most popular architectural styles of the nineteenth century.<sup>16</sup> Characteristic features of the Italianate include round-arch openings, a decorative molded cornice, paired or tripled brackets, covered porches, a tower or cupola, and decorative hood moldings. The Italianate style gained popularity through architectural pattern books and was popular for residential, commercial and civic building, as it could be easily adapted for almost any building type and at any level of detail. The style traditionally took the form of an asymmetrical towered villa but the symmetrical Italianate cube also gained popularity, particularly in agricultural settings.<sup>17</sup> And while many were designed for masonry construction, it could easily be adapted to a wood-frame building. It had mass appeal in America because it shared some of the same aesthetic qualities of the favored Gothic Revival, but without the symbolic associations of the classical traditions; the style still used a classical vocabulary but could be more freely interpreted.<sup>18</sup>

Pattern books and style guides often mixed elements of the Gothic Revival and Italianate styles and because of this, by the 1860s “cross-gabled and bracketed Gothic-Italianate cottages and farmhouses became typical of the New Jersey landscape.”<sup>19</sup> The Seward House is an example of this hybridization. The cross-gable roof is a feature seen in “Carpenter Gothic” cottages but the boxy form and massing of the Seward House is similar to that of an Italianate cube. Most of the decorative features are or were Italianate, such as the round-arch windows, molded cornice on brackets, square cupola, and the front porch. Unfortunately, the porch, cupola and some other decorative elements have been lost, but a few photographs from the 1940s show what these features looked like. The cupola was square and appears to have had two four-light sash windows on each side of it (Historic Image 0001), and the porch had a shallow hip roof with exposed rafter tails, square wood supports and a simple wood railing and balusters (Historic Image 0002). While the house has suffered considerably from damage and deterioration, it retains its original massing, interior plan layout, and several character-defining features at its exterior and interior, by which it still conveys its significance.

The construction date of the Seward house has not yet been precisely determined, but Seward’s name appears at this location with an indication of this house in the 1868 *Atlas of Morris County*.<sup>20</sup> It thus appears likely that the main block of the house was probably built sometime in the mid-1860s. This large, two-and-one-half-story stone house was added to the slightly older but much smaller rear wing, a one-and-one-half-story stone building, and was influenced in its design by the Italianate style that was still popular in New Jersey in the 1860s, before the introduction locally of the Second Empire Style. This conclusion is based on some local examples, in which the Italianate Style continued to be used into the 1860s. After marrying his second wife, Humphrey Stickle of Rockaway, constructed a two-story Italianate residence ca.1863 with a similar one-and-one-half story wing at the rear, and similar detailing, including its cornices and brackets, and similar fenestration pattern and front porch. In 1863, Nathan Cooper of Chester, Beulah’s brother, had a design for an elaborate Italianate-style house similar to the Seward House in numerous aspects, including roof configuration, chimneys, bracketed cornice, expansive front porch and fenestration, but with a side wing. The original design was shown in a lithograph, but appears to have been simpler in execution. Another

<sup>16</sup> Alan Gowans, *Architecture in New Jersey: A Record of American Civilization* (Princeton, NJ: D. Van Nostrand Co., Inc., 1964), 75.

<sup>17</sup> Robert P. Guter and Janet W. Foster, *Building by the Book: Pattern-Book Architecture in New Jersey* (New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers University Press, 1992), 76.

<sup>18</sup> Alan Gowans, *Images of American Living: Four Centuries of Architecture and Furniture as Cultural Expression* (New York: Harper & Row, 1976), 316.

<sup>19</sup> Guter and Foster, 98.

<sup>20</sup> *Atlas of Morris County New Jersey* (New York: F. W. Beers, A. D. Ellis & G. C. Soule, 1868), plate 17.

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example is the J.D. Evans House in Chester, also of similar design, but the date of construction is unknown. Evans was one of the operators of the Cooper mine. The interior framing of the Seward house also shows a transition from heavy-timbers with mortise-and-tenon connections at the roof and first floor to lighter-dimensional framing members with nailed connections at interior partitions and less critical, floor and roof connections.<sup>21</sup>

The house also is significant because of its large size, grand detailing, and unusual use of rubblestone construction. The Seward House is much larger than other farmhouses built in Mount Olive at that time, which is evidence of the Seward's wealth and prominence in the region. The interior of the house featured spacious rooms with tall ceilings on three full floors of living space; large walk-in closets with a high level of decorative detailing; a grand, curving central staircase; decorative crown moldings and ceiling medallions; and a fireplace in nearly every room, many with marble mantles. Some of these features have been lost or are damaged, but the house's original grandeur remains evident today. The use of rubblestone construction for the house also is unusual in that this type of construction was more common in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, and in the Mount Olive area, was more typically used for mills or barns rather than homes. Nearly all styles of homes in Mount Olive at that time were frame buildings with wood siding, trim and decorative elements. The parged rubblestone walls and bluestone lintels and sills of the Seward House are rare for a residence in Mount Olive. Henry Seward may have wanted to use stone construction with stucco because this was common of higher style Italianate villas and he had the means to do so. It also is possible this method of construction was used to match the earlier rear wing that the main house was an addition to.

### **The Seward Family Occupancy and Their Farming Activities**

Henry C. and his wife Marie did not make the farm their permanent residence until 1870, which was soon after he took over farming operations from his father<sup>22</sup> while continuing his insurance brokerage firm. Henry and Beulah's other son, William H. Seward, took over the family homestead in Chester in 1871;<sup>23</sup> Henry, the father, died later that year on August 27, 1871.<sup>24</sup> In 1878, Beulah and William H. officially deeded their portions of the Mount Olive property to Henry C.<sup>25</sup>

After Henry C. took over farming operations from his father, he continued to run the farm in the same capacity his father had, growing essentially the same produce and raising the same livestock.<sup>26</sup> On the *1887 Atlas of Morris County*, "H. C. Seward" and "Willswood Farm" appear along with a footprint of the Seward house and a large outbuilding.<sup>27</sup> The name Willswood likely came from Samuel Wills, the ancestor on the Cooper side of the family who first

<sup>21</sup> This is rather consistent with findings in other small New Jersey towns in which the Italianate style seems to have been the vehicle for introducing the balloon frame to New Jersey.—NJ Historic Preservation Office

<sup>22</sup> In the 1870 Census of Agriculture, Henry C. appears as the owner of the farm in Mount Olive (1870 Census of Agriculture, Roxbury Township, Morris County, New Jersey, Schedule 3, page 17, line 38.), and in the 1871-1872 New York City Directory his residence appears as in New Jersey for the first time, though he maintained his business as a broker in New York. (H. Wilson, *Trow's New York City Directory for the Year Ending May 1, 1872* (New York: John F. Trow, 1872), 1044.)

<sup>23</sup> "Cooper-Seward Deed File," Morris County Library Reference NJ Collection, September 2011, <http://www.gti.net/mocolib1//pubs/seward.pdf> (Accessed October 2011).

<sup>24</sup> Theodore Frelinghuysen Chambers, *The Early Germans of New Jersey: Their History, Churches and Genealogies* (Dover, NJ: Dover Printing Company, 1895), 486.

<sup>25</sup> Beulah and William likely inherited a share of the property when Henry died in 1871; Deed of Sale from Beulah Ann Seward and William H. and Emma Seward to Henry C. Seward. June 12, 1878. Morris County, New Jersey. Deed Book 29, page 90.

<sup>26</sup> Henry C. appears to have been successful in farming; in 1870, his farm was valued at \$10,000 and in 1880, it was valued at \$15,000. (1870 Census of Agriculture, Roxbury Township; 1880 Census of Agriculture, Mount Olive Township, Morris County, New Jersey, Schedule 2, Page 10, Line 7.)

<sup>27</sup> *Robinson's Atlas of Morris County, New Jersey* (New York: E. Robinson, 1887), plate 28.



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purchased the land, and for whom Henry C.'s son, Wills, was named. According to the 1880 U.S. Census, the household at Willswood consists of Henry C., his wife Marie, their two children, their niece Agnes L. Greig, and three laborers; Henry's profession is farmer.<sup>28</sup>

The large outbuilding seen on the 1887 atlas was probably the stone barn, which was constructed east of the Seward House.<sup>29</sup> This was one of several farm outbuildings built on the property, but is the only one that remains today. The barn has rubblestone walls and foundation with post-and-beam framing for the second floor and roof. A historic photograph from the 1940s shows that the barn had a cupola or ventilator centered on its roof and a chimney at its west end (Historic Image 0003). The barn has a small, one-story concrete-block addition on its east end that was constructed in the mid-twentieth century. Historic aerials reveal that two other barns were located east of the stone barn and they were set perpendicular to it.<sup>30</sup> The photograph from the 1940s shows that the barn immediately east of the remaining Seward barn was wood frame and the one east of that was stone; part of one wall and the foundation remain today from this other stone barn.

Although Henry C. maintained his profession as an insurance broker, he appears to have also maintained a hand in the day-to-day operations of the farm. In 1889, he applied for a patent for an improved feeding trough for swine, and in 1892, for a second patent for a new mucilage (glue) bottle and brush.<sup>31</sup> Both patents were proposed improvements on earlier inventions made by others that he appears to have dealt with on a regular basis based on the information provided in each patent. In advertisements for Willswood Farm in the 1890s, there is mention of "the 'willswood feeding trough' only practical trough for swine",<sup>32</sup> indicating his invention was available for sale. In 1895, the farm also advertised the "Purest and best condimental tonic for livestock compounded and prepared only at Willswood Farm" for sale.<sup>33</sup> Henry C. Seward died March 28, 1896 and his wife, Marie, died a few months later leaving the farm to their son Wills A. Seward.

Wills, born in 1865, was the third generation of the Seward family associated with the Seward House. He followed his father's example becoming an insurance broker in New York City while maintaining a successful farm in Mt Olive. He lived at Willswood Farm and commuted to New York City, taking the train from Morristown. Wills became a successful livestock breeder, specializing in Berkshire swine and Guernsey cattle and winning many awards at livestock shows. In 1890, he received first place in the Berkshire swine category and second place overall for all swine breeds in the Special State Premium Awards at the Annual Exhibition of the New Jersey State Agricultural Society.<sup>34</sup> In 1895 at the live stock show at Madison Square Garden in New York City, one of Seward's Berkshire boars, named General Lee, was featured in a *New York Times* article about the show, and was called "the champion of all the pigs."<sup>35</sup> The

<sup>28</sup> 1880 United States Census, Mt. Olive, Morris, New Jersey; Page: 284C; Line, 37.

<sup>29</sup> The barn does not appear on the 1868 *Atlas of Morris County* but does appear on the 1887 *Atlas of Morris County*.

<sup>30</sup> NETR Online, "Historic Aerials," <http://www.historicaerials.com/> (Accessed October 2011).

<sup>31</sup> United States Patent and Trademark Office, Henry C. Seward, "Specifications forming part of Letters of Patent No. 410,563," September 3, 1889; United States Patent and Trademark Office, Henry C. Seward, "Specifications forming part of Letters of Patent No. 473,025," April 19, 1892.

<sup>32</sup> *Berkshire Year Book and Breeding Herds, Volumes 1-3* (Springfield, IL: American Berkshire Association, 1894), 77.

<sup>33</sup> *Herd Register and Breeders' Journal* (Peterboro, NH: American Guernsey Club, 1895), no page.

<sup>34</sup> New Jersey Legislature, *Documents of the ... Legislature of the State of New Jersey, Volume 4* (Trenton, NJ: The John L. Murphy Publishing Co., 1891), 235.

<sup>35</sup> "Queer Stock at the Show; Sheep With Tails Used for Handles by Attendants. Little Pigs that Cause Much Fun A Sheep Dog That Has Almost Human Intelligence -- Cotswold Sheep That Are Whitewashed Yellow." *The New York Times*, November 27, 1895. Available: [www.nytimes.com/](http://www.nytimes.com/) (Accessed: August 2012).

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following year, Seward's Berkshire boar, Gladwin, was also featured in a *New York Times* article about the same annual livestock show; although Gladwin was a prize-winning boar, the article focused on how he made a scene at the show by tripping one of the judges.<sup>36</sup>

Sometime in the early-twentieth century, disease reportedly killed Seward's swine; however, he appears to have maintained his breeding of the Guernsey cattle. He also opened a dairying business in the nearby village of Flanders.<sup>37</sup> Wills opened the Willswood Farm Dairy Company, a creamery, in 1904 that was in operation until around 1918.<sup>38</sup> Wills opened it along with Cyrus A. Wolfe, R. F. and Nelson King, Irving M. Drake, H. E. R. Hopkins, and John Woodhull, all of Mount Olive,<sup>39</sup> and operated it as a cooperative. In 1904, soon after its creation, the company established a delivery department in Plainfield in order to serve that area, and they also supplied dairy products to Philadelphia. It also constructed an ice house with a capacity of 400 tons in Flanders.<sup>40</sup> According to an Annual Report published in 1907 by the New Jersey Department of Health, the dairy operation at Flanders was touted as a clean facility and based on its description appeared to have been a modern facility with clean (cement) surfaces, running water and was well ventilated.<sup>41</sup> Wills also ran the American Livestock Company with Abram Cortelyou, a breeder from Neshanic Station, New Jersey, from 1901 to at least 1917.<sup>42</sup> There is little record of the American Livestock Company, but Cortelyou was a breeder of Holstein-Friesian dairy cattle who was touted by his colleagues for his breeding skills and also served as President of the Holstein-Friesian Association of America for three terms in the early-twentieth century.<sup>43</sup> It is probable that the American Livestock Company was established by the two men to support their cattle breeding operations, such as for selling and buying livestock.

Wills never married or had children, but lived most of his life at Willswood with his cousin Agnes L. Grieg. Wills was well known in the Mount Olive area for having one of the first automobiles in the township.<sup>44</sup> He also became a local legend because of a private airstrip he had on his property from 1927 to 1928; he reportedly gave local residents and visitors piloted tours of the Mount Olive countryside for five dollars.<sup>45</sup> During the Depression years, Wills suffered financial problems, and in 1939 the county sold his Willswood farm property at sheriff's auction. According to the deed, Wills had a loan through the Home Owners' Loan Corporation, which was established as part of the New Deal to refinance home mortgages in default to prevent foreclosure; he must have been unable to pay this loan, and the

<sup>36</sup> "At the Live-Stock Show; Sheep Herding with Dogs Forbidden by Mr. Haintes. Unexpected Fights Between Boars and a Boar and a Sow -- High Prices for Beef Cattle -- The Awards." *The New York Times*, November 26, 1896. Available: [www.nytimes.com/](http://www.nytimes.com/) (Accessed: August 2012).

<sup>37</sup> Linda Sadlouskos, "Decaying Stone Building Was Once Regal Beehive of Activity: Foppish Farmer William Seward Had First Auto, Buzzed Countryside From Own Airstrip," *Mount Olive Chronicle*, March 26, 1980, 1 and 8.

<sup>38</sup> Adelaide Beecher, *Mount Olive Township Historical Journal* (Mount Olive Centennial Committee: 1971), no page.

<sup>39</sup> Beecher, no page.

<sup>40</sup> "Correspondence: Flanders", *The Iron Era*, Dover, NJ, December 16, 1904. Available: [http://www.rtlibrary.org/iron\\_era/1904/1904-12-16.pdf](http://www.rtlibrary.org/iron_era/1904/1904-12-16.pdf). (Accessed: August 2012).

<sup>41</sup> *Annual Report of the Department of Health of the State of New Jersey, 1907*. (Trenton, NJ: State of New Jersey, 1907), 166. Available: <http://books.google.com/books?id=uvpZq3EJbUC&oe=UTF-8>. (Accessed: August 2012).

<sup>42</sup> Trow (Formerly Wilson's) Copartnership and Corporation Directory of the Boroughs of Manhattan and the Bronx, City of New York (New York: Trow Directory, Printing & Bookbinding Co., 1901), 15; Frederick L. Houghten, ed., *Holstein-Friesian Herd-Book, Volume 37* (Brattleboro, Vermont: The Holstein-Friesian Association of America, 1917), 177.

<sup>43</sup> *Holstein-Friesian herd-book, containing a record of all Holstein-Friesian Cattle, Vol. 41, From February 1, 1919 to June 1, 1919*. (Brattleboro, Vermont: The Holstein-Friesian Association of America, 1919), 158.

<sup>44</sup> Sadlouskos, 8.

<sup>45</sup> Sadlouskos, 8.

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county auctioned the property.<sup>46</sup>

Although Wills was successful in both his breeding and dairy operations for much of his tenure at Willswood, his day-to-day activities appear to have been his career as an insurance broker where he maintained an office in New York City from 1897 to 1939.<sup>47</sup> Based on notices in the *Iron Age*, the local Dover newspaper, and the U.S. Census records in the early-twentieth century, Wills hired tenant farmers to operate the farm in Budd Lake and managers to operate the dairy business. However, it was not unusual for men in industry or commerce to split their livelihoods between two worlds, farming at their rural estates and operating their business in New York. The employment of others to assist in the farming end of the business is indicative of a greater reliance during this period on a growing population that worked for commercial enterprises whether in agriculture or industry.

#### Ownership after the Swards

The Maier Brothers Holding Company, a partnership of several members of the Maier family, purchased the Seward property at auction on November 20, 1939 for \$11,586.<sup>48</sup> The Maier Brothers were farmers with large landholdings in New Jersey. They ran the former Seward property as a vegetable farm, reportedly growing produce for Horn and Hardart, a food service company noted for operating the first “automats” (automated cafeterias) in New York City and Philadelphia.<sup>49</sup> The Maier Brothers created a pond on the southern end of the property that today is known as Maier Pond. From around 1941 to 1945, John Ammirato, the farm caretaker, and his family occupied the rear wing of the Seward House; it is unknown if the house was used for other purposes during the Maier Brothers’ tenure, indicating the main house has essentially been vacant since that time. The Maier Brothers owned the property until 1970 when they sold it to Mount Olive Industries.<sup>50</sup> Mount Olive Industries initially had plans to create a landfill or build warehouses on the property, but soon after their purchase, the Township rezoned the land as residential/farm area.<sup>51</sup> In the 1980s, a corporation reportedly farmed the property, and in 1987, Mount Olive Industries had plans for a 143-home development; they eventually withdrew their development proposal and the property remained unused.

In 1996, Mount Olive Township acquired the Seward House and approximately 260 acres of environmentally-sensitive property through the state’s Green Acres program, Morris County Open Space Trust, and township funds for \$2,500,000. In 2003, the property was turned into Turkey Brook Park with soccer, football, and baseball fields; basketball, volleyball, and tennis courts; walking trails; a playground; a war memorial; and a dog park. The Seward house and barn stand at the entrance to the park. To coincide with the creation of Turkey Brook Park, the Seward barn was renovated to serve as a maintenance and storage building. In 2003, Mount Olive Township public works employees undertook a project to repair the barn, which included installing a new roof and gutters; removing and replacing the second floor due to rot; installing new windows, doors, and an interior stair; and adding electricity.<sup>52</sup>

Except for some use as storage, the Seward House has been vacant since the mid-twentieth century and has deteriorated over the years. A tree fell on the building in 1998 resulting in damage to the roof, rear wall, and flooring;

<sup>46</sup> Deed of Sale from the Sheriff of Morris County to the Maier Brothers Holding Company. November 20, 1939. Morris County, New Jersey. Deed Book A36, Page 348c.

<sup>47</sup> “H. C. Seward.”

<sup>48</sup> Deed of Sale from the Sheriff of Morris County to the Maier Brothers Holding Company.

<sup>49</sup> Kevin Lechiski, A1–A2.

<sup>50</sup> Deed of Sale from Maier Brothers Holding Company to Mount Olive Industries. March 4, 1970. Morris County, New Jersey. Deed Book 2133, Page 601.

<sup>51</sup> Lechiski, A2.

<sup>52</sup> Liz Hamlin, “Example of Bygone Era Being Renovated,” *Mt. Olive Chronicle*, May 15, 2003, page 7.

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the cupola at the center of the roof has collapsed; portions of the central half-turn staircase were removed; many of the windows are missing; and many interior features were removed or are deteriorated.<sup>53</sup> In 2001, the building was deemed unsafe but local efforts saved it from demolition. A fence was constructed around the building and the first floor openings were boarded up to keep trespassers out. Since then, Mount Olive Township has been making efforts to save the house with hopes of rehabilitating the building for a new municipal use. Stabilization work took place between 2005 and 2007 and included placing tarps over the holes in the roof, boarding up all openings to the building, fixing a portion of the rear wall that had collapsed, and stabilizing much of the structure.<sup>54</sup> A new roof was installed, the cupola opening was covered, and the remaining chimneys were dismantled above the roofline in 2008. The Seward House remains vacant though stabilized.

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<sup>53</sup> Lechiski, A2.

<sup>54</sup> Claire Knapp, "Mansion Renovation Gets Local and County Boost," *Mount Olive Chronicle*, October 18, 2007, 10.

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**Verbal Boundary Description**

The boundaries, which are indicated on the accompanying site plan, include the Seward House and barn and the immediately surrounding land. The northern boundary is Flanders Road. The eastern boundary is a line thirty feet east of the eastern boundary of the eastern elevation of the Seward barn. The southern boundary is a line thirty feet south of the southern elevation of the Seward House. The western elevation is a line thirty feet west of the western elevation of the Seward House.

**Boundary Justification**

The boundaries were chosen to include the Seward House and Barn and the land immediately surrounding the buildings. The entire 262-acre parcel that the buildings are located on was not chosen because while this parcel has remained undivided since the eighteenth century, the site has been converted to a modern park and no longer reflects its original agricultural use or period of significance.

**Latitude/Longitude Coordinates**

40.866608, -74.725843

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Name of Property: Seward House

City or Vicinity: Mount Olive

County: Morris State: New Jersey

Photographer: Beth Bjorklund

Date Photographed: 04/27/2012

**Description of Photograph(s) and number:**

NJ\_Morris County\_Seward House\_0001

View of the north (front) elevation of the Seward House. Camera facing south.

NJ\_Morris County\_Seward House\_0002

Close-up view of a typical window on west elevation of the main house featuring bluestone lintel and sill. Camera facing southeast.

NJ\_Morris County\_Seward House\_0003

View of the roof with the square base from the cupola. Camera facing northwest.

NJ\_Morris County\_Seward House\_0004

View of the decorative molded wood cornice with paired brackets on the main house. Camera looking up.

NJ\_Morris County\_Seward House\_0005

View of the decorative molded wood cornice with single brackets on the rear wing. Camera looking up.

NJ\_Morris County\_Seward House\_0006

View of the east and south elevations. Camera facing southwest.

NJ\_Morris County\_Seward House\_0007

View of the west and south elevations. Camera facing southeast.

NJ\_Morris County\_Seward House\_0008

View of the east and south elevations of the rear wing. Camera facing northwest.

NJ\_Morris County\_Seward House\_0009

Close-up view of the south elevation of the rear wing. Camera facing north.

NJ\_Morris County\_Seward House\_0010

View of west and south elevations of the rear wing. Camera facing northeast.

NJ\_Morris County\_Seward House\_0011

View of the stone steps from the exterior to the basement of the rear wing. Camera facing south.

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NJ\_Morris County\_Seward House\_0012

View of the basement of the rear wing. Note the chimney bump out on the right side and the brick kneewall adjacent to this. Camera facing southeast.

NJ\_Morris County\_Seward House\_0013

View of the basement of the main house. Note the mix of historic and modern lumber. Camera facing north.

NJ\_Morris County\_Seward House\_0014

View of the pair of round-arch doors between the entry Vestibule and the Center Hall. Camera facing north.

NJ\_Morris County\_Seward House\_0015

View of the first-floor Center Hall in the main house. Camera facing south.

NJ\_Morris County\_Seward House\_0016

View of dog-leg staircase in the Center Hall of the main house. Note the landing between the first and second floors with a doorway leading into the rear wing. Camera facing south.

NJ\_Morris County\_Seward House\_0017

View of crown molding and molding on the plane of the ceiling in the East Parlor. Camera facing east.

NJ\_Morris County\_Seward House\_0018

View of the French doors on the north wall of the East Parlor, which originally provided access to the front porch. Camera facing north.

NJ\_Morris County\_Seward House\_0019

View of the southeast corner of the East Parlor. Note the typical six-over-six double-hung wood window with paneled jambs and head. Also note the doorway to the Music Room, which originally had pocket doors. Camera facing southeast.

NJ\_Morris County\_Seward House\_0020

View of the west wall of the West Parlor. Note the typical window on the right and what remains of a fireplace on the left; this condition is typical for all of the fireplaces in the main house. Camera facing west.

NJ\_Morris County\_Seward House\_0021

View of the doorway between the West Parlor and the Dining Room with closets on either side. Camera facing south.

NJ\_Morris County\_Seward House\_0022

View of the fireplace on the south wall of the Kitchen. Note the beaded board on the ceiling and walls. Camera facing south.

NJ\_Morris County\_Seward House\_0023

View of the wood shelves built into the northeast corner of the Kitchen. The adjacent doorway leads into the Rear Hall. Camera facing north.

NJ\_Morris County\_Seward House\_0024

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View of the dog-leg staircase in the Center Hall on the second floor. Camera facing south.

NJ\_Morris County\_Seward House\_0025

View of the eastern closet in the Northeast Bedroom. Camera facing southeast.

NJ\_Morris County\_Seward House\_0026

View of the north wall of the Master Bedroom. Camera facing northwest.

NJ\_Morris County\_Seward House\_0027

View of the western closet in the Master Bedroom. Camera facing southwest.

NJ\_Morris County\_Seward House\_0028

View of East Rear Bedroom. Note the splayed window and the beaded board on the walls and ceiling. Camera facing southeast.

NJ\_Morris County\_Seward House\_0029

View of the southwest section of the third floor. This appears to have been the only section of the third floor that was finished. Camera facing northwest.

NJ\_Morris County\_Seward House\_0030

View of the north elevation of the Seward Barn. Camera facing south.

NJ\_Morris County\_Seward House\_0031

View of the south elevation of the Seward Barn. Camera facing northeast.

NJ\_Morris County\_Seward House\_0032

View of the driveway into Turkey Brook Park, which separates the Seward House and the Seward Barn. Camera facing south.

NJ\_Morris County\_Seward House\_Historic Image 0001

1940s image showing the rear of the Seward House. Note the one-story wood-frame addition, the brick chimneys, and the wood cupola, none of which remain today. Camera facing east.

NJ\_Morris County\_Seward House\_Historic Image 0002

1940s image showing a portion of the front (north) elevation. Note the wood porch, which does not remain today. Camera facing southeast.

NJ\_Morris County\_Seward House\_Historic Image 0003

1940s image showing the south elevation of the Seward Barn. Note the cupola and chimney, which do not remain today.



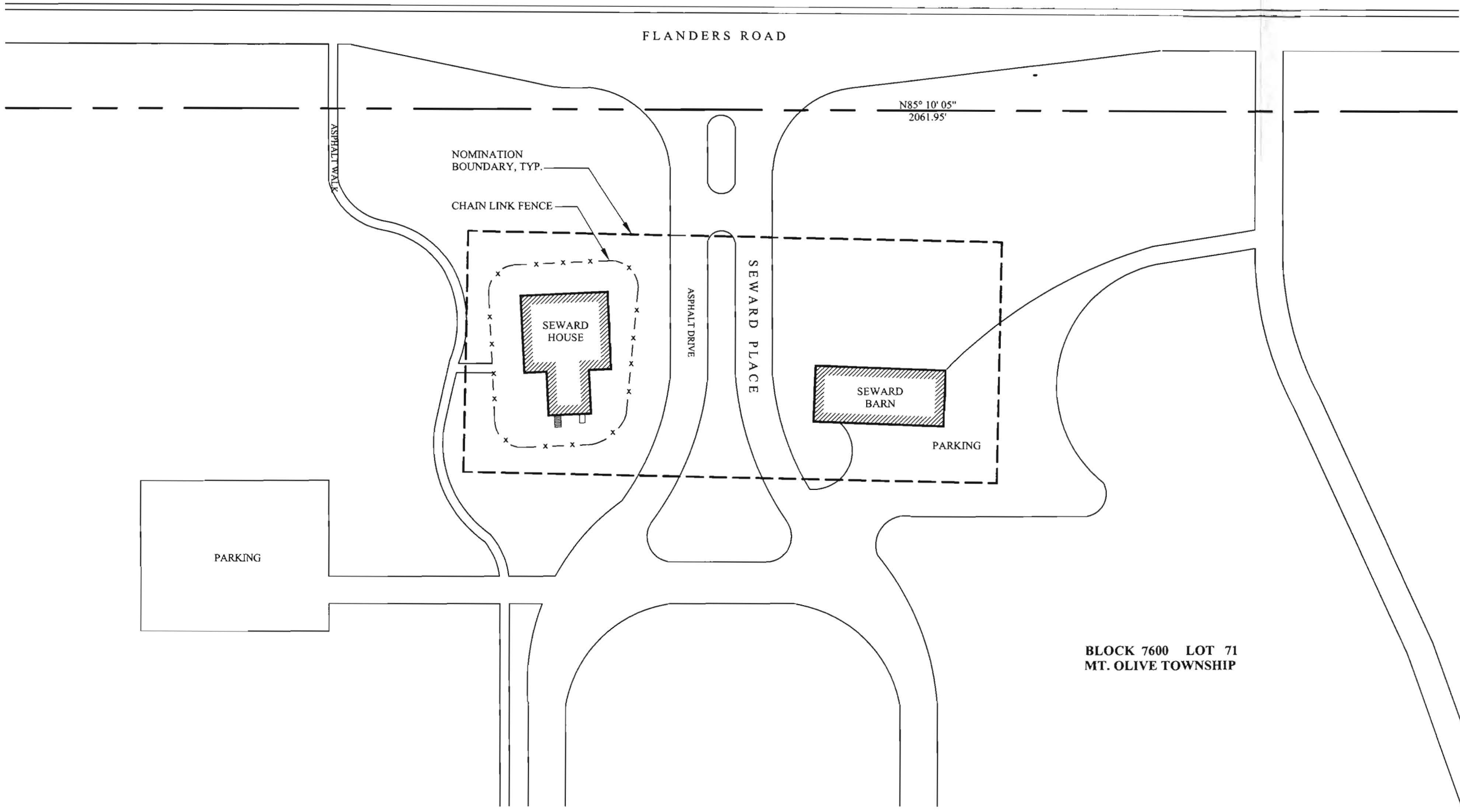
Google earth

feet  
meters



Map Datum: WGS84

Zone 18  
523106mE  
4523985mN



FLANDERS ROAD

N85° 10' 05"  
2061.95'

NOMINATION  
BOUNDARY, TYP.

CHAIN LINK FENCE

SEWARD  
HOUSE

ASPHALT DRIVE

SEWARD PLACE

SEWARD  
BARN

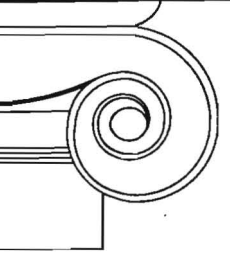
PARKING

PARKING

BLOCK 7600 LOT 71  
MT. OLIVE TOWNSHIP



SITE PLAN



CONNOLLY & HICKEY  
HISTORICAL ARCHITECTS

P.O. Box 1726  
Cranford, N.J. 07016  
973 746-4911

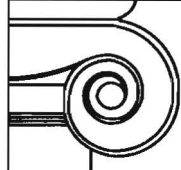
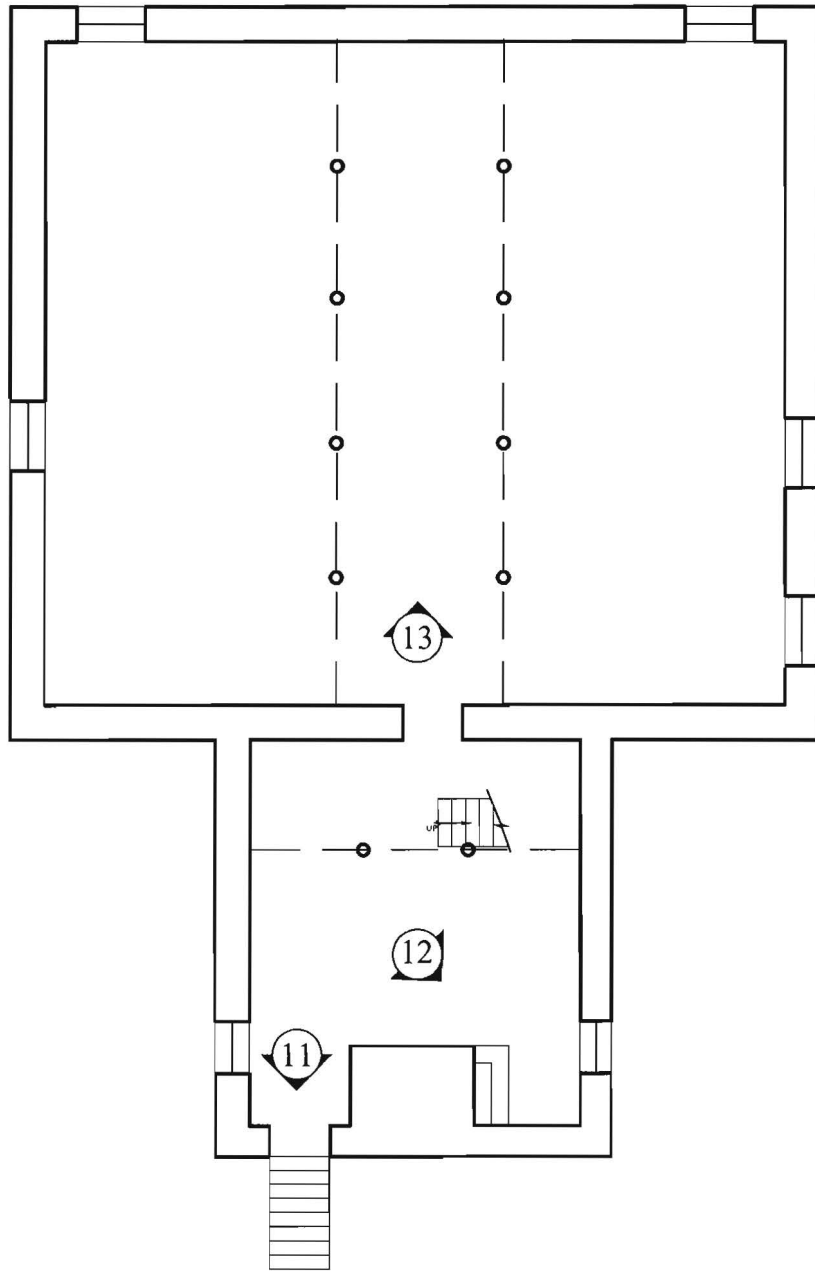
THOMAS B. CONNOLLY, RA  
NJ 21A1016992

PROJECT No. 1112C

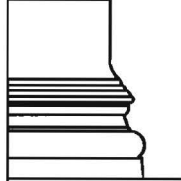
DATE: 19 AUGUST 12

NATIONAL REGISTER NOMINATION  
**SEWARD HOUSE**  
MT. OLIVE TOWNSHIP, MORRIS COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

**SP**



**CONNOLLY & HICKEY**  
 HISTORICAL ARCHITECTS, LLC  
 P.O. Box 1726  
 Cranford, N.J. 07016  
 973 746-4911



THOMAS B. CONNOLLY  
 NJ 21A101699200  
 PA RA403776  
 MARGARET M. HICKEY  
 NJ 21A1018244500

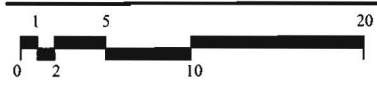
DATE: 24 MAY 12

NATIONAL REGISTER NOMINATION  
**SEWARD HOUSE**  
 MT. OLIVE TOWNSHIP, MORRIS COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

**K2**



**BASEMENT PLAN - PHOTO KEY**





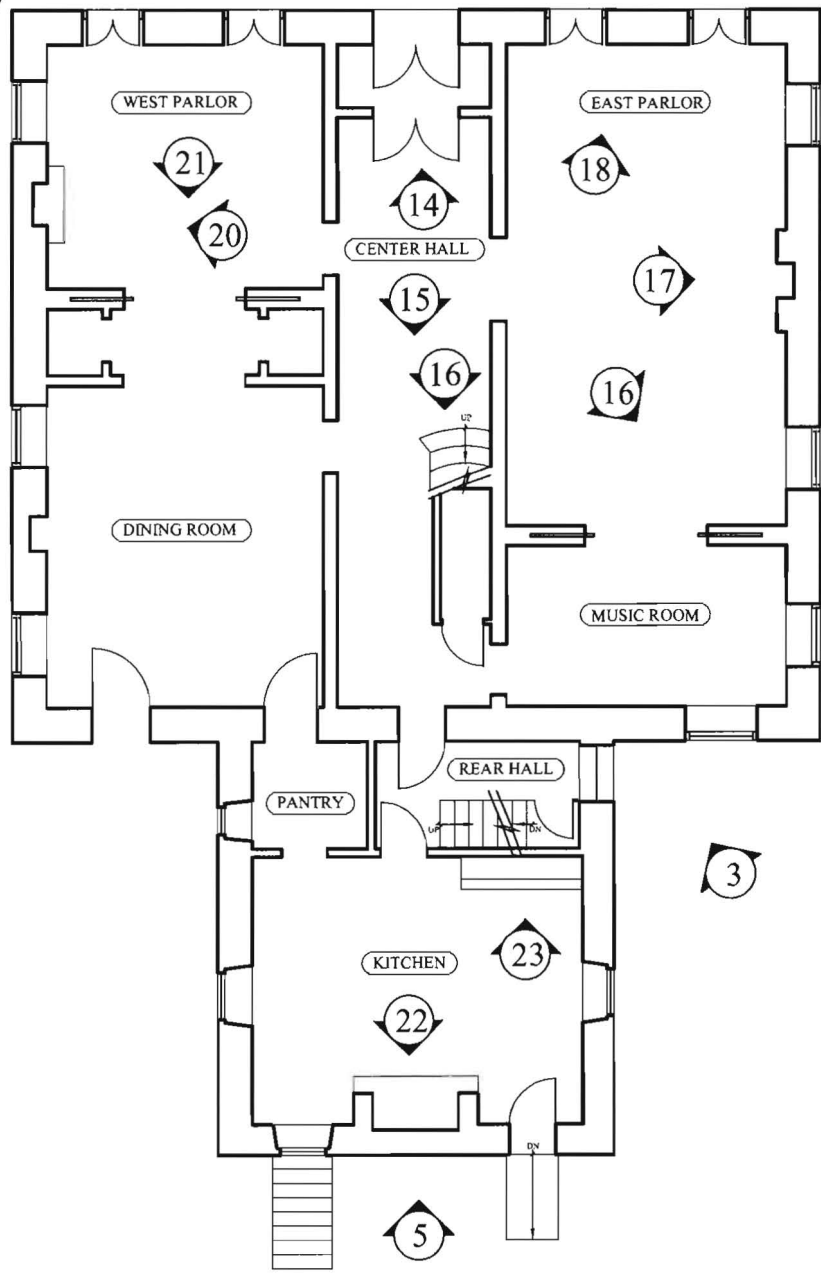
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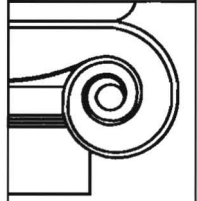
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3



CONNOLLY & HICKEY

HISTORICAL ARCHITECTS, LLC

P.O. Box 1726

Cranford, N.J. 07016

973 746-4911



THOMAS B. CONNOLLY  
NJ 21AJ01699200  
PA RA403776

MARGARET M. HICKEY  
NJ 21AJ018244500

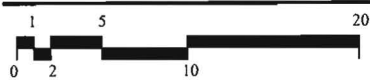
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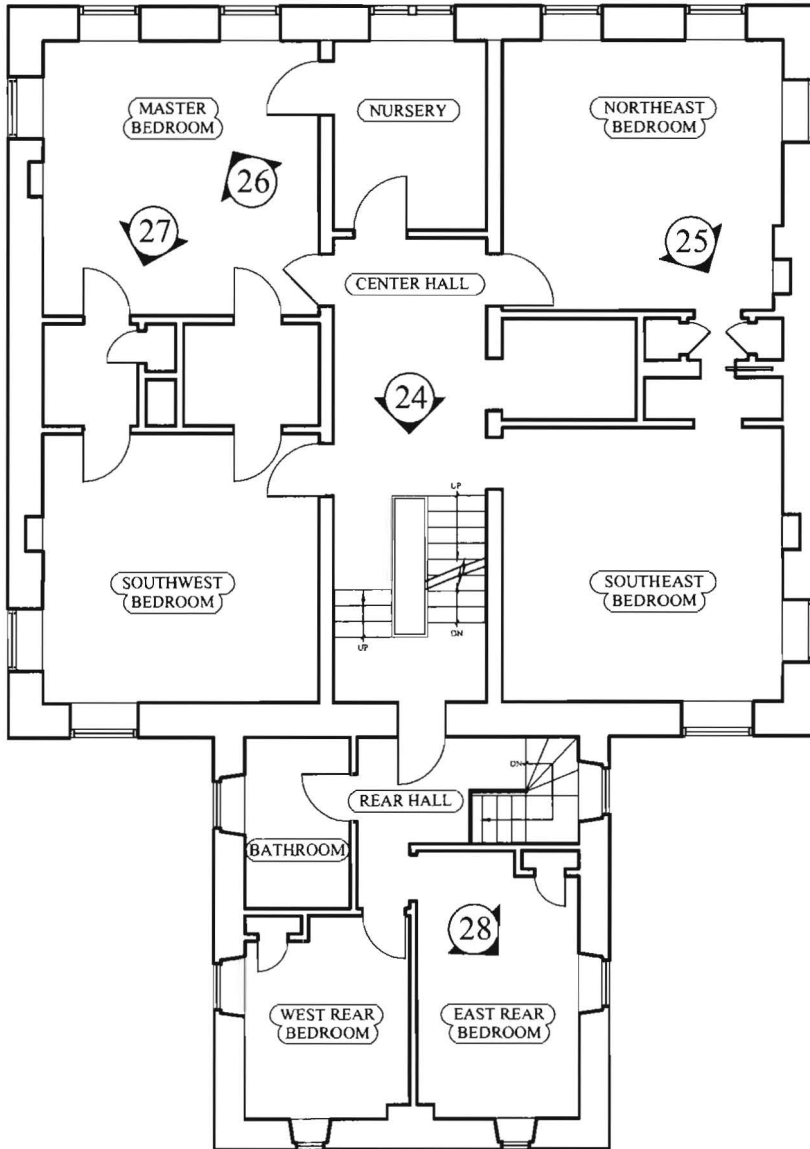
NATIONAL REGISTER NOMINATION  
**SEWARD HOUSE**  
MT. OLIVE TOWNSHIP, MORRIS COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

**K3**



### FIRST FLOOR PLAN - PHOTO KEY





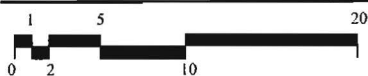
  
**CONNOLLY & HICKEY**  
 HISTORICAL ARCHITECTS, LLC  
 P.O. Box 1726  
 Cranford, N.J. 07016  
 973 746-4911  
 THOMAS B. CONNOLLY  
 NJ 21AJ01699200  
 PA RA403776  
 MARGARET M. HICKEY  
 NJ 21AJ018244500  
 DATE: 24 MAY 12

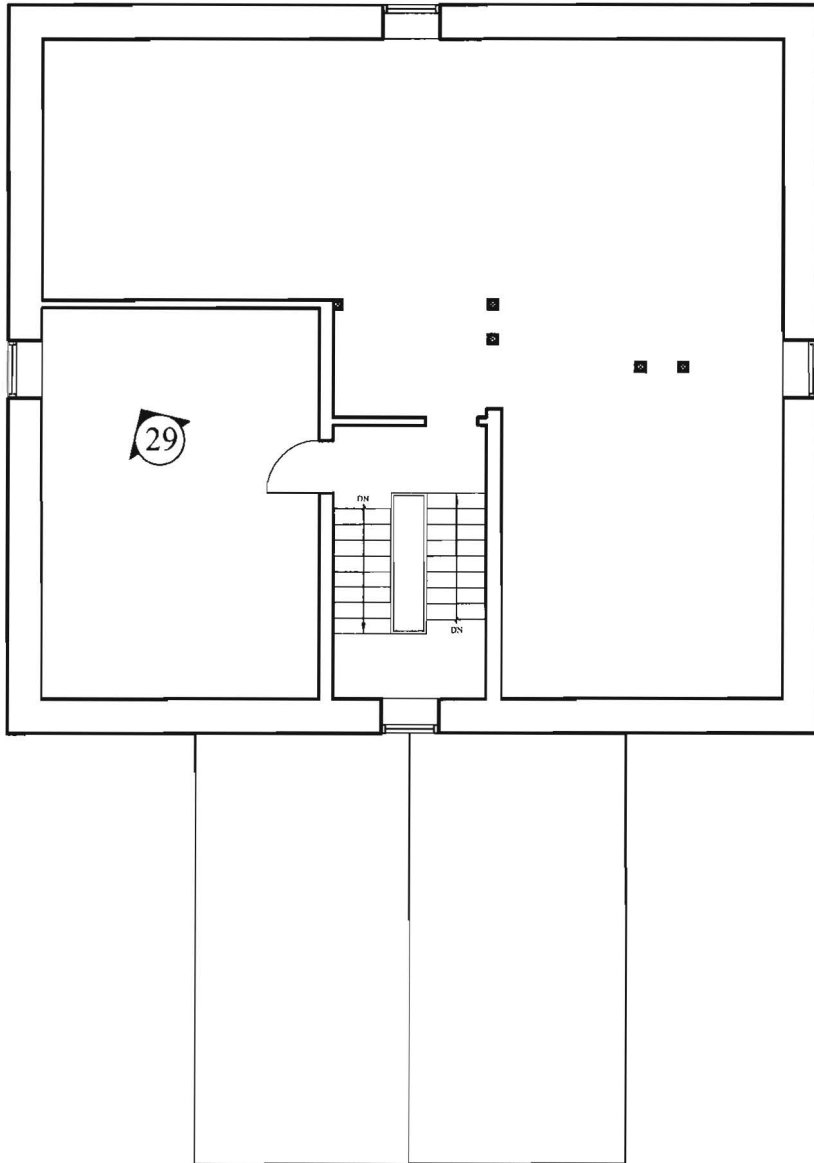
NATIONAL REGISTER NOMINATION  
**SEWARD HOUSE**  
 MT. OLIVE TOWNSHIP, MORRIS COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

**K4**

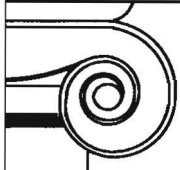
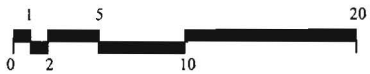


**SECOND FLOOR PLAN - PHOTO KEY**





THIRD FLOOR PLAN - PHOTO KEY



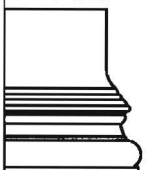
CONNOLLY & HICKEY

HISTORICAL ARCHITECTS, LLC

P.O. Box 1726

Cranford, N.J. 07016

973 746-4911



THOMAS B. CONNOLLY  
NJ 21AJ01699200  
PA RA403776

MARGARET M. HICKEY  
NJ 21AJ018244500

DATE: 24 MAY 12

NATIONAL REGISTER NOMINATION  
**SEWARD HOUSE**  
MT. OLIVE TOWNSHIP, MORRIS COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

**K5**



NJ\_Morris County\_Seward House\_Historic Image 0002



NJ\_Morris County\_Seward House\_Historic Image 0001





NJ\_Morris County\_Seward House\_Historic Image 0003

















































STRING-O-LIGHTS









**DANGER**  
HARD HAT  
AREA













Area 202













Mt. Olive Reception  
- Pine Market  
- 10000 S. Mountain Rd.  
- 10000 S. Mountain Rd.

Entrance













UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Seward House  
NAME:

MULTIPLE  
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: NEW JERSEY, Morris

DATE RECEIVED: 11/08/13 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 12/09/13  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 12/24/13 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 12/25/13  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 13000977

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N  
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N  
REQUEST: Y SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT  RETURN  REJECT 12/24/2013 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

*Fine example of Italianate style in unusual materials +  
Form for area*

RECOM./CRITERIA Accept C

REVIEWER J. Grabber

DISCIPLINE \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N Y see attached SLR Y/N Y

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.





State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION  
NATURAL & HISTORIC RESOURCES

Office of the Assistant Commissioner  
MAIL CODE 501-03A  
PO Box 420  
Trenton, New Jersey 08625  
609-292-3541/FAX: 609-984-0836

HPO Proj. #03-1405-9  
Chrono #: 12013-194



CHRIS CHRISTIE  
Governor

KIM GUADAGNO  
Lt. Governor

September 20, 2013

Paul Loether, Chief  
National Register of Historic Places  
National Park Service  
Department of the Interior  
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Mr. Loether:

The enclosed disk contains the true and correct copy of the nomination for the Seward House, Mount Olive Township, Morris County, New Jersey.

This nomination has received unanimous approval from the New Jersey State Review Board for Historic Sites. All procedures were followed in accordance with regulations published in the Federal Register.

Should you want any further information concerning this application, please feel free to contact Daniel D. Saunders, Administrator, New Jersey Historic Preservation Office, Mail code 501-04B, P.O. Box 420, Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0420, or call him at (609) 633-2397.

Sincerely,

Rich Boornazian  
Deputy State Historic  
Preservation Officer