

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 of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an 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 listed in the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.



RECEIVED 975
SEP 19 2013

1. Name of Property

historic name Wood Mansion House

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 821 Columbia Avenue not for publication

city or town Millville City vicinity

state New Jersey code NJ county Cumberland code 011 zip code 08332

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I 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 nationally statewide locally. See continuation sheet for additional comments.

Rh. Booy — Signature of certifying official/Title

1/23/13 Date

State or Federal agency and bureau _____

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet for additional comments.

Signature of certifying official/Title _____

Date _____

State or Federal agency and bureau _____

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register. See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register. See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register.
- removed from the National Register.
- other, (explain): _____

Jay N. Johnson Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

12/24/2013

Wood Mansion House

Name of Property

Cumberland County, NJ

County and State

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.)		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing	
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	2	2	buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site			sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	1	1	structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object		3	objects
		3	6	Total

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)

DOMESTIC: single dwelling**Current Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions)

RECREATION AND CULTURE: museum**7. Description****Architectural Classification**

(Enter categories from instructions)

EARLY REPUBLIC: Federal**Materials**

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation STONEwalls STONESTUCCOroof Asphalt shingle

other

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

--see continuation sheets--

Wood Mansion House

Name of Property

Cumberland County, NJ

County and State

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.

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 of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References**Bibliography**

(cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

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
NJ-1197
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary location of additional data

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | State Historic Preservation Office |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Other State agency |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Federal agency |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Local government |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | University |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Other |

Name of repository:

Millville Historical Society

Name of Property

County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property Approx.. 1.15 acres

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 18 496114 4361479
Zone Easting Northing
2

3 Zone Easting Northing
4

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Joan Berkey, architectural historian

organization _____ date 4-18-2013

street & number 707 N. Delsea Drive telephone 609-861-2208

city or town Cape May Court House state NJ zip code 08210

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

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.

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

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

name Millville Historical Society attn.: Robert Francois, President

street & number 200 East Main Street telephone 856-293-1078

city or town Millville state NJ zip code 08332

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.470 et seq.)

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 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 from to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**National Register of Historic Places**
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 1**Wood Mansion House**
Cumberland County, New Jersey**Summary Description**

The Wood Mansion House is a 2-story stone residence composed of three major historic sections: (1) the 2½-story stone main block with a 2-story stone rear kitchen ell that was built about 1814 in the Federal style and remodeled about 1864 in the Italianate style; (2) a ca. 1864 2-story stone addition placed against the rear (south) wall of the kitchen ell; and (3) a 1-story, shed-roofed addition (originally frame now masonry) built ca. 1864 -ca. 1886 and placed along the east side wall of the kitchen ell and its addition. Around 1935, a small 2-story frame bathroom addition was placed in the southeast corner of the main block and rear ell. The 5-bay wide by 2-bay deep main block has a rectangular footprint more wide than deep, a center entrance, an asphalt shingle-covered side gable roof with pedimented dormers, and interior end wall brick chimneys. The façade (west elevation) and north side elevation of the main block have ca. 1864 one-story porches with original cast iron columns and steps made at the Wood family foundry in Millville. The majority of the house is covered with stucco over the original stone walls and windows are mostly original 6/6 double-hung wood sash. The interior of the main block retains most of its original floor plan and ca. 1840 interior details including mantels, chimney closets, doors, and trim. The house stands on a 1.15-acre lot and faces west onto Columbia Avenue, a tree-lined city street located on the east side of the City of Millville in Cumberland County, New Jersey. The house overlooks the Wood family's former 19th-century industrial site adjacent to the Maurice River on which only a handful of highly-altered buildings remain. Neighboring buildings on the east side of Columbia Avenue are a mix of 1- and 2-story commercial buildings and residences that range in date from the mid-1800s to the late 20th century.

Exterior Description

The main block was built ca. 1814 in the Federal style, finished on the interior about 1840, and remodeled ca. 1864 in the Italianate style with the addition of dormers and two porches. Made of un-coursed Jersey sandstone that has been parged and painted, it is 2½-stories tall, five bays wide and two bays deep. [photos 2,3,4] Its rectangular footprint is approximately 50' wide by 22' deep. The side gable roof has an interior end wall red brick chimney in each gable end; the north one is original and retains its original corbeling, while the remodeled south chimney is parged and has no corbeling. Wide eaves along the façade (west elevation) have no brackets and there are no returns in the gable ends. There are three pedimented Italianate-style dormers along the front roof slope; these have wide overhanging eaves supported by original brackets and filled with 2/2 double-hung arched-headed wood window sash. [photo 2] Two of the three window sashes are original. The remaining windows are 6/6 double-hung wood sash, most of which are original, and most are flanked by original raised paneled wood shutters with original sliding bolts and original holdbacks, hung on original pintels with original hold-backs.

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Cumberland County, New Jersey

The ca. 1840 front door, placed in the center of the façade, is topped with an original 4-light transom and features four horizontal sunk panels with applied moldings. There is a ca. 1840 6-panel (2/2/2) door on the north side elevation and two 6/6 double-hung wood windows (one of them a replacement) at the garret level in each gable end. The front door and first story windows are sheltered by a nearly full-width ca. 1864 1-story porch with a modestly hipped roof; the roof is supported by cast iron columns made at the Wood foundry and has cast iron steps leading to the front porch. [photo 2] Steps on the north and south side elevations of the front porch are of wood. The building has a parged stone foundation punctuated with cellar window openings, most obscured by the porches.

Behind the main block is the original, 2-story kitchen ell (also of stone) placed at the north end of the main block. [photos 2 and 3] It is five bays wide on the first story of the north elevation, three bays wide on the second story of the north elevation, and one bay deep on the second story of the east (side) elevation. The side gable roof has a large, uncorbeled red brick chimney (interior end wall) in the east gable end. The chimney is capped with slate on red brick piers and the lighter color of the bricks in the upper 2' feet of the chimney suggest part it has been rebuilt. The roof has wide eaves with no returns in the exposed east gable end. Windows and shutters are identical to those on the main block. There is a ca. 1930 wood door with 9-lights over two raised panels on the first story of the north elevation to the west; it opens into the "cold" room. Adjacent to this door (to the east) is a ca. 1930 wood door that opens into the original kitchen; the door has 9-lights over a raised panel.

A ca. 1864 1-story porch on the north side elevation, identical to the front porch but not as wide, shelters the door into the dining room, the door into the cold room, and the window between them. [photo 3] Cast iron steps on the side porch's north elevation lead to the north side yard. A modern, wood handicapped access ramp runs along the north side elevation and under the side porch, stopping at the doorway into the dining room. The easternmost half of the rear ell, which represents the kitchen, is dropped one foot lower than the other half of the ell.

A 2-story stuccoed stone addition built about 1864 is attached to the south wall of the original kitchen ell. It is four bays wide on the first story of the south elevation, three bays wide on the second story, and is one bay deep on the east (side) elevation. [photo 3] It has wide eaves with no returns in the east gable end and a narrow brick chimney stack emerges from the east gable end midway down the roof slope. The south slope of the roof accommodating the addition has a less-steep slope than that over the north half of the original kitchen ell. Windows are mostly-original 6/6 double-hung wood sash with original shutters and hardware matching those on the main block.

A 1-story shed-roofed lean-to built ca. 1864 to ca. 1886 is attached to the east elevation of the expanded rear ell. Originally built with frame construction, it was rebuilt with stucco over concrete block in the 1930s. [photos 3 and 4] The lean-to is one bay deep and has four bays across the east elevation; from north to south the bays read window-door-window-window. The north elevation

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Cumberland County, New Jersey

has a window to the east and a louvered opening to the west. The south elevation has a door to the east and a window to the west. Windows are 6/6 double-hung metal sash that appear to date to the mid-20th century.

Tucked into the corner where the expanded kitchen ell meets the main block is a small 2-story frame addition; it was built ca. 1935 and is sheathed in wood clapboard. [photo 4] It has 6/6 double-hung wood sash that appear to be original.

Interior Description:*Main block*

In plan, the first story of the original main block has a center hall [photos 6 and 7] with a parlor to the south [photo 5] and a dining room [photo 8] to the north. The rear kitchen ell has a “cold room”¹ [photo 9] placed adjacent to the dining room in the main block. Behind the cold room (to the east) is the original kitchen [photo 10] with its original cooking fireplace.

The parlor, dining room, stair hall, and cold room have 9.5' tall original plaster ceilings, 8" high baseboards topped with 1.5" ogee molding, and carpeting over hardwood floors. Except where noted, doors and windows are trimmed with original 5" wide complex molding that includes bull's eye corner blocks. The fireplace mantels in the parlor and dining room appear to be original and are identical: the mantel is supported by arched brackets placed at each end of a modestly-reeded entablature supported by molded columns. [photos 5 and 8] Both have original chimney closets with sunk-panel doors that have applied moldings. Walls are plaster and the parlor, dining room, and cold room have picture molding placed just below the ceiling. The cheeks of the deep windows are trimmed with original molded panels.

The parlor fireplace has its original red brick jambs with keystone lintel. The parlor door leading into the hallway is a modern metal replacement, while the wood door leading into the bathroom is 4-panel (1/1/1/1) with applied moldings that appears to date to ca. 1840.

The center hall features a straight, open string stair along the north wall with an intermediate landing as it rises to the second story. [photo 6 and 7] A door at the intermediate landing opens into a hallway in the rear ell. The modestly-turned newel post and 1-inch square balusters appear to be original to the ca. 1840 finishing, as do the sunk panels with applied molding on the skirt board. Identical, ca. 1840 sunk panel wood doors (1/1/1/1) fill the front and back door openings; door trim here matches that in the parlor. There is a closet under the stairs that is fronted by a modern, accordion-pleated folding door. [photo 6]

¹ This was the name of the room given to it by the Wood family, probably because it had no source of heat.

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Cumberland County, New Jersey

The dining room fireplace opening has been reduced from its original size with marble surrounds and the firebox is now closed over. [photo 8] Doors leading to the hallway and the cold room are both ca. 1840 4-panel (1/1/1/1) wood doors with applied moldings.

The second story of the main block has two chambers [photos 14 and 15], one at each end, with an alcove [photo 16] at the head of the stairs. Both chambers have the same plaster walls, plaster ceilings, carpeted hard wood floors, mantels (that match those in the parlor and dining room), sunk panel doors, and window and door trim (also with bull's eye corner blocks). All appear to be original.

The south chamber [photo 14] has a wall of closets on the south wall flanking each side of the fireplace. The closets are fronted by original wood 5-panel doors (1/1/1/1/1) with applied moldings. The fireplace opening is closed over and is fronted by a cast iron Franklin-type fireplace that was made at the Wood foundry in the mid-1800s.

The north chamber [photo 14] has closets only on the east side of the fireplace and they have the same doors as those in the south chamber.

A third chamber [photo 18], located over the cold room, has the same trim, doors, and finishes as those in the main block.

The attic of the main block contains a hallway and two chambers [photos 24 and 25], all of which are finished with plaster walls and ceilings. Each chamber is accessed by an original 5-panel (1/1/1/1/1) door with applied moldings; trim around the doors and gable end windows is 3.5" wide with a Grecian ovolو and bead profile. The south chamber has a parged, angled chimney at the south end and original pine floor boards covered with wall-to-wall carpet. [photo 24] The north chamber [photo 25] has its original hard pine floor boards that are modestly-random in width. A closed over fireplace, missing its mantel, is located in the north wall. The baseboard is topped with a simple bead. There is an original gas light bracket (no fixture) next to the hallway door. Behind the north room is a window-less room [photo 26], also finished with plaster and filled with mechanical equipment. Large cast iron hooks hang from the ceiling and suggest a prior use for storage, possibly of foodstuffs during the winter.

The kitchen ell:

The "cold room" (or butler's pantry) is located immediately behind the dining room in the original kitchen ell and has the same walls, ceiling, carpet-covered wood floors, and window and door trim. [photo 9] A stair in the southeast corner leads to the second floor. There are two closets, one under the stairs and the other adjacent to the stairs. Doors leading to the kitchen and fronting the closet

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Cumberland County, New Jersey

next to the stairs are original, ca. 1840 4-panel wood doors with applied moldings. That fronting the stairs appears to be original and consists of five sunk panels (1/1/1/1/1). Fronting the closet under the stairs is a modern accordion-pleated folding door.

Behind the cold room is the original kitchen. [photo 10] The original cooking fireplace is located against the east wall; it is 7' wide x 2' deep x 4'tall. It contains its original cooking crane, iron lintel and original brick hearth. The simple, 10" high mantel and adjacent chimney closet with a 5-panel door also appear to be original. The beehive oven opening (at the north end of the fireplace box) is extant, but the oven has been removed. Floors are of random-width hard pine. The 8' tall ceiling has boxed ceiling beams, probably added in the 1920s, that run from north to south and create the look of a coffered ceiling. A built-in kitchen cabinet, placed against the south wall of the fireplace, appears to have been added at the same time. There is a closed-off window on the south wall and the stairway to the second story rear apartment is located in the southwest corner. Under the stairway is a flight of stairs to the cellar. Doors to both stairs appear to be original with 5 sunk panels (1/1/1/1/1) and applied moldings.

The chamber over the cold room (chamber A) [photo 18] has a small wood door on the east wall (it leads to the chamber over the kitchen) and a regular size door on the south wall that opens to the stairs. Both have raised panels with no applied moldings and appear to be original. Also on the south wall is a 4-panel wood door (2/2) that leads into a closet. Above the door is a wide, 2-light transom of wavy, opaque glass; each transom measures 39" wide by 14" tall.

A bathroom, built about 1930 in the south half of the chamber over the cold room, is accessed from a small hallway to the west. [photo 19] The room is fronted by a door with a frosted glass panel over 2 raised panels and appears to be original. Beaded board wainscot (original) surrounds the sheetrock covered walls and wall-to-wall carpet covers the floor. A modern storage cabinet with a 32" wide Formica countertop covers the original tub which is *in situ*. There is a modern base cabinet in the southeast corner placed over the original toilet which is extant inside it, and a modern sink cabinet in the southwest corner. Above the sink is the original, ca. 1930 built-in medicine cabinet with a mirrored door.

The chamber (chamber B) over the kitchen has a small original fireplace on the east wall; it has an original mantel shelf supported by scroll brackets and a chimney closet (to the north) with its original 5-panel (1/1/1/1/1) door with applied moldings. [photo 23] The fireplace is 34" wide by 33" tall. Wood baseboards are 3.5" tall and are topped with 1.5" tall ogee molding. Both windows are replacement vinyl sash. Window trim appears to be original and is 3" wide with a Grecian ovolo and bead profile.

Adjacent to this chamber, to the south, is a hallway and a modern bathroom. [photo 22] The hallway has wall-to-wall carpeting, plaster walls and ceiling, and simple 3" high baseboards, some with 1" high ogee moldings. There is a closed-over window with a single pane of opaque glass on

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Cumberland County, New Jersey

the east wall and a closet on the north wall. The bathroom has modern fixtures, plaster walls and ceiling, and a floor covered with modern vinyl sheet goods. The bathroom and closet doors are identical, each having 2 panels (1/1). The bathroom has an 8/8 double-hung wood sash window on the east wall.

The attic level has one large, finished chamber (chamber E) [photo 27] with wall-to-wall carpeting. There is a closed fireplace on the east wall; it has a mantel identical to that in the chamber below. Window trim is 3" wide with a Grecian ovolo and bead profile.

The ca. 1864-1886 south addition to the kitchen ell

Except where noted, this addition has plaster walls and ceilings, and wall-to-wall carpeting over original hardwood floors.

The first story of this addition has two rooms on the first floor, designated "east room" and "west room" on the floor plan. [photos 12 and 13 respectively] Both rooms have 3.5" wide beaded door and window trim with a Grecian ovolo and bead profile, and baseboards that are 7" tall topped with 1.5" ogee molding. The door between the two rooms and the door in the east room leading into the lean-to addition are identical: they have 4 sunk panels (1/1/1/1) with wide, applied moldings. In the westernmost room, the door leading to the cold room has 4 raised panels (2/2) with a Blake's type latch; the door appears to be original. Stairs to the cellar are located against the west of the easternmost room; this wall also has a small closet fronted by a door with 4 raised panels.

The second floor has two chambers (chambers C and D) and a bathroom (bathroom A). The bathroom, placed against the east wall of the original main block, has a ca. 1864 copper bathtub in the northwest corner. [photo 17] The toilet and vanity with sink are modern. Narrow board wood wainscot lines the tub enclosure and the walls around the tub.

The westernmost chamber (chamber D) [photo 20] has molded trim with bull's eye corner blocks around the window and doors. Baseboards are 7" high topped with 1" high ogee molding. The door on the west wall leading into the bathroom appears to be original and has 5 sunk panels (1/1/1/1/1).

The easternmost chamber (chamber C) [photo 21] has 3.5" wide molding around the windows and door that has a Grecian ovolo with bead profile. Baseboards match those in the westernmost chamber. The west wall of the chamber contains stairs leading to the first story; these have been closed and this wall, covered with narrowed beaded boards, now contains a storage closet with overhead storage bins. Stairs leading to the hallway and modern bathroom are located on the north wall and have a modern handrail with 2.5" x 1" rectangular balusters. To the east of the stairs is a small closet fronted by 2-panel (raised, 1/1) wood doors.

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Cumberland County, New Jersey*One-story lean-to*

Built against the east wall of the kitchen and its addition is a 1-story lean-to that contains a modern kitchen and modern powder room on the first floor. [photo 11] The walls and ceiling are of sheetrock and the floor is covered with vinyl sheet goods. The ceiling has recessed fluorescent lights and trim around the windows and doors is 3.5" wide plain wood. Kitchen cabinets are of modern oak. Fixtures in the powder room are modern.

Contributing building and structure:*the ca. 1814 ice house*

Located northeast of the house is a ca. 1814 stone icehouse [photos 28 and 29] identified as such on the Sanborn maps. [Historic and Supplemental Images, figs. 8 and 9] It has a rectangular footprint that measures 24' wide x 12' deep. Its gable roof runs from east to west, is covered with asphalt shingles, and has overhanging eaves. Most of the Jersey sandstone is exposed on the north and south walls, while that in the gable ends is mostly parged. Two door openings on the south wall are now infilled. That to the west appears to have been the original doorway into the ice chamber and is infilled with modern, parged concrete blocks. The interior [photo 29] has stone-lined walls and is two stories deep; only the floor joists remain. The upper story was at ground level and was probably used as a root cellar, while the other story was below grade and was where the ice was stored. The original ladder is extant.

the ca. 1864 cast iron fence

Running along the full width of the front sidewalk along Columbia Avenue is a cast iron fence made about 1864 at the Wood foundry. It is composed of square columns with open, decorative cut-outs on their face and topped with metal caps in a pyramid shape. [photo 31] Each section has square "pickets" set diagonally and posts with pyramidal tops. The fence is interrupted by a gate at the sidewalk leading to the front steps and a wider carriage gate near the north end that leads into the north side yard.

Non-contributing Buildings, Structure, and Object

Behind the house are two modern, gambrel-roofed wood frame storage sheds. [photo 30]

Behind the back door of the 1-story lean-to addition are two cast iron gas street lights (not functioning) that were made at the Wood foundry in the late 1800s and were placed here by a Wood family descendant in the 1970s. [photo 4]

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Cumberland County, New Jersey

In front of the main block is a cast iron bell, made in Philadelphia in 1851, that was originally on top of the Millville Manufacturing Company's cotton mill building directly across the street. [photo 1 and 31, partially seen in photo 2] It was recently (2012) donated to the Millville Historical Society, which owns the Wood Mansion House, and was installed on a concrete slab placed over a base of Jersey sandstone.

Set back about 110' from Church Street in the rear of the lot is a modern cast iron picket fence with a gate at the paved driveway; it runs the full width of the lot. [photo 32]

Original Appearance and Subsequent Alterations:

The house originally consisted of the 2-story main block with a rear kitchen ell built about 1814. That year, David C. Wood and Edward Smith contracted with mason Neil Barr to "built a stone cellar at our furnace for the Manager's House," and it is likely work on the house was begun the same year.² The kitchen is placed in a dropped wing, a practice that was common with kitchens in Cumberland County houses in the 18th and early-19th centuries although dropped wings were more commonly placed to the side than the rear. Also typical is the kitchen's less formal interior finish treatment (e.g. exposed joists overhead and simple mantel in the chamber above), which often leads observers to erroneously conclude that the kitchen wing was built before the main block.

Polly Furness, a Wood family member by marriage who lived in the house from the 1930s until 1958, claimed in the mid-1900s that the house was built about 1814 but its interior was left unfinished. Interior physical details in the main block like the mantels with curved shelf supports and sunk-panel pilasters, along with the bulls eye corner blocks in the window and door trim are identical to those found in several Cape May County houses that were built, or remodeled, by the father-son carpenter team of Reuben and Downs Foster from Lower Township, Cape May County.³ These houses date from 1820 to 1840 and with David Wood's furnace operating at a healthy profit in the late 1830s/early 1840s, the Mansion House interior was probably completed about this time (ca. 1840) by the Fosters.

Julianna Randolph Wood, who lived in the Mansion House with her husband Richard D. Wood in the 1850s and 1860s, recalled visiting the house in 1833 and commented:

The mansion, the only respectable building there [Millville], had been built for some time; but surrounded by sand and cinders, without porches or shade, it was most dreary and

² Articles of Agreement between Neil Barr and Smith & Wood, 7-14-1814, Millville Manufacturing Company Collection, Hagley Museum and Library, Accession 1772, folder: "Smith & Wood Legal Papers 1805-1838."

³ See Joan Berkey, *Early Architecture of Cape May County* (Cape May County Historical and Genealogical Society, 2008), p. 227-228.

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Wood Mansion House
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unattractive in its appearance. An old packing-box served as the only step to the high doorway.⁴

Richard and Julianna Wood's daughter, Caroline, commented of the house in 1856 in a diary entry: "As I had never allowed myself to form any but disagreeable pictures of Millville, I was quite delighted with the place. 'The Mansion' house struck me as barn-like at first, as it needs porches and green grass but on going in I found such a nice parlor, and so many other large rooms, that I changed my mind." Her mother, Julianna, in a footnote written in 1868, noted that the porches and green grass had been added and that the house was the residence of her son/Caroline's brother, George, at the time.⁵

Around 1864, George Wood likely added the two porches (front and side) with cast iron porch columns and cast iron steps made at the Wood foundry across the street. Also added about the same time were the dormers on the main block, the front fence, and the 2-story addition to the south (side) elevation of the kitchen ell. That year George Wood and his new bride moved to Millville, sharing the house with his parents when the latter visited from Philadelphia. R.D. Wood & Company ledgers show payments in 1864 for various expenses related to the "Mansion house" including several days of mason work, 632 shingles (probably for the dormers), nails, lumber, and glass.⁶ A drawing of the house done in the 1870s shows the front and side porches, the front fence, and the dormers. [*Historic and Supplemental Images*, fig. 2]

Sometime between 1864 and 1886 (the latter being the date of the first Sanborn map of Millville), the expanded kitchen ell was further expanded with a 1-story lean-to across the rear (east) elevation. In the 1920s, the exposed kitchen joists were boxed in to create a Tudor-Revival look; the two-piece built in hutch south of the kitchen fireplace was probably added at this time. [*Historic and Supplemental Images*, fig. 4]

Two second floor bathrooms (bathrooms B and C) were added in the 1930s. Bathroom A on the second floor was expanded several feet to the south with the frame addition in the 1930s; that expansion also saw the introduction of the powder room off of the parlor. Also in the 1930s, the 1-story shed-roof lean-to addition, originally built of frame, was rebuilt of concrete block with a stucco covering.

The 1886 Sanborn map also shows a greenhouse located behind (to the east) of the icehouse, but it is not shown on the 1915 Sanborn map. [*Historic and Supplemental Images*, figs. 8 and 9]

⁴ Julianna Wood, *Biographical Sketch of Richard D. Wood*, (privately printed, 1874), p. 29-30.

⁵ Julianna Wood, *Recollections of Our Dear Carrie* (privately printed, second printing, 1878), p. 179-180.

⁶ RD Wood & Company, Cashbook Vol. 6, January 1864-June 1867, various dates in 1864. [Historical Society of Pennsylvania, collection 1176]

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Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 10**Wood Mansion House**
Cumberland County, New Jersey**Setting:**

The house stands on a 1.15-acre, street-to-street city lot, facing west onto Columbia Avenue, a half-mile long, tree-lined street that runs north to south along the Maurice River, overlooking the site of the city's early industries. Only a handful of the original industrial buildings remain; they are mostly built of brick and most are altered from their original appearance. At the north end of the street, 1500 feet from the Mansion House, is the 2,000 foot long dam which contains Union Lake and which historically provided water power for the city's industries since its erection in 1869; it was rebuilt in the 1980s. Neighboring buildings on the same side of Columbia Avenue are a mix of historic and modern residences and modern one-story metal commercial buildings. Immediately to the north is a 2-story Gothic Revival style house made of gravel bricks; immediately to the south is a modern, gable-fronted wood frame residence.

A ca. 1864 cast iron fence runs along the sidewalk in front of the house. [photo 1 and 31; figures 1 and 2 in the *Historic and Supplemental Images* section] Between the house and the fence is a grassed front yard partially covered with ivy [*Hedera*]. A brick walkway leads from the sidewalk to the front porch; a slate walkway branches from the front porch and winds around to the north side porch. In front of the front porch is the original 1851 cast iron cotton mill bell, placed on a modern sandstone base. A variety of trees including white pine [*Pinus strobus*], maple [*Acer*], walnut [*Juglans*], and red cedar [*Juniperus virginiana*] line the side lot lines. Informal clumps of Japanese and English boxwoods [*Buxus*], most planted in the mid-1800s and some reaching as tall as 8-10' in height, are scattered around the house. The north side porch has a small garden filled with vinca [*Vinca*], yews [*Taxus baccata*], and wisteria [*Wisteria*]; this garden is defined by a short retaining wall of moss-covered Jersey sandstone. The ice house is located northeast of the house on the north lot line.

Immediately behind the house is a small formal garden filled with sedum [*Sedum*], day lilies [*Hemerocallis*], phlox [*Phlox*], iris [*Iris*], violets [*Viola*], vinca, and ornamental grass [*Pennisetum*]. Behind the house are a grassy area and an irregular-shaped paved parking lot, somewhat circular in shape. A ca. 1920 photograph shows a well-defined circular driveway behind the house at that time, rimmed with large boxwoods. [*Historic and Supplemental Images*, fig. 6]

The lean-to has foundation plants along the east wall consisting of variegated euonymus [*Euonymous*], hosta [*Hosta*], and boxwood. A modern chain link fence, heavily covered with a variety of climbing plants, defines most of the north lot line and part of the south lot line. The house is accessed by a paved driveway in the rear, off of Church Street which defines the rear (east) lot line. A modern cast iron picket fence (non-contributing) with a gate at the paved driveway [photo 32] is located about 110' west of Church Street. Between Church Street and the modern picket fence is a grassy lawn punctuated by a large oak [*Quercus*] tree near the sidewalk.

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Cumberland County, New Jersey

Integrity: The original main block of the house retains a high degree of integrity, having its original cooking fireplace (sans the bake oven) in the kitchen ell, and most of its ca. 1840 interior finishes that consist of window and door trim with bulls eye corner blocks, mantels, and paneled wood doors with applied moldings. Plaster walls and floors appear to date to the ca. 1814 construction date. Alterations around 1864 have become historic in their own right and include the well-preserved Italianate-style dormers on the façade of the main block and the two porches (front and side). Minor alterations to the kitchen—boxing the exposed ceiling joists overhead and adding a built-in kitchen cabinet—have also become historic. The ca. 1864 addition to the kitchen ell retains its original interior window and door trim, plaster walls and ceilings, and most doors. The 1-story lean-to (now a modern kitchen) has been highly altered and retains little integrity.

Most of the original floor plan remains, with the exception the introduction of modern bathrooms in the early 20th century and the closing of a stairway in the ca. 1864 addition to the kitchen ell.

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Wood Mansion House
Cumberland County, New Jersey

Summary Statement of Significance

Built about 1814, the Wood Mansion House in Millville, Cumberland County, New Jersey is locally significant under criterion B as the residence most strongly associated with the Millville careers of industrialists David C. Wood, his half-brother Richard D. Wood, and Richard's son George Wood, who successively owned and stayed in the house when visiting Millville to oversee their multi-faceted industrial operations there. As the result of the visions of these three individuals, Millville grew from a small village settled in the late 1700s on the Maurice River to one of the largest industrial centers in the 1800s among New Jersey's three southernmost counties of Salem, Cumberland, and Cape May. David C. Wood (1781-1859) founded an iron furnace there in 1814 that supplied cast iron water pipes to a growing national market. His half-brother Richard D. Wood (1799-1869) took over David's industrial holdings in 1850, erected a 2000'-long dam to increase Millville's water power, and greatly expanded the site by adding a cotton mill, bleachery, glass factory, and gas works. After Richard's death in 1869, his son George (1842-1926), who resided in the house full-time from 1864 to 1870, managed the cotton mill and bleachery, continually updating the facilities and funding other projects that furthered Millville's development.

Historical Background

Joseph Buck (1763-1803) and several associates purchased land in southern New Jersey at the head of navigation of the Maurice River in the 1790s. They laid out a town and called it Millville from their plan to establish mills there by bringing water power from Union Mill Pond located three miles to the north. Failing to do so, they sold only a handful of building lots and the site languished. In 1806, South Jersey glass-maker James Lee and a group of investors started a window glass factory on the east bank of the river, capitalizing on the large deposits of high-quality, local sand for the manufactory.¹

David Cooper Wood

In 1813, James Lee partnered with Philadelphia merchants David Cooper Wood and Edward Smith, purchasing a 600-acre tract located just north of Lee's glass factory, also on the river.² Wood (1781-1859) was a Quaker born in the village of Greenwich (also in Cumberland County) who moved to Philadelphia as a young man and became a merchant with Smith, operating under the trade name of Smith & Wood.

¹ Thomas Cushing, MD and Charles Sheppard, Esq., *History of the Counties of Gloucester, Salem, and Cumberland, New Jersey* (Philadelphia: Everts & Peck, 1883), p. 633-634.

² Cumberland County deeds, book 23, p. 172.

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Wood Mansion House
Cumberland County, New Jersey

Wood first established an iron furnace in 1803 on the Manumuskin Creek, a tributary of the Maurice River located about 6 miles downstream and southeast of Millville. In 1813-1814, he and Smith jointly purchased a 12,000+-acre tract known as the Penn Survey that included the northern part of Millville and Union Mill Pond on which a sawmill had been established in the mid-18th century.³

The partners dug a 2.5-mile long canal in 1814 from Union Mill Pond and at the canal's southern terminus in Millville established an iron furnace, known as Millville Furnace, sited just north of Lee's glass factory between what is today Columbia Avenue and the Maurice River, opposite the Wood Mansion House. [The canal is seen in the *Historic and Supplemental Images* section, fig. 12.] Using local bog iron fueled by a steady supply of charcoal from vast local forests, the furnace began operation.⁴ Lee sold his one-third share in the furnace to the other two partners that same year.⁵

Wood remained a resident of Philadelphia and around 1814 erected the Mansion House for use as his residence whenever he came to Millville on business to oversee the furnace and the Union saw mill sited a few miles north of the furnace.⁶ By this time, Millville had begun to grow and was described (perhaps optimistically) in 1815 as "containing from 60 to 70 houses, and is rapidly increasing" with "extensive iron and glass works in full operation" and water of "sufficient depth to launch vessels of 200 tons."⁷ That same year, Smith & Wood advertised in the Philadelphia papers that they were selling fireplace backs and jambs, stove plates in four sizes, and 100 tons of pig iron all "made at Millville Furnace, situated in New Jersey." They were also casting machinery "in the neatest manner."⁸

Smith sold his half interest to Joseph Jones, also a Philadelphia merchant, in 1816 and Jones sold the one-half interest two days later to Jesse B. Quimby, an "iron master... late from Hartford County, Maryland" living in Philadelphia.⁹ Quimby—needing money—sold his half-interest in the furnace back to Wood less than one year later. This consolidated the full ownership in Wood's hands.¹⁰

Wood's furnace and Lee's glassworks brought new workers to Millville and the town planned by Joseph Buck some twenty years earlier began to grow. According to the 1820 industrial census,

³ Cumberland County Deeds, book 23, p. 162, p. 167; book 25, p. 34.

⁴ R.D. Wood Company 1803-1953 (privately printed: Philadelphia: R.D. Wood Company, 1953), p. 11; Articles of Agreement between James Lee and Smith & Wood, 8-23-1813, Millville Manufacturing Company Collection, Hagley Museum and Library, Accession 1772, folder: "Smith & Wood Legal Papers 1805-1838."

⁵ Cumberland County Deeds, book 25, p. 34.

⁶ He is not consistently shown in Philadelphia directories, but when he is listed his residences and places of work are shown with locations on the odd side of Front Street (13 S. Front, 13 North Front, and after 1851, 11 South Front) which is now paved over by Interstate 95. He is also shown one year living at 20 N. Water (1816) and several years in the 1820s as residing at 10 South Water Street, which is also now covered by Interstate 95. His store, Smith & Wood, is shown in newspaper ads from the early 1800s as being located at 47 North Water Street and later at 33 North Water Street, locations which also no longer exist.

⁷ Poulson's American Daily Advertiser (Philadelphia, PA), 7-20-1815, p. 4.

⁸ Poulson's American Daily Advertiser (Philadelphia, PA), 9-25-1815.

⁹ Cumberland County Deeds, book 29, p. 190; book 29, p. 208.

¹⁰ Cumberland County Deeds, book 35, p. 201.

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Wood Mansion House
Cumberland County, New Jersey

Wood's furnace employed 50 men and 8 boys who produced 400 tons of castings "consisting of Stove plates, Machinery &c." in addition to 100 tons of pig iron.¹¹ Millville's population was estimated to be "not over one hundred and fifty" inhabitants in 1822, so the furnace was employing roughly one-third of the village's residents.¹² The furnace was also the largest industrial employer in Cumberland County that year: the window glass factory in Millville employed 24, while in Bridgeton a nail factory employed 14 and a woolen mill employed 3.¹³

Wood's stove plates were very popular and within a few years, he was selling 300-500 tons of plates annually to a stove manufacturer in the Hudson Valley. He soon expanded the business, supplying iron fences, lamp posts, and cast iron pipes for water works in Philadelphia and other cities along the east coast.¹⁴

Wood sought to attract other industries to Millville in 1828, willing to sell them land he owned along the Maurice River with access to the additional waterpower created by his canal. He placed the following ad that year in a Philadelphia newspaper:

FOR SALE

An extensive WATER POWER suitable for Cotton Factories, situate at the head of navigation on Maurice River, which is a powerful and never failing stream, adjoining to the town of Millville, where a number of vessels drawing from six to eight feet water constantly trade to either the city of Philadelphia or New York—distant from the former city about 36 miles—between which places two lines of stages pass four times a week.

Sites may be selected along the margin of the river, where vessels may lay alongside of the factories, within the distance of a mile above or below the Millville Works—to which water from the main canal, commanding the whole water of the river may be conveyed with a head of 21 feet above high water mark...

The healthiness of the situation, adjoining to the town of Millville and in the immediate vicinity of a blast furnace and extensive glass works, which have been many years in operation—affords a super abundance of labor suitable for cotton factories and renders it an eligible place for such establishments.¹⁵

¹¹ 1820 Census of Industry, Cumberland County, NJ, p. 166.

¹² Cushing and Sheppard, p. 634.

¹³ 1820 Census of Industry, District of New Jersey summary, p. 14.

¹⁴ *R.D. Wood Company*, p. 8-10.

¹⁵ *National Gazette* (Philadelphia, PA), 5-3-1828.

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Wood Mansion House
Cumberland County, New Jersey

Wood found no buyers, however, and his furnace and the neighboring glassworks to the south continued to be Millville's sole industries. A second glass works built by Baltimorean Frederick Schetter in South Millville (known then as Schetterville, about two miles southeast of Wood's furnace) opened in 1832. It is not known if Schetter's decision to open a glassworks there resulted from any contact with D.C. Wood, even though Schetter moved his residence from Baltimore to Philadelphia and the two may have traveled in the same social and business circles.¹⁶

In 1834, Millville was described as containing "about 60 dwellings, 2 taverns, 4 or 5 stores, a furnace belonging to Mr. D.C. Wood, and extensive glass works belonging to Messrs. Burgin and Pearsoll... giving employment to from 75 to 100 workmen."¹⁷

Wood, a good salesman who lacked fiscal management ability, owned extensive acreage but was always in constant need of working capital to meet payrolls. He modernized the Millville Furnace in 1834 to meet the demands of his successful pipe casting business which was finding new markets as American cities increasingly turned to pipes made of cast iron, rather than wood or lead, for their public water supply. Cast iron pipe had been introduced into the United States from England soon after 1800, first being installed in Philadelphia. Cast iron pipes slowly gained acceptance for their durability and by 1825 were half the price of lead, a factor that also increased their popularity.¹⁸

Wood continued to produce stove backs and jambs as well, but he, and other South Jersey iron furnaces started running out of local bog ore and the thousand acres of woodland needed annually to supply charcoal for each furnace. Facing stiff competition from furnaces in Pennsylvania that were closer to the fuel-rich coal fields, New Jersey furnaces began to fail. Wood quickly turned to his much-younger half-brother, Richard Davis Wood (1799-1869) for advice and financial support.

Richard Davis Wood

Richard D. Wood, a Quaker, was also born in Greenwich, Cumberland County. His first business venture was a store he co-owned in the city of Salem, Salem County, New Jersey. He shipped his first load of store goods from Philadelphia down the Delaware River to Salem, but the ship took on water and grounded on a mud flat. Richard salvaged the goods and sold them at a steep discount in their store, making a "respectable profit" despite the circumstances.¹⁹ In 1823, he moved the business to Philadelphia where he proceeded to "build up one of the city's major pre-Civil War fortunes" derived "from a rather diversified manufacturing base." As his businesses prospered, he broadened his investment interests, serving on the board of directors of two Philadelphia banks, the

¹⁶ Cushing and Sheppard, p. 634.

¹⁷ Thomas F. Gordon, *A Gazetteer of the State of New Jersey* (1834, reprint: Westminster, MD: Family Line Publications, 1995), p. 90.

¹⁸ Martin W. Melosi, *The Sanitary City: Environmental service in Urban America from Colonial Times to the Present* (Pittsburgh, PA: University of Pittsburgh Press, 2008), p. 20, 90; *R.D. Wood Company*, p. 6-7.

¹⁹ *R.D. Wood Company*, p. 19.

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Wood Mansion House
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Insurance Company of North America, and the Schuylkill Navigation Company. In the 1840s, he was also a founder, investor, and director of the Pennsylvania Railroad and shrewdly invested in Pennsylvania coal fields and mines.²⁰

Buoyed by the advice and financial backing of his successful half-brother, David C. Wood was profitable again by the late 1830s, finding ready markets in growing cities along the Eastern seaboard for his water pipes.²¹

In 1837, local efforts to establish Millville as the county seat failed, but the attempt underscores the town's rapid growth and the prominence it was gaining. By 1840, the population of the city was estimated to be 1,200, approximately an eight-fold increase in less than 20 years.²²

Although David considered building a mill or mills on his Maurice River property in 1844, his lack of capital prevented the plan from becoming a reality.²³ Barber & Howe described Millville that year as having about 150 dwellings and three industries composed of two glassworks and "near the village an iron furnace belonging to D.C. Wood, Esq." They noted that the three industries employed about 300 men and commented that "Millville is thriving and inhabited by a hardy, industrious population."²⁴ A woodcut of Millville in the 1844 edition of their book shows the two glass factories and city houses, but does not show the ironworks. [fig. 10] The later-built cotton factory and bleachery, and the iron works are illustrated in the 1868 edition. [fig. 13]

Beginning in 1839, Richard Wood kept a diary, which was transcribed after his death and published in a limited edition of 100 copies by his wife, Julianna (nee Randolph).²⁵ Richard's diary entries show that his half-brother, David, habitually ignored his creditors despite their threat of lawsuits. In a typical diary entry, this one dated 1846, Richard Wood wrote: "This morning had quite an unpleasant conversation with my brother David. He seems obstinately bent on destroying his only chance for getting out of debt."²⁶

David leased the Millville furnace in the late 1840s to Richard, who appears to have made it profitable, using coal instead of charcoal as fuel supplied by the mines he (Richard) owned in

²⁰ Edward Digby Baltzell, *Philadelphia Gentlemen: The Making of a National Upper Class* (New Brunswick, NJ: Transaction Publishers, 2009) p. 101.

²¹ *R.D. Wood Company*, p. 20.

²² Cushing and Sheppard, p. 634.

²³ Julianna Wood, *Biographical Sketch of Richard D. Wood* (privately printed, 1874), diary entry dated 3-30-1844. Hereafter cited as "diary entries."

²⁴ John Barber and Henry Howe, *Historical Collections of the State of New Jersey* (NY: S. Tuttle, 1844), p. 149-150.

²⁵ Julianna Wood, *Biographical Sketch of Richard D. Wood* (privately printed, 1874) in three volumes. The diaries cover the years January 1839 through 1869 (the year of his death). According to the Hagley Museum and Library Manuscripts and Archives Department summary description of their collection *Wood-Randolph Family Personal Papers, 1813-1884*, "the whereabouts of the original manuscript diaries is unknown."

²⁶ Diary entry, Vol. 1, p. 248.

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Wood Mansion House
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Pennsylvania.²⁷ The 1850 industrial census shows Richard's *R.D. Wood & Company* operating the furnace, employing 75 men to produce 1,000 tons of casting annually. Combined, the two glass works in Millville employed 175 men, making them the city's largest employers.²⁸ The city's population in 1850 was estimated to be about 1600, so the three businesses employed the majority of the city's working men.²⁹

Mired in financial troubles from which he could not emerge, David Wood went bankrupt and the furnace site with two others properties were sold at a master in chancery sale to his half-brother Richard in May 1850.³⁰ Richard, who had loaned more than \$20,000 to his brother over the years, sued David for non-payment and then purchased the rest of his brother's extensive land holdings at a sheriff's sale held in April 1851.³¹

Although David was the first Wood family member to establish an industry in Millville, it was his Midas-like half-brother Richard who had the capital, business acumen, and vision that fully engaged Millville in the Industrial Revolution and made his industrial facility one of the most successful in southern New Jersey.

To provide more horsepower to expand his operations, Richard D. Wood enlarged the canal to 48' wide by 4.5' deep in 1851. In 1852, he tore down the old furnace, expanded the foundry so it could produce 4-5,000 tons per year, and built a new furnace.³² A Trenton, New Jersey newspaper commented in 1853:

For manufacturing purposes Millville possesses a water power superior to any in West Jersey. For many years this has been but very partially employed. But now it has passed into the hands of an able and enterprising owner, who seems determined to develop its full power. The old canal from the head of Maurice River has been lengthened, so as to increase greatly the volume of water... the furnace has been enlarged and remodeled so as to be suited to business on a large scale... labor is much in demand... [and] one hundred houses are wanted to be erected during the present season."³³

In 1852, Wood became a director and large shareholder of the Allentown (PA) Iron Works and the Cambria Iron Works in Johnstown, Pennsylvania; he also invested in various mines that would assure a steady supply of iron and coal for his pipe foundry. That year, Wood began construction

²⁷ Diary entries, various dates.

²⁸ 1850 industrial census, Cumberland County, Millville Township, schedule 5, p. 109.

²⁹ Cushing and Sheppard, p. 634.

³⁰ Cumberland County Deeds, book 81, p. 264.

³¹ Cumberland County Deeds, book 82, p. 511, 538.

³² Diary entries, various.

³³ "Progress in West Jersey," *Trenton State Gazette* (Trenton, NJ), 7-27-1853, p. 2. Millville was never a "company town" and even though Wood built some housing for his workers and the glass factories provided some housing for their workers, many employees built their own houses or rented privately.

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Wood Mansion House
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on a cotton mill near the Millville furnace and foundry and in 1853 started purchasing schooners to transport his Millville-produced goods. The new mill opened in 1854 under the trade name of New Jersey Mills; it had 18,000 spindles, 430 looms, employed 340 people (more than half of them women), and had a monthly capacity of 160,000 yards of cotton cloth.³⁴

Wood weathered a national financial panic in 1857, buoyed by his ties to the North American Bank, but ran the cotton mill at half-time for several months since the rise in cotton prices "caused the working of the mill to be unprofitable." That year he lost the schooner *Martha* which was carrying a full load of uninsured pipe valued at \$5,000 to Brooklyn, and in March 1858, he lost 50 bales of uninsured cotton on a steamer that burned in Ohio. Undaunted by the losses and recognizing the need for a railroad to Millville, Wood and Lewis Mulford (a prominent Millville businessman who briefly owned the glass factory in South Millville³⁵) incorporated the Millville-Glassboro Railroad under a special act of the New Jersey legislature in March 1859. Twenty-two miles long, the line was completed in 1860 and carried both passengers and freight between the two glass-making towns, connecting to Camden in Glassboro. In 1863, the line was extended to Cape May and then merged with the West Jersey Railroad Company.³⁶

In 1857, Wood incorporated the Millville Gas Light Company to supply the cotton mill. Six or seven years later, the pipes were extended to serve businesses and Millville residents throughout the city. Later expansions brought gas supplies to Vineland and the adjacent townships of Maurice River, Pittsgrove, and Commercial.³⁷

In October 1859, Wood noted in his diary that he met with E. [Emile] Geyelin "to settle about the new waterwheel," a water-powered turbine Wood was considering for his Millville industries.³⁸ Diary entries show that Wood was always concerned with increasing production and streamlining plant operations, so his interest in Geyelin's highly-efficient water turbine, which had a 78.3% efficiency rating, is not surprising. Wood foresaw a revolution in the industry where water-wasting wheels would be replaced by scientific turbines that used every impulse of water to turn shafts. In 1863, he installed a Geyelin turbine in his Millville plant and that same year, in association with Geyelin, began manufacturing them, finding ready markets for the turbines at city waterworks in Philadelphia, Montreal, and Richmond as well as in "many mills in New England, the Middle and Southern States."³⁹ By this time, R.D. Wood and Company's many successes had earned them a national reputation for their iron products.

³⁴ Diary entry, December 24, 1852, June 9, 1853; *R.D. Wood Company*, p. 221-222.

³⁵ William S. Myers, ed., *Prominent Families of New Jersey* (1945, reprint 2000, Baltimore, MD: Genealogical Publishing Company), Vol. I, p. 340.

³⁶ *R.D. Wood Company*, p. 22-29; diary entry 10-27-1857, 12-31-1857, 3-2-1858; Virgil S. Johnson, *Millville: 1802 to 1952* (privately printed, 1952), p. 17-18.

³⁷ Cushing and Sheppard, p. 638; *Abstracts of Reports made by Public Utilities to the Board of Public Utility Commissioners for the Year 1912* (Trenton, NJ: MacCrellish & Quigley, 1914), p. 72.

³⁸ Diary entry, 10-15-1859.

³⁹ Diary entry, 2-14-1863; *Water and Gas Works Appliances Manufactured by R.D. Wood & Co.*, privately printed, 1881, p. 9-11.

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Wood Mansion House
Cumberland County, New Jersey

The following details gleaned from the 1860 industrial census summarize Wood's two Millville industries:

New Jersey Cotton Mill: \$200,000 capital investment; used 1900 bales of cotton, 150 cords of wood, and 65 tons of bituminous coal to produce 12,312,000 yards of muslin valued at almost \$1 million. The mill employed 160 men and 180 women [the only industry in Millville that year to employ women], paying the men a total monthly income of \$3200 and the women \$2160.

Millville Iron Foundry: \$100,000 capital investment; used 5,000 tons of pig iron, 1200 tons of anthracite coal, and 150 cords of wood for its two furnaces, producing 4,500 tons of pipes and other castings valued at \$162,000. The foundry employed 100 men.⁴⁰

Millville's two glass factories employed a total of 252 men according to the industrial census figures that year, making Wood the largest single employer—with a total of 340 employees—in the town at the time.⁴¹ With the population of Millville estimated at 3,300 in 1860, which represents about 660 households, approximately one of every two households had a person employed by Wood that year.⁴²

The business directory for Millville found on the 1862 Pomeroy map of Cumberland County illustrates the great growth Millville was experiencing, much of it resulting Wood's industrial pursuits there. The town had two hotels, four physicians, two professional photographers, and 13 merchants who dealt in general merchandise and lumber. Also listed were a book dealer, a jeweler, a boarding house proprietor, a bottler, a grist miller, and a butcher. Under the heading of *Manufacturers*, R. D. Wood & Company was listed twice at the top of list as cotton manufacturers and manufacturers of gas and water pipe. Whitall, Tatum & Company, which now owned both glass making factories, was listed third. Following them were eight more manufacturers who made wooden pumps, carriages, stoves and tinware, ships, saddles and harnesses, and boots and shoes, as well as a wheelwright and a cabinetmaker-undertaker.⁴³

That map also shows the dominating presence Wood's industries commanded in Millville, identifying two foundries, a gas works, the cotton factory buildings, a black smith shop, a grist mill, and a saw mill on the R.D. Wood & Company site. The canal feeds power to the grist and saw mills, the foundries, and the cotton mill. Not surprisingly, the rail line Wood helped to establish weaves through the middle of his industrial site.

⁴⁰ 1860 industrial census, Millville Township, schedule 5, page 1.

⁴¹ Ibid.

⁴² Cushing and Sheppard, p. 624.

⁴³ A. Pomeroy, publisher, *Map of Cumberland County, New Jersey* (Philadelphia, 1862).

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Cumberland County, New Jersey

The 1860s was a time of great expansion for Wood and his business interests. In 1861, he sold a large, 20,000-acre tract adjoining his Millville holdings to developer Charles K. Landis who established Vineland which he began as an alcohol-free agricultural-based utopian colony there.⁴⁴ The need for uniforms and materials during the Civil War was a boon to Wood's cotton mill and in 1864 he opened a bleachery and dye works, replacing the first one that burned in 1858.

Richard D. Wood also opened a window glass factory on the site in 1864 and incorporated the Millville Manufacturing Company in 1865 with the stated purpose of "manufacturing cotton goods or yarns and preparing the same for market, by bleaching, embossing, dyeing or printing, or otherwise..."⁴⁵ To better accommodate the millworkers, Richard built a company store and erected worker's housing. In 1866, he purchased a foundry in Florence, New Jersey (Burlington County) and began casting water pipe there. In 1867, he established another cotton mill, this one located in Mays Landing, Atlantic County, New Jersey.⁴⁶

Throughout the mid-19th century, Millville continued to grow as its industries prospered, its population doubling to about 3,300 in 1860. Millville was incorporated as a city on March 1, 1866 and by 1870 had a population of 5,700.⁴⁷ The 1876 J.D. Stewart's Atlas of Cumberland County shows the City of Millville spanning both sides of the Maurice River, with Richard Wood's cluster of industrial buildings occupying the largest industrial site in the city on the north side of the river. [fig. 7]

Recognizing that he could further expand his (and other) Millville industries with more water-generated horsepower, Richard D. Wood received permission to dam the Maurice River from the state legislature in 1866. Choosing a site about 1500' north of his plants, he built a 2,000-foot long earthen embankment with a 200'-wide waste weir of red sandstone and cement. The dam tapered from 11' thick at the base to 4' at the top and created a 926-acre pond, the largest entirely-artificial body of water in the state at the time. By 1880 it was producing 690 gross horsepower. The dam had a tremendous impact on Millville's appearance, creating the look it retains today, and also made possible later industrial pursuits.⁴⁸

The dam was completed in February 1869 but when the lake behind it was filled with water, the dam started to fail. Its huge stone retaining wall moved forward and tilted under the pressure, and within 48 hours the wall was four feet out of line. A rapid diversion of water lessened the pressure and averted disaster, but it took several months to repair the \$100,000 structure by adding buttresses and making it 12' wide at the top. R.D. Wood personally monitored the structure around the clock

⁴⁴ Diary entry, 7-22-1861; Cumberland County Deeds, book 99, p. 111.

⁴⁵ Diary entries, 7-23-1858, 6-11-1863, 6-21-1864, 1-23-1864 (glass factory); *Acts of the 89th Legislature of the State of New Jersey* (Newark, NJ: Newark Printing & Publishing Co., 1865), Vol. 1, p. 310.

⁴⁶ *R.D. Wood Company*, p. 36; Maria M. Thompson and Donald H. Price, *Warren* (Charleston, SC: Arcadia Publishing, 2004), p. 26; diary entry, 11-5-1866.

⁴⁷ Cushing and Sheppard, p. 633-634.

⁴⁸ *R.D. Wood Company*, p. 36-37; diary entries, February 1869; Cornelius Clarkson Vermeule, *Report on Water-Supply* (Trenton, NJ: The John L. Murphy Publishing Co., 1894), p. 269-270.

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during the first two to three days of the crisis, but it took a toll on his already-precarious health and he died about four weeks later from pneumonia. He considered building the dam one of his greatest accomplishments.⁴⁹

The *North American* (Philadelphia) commented in an obituary:

We regret to learn the death at his residence, in Arch Street above Eleventh, of Richard D. Wood, long and favorably known as one of our leading and most public spirited citizens. Mr. Wood... has since been very extensively engaged in manufactures at Millville, NJ, where he had large iron mills. He erected there one of the largest and finest mill-dams in America, at great expense... he was mainly instrumental in the construction of the Camden and Millville Railroad... he was a very extensive land holder in New Jersey and on much of the forest land he owned there he encouraged the foundation of such colonies as Vineland. He was one of the wealthiest citizens of Philadelphia, his estate being valued at many millions, the exact amount it would be difficult to tell.⁵⁰

Twenty-two years after his death, Wood's significant contribution to Millville's success was described:

The late R.D. Wood was remarkable for his executive ability, and for his master of several distinct lines of business. He was the head of R.D. Wood & Co., noticed elsewhere as the foremost cast-iron pipe founders of this country; and of the Millville Manufacturing Company, owners of extensive cotton-mills; and of R.D. Wood & Sons, a leading dry-goods commission house; and his associates, by reason of their absolutely essential aid at important times, may also be called the founders of the wonderful Cambria Iron Works, at Johnstown.⁵¹

Richard Wood died at his Philadelphia home located at 1121 Arch Street, a house he built in 1839 and which no longer stands.⁵² Diary entries show that he visited Millville at least two to three times a month when overseeing his varied businesses there, staying anywhere from two days to a week at a

⁴⁹ *R.D. Wood Company*, p. 36-37.

⁵⁰ Obituary, *North American* (Philadelphia, PA), 4-2-1869, p. 2.

⁵¹ Moses Foster Sweetser, *King's Handbook of the United States* (Buffalo, NY: Moses King Corporation, 1891), p. 761.

⁵² Diary entry, 6-13-1839. Julianna Wood explained in her diary transcriptions [Vol. 1, p. 67] that the house was located "at 421 Arch Street, but in improving the style of the numbering of houses it is now [1874] 1121 Arch Street." A woodcut of the house is shown in Volume 1, and city directory entries reflect the change from 421 to 1121 between 1857 and 1858. The house's location is now a parking garage for the Pennsylvania Convention Center.

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time and often bringing his wife and children with him. He entertained business associates at the mansion and conducted business there, as well. His wife, Julianna, recalled in 1874:

But it is a pleasure to remember that on the first excursion made by us together, when we little thought it [Wood Mansion House] would ever be our own, we did go there, passing a short time in that parlor where so many happy and instructive hours have since been enjoyed by me, in listening to many important arrangements connected with my husband's affairs,--such as the building of the cotton-mill, the inception of what is now the West Jersey Railroad, the sale of the Vineland property, the noble project of the dam over the Maurice River, etc.⁵³

Richard D. Wood's many businesses were inherited by his six sons who ranged in age from the mid-30s to teens. Although they jointly concentrated on the primary industry of cast-iron pipe manufacture and the casting and fabrication of water turbines, each had a different business talent. George, who came to Millville in 1864 to manage the cotton mill, continued in that position. Richard Jr. managed their mercantile and banking affairs in Philadelphia, while Randolph specialized in their shipbuilding interests. Walter and Stewart managed the Florence Iron Works, and Edward worked for R.D. Wood & Company, joining Richard Jr., Randolph, and Walter as partners in the mercantile business.⁵⁴

George Wood

Richard D. Wood's son, George (1842-1926) and his wife, Mary [nee Hunn], moved into the Mansion House in 1864 when George assumed management of the cotton mill and lived there until moving to the Philadelphia area in 1870.⁵⁵ George, who took great interest in the textile industry, traveled to England in 1864 to purchase new equipment and hire skilled operators for the cotton mill his father established in 1854.

Since 1864, the cotton mill was under George Wood's direct oversight. By 1870, it was producing over 3 million yards of shirting and sheeting from one million pounds of cotton shipped in from the south using 538 looms with 29,000 spindles. At the time, the iron foundry employed 150 men and 20 children/youths, while the cotton mill employed 170 men, 250 women, and 60 children/youths.

⁵³ Wood diaries, vol. 1, p. 30.

⁵⁴ *R.D. Wood and Company*, p. 39-41.

⁵⁵ He and his wife leased a house that they eventually purchased in 1892 located in Wawa, (Delaware County) Pennsylvania. They demolished the house in 1915 and moved into a new Colonial Revival style house (still standing) they built on the same site in 1917, nine years before his death. This house, known as "Red Roof" is now part of Wawa convenience food markets headquarters; George Wood founded a dairy in the late 1800s that later became the foundation for this convenience market chain founded by his grandsons in the 1960s.

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The bleachery employed 50 men, 8 women, and 9 children/youths. The total for all three factories was 717 employees; the two glass factories in Millville, owned by Whitall-Tatum, employed a total of 589.⁵⁶

Census figures for 1870 show that the City of Millville had 1149 households containing 6,124 people. Thus, Wood's companies employed roughly one man in every three Millville households and roughly one woman in every five Millville households.

According to data given on the 1877 Hexamer insurance map, the cotton mill employed 388 people (roughly half male, half female) who worked in a 4½-story stone building on Columbia Avenue opposite the Wood Mansion House. [fig. 11] The map noted that the mill's machinery had been updated in the last six years and that the mill was outfitted with such fireproofing measures as permanent iron ladders, plaster ceilings, iron columns, and lightning rods.⁵⁷ Hexamer also surveyed the Millville Window Glass Factory owned by R.D. Wood & Company on Columbia Avenue near Dock Street, which had been built by Richard Wood in 1864 and was at times leased to other operators. It employed 90 men.⁵⁸ The Hexamer survey of the bleach and dye works stated that 60 hands (48 men, 6 boys, and 6 girls) were employed in a large, 2- and 3-story masonry building complex near the other factories on the Maurice River.⁵⁹ [fig. 11]

R.D. Wood & Company exhibited their wares at the Centennial Exhibition in 1876, displaying loam castings for 14' diameter turbines, bevel gears with machine-shaped teeth, and 72"-diameter water pipe castings. They also exhibited cotton goods from the mill for which they were awarded a medal and diploma for "good workmanship, material, and fitness for intended purpose."⁶⁰ In 1881, they published a trade catalogue of their cast iron wares, claiming specialties of "cast-iron water and gas pipes, fire hydrants, lamp posts, stop valves for water and gas, turbines [and] hydraulic machinery" all of which supplied necessary infrastructure to American cities expanding as a result of the industrial revolution.⁶¹ Two of their lamp posts were installed behind the Wood Mansion House in the 1970s. [photo 4]

In 1881, the company's contributions to Millville's industrial success were recognized:

Millville of to-day is an active manufacturing city, there being here located very extensive cotton mills, iron and glass works. The two former are owned and controlled by R.D. Wood & Sons, who have engaged here for many years and are widely known throughout the country... the cotton mills

⁵⁶ 1870 industrial census, Millville.

⁵⁷ <http://www.philageohistory.org/rdic-images/view-image.cfm/HGSv12.1106-1107>

⁵⁸ <http://www.philageohistory.org/rdic-images/view-image.cfm/HGSv12.1100>

⁵⁹ <http://www.philageohistory.org/rdic-images/view-image.cfm/HGSv12.1101>

⁶⁰ New Jersey State Centennial Board, *Report of the New Jersey Commissioners on the Centennial Exhibition* (Trenton, NJ: Naar, Day & Naar, 1877), p. 370.

⁶¹ R.D. Wood & Co., *Water and Gas Works Appliances Manufactured by R.D. Wood & Co* (privately printed, 1881), cover page and p. 9.

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employ a very large number of hands and have added very much to the wealth and prosperity of Millville.⁶²

Similarly, a report on New Jersey's water supply in 1894 commented about Millville's power: "There is no doubt that to this waterpower [of the Millville Manufacturing Company] is to be attributed at least a part of the great prosperity of Millville during the recent years."⁶³

George Wood remained active in local projects that directly affected Millville's economy throughout the late 1800s and early 1900s. He was on the board of directors of the Millville National Bank and was an incorporator of the South Jersey Traction Company, which provided trolley service between Millville, nearby Bridgeton (the county seat), and Vineland. When the Traction Company was reincorporated in 1893, the local paper commented: "George Wood [is] well known as a large capitalist, a director of the Pennsylvania, West Jersey and Camden and Atlantic Railroads and heavily interested in the manufacturing industries of the City of Millville."⁶⁴

In 1883, R. D. Wood & Company purchased the Camden Iron Works foundry in Camden, greatly expanding their capacity. By 1890, the plants at Florence, Camden, and Millville employed 1,300 men and the furnaces had a casting capacity of 600 tons a day.⁶⁵ The Millville foundry closed around 1900 and its buildings were renovated as warehouse additions for the cotton mill.⁶⁶ The other iron works passed out of the family when Richard's son, Walter, died childless in 1934.⁶⁷

In 1884, George Wood installed new machinery and pumps expressly made for fire suppression in the bleachery and cotton mill, and in 1896 he experimented with electric lights in the bleachery. Finding them to be more brilliant than gas, he soon installed electric lights in both plants, using 200-watt lights with opal globes that were "arranged so as to throw no shadow." He also enlarged the cotton mill by adding another story.⁶⁸

According to the 1909 *Industrial Directory of New Jersey*, the Millville Manufacturing Company employed about 450 people while the bleachery employed about 350. T.C. Wheaton's glass factories in Millville employed about 2,000 directly reflecting the growth in that industry around the turn of the 20th century.⁶⁹ Although Millville's glass-making industry now eclipsed its textile industry, George Wood's operations there were still-impressive: at the time, the cotton mill had 50,000 spindles on over 1,000 looms with an output of 750,000 yards monthly and the bleachery's output averaged 35,000 pieces of 50-yard goods per week. A comparison of statistics given in the 1909

⁶² *Industries of New Jersey* (NY: Historical Publishing Company, 1882), Part II, p. 271.

⁶³ Vermeule, p. 270.

⁶⁴ "Reincorporated," *Bridgeton Evening News* (4-29-1893, p. 1.

⁶⁵ *R.D. Wood Company*, p. 41-42; Sweetser, p. 565.

⁶⁶ *Bridgeton Evening News*, 8-18-1904, p. 2.

⁶⁷ *R.D. Wood Company*, p. 46; Finding Aid, R.D. Wood & Co. Records, collection 1176, Historical Society of Pennsylvania.

⁶⁸ "A Successful Experiment," *Bridgeton Evening News* (3-23-1896, p. 3.

⁶⁹ Winton C. Garrison, *Industrial Directory of New Jersey* (Camden, NJ: S. Chew & Sons, 1909), p. 271-272.

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Industrial Directory of New Jersey shows that the City of Millville had seven times more people employed in manufacturing (excluding canning) than did all of Cape May County, and had about 2.5 times more people than all of Salem County. Similarly, in 1910, Millville was ranked 23rd in the state in "relative industrial importance of incorporated places having a population of 10,000 or over," with 2,761 wage earners producing a total of \$4,181,824 in products. No other city in Salem or Cape May counties is on the list of the top 34.⁷⁰

That same year (1909), a promotional brochure published by the Millville Board of Trade described the Millville Manufacturing Company as:

"... one of the largest and most solidly established industrial concerns of Millville, which has for more than half a century been of inestimable value to the city as a source of employment for upwards of one thousand operatives and of the annual distribution of many thousands of dollars in wages..."⁷¹

Millville's population of about 12,500 in 1910 represented approximately 2,630 households. Thus, the glass industry employed about one person in three out of every four households, while the textile industry employed one in every three households.⁷²

In 1914, George Wood donated the land on which a city hospital was built on North High Street, running sewer pipe to the new facility at no charge, and also cutting in and improving a new road leading to the facility. The local paper commented: "If profit may be derived by the Manufacturing Company as a result of the improvement, we say it rightfully belongs to them. George Wood, president of that company, has done much for Millville and the people surely appreciate his efforts."⁷³ Two years later, Wood erected a new reinforced concrete building, 200' square, to take place of "some of their ancient structures which are becoming crowded and the facilities of which are not adequate."⁷⁴

By the early 1900s, Millville Manufacturing Company's "Red Star" ready-made, all-cotton hemmed diapers were advertised as being "nationally known as the very best" for their non-irritating and absorbent qualities. The nursery line created a successful niche market that lasted into the 1950s.⁷⁵

George Wood remained active in the cotton mill operations, serving as president of Millville Manufacturing Company until his death in 1926.⁷⁶ As late as 1922, he was still traveling to Millville and staying in the Mansion House as noted in the following newspaper article:

⁷⁰ Garrison, p. xvii, 75-77, 414, 428; Millville Board of Trade, *Millville, a City of Homes and Industries* (privately printed, 1909), p. 19-20.

⁷¹ Ibid., p. 19.

⁷² Garrison, p. 172.

⁷³ "Wonderful Improvement," *Bridgeton Evening News*, 12-31-1914.

⁷⁴ "Work on Big Concrete Factory Started," *Bridgeton Evening News*, 11-7-1916.

⁷⁵ Thompson and Price, p. 29;

⁷⁶ <http://cdm16038.contentdm.oclc.org/cdm/search/collection/p268001coll17/searchterm/wood>

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Police have been asked to keep a lookout for a white horse which got away from George Wood yesterday afternoon. Mr. Wood, whose home is in Philadelphia but who spends some of his time at the old Wood mansion on Columbia avenue, has been here for a visit.⁷⁷

In 1918 and 1931, the New Jersey industrial directories state that the mill and bleachery employed 1,050, about half the number employed by the city's glass factories in 1918, but nearly twice the number working in glass factories in 1931, probably because of the Depression.⁷⁸

Around 1924, George Wood Furness moved into Wood Mansion. A chemist with Millville Manufacturing Company, he was the grandson of George and Mary Wood through their daughter, Caroline. He is enumerated living in the house as a single man in the 1930 census and after marrying Pauline (Polly, nee de Tours Savage) in 1939, they lived in the house until 1958. They are enumerated as living there with a housekeeper in the 1940 census.⁷⁹

George Wood died in 1926 and the local paper noted in an obituary:

Mr. Wood played a leading part in the industrial development of southern New Jersey, particularly Millville, Vineland, and Mays Landing where he was identified with extensive manufacturing, water power and transportation projects. He settled in Millville in 1864 as managing director of the cotton manufacturing business and also supervised other industries connected with that section through his father, Richard D. Wood, and supervised the development of the town of Vineland.

Among other things he... incorporated the gas works at Millville and the water works and electric light plant of that city, and later the trolley road between Millville and Bridgeton.

When he settled in New Jersey he became director of the Millville and Glassboro Railroad Company and when that was merged with the West Jersey and Atlantic Railroad was elected a director of that company. In 1880, he was elected president of the West Jersey and Atlantic Railroad Company...⁸⁰

⁷⁷ "Horse Threw Rider," *Bridgeton Evening News*, 10-29-1922.

⁷⁸ Bureau of Industrial Statistics, *The Industrial Directory of New Jersey* (Trenton, NJ: 1918), p. 363; George S. Burgess, ed., *Industrial Directory of New Jersey* (Newark, NJ: NJ State Chamber of Commerce, 1931), p. 216.

⁷⁹ 1940 census, Millville, ward 3, sheet 8B; 1930 census, Millville, ward 3, sheet 7B.

⁸⁰ "George Wood Dead at Age of 84," *Bridgeton Evening News*, 2-18-1926.

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His children and grandchildren then managed his many business interests. In 1954 the Millville Manufacturing Company claimed to be the largest diaper manufacturer in the world.⁸¹ However, as the country's textile industry migrated southward and with the introduction of rayon and other synthetic fabrics, the cotton mill and bleachery closed in 1958, thus ending a 130+ year legacy of Wood family industry in Millville.⁸²

From 1959 until 1971, three rooms (dining room, cold room, and original kitchen) in the house were leased for \$1 a year to the Millville Historical Society. The remaining rooms were reserved for use by the Wood family and their employees for board meetings and as a place to sleep when in town on business. The Wood family-owned Maurice River Company then used the house for offices from 1971 until the mid-1970s, and Wawa, Inc.—a convenience store chain founded in the 1960s by George Wood's grandson, Graham Wood—used the house for its regional offices from 1971 until 2008. In 2009, the house was donated to the Millville Historical Society, the present owner.⁸³

⁸¹ John T. Cunningham, *Made in New Jersey: The Industrial Story of a State* (New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers University, 1954), p. 95.

⁸² Thompson and Price, p. 30.

⁸³ Interview, Bob Francois, president, Millville Historical Society, 12-20-2012.

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Wood Mansion House
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Geographical Data

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary comprises block 301, lot 8 as shown on the current tax map of the City of Millville.

Verbal Boundary Justification

The boundary of the nominated property represents the lot which has been associated with the building since the mid-1800s.

United States Department of the Interior
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**National Register of Historic Places
photographs**

Wood Mansion House

Cumberland County, NJ

Typical Information for All Photographs

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--|
| 1. Name of Property | Wood Mansion House |
| 2. County and State | Cumberland County, New Jersey |
| 3. Photographer | Joan Berkey |
| 4. Date of Photograph | Fall and winter 2012, except where noted |
| 6. Location of Digital Copies | Joan Berkey
NJ State Historic Preservation Office |

Photo # and Description of View

- 1 of 32: streetscape, view north up Columbia Avenue
- 2 of 32: façade (west elevation) and north side elevation, view southeast
- 3 of 32: rear (east) and north side elevations, view southwest
- 4 of 32: rear (east) and south side elevations, view northwest
- 5 of 32: parlor, view southeast
- 6 of 32: first floor hall, view northeast
- 7 of 32: first floor hall, view west toward front door
- 8 of 32: dining room, view northeast
- 9 of 32: cold room, view northeast
- 10 of 32: original kitchen, view southeast
- 11 of 32: lean-to kitchen, view north
- 12 of 32: east room, view northwest
- 13 of 32: west room, view northwest
- 14 of 32: south chamber, view southeast
- 15 of 32: north chamber view northeast
- 16 of 32: second floor hall and alcove, view almost west
- 17 of 32: bathroom A, view north
- 18 of 32: chamber A, view southeast
- 19 of 32: bathroom B, view southeast
- 20 of 32: chamber D, view southeast
- 21 of 32: chamber C, view northwest
- 22 of 32: bathroom C, view east
- 23 of 32: chamber B, view southeast
- 24 of 32: south attic chamber, view south
- 25 of 32: north attic chamber, view north
- 26 of 32: mechanical room, view northeast
- 27 of 32: chamber E, view southeast
- 28 of 32: ice house (contributing), view northeast (2011)
- 29 of 32: interior of ice house, view southwest (2011)
- 30 of 32: two storage sheds (both non-contributing), view south
- 31 of 32: ca. 1864 cast iron fence (contributing) along the Columbia Avenue sidewalk in front of the house, view northeast
- 32 of 32: modern fence (non-contributing) in the rear of the house lot, view southwest

WEB IMAGES VIDEOS MAPS NEWS MORE

bing 821 columbia avenue, millville, nj

Sign in 0 of 5

Directions My places Map apps Road Bird's eye Traffic

821 Columbia Ave, Millville, NJ 08332
39°40'28.13" / 75°04'51.28"

Directions Save Send Not what you wanted?

BUSINESSES AT THIS ADDRESS

Millville Historical Society
Wawa Food Markets - Regional Office-Mansion House

NEARBY

Restaurants
Bars, Grills & Pubs
Malls & Shopping Centers
More

821 Columbia Ave, Millville, NJ 08332

Directions Send Save Zoom

500 feet 100 m

Union Lake Rd.
Ferguson Ct.
May Dr.
Arnold Dr.
W McNeal St.
Buck St.
E Foundry St.
N High St.
G St.
F St.
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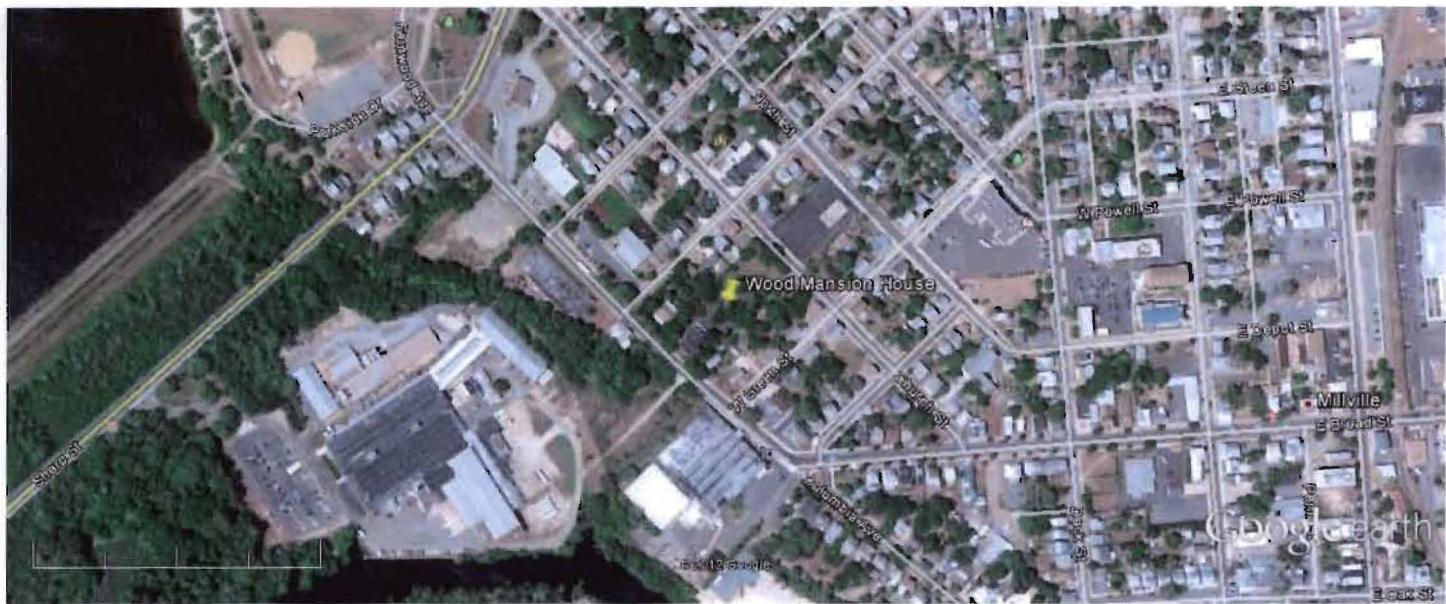


Google earth

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meters

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Wood Mansion House

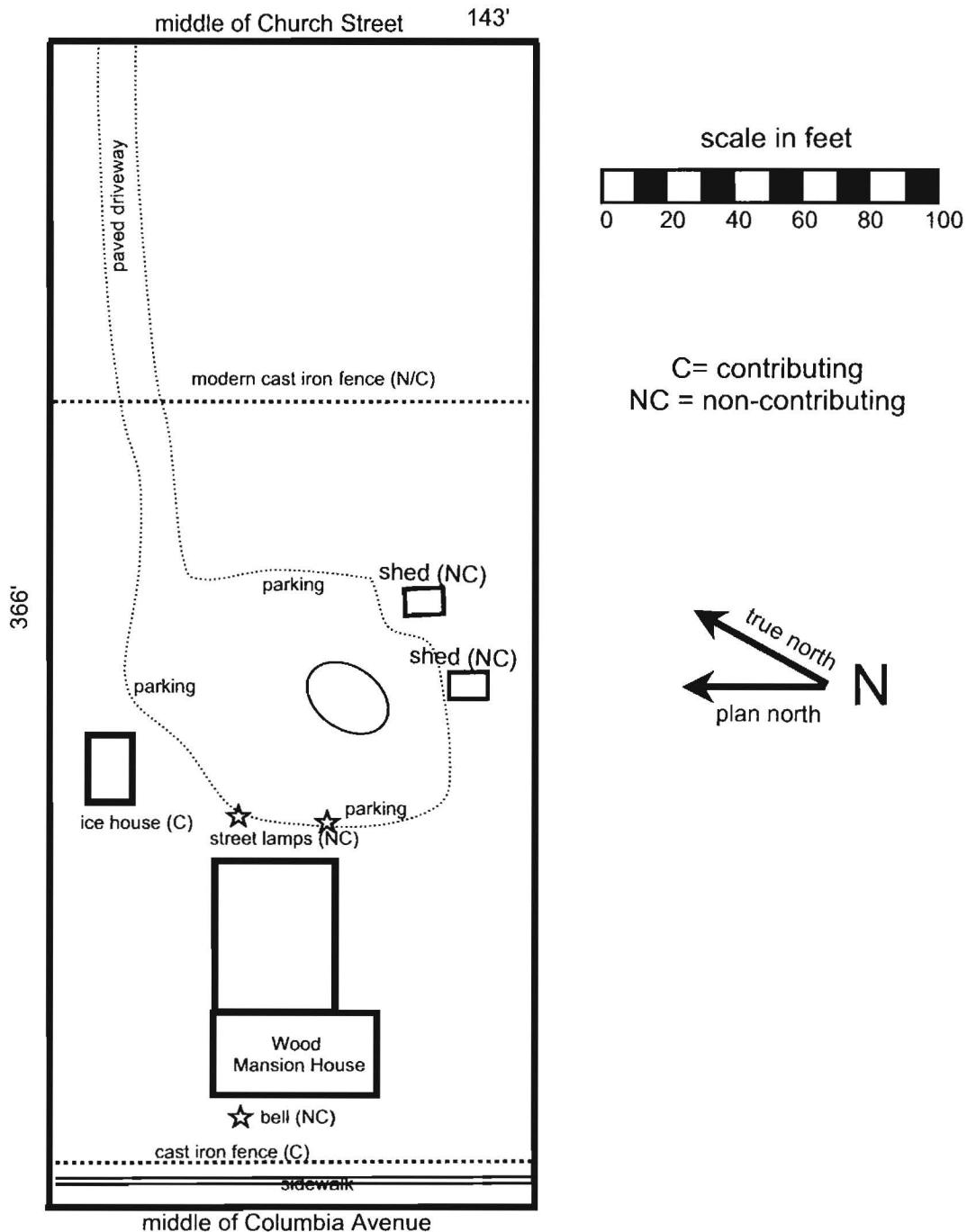
UTM coordinates: 18 S 496114.71 m E 4361479.58 m N



TAX MAP ANNOTATED TO SHOW LOCATION

**Wood Mansion House
BLOCK 301, LOT 8
821 Columbia Avenue
Millville, Cumberland County, NJ**

Joan Berkley 12-2012



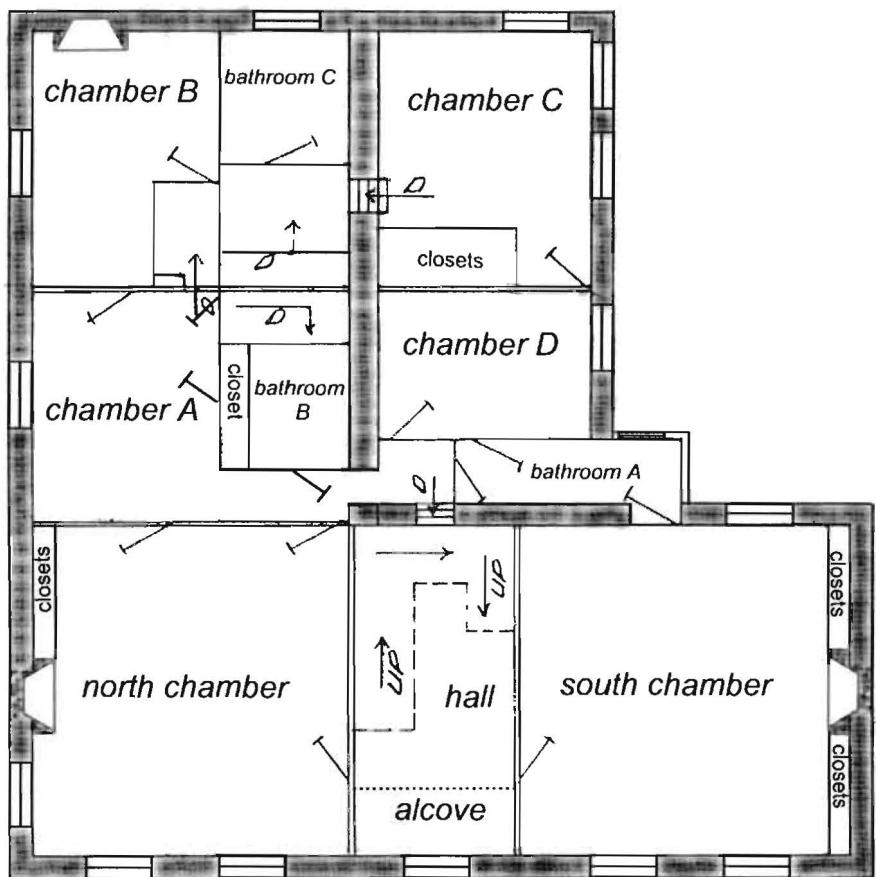
Wood Mansion House
821 Columbia Avenue
Millville, Cumberland County, NJ

SITE PLAN

Joan Berkey 11-2012

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plan north

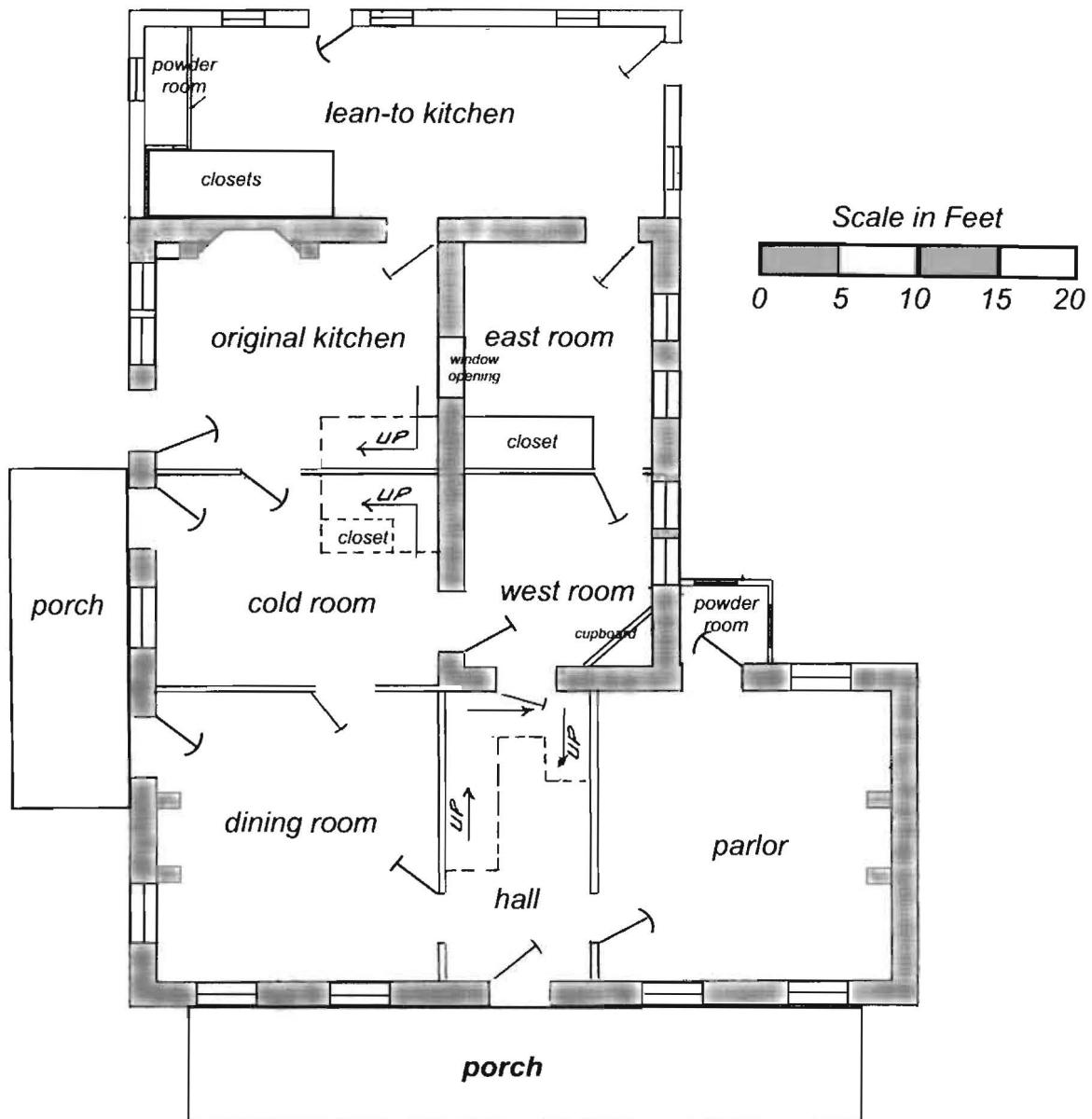
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Wood Mansion House
821 Columbia Avenue
Millville, Cumberland County, NJ

SECOND FLOOR PLAN

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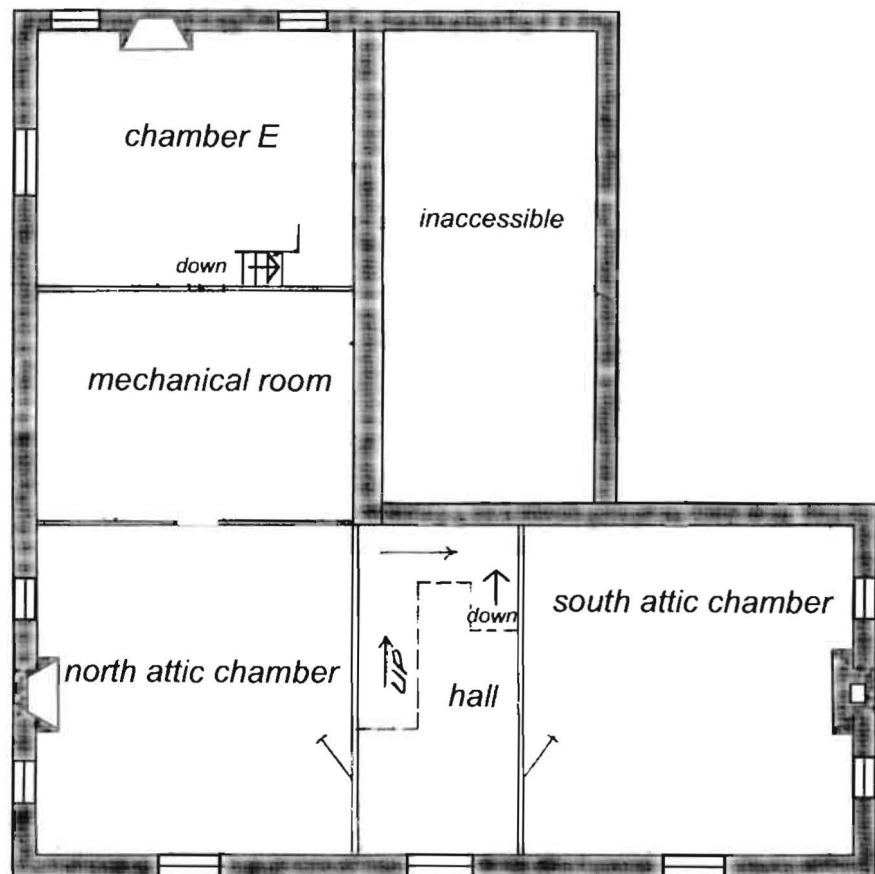
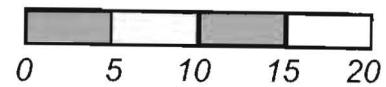


Wood Mansion House
821 Columbia Avenue
Millville, Cumberland County, NJ

FIRST FLOOR PLAN

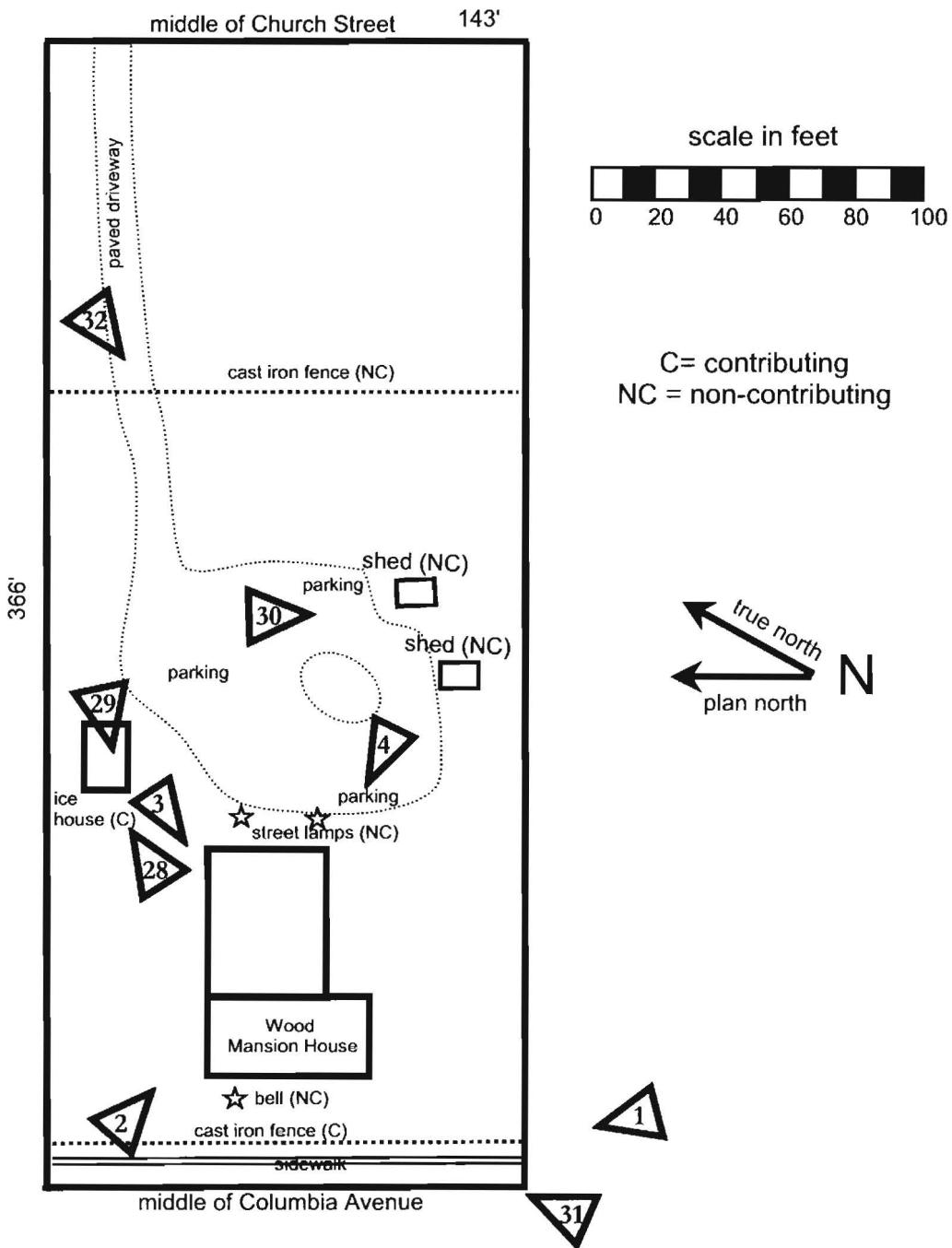
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Wood Mansion House
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Millville, Cumberland County, NJ

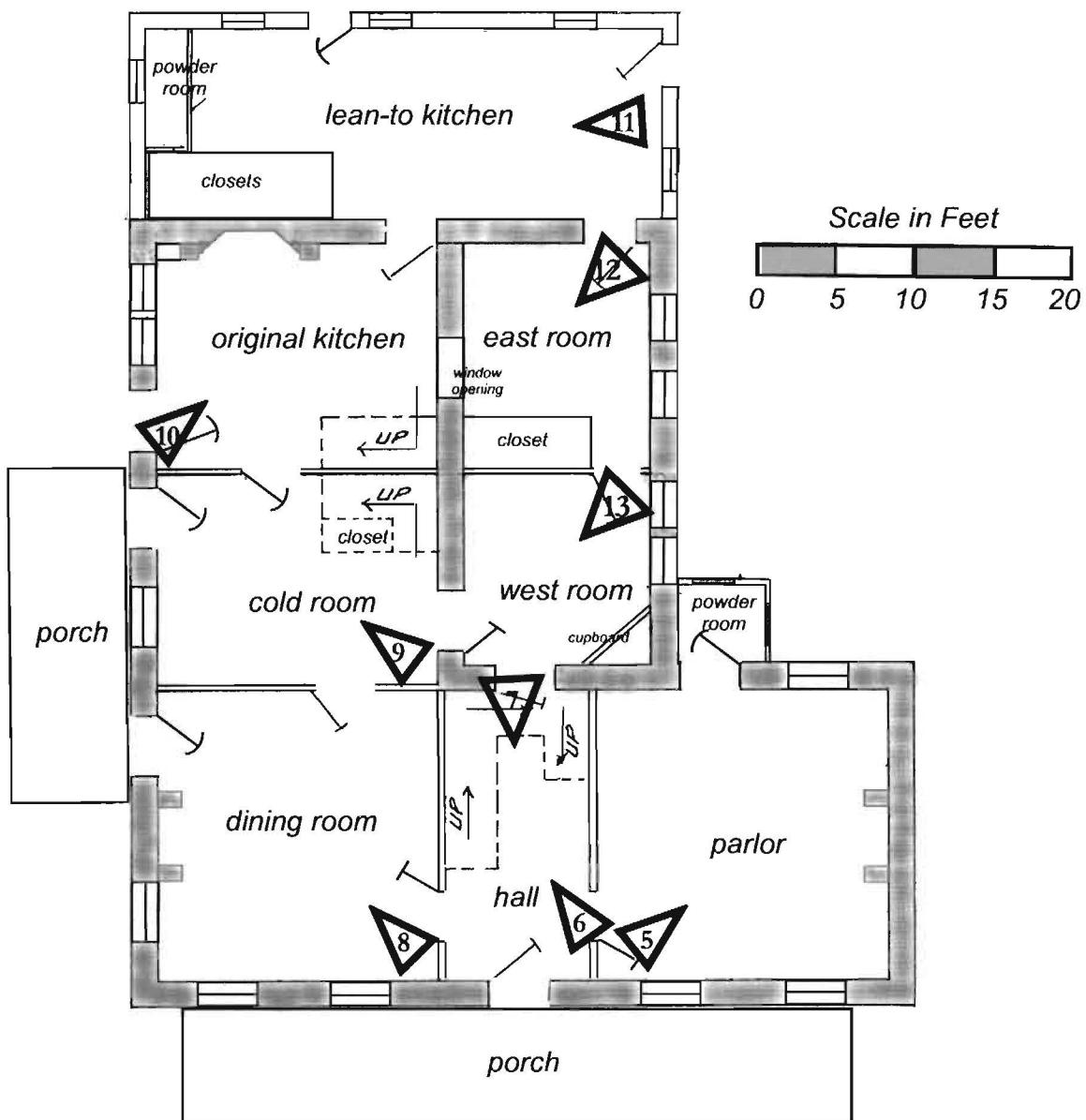
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SITE PLAN ANNOTATED FOR PHOTOGRAPHS

Joan Berkey 11-2012

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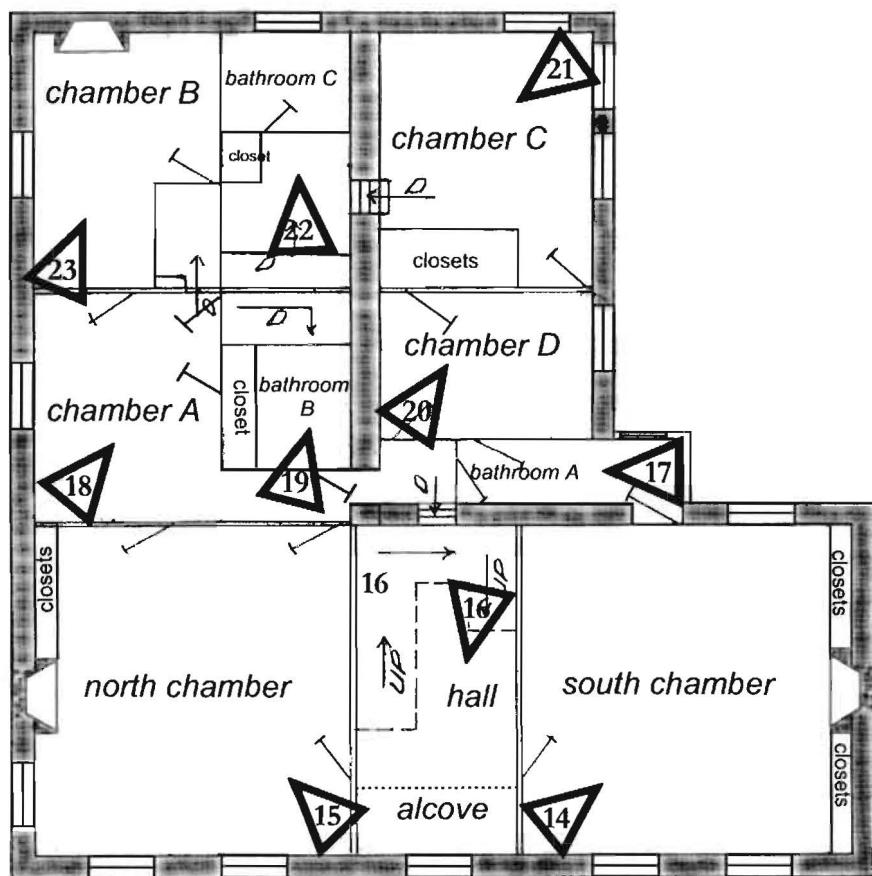
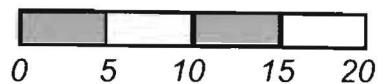


Wood Mansion House
821 Columbia Avenue
Millville, Cumberland County, NJ

FIRST FLOOR PLAN ANNOTATED FOR PHOTOGRAPHS

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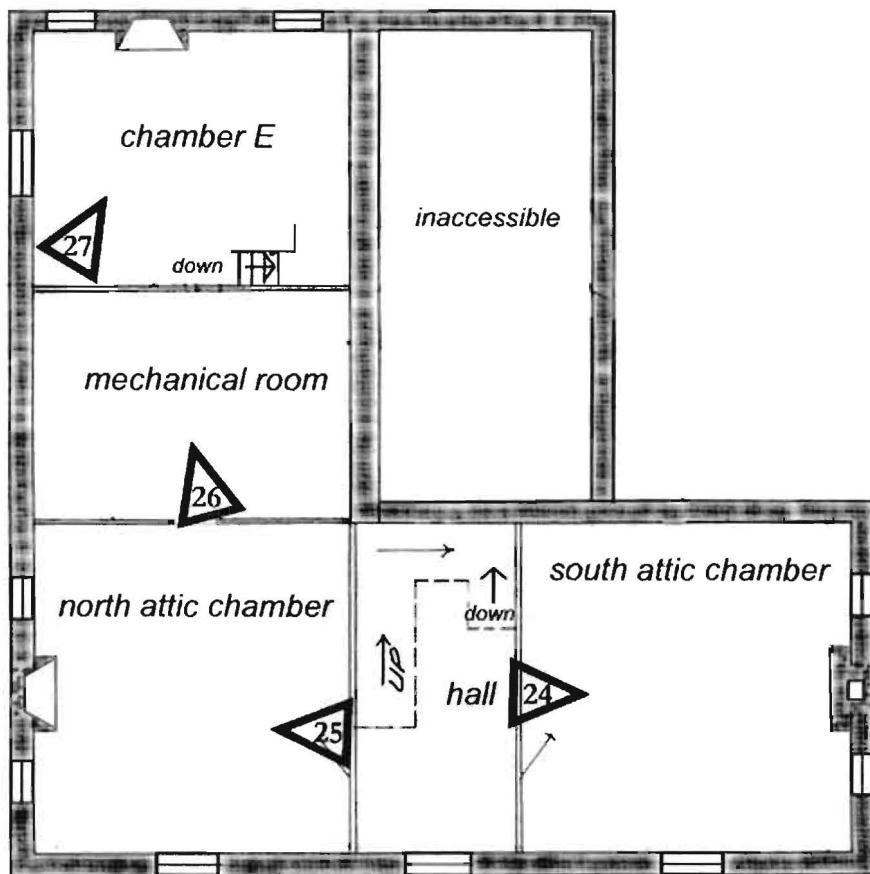
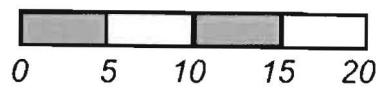


Wood Mansion House
821 Columbia Avenue
Millville, Cumberland County, NJ

SECOND FLOOR PLAN ANNOTATED FOR PHOTOGRAPHS

true north
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Wood Mansion House
821 Columbia Avenue
Millville, Cumberland County, NJ

ATTIC FLOOR PLAN ANNOTATED FOR PHOTOGRAPHS

Wood Mansion House
Historic and Supplemental Images



Figure 1: ca. 1890
view of the house,
looking southeast.

[Hagley Library/Wawa
collection]

Figure 2: below: the house as it appeared in the 1870s. [Millville Historical Society]





Figure 3: the parlor, ca. 1928.

[Millville Historical Society]



Figure 4: the kitchen in the 1920s

[Millville Historical Society]



Figure 5: stair hall, ca.
1920, view east

[Millville Historical
Society]



Figure 6: ca. 1920 view west
showing the rear (east)
elevation. Note the large
boxwoods and the circular
driveway.

[Millville Historical Society]

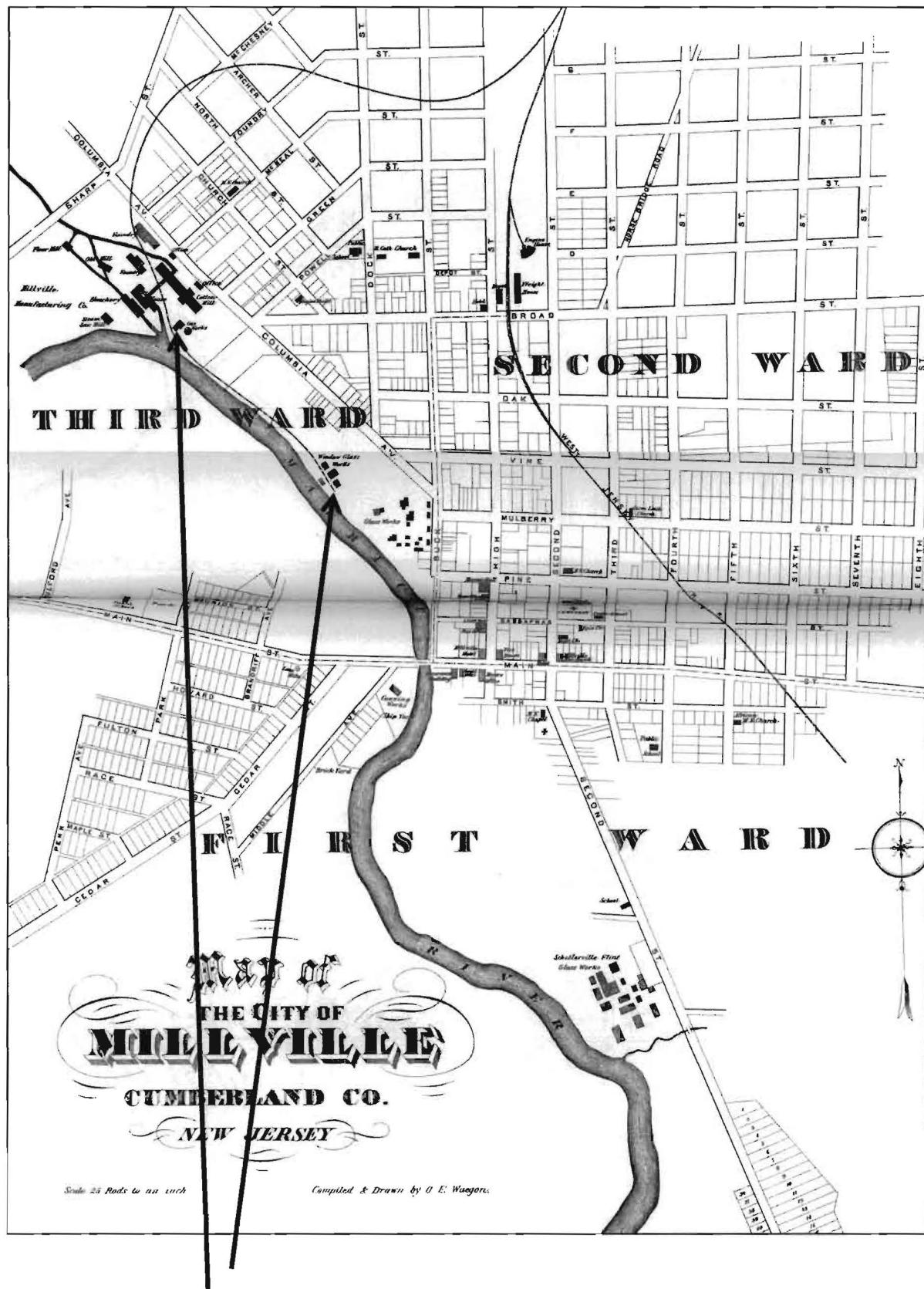


Figure 7: 1876 inset map of Millville from the J.D. Stewart *Atlas of Cumberland County*, showing the R.D. Wood & Co. cotton mill and foundry, with the glass window factory located to the southeast.

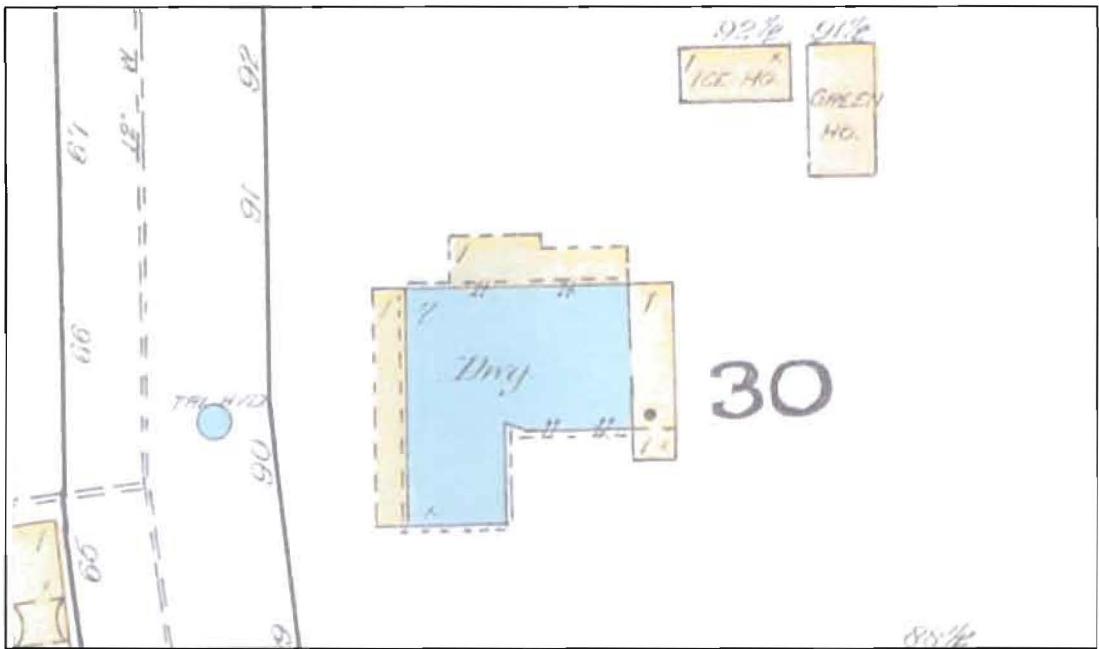


Figure 8:
the house as
it appears on
the 1886
Sanborn
map.

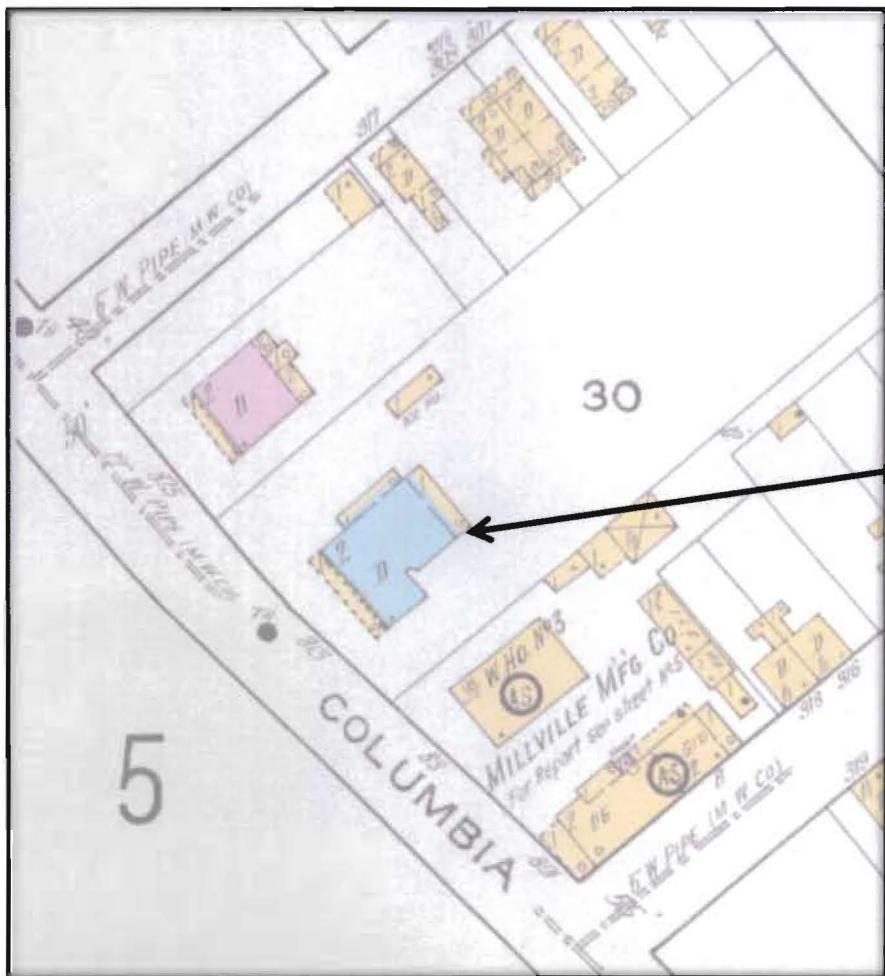


Figure 9: 1915 Sanborn map,
sheet 9, showing the Wood
Mansion House



Figure 10: Barber & Howe published this line drawing of Millville in 1844. It shows the original glass factory (1806) to the left, the center of town in the middle, and the second glass factory (1832) to the far right. The Wood foundry is not shown, but was located above the first glass factory seen here. [*Historical Collections of New Jersey*, p. 150)

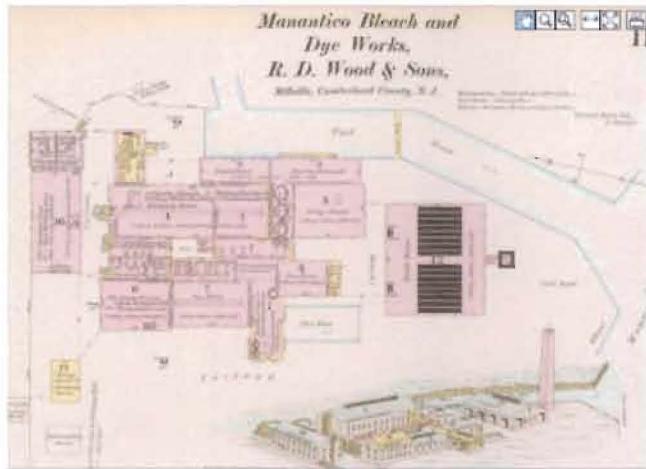
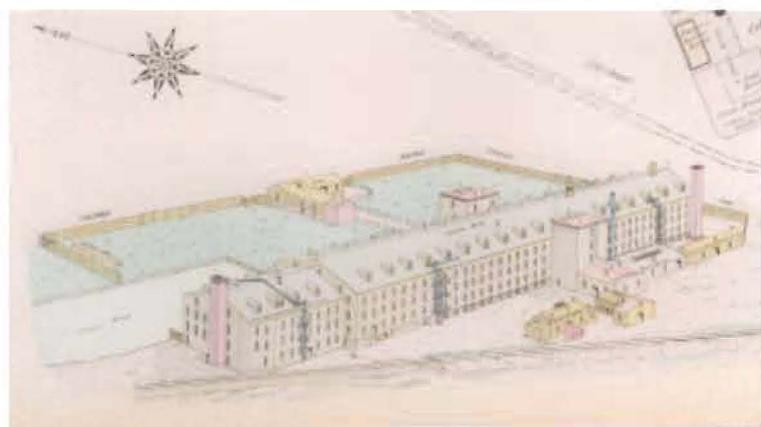


Figure 11: The cotton mill (bottom) and bleachery (top) as shown in the Hexamer maps of 1877.



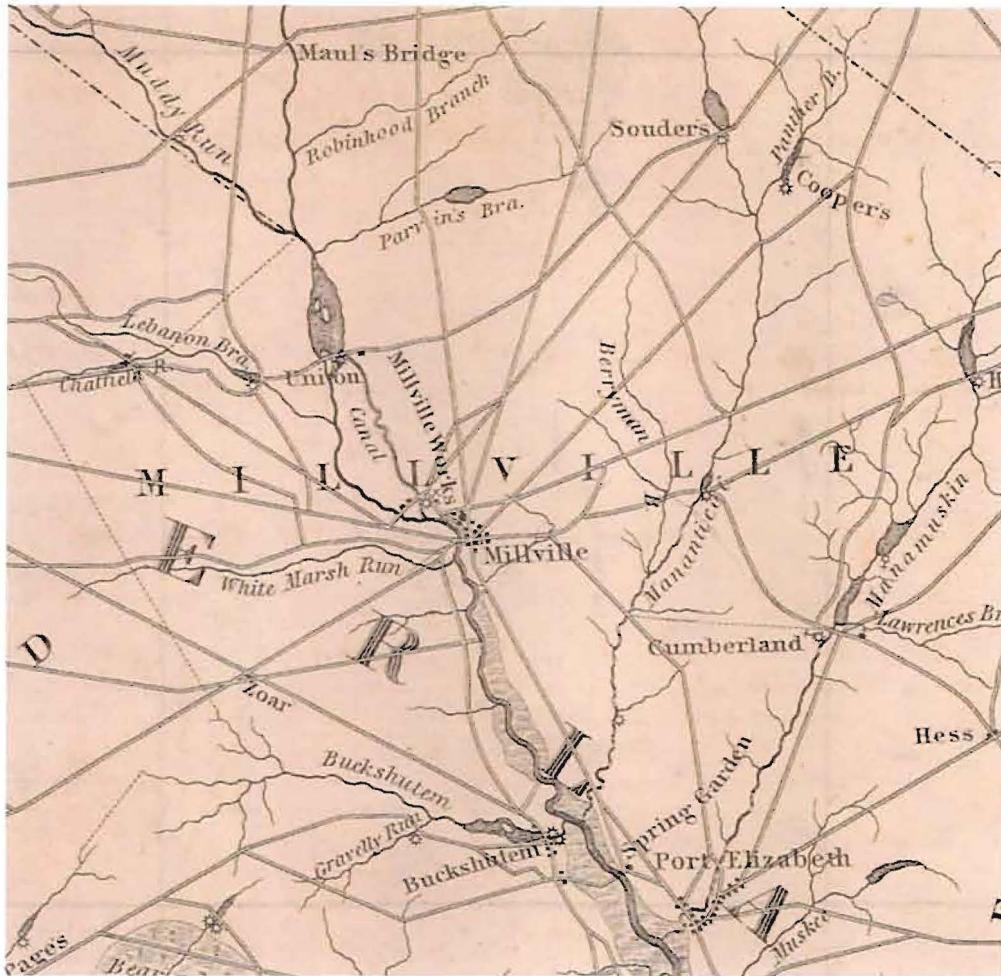


Figure 12: 1833
Gordon's map of
New Jersey showing
Union Mill Pond and
the canal leading into
Millville.

150

CUMBERLAND COUNTY.

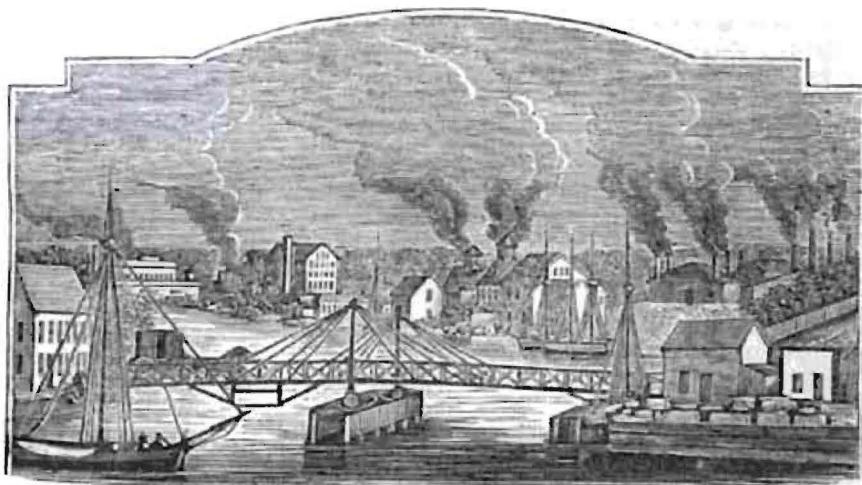
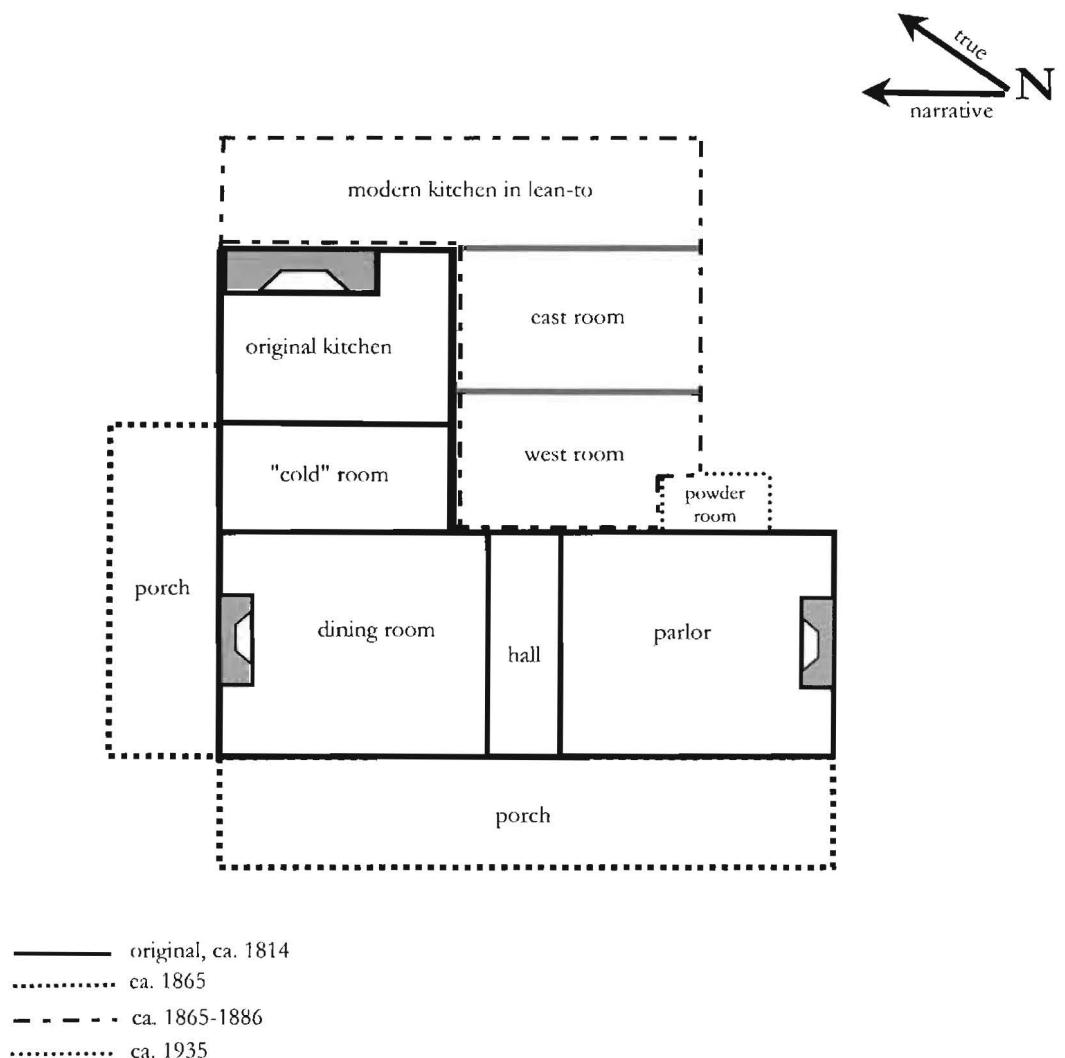


Figure 13: The 1868 edition of Barber & Howe's *Historical Collections of New Jersey* (p. 150) included this illustration of Millville which shows the cotton factory, bleachery and ironworks operated by R.D. Wood on the left in the extreme distance.



first floor plan annotated to show construction history
not to scale

doors, windows, stairs, and closets not shown

Joan Berkey, December 2012

Figure 14: first floor plan annotated to show construction history









RESERVED
PARKING
OFFICE STAFF
ONLY

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PARKING
OFFICE STAFF
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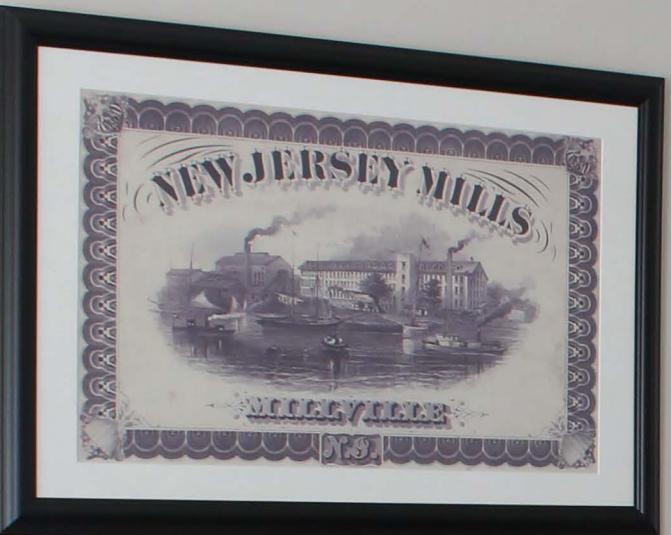




EXIT







WHITALL, TATUM & CO'S
FLINT GLASS WORKS.
SOUTH MILLVILLE, N. J.
AS DRAWN FROM A SURVEY
MADE DEC. 1898



Let something fall on Millville Glass Factory. Poor Millville
glass workers have been exposed mainly from the
constant contact with "blown" and "gathered"
glass. They have a big, bare-like space to lay up by
white-hot sand. They are exposed to the heat of
these furnaces day when they were most alive
and most sensitive to impressions.
The men are the most sensitive to impressions,
but the teacher told me the boys did not keep
them up and their eyes open during
classroom, and their brains don't make much
headway-God help them.











RICHARD WOOD
"MEADOW HOUSE"
Built on his
Proprietary Grant
1725



The Children
of
R. D. Wood and Julia Randolph Wood

















ASSEMBLY INSTRUCTIONS FOR SQUARE TUBE STORE
Standard Edition No. 1231 & 1231

ASSEMBLY INSTRUCTIONS FOR SQUARE TUBE STORE
Bulldog Catalog No. 2251 & 2251

02312 STOR-ALL

02312 STOR-ALL















UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Wood Mansion House
NAME:

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: NEW JERSEY, Cumberland

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: 13000975

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:

Associated with family of industrialists chiefly
Responsible for development of Millville.

RECOM./CRITERIA Accept B

REVIEWER J. Gabbett

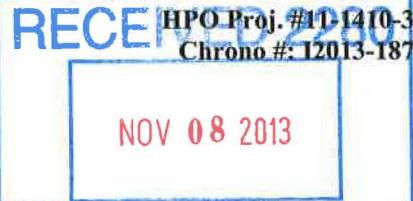
DISCIPLINE _____

TELEPHONE _____

DATE _____

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

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

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

BOB MARTIN
Commissioner

CHRIS CHRISTIE
Governor

KIM GUADAGNO
Lt. Governor

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