

**United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections



**1. Name**

historic Green Hill Farm

and/or common

**2. Location**

street & number Oxmead and Deacon Roads

N/A not for publication

city, town Burlington Township N/A vicinity of congressional district 4th

state New Jersey code 34 county Burlington code 005

**3. Classification**

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	<u>N/A</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

**4. Owner of Property**

name Dr. Stephen and Helen Matlaga

street & number Green Hill Farm, Oxmead and Deacon Roads

city, town Burlington N/A vicinity of state New Jersey

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Burlington County Court House

street & number 49 Rancocas Road

city, town Mount Holly state New Jersey

**6. Representation in Existing Surveys**

New Jersey Historic Sites Inventory -  
title Burlington County Survey, Volume I has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date 1977  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records Cultural and Environmental Services

city, town Trenton state New Jersey

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## 7. Description

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**Condition**

excellent  
 good  
 fair

deteriorated  
 ruins  
 unexposed

**Check one**

unaltered  
 altered

**Check one**

original site  
 moved      date \_\_\_\_\_

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**Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance**

Green Hill Farm is an early 19th century farm house with six related outbuildings on 9.48 acres that front on Oxmead Road in Burlington Township, Burlington County, New Jersey. The original 2 1/2 story, Federal house has been expanded with Italianate and Gothic additions and features exceptional mid-19th century interior plaster ornamentation. The outbuildings include: (1) a two story frame dwelling originally constructed c. 1806 and now used as a manager's house; (2) an 1878 brick and frame barn with an Italianate cupola; (3) a 19th century brick ice house; (4) a c. 1940 one story packing house now converted into a rental unit; (5) a modern three bay garage; and (6) a small wooden 19th century outhouse. The area surrounding Green Hill Farm is predominantly rural, although a large shopping mall is being built on farmlands directly across the street. Several other early 19th century farmhouses are also located along Oxmead Road. The remaining nine acres of the original 340 acre Green Hill Farm property is also rural; the grounds are landscaped with many large pine, beech, holly and maple trees.

Main House

The main house, built 1800-1803, was originally a square, 2 1/2 story brick dwelling that was four bays wide, and two rooms deep having a two bay entrance hall with circular stair. A two bay wide, one room deep two story Italianate masonry section was added to the east in the mid-1800's as was a wooden Italianate porch which runs across the entire front of the house. In the rear (or north), a 2 1/2 story, one room deep vernacular Gothic addition nearly doubled the house. The second story and attic of this addition has wooden quoins and horizontal wooden siding scored to simulate stone. Sometime prior to 1876, the original brick exterior was covered with stucco and also scored.

Windows in the original section of the house and on the front facade are 1/1, except for 4/6 sash on the first story front facade of the Italianate addition. In the rear addition windows are predominantly 6/6 with prominent cornices. The windows have either louvered blinds or panelled shutters.

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Page 1

Description (continued)

The gabled roof of the original section is punctuated by a six-stack inner wall chimney located along the ridge line. Fireplaces in the easternmost Italianate wing are serviced by an in-wall chimney centrally located on the north wall. An in-wall corner chimney in the northeasternmost corner of the family room runs through the first and second stories and emerges at the junction of the rear gabled roof with the Gothic addition. All chimneys are topped with polygonal chimney pots and all roofs are covered with asphalt composition shingles.

The interior of the house has ornate plaster cornices and ceiling ornamentation executed in the Italianate style. The entrance hall has a graceful circular staircase with panelled wainscoting under the stairs. Plaster molded detailing in the hall consists of floral cornices, floral ceiling ornamentation. Statuary niches in the staircase with Romanesque hood-molds, and a coffered arch between the hall and the family room.

The living room to the west of the entrance hall features a Federal-style reeded and gouged mantelpiece that is thought to have been taken out of a home in Pennsylvania and placed here in the early 1900's. The fireplace is on the interior wall between the livingroom and the dining room. Detailing consists of carved leaf cornices and Medieval molded plaster ceiling ornamentation. A coffered arch runs between the living room and the formal dining room.

The dining room features a fireplace wall with triple Romanesque arches of molded plaster. The fireplace is closed and the mantelpiece is removed. There is a plaster ogee cornice, and the Medieval molded ceiling ornamentation with floral rosettes is similar to that in the living room.

The present family room, directly east of the dining room, originally served as a kitchen. Wooden cupboards with panelled doors line the westernmost wall and the corner fireplace has a simple, Federal-style mantelpiece. Plaster detailing consists of ogee cornice molding, Medieval molded ceiling ornamentation and floral ceiling rosettes.

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Description (continued)

The billiard room in the Italianate addition has a black marble mantelpiece and a hexagonal bay window on the easternmost wall. This room features the most ornate plaster detailing in the house with classical floral ceiling ornamentation in a complex oval pattern and floral cornices.

The first floor of the rear addition contains a modern bathroom, a walk-in storage closet, a back stairway and a modern kitchen with large, adjoining dining area.

Four of the five second story bedrooms also have plaster floral cornices and some ceiling ornamentation, although the detailing is not as ornate as that on the first story. The bedrooms on the top story have no plaster ornamentation. Part of the rear addition contains a small, three room apartment accessible only through the back stairs in the kitchen. Other interior features include red pine flooring, Federal-style chestnut door and window moldings and plaster walls.

Outbuildings

To the rear of the main house is a square brick 19th century ice house with a wooden shingled hipped roof.

The manager's house at the northwest corner of the site is 2 1/2 stories tall, three bays wide and one room deep. Built c. 1806 of wooden clapboards, it has a later, two story addition to the rear. The gable roof on the original section is covered with asphalt shingles and the rear addition has a raised seam tin roof. The in-wall brick chimney is located at the ridge line on the southernmost wall. Windows are 6/6 sash and a simple, one story porch runs along the front of the house.

The 35' x 65' Victorian barn, directly east of the manager's house, was built in 1878 by mason William Goodbar and carpenter Page Goodbar. It has a first story of brick and two succeeding stories of vertical board and batten sheathing. The first story was originally used to stable horses and store carriages and wagons, but is now converted into a doctor's office. The roof is gable with brackets beneath the eaves. An Italianate cupola sets atop the roof.

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Description (continued)

To the northeast of the barn is a one story frame packing house built c. 1940. It is two bays wide and has an asphalt covered gabled roof and a small wing off the rear. It has been renovated into a rental unit.

Behind the main house and east of the ice house is a modern, three bay garage built in 1978. Directly east of the main house is a small 19th century wooden outhouse.

This 9.48 acre site does not contain the site of the original 17th century Green Hill farmhouse. That house, no longer extant, was in an undetermined location in a field directly south of the nominated property.

## 8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

**Specific dates** 1800-1803; 1840's **Builder/Architect** unknown

### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

In continuous agricultural use from around 1800 to the mid-20th century, Green Hill Farm effectively shows the evolution of a relatively simple early 19th century farmstead into a later 19th century gentleman landowner farm. The original section of the main house, the manager's cottage, and the ice house of the early 1800's are all basically simple utilitarian structures while the house additions, the lavish mid-19th century interiors, and fine three story Victorian barn with elaborate Italianate cupola reflect the greater sophistication and wealth of its subsequent owners in the later 19th century.

The original early 19th century section of the main house of the farm is a good representative example of the Federal farmhouse found in Burlington County, although its four bay wide fenestration is an uncommon variation on the typical three or five bays of Southern New Jersey. While the exterior of the house has a vernacular Federal form with two mid-19th century additions, the interior features elaborate mid-19th century ornamentation rarely found in New Jersey. Enriched with a lavish combination of medieval and classical plaster cornices and ceiling ornaments, the interior of Green Hill Farm bears a striking similarity to work designed by prominent Philadelphia architect John Notman (1810-1865).

In 1791 John Smith, a Philadelphia merchant, purchased 340 acres known as "Green Hill" from the executors of Josiah Haines' estate. Within the 340 acres was the original "Green Hill" dwelling, built in the late 1600's by Samuel Jennings, the first acting Governor of West Jersey (from 1683 to 1692). John Smith was dissatisfied with the ancient Jennings homestead and built a larger brick home for his family. It is this brick house which is the core of the present-day 9.48 acre Green Hill Farm.

John Smith's son John Jay Smith reminisced that he was born in "the old house built by Governor Jennings" and that just before his father's consumptive illness, his father "commenced the erection of a large modern brick house to which the family removed during his sickness." (John Jay Smith. Recollections of John Jay Smith, Philadelphia, 1892, page 13.)

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

See Continuation Sheet

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 9.48  
 Quadrangle name Bristol, NJ-PA

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

**UMT References**

A 

1	8
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5	1	5	9	2	0
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4	4	3	2	5	4	0
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 Zone Easting Northing

B 

1	8
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5	1	5	8	1	0
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4	4	3	2	4	6	0
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 Zone Easting Northing

C 

1	8
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5	1	5	7	4	0
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4	4	3	2	5	0	0
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D 

1	8
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5	1	5	6	6	0
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4	4	3	2	6	4	0
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E 

1	8
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5	1	5	8	0	0
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4	4	3	2	7	4	0
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F 

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G 

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H 

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**Verbal boundary description and justification**

Block 129, Lot 2 in Burlington Township, Burlington County, New Jersey

**List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries**

state N/A code county code

state code county code

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Joan Gearren, intern Revised by T. Karschner, Office of Cultural and Environmental Services

organization N.J. Office of Historic Preservation date 1/23/81

street & number 109 West State Street telephone (609) 292-2023

city or town Trenton state New Jersey

# 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national  state  local

*Laura Schmitt*

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

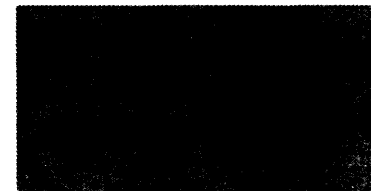
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer signature Laura Schmitt

title \_\_\_\_\_ date August 7, 1981

For HCRS use only I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register <i>Delores Byers</i> Keeper of the National Register	Entered in the <b>National Register</b> date <u>7/8/82</u>
Attest: Chief of Registration	date _____

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Significance (continued)

The son further recalled "our new house, completed by my father previous to his death [in 1802], was a great advance upon our old and badly constructed mansion." (Recollections, p. 49.) The manager's house, which stands on the northwest corner of the nominated Green Hill Farm, was also discussed by Smith as "a small but very comfortable wooden house...built on a corner of New Green Hill Farm," around 1806 for Jess Coones, a black farm hand employed by the elder Smith (Recollections, p. 29).

When John Smith died in 1803 his will devised "a certain Brick dwelling house lately erected at the northwest end of my farm" to his wife, Guhelma Smith (John Smith Will, 1803. #12139C). Guhelma died in 1826, and because her will was not signed by enough witnesses, Green Hill reverted to her husbands' heirs. These heirs sold New Green Hill in 1827 to Dr. Joseph Parrish, a prominent Philadelphia physician with a wife and eleven children (Liber S-2, folio 484).

Parrish was an 1806 graduate of the University of Pennsylvania and served as a physician and surgeon at various Philadelphia hospitals. He also maintained a busy private practice and a townhouse in Philadelphia. In the summer he moved his family out to Green Hill where they could be near his wife's parents (John and Susanna Cox) who lived at "Oxmead", the farmstead directly north of Green Hill.

On Parrish's death in 1840, Green Hill was inherited by his son, Joseph Parrish, Jr., also a medical doctor. After graduating from the University of Pennsylvania in 1844, Dr. Parrish, Jr. was appointed Physician to Burlington College and St. Mary's Hall in Burlington. He also maintained a private practice in Burlington until he moved to Philadelphia in 1854 to assume duties as a professor at the Philadelphia College of Medicine. Two years prior, in 1852, he sold Green Hill Farm to William Lloyd, a farmer from Burlington Township. (Liber G-5, folio 282.)



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Significance (continued)

During the second Parrish's ownership, the interior ornamentation, the easternmost Italianate addition and the rear addition could have been executed. The interior plaster ornamentation has been attributed to Philadelphia architect, John Notman, because much of it resembles work executed at such Notman-designed Princeton houses as "Prospect" c. 1852 and "Guernsey Hall" c. 1850. (Constance Greiff, John Notman, Architect, Philadelphia, 1979). The floral plaster cornices, ceiling rosettes and carved Medieval ceiling detailings at "Prospect" and "Guernsey Hall", although much more ornate, are similar to those on the interior of the main house at Green Hill Farm.

In addition, it is likely that Parrish knew Notman through Bishop G.W. Doane of Burlington. Bishop Doane was the owner-director of St. Mary's Hall and a member of the board of trustees at Burlington College, the schools Parrish served as physician from 1845 to 1854. Doane had hired Notman to design two prominent buildings in Burlington City: Doane's private residence, "Riverside," in 1839, the first Italian Villa built in the United States; and the Chapel of the Holy Innocents, built for St. Mary's Hall between 1845 to 1847 in the Gothic Revival style.

After 1852, Green Hill Farm changed ownership several times until it was purchased in 1875 by Charles S. Taylor, a local stock breeder from the Burlington-Oxmead Road area. (Liber A-9, folio 572.) In 1878, during his ownership, the three-story Victorian barn was built to replace the original barn which had burned (Burlington Gazette, Oct. 26, 1878, p. 3).

In 1901, Taylor sold Green Hill Farm to Mary R. Albertson, a widow with two children from Lansdowne, Pennsylvania. (Liber 356, folio 118.) Her son, Henry, assumed management of the farm and changed from livestock and dairy goods to fruit and produce. Until Albertson subdivided the large farm in 1962 and sold the 9.48 acre Green Hill Farm parcel (Liber 1446, folio 673), it had been in continuous agricultural use from the early 1800's.

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Green Hill Farm

chronological list of owners

1791 - 1803	John Smith
1803 - 1827	Gulielma Maria Smith, widow of John Smith
1827 - 1852	Joseph Parrish, M.D. and Joseph Parrish Jr., M.D.
1852 - 1854	William H. Lloyd
1854 - 1865	Thomas Richardson
1865 - 1867	William R. White
1867 - 1875	George Dillwyn Parrish
1875 - 1901	Charles S. Taylor
1901 - 1960	Mary R. Albertson and family
1960 - 1972	Frederick and Nancy Schneider
1972 to present	Dr. Stephen and Helen Matlaga

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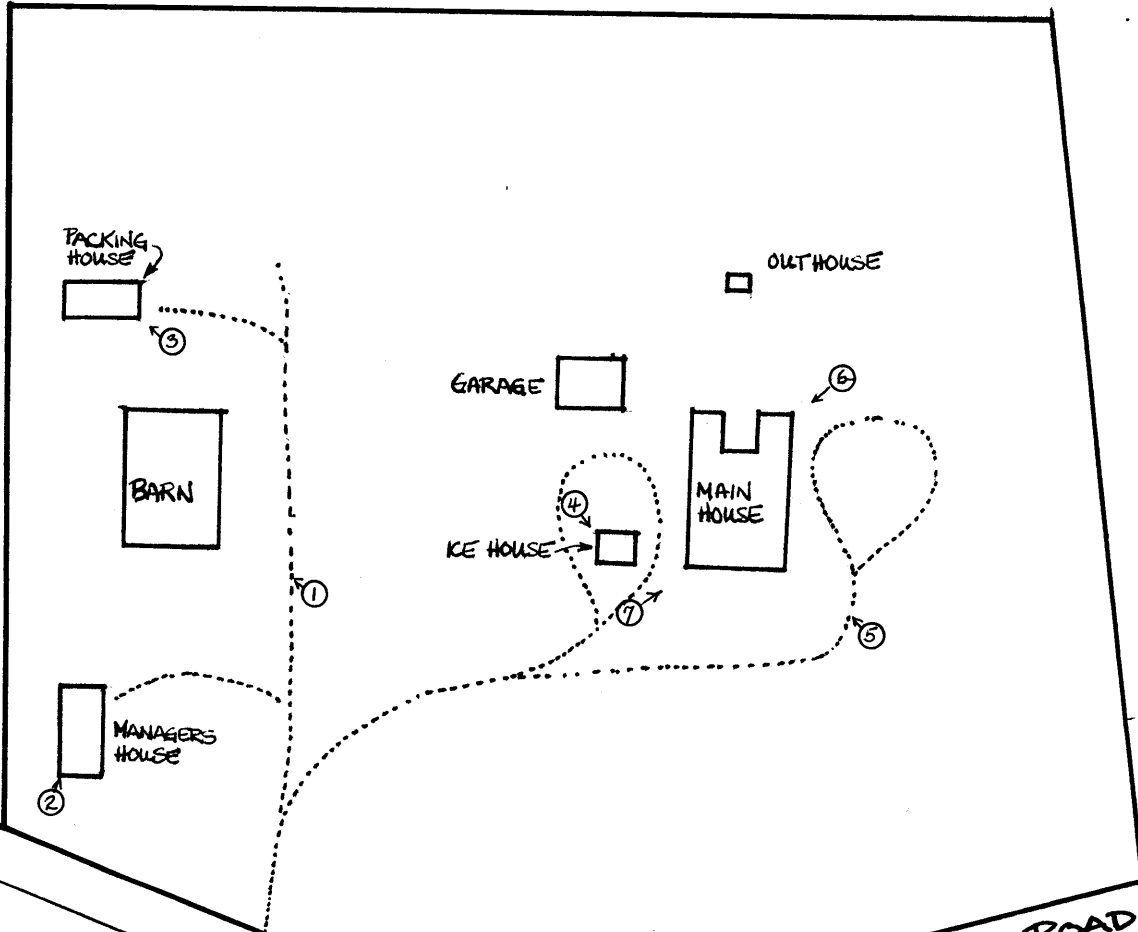
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1924.

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and Peck, 1883.

# SITE PLAN

GREEN HILL FARM  
BURLINGTON TWP.  
BURLINGTON COUNTY, N.J.



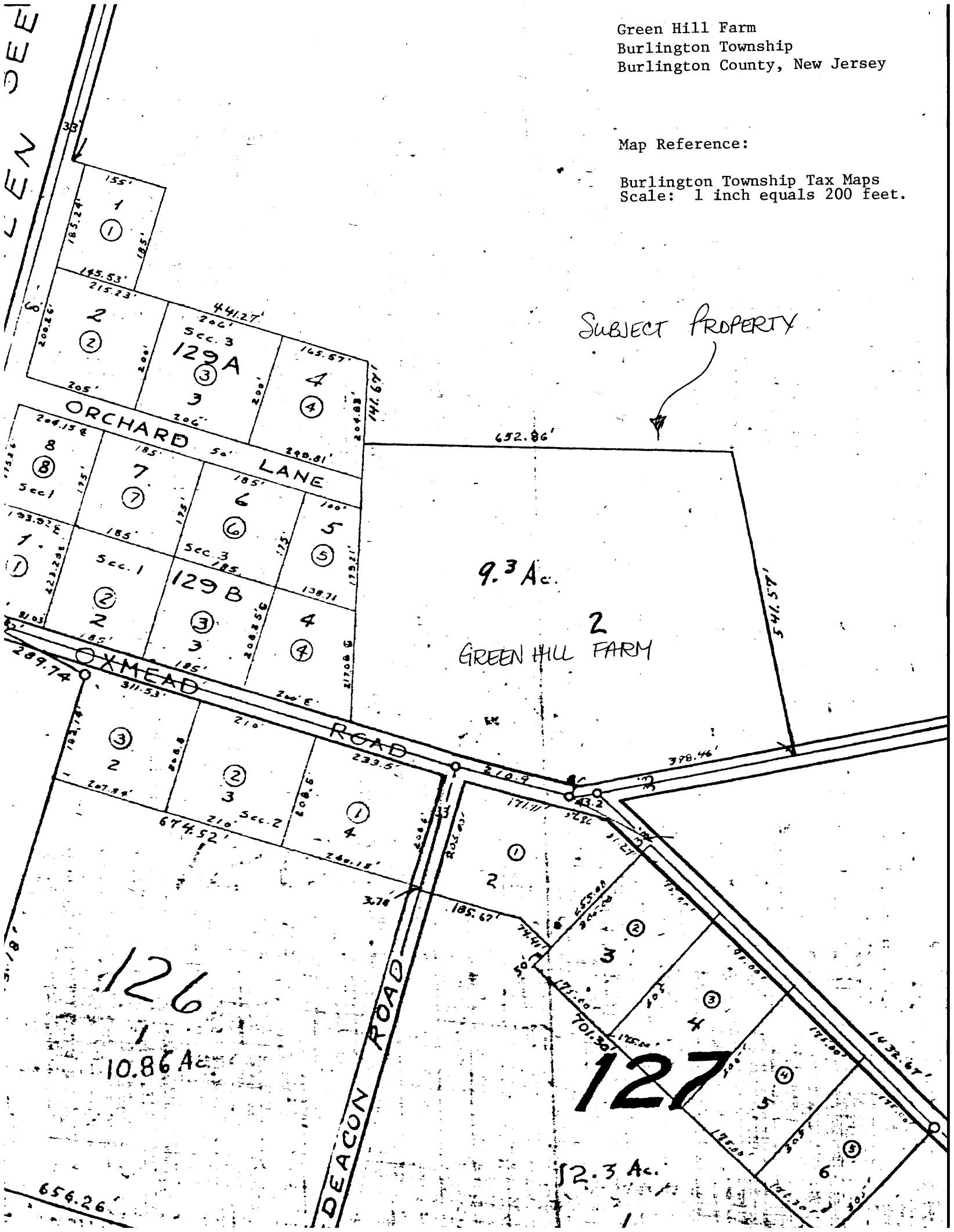
NOTE: NOT TO SCALE

↗ photos

Green Hill Farm  
Burlington Township  
Burlington County, New Jersey

Map Reference:

Burlington Township Tax Maps  
Scale: 1 inch equals 200 feet.



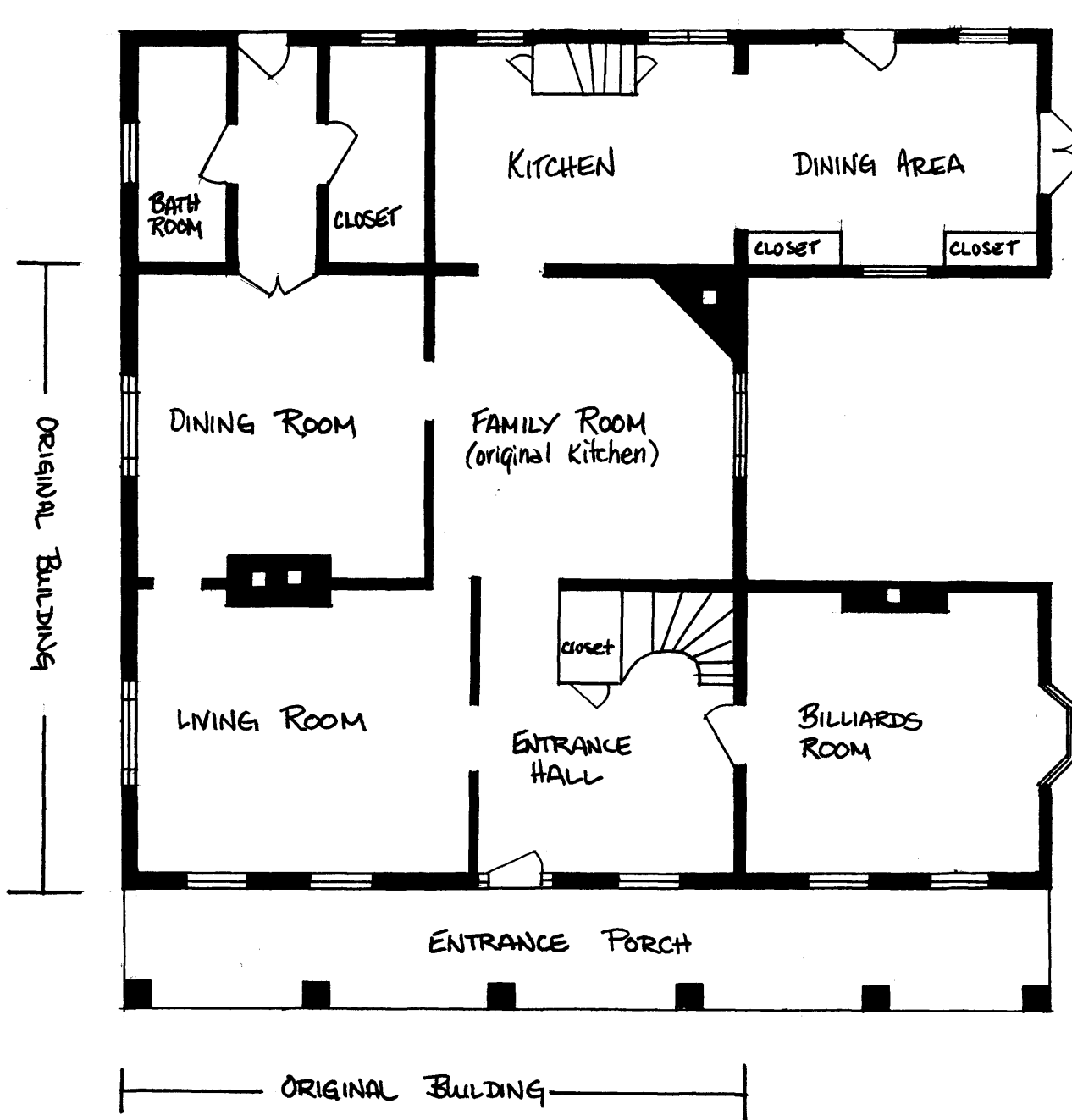
SUBJECT PROPERTY

9.3 Ac.  
2  
GREEN HILL FARM

126  
10.86 Ac.

127

12.3 Ac.



GREEN HILL FARM  
 MAIN HOUSE  
 FIRST FLOOR PLAN  
 BURLINGTON TWP.  
 BURLINGTON CO., N.J.

-not to scale-