

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED JUL 24 1979 SEP 13 1979  
DATE ENTERED

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

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC Shamong Hotel (1876)(Whitehorse Inn)(Early 20th Century)

AND/OR COMMON

Whitehorse Inn

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER Main Street

\_\_\_ NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Chatsworth

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

2 nd

STATE

CODE

COUNTY

CODE

New Jersey

034

Burlington

005

**3 CLASSIFICATION****CATEGORY****OWNERSHIP****STATUS****PRESENT USE**

\_\_\_DISTRICT

\_\_\_PUBLIC

\_\_\_OCCUPIED

\_\_\_AGRICULTURE

\_\_\_MUSEUM

BUILDING(S)PRIVATE

\_\_\_UNOCCUPIED

COMMERCIAL

\_\_\_PARK

\_\_\_STRUCTURE

\_\_\_BOTH

WORK IN PROGRESS

\_\_\_EDUCATIONAL

\_\_\_PRIVATE RESIDENCE

\_\_\_SITE

**PUBLIC ACQUISITION****ACCESSIBLE**

\_\_\_ENTERTAINMENT

\_\_\_RELIGIOUS

\_\_\_OBJECT

\_\_\_IN PROCESS

YES: RESTRICTED

\_\_\_GOVERNMENT

\_\_\_SCIENTIFIC

\_\_\_BEING CONSIDERED

\_\_\_YES: UNRESTRICTED

\_\_\_INDUSTRIAL

\_\_\_TRANSPORTATION

\_\_\_NO

\_\_\_MILITARY

\_\_\_OTHER:

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

James E. Hollen, Russell T. Hollen and Leonard E. Lesniowski (Chatsworth Inc.)

STREET &amp; NUMBER

P.O. Box 487

CITY, TOWN

Chatsworth

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

STATE

New Jersey

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Burlington County Clerks office Book 2120 of Deeds on page 86

STREET &amp; NUMBER

49 Rancocas Road

CITY, TOWN

Mt. Holly

STATE

New Jersey

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE Burlington County Historic Sites Survey Vol.4 Woodland Township, p.3 #1

DATE

1976

\_\_\_FEDERAL \_\_\_STATE COUNTY \_\_\_LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

Published Burlington County Cultural and Heritage Commission

CITY, TOWN

Mt. Holly

STATE

New Jersey

# 7 DESCRIPTION

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

## DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Whitehorse Inn is a mid 19th century hotel structure located on the Main Street in the village of Chatsworth, New Jersey. The front main section is a two and one half story heavy timber frame structure with a brick foundation and a gable roof. The exterior is finished in clapboard cedar siding. It is five bays wide and has a gabled wall dormer in the center of the facade with a diamond shaped attic window. Other windows are six over six double hung sash, most of which are presently boarded up. Two entrances are located on the front facade: the main one is the center bay and leads into the main ground floor room. An L shaped veranda extends across the full front and part of the south wall. Interior brick chimneys are located at each end of the structure at the ridge line.

Extending off the rear of the structure flush with the north wall is a two story gable roofed frame wing original to the structure which was structured on brick piers. The general appearance of the exterior is plain. Rafters are boxed but have no returns at eaves or any cornice moldings. No superfluous detail seems to have ever been applied to the exterior. Overall form and appearance has remained unaltered with the exception of the enclosed southern portion of the veranda. General condition of the structure is good despite neglect in recent years. Most existing damage is limited to the veranda, windows, and siding.

The interior of the structure includes a center hall and stair way on first floor with a double parlor on the right side. These rooms have corner fireplaces back to back. To the right of the hall is a large parlor with a single large wall fireplace projecting into the room. Leading off this room into the rear wing is a dining room and a kitchen with a large brick fireplace.

The center hall stairs lead to the second floor which contains eight bedrooms. Each of the front four bedrooms contains a fireplace. A smaller set of side stairs lead from the second to the third floors where four additional bedrooms are located. All the rooms in the Inn are plain and contain no architectural elaboration. The fireplaces have all been rebricked in this century and the kitchen fireplace bricked up. Original finishes and materials are generally undisturbed.

Stylistically the building can be dated as mid 19th century. Based on structural and physical details, particularly the vertical sawn timbers used throughout, a date prior to 1860 is likely.

Other buildings on the property include:

1. A one story gable roofed garage 48x45 L shaped, frame structure with garage doors on both major sides and six over six windows. Good structural condition.

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2. One story gable roof chicken coop 8x16, cedar frame, gable roof and cedar siding. Very dilapidated condition.

3. One story outhouse with shed roof and vertical siding, 6x6. Poor condition.

4. One story storage building with gable roof, approximately 10x24: constructed out of WWII ammunition boxes about 1945. Poor condition.

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

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

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Chatsworth is called the Capital of the Pine Barrens by John McPhee in his book, the Pine Barrens. The Whitehorse Inn is the oldest and largest landmark in the town of Chatsworth. The Burlington County Historic Sites Survey structurally dates the Inn from 1860. The building is one of the oldest wooden frame structures remaining in the central Pine Barrens as many have been lost to recurring forest fire. The Inn is linked to the early development of the town of Chatsworth. Many key figures involved with the history of Chatsworth and the Pine Barrens were associated with the Inn. Some of the people connected with the Inn were responsible for the complicated land ownership patterns in the Pines which are being discovered as the state tries to buy land or conservation easements. The owners of the Inn also contributed to the history of cranberry agriculture in the Pines as their Chatsworth Cranberry Association is operating today. The Inn is one of the few remnants of Pinelands history.

The changing of the Inn's name from Shamong Hotel as described in an 1876 county atlas to the Whitehorse Inn as included in Jonathan Godfrey's 1911 map of Chatsworth reflects the development of Chatsworth. Originally called Shamong Station, Chatsworth received its name in the late 1800's when Prince Mario Ruspoli, an attache at the Italian Embassy in Washington, built a country club on Lake Shamong which was modeled after the Duke of Devonshire's "Chatsworth" estate in England. The club attracted the Astors, Drexels, Morgans, Armours, Goulds, the Marquise de Talleyrand-Perigord, Don Giovanni del Drago, Prince Brancaccio and Levi P. Morton, the Vice-President of the United States. Prince Ruspoli formed a syndicate with Jonathan Godfrey, a colorful manufacturing millionaire, and other notable investors to develop 25,000 acres in the Pinelands. The syndicate turned Chatsworth into a resort and undertook cranberry cultivation, real estate speculation, sphagnum moss gathering and laurel exporting. The Inn was part of the early 1800's Jones Mill tract of 11,600 acres which the wives of Prince Ruspoli and Jonathan Godfrey inherited along with others. When the syndicate attempted to sell lots in Chatsworth, the Jones Mill tract was transferred to Beers Realty Company in 1902. The Whitehorse Inn was used as a residence for Jonathan Godfrey, a guesthouse for members of the syndicate, and a residence for Alfred Stevenson who was the manager of the syndicate's cranberry operation, Chatsworth Cranberry Association.

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1.244

QUADRANGLE NAME Chatsworth NJ

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:2400

UTM REFERENCES

ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
A 18	539740	4407470	B		
C			D		
E			F		
G			H		

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

see attached deed

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

## 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE Mary-Ann Thompson (Lawyer) William Bolger (architectural historian)

ORGANIZATION Pinelands Historical Preservation Association DATE March 10, 1978

STREET & NUMBER 64 Mill Street TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_

CITY OR TOWN Vincentown STATE New Jersey

## 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL \_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_ LOCAL x

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

Deputy [Signature] DATE 7-5-79  
 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

TITLE Deputy Commissioner, Department of Environmental Protection DATE \_\_\_\_\_

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

[Signature] DATE 9-13-77  
 KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST: [Signature] DATE Sept. 12, 1979  
 CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

FHR-8-300A  
(11/78)

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The Inn is the only surviving structure used by the Chatsworth syndicate. The building is very simple. It is a typical 19th century Inn which is relatively unaltered. Its plain clapboard exterior is characteristic of the region's 19th century architecture. Presently, the Inn is being rehabilitated and will be opened as a tavern and a restaurant. The owners of the Inn plan to make its history available to the public. The preservation of the Whitehorse Inn is especially important since it is located in the preservation district of the Pinelands as designated by the Governor's Pinelands Review Committee.

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Jones Mill Tract Survey--1842 (New Jersey Conservation Foundation, Whitesbog, NJ)

Woodland Twp. Map from Burl. Cty. Atlas Map by J.D. Scott, Phil. Pa. 1876 (Burl. Cty. Clk.)

Map of Village of Chatsworth--1911 Burl. Cty. Clerk's Office, Mt. Holly, NJ real estate files #3543

PEOPLE New Jersey Conservation Foundation: Presently, doing full title research Morristown, NJ on the Jones Mill tract

A. The Stevenson family become involved with the Inn when Jonathan Godfrey hired Alfred Stevenson in 1910 to manage the Chatsworth Cranberry Association and let him use the Inn as a residence. The Stevenson's bought the Inn from the Beers Realty Company in 1944 and owned the Inn until 1978 when it was sold to the present owners Chatsworth, Inc.

		Years in the Inn
The Stevenson's"	1. Amelia Stevenson Green Lebanon Road, Vincentown, NJ	1914-1934
	2. Alfred J. Stevenson Jr. Bordentown Gun Club, Tabernacle, NJ	1919-1975
	3. Jonathan Godfrey Stevenson Main Street, Chatsworth	1931-1960

B. Katherine Buzby, Main Street, Chatsworth, New Jersey

Katherine Buzby and her husband owned and operated Buzby's General Store in Chatsworth which dates from the town's early history.

C. William Peck, Jr., Yellow Cotes Road, Oyster Bay, Long Island, New York

William Peck's father was the lawyer for Beers Realty Corporation. Mr. Peck visited the Inn as a child and has some knowledge of the legal proceedings of the syndicate investors. Mr. Peck has also served as a source for original documents dealing with business and real estate transactions of the investors associated with the Inn.

FHR-8-300A  
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PRIMARY SOURCES: Original papers and photographs left in the Whitehorse Inn by Jonathan Godfrey, the Ruspolis, Alfred Stevens, and Chatsworth Cranberry Company are in the possession of Mary-Ann Thompson, 64 Mill Street, Vincentown, NJ.

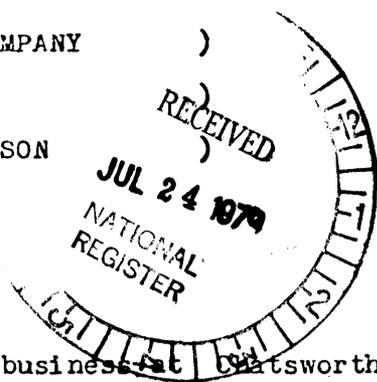
A letter written by Jonathan Godfrey to Alfred Stevenson July 27, 1910 discusses the Jones Mill tract and refers to the Inn as the Whitehorse Inn.

SECONDARY: Township of Woodland -- 1776-1976 Woodland Two-Hundred Souvenir Prog. The Pine Barrens -- by John McPhee, Ballantine Books (1968)

BEERS REALTY COMPANY )

TO

ALFRED L STEVENSON



THIS INDENTURE made the twenty-sixth day of April, in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and forty-four, BETWEEN BEERS REALTY COMPANY, a corporation duly organized and existing under the laws of the State of New Jersey and having its principal place of business at Chatsworth in the County of Burlington and State of New Jersey, party of the first part;

AND ALFRED L. STEVENSON of the Village of Chatsworth in the County of Burlington and State of New Jersey party of the second part;

WITNESSETH, That the said party of the first part for and in consideration of One Dollar and other good and valuable consideration, lawful money of the United States of America, to it in hand well and truly paid by the said party of the second part, at or before the sealing and delivery of these presents, and receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, and the said party of the first part being therewith fully satisfied, contented and paid, has given, granted, bargained, sold, aliened, released, enfeoffed, conveyed and confirmed, and by these presents does give, grant, bargain, sell, alien, release, enfeoff, convey and confirm unto the said party of the second part, and to his heirs and assigns, forever,

ALL that tract or parcel of land and premises hereinafter particularly described, situate, lying and being in the Township of Woodland in the County of Burlington and State of New Jersey.

BEGINNING at a monument on the easterly side of Main Street, in the Village of Chatsworth, corner to land belonging to the Township of Woodland and known as the "Town Hall Lot"; thence it extends along the easterly side of Main Street North one degree and thirty-five minutes west, one hundred and fifty-eight feet and nine inches to a monument in the right of way line of the Central Railroad Of New Jersey Co; by which it extends North fifty-eight degrees and forty-six minutes east, one hundred and three feet and seven inches to a monument on the southerly side of Union Street; thence it extends along the southerly side of the said Union Street North eighty-eight degrees and twenty-five minutes east, one hundred and sixty feet to a monument, corner to land belonging to Theodore King; by which it extends in part and partly by land belonging to Anthony R. De Marco; South one degree and thirty-five minutes east, two hundred and fifty feet to a monument, corner to land belonging to Walter Brower; by which it extends south eighty-eight degrees twenty-five minutes west, one hundred feet to a monument, corner to the "Town Hall Lot"; by which it extends North one degree and thirty-five minutes west, forty feet to a monument; thence south eighty-eight degrees and twenty-five minutes west, one hundred and fifty feet to the point or place of beginning; being part of a tract of land known as the "Jones Mill Tract" of the said Beers Realty Company.

TOGETHER with all and singular the houses, buildings, trees, ways, waters, profits, privileges and advantages, with the appurtenances to the same belonging or in anywise appertaining;

ALSO, all the estate, right, title, interest, property, claim and demand whatsoever, of the said party of the first part, of, in and to the same, and of, in and to every part and parcel thereof.

TO HAVE AND TO HOLD, all and singular the above described land and premises, with the appurtenances, unto the said party of the Second Part, his heirs

and assigns, forever.

and assigns, to the only proper use, benefit and behoof of the said party of the second part, his heirs and assigns forever.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the said party of the first part has hereunto set its hand and seal the day and year first above written.

Attest: BEERS REALTY COMPANY (SEAL)
Wm H. Peck Jr. BY Charles B. Hill
Secretary President

Internal Revenue Stamps \$4.00
State of New York Stock Transfer Tax \$ .40

STATE OF NEW YORK ) BE IT REMEMBERED that on this twenty-sixth day of
COUNTY OF NEW YORK ) April, Nineteen Hundred and Forty-four before me
the subscriber, an attorney-at-law of the State of
New Jersey, personally appeared William H. Peck, Jr., a secretary of BEERS REALTY
COMPANY, who being by me duly sworn doth depose and make proof to my satisfaction
that he well knows the Common Seal of BEERS REALTY COMPANY, the grantor named in the
foregoing deed, that the seal thereto affixed is the proper Common Seal of the said
corporation, and that the same was so affixed thereto, and the said deed signed and
delivered by CHARLES B. HILL, who was at the date and execution thereof president
of said corporation, as the voluntary act and deed of the said corporation, and by
authority of said corporation, in the presence of said deponent, and that the said
deponent subscribed the same as witness to the execution thereof.

William Logan Jr Wm. H. Peck Jr.
Attorney at law of the
State of New Jersey

NOTE: None of the signatures on the original instrument were typed, printed or
stamped beneath the same or elsewhere.

Recorded May 9, 1944 at 9:35 A.M.

Palmer L. Adams, Clerk

BERTHA M. HERBERT ) THIS INDENTURE, made the fourth day of
TO ) May in the year of our Lord one thousand
EQUITY REALTY CORPORATION ) nine hundred and forty-four,
BETWEEN BERTHA M. HERBERT (single woman),
of Mount Holly, in the county of

Burlington and State of New Jersey, of the first part, and EQUITY REALTY CORPORATION,
a corporation under the laws of the State of New Jersey, of the second part;

WITNESSETH, That the said party of the first part, for and in
consideration of the sum of FIFTY-FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS lawful money of the United
State of America, well and truly paid by the said party of the second part to the
said party of the first part, at and before the en sealing and delivery of these