

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

HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY NO.       D

DISTRICT NAME: Saddle River Center  
MUNICIPALITY: Saddle River  
COUNTY: Bergen  
TYPE OF DISTRICT: Commercial, residential, agricultural  
USGS QUAD: Park Ridge

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

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

The Saddle River Center Historic District is the area around the junction of East Allendale Road and West Saddle River Road which retains the character of a pre-1930 rural hamlet. The district of 32 principal buildings has a loosely organized linear plan with buildings located at scattered sites along about 1000 feet of East Allendale Road, an east-west thoroughfare, and along about one-half mile of West Saddle River Road, approximately equally distributed north and south of the road crossing. West Saddle River is located on the first consistently high ground west of the Saddle River. Much of the land between this road and the river is scenic, although not suitable for building due to steep slopes or location within the River's flood plain. Today both East Allendale Road and West Saddle River Road carry considerable traffic, but remain within the district two lane roads without shoulders with a winding country lane character.

The Saddle River Center District's boundaries were determined by the concentration of historic buildings. While other historic buildings exist near the district, modern intrusions adjacent to the district's boundaries prevent architectural continuity that is necessary for a larger traditional district. The east bank of the Saddle River is the district's east boundary. \* The west property lines of properties abutting the west side of West Saddle River Road serve as the district's west boundary. Conveniently Eckert Brook forms the south boundary. The north property lines of 170 and 171 West Saddle River Road (#31, 32) are the north district boundary.

The district has an informal character. There are no sidewalks. Natural features such as the meandering Saddle River with its tributaries and ponds (at #5 and 7) and the high banks along its flood plain, which are often wooded, are important visual features of the environment as are farmlands (at #13) and water lily propagating ponds (at #7). While some properties, particularly those close to the junction of the roads, are more tightly spaced and have parking lots, most properties in the district have generous lawns, often with lush vegetation and fences screening buildings from the road. Even the gas station within the district (#1) has a lawn and compatible residential styling. Lot sizes and setbacks vary with the smaller ones located along East Allendale Road or along West Saddle River Road north of the road crossing. The Mowerson store (#15) on the northeast corner of East Allendale Road and West Saddle River Road has a 0.246 acre lot, while catercorner on the southwest corner the Ackerman-Pell Farm (#13) occupies a 10.9 acre property which is still farmed. The juxtaposition of the rural store building and the historic farmstead, which characterized historic agricultural hamlets, remains here. Setbacks range from about 3 feet from the road for the Woodruff-Packer Foundry Building (#4) to an approximately 250 feet setback of the circa 1939 Sellet House (#29). The older buildings are located closer (cont.)

~~\*Except Borough parkland on both sides of the river in the South part is included.~~

APPROXIMATE NUMBER OF BUILDINGS: 32 plus numerous accessory buildings

PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURES:   Excellent 40 %   Good 60 %   Fair \_\_\_\_\_ %   Poor \_\_\_\_\_ %

REGISTER ELIGIBILITY:    Yes    Possible    No

**THREATS TO DISTRICT/LOCAL ATTITUDES:**

Both East Allendale Road and West Saddle River Road carry a lot of traffic for narrow 2 lane, winding roads. Development pressures in Saddle River are intense due to very high land values. Properties with acreage subdividable into the required 2 acre residential lots are threatened. Modest houses on 2 acre lots are also threatened,

COMMENTS: as such houses are being demolished and replaced by larger, new structures. A large, low-rise office complex of townhouse character has just been erected on the site of a demolished historic building just outside the district boundaries, indicating that there is also redevelopment pressures on commercially-zoned property. Most citizens view the Barnstable Court area (#3, 5, 17) and nearby stores (#4, 5) as the (cont.)

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

**SIGNIFICANCE:**

The Saddle River Center District is the largest component of the Saddle River Multiple Resource Group. It contains the most highly intact concentration of historic sites in Saddle River and is one of 2 districts remaining in Bergen County retaining pre 1930 architectural integrity as rural commercial/residential hamlets. The Saddle River Center District was part of a larger 19th and early 20th century cross-road community. While the historic Saddle River hamlet grew up around and between the crossing of both East and West Saddle River Roads with East Allendale Rd., only the western part of this area today retains a strong sense of a preserved village with an architectural continuity of historic resources without visually dominant modern intrusions. Significant, extant historic buildings in the eastern part of the historic hamlet are included as individual sites in the multiple resource group.

The Saddle River Center District contains elements associated with the continuing history of the Saddle River hamlet, from its establishment in the early 19th century as the center of an agricultural area with some small scale hydro-powered industry located along the Saddle River, to its evolution in the late 19th and early 20th centuries as the village center of an area with a growing country estate constituency. While some agricultural functions continue within the district to the present, the small-scale hydro-powered industries became obsolete in the late 19th century. Most industrial buildings have disappeared, but the mill pond and dam and several industrial buildings reused for commercial functions continue to provide visual evidence of the area's industrial past.

A hamlet at this location developed in the early 19th century. Prior to this date farms and mills had been established at scattered sites on both the east and west sides of the Saddle River, but within today's Saddle River Borough there was no concentration of buildings. Revolutionary War maps show that while there was a road crossing the Saddle River and linking East and West Saddle River Roads here, it was not a through crossroad. Connection to the east was not made until 1811 when Woodcliff Lake Road was built (McMahon, "History of A. P. Ackerman House", 1981) and to the west until 1828 when today's East Allendale Road was extended through Allendale (CKT, "Early Days of Allendale", 1974 map). Chestnut Ridge Road, a north-south connector, was not surveyed until 1825 (McMahon, "Ackerman House", 1981). The crossroad community did not develop until the road system was in place, which made the area a crossroads. It is not surprising that Bull's Head Tavern (#8) which functioned as an inn in the early 19th century is located on the outskirts of the district as (cont p.3)

**REFERENCES: (Include representation in existing surveys)**

NJHSI 0258-D

CKT List.

Junior League Inventory includes sites 0258-D#3, 5, 8, 12, 13, 32.

1840 U. S. Coast Survey Map, #132.

1861 Hopkins Map.

1876 Walker Atlas.

1902 Robinson's Map.

1913 Bromley Atlas.

1964 Inskeep Map.

Reginald McMahon, "History of the Abraham P. Ackerman House, 136 Chestnut Ridge Road," July, 1981, Copy in SRHC files.

J. Hosey Osborn, Life in the Old Dutch Homesteads, Saddle River, NJ 2nd ed., (cont. p.6)**ATTACHMENTS: (Indicate number)**MAPS: 9PHOTOS: 13SLIDES: 32

OTHER: (Specify)

24 individual structure survey forms, 8 inventory listings.  
verbal boundary description

RECORDED BY: TRB

ORGANIZATION: BCOC&amp;HA

DATE: 1983-4

DESCRIPTION (continued)

to the road and so are the more visible ones, while the most recent buildings are often not visible from the road. While most historic buildings in the district have experienced some alteration, the district's architectural integrity remains largely intact. Most buildings there have one or more outbuildings. These outbuildings such as barns, corn cribs, and out kitchens contribute to the district's rural ambience.

Nine of the principal extant buildings in the district, or over one-fourth of them, were built before 1850. Eight were built between 1850-1900 and eight between 1900-1930. Since 1930 seven principal buildings have been added in the district but these generally are not in very visible locations, excepting the gas station (#1). The district contains industrial, commercial, agricultural, and residential structures. The industrial buildings have been adapted to commercial uses, as have a number of the residential and agricultural buildings. About one-third of the principal buildings in the district now have commercial functions, and the outbuildings of the William Packer House (#5) have become the Barnstable Court shopping area. Some of the commercial buildings also have residential space. The commercial functions are concentrated along East Allendale Road and the east side of West Saddle River Road, north of the road crossing, and this area has a denser, more village character than the rest of the district. About two-thirds of the buildings in the district are residences. The district also contains greenhouses and water gardens where aquatic plants and ornamental fish are raised (#7), farm land (#13), an apiary (#30), and some park land.

The district's buildings vary greatly in date of construction and architectural style and type, but also have considerable consistency of scale and material. All are examples of vernacular, small town architecture and with few exceptions, most notably the greenhouses (#7), they are examples of frame construction. All buildings are freestanding and have 1 to 2½ stories. All but five have gable roofs. The five exceptions all have gambrel roofs. One is an early building (#8), the rest are 20th century "Dutch" Colonial Revival designs (#1, 9, 11, 18). Styles represented include the Greek Revival (#3, 13), the Downingsesque (#28), the Queen Anne (#14, 26), and the Dutch Colonial Revival (#1, 9, 11, 18). Most buildings are relatively unadorned buildings typical of rural settlements rather than distinguished examples of architecture. They represent the vernacular architecture of their type and period. Most buildings have modifications which reflect their continuing construction histories.

The enclosed survey forms and listings give a closer examination of individual building descriptions.

THREATS TO DISTRICT (continued)

commercial center of the borough, although there is also a small, new shopping area nearby on East Saddle River Road. There seems to be little pressure locally to expand the amount of retail space in Saddle River.

Road improvements at the junction of E. Allendale Rd. and W. Saddle River Road are SIGNIFICANCE: (continued) currently being studied (June 1986).

it pre-exists the hamlet. Later in the 1860's and 70's the local hostelry was the Saddle River Hotel (#3) located in the center of the crossroads community.

About 1815 a school house (not extant) was built on the site of the Osborn House at 88-90 East Allendale Road (see 0258-4) in the eastern section of the future hamlet and in 1820-21 the Lutheran Church building (see 0258-5) was built near the school. The Ackermans had a mill (not extant, building #11 on site) and a trip hammer foundry where agricultural implements were made (not extant) on the site of 70 E. Allendale Road (#4). These structures and some farm houses formed the nucleus of the crossroads hamlet. While Henry Osborn says that the area was called "Lutherville" in 1829, this name does not

SIGNIFICANCE: (continued)

appear in the 1834 Gordon's A Gazetteer of the State of New Jersey, nor is a hamlet at this site mentioned. Gordon does describe the Saddle River noting that "mills are strung thickly along its banks" (p. 229). By 1840 the name Saddle River is applied to the area on a U. S. Coast Survey map, #132, and a slight concentration of buildings exists around the crossroads. In 1852 Saddle River received a post office, the fourth oldest in Bergen County (Inskeep map). The post office was located from 1852 to 1885 in the Henry Esler-John George Esler House (#32) at the northern edge of the Saddle River Center District. It was located at various other sites within the district until 1956 (see #2, #14, #20, #24).

By 1861, when the Hopkins wall map of Bergen and Passaic counties was published, a crossroads hamlet exists with post office, church, school, stores, mills, foundry, shoemaker, and residences. Interestingly this map does not label the hamlet by name. Perhaps this lack of nomenclature is a response to the divided political jurisdiction of the community. Until 1886 the Saddle River was a township line resulting in location of the hamlet within two townships. The lack of name on the map also may be due to the fact that the hamlet had no railroad station. It had already been by-passed by the Paterson and Ramapo Railroad which was built west of it in the late 1840's.

The absence of the railroad allowed the Saddle River hamlet to maintain its rural character. Its 19th century agricultural heritage is well represented by early farmhouses with related outbuildings (#8, 12, 13, 28, 32) and by existing planting fields (#13). The hamlet had a number of hydro-powered industries along the Saddle River in the 19th century, but these industries remained comparatively small in scale. While the Packer enterprises which manufactured farm implements and fruit and vegetable baskets expanded in the late 19th century (#4, 5), Packer never became a large-scale manufactory which a rail connection might have allowed it to become. A book on industries in New Jersey in 1883 mentions the presence of a foundry (probably Packer's, #4), a woolen mill (probably the O'Blenis mill at 229 East Saddle River Road, non-extant, 025847, outside the district), and an edge tool factory (not extant, formerly at 255-261 East Saddle River Road, 0258-19, outside the district) for the Saddle River area, but these factories were not considered significant enough to merit further description (Industries of New Jersey, Part VI, Hudson, Passaic and Bergen Counties, 1883). By the turn-of-the-century the merchandising of sleighs and carriages became more important to W. W. Packer and Son than the manufacturing end of their company. While the 1901 Industrial Directory of New Jersey is incorrect when it states Saddle River had no factories, the existing industries were small in scale. The 1909 edition of the Industrial Directory acknowledges the presence of small industries there, stating that farm implements (probably Packers, #4), fruit baskets (probably Smith's at 170 West Saddle River, #31, factory building not extant), fireworks, and bread moulding machines were made, but that together these industries employed 25 persons.

Old photographs reveal that the large frame buildings of the Packer enterprises were significant in Saddle River's landscape in the late 19th century. However industry was never so dominant there that it transformed the rural hamlet into a factory town. When the large industrial buildings disappeared in the early 20th century, the rural hamlet remained. Today the foundry building (#4), the mill pond and its raceways (#5), and a few storage buildings (#5, 6) are visual evidence of Saddle River's 19th century industrial heritage.

(cont. p. 5)

SIGNIFICANCE: (continued)

The Esler nursery located within the district between 1873-1924 was a large-scale florist and a leading Saddle River industry. While the nursery's greenhouses were demolished in 1924, two architecturally interesting houses associated with the Esler family are in the district (#28, 32). The floral industry, an important one in Bergen County well into the 20th century, is still actively represented in the Saddle River Center District. The William Tricker Inc. Water Gardens (#7) which moved there in 1926 continue to raise water lilies. This enterprise is important in horticultural history as Tricker is the oldest commercial grower of aquatic plants in the United States.

In the early 20th century the Saddle River hamlet functioned as the commercial, governmental, and social center for a sprawling community of country houses and of farmsteads. Two commercial buildings erected in the early decade of the 20th century, the DeBaun Grocery (#2) and the Mowerson Store (#15), contribute to the district's rural village ambience. Both are small, one-story unpretentious frame structures of vernacular "country store" character. During the 1910's, 20's and 30's, with the demise of local industries, the district became progressively more residential in character. A number of suburban houses were erected within its boundaries. These buildings were built on infill lots and contribute to the village character of the district by increasing the density of historic structures. Their designs, most in Dutch Colonial Revival idioms, are compatible with earlier architecture, although several of the 20th century buildings are more architecturally elaborate than is typical in the district.

The district's earliest buildings were originally unadorned frame houses or industrial buildings. The houses frequently have an upper range of knee high windows, a typical feature of Bergen County's early 19th century domestic architecture. The late 19th century buildings in the district are eclectic, but are vernacular, less ornate examples of their architectural styles. A number of the early houses have embellishments added during their continuing construction history.

In 1954 Barnstable Court (#5 6, 17), a shopping and office complex in the center of the district, opened. It is one of Bergen County most interesting preservation projects. Buildings formerly associated with Packer industries or the Packer house were adaptively reused in a way which intentionally enhanced their historic ambience. The mill pond was a focal point of the project and the complex was organized around an informal courtyard surrounded by accessory buildings of the William Packer House. While preservation techniques used do not conform with current standards, Barnstable Court is an important landmark in the history of preservation in Bergen County. There is no other project in the county where a complex of historic buildings was reused commercially, utilizing industrial and accessory buildings as well as houses. About the same time the historic foundry building (#4) was adapted for continuing commercial uses. Recently a number of houses have been modified for office space while maintaining the architectural integrity of the exteriors.

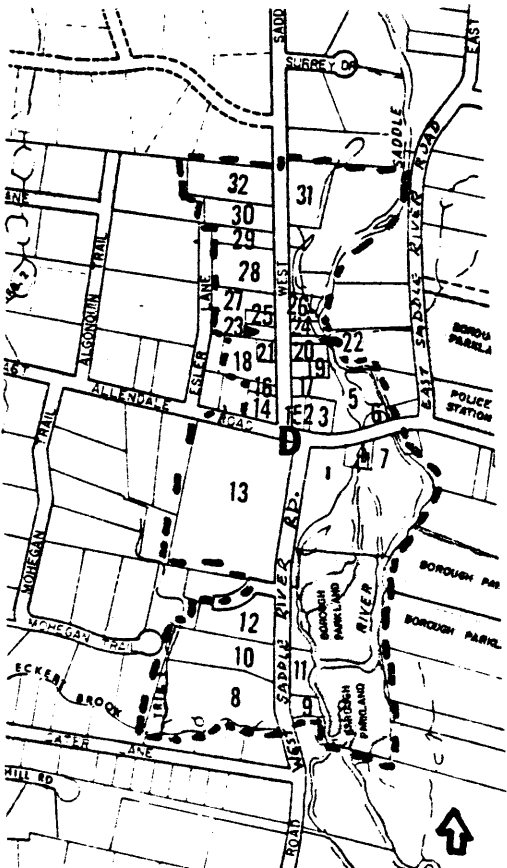
Today the Saddle River Center District is a cohesive area with a human scale. It does not have visually dominant focal buildings of particular architectural distinction, as the church (0258-5) and Municipal Building (0258-35) are located in the eastern part of the hamlet excluded from the district. The district's importance is due to its totality -- as a whole, in its scale, proximity of structures, basic linear plan and variety of vernacular architecture, it represents a rural crossroads hamlet as it developed between the early 19th and early 20th centuries. While the district does contain some non-historic buildings and recent modifications to historic structures, its basic architectural integrity is intact, a rare condition in Bergen County which has and is undergoing rapid 20th century development.

A twentieth century property is of special interest for the landscaping and walls and towers built by Lucien Sellet. Mr. Sellet, during his ownership from c. 1939 to 1975 of the relatively modest Tudor Revival house at 167 West Saddle River Road (0258-D #29), added these features which are outstanding examples of folk fantasy architecture.

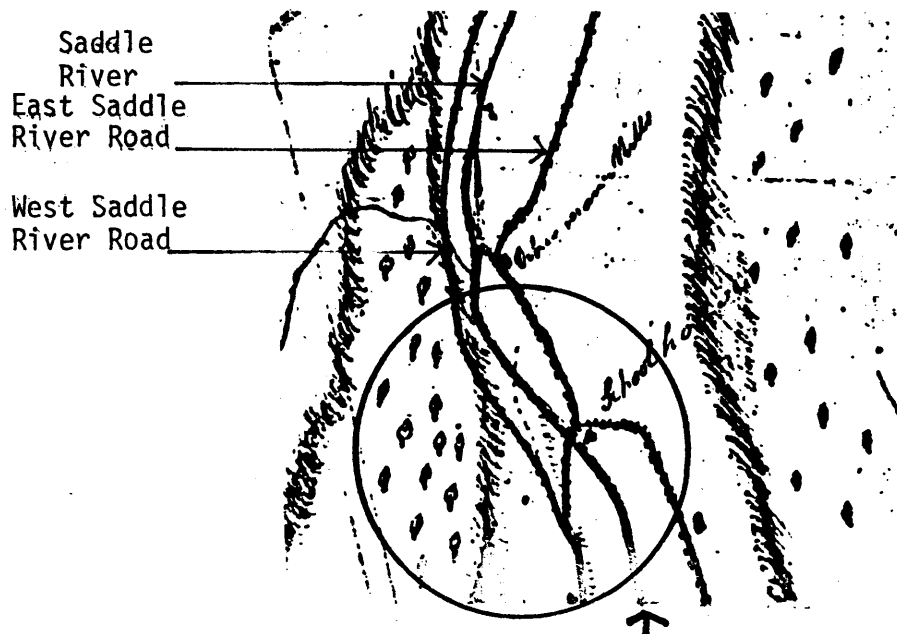
REFERENCES: (continued)

- Paramus: Paramus Highway Printing Co., 1967.  
 Thomas F. Gordon, A Gazetteer of the State of New Jersey, Trenton:  
 Daniel Fenton, 1834.  
The Industrial Directory of New Jersey, 1901, 1909.  
Industries of New Jersey, Part VI, Hudson, Passaic and Bergen Counties, 1883.  
 Claire K. Tholl, "Early Days of Allendale," 10-1974, published map.  
 Also see the bibliography and references on individual survey forms.

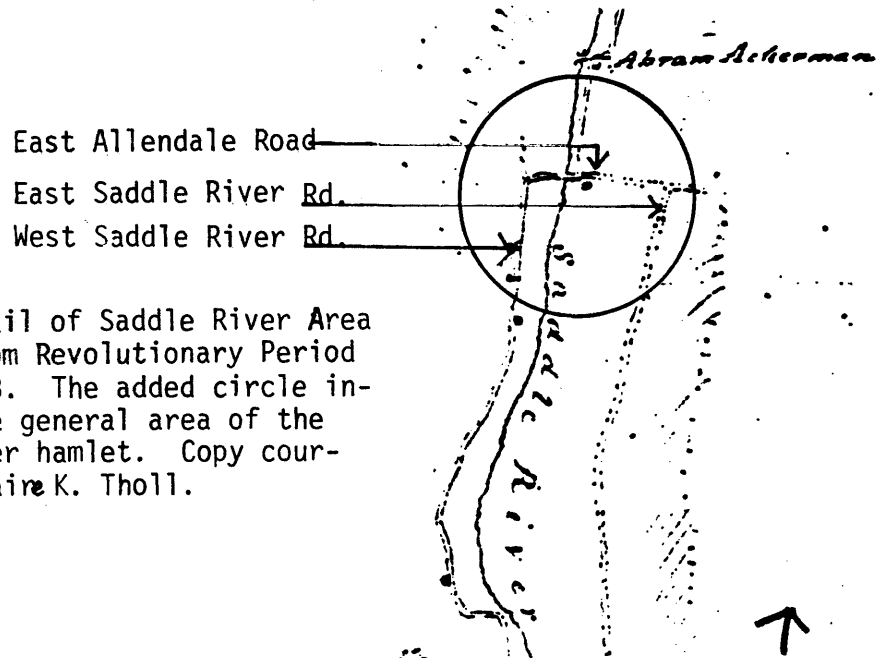
MAPS



Map 1. Saddle River Center Historic District with property lines of parcels within district shown. Dashed line shows district boundary. Numbers refer to individual survey forms or inventory listings.

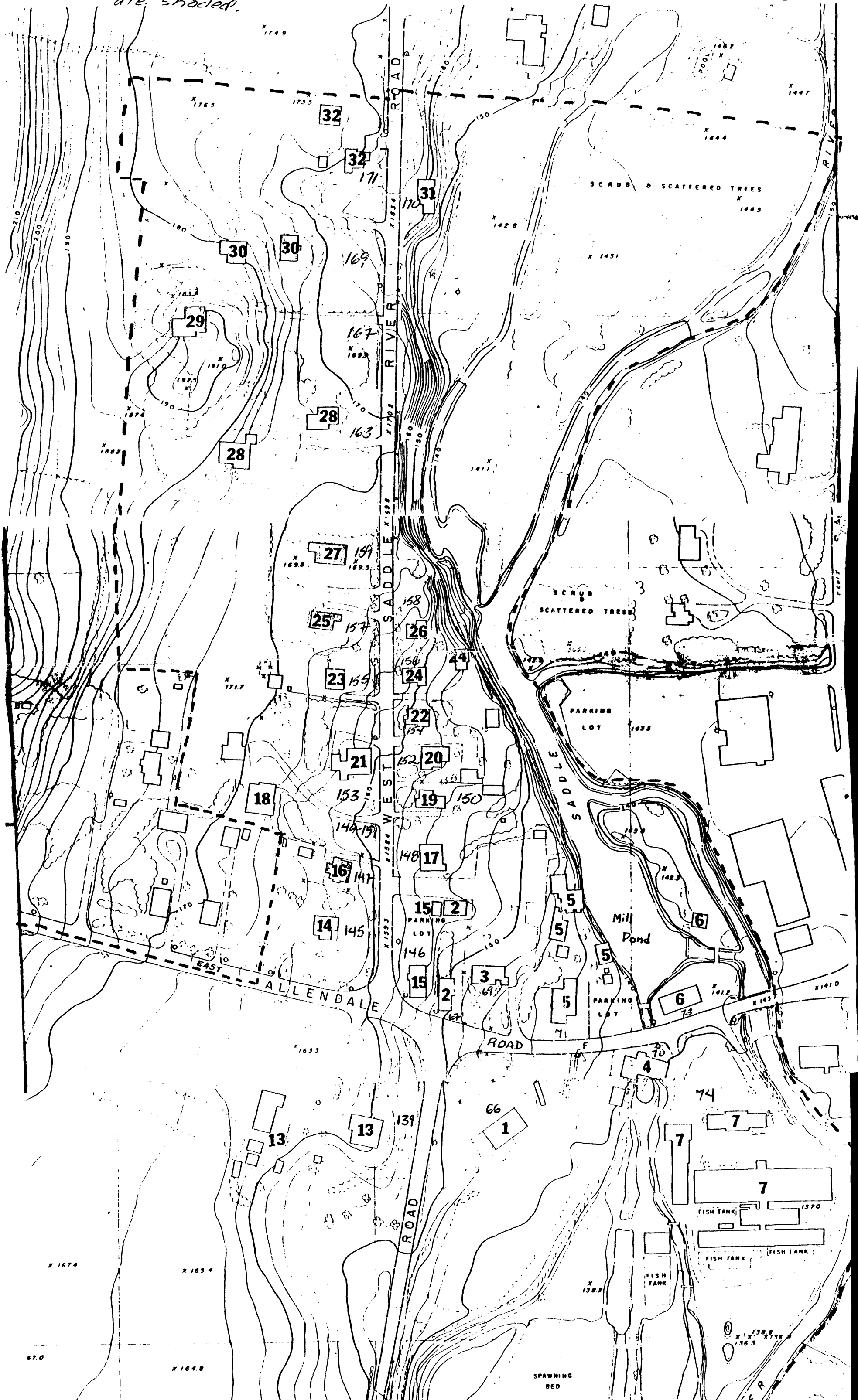


Map 3 Detail of Saddle River area xeroxed from Revolutionary Period Map #26, survey made by Captain John W. Walkers, August, 1778. The added circle indicates the general area of the Saddle River hamlet. Copy courtesy Claire K. Tholl.



Map 4. Detail of Saddle River Area xeroxed from Revolutionary Period Map no. 113. The added circle indicates the general area of the Saddle River hamlet. Copy courtesy of Claire K. Tholl.

Map 2: Saddle River Center Historic District  
 Dashed line shows approximate district boundary. Numbers refer to individual survey forms or inventory listings for buildings. Accessory buildings have same numbers as principal building on their property. Map courtesy of Saddle River Engineer. Prepared by Bergen County Office of Cultural and Historic Affairs, 1984. *Handwritten numbers are the street numbers. Non-historic buildings are shaded.*

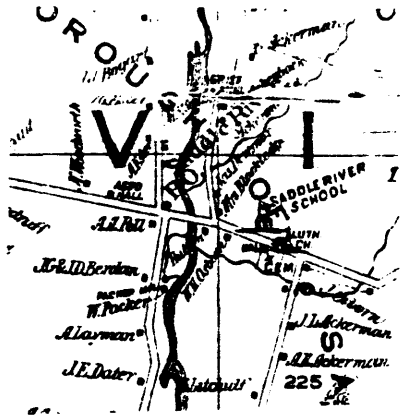




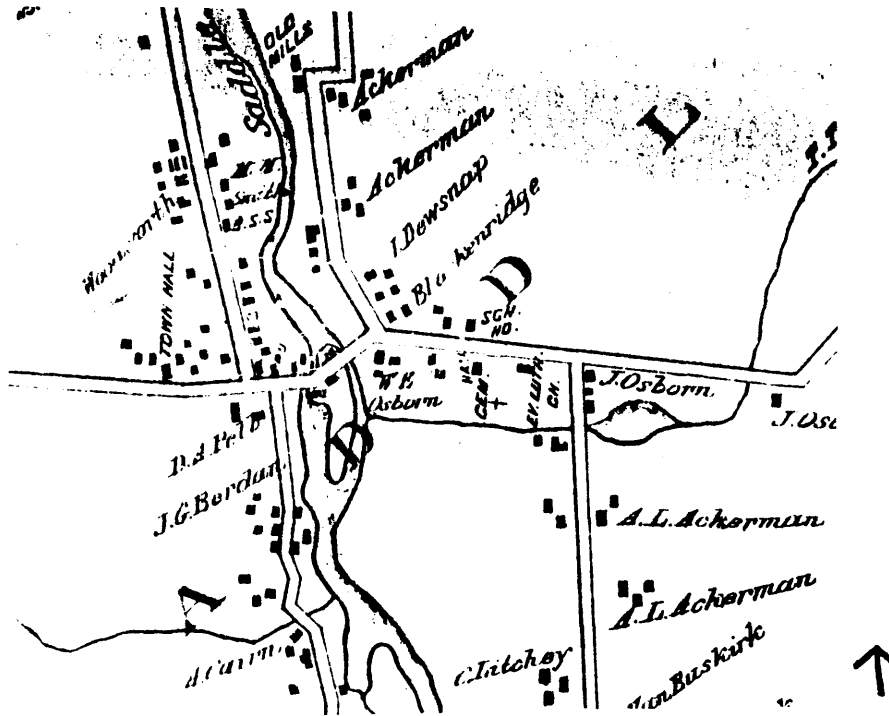


Saddle River Center District, Saddle River

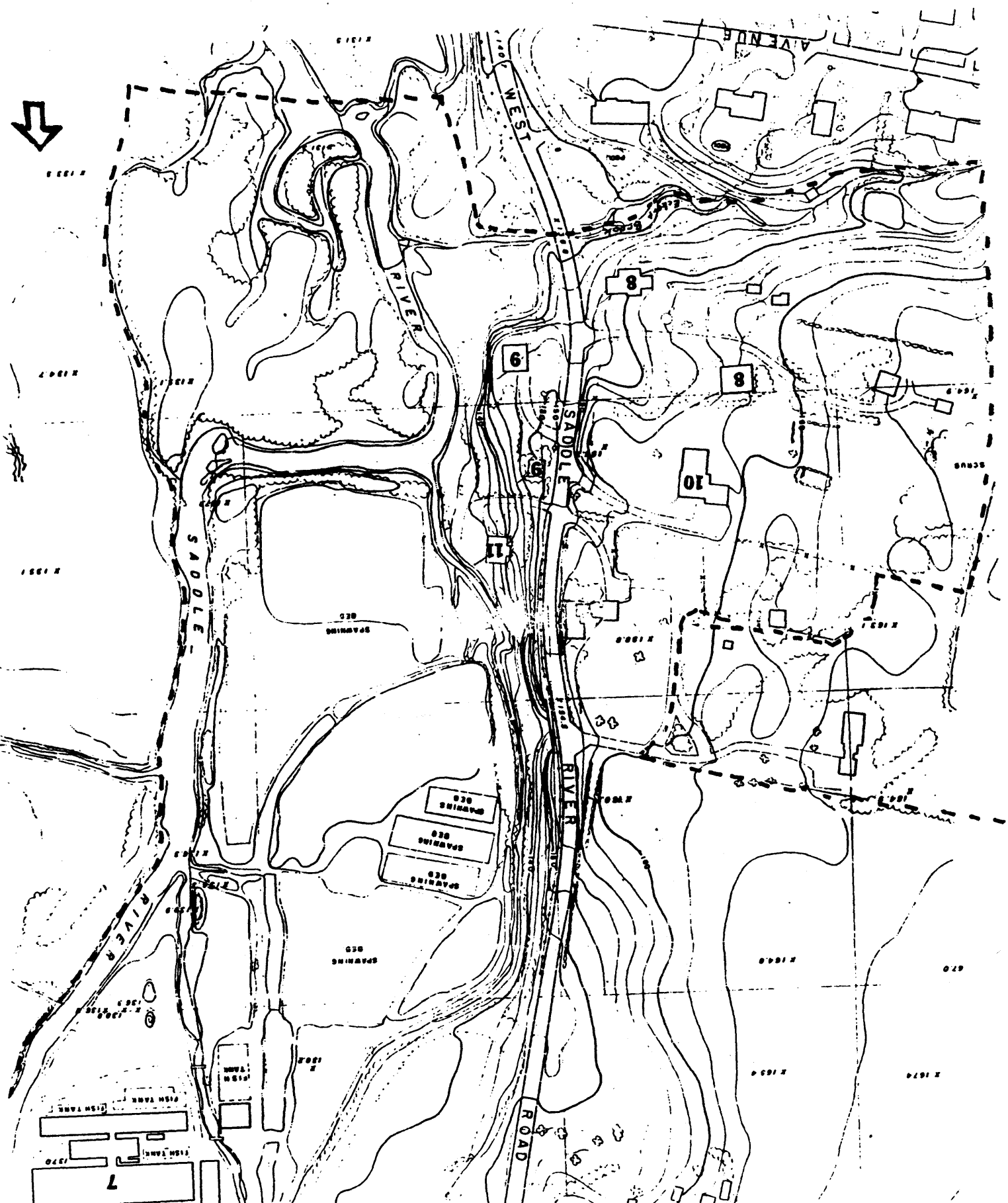
MAPS (continued)



Map 7. Saddle River hamlet in 1902. Xeroxed from D. Robinson, compiler "Map of Bergen County, New Jersey....," New York: Robinson and Co., 1902.



Map 8. Saddle River hamlet in 1913. Xeroxed from George W. and Walter S. Bromley, Atlas of Bergen County, N. J., Philadelphia: G. W. Bromley and Co., vol II, 1913, pl. 31.



district  
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D.

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The Saddle River Center District contains the following properties:

<u>District Map #</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Acreage</u>	<u>Saddle River Block/Lot #</u>
1	66 East Allendale Road	2.536	1607/1
2	67 East Allendale Road	0.16	1401/16
3	69 East Allendale Road	0.56	1401/15
4	70 East Allendale Road	0.4	1607/2
5	71 East Allendale Road	3.25	1401/14
6	73 East Allendale Road	see map #5	" "
7	74 East Allendale Road	5.89	1607/3
8	119 West Saddle River Road	4.5	1606/25
9	120 West Saddle River Road	1.4	1607/37
10	123 West Saddle River Road	2.2	1606/24
11	124 West Saddle River Road	0.929	1607/39
12	125 West Saddle River Road	2.4	1606/23
13	139 West Saddle River Road	10.9	1606/21
14	145 West Saddle River Road	0.6	1603/9
15	146 West Saddle River Road	0.246	1401/17
16	147 West Saddle River Road	0.2	1603/8
17	148 West Saddle River Road	see map #5	1401/14
18	149-151 West Saddle River Road	1.6	1602/7
19	150 West Saddle River Road	0.38	1401/18
20	152 West Saddle River Road	0.399	1401/19
21	153 West Saddle River Road	0.3	1603/6
22	154 West Saddle River Road	0.17	1401/20
23	155 West Saddle River Road	0.3	1603/5
24	156 West Saddle River Road	0.32	1401/2
25	157 West Saddle River Road	0.298	1603/4
26	158 West Saddle River Road	0.565	1401/22
27	159 West Saddle River Road	1.2	1603/3
28	163 West Saddle River Road	2.1	1603/2
29	167 West Saddle River Road	1.1	1603/1
30	169 West Saddle River Road	1.3	1301/26
31	170 West Saddle River Road	1.8	1401/25
32	171 West Saddle River Road	2.142	1301/44
	east of Borough Parkland	10.3	1607/40
	map # 9,11		
	east of vacant land	4.7	1401/31 and 32
	map # 31		
	Total acreage:	approx.65 acres	



Photograph 1  
Old photograph which  
may predate 1886 showing  
East Allendale Road look-  
ing NE from West Saddle  
River Road.  
Copy in SRHC Collection.  
Neg. file # 198351-9



Photograph 2  
1984 photograph showing  
approximately the  
same view as photograph 1.  
Neg. file # 19844-27.



Photograph 3  
The Ackerman-Pell Farm,  
139 West Saddle River  
Road, D #13, looking SE,  
showing planting fields  
in the district.  
Neg. file # 19844-30.

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Photograph 4  
Circa 1940's photograph  
showing Woodruff-Packer  
Foundry Building, 70  
E. Allendale Road, D #4,  
and Pell gas station,  
D # 1. Copy in SRHC  
Collection.  
Neg. file # 198351-8.



Photograph 5  
1984 photograph of same  
view as photograph 4.  
Neg. file # 19844-25.



Photograph 6  
Circa 1920's postcard  
showing Packer Showroom  
(Packer's Gas Station),  
73 E. Allendale Road,  
D # 6, and William  
Packer House, 71 E.  
Allendale Road, D # 5.  
Copy in SRHC Collection.  
Neg. file # 198351-14.



Packer's Gas Station, Saddle River Borough, N. J.



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Photograph 7  
1983 photograph of similar  
view as photograph 6.  
Neg. file # 198351-21.



View Along Allendale Avenue, Saddle River Borough, N. J.

Photograph 8  
Circa 1920's postcard of  
view looking NW from 73  
E. Allendale Road showing  
dam, pond, and accessory  
buildings of William  
Packer House, 71 E. Allen-  
dale Road, D #5.  
Copy in SRHC Collection.  
Neg. file # 198351- 15.



Photograph 9  
1983 photograph of  
similar view as photo-  
graph 8.  
Neg. file # 1- 20.

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Photograph 10  
Mid 20th c. photograph  
of district showing  
north side of E. Allendale  
Road at junction with  
W. Saddle River Road.  
Shows buildings D # 15,  
2, and 3.  
Copy in SRHC Collection.  
Neg. file # 198351-7.



Photograph 11  
1984 photograph of same  
view as photograph 10.  
Neg. file # 19844-26.



Photograph 12  
View looking NE showing  
east side W. Saddle  
River Road near corner  
of E. Allendale Road.  
Neg. file # 19844-28.





Photograph 13  
View looking NE showing  
148, 150, 152 and 154  
W. Saddle River Road;  
D # 17, 19, 20, and 22.  
Neg. file # 19844-31.



Codes for Significance to District in the Inventory Listing

C: contributes to the historic district

NC: does not contribute to the historic district

0  
Saddle River Center  
District, Saddle River

Photographs of Build-  
ings on Inventory List

Map # 1

66 East Allendale Road,  
SE corner West Saddle  
River Road; Pell  
gas station.  
Neg. file # 6-10



Map # 10

123 West Saddle River  
Road.  
Neg. file # 7-16.



Map # 16

147 West Saddle River  
Road.  
Neg. file # 3-27.



1929-30	Address	Owner	Year Built	Structure	Description	Acres
1	44 East Alameda St., at corner West Saddle River Road	David Pitt II	1940	C	See also 10; Domestic exchange station, Dutch Colonial Revival style; 1 1/2 stories walls with chippendale in general motif; 1 garage door bay and office section with driveway and millstone picture window; gambrel, open porch in front of office, to NW in 1 story metal tire storage structure, front yard with grass and split rail fence. Parking lot at SW corner 1929/30, lot 1. This gas station was operated by David Sherman Pitt II (see 1930-31 #21, Pitt) served on Saddle River's Council for 25 years and in major for 10 years. Owner's Wife Pitt, 126 Elm St., Fairmount, N.J.	0-10
10	123 West Saddle River Road		1917 NW II	NC	Residential; ranch house; 1 1/2 brick; 2 bay including 5 wing; gables, set back about 150' from road, about 75' north of base of 120' W. Saddle River Road. Split rail fence along road. Block 1908, lot 24, 2.2 acres.	1-18
16	147 West Saddle River Road		1941 NW II	NC	Residential; vernacular Colonial Revival bungalow; 1 1/2 stories; shingles, gable and farm road, 2 bays, S/W gables; gable dormer; one car gable roofed garage. Setback 40'. Block 1913, lot 10, 2.2 acre; Patricia Sheffer.	1-27
23	158 West Saddle River Road	F. Henry Storm	1926	C	Residential; vernacular Colonial Revival; 1 1/2 stories, 2 bays, S/W gable, overhanging lower eaves with returns; 1 story screened porch at north, 1 bay entrance porch with pilared columns and round and border pediment, 1 car garage with gable roof at SW. F. Henry Storm, the "son" to contractors "F. H. Storm and Son" built this house across the road from his father's house 1908. The house reverts to Storm family ownership. Block 1911, lot 5, 2.2 acres. Owner: Storm, Engle.	1-22
26	157 West Saddle River Road		just NW II	NC	Residential; vernacular; 1 1/2; replacement aluminum siding, 2 bays, 2/2 gable, and faces vinyl; shed dormer. Block 1911, lot 4, 2.220 acres, Owner: O'Neil & Sons Associates.	1-11
27	158 West Saddle River Road		just NW II	NC	Residential; vernacular ranch; 1 1/2 shingles; 2 bay in gable and facing vinyl, S/W gable; shingles; opening in gable. Projecting 1 car garage with gable roof. Block 1903, lot 3, 1.2 acres. Owner: Frost & Burke partner.	1-23
29	167 West Saddle River Road	Lucien Giffet (c. 1925-1975)	c. 1928	C	Residential; 1920s century Period house, Tudor Revival; 1 1/2; 1 1/2 story; brick, upper: stucco and half-timber effect; 2 bays, altered pattern 190's gables; very picturesque mixing with projecting pavilion, buttressed hips. House not visible from road at lot back about 250'. Large stone and concrete tower in front of house. Tower has projecting corner turret, clock, heraldic shields, concrete dog. Numerous smaller, under-roofed towers with baroque ends of concrete and fieldstone. Fieldstone walls and walls. Landscaping including tower created by owner, Lucien Giffet. He was a chemist who he migrated from France. (see John Tucker, "Legacy of Mystery: A Curious Tale", in Bergen ed., June 6, 1980, Block 1923, lot 1, 1 acre Owner: Wessner, William L. and Sharon.	1-20
30	165 West Saddle River Road		1945	NC	Residential; vernacular; 1 1/2; brick with some chippendale; 2 bays, S/W gable roof; large barn and garage to rear of lot. House is not visible from road at setback c. 140' and hedge and trees between it and road. Turret water tower base and well house. Block 1901, lot 25, 1.2 acres. Owner: Lusk, Bruce.	1-7

Inventory Listings, Saddle River-Cedar District, Saddle River, Bergen Co., NJ



D  
Saddle River Center District  
Saddle River

Photographs of Buildings  
on Inventory List

Map #23  
155 West Saddle River Road.  
Neg. file # 3-22.



Map # 25  
157 West Saddle River Road.  
Neg. file # 3-14.



Map # 27  
159 West Saddle River  
Road.  
Neg. file # 3-13.

D  
Saddle River Center  
District  
Saddle River

Photographs of Buildings on Inventory List

Map # 29  
167 West Saddle River Road.  
Neg. file # 3-29.



Tower on grounds of  
167 West Saddle River  
Road. Looking N  
Neg. file #9-7



Fantasy structure on  
grounds of 167 West  
Saddle River Road,  
Looking S  
Neg. file #9-6



Saddle River Center District,  
Saddle River  
Photographs of Buildings on  
Inventory List



Map #30  
169 West Saddle River Road  
Neg. file #3-7

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

HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY NO. -- D #31

HISTORIC NAME: Woodruff-Smith House  
LOCATION: 170 West Saddle River RoadCOMMON NAME:  
BLOCK/LOT 1401/25MUNICIPALITY: Saddle River  
USGS QUAD: Park RidgeCOUNTY: Bergen  
UTM REFERENCES:

OWNER/ADDRESS: William J. and Mary Kate Morgan

Zone/Northing/Easting

## DESCRIPTION

Construction Date: early 19th with later additions; 1860 Source of Date: visual; Inskip

Architect:

Builder:

Style: vernacular

Form/Plan Type:

Number of Stories: see below

Foundation: now covered with concrete, height varies due to sloping site

Exterior Wall Fabric: Replacement aluminum siding over clapboard

Fenestration: see below

Roof/Chimneys: gables; A: recent exterior end chimney, C: recent exterior end chimney

Additional Architectural Description: probably early 19th c. construction

A: south wing: 3 bays, 1/2 story, gable roof, 1st story: side door at N, 2/2 windows, 2nd story: 3-pane eyebrow windows.

B: North ell of south wing, c 1860 construction, 1 bay, 1/2 story, gable end faces street. 1st story: bay window, 1/1 sash, second story: pair of 1/1 windows.

C: until recently the northerly wing, probably c. 1880, as 1876 photos show L-shaped plan, although eyebrow windows give it an early 19th c. appearance; 1 1/2 stories, 1st story: 1 bay window, 2/2 sash, 2nd story: two 3-pane eyebrow windows.

D: post World War II, 1 story with 2 car garage underneath, 3 bays, 1/1 sash. c. 1900 photograph shows interior end chimneys on block A and C. Block A had 3 bay, 1 story porch with hip roof and bracketed posts. 1st story windows had shutters.



PHOTO Negative File No. 1-31 slide

Map (Indicate North)



NEW JERSEY OFFICE OF CULTURAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

HISTORIC PRESERVATION SECTION

INDIVIDUAL STRUCTURE SURVEY FORM

HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY NO.

D #28

HISTORIC NAME: Andrew Esler-George Esler House  
LOCATION: 163 West Saddle River Road

COMMON NAME:  
BLOCK/LOT 1603/2

MUNICIPALITY: Saddle River  
USGS QUAD: Park Ridge  
OWNER/ADDRESS: Bowen, Geo. + Elizabeth

COUNTY: Bergen  
UTM REFERENCES:  
Zone/Northing/Easting

DESCRIPTION

Main block: c. 1860, on foundation of earlier building. Rear Wing possibly early 19th c.  
Construction Date: of earlier building. Rear Wing  
Source of Date: Helen E. Inskeep; visual

Architect: Builder:  
Style: Downingsque Form/Plan Type: 

Number of Stories: 2½ with 1½ story rear (west) wing

Foundation: ashlar brownstone

Exterior Wall Fabric: clapboard

Fenestration: main block: 3 bays, with 1 bay ell, 2/2

Roof/Chimneys: Main block: cross gable, wing: gable; main block; interior chimney; wing; end chimney

Additional Architectural Description:

Main block: tri-gable ell plan, 1 story wraparound porch with paneled posts, post at NE corner is plain replacement, appears to have lost brackets. Double side entrance doors in south bay of front section, transom, doors have semi-circular arched upper panels. Tall 1st story front windows, pointed-arched windows in gables, overhanging boxed eaves, 1 story bay window at south.

West wing: 1½ story, 2 bay, appears early 19th c. with eyebrow windows, boxed cornice. Attached to south side is one story addition with shed roof, 2/2 grouped windows.

Add: The west wing was replaced, or extensively remodelled, in 1983. It is currently 2 full stories with 1/1 sash and new wood clapboard siding. A one-story wing with shed roof is along the south side. See photograph page 5. 3-1984

PHOTO: Negative File No. 198351-24 slide 1983 photo: Map (Indicate North) 



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



## SITING, BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION, AND RELATED STRUCTURES:

2.1 Acres. Main block faces east, west wing faces south, house is approximately 50' from road. Large trees in front yard. To NW, very close to house is 1 story smokehouse with coursed rubble brownstone walls, frame in gable, interior brick end chimney, probably built in early 19th c. To SW is 2½ story barn with vertical board and batten siding and gable roof. Also on property is gable-roofed 2 story granary with open 1st-story and vertical board-and-batten siding on 2nd-story. The rear part of the property around the accessory buildings is overgrown.  
3-1984 Smokehouse was demolished.

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

Property is bordered at west by woodland. Land to east on other side of West Saddle River Road is undeveloped as drops off to flood plain.

## SIGNIFICANCE:

The Andrew Esler-George Esler House is of architectural interest as a well-preserved and pleasing example of Downingsque architecture. The circa 1860 building with its wraparound porch, overhanging eaves, pointed-arched windows in gables, and bay window displays numerous features recommended by A. J. Downing in his popular mid-19th century books on architecture. The building is also of historical interest due to its association with the Esler family, an important local one. While Andrew Esler's house of circa 1812 is said to have burnt and its foundation used for this structure, the interesting stone smokehouse on this property dates from Andrew's ownership and the west wing of the house may also. The property in addition to the house and smokehouse has a barn and granary, both probably built in the mid-to-late-19th century, and these buildings contribute to the property's sense of place and help to associate it with Saddle River's agricultural history.

According to the Esler family, Andrew Esler erected a house at this site in 1812. Esler is a person of architectural interest as he was chairman of the building committee of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Saddle River and Ramapough (0250-5 ), and according to tradition designed that building. He is also credited with building tide-water mills on the Hackensack River and other mills. Andrew had two sons, Henry and

ORIGINAL USE: Residential PRESENT USE: Same (cont.)  
PHYSICAL CONDITION: Excellent  Good  Fair  Poor   
REGISTER ELIGIBILITY: Yes  Possible  No  Part of District   
THREATS TO SITE: Roads  Development  Zoning  Deterioration   
No Threat  Other

## COMMENTS:

In Saddle River Center District  
Overgrown foliage in front yard has recently been removed and screening from front porch.  
Appears as if rehabilitation is underway.

## REFERENCES:

CXT List  
1861 Hopkins map: G. Esler  
1876 Walker Atlas: Geo. Esler.  
1902 Robinson map: A. Esler.  
1913 Bronley Atlas: on, no name.  
1864 Inskeep map: built 1860 by George Esler (Civil War Officer and father of Andrew Esler), on site of 1812 Andrew Esler house.

SRHC files: Information from Marie Esler Willey, Dec. 1 1970; Information from Helen

RECORDED BY: SRHC/TRB  
ORGANIZATION: SRHC/BCOC&HA

DATE: 8-1983 (cont.)  
Additions 3-1984

## SIGNIFICANCE (continued)

George Henry in 1847 built a house nearby (see 0258-D #32) while George resided in his father's house. Henry and George manufactured cigars and tobacco in the 1840's (Van Valen, p235). George was an officer during the Civil War.

About 1860 the Andrew Esler House burned and George Esler replaced it with the front block displaying picturesque features characteristic of mid-19th century architecture. It is probable that the rear wing with its eyebrow windows, so commonly found on early 19th century Bergen County houses, survived the conflagration. Interior investigation is needed to verify this speculation. According to Marie Esler Willey, the rear kitchen wing was enlarged in the 1890's, probably a reference to the one-story addition on the south.

George Esler's son Andrew was the next owner of 163 West Saddle River Road. Andrew was a partner of his cousin, John Henry Esler, in the florist business. See form 0258-D #32 for additional information about this important Saddle River commercial/agricultural enterprise. The house at 163 West Saddle River Road remained in the ownership of a Esler descendant until 1981.

## REFERENCES (continued)

- E. Inskeep, Jan. 13, 1972; The Landscape.  
Westervelt, I. p. 409.  
Van Valen p. 235.



Smokehouse, Looking SE. Part of house in background. Neg.  
file # 3-11

DEMOLISHED 1983.

Andrew Esler-George Esler House, 163 West Saddle River Road, Saddle River



Barn, looking W. Neg. file # 3-9, slide



Granary, looking SW. Neg. file #3-10, slide



Historic Resources of the Borough of Saddle River, Bergen County, N.J.  
 Item 7: Description



Map 8  
 Map of Historic and Architectural Resources in the Borough of Saddle River, Bergen County, N. J.  
 Larger numbers refer to survey forms.  
 Smaller numbers are street numbers. For a more detailed map of the Saddle River Center District see survey form D.

SCALE  
 1" = 100'  
 1" = 200'  
 1" = 300'

PREPARED BY  
 ANDREW MARSHALL JR., P.E., L.S. & P.P.  
 1000 SADDLE RIVER AVENUE  
 SADDLE RIVER, N.J. 07633

OFFICIAL MAP	
<b>BOROUGH OF SADDLE RIVER, NEW JERSEY</b>	
PREPARED BY ANDREW MARSHALL JR., P.E., L.S. & P.P. 1000 SADDLE RIVER AVENUE SADDLE RIVER, N.J. 07633	
	

REPRODUCED FROM THE OFFICIAL MAP OF THE BOROUGH OF SADDLE RIVER, N.J., 1988

D #2

page 4

Saddle River Post Office - John G. DeBaun Grocery, 67 East Allendale Avenue,  
Saddle River.



Circa 1935 Photograph  
of 67 East Allendale  
Road. Looking West.  
From SRHC files. Neg.  
file # 198351-18



Photograph taken in 1984 showing recent alterations,  
especially those to the west wing. Neg. file #  
19844-32.

## NEW JERSEY OFFICE OF CULTURAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

## HISTORIC PRESERVATION SECTION

## INDIVIDUAL STRUCTURE SURVEY FORM

HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY NO.

D #32

HISTORIC NAME: Henry Esler-John George Esler  
 LOCATION: 171 West Saddle River Road

COMMON NAME:  
 BLOCK/LOT 1301/25

MUNICIPALITY: Saddle River Road

COUNTY: Bergen

USGS QUAD: Park Ridge

UTM REFERENCES: Zone/Northing/Easting

OWNER/ADDRESS: Rolin Corporation  
 127 Fuhrman Av., Ramsey, NJ 07446

## DESCRIPTION

Construction Date: 1847 with 1894 alterations

Source of Date: Esler family; The Landscape  
Oct. 1894

Architect:

Builder: Henry Esler

Style: vernacular eclectic

Form/Plan Type:

Number of Stories: 1 1/2-2

Foundation: front: coursed fieldstone, boulder or cobblestone piers on  
 c. 1894 south wing.

Exterior Wall Fabric: clapboard

Fenestration: Front (east facade) 1st story: 3 bays, 6/6, upper story: 2 bays, 1/1

Roof/Chimneys: gables; c.1894 exterior boulder chimney on N. Side, brick interior end  
 chimney at S. end of early section.

## Additional Architectural Description:

1847, 3 bay, 1-story block with gable roof has been considerably enlarged and modified. The early entrance door trim remains. Is Greek Revival in style with pilasters, sidelights and transom, c. 1894 replacement doors with large glazed panels.  
 c. 1894 modifications: open columnar porch on 1st-story with some Queen Anne style turned columns and some Tuscan columns, patterned shingled solid railing, gablet over N entrance is a one-bay, 2nd-story wing with gable-roof. It has patterned shingles on front (east) side, and clapboards on others. A wall dormer was added to south bay of the 1847 block and a one-story wing attached to southside. At the rear (west) is large 2 story wing with 1-bay, open entrance porch at north and 1-story wing at south, 2/2 sash.

PHOTO Negative File No. 3-31, slide



Map (Indicate North)



## SITING, BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION, AND RELATED STRUCTURES:

2.142 acre property. House faces east and is located c. 27' from road and about 100' from NE corner property. There are yards with grass, shrubs and trees. <sup>Part of the</sup> house is a large, 2½-story barn with shiplap siding, gable roof, and 6/6 windows. It was probably built in 1847. Also on the property about 25' west of the house is a small frame building with 2 bay main facade, clapboard siding, and gable roof. Ten to 12' south of the house is a boulder or cobblestone wall with boldly flaring pyramidal roof. This picturesque Arts and Crafts structure probably dates to the 1894 remodeling.

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

West of the property are woods. To the north are fields. To the east is 170 West Saddle River Road, (0258-D #31).

## SIGNIFICANCE:

The Henry Esler-John George Esler House has considerable local historical importance due to its role from 1852-1885 as the Saddle River Post Office and due to its association with the Eslers, large-scale florists in Saddle River between 1873-1924. John George Esler, in particular, has a place in the history of the greenhouse nursery industry, as he helped organize the Florist Mail Insurance Company in 1887 and was this glass insuring company's secretary for 20 years. The house is also interesting architecturally. It is a 1847 vernacular Greek Revival farmhouse with picturesque circa 1894 enlargements and embellishments. The building to a considerable degree retains its circa 1900 appearance and these accessory buildings add to the character of its site.

The three-bay wide, 1½ story front block of the house was erected in 1847 by Henry Esler. Henry was a son of Andrew Esler and built his home just north of that of his father's (see 0258-D #28). In the 1840's Henry manufactured cigars and tobacco with his brother George (Van Valen p. 235). In 1852 he became Saddle River's post master and the first post office in the community was located in his home. The post office remained here until 1885. In 1873 son John G. built a greenhouse just south of the house. Esler Nursery became one of Saddle River's leading industries. When Henry (cont.)

ORIGINAL USE: Residential Post Office

PRESENT USE: Residential

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

## COMMENTS:

In Saddle River Center District

The owner plans to demolish the historic house and replace it with a new house.

\* Like his father, Henry was a millwright (Van Valen p. 235) and probably <sup>1986</sup> was the builder as well as owner of his house.

## REFERENCES:

- CKT List. "Church and Old Homes in Saddle River", #8. Junior League Inventory.  
 1861 Hopkins map: H. Esler.  
 1876 Walker's Atlas: Saddle River P.O., Henry Esler, Green Ho.  
 1902 Robinson map: J. G. Esler.  
 1961 Inskip map: Built in 1847 by Henry Esler (father of John George Esler b. 1846)  
 Saddle River P. O., 1852.  
 SRHC files: report of Helen Inskip, Jan. 13, 1977; The Landscape.  
 Westervelt J., p. 409

RECORDED BY: SRHC/TRB  
 ORGANIZATION: SRHC/RCDC&HA

DATE: 8-1983



SIGNIFICANCE (continued)

died on December 19, 1884, his house passed to his son John George, as did the job of post master of Saddle River. John George stopped being Saddle River's Post Master in 1885 in order to devote his time to his other enterprises.

Esler's Nursery in 1888 was said in the Saddle River Landscape to be "one of the leading florists in America". John George was in partnership with his cousin Andrew (who lived nearby at 163 West Saddle River Road, 0258-D #28) and in 1886 W. F. Barkham, who had been in charge of actor Joe Jefferson's gardens, became a partner (The Landscape, 1886). In addition to involvement with his nursery, and the Florist Hall Insurance Company, John George was vice-president of a printing and publishing company in New York City for 20 years. In 1894 he was a member of Saddle River's first borough council. Earlier he had served as clerk of Hobokus Township.

The Landscape in October 1894 reported that Esler was enlarging his house. This enlargement with turn-of-the-century Queen Anne Arts and Crafts style features reflects the transformation of a modest farmhouse into the country residence of a prominent local businessman.

J. M. Van Valen's County history published in 1900 included a biography of John George Esler (p. 235).\* The Esler homes at 163 and 171 West Saddle River Road remain tangible remnants of an important period of Saddle River's developmental period.

\*The Esler Greenhouses were demolished in 1924.

REFERENCES (continued)

Van Valen, p. 235.

Suzanne Barrett, "Saddle River 1852 Bid for Post Office No Problem", Ridgewood News, 3-16-1967.



The barn at 171 West Saddle River Road. View looking NW.  
Neg. file # J-30.

Henry Esler-John George Esler House, 171 West Saddle River Road, Saddle River



Frame accessory building. Looking West. Neg. file #3-32



Well, Looking NW. Neg. file # 3-33

NEW JERSEY OFFICE OF CULTURAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

HISTORIC PRESERVATION SECTION

INDIVIDUAL STRUCTURE SURVEY FORM

HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY NO.

D#24

HISTORIC NAME: Naugle-Croucher-Ackt House  
 LOCATION: 156 West Saddle River Road

COMMON NAME:  
 BLOCK/LOT 1401/2

MUNICIPALITY: Saddle River  
 USGS QUAD: Park Ridge  
 OWNER/ADDRESS: Joseph Higgins

COUNTY: Bergen  
 UTM REFERENCES:  
 Zone/Northing/Easting

39 Woodcliff Lake Road, Saddle River

DESCRIPTION

Construction Date: pre-1876

Source of Date: Atlas

Architect:

Builder:

Style: Vernacular

Form/Plan Type:



Number of Stories: 2

Foundation: Brick covered with cement, height varies

Exterior Wall Fabric: Clapboard

Penetration: West: 1 bay, 1st story: recent added bay window, 2nd story: pair 6/6 windows;  
 south side: 4 bays, replacement 6/6 (2/2 sash in mid 20th c.)  
 Roof/Chimneys: gables; recent exterior chimney at north.

Additional Architectural Description:

North side: 2 one-story additions, front (west) one has hip roof, east one has shed roof.

South side: porch with shed roof, west bay open with turned posts, east section glazed (was glazed by mid 20th c., although current sash is recent).

PHOTO Negative File No. 3-21, slide

Map (Indicate North)



## SITING, BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION, AND RELATED STRUCTURES: 0.32 acre property

Faces west. Setback 5-7 feet from road. Small yard with grass, flowers, shrubs, and trees. To NE is carriage house, 1½ story, gable roof with center gablet, shiplap siding, some 6/6 sash, barn door replaced by door and window, 1 story shed-roofed addition to south.

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

At south is a residence (0258-D#22). House (0258-D#26) at north is used for offices.

## SIGNIFICANCE:

The Naugle-Crouter-Ackt House is among the cluster of buildings which define the Saddle River Center District as a 19th and early 20th century hamlet. The building, of unpretentious vernacular design, was probably erected at mid-century. J. Crouter, its 1876 owner, may be the James Crouter who in 1852-53 was a surveyor of highways for Ho-Ho-Kus Township (Clayton, p. 336). From 1877 to 1919 the house housed the family and tailor's shop of Ernest Ackt. From 1933 to 1952 the building housed the Saddle River Post Office with Mrs. Kathryn Donohue as post mistress.

ORIGINAL USE: Residence

PRESENT USE: offices, carriage house

PHYSICAL CONDITION: Excellent  Good  Fair  Poor  Antique ShopREGISTER ELIGIBILITY: Yes  Possible  No  Part of District THREATS TO SITE: Roads  Development  Zoning  Deterioration No Threat  Other  alteration

## COMMENTS:

Very close to heavily trafficked road. In Saddle River Center District.

## REFERENCES:

1876 Walker Atlas, pp. 117, 120-121; J. Crouter

1964 Inskoop Map: J. B. Naugle (1863), J. Crouter, E. Ackt

SRHC files: old photograph c. 1952

Suzanne Barnett "Saddle River 1852 Bid for Post Office....", Ridgewood Herald News,

March 16, 1967.

Information from S. Van Berchoten, great-granddaughter of E. Ackt.

NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, OFFICE OF CULTURAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION SECTION, 109 WEST STATE STREET, TRENTON, NEW JERSEY 08625 (609) 292-3033

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

HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY NO. D 426

HISTORIC NAME: Christopher-Vermulyn House  
LOCATION: 158 West Saddle River Road  
MUNICIPALITY: Saddle River  
USGS QUAD: Park Ridge  
OWNER/ADDRESS: Jerry J. DeCrostia, Jr.  
61 West Saddle River Road  
Saddle River, NJ

COMMON NAME:  
BLOCK/LOT 1401/22  
COUNTY: Bergen  
UTM REFERENCES:  
Zone/Northing/Easting

DESCRIPTION

Construction Date: C. 1890  
Source of Date: visual  
Architect:  
Builder:  
Style: Vernacular Queen Anne  
Form/Plan Type:

Number of Stories: 2 1/2  
Foundation: low fieldstone  
Exterior Wall Fabric: clnboard, shingles in gables  
Fenestration: 3 bays with 1 bay ell, 1/1, 6/6 in gable  
Roof/Chimneys: gables; interior chimney  
Additional Architectural Description:  
3 bay front porch with turned posts, shed roof



PHOTO Negative File No. 3-12

Map (Indicate North)



SITING, BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION, AND RELATED STRUCTURES: 0.565 acre property

Faces West

Approximately 7-10' from West Saddle River Road. Small front yard with grass, shrubs, trees. To N is graveled parking lot. Until recently a barn which had functioned as a blacksmith's shop was located here.

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

## SIGNIFICANCE:

The vernacular Queen Anne style frame house at 158 West Saddle River Road contributes to the historic ambience of the Saddle River Center District as a small hamlet which evolved during the 19th and early 20th centuries. The house is a typical example of middle-class late 19th century domestic architecture. Its owners, John Christopher (c. 1916) and Isaac Vernslyn, according to local tradition were blacksmiths who made and repaired wheels. Unfortunately the blacksmith shop formerly on this property has been demolished. Its appearance is documented by photographs.

ORIGINAL USE: Residential

PRESENT USE: offices

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

## COMMENTS:

In Saddle River Center Historic District.

The barn of this building has recently been demolished for a parking lot.

## REFERENCES:

SRHC files  
 1876 Walker's Atlas : not shown

RECORDED BY: SRHC/TRB  
 ORGANIZATION: SRHC/BOC&HA

DATE: 8-1983



Carriage house of the Naugle-Crouter-Ackt House. Looking NE. Neg. file # 3-24,



Circa 1952 photograph of Naugle-Crouter-Ackt House when it was the Saddle River Post Office. From SRHC files. Neg file # 198351-3

## NEW JERSEY OFFICE OF CULTURAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

## HISTORIC PRESERVATION SECTION

## INDIVIDUAL STRUCTURE SURVEY FORM

HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY NO.

D # 22

**HISTORIC NAME:** Justus Adams House  
**LOCATION:** 154 West Saddle River Road

**COMMON NAME:**  
**BLOCK/LOT** 1401/20

**MUNICIPALITY:** Saddle River  
**USGS QUAD:** Park Ridge  
**OWNER/ADDRESS:** Scarupo, Angelo and Barbara  
 241 East Saddle River Road  
 Saddle River, NJ

**COUNTY:** Bergen  
**UTM REFERENCES:**  
 Zone/Northing/Easting

**DESCRIPTION** c. 1869; pre 1876; mid 19th c.  
**Construction Date:** rear (east) wing: c. 1973

**Source of Date:** deeds; Atlas; visual;  
 neighbor: Mrs. Rice

**Architect:****Builder:****Style:** Vernacular**Form/Plan Type:** rectangular with rear wing**Number of Stories:** 2**Foundation:** Low on front, new brick facing**Exterior Wall Fabric:** vertical board-and-batten**Fenestration:** 3 bays, 6/6**Roof/Chimneys:** gables; recent exterior end chimney at north**Additional Architectural Description:**

Wide plain frieze between first and second stories which suggests that an earlier full-length porch has been removed. Currently has 1 bay entrance porch with shed roof, turned posts, patterned shingles on sides under roof. Rear: 1 1/2 story rear (east) wing said to have been added 9 years ago although  $\longleftrightarrow$  on 1876 Atlas map shows a rear wing projecting to south. Probably only south part of rear wing is recent and rest is older.

Narrative File No. 3-23

Map (Indicate North)





## SITING, BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION, AND RELATED STRUCTURES:

0.17 acres property

Faces west.

Approximately 10 feet from West Saddle River Road.

Picket fence along road. Small yard with trees and grass. To rear is 3 car garage of compatible design, built c. 1973. It has board-and-batten siding.

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

Commercially zoned but used as residence. To north is house (0258-D#24) which is used as an office building. To south is residence (0258-0 #20).

## SIGNIFICANCE:

The Justus Adams House, built about 1869, contributes to the architectural scale and character of the Saddle River Center District. The 3 bay, 2 story house has a small human scale and an unelaborate but picturesque quality. A title search reveals that Justus and Fanny Amelia Abrams purchased the property in 1869. It is likely the house was erected about this time as Abrams is shown on the 1876 Atlas map as owner. There are a number of title transactions related to the property in the late 1860's and 70's. In 1886 it was transferred by James Henin to John William Woodruff, the former owner of the foundry. It remained in Woodruff ownership until 1927.

ORIGINAL USE: Residential

PRESENT USE: Residential

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

COMMENTS:

In Saddle River Center District.

## REFERENCES:

1876 Walker Atlas: p. 117: J. Adams; pp. 120-121: J. Adams.

1913 Bromley, 1913 Atlas: no name

1964 Inskip Map: J. Adams



## SITING, BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION, AND RELATED STRUCTURES:

0.3 acre property  
 faces east.  
 Set back 5-7' from road.

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

**SIGNIFICANCE:** The building at 153 West Saddle River Road contributes to the significance of the Saddle River Center District. The building was erected in 1919 by E. C. Spaulding for his son Harold to use as an automobile showroom and repair shop. Harold joined the Army and building was not used for its intended function. Instead Mabel Kemp Spaulding ran an ice cream parlor there. The building, which has a domestic scale and a 1/2 story bungalow style appearance, has been a residence since the 1950's. Its artistic concrete block walls are of interest as this material was popular between 1895-30 and strongly identifies the building's early 20th century construction date. As is frequently the case, here the concrete blocks appear to be rock-faced ashlar stone.

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

## COMMENTS:

In Saddle River Center District.

## REFERENCES:

1876 Walker Atlas - not shown.  
 Information from Mary Curtis, the owner.

Interview with Ron Spaulding, E. C. Spaulding's grandson, by S. Van Benchooten  
 Oct. 1983.

RECORDED BY: TRB/SVB  
 ORGANIZATION: BCDCBHA/SRHC

DATE: 8-1983

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

HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY NO.

D #20

HISTORIC NAME: F. H. Stokes House  
LOCATION: 152 West Saddle River Road

COMMON NAME:  
BLOCK/LOT 1401/19

MUNICIPALITY: Saddle River  
USGS QUAD: Park Ridge  
OWNER/ADDRESS: John and Estelle Rice

COUNTY: Bergen  
UTM REFERENCES:  
Zone/Northing/Easting

DESCRIPTION

Construction Date: post 1876; c. 1880 with many alterations c.1910-20

Source of Date: Atlas; visual

Architect:

Builder:

Style: Vernacular

Form/Plan Type:

Number of Stories: 2½

Foundation: low, covered now with cement

Exterior Wall Fabric: new stucco

Fenestration: 3 bays, 2/2

Roof/Chimneys: gables, int. end chimney at 5

Additional Architectural Description:

Probably originally 2 story, 3 bay x 2 bay gable-roofed rectangular block. In C. 1910-20 enlarged with rear wing, side (south) porch, large front gable, stucco added. C. 1940 4 bay front porch removed.



PHOTO

Negative File No. 198351-25 slide

Map (Indicate North)



## SITING, BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION, AND RELATED STRUCTURES: 0.399 acres property.

Faces west. Approximately 20' from road, front yard with grass, trees, shrubs. Low stone wall (early 20th century) along south front property line with 150 W. Saddle River Road. Bare at east (rear): 1 1/2 story, vertical board siding, formerly L-shaped, now rectangular, has beam with "1870" on it, 2 garage doors, 1 story shed addition at east.

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

## SIGNIFICANCE:

The F. H. Storms House, a late 19th century building with considerable early 20th century modifications, contributes to the historical significance of the Saddle River Center District. F. H. Storms is an individual of local historical interest. About 1890 he was in the livery and moving business and had a store in front of his house. The store building is not extant. In 1893 he became Saddle River's postmaster. He resigned this position in 1897 due to the demands of his store and livery-business (The Land-  
scape, May 1897). In the early 20th century he became a building contractor and "F. H. Storms and Sons" erected numerous buildings in the area, maintained roads, dug graves, cut ice, and put down water mains. He had the largest local contracting firm, employing Italian immigrants as stone masons. Buildings erected by Storms include houses in Cragmere Park in Mahwah, houses on Storms Lane in Saddle River, and the Wandell School (0258-34) in Saddle River. Frank Storms died about 1934.

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

## COMMENTS:

In Saddle River Center District. Zoned commercially.

## REFERENCES:

1876 Walker Atlas: not shown  
 SRHC file: Photographs, notes.  
 Suzanne Barrett, "Saddle River's 1852 Bid for Post Office No Problem", Ridgewood News, 3-16-1967

RECORDED BY: SRHC/TRB  
 ORGANIZATION: SRHC/BCOC/WA

DATE: 8-1983

F. H. Storms House  
152 West Saddle River Road  
Saddle River



Looking NE  
showing front  
(west) and  
south sides  
Neg. file #  
3-19



Barn behind  
Storms House  
Looking south  
Neg. file #  
3-20.

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

HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY NO. 0 #19

HISTORIC NAME: Emaline Packer House  
LOCATION: 150 West Saddle River Road

COMMON NAME:  
BLOCK/LOT 1401/18

MUNICIPALITY: Saddle River  
USGS QUAD: Park Ridge  
OWNER/ADDRESS: Backman, Raymond J.

COUNTY: Bergen  
UTM REFERENCES: Zone/Northing/Easting

DESCRIPTION

Construction Date: between 1876-1911, c. 1880  
with c. 1900 addition

Source of Date: Atlas, visual

Architect:

Builder:

Style: vernacular with Colonial Revival porch

Form/Plan Type:



Number of Stories: 2

Foundation: fieldstone covered with stucco

Exterior Wall Fabric: shiplap siding

Penetration: front block: 2 bays, 1st story: 4/4, upper story: 3/3

Roof/Chimneys: gables, exterior chimney at N of rear wing, upper stack removed.

Additional Architectural Description:

2 additions at rear, one 2 story with gable roof attached to its rear (east) is 1 story wing with shed roof. Wraparound columnar porch. Overhanging eaves.

PHOTO Negative File No. 3-17 slide

Map (Indicate North) ↑



## SITING, BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION, AND RELATED STRUCTURES:

Property: .38 acre. Faces west. Setback about 20' from road. Front yard with grass, trees, shrubs. To rear (east) is 1½ story carriage house (frame) with gable roof, large garage door opening on 1st story, loft door on upper level.

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

## SIGNIFICANCE:

The Emaline Packer House is a contributing building in the Saddle River Center District. It represents the type of residential building erected here in the late 19th century. This modest, 2 story frame house is believed to have been the home of a member of the Packer family associated with the Packer industries.

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

## COMMENTS:

In Saddle River Center District.  
 Commercially zoned but remains a residence.

## REFERENCES:

1876 Walker Atlas - not shown  
 Information from owner.

RECORDED BY: SRHC/TRB  
 ORGANIZATION: SRHC/BOCHA

DATE: 8-1983



NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, OFFICE OF CULTURAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION SECTION, 109 WEST STATE STREET, TRENTON, NEW JERSEY 08625 (609) 292-2033

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

HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY NO.

D #18

HISTORIC NAME: E. C. Spaulding House  
LOCATION: 149-151 W. Saddle River Road

COMMON NAME:  
BLOCK/LOT 1602/7

MUNICIPALITY: Saddle River  
USGS QUAD: Park Ridge  
OWNER/ADDRESS: Smith, Joseph E and Gloria A.  
222 E. Franklin Turnpike, Ho-Ho-Kus, NJ 07423

COUNTY: Bergen  
UTM REFERENCES:  
Zone/Northing/Easting

DESCRIPTION

Construction Date: 1908

Source of Date: Ron Spaulding, grandson of builder

Architect:

Builder: Ellery Channing Spaulding  
Porte cochère

Style: "Dutch" Colonial Revival

Form/Plan Type:



Number of Stories: 1 1/2

Foundation: high, hidden by shrubs

Exterior Wall Fabric: wood shingles on south section, clapboard on north

Fenestration: 4 bays, 6/1, some diamond patterned sash

Roof/Chimneys: gambrels

Additional Architectural Description:

shed dormers  
gambrel of S. wing faces street  
columnar porch under gambrel on north section  
Porte cochère with paired columns

PHOTO Negative File No. 3-16 c114a

Map (Indicate North)



SETTING, BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION, AND RELATED STRUCTURES: 1.6 acre parcel

Faces east.

Set back c. 150' from street

Large front yard with hedges, trees.

Garage to NW with elliptical arched opening, hip roof, stuccoed.

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

## SIGNIFICANCE:

The E. C. Spaulding House is a good example of early 20th century suburban architecture and contributes to the Saddle River Center District's historical ambience. The house represents a period in the district's early 20th century development history when the area along West Saddle River Road became progressively residential in character. The house's Dutch Colonial Revival style is of interest as the style is derived from early regional architecture and was favored local style for early 20th century suburban architecture. With gambrel roofs, shingle and clapboard wall sheathing, columnar porch and porte cochère, and diamond pattern sash on dormers this house has numerous interesting architectural features and is a very handsome example of its architectural style.

The house was built in 1908 by Ellery Channing Spaulding to house his family and his in-laws. Spaulding was a typesetter for the N.Y. Journal. He is believed to have owned the first automobile in Saddle River, a Toledo.

ORIGINAL USE: Residential

PHYSICAL CONDITION: Excellent  Good 

PRESENT USE: Residential, 2 family

REGISTER ELIGIBILITY: Yes  Possible  No  Part of District THREATS TO SITE: Roads  Development  Zoning  Deterioration No Threat  Other 

## COMMENTS:

In Saddle River Center District.

## REFERENCES:

1876 Walker Atlas: not shown

1913 Bronley Atlas pl. 31: probably shown

Interview with Ron Spaulding by S. Van Benchtoten, Oct. 1983.

RECORDED BY: TRB/SRHC  
ORGANIZATION: BCO&H/SRHC

DATE: 8-4-83

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

HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY NO. 0417

**HISTORIC NAME:** Woodruff-Packer House  
**LOCATION:** 148 West Saddle River Road

**COMMON NAME:** "Barnstable Court"  
**BLOCK/LOT** 1401/14

**MUNICIPALITY:** Saddle River  
**USGS QUAD:** Park Ridge  
**OWNER/ADDRESS:** Old Packer Estate, Inc.  
 P. O. Box 152, Saddle River, NJ 07458

**COUNTY:** Bergen  
**UTM REFERENCES:** Zone/Northing/Easting

**DESCRIPTION** 1812; mid 19th c.; moved  
**Construction Date:** after 1876, before 1886

**Source of Date:** tradition; visual; 1876 Atlas,  
 1886 Photograph

**Architect:**

**Builder:**

**Style:** Vernacular

**Form/Plan Type:** Rectangular

**Number of Stories:** 2 with 1 story rear (east) wing.

**Foundation:** Fieldstone, some cement block on rear wing  
 Replacement narrow aluminum siding, covers original wood clapboards  
**Exterior Wall Fabric:** ✓

**Fenestration:** 6x2 bays, 6/6 (new sash)

**Roof/Chimneys:** low pitch gable, rear wing: shed; Main block: Interior chimney near center.

**Additional Architectural Description:**

**Main block:** appears to have been built in stages of 3 bays each, as windows of two parts are not aligned.  
**Rear Wing:** Added recent bow window on S. side, wing may be c. 1900 addition.  
**Originally** located just east of 71 East Allendale Road (0259-D#5). Said to have been moved "about 100 years ago" and porch removed.

**PHOTO** Negative File No. 3-15, slide

Map (Indicate North) ↑



**SITING, BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION, AND RELATED STRUCTURES:** On a 3.75 acre parcel which contains the buildings of the "Barnstable Court" Complex. On parcel also are 71 and 73 East Allendale Road (#5 and 6) faces west, apparently originally faced south. Small front yard. On south is entrance to parking lot behind building. Parking lot has other entrances and serves entire Barnstable Court Complex.

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

Part of Barnstable Court shopping-office complex. To south is 146 West Saddle River Road (#15). To north is 150 West Saddle River Road (#19).

**SIGNIFICANCE:**

The Woodruff-Packer house contributes to the historical significance of the Saddle River Center District. The building is associated with the Woodruff and Packer families, both important in Saddle River's industrial history (see #4, 5, 6).

According to local tradition the house was built in 1812 by John Woodruff. However the 1840 U.S. Coast Survey map does not show building at this structure's original location, on the north side of East Allendale Road on the west side of the Saddle River. (This site is now a parking lot on the east side of 71 West Saddle River Road, #5). It seems likely that the house was built about 1847 when John Woodruff built the foundry (#4). The 1876 shows an L-shaped building on this structure's original site. The building does not appear in an c. 1886 photograph of the area, suggesting that it was moved to its current location between 1876-86. The current fieldstone foundation also suggests a late 19th-century moving date.

In 1892 John Woodruff's great-granddaughter, Mary Hamilton, wrote that the house was moved by her father, Daniel E. Woodruff, rather than by Mr. Packer. This needs further investigation, as the house was in Packer ownership in 1876 and remains part of the property in the Packer estate in 1953. It is said to have been used by the Packers for rental housing, so perhaps it was occupied by Daniel Woodruff or he was the contractor (cont. p. B)

**ORIGINAL USE:** Residential **PRESENT USE:** offices  
**PHYSICAL CONDITION:** Excellent  Good  Fair  Poor   
**REGISTER ELIGIBILITY:** Yes  Possible  No  Part of District   
**THREATS TO SITE:** Roads  Development  Zoning  Deterioration   
 No Threat  Other  alteration

**COMMENTS:**

In Saddle River Center District  
 Removal of incompatible aluminum siding will enhance historical integrity of this building.

**REFERENCES:**

1861 Hopkins Map: unclear  
 1876 Walker Atlas: on original site; W. W. Packer  
 1964 Inskip map: (moved from riverside to just north of store) John Woodruff Residence (1861) (b. 1812).  
 SRHC files: letter from Mary Woodruff Hamilton to Mr. Forshay, Sept. 19, 1892

SIGNIFICANCE: (continued)

for the move. Mary Hamilton said that a porch was removed from the house when it was moved and this seems quite probable.

NEW JERSEY OFFICE OF CULTURAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

HISTORIC PRESERVATION SECTION

INDIVIDUAL STRUCTURE SURVEY FORM

HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY NO.

D #6

HISTORIC NAME: Packer Showroom  
 LOCATION: 73 East Allendale Road  
 Saddle River

COMMON NAME: Joseph Murphy Real Estate Offices  
 BLOCK/LOT 1401/14

MUNICIPALITY: Park Ridge

COUNTY: Bergen

USGS QUAD: Park Ridge  
 OWNER/ADDRESS: Old Packer Estate Inc. P.O.  
 Box 152, Saddle River, NJ 07458

UTM REFERENCES: Zone/Northing/Easting

DESCRIPTION

Construction Date: between 1876-86?

Source of Date: in photograph of 1886; not on map

Architect:

Builder:

Style: Vernacular

Form/Plan Type: Rectangular

Number of Stories: 2

Foundation: very low, fieldstone

Exterior Wall Fabric: ship lap siding

Penetration: mostly 6/6, see below

Roof/Chimneys: low pitched gable, overhanging eaves; one interior chimney at west.

Additional Architectural Description:

Front (south facade):  
 1st story of front (south) has been altered, c. 1930's photographs show with double doors flanked by large 20 pane windows at west and garage door openings. Doors have been removed and eastern of flanking windows. Garage door opening now has multipaned window. Another similar multipane window in east bay which was also a large doorway. Today building has 3 bays on first story. 2nd story is 2 bay.  
 East Facade: 3 bays with loft door in 2nd-story center, part of hoist is in gable.  
 North Facade: irregular bays, mostly 6/6 windows although 2nd story has 20" picture window, frame fire escape.  
 West Facade: 2 bays, 1st-story south bay in now a doorway. 1930's photograph shows it as a window. c. 1930's photograph shows a 1-bay open porch at west end of south facade. 1947 photograph shows this porch damaged during a storm.  
 Porch: indistinctly shown in pre-1886 photograph.

PHOTO Negative File No. 3-34, slide

Map (Indicate North) ↑



NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, OFFICE OF CULTURAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES  
 HISTORIC PRESERVATION SECTION, 109 WEST STATE STREET, TRENTON, NEW JERSEY 08625 (609) 292-3033

## SITING, BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION, AND RELATED STRUCTURES:

Is on a 3.25 acre parcel with 71 East Allendale Road and "Barnstable Court" Long side of building parallels E. Allendale Road. Building in c. 5' north of road. To east is parking lot and Saddle River. To North is a mill pond of Saddle River. To west a wooden footbridge over raceway connects to another parking lot and to 69 E. Allendale Road and "Barnstable Court" area. A similar footbridge at SE connects to an island with a one-story garden shop built c. 1950's. This is Stewart's Garden Shop at 11 Barnstable Court.

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

At the commercial center of Saddle River. On east edge of Saddle River Center District. To east is modern gas station. To west and south are other buildings in district. To north is a mill pond also in Saddle River Center District.

## SIGNIFICANCE:

The Packer Showroom is an important structure in the Saddle River Center District. It is a highly visible remnant of Saddle River's late 19th and 20th century commercial history. Probably built between 1876-1886 as a showroom for the Packer enterprises it reflects the increasing involvement as the century progressed of this company in merchandising the Packer foundry products and wagons and sleighs.

The Packer firm, which began as an early 19th century basket manufacturer, after c. 1847 in addition made plows in its foundry (see #4). In 1889 the firm built a large "repository" and it is possible that the building at 73 East Allendale Road is this structure and that an early photograph dated 1886 showing it is incorrectly dated. (While an article on Packer Industries in Heritage News, April, 1980, suggests this building was erected about 1850, it does not appear on the rather detailed 1876 map so a pre-1876 date seems unlikely).

In the late 19th century the Packer firm erected a number of wagon or carriage "ware-rooms", as its emphasis changed from manufacture of plows to the selling of sleighs and wagons. This showroom located on the main thoroughfare probably remained the principal one. Today only one other Packer "ware-room" exists. Located at 3 Barnstable Court (#54), it has a much less visible location, is smaller, and is more altered than (cont.)

ORIGINAL USE: display + storage, gas station PRESENT USE: Offices and stores

PHYSICAL CONDITION: Excellent  Good  Fair  Poor

REGISTER ELIGIBILITY: Yes  Possible  No  Part of District

THREATS TO SITE: Roads  Development  Zoning  Deterioration

No Threat  Other  flooding

## COMMENTS:

The building is only 5' from the road. It is bordered on 3 sides by the Saddle River and could be damaged by flooding.

In Saddle River Center District.

## REFERENCES:

Old Photographs in SRHC files, Cannon notebook, The Landscape

Post cards

Walker, 1876: not on

"The Packer Industries in Saddle River", Heritage News, April, 1980

See References for 0258-D #4 and #5

Packer Showroom, 73 East Allendale Road, Saddle River



Circa 1947 photograph looking NE showing 73 East Allendale Road. Copied from SRHC files. Neg. file # 198351-10.



## SIGNIFICANCE: (continued)

this building at 73 East Allendale Road.

In c. 1900 W. W. Packer and Son were still manufacturing tools but had 2 warehouses for wagons (Van Valen p. 230). By 1911 Packer was selling Flanders cars and had added a gas pump. This pump was located in front of 73 East Allendale Road so this building represents the firm's transition into the 20th century. In the 1920's the Packers sold Studebaker cars. After 1934, when William H. Packer died, the store and gas station known as Saddle River Supply Co. was operated by his brother Milton. Milton retired in 1946 and died in 1951. His widow Nellie died in 1963.

In 1954 the Packer property on the north side of East Allendale Road was purchased by Mr. and Mrs. Charles DeYoe. With Foster Sommerville of Ridgewood as architect, they transformed the buildings on the property into a shopping area known as "Barnstable Court" (see #5). During this rehabilitation the carriage doorways of the showroom were by multipaned sash. The "Barnstable Court" project is important in the history of historic preservation in Bergen County. It is unusual here for a complex of buildings to be reused rather than a single building. While today we may question preservation techniques employed for the project, the intent was to retain and enhance the historic ambience of the buildings. Barnstable Court continues today as a small district with commercial and office space.



View looking NW  
Showing east and  
south sides.  
Neg. file # 198351  
-21.



Packer's Gas Station, Saddle River Borough, N. J.

Circa 1920's post-  
card showing 73  
East Allendale Rd.  
when it was a gas  
station. Copied  
from SRHC files.  
Neg. file # 198351  
-14

## NEW JERSEY OFFICE OF CULTURAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

## HISTORIC PRESERVATION SECTION

## INDIVIDUAL STRUCTURE SURVEY FORM

HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY NO.

D #5

HISTORIC NAME: William Packer House and  
 LOCATION: Accessory Buildings  
 73 East Allendale Road

COMMON NAME: Barnstable Court  
 BLOCK/LOT 1401/14

MUNICIPALITY: Saddle River

COUNTY: Bergen

USGS QUAD: Park Ridge

UTM REFERENCES:

OWNER/ADDRESS: Old Packer Estate, Inc.  
 P. O. Box 152, Saddle River, NJ 07458

Zone/Northing/Easting

## DESCRIPTION

Construction Date: mid 19th c., Packer bought property c. 1801

Source of Date: visual, deed

Architect:

Builder:

Style: Vernacular

Form/Plan Type:

main (west) block;

Number of Stories: 2½; east wing: 2; north (rear) wing: 2

Foundation: most of foundation hidden on exterior; part fieldstone, cement;  
 east wing: brick

Exterior Wall Fabric: mostly asphalt siding. 1st-story front (south) covered with  
 aluminum siding.

Fenestration: main (west) block: 3 bays; east wing: 2 bays; 2/2

Roof/Chimneys: gable; interior end chimney at N of N wing

## Additional Architectural Description:

Early photograph shows clapboard siding, open porches with turned posts (late 19th c) on main block and wing. Interior end chimneys at W of main block, at E on E wing (now removed). House retains original plain frieze and cornice with returns, also retains open porch on east wing. Porch of main block has been enclosed. Photograph of c. 1930's shows the porch of the main block and chimney of east wing missing. Several 1 story wings have been attached to N wing in 20th C. Earlier enclosed porch was a sunporch surrounded by multipane windows. Now covered with aluminum siding and has single grouping of windows on front.

PHOTO

Negative File No. 3-35, slide

Map (Indicate North)



## SITE, BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION, AND RELATED STRUCTURES:

Is on a 3.25 acre parcel which contains the "Barnstable" shopping complex. House faces south. It is setback c. 25' from E. Allendale Road. Today a split log fence is along the road and there is a front yard with garden, shrubs and trees. Early photograph shows yard with only grass and trees, no shrubbery and very small planting beds. See Appendix A for information on this building's numerous accessory buildings. The accessory buildings are located behind (north of) the house around an informal courtyard with brick walks. East of the house is a parking lot which is (cont.)

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

The house is located between 69 and 73 East Allendale Road (#3, 6,) and is across East Allendale Road from number 70 (#4). It is located at the center of Saddle River's commercial area. The Saddle River forms the eastern border of the property.

**SIGNIFICANCE:**

The William Packer House and its accessory buildings are a pivotal complex in the Saddle River Center District. The house as the home of the Packer family from its construction (probably in the mid-19th century, although parts may be earlier) until 1953 is associated with a family very important in Saddle River industrial history. The accessory buildings relate to the house or to the various Packer industries. Included on the property are a mill pond, with dam, and part of a raceway. The reuse of the buildings in 1954 as the nucleus of "Barnstable Court" shopping area is an important landmark in the history of historic preservation in Bergen County.

Indian arrowheads have been found in the vicinity. Professional investigation is needed to determine if the property has prehistoric archeological significance. The location by the Saddle River gives it high potential for such aboriginal occupation sites.

The Revolutionary War period maps do not show buildings on this site, nor does the 1840 U. S. Coast Survey map. Neither map shows a pond here, suggesting the dam was not built until after 1840, possibly around 1866 when the Packers acquired (cont.)

**ORIGINAL USE:** residential **PRESENT USE:** commercial/ residence  
**PHYSICAL CONDITION:** Excellent  Good  Fair  Poor   
**REGISTER ELIGIBILITY:** Yes  Possible  No  Part of District   
**THREATS TO SITE:** Roads  Development  Zoning  Deterioration   
 No Threat  Other

**COMMENTS:**

In Saddle River Center District. The eastern border of this property is the Saddle River and it is also part of the eastern border of the district.

**REFERENCES:** Junior League Inventory.

"The Packer Industries in Saddle River", Heritage News, April 1980, p. 1-2.  
 Walker 1876 Atlas: W. W. Packer.  
 Bergen County Deed Book N, pages 183-191, Administrative Bldg. Hackensack, N.J.  
 SRHC filed photographs; sketch map of Francis Bierbrier, April, 1980;  
 Cannon notebooks; The Landscape; Packer catalogues and business cards.  
 Newspaper clippings: interview with Cliff Woodruff and Robert James; etc.  
 Van Valen, P. 230, Westervelt, p. 226, 410.

**RECORDED BY:** SRHC/TRB  
**ORGANIZATION:** SRHC/BOCC&HA

**DATE:** 7-1983

## SIGNIFICANCE: (continued)

the foundry (0258-D #4), although according to Cliff Woodruff the pond was built by his ancestor John Woodruff. Unfortunately the 1861 Hopkins map is unclear for this area. The 1876 Walker Bergen County Atlas map (p p. 120-121) shows the pond with the approximate configuration it retains today and two L-shaped buildings labeled "W. M. Packer" on the property. The western of these buildings is the William Packer House, while the eastern is the Woodruff-Packer House, subsequently moved to 148 West Saddle River Road (0258-D #17). Unfortunately the 1876 map does not normally show accessory buildings, so it does not help document the construction dates of these structures.

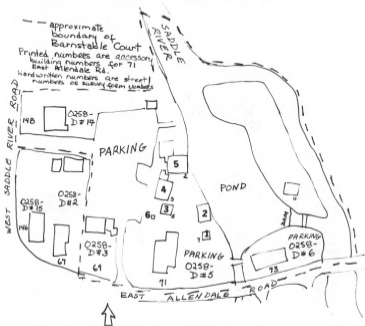
William W. Packer purchased 12 acres in Saddle River from John D. Ackerman in 1799 and 26 additional acres from Peter <sup>Van</sup> in 1800. According to "The Packer Industries in Saddle River", as early as the 1840's William A. Packer was operating a sawmill and basket factory off West Saddle River Road not far from the Ackerman-Pell House (139 West Saddle River Road, 0258-D #13). The 1861 map shows a "S.M. G.M." (saw mill, grist mill) at the approximate site but associates it with J. Woodruff. The 1876 map (pp. 120-121) shows at the site on the west side of the Saddle River below a pond across from the Berdan House (0258-D #12) three buildings labeled "saw mill W. Packer". It is very probable that one of these no-longer-extant structures was Packer's basket factory. The site is now the site of the Tricker House (0258-D #11). According to tradition the Packer House's accessory building #5 (2 Barnstable Court) was a barn used to store baskets. This is quite probable as Packer continued to make baskets as late as March 1883 (The Landscape). While the date the barn was constructed is not known, its construction indicates it was on the site prior to 1883. Locally Saddle River was well known as a fruit and vegetable basket making location and this barn and the Packer House are two of the buildings extant in Saddle River associated with this industry (the other is 0258-D #31).

In 1866 William and Christian Packer purchased the iron foundry from John Woodruff (see 0258-D #4). It is possible the property for the Packer House was part of this purchase as the former Woodruff House (0258-D #17) was adjacent to the Packer House in 1876. It is possible that the Packer House was built about 1866. The Packer family lived in the house surrounded by the industrial and commercial buildings of their firm.

The Packer firm was known successively as Packer & Terwilleger (c. 1866-76), W. W. Packer & Son (c. 1876-87), Packer & Powell (1893), Packer & Son (c. 1890's), Packer's Carriage Repository (1900), and W. H. Packer (c. 1900-20). The firm was Saddle River's largest commercial establishment in the late 19th century. The foundry produced plows and farm implements. The saw mill produced material used in their manufacture and at the basket factory. By the end of the century the Packers were said to be the largest dealer in wagons and sleighs in Bergen County. Numerous carriage warehouses were built in the 1890's and 1900's. While most are not extant it is likely that Packer House accessory buildings #2 and 4 (7 and 3 Barnstable Court) were associated with this phase of the firm's development. At the turn of the century Packer's was said to have 20,000 square feet of storage space.

William W. Packer died in 1899 and the family firm was continued by his son William H. Packer. About this time the plow and toolmaking business was sold (see 0258-D #4) and the emphasis placed on selling wagons and sleighs. In the early 20th century Packer's became an automobile dealer selling Flanders and Studebaker cars and a country store-gas station operated out of 73 East Allendale Road (0258-D#6). The sale of acreage on the south side of East Allendale Road to Tricker's Water Gardens in 1926-7 (0258-D #7) confirms the end of the large-scale Packer industries. The mill, most warehouses, and probably the basket factory, which had not been operative for some time, were demolished. William H. Packer died in 1934. He had been active in local government, serving in 1894 as the new Saddle River borough's first collector. He was a member of the Saddle River Borough Council for 17 years.

bordered by a raceway leading to the foundry building on the other side of the highway at 70 East Allendale Road (#4). A small frame footbridge provides a pedestrian crossing over the raceway and gives access to 73 East Allendale Road (#6) which is on the same legal parcel of land as 71 East Allendale. The Parker accessory buildings are along the western edge of the small mill pond, also on this legal parcel. The dam forming this pond in the Saddle River is on the property. Included in the parcel is an island in the Saddle River. Located on the island is Stewart's Garden Shop at 11 Barnstable Court described in form #6. Also included on the Barnstable Court property is a large parking lot behind 69 East Allendale Road (#3) and the house at 148 West Saddle River Road (#17). The project has attractive, informal, naturalistic landscaping with large trees, shrubs, flower beds, brick or gravel paths, and scattered fences, urns, birdbaths, benches, and streetlights with turned posts and reproduction lanterns.



Map of the Barnstable Court Area of Saddle River

## SIGNIFICANCE: (continued)

Milton Packer, William H. Packer's brother, ran the store and gas station until 1946 when he retired. Milton is fondly remembered locally for giving tours of the abandoned foundry and for his New Year's Day refreshments served at the store. He died in 1951 and when his widow died in 1953 the Packer house was without a Packer resident for the first time.

The remaining Packer property (including the Packer House and its accessory buildings), the showroom at 73 East Allendale Road (1258-D #17), was purchased by Mr. & Mrs. Charles DeFoe who with Albert Zecher adaptively reused them in "Barnstable Court" complex with primarily commercial and office uses. Foster Sommerville of Ridgewood was architect of the renovations. The grand opening of the first part of Barnstable Court was held on July 31, 1954. The intention of the reuse project was to retain and enhance the historic ambience of the early buildings while making them economically viable. Barnstable Court retains its small scale historic ambience and remains a shopping-office complex forming part of the commercial center of today's Borough.

\* and the Woodruff-Packer House at 148 West Saddle River Road (0258-D #17)



The Packer House as shown in undated old photograph. SRHC files. Neg. file # 198351-11



View Along Allendale Avenue, Saddle River Borough, N. J.

Circa 1920's postcard showing a view looking NW from 73 E. Allendale Road. Shown are dam, pond, and accessory buildings 2, 4, and 5 of 71 E. Allendale Road. Copy in SRHC Collection. Neg. file # 198351-15.

Description of Packer House Accessory Buildings

Map #	Location; Name	Date erected	St.	Description (Date, Style, Material, etc., with Tables, Illustrations; roof; major features; characteristics; Materials of significance. Historic owners with dates in ( )	Map File Number
1	SE of William Packer House; 7 Barnstable Court (Barnstable)	late 19th c ?	F	Original function not clear, said to have been utilitarian, laundry, wash house, mechanics' shop, veranda; clapboards; 1 bay; gable, small addition with standing seam; south side small porch with shed roof. Moved about 20' from behind house at 71 E. Barnstable Road, quarters, closer to river.	1-26
2	E of F1, 7 Barnstable Court; Barn (Part in present lot-lines)	late 19th c	B	Barn, saw mill; shed; veranda; 2; shingle siding; irregular, long facade; 2 bays on lot story, one on second, etc., mill pond (extreme window; shed with short board (shed) above 19th c; painted above 1/2" windows on east side.	1-26, 1-28
3	5 Barnstable Court; First Jersey Section East building.	Post 1901	C	Bank; Colonial Revival; 1; painted cedar blocks; 2 bays on south side; 1 bay open porch at south with turned posts.	1-27
4	1 Barnstable Court; (Formerly Inc) Carriage storage shed	late 19th c early 20th c	H	Structure for carriage, now commercial; veranda; 1; shingle siding; saw roof; shed attached by 1 story addition with shingle siding; cedar block wing at south. This building was used for storage of carriages.	1-27
5	2 Barnstable Court; basket storage barn, (Tadde River lot)	possibly early 19th c	H	Barn, saw mill; veranda; 2; shingle siding; veranda; gable, wing, veranda; 20th c; painted above with 2 windows on 2nd story of east facade and 1 in gable, south side had barn door and a roof 1 story addition with shed roof attached to 1 corner. Added 1 story wing with shed roof at west.	1-26, 1-27
6	30' behind Packer House and about 5' east of F1; necessary	c. 1900	F	Necessary, structure for storage; veranda; extensive vertical siding; window used on interior; only two doorways, located on south side; rubble with veranda; 1; rolling body at foundation and is partially collapsed.	1907-17

## SIGNIFICANCE (continued)

DeBaun's grocery store until it burned in 1910. The Saddle River post office with Berdan as Post Master was on this site from 1897 to 1910.

When the store burned in the summer of 1910, DeBaun went to work in New York City for a year. The existing building on the site was erected in 1911 for Albert Mowerson and used as a grocery store. It is probable that the foundation of the building is the reused foundation of the 1900 building. For many years the building had a fire siren on the roof which in addition to being sounded for fires was activated every day at 12 noon. The fire siren is no longer there. The one-story frame building behind the building probably dates to the late 19th century. It was moved from another site about 1910 and used as the meat store while the main building was being erected.

## REFERENCES (continued)

1876 Walker Atlas: A. Z. Winter on site.

1902 Robinson map: P. O.

1964 Inskeep map: drawing of 1900 building, grocery store (before fire and rebuilding), J. D. Naugle (1861), A. Z. Winter (1876), John DeBaun.



• Benn's Store and Post Office, Saddle River, N.J.

Circa 1905 photograph-DeBaun Store and Post Office Building erected in 1901. This building burned in 1910. In the background is the barn now behind 67 East Allendale Avenue (1058-D #2) From SRHC files. Neg. file # 198351-6



Circa 1950 photograph showing Mowerson Store with fire siren on roof and with open front porch. From SRHC files. Neg. file # 198351-4



D #15

## SITING, BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION, AND RELATED STRUCTURES:

0.246 acre lot. Located on NE corner E. Allendale and West Saddle River Roads. Originally faced south, now has entrance on west. Approximately 8' from road on west and 5' on south. In rear (to north) is parking lot. In NE corner is 1 story frame accessory building with gable roof, ship lap siding, and hood across south facade. This c. 12' x 20' building was originally located elsewhere and used as a meat market in front lawn of Abe Forshay.

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

## SIGNIFICANCE:

Mowerson's Store built in 1910 has a place in Saddle River's early 20th century commercial history. The building since erected has functioned as a grocery store meat market. The building is located on the NE corner of East Allendale Road and West Saddle River and this site has long been the location of a general store. A building on this site was occupied by J. D. Naugle in 1876, and by A. Z. Winter in 1876. While J. D. Berdan's Shoe and Grocery Store in 1876 was located just north of his house at 125 West Saddle River Road (0255-D #12), it is likely the store at this site is a continuation of Berdan's business. A newspaper clipping of Feb. 6, 1874 stated that Berdan had sold his grocery stock. Another of July 9, 1880 states that A. Z. Winter has purchased Berdan's shop. In 1900 The Landscape reported: "DeBaun's store burnt Easter morning. Doing business in a barn. Building owned by shoemaker J. D. Berdan and will be rebuilt" (May 1900). According to local tradition the building which burned in 1900 was located on the site of Mowerson's Store, not on the site of Berdan's 1876 store (which is not extant). Since John G. DeBaun, according to his daughter, Martha, opened his general store at this site in the early 1890's, it is quite probable that he was assuming the business of Berdan-Winters which had earlier moved to this site. The building erected in 1900 housed (cont.)

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

## COMMENTS:

In Saddle River Center District.

June 1986- This building may be demolished for road improvements of the intersection of E. Allendale Road and W. Saddle River Road.

## REFERENCES:

Information from Sandy Van Berghoten, Mowerson descendant.

SRHC files: old photographs; Martha R. DeBaun's "DeBaun's General Store"; typewritten; Cannon notebooks.

"DeBaun's Store" Heritage News, May 1970, p.3, Dec. 1969, pp. 1-2.

Suzanne Barrett, "Saddle River's 1852 Bid for Post Office No Problem," Ridgewood News, The Landscape, May, 1900. 3-16-67.

1961 Hopkin's map: J. D. Naugle on site. (continued)

RECORDED BY: TBE / SRHC  
 ORGANIZATION: BCDCM<sup>HA</sup> / SRHC

DATE: 8-1983

NEW JERSEY OFFICE OF CULTURAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

HISTORIC PRESERVATION SECTION

INDIVIDUAL STRUCTURE SURVEY FORM

HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY NO.

D #15

**HISTORIC NAME:** Moyerson Store  
**LOCATION:** 146 W. Saddle River Road  
 NE corner 65 E. Allendale Road  
**MUNICIPALITY:** Saddle River  
**USGS QUAD:** Park Ridge  
**OWNER/ADDRESS:** Richard Buck  
 7 Rising Ridge Road, Upper Saddle River, NJ 07458

**COMMON NAME:** Buck's Park Store  
**BLOCK/LOT:** 1401/17  
**COUNTY:**  
**UTM REFERENCES:**  
 Zone/Northing/Easting

**DESCRIPTION**

**Construction Date:** 1910

**Source of Date:** Sandy Van Benchoten

**Architect:**

**Builder:**

**Style:** Vernacular

**Form/Plan Type:** rectangular

**Number of Stories:** 1½

**Foundation:** rubble stone, now cemented, probably foundation of 1900 building on site  
 which burned 1910.

**Exterior Wall Fabric:** shiplap siding

**Fenestration:** front altered; west: 2 bays, display window, eyebrow windows on upper level

**Roof/Chimneys:** hip; interior chimney

**Additional Architectural Description:**  
 West porch has been enlarged  
 c. 22' x 48'

1950's photograph: south facade: 3 bay open porch - had fire siren on roof.

PHOTO Negative File No. 1-32, slide



Map (Indicate North)



HISTORIC NAME: DeBaun House  
LOCATION: 145 West Saddle River Road,  
N. W. corner East Allendale Road  
MUNICIPALITY: Saddle River  
USGS QUAD: Park Ridge  
OWNER/ADDRESS: Joseph Oreski

COMMON NAME:  
BLOCK/LOT 1603/9  
COUNTY: Bergen  
UTM REFERENCES:  
Zone/Easting/Northing

DESCRIPTION

Construction Date: after 1876; c. 1890's

Source of Date: Atlas; visual

Architect:

Builder:

Style: Queen Anne

Form/Plan Type:

Number of Stories: 2½

Foundation: medium height, brick

Exterior Wall Fabric: clapboard, patterned shingle frieze in gable

Fenestration: 3 bays, center bay is polygonal projecting pavilion; 1/1, some colored glass borders around attic window.

Roof/Chimneys: cross gables; interior chimney

Additional Architectural Description:

corner boards

overhanging eaves

3 bay corner porch with gable pediment over entrance bay, turned posts, has lost spindle frieze.

Polygonal 2 story front pavilion with brackets supporting attic triangular pediment, patterned shingles on pediment. East side has 1st-story bay window with projecting 2nd-story bay window above. Has lost small one-bay porch.



**SITING, BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION, AND RELATED STRUCTURES:**

0258-D #14 0.6 acre property.

Located 20 feet from West Saddle River Road, 30 ft. from East Allendale Road. Stone well at rear (north).

New free standing garage building constructed 1983-4, west of house.

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

House is just west of Saddle River's small commercial area. It is bordered on north and west by residential properties. It is one of the western borders of the district.

**SIGNIFICANCE:**

The John G. DeBaun House, a remnant of Saddle River's late 19th century history, is a well preserved example of vernacular Queen Anne style architecture which was the home of the John G. DeBaun family. DeBaun, at the turn of the century, was owner of the local general store. The house was probably built in the early 1890's about the time DeBaun opened his general store across the street on the NE corner West Saddle River Road. However the house may pre-date 1885 and be the A. DeBaun house which operated as a summer boarding house with 9 rooms accommodating 30 persons (Picturesque Erie). The house does not appear on 1876 maps. In 1910-11 the Saddle River Post Office was located here during the year that DeBaun did not operate a store but continued being post master. The house has a visually prominent location adjacent to the intersection of two major thoroughfares, East Allendale Road and West Saddle River Road.

According to an article published in 1934, DeBaun was Saddle River's Post Master for 37 years.

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

**COMMENTS:**

Adjacent to busy intersection. In the Saddle River Center District.

Wing is being added to west side 8/1983, of compatible design.

**REFERENCES:**

1876 Atlas: not shown

c. 1900 photograph in files of Saddle River Historical Committee

Martha DeBaun, "DeBaun's General Store" in files of SRHC

Summer Homes and Rambles on the Picturesque Erie, Passenger Dept. of NY, Lake Erie and Western Railway, May 1885

"The Valley of Heritage", Bergen Evening Record, 11-1934.

**RECORDED BY:** SRHC/TRB  
**ORGANIZATION:** SRHC/BCOC&HA

**DATE:** 7/1983

Saddle River Center District, Saddle River  
DeBaun House, 145 West Saddle River Road

D #14  
page 3



View looking NE  
showing west addition  
and other modifications  
made in 1983.  
Neg. file # 19844-29.

NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, OFFICE OF CULTURAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION SECTION, 100 WEST STATE STREET, TRENTON, NEW JERSEY 08625 (609) 291-3033

NEW JERSEY OFFICE OF CULTURAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

HISTORIC PRESERVATION SECTION

INDIVIDUAL STRUCTURE SURVEY FORM

HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY NO.

DP13

**HISTORIC NAME:** Ackerman-Pell Farm  
**LOCATION:** 139 West Saddle River Road,  
 SE corner E. Allendale Road  
**MUNICIPALITY:** Saddle River  
**USGS QUAD:** Park Ridge  
**OWNER/ADDRESS:** Alice E. Pell  
 196 Winn Road, Falmouth, Maine

**COMMON NAME:**  
**BLOCK/LOT** 1606/21  
**COUNTY:** Bergen  
**UTM REFERENCES:** Zone/Northing/Easting

**DESCRIPTION** early 19th c. incorporating  
**Construction Date:** earlier house, c. 1900  
 remodeling  
**Architect:**  
**Style:** appears predominantly vernacular  
 Greek Revival  
**Number of Stories:** main block: 1½  
**Foundation:** main block: brick, except SW section is stone

**Source of Date:** history, visual

**Builder:**

**Form/Plan Type:**



**Exterior Wall Fabric:** clapboard

**Penetration:** front (east): 5 bays, 1/1

**Roof/Chimneys:** gables, brick interior and chimney at north; c. 1900 exterior end chimney at S.

**Additional Architectural Description:** c. 1830,  
 Main Block: probably in stages, took basic form/ 2 bay section (south) probably predates 3 bay east section, south section has 4/4 eyebrow windows while north section has smaller 1/1 eyebrow windows, 5 bay Greek Revival porch with paneled posts. Center entrance with c. 1900 door, side lights, 1958: house jacked up, 2 steel beams inserted, rewired.  
 West wing: probably erected c. 1830 with gable roof. 1 story south wing with shed roof c. 1900  
 Columnar screened porch at north, c. 1900.

PHOTO Negative File No. 1-6 slides



Map (Indicate North)



**SITING, BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION, AND RELATED STRUCTURES:** 10.9 Acres. House

Faces east on West Saddle River Road, set back 48' from this road and 141' from East Allendale Road. Large yard with grass, trees, shrubs. To rear (west) are accessory buildings. Planting fields to south and west. See site plan map for approximate location of accessory buildings. Building #2 is believed to have been the wash house. Its style suggests a mid-19th century c. construction date. It is a 1 story structure with gable roof, vertical board-and-batten siding. It's 1 bay, c. 8' wide, chimney at west door at east in gable end, boxed over hanging eaves. Building #3 is a woodshed, shiplap siding (cont)

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

Located on western edge of central business area. On opposite corner to east is a gas station. At cross roads.

**SIGNIFICANCE:**

The Ackerman-Pell Farm is significant in Bergen County's political history due to its association with David A. Pell, Bergen County Sheriff in the 1870's and surrogate 1882-93, 1896-1906. In addition, the members of the Ackerman-Pell family, which has owned this property since the late 18th century, have occupied important places in Saddle River's history. The house is also of architectural interest as it represents the continuing evolution of a farmhouse through many years of ownership by a single family. Part of the building may date to the late 18th century but its primary character is that of a c. 1840, 1 1/2 story, 5 bay vernacular Greek Revival style house with important visual features being its 5 bay porch with paneled posts and its upper eyebrow windows. There are several early 20th century modifications such as stone end chimney, main entrance doorway, and side porch. Today the house's exterior retains to a considerable degree its early 20th century appearance. The farm with accessory buildings and planting fields contributing to its agricultural character is a significant surviving remnant of Saddle River's agricultural history. Today Saddle River retains little farmland. Since the Ackerman-Pell Farm is located at a major crossroads adjacent to the commercial center of the Borough, it is highly visible evidence of the Borough's long agricultural history. The farm is a pivotal property in the Saddle

RIVER BOROUGH. This property has many areas of significance. (cont)

**ORIGINAL USE:** Residential/Farm  
**PRESENT USE:** residential/farm  
**PHYSICAL CONDITION:** Excellent  Good  Fair  Poor   
**REGISTER ELIGIBILITY:** Yes  Possible  No  Part of District   
**THREATS TO SITE:** Roads  Development  Zoning  Deterioration   
 No Threat  Other  alteration

**COMMENTS:**

Property originally 100 acres. House remains in ownership of original family. Due to high property values in Saddle River, there are pressures to divide parcels into 2 acre lots. An attempt to build townhouses here did not receive zoning approval. Subdivision of property into 5 lots is underway. In Saddle River Center District. All the historic buildings will be on one lot and retained. There is a threat due to planned road improvements at intersection. (6-1986)

**REFERENCES:**

NJHSI 2714.2.  
 Junior League Inventory. CKT List. "Church and Old Homes in Saddle River, NJ", #6.  
 Erskin-Watkin's Revolutionary War maps: not on.  
 1840 U. S. Coast Survey map #132: on.  
 1861 Hopkins Map: not legible.  
 1876 Walker Atlas: D. A. Pell.  
 1902 Robinson Map: A. A. Pell. (continued)

**RECORDED BY:** SRHE/TRB  
**ORGANIZATION:** BCOC & HA

**DATE:** 8-1983

SITING, BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION, AND RELATED STRUCTURES (continued)

gable roof, 1 story, has large opening with clipped corners. Building #4 is a 2 story corncrib with gable roof and shiplap siding. The lower level is open. Building #5 is an early 20th c. garage with hip roof and shiplap siding. Building # 6, a 1 1/2<sup>story</sup> barn with shiplap siding and 2 barn doors; a central gablet accents its gable roof. At its north is a one story wing with shed roof. The barn was built c. 1900, replacing an earlier barn which burned.

REFERENCES (continued)

1913 Bromley Atlas: D. A. Pell

1964 Inskop map: built about 1790, John D. Ackerman, DA Pell, b. 1831

(Surrogate 1882-1906)-

Clayton, p. 336, 241.

Westervelt, I., pp. 11-12, 408.

SRHC file: includes letter of April 3, 1981 from Alice S. Pell, Postcards.

Diana Hunt, "House in Same Family Two Centuries," NY Times, Nov. 16, 1975.

13th Pilgrimage Tour booklet, Paramus Historical and Preservation Society, Ridgewood, 1961.

Livingston & Lampe, Ackerman Houses p. 112-115.

Herbert S. Ackerman, compiler, Ackerman Genealogy, 2nd ed., 1955. Mimeographed copy in Bergen County Historical Society Collection, Johnson Library, Hackensack.

"The Packer Industries in Saddle River," Heritage News, April 1980.

SRHC files: includes Cannon notebooks; Marion and William McNeill, "Government, Borough of Saddle River," May, 1977, typewritten.



Ackerman-Pell Farm, 139 West Saddle River Road, Saddle River

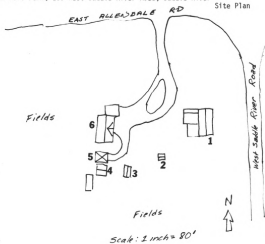
## SIGNIFICANCE: (continued)

Part of the house may have been built by Johannes (John D.) Ackerman (1764-1854) about the time he married Leah Van Buskirk (daughter of Thomas Van Buskirk, who lived at 164 East Saddle River Road, Bergen County Stone House Survey #161, 0258-13 ). While the Ackerman Genealogy does not provide the date of this marriage, it does provide the information that the couple's son David was born in 1785. According to family tradition the second story and kitchen were added before 1850 (Hunt, Times, Nov. 16, 1975). The Greek Revival style of the main block confirms that the house obtained much of its current appearance during John's ownership. In addition to being a farmer, John D. Ackerman had a mill built about 1800 (not extant) and started the triphammer foundry which was on the site of 70 East Alledale Road (0258-D #4). His son David I. Ackerman (1785-1851) was also a blacksmith and the DJA mark on agricultural implements was a well-known sign of excellence in this area (Packer Industries, Heritage News, p. 1.). By the late 1840's the Ackermans were no longer involved in the foundry but they are important to Saddle River's industrial history as they were founders of the enterprise which evolved into the Packer firm (see 0258-D # 4, 5, 6), Saddle River's largest late-19th-century industry.

David I. Ackerman gave one half of the land on which the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Saddle River and Ranapough was built (see 0258-5 ).

The Ackerman-Pell Farm passed from David I. Ackerman to his grandson David Ackerman Pell (1831-1922). Pell, known as "Ack", apprenticed to his grandfather and became a blacksmith. Due to poor health he went west and was a drover prior to his return to the family farm. He was very active in Bergen County politics and Westervelt, writing in 1903 soon after Pell's death, states that "Mr. Pell was for many years the most conspicuous Republican in Bergen County" and that "he was easily the best loved and most popular man of his day in this county" (p. 11-12). In 1871 when Pell was first elected Sheriff it was unusual for a Republican to win county-wide elective office. He was also elected Sheriff in 1878. From 1883-93 and from 1898-1908 he served as surrogate judge. He was the first person who was not a lawyer to hold this position in Bergen County. Pell was president for 30 years of the Hackensack National Bank, vice-president of the New Jersey Title Insurance Company, and director of Hackensack Trust Company.

David Ackerman Pell II inherited the farm from his maternal grandfather. He had been raised by his grand-parents and adopted their last name. In addition to farming the property, he operated a hardware store (0258-D #4) and a gas station (0258-D #1). He also served on Saddle River's Council for 25 years and as the Borough's mayor for 13 years. The farm is currently owned by his widow.



- |                 |             |
|-----------------|-------------|
| 1. House        | 4. corncrib |
| 2. Wash House ? | 5. garage   |
| 3. Woodshed     | 6. barn     |



photograph of  
accessory buildings  
looking west, showing  
#2, 3, 4 and 5.  
Neg. file # 1-4  
slide

NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, OFFICE OF CULTURAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES  
 HISTORIC PRESERVATION SECTION, 109 WEST STATE STREET, TRENTON, NEW JERSEY 08625 (609) 792-2023

**HISTORIC NAME:** Berdan House  
**LOCATION:** 125 West Saddle River Road

**COMMON NAME:**  
**BLOCK/LOT:** 16/06/23

**MUNICIPALITY:** Saddle River  
**UNGS QUAD:** Park Ridge  
**OWNER/ADDRESS:** Vernoy, Robert A.

**COUNTY:** Bergen  
**UTM REFERENCES:**  
 Zone/Northing/Easting

**DESCRIPTION**

**Construction Date:** pre-1840; 1810;  
 additions in early 19th c

**Source of Data:** map; Inskeep

**Architect:**

**Builder:**

**Style:** vernacular

**Form/Plan Type:**



**Number of Stories:** A: 1 1/2, B: 1 1/2, C: 2

**Foundation:** A: medium height, coursed ashlar brownstone; B: low, coursed brownstone;  
 C: low, not visible

**Exterior Wall Fabric:** clapboards

**Fenestration:** see below

**Roof/Chimneys:** gables, wood shingles; A: interior end chimney, B: interior end chimney  
 C: interior end chimney at west

**Additional Architectural Description:**

**Section A:** faces south, 3 bay, 6/6 sash with upper eyebrow windows, 1 bay entrance porch at west, 4 panel door with sidelights and transom.

**Section B:** faces east, 3 bay, central chimney suggests built in parts; 6/6 sash with 3/3 upper eyebrow windows, open porch across part of east side, north bay of porch enclosed.

**Section C:** faces south, 1 story, partially enclosed porch across south side, windows of enclosed part of porch do not align with those of upper story. Attached at west is post-World War II breezeway and garage of compatible Colonial Revival design.

**PHOTO:** Negative File No. 19852-2 • slide

**Map (Indicate North)**



## SITING, BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION, AND RELATED STRUCTURES:

2.4 Acre property. East side of house only 5-7' from road. Hedge between it and road. Large yard to south and north, split rail fence along road by south yard. Shrubbery and small trees along road by north yard.

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

At north edge of property is private road leading to recent NW of this house. This recent house isn't visible from road [at 127 West Saddle River Road] and is omitted from Saddle River Center District. Across West Saddle River Road is a wooded slope dropping to flood plain of Saddle River.

## SIGNIFICANCE:

The Berdan House is a well preserved early 19th century house of considerable local architectural and historical significance due to its association with shoe-maker John Berdan. The house is a fine example of vernacular frame domestic architecture. Both sections A and B have eyebrow windows, a characteristic architectural feature of houses built in Bergen County and elsewhere in the early 19th century. The house is unpretentious but in its sturdy workmanship, stone foundation, and pleasing entrance with one-bay porch giving access to a doorway with sidelights and transom, it has a strong sense of history.

According to tradition the house was built in 1810 and its exterior appearance suggests this date is approximately correct. A building appears on this site on an 1840 map. By 1861 the house was owned by John D. Berdan (1820-1901), a grocer and shoe maker. The 1876 Bergen County Atlas (pp. 120-121) shows the L-shaped home of J. D. Berdan at this site. This suggests that section A and B were in existence and that section C was erected later. North of the house was the "Shoe and Gro. Store". This building is not extant.

Newspaper clippings record information about Berdan. One of Feb. 6, 1874 states that John Berdan has sold his grocery business but will continue his boot and (cont.)

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

## COMMENTS:

This house is located very close to a heavily trafficked West Saddle River Road. In Saddle River Center District.

## REFERENCES:

SRHC files: Cannon notebook, newspaper clippings; The Landscape May 1900, Feb. 1901  
 Mount Holyoke College House Tour brochure, "Fall House Tour of Saddle River Area,"  
 Oct. 7, 1962.  
 CKT list.  
 Junior League Inventory.  
 1840 US Coast Survey map #132: On.  
 1961 Hopkin's map: J. Berdan, shoe... (illegible) (cont.)

RECORDED BY: TRB  
 ORGANIZATION: BCOCMA

DATE: 8-1983

SIGNIFICANCE: (continued)

shoe business. Another of the same year says that the Berdans have been shoe and boot makers for "upwards 35 years" suggesting that Berdan became a shoe maker as a young man and that shoe making was a family enterprise. A newspaper clipping of July 9, 1880, provides the information that A. Z. Winter purchased Berdan's store and that John Berdan will be a clerk and salesman for the new owner. Berdan owned the building in which DeBaun's store was located when it burnt in 1900. John D. Berdan died in 1901 and his obituary in The Landscape states that he was a shoe maker, that he was a member of the local Lutheran Church, and that he was unmarried. Apparently the house passed to J. G. Berdan since he is mentioned on 1902 and 1913 maps.

REFERENCES: (continued)

1876 Walker Atlas: J. D. Berdan

1902 Robinson's map: J. G. and J. D. Berdan

1913 Bromley Atlas: J. G. Berdan

1964 Inskip map: D. Berdan (1861), J. D. Berdan b. 1847, built 1810.



View looking NW showing section A.  
Neg. file # 19852-1.

View looking SE showing sections  
B, A, C and the garage wing.  
Neg. file # 19852-3.



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

HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY NO.

D #11

HISTORIC NAME: Charles L. Tricker House  
LOCATION: 124 W. Saddle River Road

COMMON NAME:  
BLOCK/LOT 1607/39

MUNICIPALITY: Saddle River  
USGS QUAD: Park Ridge  
OWNER/ADDRESS: Carl and Kathleen Hyndman

COUNTY: Bergen  
UTM REFERENCES:  
Zone/Northing/Easting

DESCRIPTION

Construction Date: 1920's

Source of Date:

Architect:

Builder:

Style: Colonial Revival

Form/Plan Type:



Number of Stories: 1 with 2 in gambrel

Foundation: concrete, height varies due to slope

Exterior Wall Fabric: brick, all stretchers

Fenestration: 3 bays, triple windows on front

Roof/Chimneys: gambrel with green barrel tiles;  
N end chimney

Additional Architectural Description:

1 bay central enclosed entrance porch, gable tiled roof, broken <sup>or</sup> Swan's neck pediment over entrance.  
Large 3 bay shed dormer with central triple window flanked by double windows.  
1 story wings at N and S, flat roofs with balustrade at N screened porch, sunporch to S.

PHOTO Negative File No. 102351-26

Map (Indicate North) ↑



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

D #11

SITING, BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION, AND RELATED STRUCTURES: 0.029 acre property.

Faces west. Stone terracing in front (west) yard.

Set back 40' from road.

Road is about 8' higher than house. Sloping property to east.

Very shady property with many trees.

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

Behind house to east are spawning beds of William Tricker Co. (0258-D #7) and one of the branches of the Saddle River. Across road is 125 West Saddle River Road (0258-D #12)

## SIGNIFICANCE:

The Charles L. Tricker House is a filler building in the Saddle River Center District. It contributes to the district's ambience as it is compatible in scale and design with earlier buildings in the district. As a typical suburban house built about 1930, it represents a phase in the district's early 20th century development history. During the 1910's, 20's and 30's the district became progressively residential in character. This house is also important for its association with Charles L. Tricker, its first owner. Charles Tricker was president of William Tricker, Inc. from 1916 until his death in 1961 and was responsible for moving this firm to Saddle River in 1926-27. Tricker, established in 1890, raises water lilies and tropical fish and has a place in horticultural history as the first commercial water gardens in America. See survey form 0258-D #7 for additional information.

Charles Tricker won many horticultural awards and wrote books on aquatic plants. He was active in local affairs serving on the Board of Governors of Valley Hospital and the First National Bank in Allendale.

ORIGINAL USE: Residential

PRESENT USE: Residential

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

COMMENTS:

In Saddle River Center district.

## REFERENCES: (

Information from Louise Bogertman, SRHC.

SRHC files: Tricker

The Sunday News, June 10, 1956, pp. 82-83. Marcia Ringel Barman, "Tricker's Tends Acres of Aquatic Plants", Suburban News (Ridgewood, Ho-Ho-Kus, Glen Rock, Saddle River, Allendale, Mahwah, Ramsey) Aug 8, 1979. Catalogue of William Tricker, Inc., 1977, 1979.

RECORDED BY: TRB  
 ORGANIZATION: BCOC&HA

DATE: 8-1983

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

HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY NO.

0 19

HISTORIC NAME: George Newkirk House  
 LOCATION: 120 W. Saddle River Road

COMMON NAME:  
 BLOCK/LOT 1607/37

MUNICIPALITY: Saddle River  
 USGS QUAD: Park Ridge

COUNTY: Bergen  
 UTM REFERENCES:

OWNER/ADDRESS: Horton, Holbrook L. and Julia E.

Zone/Northing/Easting

## DESCRIPTION

Construction Date: 1924

Source of Date: Bogertman

Architect:

Builder: George Newkirk

Style: Dutch Colonial Revival

Form/Plan Type:



Number of Stories: 1½

Foundation: stone

Exterior Wall Fabric: coursed gray-brown rubble, clapboards in gambrel ends and on dormers.

Fenestration: 5 bays, 6/1

Roof/Chimneys: gambrel; exterior end chimneys, stone

## Additional Architectural Description:

1 story sunporch with flat roof and balustrade at so.  
 Central entrance with sidelights, low stone stoop.  
 Large 5 bay shed dormer with vertical board shutters.

PHOTO

Negative File No.

4-9A, slide

Map (Indicate North)





SITING, BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION, AND RELATED STRUCTURES: 1.4 acre.

Faces west

Set back c. 35'. Lawn with grass, trees, shrubs.

Property is about 3-4' higher than road.

Stone stairs by road and slate

path to house. About 120' from house in NW corner of property is a 2

car garage with boulder stone walls, gable roof, shingling in gable.

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

Property drops down into flood plain of river about 20-25' south and east of the house.  
 Eckert Brook is about 140' to the south and the Saddle River about 75' to east.

## SIGNIFICANCE:

The George Newkirk House is a filler building in the Saddle River Center District. It contributes to the district's ambience and is compatible in scale, material and design with earlier buildings in the district, and as a typical suburban house erected in 1924 it represents a phase in the district's early 20th century development history. During the 1910's, 20's and 30's the district became progressively residential in character. The Newkirk House's Dutch Colonial Revival style is of interest as this style is derived from early regional architecture. Its gambrel roof compliments that of the older Ackerman-Leanon House (#8) across the road. The house's rubble stone walls are also of interest. Local stone was employed but the masonry technique using Portland cement is very different from early local stonework.

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

## COMMENTS:

In Saddle River Center District

## REFERENCES:

Information from Louise Bogertman, SRHC.

RECORDED BY: TRB  
 ORGANIZATION: BCC&HA

DATE: 8-1983.

NEW JERSEY OFFICE OF CULTURAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

HISTORIC PRESERVATION SECTION  
INDIVIDUAL STRUCTURE SURVEY FORM

HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY NO. D #8

**HISTORIC NAME:** Ackerman-Leason House  
**LOCATION:** Bull's Head Tavern  
119 West Saddle River Road  
**MUNICIPALITY:** Saddle River  
**USGS QUAD:** Park Ridge  
**OWNER/ADDRESS:** Donald & Fern Kennedy

**COMMON NAME:**  
**BLOCK/LOT** 1606/25  
**COUNTY:** Bergen  
**UTM REFERENCES:** Zone/Northing/Easting

**DESCRIPTION** East wing-basement & 1st story;  
**Construction Date:** c.1802, upper stories  
east & West wings: c. 1830

**Source of Date:** C. K. Tholl

**Architect:**

**Builder:**

**Style:** Vernacular

**Form/Plan Type:**



**Number of Stories:** A: 1 1/2, B: 2  
A: ashlar sandstone, now painted, height varies due to sloping site,  
**Foundation:** B: not visible on exterior.

**Exterior Wall Fabric:** clapboards

**Fenestration:** A: 3x3 bays, 6/6, 3/3 belly windows, B: 2 bays, 6/6.

**Roof/Chimneys:** A: gambrel B: gable; A: added exterior chimney, B: west chimney

**Additional Architectural Description:**

A: solid panel shutters on basement and 1st story windows, louvered shutters on upper story windows, east side has triple central window, each 6/6, above is elliptical lunette, south facade has entrance door in east bay of basement, North facade: west side entrance door with sidelights; 1 bay entrance porch appears early 20th c. Colonial Revival, has paneled posts, gable roof with broken pediment, side trellis.  
B: Louver shuttered, 2 small 1-story west wings with gable roofs (probably 20th c. construction dates). Early 20th c. 1-story sunporch across west bay of Block A and across Block B.

**PHOTO** Negative File No. G-17

c1568

**Map (Indicate North)**



NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, OFFICE OF CULTURAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION SECTION, 109 WEST STATE STREET, TRENTON, NEW JERSEY 08625 (609) 292-2022

D #8

## SITING, BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION, AND RELATED STRUCTURES:

4.5 acres, faces south.

Set back about 30' from road with gambrel end facing road. To south about 50' is Eckert Brook. Property slopes upward to west; along road to south of house is a metal guard rail. Lawn is rather overgrown, has handsome large trees. Cottage to west. To NW is 1 1/2 story rectangular barn with gable roof, shiplap siding, 6/6 windows

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

Across road to east are woods and Saddle River.

## SIGNIFICANCE:

The Ackerman-Leamon House, also known as Bull's Head Tavern, has considerable historical and architectural importance.

It is associated with the Ackerman family, one of Bergen County's earliest families. Ackerman descendants owned the house until recently (c. 1982). Probably built as a homestead of a farm, the building has a particularly interesting place in local agricultural history. At the turn of the 19th century it functioned as a drover's tavern. Here men and livestock rested in transit to the market in Paterson. The building also represents Saddle River's developmental phase when it was a vacation place and country home location for city dwellers. In 1885 as "Shady Brook Farm" the Ackerman-Leamon House could provide farmhouse-vacation accommodations for twenty and was among several farms in Saddle River taking boarders.

The building is a handsome example of local vernacular domestic architecture, which is the result of additions and modifications at various dates. The ashlar sandstone basement of the east wing is a fine example of local stonework and it and the frame story above are believed to have been erected about 1802. The upper, belly windowed story of the tavern was located in the basement. The upper, belly windowed story of this wing with its graceful gambrel roof is believed to have been added about 1810. (cont.)

ORIGINAL USE: Residential/Tavern PRESENT USE: Residential  
 PHYSICAL CONDITION: Excellent  Good  Fair  Poor   
 REGISTER ELIGIBILITY: Yes  Possible  No  Part of District   
 THREATS TO SITE: Roads  Development  Zoning  Deterioration   
 No Threat  Other  alterations

## COMMENTS:

In Saddle River Center Historic District  
 Close to heavily trafficked Road.

## REFERENCES: 1780 Erskine No. 113: not on.

1840 U. S. Coast Survey Map #132: on

1861 Hopkins Map: A. J. Ackerman

1876 Walker Atlas: Jno Leeman (sic)

1902 Robinson's Map: A. Layman (sic)

1913 Bromley Atlas: on, no name

1964 Inskoop map: Bull's Head Inn-1802 (part Pre-Revul), Coljus Ackerman, A. J. Ackerman (1961), John N. Leamon 1850.

RECORDED BY: SRHC/TRB  
 ORGANIZATION: SRHC/BCOC&HA

DATE: 8-1983

SIGNIFICANCE: (continued)

The delicate lunette and the eyebrow windows, a typical early 19th century architectural feature in Bergen County, give credence to this tradition as do the presence of Federal Style mantels on the interior. The west wing (section B) was probably built in the mid 19th century. The photographs of the interior show a Greek Revival style mantel suggesting remodeling of that period. The small western wings and the massive stone exterior end chimney indicate further alterations in the early 20th century. The 4½ acre property, the large trees, and the big barn contribute to the historic ambience of the building's setting.

According to Lampe and Livingston's Ackerman Homesteads (pp. 116-118), William Ackerman (b. 1729) inherited this property from his father, Johannes. It then passed to James W. Ackerman and then to Abraham Ackerman. Several other sources indicate that Cobus Ackerman was the original or early owner of the building and that he ran Bull's Head Tavern around 1799-1802 (NJHSI 2714.B; Inskip map; The Landscape, Oct., 1888). In any case the Hopkin's map reveals that the building was owned by A. J. Ackerman in 1861. By 1876 it was owned by John Leamon, an Ackerman relative (Walker Atlas). In 1885 he provided farmhouse accommodations at "Shady Brook Farm".

REFERENCES: (continued)

NJHSI 2714.B

Junior League Inventory. CKT List. "Church and Old Homes in Saddle River, NJ" #5.  
SRHC files-

The Landscape October, 1888.

Lampe and Livingston, Ackerman Houses, pp. 116-118.

Paramus Historical & Preservation Society, 13th Pilgrimage Tour Booklet, 1961.

Erie, Summer Homes 1885, Boarding and Farmhouse providing rooms for vacationers:

"Shady Brook Farm", J. N. Leamon, 60 acres, 10 rooms accomodating accomodating  
20.



View looking  
NW.  
neg. file #  
6-16



Barn of Ackerman-Leason House  
Neg. file #7-14



Cottage of Ackerman-Leason House  
Neg. file #7-5

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

HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY NO.

0 #7

HISTORIC NAME: William Tricker Inc. Water  
LOCATION: Gardens  
74 East Allendale Road  
MUNICIPALITY: Saddle River  
USGS QUAD: Park Ridge  
OWNER/ADDRESS: John & Katherine Meeks, 378  
Franklin Lakes, NJ 07417

COMMON NAME: Waterford Gardens  
BLOCK/LOT 1607/3  
COUNTY: Bergen  
UTM REFERENCES:  
Zone/Northing/Easting

DESCRIPTION

Construction Date: 1926 on  
Architect:  
Style: Office Building: Vernacular  
Number of Stories: 1 1/2

Source of Date: See references  
Builder: some masonry work by F. A. Storms  
and Sons.  
Form/Plan Type: T-shaped

Foundation: low, cement  
Exterior Wall Fabric: stucco  
Penetration: 4 bays, 6/1  
Roof/Chimneys: gables  
Additional Architectural Description:  
Central gable, gable hood over  
Central Entrance

1933 photograph of  
greenhouse from Tricker  
Tattler (Sept., 1933).  
SRHC file. Neg file  
#198351-12



PHOTO Negative File No. 198351-20 , slide

Map (Indicate North)



**SITING, BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION, AND RELATED STRUCTURES:**

5.89 acre property. Office building and northern greenhouse setback about 200' from East Allendale Road. In front (north) yard is lily pond. Behind pond is a three-part greenhouse about 100' long. The central section of this greenhouse is glazed while the wings have asphalt shingles on roofs. East of the greenhouse is office building. South of the north greenhouse is a much larger (about 220' long) greenhouse complex with a large front greenhouse attached to a center block with huge masonry smokestack which is joined to a south greenhouse section. Around the greenhouse are connected (cont.)

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

The northern part of the property and its entrance is at commercial center of borough Western section of property bordered by residential area. The Saddle River forms eastern border which is also part of Saddle River Center District's eastern border. South of Tricker's property is Borough parkland which is also in the district.

**SIGNIFICANCE:**

The William Tricker Inc. Water Gardens are of pivotal significance in the Saddle River Center District. They represent a change in the early 20th century away from using the Saddle River for waterpower. Here a former mill pond was converted in 1927 into planting beds for aquatic plants. Tricker has a significant place in the history of horticulture in the United States as it is the oldest commercial grower of aquatic plants and is said to be the "world's largest supplier of aquatic plants" (Barman).

The floral business was once important in much of Bergen County and many commercial greenhouses were located here. Few survive today and the Tricker Water Gardens with its large greenhouses visually represents a once common industry, although the raising of aquatic plants was and is unique to the Tricker firm.

In 1890 William Tricker, an Englishman who had been a horticulturalist for Kew Gardens and who had immigrated to the United States in 1885, established the first commercial water gardens in America in Clifton, NJ. His first catalogue was published in 1895. The firm moved to Staten Island and then to Arlington, NJ. In 1916 William Tricker died and his son Charles L. Tricker, who had joined the firm in 1906, became president.

The Tricker firm's association with Saddle River dates to March 1926 when (cont)

and goldfish.

**ORIGINAL USE:** commercially raises aquatic plants/ **PRESENT USE:** same  
**PHYSICAL CONDITION:** Excellent  Good  Fair  Poor   
**REGISTER ELIGIBILITY:** Yes  Possible  No  Part of District   
**THREATS TO SITE:** Roads  Development  Zoning  Deterioration   
 No Threat  Other

**COMMENTS:**

In Saddle River Center District

**REFERENCES:**

SRHC Files: The Sunday News, June 10, 1956, p.p. 82-83.  
 Marcia Ringel Barman, "Trickers Tends Acres of Aquatic Plants," Suburban News, Aug. 8, 1979.  
 Catalogues of William Tricker, Inc., 1977, 1979; Tricker Tattles Sept. 1933.  
 Bergen County Deed Book 1993, p. 72, Administrative Bldg., Hackensack, NJ.

RECORDED BY: TRB  
 ORGANIZATION: BCOC&HA

DATE: 9-1983

## SITING, BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION, AND RELATED STRUCTURES: (CONTINUED)

cement tanks in which goldfish are raised. Behind the greenhouses to the southwest are goldfish pools and lily propagating ponds laid out in a grid plan. The southern part of the property is part of a flood plain where the Saddle River divides into several meandering streams, so much of the land is islands. Much of this area was a pond in 1876. The pond was created after 1840 and a 1913 map suggests it still existed then.

## SIGNIFICANCE: (CONTINUED)

William H. and Mary Packer sold land at the SW corner of the Saddle River and East Allendale Road to Charles L. and Elizabeth Tricker. The land along East Allendale had been occupied by buildings associated with the Packer foundry while the southern part of the land had been the site of a saw and grist mill and of the Packer basket factory (see 0258-D #4, #5). In 1926-27 the Tricker greenhouses were moved to the site and the pond converted into planting pools used for growing water lilies and other aquatic plants. A new greenhouse was added, probably in 1930-33 when F. A. Storms and Son did masonry work. Also in 1927 Charles Tricker further expanded the firm by incorporating it and acquiring an Independence, Ohio, water lily concern as its branch plant.

The firm raises aquatic plants specializing in water lilies and also raises gold fish. Tricker originates many new varieties of water lilies. Much of its business is through catalogues (40,00 are said to have been circulated in 1956). The Saddle River plant has display areas showing typical pool arrangements. Those in the 1930's were designed by Milton Foringer (0258-9). In 1979 Tricker is said to have grown 40,000 water lilies.

Charles Tricker died in 1961 and his son-in-law Wilfred V. Schmidlin became president. Bruce W. Schmidlin, the fourth generation of the Tricker family, was manager and director of the Saddle River water gardens in 1963. In 1985 the water gardens were purchased by John and Katherine Meeks and the name changed to "Waterford Gardens." The Tricker firm still operated the Ohio plant.



At left is an air view of Trickers water gardens at Saddle River, N.J. which shows:

- A-Main Office
- B-Greenhouses and tropical lily display rooms. C-Goldfish pools. D-Lily propagating ponds. E-Fish pond, native lilies and aquatic.
- F-Perennials and rock plants. G-and H-Roads leading to Trickers.
- J-Display pools and parking area.

**AERIAL VIEW OF OUR LOCATION  
IN SADDLE RIVER, NEW JERSEY**

Saddle River, N.J.





William Packer House and  
Accessory Buildings,  
71 East Allendale Rd.,  
Saddle River.

Photographs of Packer  
House Accessory Bldgs.

Looking north showing  
Packer House, east  
side; #1 with #2 behind  
it, in center of  
photograph are #3, #4,  
#5. Neg. file # 1-14



Looking NW showing  
dam, pond, accessory  
buildings #2, 4, 5.  
Neg. file #1-20  
slide



Looking east  
showing accessory  
building #1 and  
part of #2.  
Neg. file #1-16

Looking NE  
showing accessory  
building #2  
Neg. file # 1-15



Looking NW  
showing accessory  
buildings #3,4,5  
Neg. file #1-17  
slide



Necessary,  
accessory building  
#6. Neg. file #  
190351-19



NEW JERSEY OFFICE OF CULTURAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

HISTORIC PRESERVATION SECTION

INDIVIDUAL STRUCTURE SURVEY FORM

HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY NO.

D#4

HISTORIC NAME: Woodruff-Packer Foundry Building COMMON NAME: The Hardware Store

LOCATION: 70 E. Allendale Road  
Saddle River

BLOCK/LOT 1607/2

MUNICIPALITY:

COUNTY: Bergen

USGS QUAD: Park Ridge

UTM REFERENCES:

OWNER/ADDRESS: Michael Fischetti

Zone/Northing/Easting

65-Anderson Av., Moonachie, NJ 07074

DESCRIPTION

Construction Date: c. 1840's

Source of Date: Tradition

Architect:

Builder:

Style: Vernacular

Form/Plan Type:



Number of Stories: 2

Foundation: fieldstone, brick, cinder block, cement, in 1950's building was raised 18"

Exterior Wall Fabric: primarily shiplap siding, some clapboard and shingles on west wing and vertical-board-and-batten on enclosed porch. Main block: 3x2, west wing: 4 bays on 1st story, 2 on second story, 6/6.

Roof/Chimneys: gables, low pitch; c. 1950 chimney on west wing.

Additional Architectural Description:

MAIN BLOCK: Raceway under building, single flow when enters on north side, 2 streams when exits on south side. The horizontal water wheel, located in the raceway under the building, was removed in the 1950's. Fixtures which held the mandrels are in place, though covered up. The 1 story enclosed porch across the front(north) facade was probably added in 1950's as was the west 2 story wing. C. 1940's photograph shows 1st-story front facade with remnants of a barn door opening at west. 2nd-story fenestration with 2 12 pane windows and a loft door remain much the same today. C. 1886 photograph shows building with vertical board-and-batten siding, large exterior end chimney at west and small chimney at east. East of the building was a very large 2<sup>nd</sup> structure with gable roofs. Additions: post World War II; west wing, hyphen attached to west wing connected to garage, exterior staircases at south.

PHOTO

Negative File No. 198351-22 view looking SW + slides

Map (Indicate North)



**SITING, BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION, AND RELATED STRUCTURES:** - 0.4 acre property-

Building faces northeast. It is situated at an angle to the road. Its porch is located only 3 feet from the road at the nearest point. A bridge carries road over raceway to building. To west is a parking lot. Behind building are 2 streams and a small bridge carrying path to 2nd-story stairway - main block. Area behind building is very pleasantly landscaped.

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

To east is Tricker's Nursery. To west is gas station. To south are Tricker's planting fields. Across East Allendale Road to north are the Packer House(#5) and Saddle River Hotel building (#3).

**SIGNIFICANCE:**

The Woodruff-Packer Foundry Building is a pivotal structure in the Saddle River Center District. It has an important place in Saddle River's industry. The eastern part of the existing buildings was probably built in the late 1840's by John Woodruff as an iron foundry. This foundry replaced the early 19th century triphammer which John D. and David I. Ackerman had on the site (see #13) and used to make agricultural implements. The sluice used to power the blast for Woodruff's furnace is still under this building. William and Christian Packer purchased the property in 1866 and under the Packers the small foundry evolved into the large W. W. Packer and Son plow factory, the largest industry in Saddle River's history. Late 19th century photographs show a large complex of buildings on the south side of East Allendale Road, which were part of the Packer's factory. Today only the original foundry building is extant here although other Packer related structures are located on the north side of the road (see #5, 6).

Probably a triphammer foundry was begun by John D. Ackerman on this site in the early 1800's. His son David I. Ackerman was a blacksmith who produced agricultural implements. According to Cliff Woodruff, John Woodruff built the present foundry buildings about 1847. The 1861 Hopkins map indicate a "foundry" on the site. In 1866 William and Christian Packer purchased the property and in the late 19th century Packer's enterprise, cont

**ORIGINAL USE:** Foundry **PRESENT USE:** commercial & offices  
**PHYSICAL CONDITION:** Excellent  Good  Fair  Poor   
**REGISTER ELIGIBILITY:** Yes  Possible  No  Part of District   
**THREATS TO SITE:** Roads  Development  Zoning  Deterioration   
 No Threat  Other  flooding

**COMMENTS:**

In Saddle River Center District

**REFERENCES:**

"The Packer Industries in Saddle River," Heritage News, Apr. 1, 1980, pp. 1-2.  
 SRHC files: old photographs, newspaper clippings, catalogues, sketch map by Frances Bierbrüer, Apr. 1, 1980; notes of Cliff Woodruff interview.  
 Walker Atlas 1876: pp.112-113: Foundry; p. 117; Iron Foundry, pp. 120-121; Iron Foundry, W. W. Packer.  
 Hopkins map 1861: Foundry.  
 Inskeep map, 1964: Ackerman Triphammer, Woodruff Iron Foundry, John D. Ackerman, David I. Ackerman, John Woodruff (1861), Packer & Tenwilliger, Wm. Packer Foundry (Packer Steel Plow Co.).

**RECORDED BY:** SRHC/TRB  
**ORGANIZATION:** SRHC/BDOC&HA

**DATE:** 8-1983

known as Packer & Terwilliger, W. W. Packer & Son, or Packer & Powell, was a major Saddle River industry. The foundry made ploughs and farm implements, but the Packers also made baskets in a no-longer extant building and sold products made by others. In 1897 the Packers installed a steam engine to supplement water power for the furnace's blast.

By the late 1880's the Packers became more and more a seller of sleighs and wagons, building warehouses to store the merchandise. By 1899 when William W. Packer died and William H. Packer succeeded to the business its foundry operations were on the decline and may have already stopped. About 1900 the Packer plow manufacturing company was sold to Deare Manufacturing Company. Ads of 1900 refer to "Packer's Carriage Repository" with 150 styles of carriages. As additional wagon warehouses were built, foundry buildings were demolished. The 20<sup>th</sup> century history of the Packer enterprises are discussed under form #5.

The Woodruff-Packer foundry buildings became a hardware store run by David Ackerman Pell II (see #13) in the mid 20<sup>th</sup> century. While it had lost the large factory buildings which surrounded it in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, it has a 1950 west addition and more recent garage attached by a breezeway. Today the building houses a hardware store on first floor and offices on the second floor. While it has lost its chimney and machinery, the sluiceway which passes under the building continues to give evidence of this functional structure's former role as a foundry.



View looking NW showing rear (south) side of older part of building and part of raceway.  
Neg. file # 198351-23  
slide

View looking east showing additions to building. Older section is the further away two-story block.  
Neg. file # 3-36.



Woodruff-Packer Foundry Building , 70 E. Allendale Road, Saddle River



Undated photograph, circa 1950 showing building before additions erected. From SRHC files. Neg. file # 198351-8

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

HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY NO. 0 #3

HISTORIC NAME: Saddle River Hotel  
 LOCATION: 69 E. Allendale Road  
 Saddle River

COMMON NAME:  
 BLOCK/LOT 1401/15

MUNICIPALITY: Park Ridge

COUNTY: Bergen

USGS QUAD: Park Ridge

UTM REFERENCES:

OWNER/ADDRESS: 65 Allendale Avenue, Inc.  
 P. O. Box 152  
 Saddle River, NJ 07458

Zone/Northing/Easting

DESCRIPTION

Construction Date: 1837

Source of Date: Inskip map

Architect:

Builder:

Style: Vernacular Greek Revival

Form/Plan Type:



Number of Stories: A: 2½, B: 2-, C: 1

Foundation: A + B: low fieldstone, C: cinder block

Exterior Wall Fabric: clapboard

Penetration: A: 3 bays, 2/2, eyebrow windows in attic frieze; B: 2 bays, 6/6; C: 1 bay, 6/6

Roof/Chimneys: A + B: gables; C: sheds, A: W. interior end chimney; B: E int. end chimney

Additional Architectural Description:

- A: E side entrance with side lights, wide frieze with eyebrow windows, 4 bay wrap-around porch (mid-19th century), bet. 1952-77 lost decorative brackets, large plastic sign on roof of porch. Interior recently extensively renovated, only some of original paneling, doors and mantels remain.
- C: does not appear in 1886 photograph, probably added in early 20th c. as does appear in c. 1935 photographs.

PHOTO Negative File No. 1-10, slide

Map (Indicate North)



**SITE<sup>D-1</sup>, BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION, AND RELATED STRUCTURES:** .56 acre property.

Faces south. House approximately 30' from road. Front yard with grass, trees, split rail fence along road. Large parking lot behind (north of) house.

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

In center of borough, at crossroads. Between 0258-D#1 and #5. Across street to south is gas station (0258-D#2). The Saddle River Hotel building today is visually part of Barnstable Court shopping-office complex. Its rear parking lot merges with that of the rest of the complex and its driveway provides access to the complex's main parking area.

**SIGNIFICANCE:**

The Saddle River Hotel occupies a pivotal place in the Saddle River Center District for both visual and historic reasons. It is of architectural interest as a fine example of local vernacular Greek Revival style architecture with later additions of compatible design. According to the Inskip map the house was built in 1837. It functioned first as a house but it has considerable local historical importance since by the 1860's and 1870's it housed the Saddle River Hotel. It was and is one of the buildings which define the section of East Allendale Road between East and West Saddle River Roads as the center of the hamlet of Saddle River. The Hotel was a social center for residents in addition to providing accommodations for transients.

Newspaper articles of the 1870's note balls, hops and Oyster suppers at the Saddle River Hotel and it was said to have "the largest and best ballroom in the county" (Cannon notebook, newspaper clipping 5-1-77). The hotel had a number of proprietors. It was opened by C. S. DeBaun (Van Valen, p. 234). Later proprietors or owners include A. G. Zabriskie, Owen Ramsey, Terhune, and Peter D. or David Pulis. Apparently there was some local concern in the 1870's about it being a "low drinking place" (Cannon notebook, clipping 3-9-77) and it probably functioned as a tavern for the workmen at Parkers' (see 0258-D 44). In 1880 the hotel reopened as a temperance hotel run by (cont.)

**ORIGINAL USE:** residence, hotel  
**PRESENT USE:** offices  
**PHYSICAL CONDITION:** Excellent  Good  Fair  Poor   
**REGISTER ELIGIBILITY:** Yes  Possible  No  Part of District   
**THREATS TO SITE:** Roads  Development  Zoning  Deterioration   
 No Threat  Other

**COMMENTS:**

In Saddle River Center District. Removal of modern sign from porch roof and substitution of compatible sign would improve historic appearance. The restoration of the porch brackets would also enhance the buildings.

**REFERENCES:**

- SRHC files: Lise Wable, "Inns + Taverns" excerpts, 1977; old photographs; newspaper clippings.
- Walker Atlas, 1876: Hotel, A. G. Zabriskie.
- Inskip map 1964: Tavern + Hotel, built 1837; Terhune; A.G. Zabriskie (1876); A. Z. Winters.
- Junior League Inventory.
- CKT List
- VanValen, p. 234
- Westervelt III, p. 312.

RECORDED BY: SRHC/TRB

DATE: 7-1983

ORGANIZATION: SRHC/ BDC&HA



SIGNIFICANCE: (continued)

blacksmith Stephen Van Buskirk. This operation lasted about a year and has a place in local temperance history. By 1883 the hotel was rented to a shoemaker. In 1900 Van Valen (p. 234) wrote that the area which is now Saddle River has not had a hotel for about twenty years. (There were farms which took boarders, however).

In the 1930's the building housed the residence and office of Dr. Mae Wigham, an osteopathic physician. Dr. Wigham was educated at the Philadelphia College of Osteopathy. She established her practice in Ridgewood in 1916 (Westervelt, III, p. 312). It is likely she is among the first women doctors to practice osteopathy in Bergen County and occupies an interesting place in local medical history.

After the mid-20th century part of the house at 69 East Allendale Road housed a store. It currently contains offices and functions as part of the Barnstable Court Office-Shopping Complex.



Circa 1935 photograph from SRHC files. Neg. file # 198351-17.

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

HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY NO. Df 2

**HISTORIC NAME:** SADDLE RIVER POST OFFICE -  
John G. DeBaun Grocery  
**LOCATION:** 67 East Allendale Avenue

**COMMON NAME:** Schlott Real Estate  
**BLOCK/LOT:** 1401/16

**MUNICIPALITY:** Saddle River Borough  
**USGS QUAD:** Park Ridge  
**OWNER/ADDRESS:** Richard & Suzanne Schlott  
435-Clinton Av., Wyckoff, NJ 07481

**COUNTY:** Bergen  
**UTM REFERENCES:** Zone/Northing/Easting

**DESCRIPTION**

**Construction Date:** 1911, rear wing between  
1911-1935

**Source of Date:** daughter of builder, old  
photographs

**Architect:**

**Builder:**

**Style:** Vernacular

**Form/Plan Type:** 1911-25  
1911



**Number of Stories:** 1

**Foundation:** cement

**Exterior Wall Fabric:** Originally clapboard, now narrow aluminum siding

**Penetration:** front windows are show windows, single sash side windows

**Roof/Chimneys:** cross gables, central brick chimney

**Additional Architectural Description:**

overhanging eaves with exposed, shaped rafter ends in rear.  
Tin ceiling with design. Rear wing of building added later. It has cellar and  
rest of building does not. Replacement front door.  
One bay porch on east side in corner at quoining of rear wing. Main section  
c. 18' x 35'. Rear wing: c. 22' x 15'.

**PHOTO** Negative File No. 1-12, s11de

**Map (Indicate North)**



## SETTING, BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION, AND RELATED STRUCTURES:

Faces south. Approximately six feet from road. In rear is barn/carrilage house: 1 1/2 story, gable roof, ship lap siding, wall dormer in place of loft opening, part of early hoist in fact, 1st-story openings modified but barn doors remain, c. 38 x 20'.

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

Opposite southern part of Saddle River<sup>66</sup> junction with E. Allendale<sup>66</sup> in center of borough. At crossroads. To east is Terhune House-Saddle River Hotel, 0258-D #3). To west is Mowerson's store (2058-D #15).

## SIGNIFICANCE:

The Saddle River Post Office-John G. DeBaun Grocery building has local historical significance since from 1911 to 1933 it was an important community site, as the building housed the Borough's post office in addition to a general store. This unpretentious one-story frame building retains much of the character it had when built in 1911 with central entrance door flanked by large display windows. The rear wing is an addition which predates 1935 and is compatible with the earlier section. The commercial building contributes to the Saddle River Center District's character as the long-time commercial center of the Borough. The 1 1/2 story frame barn behind (north of) the grocery store building probably predates 1911 and was built for the no-longer-extant store building on the adjacent property to the west (see 0258-D #15). The barn was used to store feed and hay sold by the store.

The building at 67 East Allendale Avenue was built for John G. DeBaun in 1911. His store at the NE corner of East Allendale Road and West Saddle River Road had burned for the second time in August 1910 and DeBaun went to work in New York City. However he did not give up his job as Saddle River postmaster, a position he had held since 1897. ( In 1910-11 the post office was located in DeBaun's home at 145 West Saddle River Road (0258-D #14). In 1911 DeBaun returned to shop keeping and (cont.)

ORIGINAL USE: grocery store/ Post Office

PRESENT USE: real estate office

PHYSICAL CONDITION: Excellent  Good  Fair  Poor

REGISTER ELIGIBILITY: Yes  Possible  No  Part of District

THREATS TO SITE: Roads  Development  Zoning  Deterioration

No Threat  Other

## COMMENTS:

In Saddle River Center District.

Removal of aluminum siding would increase building's architectural integrity.

## REFERENCES:

SRHC Files: early photographs, post cards, Martha R. DeBaun's,

"DeBaun's General Store", typewritten

"DeBaun's Store" Heritage News May 1970, p. 3, Dec. 1969, pp. 1-2,

Suzanne Barnett "SADDLE RIVER'S 1852 Bid for Post Office No Problem,"

Ridgewood News, 3-16-67.

SIGNIFICANCE (continued)

remained in business on this site until forced to retire for ill health. DeBaun was Saddle River's Post Master from 1897 to 1933.

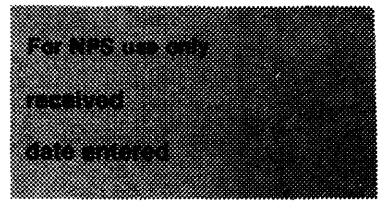


Barn/carrriage house looking NW. Accessory building of Mowerson Store, 146 W. Saddle River Road (#15), in background. Neg. file # 1-18



Undated old photograph of 67 East Allendale Road taken before rear wing added. From SRHC files. Neg. file # 198351-5

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**



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

Saddle River MRA, Saddle River Borough,

Continuation sheet Bergen County, New Jersey Item number 10

Page

UTM References (continued)

Individual Properties

- 1-18/576580/4539580
- 2-18/576920/4542080
- 3-18/577200/4543040
- 4-18/575840/4542400
- 5-18/575920/4542380
- 6-18/577100/4542940
- 7-18/576160/4539700
- 8-18/576020/4540160
- 9-18/575940/4541360
- 10-18/575920/4541440
- 11-18/576060/4542060
- 12-18/576080/4542180
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- 16-18/575800/4543160
- 17-18/575840/4543360
- 18-18/575800/4543640
- 19-18/575220/4540760
- 20-18/575400/4541860
- 21-18/575400/4543920
- 22-18/575400/4544040
- 23-18/575200/4541320