

NEW JERSEY OFFICE OF CULTURAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

HISTORIC PRESERVATION SECTION  
INDIVIDUAL STRUCTURE SURVEY FORM

HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY NO.

0713 05 0

HISTORIC NAME: Von Schmid House  
LOCATION: 580 Park St.

COMMON NAME: Pitha house  
BLOCK/LOT 2804/39: 3-D/102

MUNICIPALITY: Montclair  
USGS QUAD: Orange  
OWNER/ADDRESS: Pitha, Martha  
See above

COUNTY: Essex  
UTM REFERENCES: Zone/Northing/Easting

DESCRIPTION

Construction Date: 1926 Source of Date: Tax Assessor  
Architect: Holmes & Von Schmid Builder:  
Style: Picturesque Tudor Cottage Form/Plan Type: Extended Rectangle  
Number of Stories: 2½ + B  
Foundation: Stucco  
Exterior Wall Fabric: Stucco w/half-timber work above.  
Fenestration: 5 bays, casements in groups of 2, 3 & 5. Some multi-light; some w/ diamond panes & top transoms.  
Roof/Chimneys: Steep gable w/interior chimney

Additional Architectural Description:

The small dark panelled entrance door in bay 3 shows a lantern in the wall overhead & paired divided casements below the eaves above.

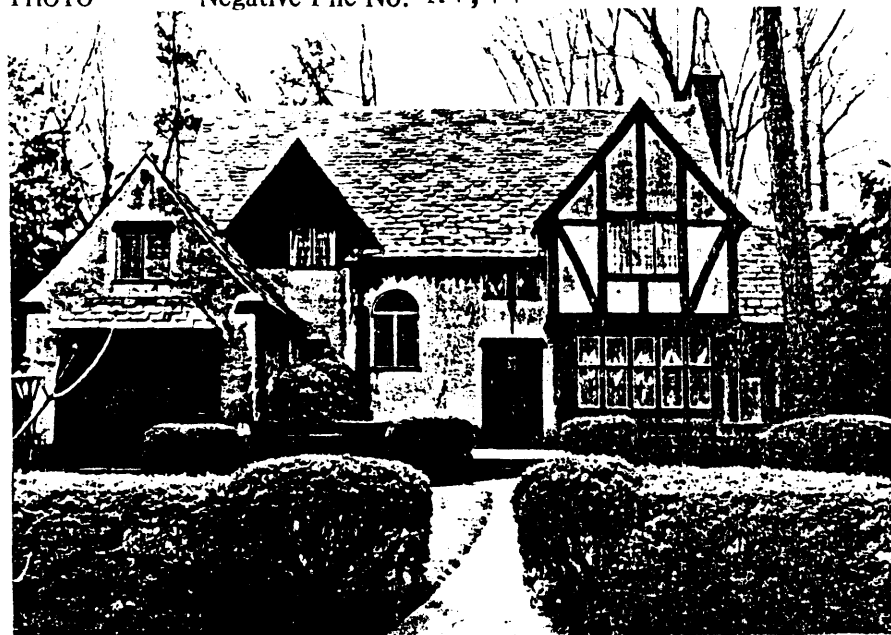
A vertical arched window w/ divided casement defines the wall to the left (east) of the entrance.

The 1st floor bay projects to form single car garage below a steep gable w/ close eaves & paired casements at the center.

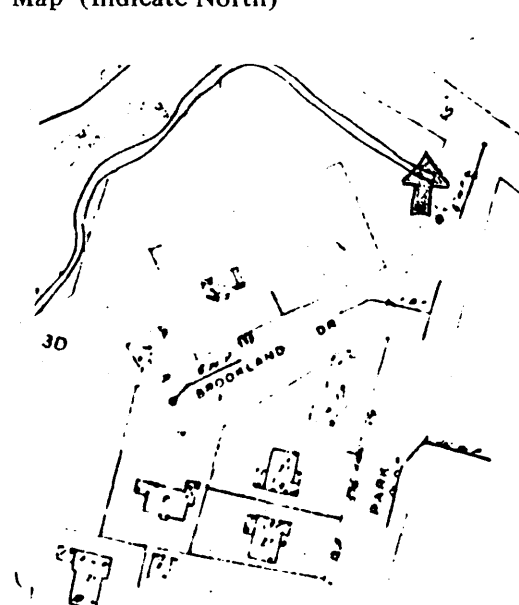
Right of the entrance, a 2 story gable-roofed wing w/ decorative half-timber work on the 2nd floor forms an overhang w/ corner pendules.

A group of 5 diamond-paned casements w/ top transom line the 1st floor & a group of 3 windows define the 2nd floor above. (Continued under "Comments" on back.)

PHOTO Negative File No. R4, 14



Map (Indicate North)



OCT 1 1986

HISTORIC PRESERVATION SECTION, 109 WEST STATE STREET, TRENTON, NEW JERSEY 08625 (609) 292 - 2023

0 054

SITING, BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION, AND RELATED STRUCTURES:

House sited at center of 100 x 108 lot.  
Less than one acre.

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

House is on a residential street very near Mt. Hebron Cemetery.  
There are 4 houses in the enclave--3 were designed by the same architectural firm and one is a newer addition.

SIGNIFICANCE:

Designed by Von Schmid, this attractive cottage is part of a small enclave of well landscaped Tudoresque homes w/ private drive-way on the north-west corner of Mt. Hebron & Park St. This area is known as "The Hoo."

This picturesque cottage was designed for Mrs. A. T. Von Schmid. The house was featured in "The American Architect", Vol. CXXXI, No. 2514, February 5, 1927. It was also included in the Architectural Exhibition of the New Jersey Chapter A.I.A. held at the Newark Museum in 1927.

In his own home the architect has shown a special attention to detail and use of high quality materials. The house has some fine interior features, particularly on the first floor. Rafters and beams from a 300 year old barn (in 1926) were used in the living room and hall. These beams are also incorporated into the unique design of the living room fireplace which has a copper hood. In addition, this house is one of the earliest local examples to have a garage as an integral part of the plan.

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:

Recessed back in the 5th bay, a small enclosed porch shows paired multi-light double doors below a half-timbered gable on the west elevation.

REFERENCES:

Franklin Survey Company. Atlas of Montclair, Glen Ridge, Cedar Grove & Verona, 1933.

RECORDED BY: Eleanor Price  
ORGANIZATION: Preservation Montclair

DATE: 3/13/81