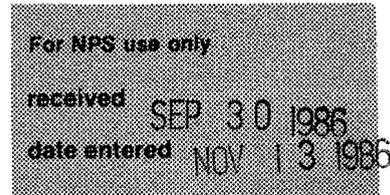


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Continuation sheet

Item number 7

Page 15

N-284

Property Name: J. Lindsay Barn

Location and Verbal Boundary Description:

The J. Lindsay Barn is located in Limestone Hills on the northeast side of Middleton Drive approximately 0.2 mile northwest of its intersection with Mermaid-Stoney Batter Road. The site includes all of Parcel Number 08-031.10-065, which contains 1.26 acres. The boundaries are delineated on the attached map titled, New Castle County Property Tax Map, 1985.

UTM Reference: 18/441040/4400160

Owner: L. H. Associates
c/o John A. Faroane
1213 King Street
Wilmington, Delaware 19801

Description:

Two contributing buildings are located on the site: an 1820's stone barn, and a nineteenth century stone outbuilding.

The J. Lindsay Barn is a large stone building with very finely laid, dark fieldstone walls accented by round-arched doorways and windows with cut stone voussoirs. Large rectangular and square quoins anchor the corners. The datestone in the southwest gable reads: J & S L 182_. Two gable cupolas sit atop the gable roof.

The upper level plan is three bays long and two bays deep. However, this is not the original plan since it is quite apparent that the framing was replaced in the early twentieth century. Braced frame construction and circular sawn timbers are used, although they are reinforced with nails or simply spiked, as in the case of the secondary members. The three post bent scheme is not unique, but unlikely in the original. The roofing system has closely set rafters sheathed with beaded tongue and groove boards. The rafters rest on principal purlins that are supported by braced diagonal struts in the center, and by the stone walls at the gable ends. This roofing system is identical to the roof on the dated 1803 J. Walker Barn (N-285), which indicates that some of the framing was replaced exactly as it was in the original.

The upper level plan remains in the Mill Creek Hundred tradition with its center bay driveway and flanking hay mows. An unusually large winnowing door, also arched, opposes the large double door entrance.

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

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Continuation sheet

Item number 7

Page 16

The lower level plan and flooring system have also been replaced. The exterior features three doors on the southwest gable end, and three doors and a double door entrance on the southeast elevation.

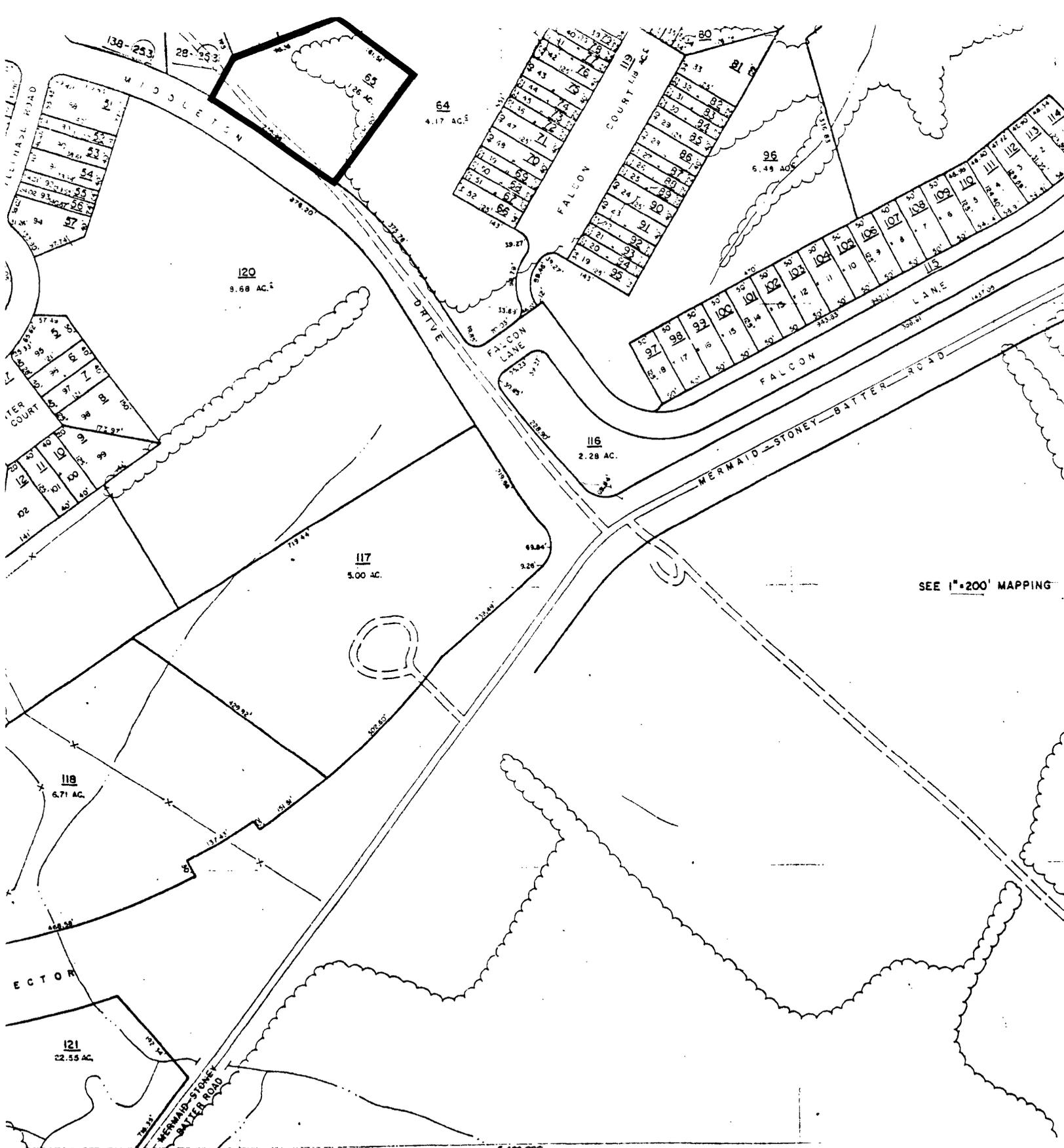
The exterior of the building is in pristine condition. Although the interior has been reframed, this change has not affected the design of the exterior. In form and materials, the J. Lindsay Barn conforms to the Mill Creek Hundred tradition, however, the unusually fine execution of the stonework makes it one of the most outstanding barns in the area.

Associated with the barn is a two story, gable-roofed, stone building with a wagon entrance on the lower level, and stairs on the southwest endwall that lead to the upper level entrance. It is referred to locally as a mill and there is some milling equipment stored inside. However, there are no water courses in the vicinity, and historic maps do not indicate a mill site there.

Significance:

The J. Lindsay Barn is significant under Criterion A as a grand illustration of the transition from log construction to more durable stone building during the first quarter of the nineteenth century; and under Criterion C it stands as one of the most skillfully executed stone barns in the County.

The J. Lindsay Barn, like other Mill Creek Hundred barns, reflects the intensive use of the land and the intensive use of this kind of building. The multiple uses helped conserve labor as there was little day labor, and helped conserve land, the value of which was the highest in the state. This barn was a part of the process in industrializing agriculture in Mill Creek Hundred and it played a part in making this area the most efficient in terms of farm production in the state.



N-284 J. Lindsay Barn
New Castle County Property Tax Map, 1985
Parcel Number 08-031.10-065