10-300 (Rev. 10-74) PHO356930
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

RECEIVED JAN 1 2 1976

DATE ENTERED SEP 2 7 1976

| NAME | | | | |
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| OBJECT | IN PROCESS | YES: RESTRICTED | ENTERTAINMENT GOVERNMENT | RELIGIOUS SCIENTIFIC |
| | BEING CONSIDERED | X_YES: UNRESTRICTED | INDUSTRIAL | TRANSPORTATION |
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| DEPOSITORY FOR | | | | · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · |
| SURVEY RECORDS H | listoric Sites Sec | tion, Dept. of E | nviromental P | rotection - |
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CONDITION

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CHECK ONE

__EXCELLENT

∠DETERIORATED __RUINS

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MOVED DATE 1909

__GOOD

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SKR

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Badgley House upon close examination, though deteriorated and with much of its interior fabric removed, can be seen as having been built in two distinct parts of which the construction methods used indicate that this is one of the oldest extant houses in the region.

The western half of the building, roughly 17 feet by 27 feet is most likely the later portion of the building. A 1 1/2 story dwelling built of hewn timber with brick filled walls, it is fairly typical of 18th century frame structures in the region save the steep roof pitch and the larger 6 x 8 inch beaded joists. It contained apparently one large room with a partitioned off stair hall. Most unusual is a chamfer on a ceiling joist creating a slightly bowed flue opening 8 feet long; possibly evidence of a large walk-in fireplace.

The eastern half of the building has features of an earlier date and characteristics of 17th century dwelling of Long Island (the area from which the Badgleys came) and New England. The gunstock seat in the framing and the low beaded beam ceiling of the rear lean-to (apparently part of the original building) are firm evidence of late 17th-early 18th century construction. Further early features are the small windows openings of the first floor and indications that the small 19th century windows of the second floor were originally tiny casement windows divided by a thick center mullion, typical of 17th century construction.

In 1909 this dwelling was uprooted and relocated some 400 feet from its original location. A new foundation was constructed at the time, the first floor removed, and large barn doors were cut into the south from for the storage of tractors and equipment. A new shed was also added to the west end. In addition, a small leanto was tacked onto the rear facade.

Now known as the "Ayres Barn," the house is presently a deteriorating utility shed maintained as part of the Watchung Reservation by the Union County Parks Commission.

The original site of the Badgley House is relatively undisturbed. Approximately 450 feet to the southwest of the present house location, the site is also to be included in this nomination due to its excellent potential for studying late 17th-early 18th century cultural artifacts of New Jersey's early Puritan history.

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CUTCK AND HISTIEV BELOW

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This building, which exhibits 17th and 18th century New England characteristics, was the dwelling of one of the earliest settlers of the Elizabethtown patent.

ARCHITECTURE

Physically, the exterior of the Badgley House resembles a 17th-18th century New England house clearly indicating the origin of Elizabethtown settlers. While the interior has been gutted by renovations, the framing has remained basically intact and presents a good study in early colonial construction techniques.

This building represents one of the oldest extant settlers. Indentified as belonging to the Badgley family in 1736 in the second general allotment of Elizabethtown lands, there are also references that John and James Badgley settled here long before this allotment of land and very possibly prior to 1699 as James Badgley was a founder of the Clinker Lot division relating to the survey of this land at that time. Richard's History of Union County refers to "James Badgley and Peter Wilkox having located on the mountain before any persons settled below" (prior to 1720).

Further references to people taking refuge in the Badgley house during Indian attacks in 1692 (Richard's History of Union Co.) and again during the Battle of The Short Hills, June 27, 1777, a place of hiding for Scotch Plains residents, resulting in punative reprisals in 1780 by Loyalist (New Jersey Journal)

Later in its life it provided the first Sunday School for the area recording in 1815-1819.

It remained in the Badgley family until the 1890's when it was sold to Arthur Ayers and eventually the Union Co. Park Commission and established as part of the Watchung Reservation in 1947.

AR JHEOLOGY

The original site of the Eadgley House, approximately 400 feet to the Southwest, is also included in this nomination as a site with excellent potential for late 17th- early 16th century cultural artifacts.

| 9 MAJOR BIBLIC short History of | Westfield, N.J. b E. C. Hatfield 193 | E RENCES y Rev. W. Newton | Caldwell (1893) |
|--|---|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| story of Union Co | . A.V.D. Honeyma | n, editor, 1923 | (pp. 4/3-3/1) |
| J. Historical Soc nutes of the Boar | c. Archives 1st Se | ries Pattersen 1949 | 1899 |
| story of Union Co | o. F.W. Ricord, e | ditor, 1897 (p. | 523-4) |
| the Old Badgley Homes | tead". Frederic C. De | etwiller. Jolumbia (| University. Spring, 1972 |
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| II FORM PREPAR NAME / TITLE Charle | s H. Detwiller, J | r. A.I.A. | |
| ORGANIZATION for Mo | untainside Bicent | enmial Committee | DATE May , 1975 |
| STREET & NUMBER CO Mr | . Matthew Powers | 335 Longview Dr | TELEPHONE ive |
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| 12 STATE HISTO | RIC PRESERVATION | ON OFFICER CER | TIFICATION |
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| As the designated State His | toric Preservation Officer for the | National Historic Preservation | on Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I |
| hereby nominate this prope | erty for inclusion in the Nationa | Register and certify that it | has been evaluated according to the |
| criteria and procedures set f | orth by the National Park Service | e . | |
| STATE HISTORIC PRES | NOROPH ZER SIGNATULE | 人· | |
| TITLE Jommissioner | , Department of Envi | conmental Frotection | DATE January 5, 1976 |
| TOR NPS USE ONLY | <i>,</i> , , , , , | | |
| I HEREBY CERTIFY THA | THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDE | D IN THE NATIONAL REGIS | TER O/ / |
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Form No. 10-300a (Rev. 10-74)

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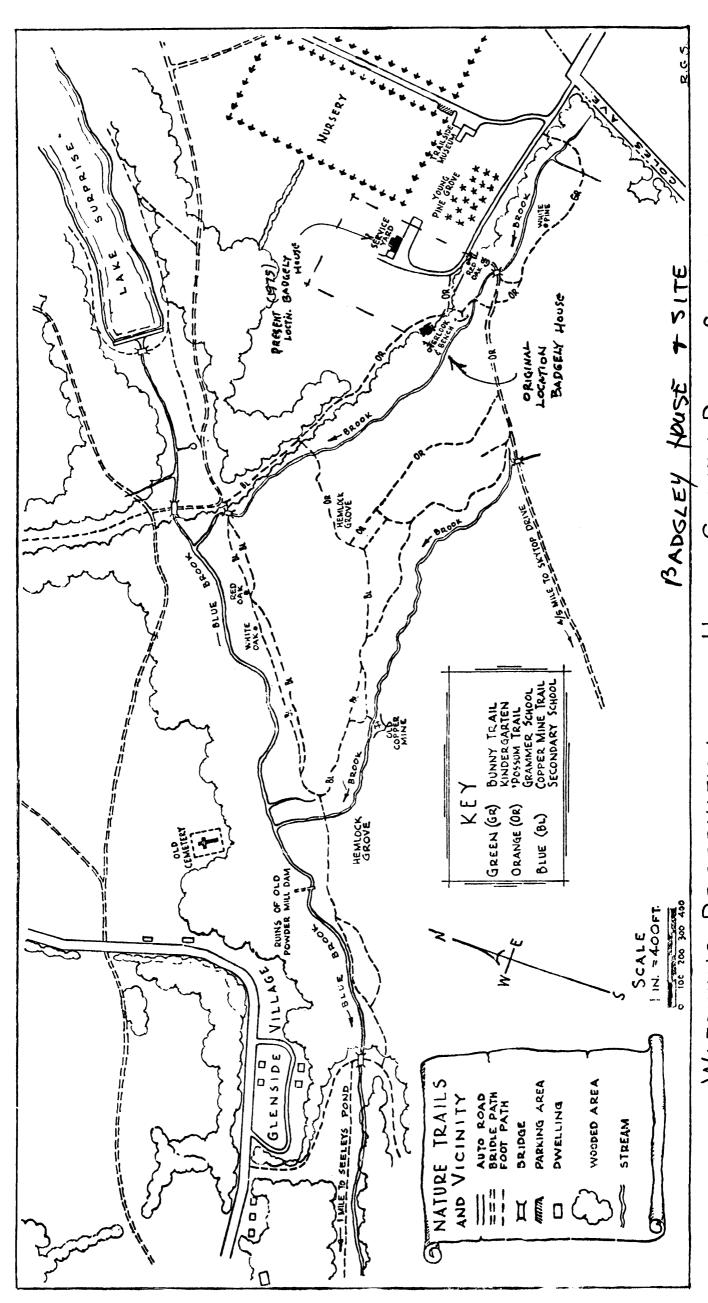
CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

PAGE

Major Bibliographical References (cont)

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The Old Badgley Homestead, Frederic C. Detwiller, 1972,
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SUMMIT . SPRINGFIELD . BERKELEY HEIGHTS . SCOTCH PLAINS . MOUNTAINSIDE SYSTEM UNION COUNTY PARK RESERVATION WATCHUNG