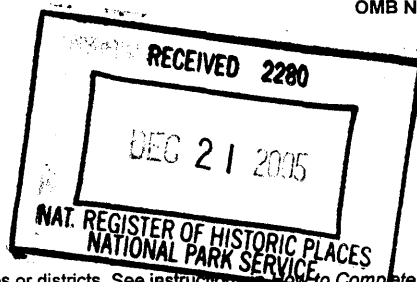


1563

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form



This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Charles Eversole House

other names/site number Eversole-Hall House

2. Location

street & number 509 County Road 523 not for publication

city or town Readington Township vicinity

state New Jersey code NJ county Hunterdon code 019 zip code 08889

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. See continuation sheet for additional comments.

[Signature] 12/7/05
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

John S. Watson, Jr., Assistant Commissioner Natural & Historic Resources/DSHPO
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet for additional comments.

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register. See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register. See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register.
- removed from the National Register.
- other, (explain:)

[Signature] 2/1/06
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

Charles Eversole House
Name of Property

Hunterdon Co., NJ
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	3	buildings
0	0	sites
0	2	structures
0	0	objects
1	5	Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

RECREATION/CULTURE/museum

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

No style

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation stone
walls weatherboard
shake
roof shake
other brick

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Charles Eversole house
Name of Property

Hunterdon Co., NJ
County and State

8 Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria considerations

(mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or grave.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object or structure.
- F** a commemorative property.
- G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance

ca.1778 – ca.1790

Significant Dates

ca.1790

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

Primary location of additional data

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

Readington Museums, Readington Twp.

Charles Eversole house
Name of Property

Hunterdon Co., NJ
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of property 3.0 acres

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	18	518816	4494049	3			
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
2				4			

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Carla A. Loughlin
organization Bucks County Community College date April 2005
street & number 2501 Maryland Road, Apt. Q10 telephone 215-706-2367
city or town Willow Grove state PA zip code 19090

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name The Township of Readington
street & number 509 County Road 523 telephone _____
city or town White House Station state NJ zip code 08889

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.470 *et seq.*)

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this from to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet****Charles Eversole House
Hunterdon Co., NJ**Section number 7 Page 1 **Description**

The Charles Eversole House is a 1½-story, with asymmetrical fenestration reflecting interior uses, single-pile, pre-Revolutionary, frame house, (photos #1 and #2) with a one-story, shed-roofed, enclosed porch on the western (rear) elevation (photo #3) and a one-story, flat-roofed, open porch spanning the center three bays on the eastern (front) elevation (photo #4). A cold cellar incorporated into the southern end of the enclosed porch (photos #5 and #6) is believed to have been a free-standing structure contemporary to the original one-room house. Two brick, interior end chimneys are located on each end of the side gable roof, which is covered with cedar shakes. The original house was a one room building of 17 feet x 16 feet with a sleeping loft above. It was built prior to 1778 and added to twice, probably by 1790, to bring it to its current footprint of 33 feet x 16 feet. The eastward-facing house is located on the west side of County Route 523 in Whitehouse Station, Hunterdon County, New Jersey. It was continuously occupied as a residence up until 1988, when it was purchased by the current owner, the Township of Readington, and converted into a museum. In addition to retaining its late 18th century form, very little interior alteration or modernization was made after the mid-19th century, and as a result, the house exhibits a high degree of historic integrity.

The house stands on a low stone foundation wall atop wooden sill plates. Exterior details include wood clapboard siding, a flat wooden cornice along the east façade, wood corner boards, and wooden window trim. The enclosed porch addition is clad in cedar shakes. The first-story windows in the main block are 6-over-6 double-hung sash; the second-story windows are fixed six-light sash. All of the sash in the main block are believed to date from the time of the second expansion of the house, ca. 1790. The windows on the enclosed porch include a fixed, nine-light window in the southern elevation, which is believed to date from the construction of the original cold cellar, a 6-over-6 double-hung window in the western elevation, and a 9-over-6 double-hung window in the northern elevation. The gable roof of the main block and the shed roof of the addition are covered with cedar shakes and there are corbelled brick interior end chimneys with drip caps located on both gable ends. The open porch has a boxed cornice, square posts, and the northern and southern ends are accented with decorative lattice. The interior layout of the lower level consists of three rooms in the main block, and two in the rear addition, one of which was originally the detached cold cellar. The upper story consists of three rooms in the main block.

Currently a museum, when the house was first being converted, architectural analysis performed on the roof structure by George Chern, an architect employed by Merck & Co., revealed that the original building was one 17 feet x 16 feet room (currently the northernmost room of the house) with an interior end chimney in the north gable end and a sleeping loft above. The ends of the rafters were found to be adzed; the framing in this section is hand-hewn with rubble-stone infill; and the plaster is applied directly to the stone. Removal of some of the floorboards revealed hand-hewn floor joists spaced 54 inches on center. This room has doors in the eastern and western elevations and two windows in the eastern elevation: this is likely their original configuration. Beaded-edge baseboards and a simple chair rail found in this portion of the house are the only decorative elements and are also believed to be original. The board-and-batten door on the cellar (photo #7) features a German-style Suffolk latch and strap-hinges (photo #8) with square leather washers behind the nails which hold the hinges in place.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet****Charles Eversole House
Hunterdon Co., NJ**Section number 7 Page 2

The first addition which was made to the house was the addition of an 8 feet x 16 feet room (photo #9) to the south of the original structure. There is an entrance door in the eastern elevation of this addition but no windows on either side. Removal of some of the floorboards revealed a foundation wall beneath the southernmost wall of this addition, indicating it was constructed before the second 8 feet x 16 feet room (photo #10) was added to the south of it, bringing the main block of the house to its current size of 33 feet x 16 feet. The first floor of the second addition has one window in the eastern elevation and two in the southern elevation. An interior end chimney is evident on the 2nd floor, but was removed on the first, although the mantle has been retained. Chern's analysis revealed that the original roof structure had been raised from the original loft to its current height of 1½-stories and it is believed that this occurred at the time this second addition was made. The rooms in the two additions are plaster on lath, which differs from the original room where the plaster was found to be applied directly to the stone. The ceilings are plastered on the first floor in the second addition only; in the original room and the first addition, the hand-hewn joists and floorboards above are exposed (photo #11). The floor boards on both floors, except those in the enclosed porch, are wide planked and, along with the joists, are believed to date from the completion of the final addition. The architectural firm of Clarke, Caton, Hintz (Trenton, NJ) performed a conditions analysis on the structure in February 2004 and dates the window profiles (photo #12) throughout the main block as ca. 1790, indicating the house had reached its final form by this time.

While the dimensions and exterior appearance of the house date from 1790, changes continued to the interior through the mid-19th century. The current stairs (photos #13, #14, and #15), located in the northwest corner of the original 17 feet x 16 feet structure, are believed to date from the first half of the 19th century. Flat-ended screws were discovered in their construction, indicating that they were likely built prior to the introduction of pointed screws in 1846. Original access to the loft sleeping area is believed to have been through a ladder or small winder staircase in the northeast corner of the room.

Removal of floorboards in the area to the right of the stairs revealed the original fireplace hearth, which was 8 feet 8 inches wide. The fireplace is believed to have been removed at the same time the stairs were reconfigured to incorporate the new technology of the six-plate stove (photos #16 and #17).

The shed porch addition (photo #18) to the rear (west) of the house may have been added as an open porch at the same time as the first or second addition to provide sheltered access to the cold cellar. A 1927 newspaper found in the insulation behind the homasote walls dates the enclosure of the porch to the 20th century.

Setting and Outbuildings

The house is one of a small complex of historic farm buildings and structures (photo #19). To the southwest of the house is a 10 feet 2 inches x 12 feet 2 inches wash house (site #2/photos #2 and #3) enclosed within the rear fenced yard. The wash house was built there probably during the late 19th or early 20th century (it was not mentioned in an 1869 real estate ad). It is of wood-framed construction with vertical board siding. Windows in the western, southern, and eastern elevations are fixed, six-light sash. The building is accessed via a Dutch door on the northern elevation. There is also a fixed six-light window on this elevation adjacent to the door. The gable roof, which runs east to west, is covered with cedar shakes. (Non-contributing).

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet****Charles Eversole House
Hunterdon Co., NJ**Section number 7 Page 3

To the west of the house stands a small 13 feet 2 inches x 20 feet 2 inches 19th century frame barn (site #3/photo #20) with vertical board siding. The barn is not original to the site, although it is similar in size and style to, and stands in the footprint of, an earlier barn which was torn down in the 1970s due to its deteriorated condition. The cedar shake gable roof runs north to south and the barn is accessed via sliding doors in the eastern elevation. The barn was relocated to the property by the Township of Readington. (Non-contributing).

A 3 feet 6 inches x 3 feet 6 inches reconstructed well house (site #4/photo #21) stands to the northeast of the house based on the original. It is wooden lattice over four courses of horizontal boards and topped with a hipped cedar shake roof. Access is through a door on the west side. (Non-contributing structure). To the northwest is a 4 feet 8 inches x 3 feet 9 inches privy (site #5/photo #22) of unknown date which is original to the site. It is constructed of vertical boards and has a wooden shake gable roof running east to west. Access is via a door on the southern elevation, and there is a four-light, fixed-pane window on both the eastern and western elevations. (Non-contributing).

A 5 feet x 16 feet 1 inch wooden corncrib with an asphalt gable roof (site #6/photo #23) stands to the southwest. It is oriented with the gable roof running north to south and accessed via a door in the northern elevation. This is also an historic structure that was relocated onto the site by the Township of Readington. (Non-contributing structure). Because they are either relocated, reconstructed, or of later or uncertain dating, none of these buildings or structures are considered contributing to the period of significance of the Charles Eversole House.

The Charles Eversole House stands on the same three acre tract of land that was laid out when Abraham Hall purchased it in 1832 from Eversole's grandson, John Eversole, Jr. The setting remains largely as it was in the past. The collection of outbuildings, while not all original to the site, are appropriate in scale and function to the property. County Route 523, which runs along the eastern boundary of the property, existed historically as the Flemington-Whitehouse Road and follows the same path as "the road which leads to the White House" documented on Robert Erskine's 1778 map (No. 73-5th). A snake rail fence separates the house and other buildings from the road. The site is bounded to the north and west by Municipality-owned park lands, and to the south by a private historic residence surrounded by undeveloped lands. The only encroachment to the property by modern construction is that of the Municipal building, which stands adjacent to the property on the north.

The house exhibits a high degree of historic integrity, having reached its current overall form by the late 18th century and left largely unaltered on the interior since the mid-19th century. Modern conveniences are minimal: only electric and heating units, which do not intrude extensively on the building fabric, have been installed. None of the later owners of the house had plumbing installed, relying instead on the privy and hand pump located behind the home. All restoration work performed by the Township was done in a sensitive manner, retaining original fabric when possible and replacing with appropriate substitutes when not.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**National Register of Historic Places****Continuation Sheet**Section number 8 Page 1 **Charles Eversole House
Hunterdon Co., NJ****Statement of Significance**

The Charles Eversole House is significant because it documents the architectural expansion from an 18th century one room home with a loft to an early vernacular farmhouse which was typical of Hunterdon and other counties in New Jersey¹. Most of these early vernacular houses do not survive, and those that do have been largely altered, or have been incorporated into 19th and 20th century additions². The Charles Eversole House is a rare example of a house constructed prior to 1778 that has retained the form it reached ca. 1790. Interior alterations were mostly complete by the mid-19th century. Twentieth century encroachments have been minimal and the house retains a high degree of historic integrity. The house qualifies for listing on the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria C/Architecture.

Historical Background

The greater part of Hunterdon County, including the site of the Charles Eversole House, was purchased by the West Jersey proprietors from the Indians on June 27, 1703, conveying 150,000 acres on the Raritan River west of the East-West New Jersey division line. The land was divided in 100th shares amongst the four proprietors³, who then divided each of their shares into 100 lots and appointed commissioners for each whose responsibility it was to contract with the local Indians and divide the lots up⁴. The West New Jersey Society, a stock company organized in 1691, had 91,000 acres surveyed in 1711 which became known as West Jersey's Great Tract. In 1744 the West Jersey Society sold a 10,000-acre tract to James Alexander including Lebanon, White House, and Round Valley⁵. According to the Alexander Papers at the New York Historical Society (Box 36-1718) the lot the Charles Eversole House stands on was part of the Lotting Indian Purchase. Little is known of the early ownership of the 200 acres held by Charles Eversole at the time of his death in 1805; however the house appears on the Robert Erskine 1778 Revolutionary War Map No. 73-5th. D. Stanton Hammond III's map, which was pieced together by researching the early deeds, shows James Logan and John Budd as the early proprietors of the tract where the Charles Eversole House would later stand, but does not show documented names of any of the early settlers on this particular area of the map.

The early settlers of Hunterdon County came from England, Germany, Holland, and France. Peter Kalm wrote of "the great mixture of people" he observed while traveling through New Jersey and other mid-Atlantic states in the 18th century⁶. By the mid-1700s, there was a tendency throughout the county towards uniformity as the traditions and influences of these pioneering groups merged into a culture that was more "New Jersey" than specific to any one ethnic group⁷. The Germans in Readington, in

¹ Bailey, Rosalie Fellows. Pre-Revolutionary Dutch Houses and Families in Northern New Jersey and Southern New York. New York: William Morrow and Co. 1936.

² Sites of Historic Interest: Hunterdon County Master Plan. C. F. Brasch and Robert G. Hall, editors. 1979.

³ Hunterdon County Master Plan. C. F. Brasch and Robert G. Hall, editors.

⁴ Mott, George Scudder. The First Century of Hunterdon County.

⁵ Bailey, Rosalie Fellows. Pre-Revolutionary Dutch Houses.

⁶ The America of 1750: Peter Kalm's Travels in North America. Volume 1. Translated and edited by Adolph B. Benson. New York: Wilson-Erickson Inc. 1937.

⁷ Schmidt, Hubert G. Rural Hunterdon: An Agricultural History. New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers University Press. 1945.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**National Register of Historic Places**

Continuation Sheet**Charles Eversole House**
Hunterdon Co., NJSection number 8 Page 2

particular, were thoroughly absorbed into this new culture, as their numbers were limited⁸. This merging of cultural traditions is also reflected in the architecture of the area. The rectangular, frame, stone, or brick house of 1½- or 2-stories with two or three rooms on each floor, a side gable roof, and interior end chimneys became more or less standard⁹. Plastered walls and a narrow chair rail were often the only interior ornamentation¹⁰. This description also fits the Charles Eversole House. Some examples of this style still exist in the nearby Raritan-Readington South Branch, Readington Village, and Potterstown Rural Historic Districts¹¹.

Charles Eversole, of Berg, France arrived in Philadelphia on September 24, 1753 at the age of 21 on the ship *Peggy*, which sailed from Rotterdam (passenger ship list 204A)¹². He was born Carl Ebersohl in 1731 or 1732 to Johann Michael Ebersohl and Anna Cristina (Wilhelm) Ebersohl in Berg, of German descent¹³. On February 14, 1757 Eversole entered into a lease agreement for property in Tewksbury Township, Hunterdon County owned by a John McCarty (Deed Book 16/Page 66). Under terms of the agreement, he was to pay 3 Pistoles per year per 100 acres for the right to the 21-acre property. He took over the lease from a Daniel Waldron (Deed Book 16/Page 69) who leased the property for less than ten months. Charles Eversole remained bounded by this lease agreement, which went on in perpetuity, until he signed it over to a John Baughman on November 4, 1775 (Deed Book 16/Page 69).

It seems, however, that Eversole had moved to Readington Township at least seven years before. In 1768 Eversole placed an ad for a slave “run-away from the subscriber ... living in the township of Reading, Hunterdon county.” It is possible that he retained the Tewksbury property as extra acreage for farming while clearing the land on his new property, or it may have taken him some time to find someone to take over the terms of the lease.

In May 1775 Eversole signed a petition for a tavern license for the White House Tavern, formerly located just up the road from where the nominated property stands today, on what was then the Great Road to Potterstown (currently Route 22). Robert Erskine’s 1778 Map No. 73-5th shows the Charles Eversole House, along with two others, which were also likely the property of Eversole at this time, situated on the road “Past the White House to the crossroads towards Morristown.” Tax Ratables for 1778¹⁴ also support that Charles, and his wife Elizabeth, were living in Readington Township by this date and were in possession of 100 acres. By 1779 they held 200 acres, presumably the 200 acres Charles would possess throughout the remainder of his life.

⁸ Ibid.

⁹ Schmidt, Hubert G. Rural Hunterdon.

¹⁰ Bailey, Rosalie Fellows. Pre-Revolutionary Dutch Houses.

¹¹ National Register of Historic Places registration forms for the Raritan-Readington South Branch, Readington Village and Potterstown Rural Historic Districts.

¹² Pennsylvania German Pioneers: A Publication of the Original Lists of Arrivals in the Port of Philadelphia from 1727 to 1808. Compiled by Ralph Beaver Strassburger. Edited by William John Hinke. Norristown, PA: Pennsylvania German Society. 1934.

¹³ Ebersol, Reverend Charles Eliphalet. The Ebersol Families in America 1727-1937. 1937.

¹⁴ Stryker-Rodda, Kenn. Revolutionary Census of New Jersey: An Index, Based on Ratables of the Inhabitants of New Jersey During the Period of the American Revolution. Cottonport, LA. 1972.

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National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 3

Charles Eversole House
Hunterdon Co., NJ

Charles and Elizabeth Eversole were members of the Zion Lutheran Church in New Germantown (now Oldwick), New Jersey along with several prominent German members of the White House community, including Abraham Van Horn, who owned the mill and the White House Tavern, and Balthes Pickel, one of the earliest settlers in White House. They had a daughter, Maria, and two sons. The eldest son, born in 1767 or 1768 died in October 1778 at the age of 10 “after he had been laid low for three weeks by a nerve fever” (Zion Lutheran Church Death Records). Their youngest son, Johannes, known as John, was born March 11, 1771 (Zion Lutheran Church Birth/Baptismal Records). In addition to farming, Eversole operated a small reed making business. On February 20, 1781 he placed the following ad:

The subscriber takes this method of acquainting his former customers, and the publick in general, that he as furnished himself with a quantity of Carolina Cane, intending to carry on the REED MAKING BUSINESS as usual and hopes, by his knowledge of, and attention to his business, to give satisfaction to all those who shall please to favor him with their custom.

As he approached middle age, with only one son who may have been unable to assist with the farming operations (see below), Eversole might have been looking for an alternative to farming to practice as he advanced in years, and turned to a trade he knew and had plied earlier. It may have been this renewed investment in the reed making business that led him to the first expansion of the house, perhaps as a workshop, with its own entrance for customers.

Charles’ son John was 19 years old in 1790, married and beginning his own family with wife Catherine by 1791 with the birth of their first child, Elizabeth (Zion Lutheran Church Birth/Baptismal Records). While Elizabeth was quickly followed by siblings Charles (1793), Christina (1795), Mary (1798), John, Jr. (1800) and Catherine (1803), there is no record of John owning property in Hunterdon County prior to the purchase of part of his father’s estate in 1807. John Eversole was exempted from the Hunterdon Militia in 1792. There were only three reasons that a person could be exempted from duty: physical impairment, mental impairment, or by paying a \$3/year tax¹⁵. If John’s exemption was due to a physical or mental impairment, it may have also made it difficult for him to support himself and his growing family. A married son beginning a family and still residing at home could have provided the need for the second expansion to the house and additional sleeping accommodations. In 1788, Eversole mortgaged 100 of his 200 acres for £100 (Mortgage Book 1/Page 392), possibly to finance materials for one or both of the additions.

Charles Eversole passed away in 1805, leaving to his wife Elizabeth the “choicest room in the dwelling house,” supporting the architectural evidence that the house was more than a one room dwelling at this time. His son John received only 5 shillings. The remainder of the land and improvements were left to Charles’ only living grandson at the time, 5-year-old John Eversole, Jr. – his older brother Charles having died in 1795 at the age of 2 (Zion Lutheran Church Death Records) – to inherit when he turned

¹⁵ “Hunterdon County Militia: 1792.” *Genealogical Magazine of New Jersey*. Vol. 9. Russell Bruce Rankin, editor. Newark: New Jersey: Genealogical Society of New Jersey. 1933-1934.

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Continuation Sheet

Charles Eversole House
Hunterdon Co., NJ

Section number 8 Page 4

21. If John, Jr. were to die before turning 21, the plantation was to be rented, with the money going to the widow, and after her death to be sold and the proceeds divided equally amongst his granddaughters, Elizabeth, Christina, Mary, and Caty. No mention is made in the will of daughter Maria, who lived to adulthood and married Conrad Swoockhamer (Swackhamer). (Will Book 1/Page 80).

Eversole died in debt, and in October 1805 John Van Fleet and Casper Backer, Eversole's executors, petitioned the Hunterdon County Orphan's Court to sell off some of the real estate. The property was advertised in the March 3, 1806 edition of The True American, and 100 acres, although not the parcel containing the Charles Eversole House, were sold to Andrew Creger (Deed Book 15/Page 490) for \$1,160.25. This did not satisfy all of the debts, and in May 1807 the executors again petitioned to sell "a house and lot of land lying in Readington near the White House." The sale was advertised in the November 9, 1807 edition of The True American, and the advertised house along with 7/10 acre were sold to Charles' son, John, Sr. for \$137.50 on December 21, 1807 (Deed Book 16/Page 158). This house was the southern-most house appearing on the group of three on Erskine's map. While the house was occupied by a tenant named John H. Cooper (Orphan's Court Minutes, Vol. 3, Page 51, August 1807) at the time of the sale, he was apparently removed and John Eversole, Sr. and his wife Catherine moved in with their children. In 1824 Eversole sold this house to his father-in-law, John Van Fleet (Deed Book 37/Page 157), although they continued to live here, and in his will, written in 1831 Van Fleet left the land and house "where she is currently living" to his daughter Catherine, for use during her life, and then to her youngest son, Abraham V. Eversole, who was thus also the grandson of Charles Eversole (Will Book 5/Page 294).

In 1821, John, Jr. came into his inheritance. On April 19, 1832 he sold the Charles Eversole House, along with three acres, to Abraham Hall for \$100 (Deed Book 52/Page 295). On the same date Hall paid Cornelius A. Ten Eycke \$15 for a Quit Claim (Deed Book 52/Page 296). Ten Eycke had purchased the 100 acres of Charles' estate (Deed Book 51/Page 483) that was sold to Andrew Creger in 1806, but the boundary description was transcribed incorrectly and this seems to have been an attempt on Hall's part to ensure clear title to the property.

In the 1840 United States Federal Census (Series M704/Roll 253), Hall's household consisted of five individuals – one male between the age of 15 and 20, likely his son James, a second male between the ages of 20 and 30, probably his older son Ten Eycke, himself, his wife, and a female child between the ages of 5 and 10, probably daughter Charlotte. Two of the members of the household were engaged in manufacture or trade. Abraham Hall was identified in the 1850 United States Federal Census (Series M432/Roll 453) as being a 53-year-old shoemaker. His household consisted of his wife Elizabeth, 52, his 23-year-old son James Hall, also a shoemaker, and Ellen Hall, his granddaughter, who was 3 years old. The value of his real estate in 1850 was entered as \$900. In the 1860 United States Federal Census (Series M653/Roll 695), Hall and his wife were both identified as being 60 years old and their household now consisted of the two of them and three grandchildren, Ellen Hall, age 13, John Hall, age 11, and Ten Eycke Hall, age 9. Hall was still practicing the shoemaking trade; his real estate was valued at \$1,000 and his personal estate at \$200.

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Continuation Sheet

Charles Eversole House
Hunterdon Co., NJ

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Abraham Hall lived in the Charles Eversole House and plied his trade until his death in 1869. He willed to his wife “the use of (his) house and lot and woodlot ... during her life” but empowered his executors to sell whatever real estate or personal property necessary to “comfortably support and maintain (his) beloved wife.” He also left to John and Ten Eycke Hall, the children of his son, Ten Eycke, \$10 each to be paid after his wife Elizabeth passed away. The remainder of his estate was to be divided equally between his children James Hall and Charlotte Porter, and his granddaughter Ellen Hall (Will Book 1/Page 656).

Abraham Hall’s 1869 inventory (Book 15/Page 218) refers to a “cook stove and fixtures” and a stove in his shop, and when the executor’s of his estate reported expenditures to the Hunterdon County Orphan’s Court (Account Book 1/Page 81) they reported purchasing a new stove grate for the use of his widow on October 7, 1869. Conversely, Charles Eversole’s inventory (Book 1/ Page 108), dated May 31, 1805 refers to “tow trambels” (two trammels) and “hand irons” (andirons). Along with the architectural evidence discussed earlier, this information suggests that the fireplace was still being used throughout Eversole’s time in the house but that the stove was in place by the end of Hall’s tenure.

In the December 22, 1869 edition of the Hunterdon County Democrat, James Hall and Peter Davis, executors of Abraham Hall’s estate, advertised the Charles Eversole House for sale. It was described as being “1½ stories high, in good repair, and sufficiently large for all ordinary purposes” with a “well of never ending water at the door ... good barn and hovel ... in high cultivation and well fenced.” On April 1, 1870 title passed to Ruliff R. Swackhamer (Deed Book 145/Page 272) who paid \$1,047 for it. The 1870 United States Federal Census (Series M593/Roll 870) enumerated in July, identified Swackhamer as a farmer and valued his real estate at \$7,000, indicating the purchase of this property likely served to enlarge his real estate holdings – possibly being rented out as a tenant farm.

In 1873 Swackhamer sold the house and three acres to Jacob H. Agans for \$1,050 (Deed Book 153/Page 537). After Agans death, his widow Harriet sold the property in 1890 to sisters Ellen Ten Eycke and Catherine Hall, wife of Robert B. Hall for \$1,101 (Deed Book 226/Page 420). When Catherine Hall died on February 13, 1922 she left her half of the house and land to her daughter Arabella Redshaw, subject to use by her sister, Cornelia Starkey during her life. When Ellen Ten Eycke died on December 17, 1931, she left her half of the house and land to her niece, Catherine Hall’s daughter, Arabella Redshaw. After Arabella Redshaw’s death her widower, Benjamin T. Redshaw, sold the house and land to Daniel and Viola King in 1955 (Deed Book 554/Page 10). Daniel King passed away in 1957, and after Viola’s death her heirs sold the property to the Township of Readington in 1988 for \$186,000 (Deed Book 1014/Page 830). The Township of Readington is the current owner of the property and maintains it as a museum to educate the township’s school children and residents on historic trades based on the history of Charles Eversole as a reed maker and Abraham Hall as a shoemaker.

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Continuation Sheet

Charles Eversole House
Hunterdon Co., NJ

Section number 9 Page 1

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National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

**Charles Eversole House
Hunterdon Co., NJ**

Section number 9 Page 2

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National Park Service**

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Hunterdon Co., NJ**

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Continuation Sheet**

**Charles Eversole House
Hunterdon Co., NJ**

Section number 10 Page 1

Verbal Boundary Description

The nominated property is more accurately described in accordance with a survey completed by Robert C. Bogart & Associates, dated March 1988, as follows:

Beginning at a p.k. nail set in the traveled way of the road known locally as the Flemington-Whitehouse Road (County Road 523), said P.K. set being the termination of Course #4, and the beginning of Course #1, in a deed to Viola King, filed in the Hunterdon County Clerk's Office, in Deed Book #554, page 10, and running thence;

- (1) Along the line of land of John and Helen Vislocky (Block 25, Lot 20), North, fifty-two degrees, zero minutes, zero seconds West a distance of 791.5 feet to an iron pin set for a corner to the same, said iron pin set being a common corner to the land of Readington Township (Block 25, Lot 35.01) thence
- (2) Along the line of land aforementioned Readington Township, North 34 degrees, 15 minutes, zero seconds East a distance of 165.86 feet to an iron pin set for a common corner to the same, said iron pin set being a common corner to the lands of the aforementioned Readington Township thence
- (3) Still along the same, South 52 degrees, zero minutes, zero seconds East a distance of 791.50 to a P.K. nail set in the aforementioned traveled way of the road, known locally as the Whitehouse-Flemington Road (County Route 523) thence
- (4) Along the traveled way of the road known locally as the Whitehouse-Flemington Road (County Route 523) South 34 degrees, 15 minutes, zero seconds West a distance of 165.86 feet to the point and place of beginning

Containing three and seven thousandths of an acre (3.007)

Boundary Justification

The property boundaries have been unchanged since Abraham Hall purchased the property from John Eversole, Jr., grandson of Charles Eversole, in 1832.

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Continuation Sheet

Charles Eversole House
Hunterdon Co., NJ

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Photographs

Photographed by Carla A. Loughlin
on February 18, 2005

Negatives filed at:

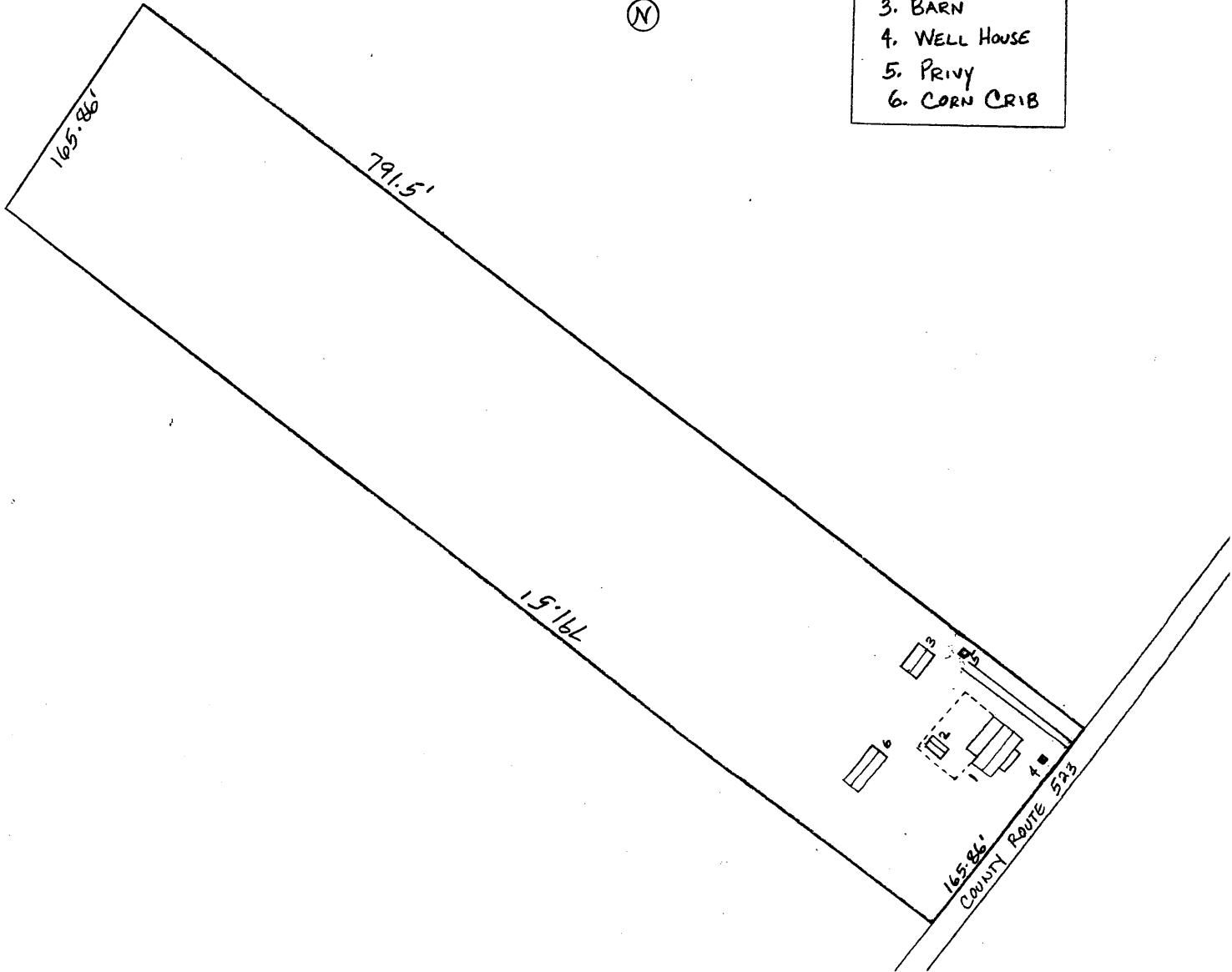
The Readington Museums
Bouman-Stickney Farmstead
114 Dreahook Road
Stanton, NJ 08833

- Photo #1 – View of the house, eastern elevation, looking west.
Photo #2 – View of the house, eastern and southern elevations, looking northwest.
Photo #3 – View of the house, northern and western elevations, looking southeast.
Photo #4 – View of the house, northern and eastern elevations, looking southwest.
Photo #5 – View into the cold cellar, looking south.
Photo #6 – View of the southwest corner of the cold cellar, looking southwest.
Photo #7 – View of the cold cellar door, looking north.
Photo #8 – View up the cold cellar door (close up), looking north.
Photo #9 – View of northwest corner of the center room, first floor, looking northwest.
Photo #10 – View of the south wall of the south parlor, first floor, looking south.
Photo #11 – View of the southwest corner of the center room, first floor, exposed ceiling timbers, looking southwest.
Photo #12 – View of the window profile, eastern wall window in the first floor south parlor, looking northeast.
Photo #13 – View of stairs in the northern parlor, looking northwest.
Photo #14 – View of stairs in the northern parlor, looking northwest.
Photo #15 – View down the stairs from the northern bedroom, looking west.
Photo #16 – View of the north wall in the northern parlor, former location of fireplace, looking north.
Photo #17 – View of the ceiling in the northern parlor, former location of fireplaces, looking north.
Photo #18 – View of the enclosed rear shed addition and exposed framing, looking northeast.
Photo #19 – View of the landscape, looking southwest.
Photo #20 – View of the barn, eastern and northern elevations, looking southwest.
Photo #21 – View of the well house, northern and eastern elevations, looking southwest.
Photo #22 – View of the privy, southern and western elevations, looking northeast.
Photo #23 – View of the corncrib, northern and western elevations, looking southeast
Photo #24 – View of the southwest corner of the bedroom over the original portion of the house, looking southwest
Photo #25 – View of the northwest corner of the bedroom over the original portion of the house, looking northwest.

CHARLES EVERSOLE HOUSE
509 COUNTY ROUTE 523/BLOCK 25-1
HUNTERDON COUNTY, NJ /NRHP
DRAWN BY: CARLA A. LOUGHLIN / APRIL 2005

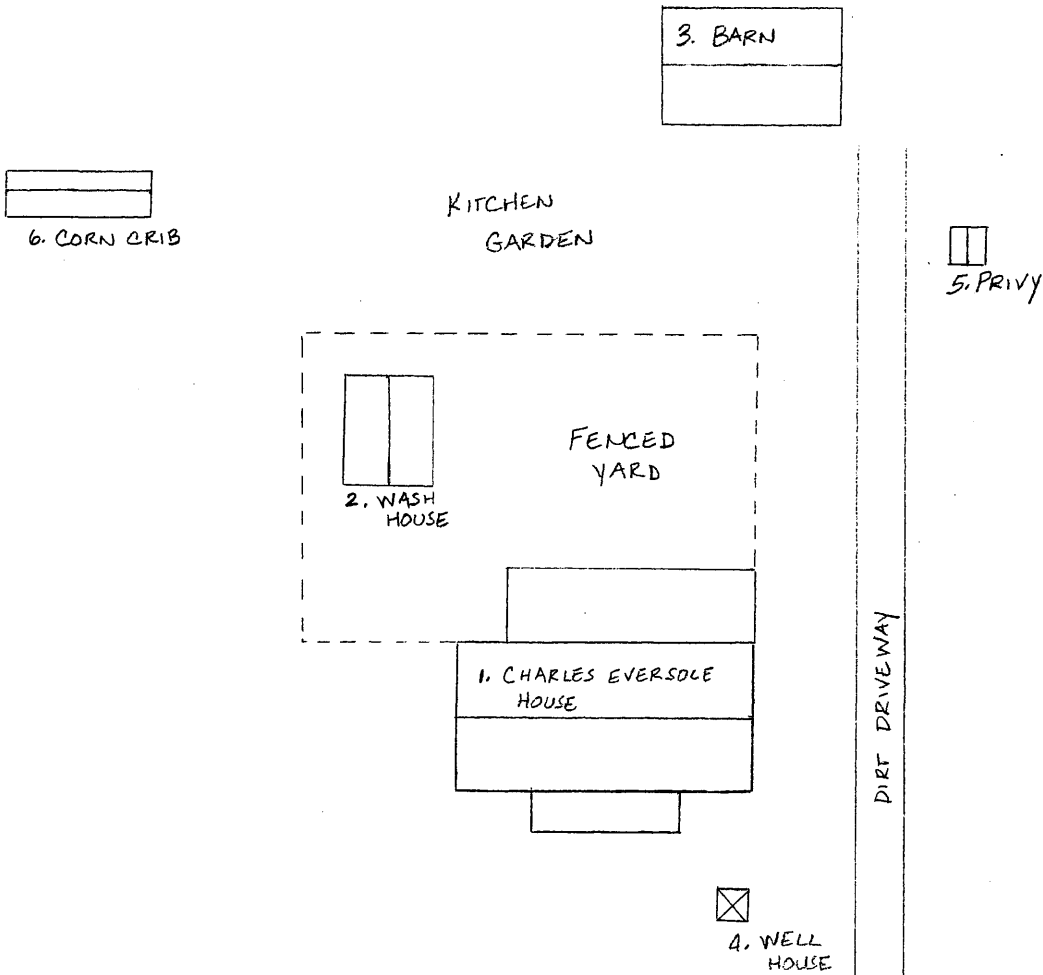
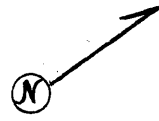
3/32" = 8'

- KEY
- 1. HOUSE
 - 2. WASH HOUSE
 - 3. BARN
 - 4. WELL HOUSE
 - 5. PRIVY
 - 6. CORN CRIB



CHARLES EVERSOLE HOUSE
509 COUNTY ROUTE 523 / BLOCK 25 - LOT 36
MARCH 2005
DRAWN BY: CARLA A. LOUGHLIN

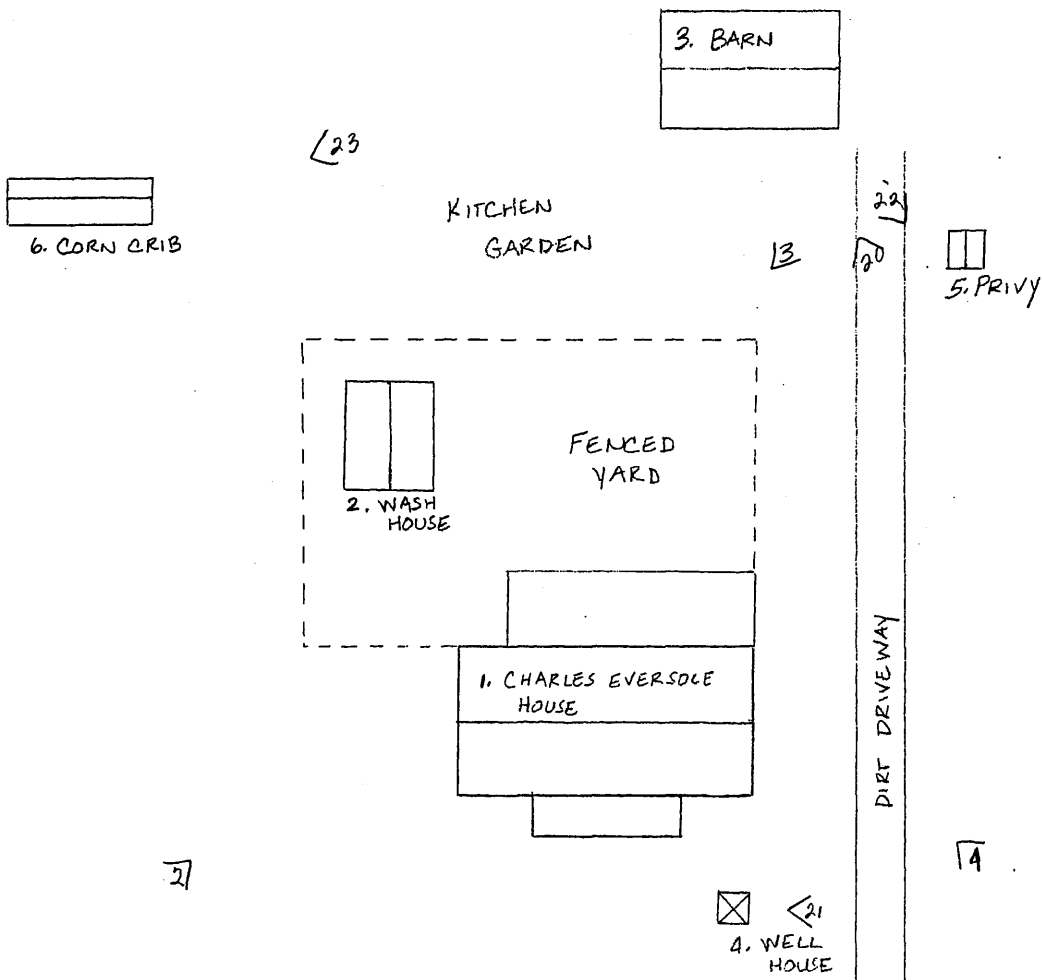
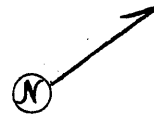
$3/32" = 2'$



COUNTY ROUTE 523

CHARLES EVERSOLE HOUSE
509 COUNTY ROUTE 523 / BLOCK 25 - LOT 36
MARCH 2005
DRAWN BY: CARLA A. LOUGHLIN

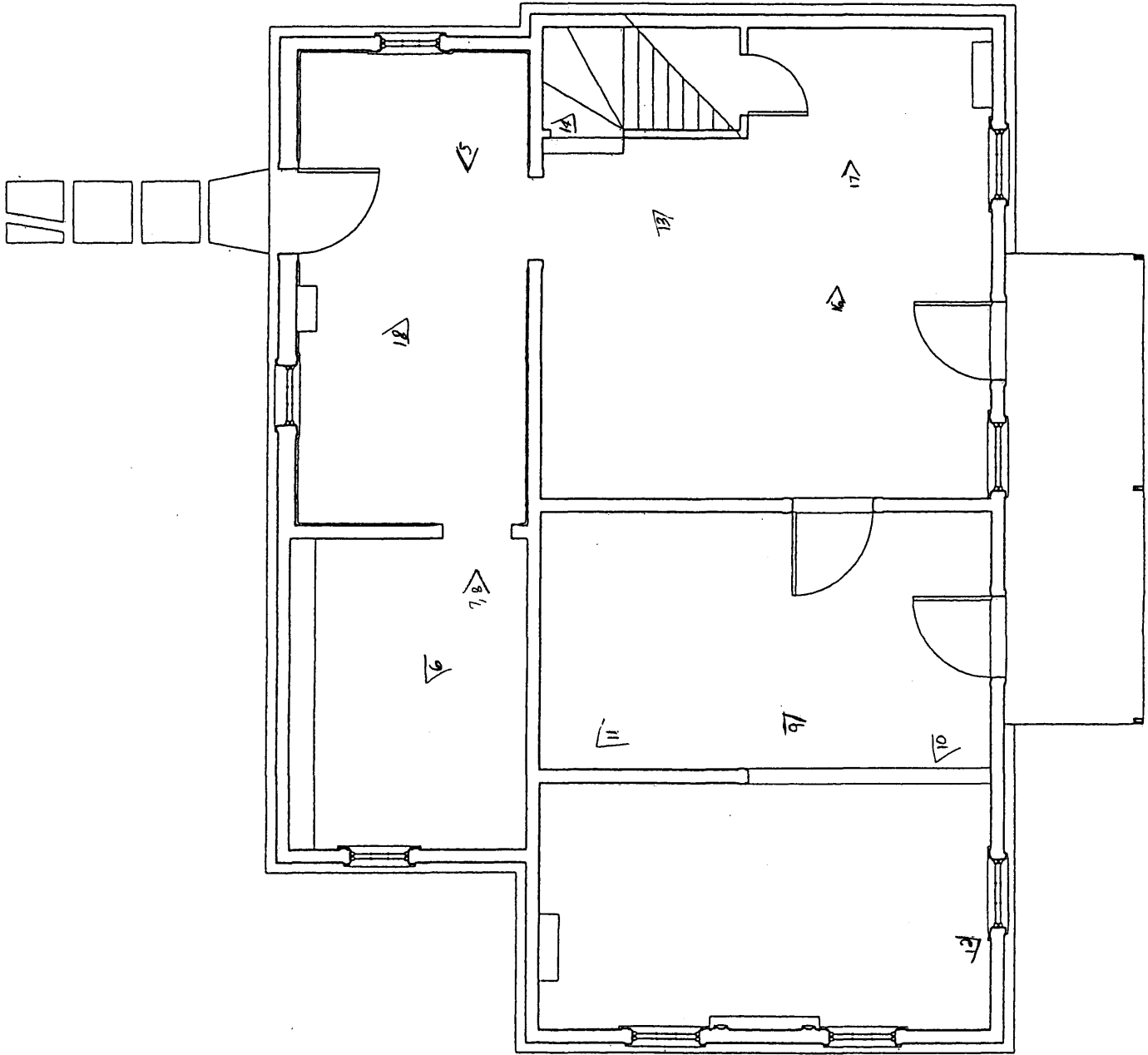
3/32" = 2'



COUNTY ROUTE 523

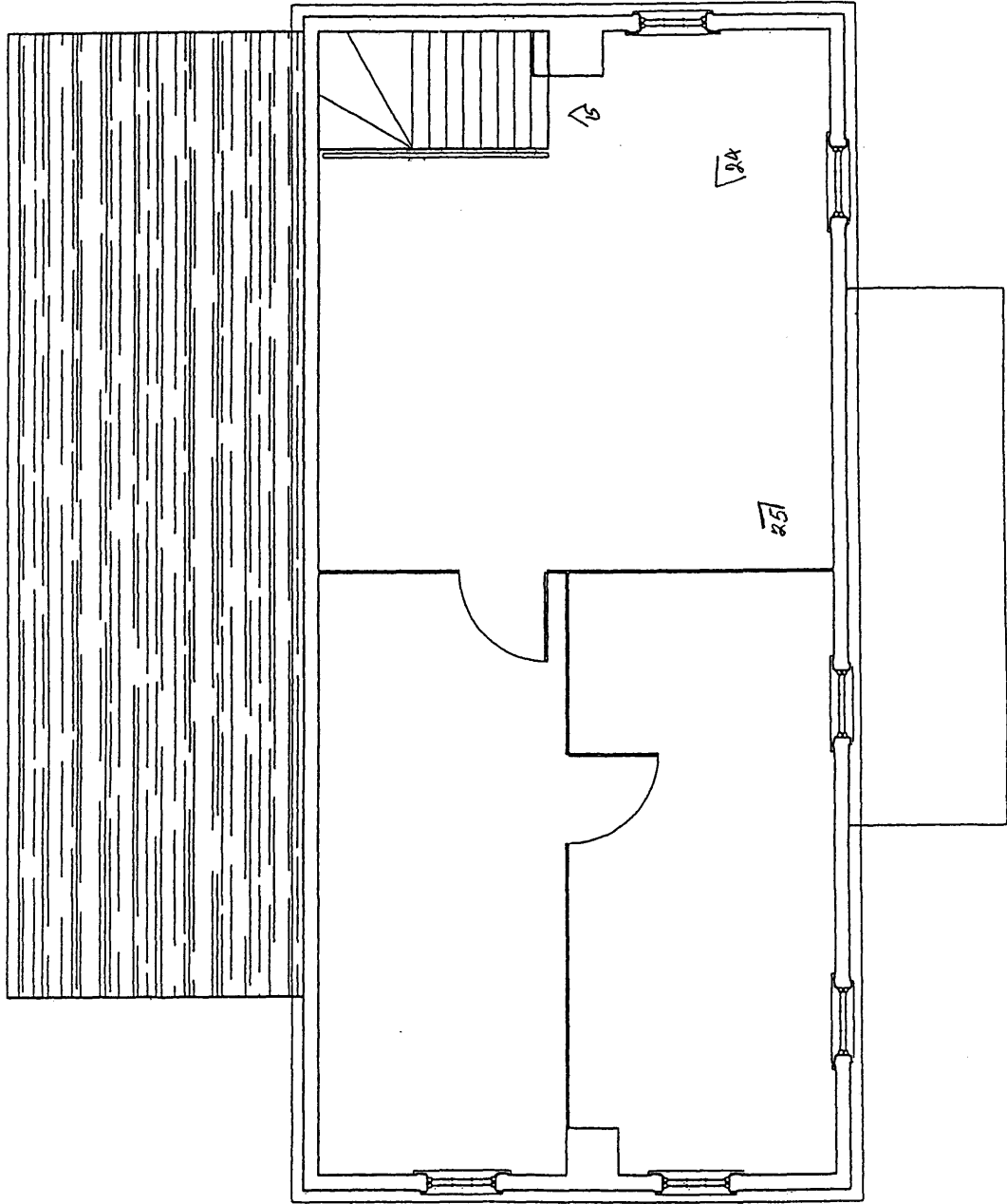


EVERSOLE, CHARLES, HOUSE
HUNTERDON COUNTY, NJ
CLARKE • CATON • HINTZ
A Professional Corporation



0' 6" 3" 6"
SCALE 3/8"=1'-0"

FIRST FLOOR PLAN



0 8 16 24 32
SCALE 3/8"=1'-0"

SECOND FLOOR PLAN

Charles Eversole House

Readington Township Hunterdon Co., NJ

SHEET E
HUNTERDON CO.
NEW JERSEY

GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF NEW JERSEY
MAP SERIES-NUMBER #4

MAP BY D. STANTON HAMMOND, J.D.
1978

Map of Early
Hunterdon County
Land Titles

WORD REFERENCES
(R 1 - PAGE 569)

FLEM, MTGE,
DIVISIONS, ETC
VAULTS OF CO. CLERK

AG. P. 474)
HUNTERDON MTGE)
P-109)
MARY TRENTON

(119)
(761)
BY PROPRIETORS
ORLINGTON, N. J.

(1ST SOC.)
ORLINGTON, N. J.

LOT #149
JOHN STEVENS
PARKERS ELECTION
ABRAHAM VOORHEES
(1801)

FARMS IN 1860
PETER HOOVER-108-A.
BENJ. MELICK-108-A.
LUCAS VOORHEES-108-A.
W. MALPAUGH-108-A.

DANIEL COXE - 157-A.
(BASSE-P.66)

DANIEL COXE - 157-A.
(BASSE-P.66)

MARTIN WYCOFF
300-A.

912-A.
**ABRAHAM
VOORHEES**
(5-p.230)
(MTGE-
2-p.69)
1801

FARNELIA LACE
GODFREY GARHART-150-A.
GODFRAS MELICK-120-A.
W. MORRIS WELSH-121-A.
CHARLES WILLIAMS-121-A.
C. MELICK-78-A.

DAVID
PATTMAN

PAULUS DEWIT & JOHN BUDD

JAMES LOGAN & JOHN BUDD
TRENTON-(M.P.8) MAR 2, 1720
8996 Acres.

HEADQUARTERS OF
NOLAN'S BROOK
AND A COMPANY OF THE
LOTTERING INDIAN PUR-
CHASE (P. 108)
ALEXANDER PAPERS IN THE
N.Y. HIST. SOCIETY

JACOBUS BEEK - 300-A.
JACOBUS BEEK - 300-A.
JACOBUS BEEK - 300-A.

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APPROXIMATE
LOCATION OF
CHARLES
EVERSOLE
HOUSE

