

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number _____ Page _____

SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 03001285 Date Listed: 12/11/2003

Property Name: Dirck Gulick House County: Somerset State: NJ

Multiple Name

This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

Patrick Andrews
Signature of the Keeper

12/11/2003
Date of Action

=====
Amended Items in Nomination:

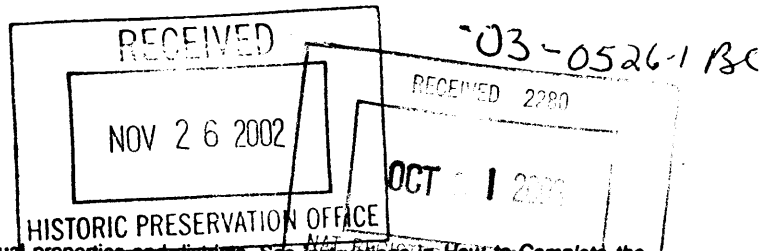
This SLR makes a technical correction to the form. In the first page of Section 8 of the form the Period of Significance is defined as 1725-1860. The house was constructed in 1752, so the Period of Significance is amended to extend from 1752-1860 (as show in section 8, page 7).

DISTRIBUTION:

- National Register property file**
- Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)**

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 for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How 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 from 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 DIRCK GULICK HOUSE

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 506 Belle Mead-Blawenburg Rd. (County Route 601) not for publication

city or town Montgomery Township vicinity

state New Jersey code N.J. county Somerset code 035 zip code 08502

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby 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 of certifying official/Title

Date

Marc A. Matsil, Assistant Commissioner Natural & Historic Resources
State of 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 the 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 of the Keeper

Date of Action

Patrick W. Andrews

12/11/2003

Dirck Gulick House

Name of Property

Somerset 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 buildings

_____ sites

_____ structures

_____ objects

1 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/museum

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

Dutch Colonial

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation stone

walls stone

clapboarded gables

roof cedar shingles

other _____

Narrative Description

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

Dirck Gulick House

Name of Property

Somerset County, 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)

Exploration/Settlement

Architecture

Period of Significance

1725-1860

Significant Dates

1752

1822

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:

Van Harlingen Historical Society, Montgomery Twp.

Dirck Gulick House
Name of Property

Somerset Co., N.J.
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 8+

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

| | | | |
|---|------|---------|----------|
| 1 | 18 | 526281 | 4477587 |
| | Zone | Easting | Northing |
| 2 | | | |

| | | | |
|---|------|---------|----------|
| 3 | | | |
| | Zone | Easting | Northing |
| 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 Ursula C. Brecknell

organization Historic House Surveys date Novmber 2002

street & number 36 Ellis Drive telephone (908) 359-3498

city or town Belle Mead state N.J. zip code 08502

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 SHPO or FPO.)

name _____

street & number _____ telephone _____

city or town _____ state _____ zip code _____

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 form 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

Dirck Gulick House
Somerset County, New Jersey

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

Description

The Dirck Gulick house is a mid-eighteenth-century stone dwelling house of Dutch construction, situated on the west side of the Belle Mead-Blawenburg Road (County Route 601), in Montgomery Township, Somerset County. This location lies about two miles south of the road's northern terminus at the village of Belle Mead. The 1740s road from the village of Harlingen on Route 206 (Harlingen-Dutchtown Road) runs west for one mile and ends in Route 601 almost opposite the lane for the Gulick House. This intersection is known as Dutchtown, a name it has held at least from 1829, when it is mentioned in a township record. (1) At this corner the road makes a short southerly jog, then continues as Dutchtown-Zion Road, to the village of Zion and beyond, in the Sourland mountains to the west. This was an early route to the Delaware River, via connecting roads. The intersection of these two roads appears on a Robert Erskine map (Revolutionary War era) as a link in a major highway. (2)

The Gulick House, built in Dutchtown, is in a clearing of woods, once the farmland surrounding the dwelling. It sits alone at the base of the gently rising hills known as the Sourland Mountains. These hills are of diabase and argillite, and huge boulders are scattered about the upper roadside edges and far into the woods near the crest. At the top are the historic sites known as Roaring Rocks and Devil's Half Acre. The 3-M Company owns a very large tract from the mountain top to its base, along Route 601, including the property on which the Gulick house stands. 3-M quarries the rock far from view for one of its products and retains the rest of the tract as a buffer. The company has given the Van Harlingen Historical Society of Montgomery a long-term lease for occupancy of the Gulick House.

Despite its early settlement, Dutchtown today appears scarcely different from the original crossroads. Once surrounded by a few hundred acres, the Dirck Gulick House is now sited on a relatively small lot. Woods mark its boundary. (Photo #s 4, 5) Across the road is the 18th-century frame house of Dirck's brother Jochem, in existence there since the 1740s. This is located on several acres with a small apple orchard and other fruit trees, a pond, and plantings recalling rural life. (Figure 1) The third (southeast) corner is covered by a wooded area of 40 acres. It is the plan of the municipality to obtain the tract for its open space inventory to preserve the historic viewscape of Dutchtown. The final (southwest) corner is occupied by a mid-19th-century schoolhouse, now a residence, which is almost inconspicuous because of a thin screening of trees on its two borders. There is no other building close-by in either direction on the main road.

Exterior

The Dirck Gulick House is a one-and-a-half-story Dutch vernacular building, 38 feet front by 25 feet deep, with an elevation of about 12 feet, to which a shed-roofed kitchen lean-to is attached at the west gable. The house faces south, with the east gable end toward the road (Photo # 3). The façade is composed of roughly coursed large stones of various hues, the east and rear walls of rubble stone. The west gable wall had originally been of masonry as well (3) It is now framed with 4" by 4" studs and filled with brick nogging. (Photo # 8) At the time improvements were made to the kitchen wing, old clapboards were found on the wall. Both gable peaks are framed and clapboard-sheathed. The foundation rises about three feet aboveground and is demarcated by a relatively crude water table.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Dirck Gulick House
Somerset County, New Jersey

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 2

The façade has two adjacent entrances in interior position, flanked by a single window each side. The spacing from the corners is not balanced. All openings are headed by segmental relieving arches of distinctive-toned stones set vertically. (Photo # 2) The transomed (4-pane) doorways are recessed behind board jambs. The eastern doorway had been made into a window in the past but evidence remained of its original status, and the Historical Society under professional guidance restored it. (4) The doors in both entrances are two-part "Dutch doors," but neither is original to the Gulick house. One is an authentic product of Dutch 18th-century construction of the neighborhood, obtained from a nearby house (Peter Fisher dwelling on Dutchtown-Harlingen Road, ca. 1770), while the other is a copy of the first. Dutch strap hinges with round nail plates were made by a blacksmith, to mount the doors. (As it turns out, the Gulicks probably used this same door when visiting neighbor and friend Peter Fisher. Their acquaintance is assumed from learning that Fisher was called in to perform the inventory of Dirck's son Hendrick's estate in 1818.)

The windows on this façade have 12 over 8 sash, replacing Victorian 2 over 2, on the advice of a restoration specialist. (5) The upper sash are fixed. Muntins are in 18th-century style. All windows have board reveals. Originally there had been no windows in the east gable wall. The windows were punched through circa 1920 by the last resident owners and filled with Victorian 2/2 sash. This has been replaced with 9/6 sash. Windows of 4/2 panes fill both gable peaks, replacing oversized double-hung sash. The replacement size was determined from another 18th-century house in the community. Along the rear wall are two original windows—9/6 sash for the small east room, 12/8 for the large west room; apparently there never was a rear external doorway. At garret level is a 20th-century dormer with double fenestration (Photo # 4).

A stone plaque of reddish terra cotta hue is mounted in the northeast corner of the façade. It reads in English:

G
D + G
his House Built
In The year
1752

This plaque had originally been centered between the doors and was presumably moved toward the end of the 19th century at the time that the east doorway was converted into a window. An early 20th-century photograph (Figure 2) shows the single entrance and a small porch in front of it. A Queen-Anne period porch replaced the first one, and extended in front of the former window. (Figure # 3) This porch has been removed and replaced with a *stoep*.

A deteriorating composition-shingle roof was replaced some years ago with cedar shingles. At that time a ca. 1880s gable-roofed dormer on the front slope was removed. (Figure 2) The eaves are flush. Two small brick chimneys are within the end gables, but they are replacement chimneys and differ in form and location from the original chimneys no longer present.

The west gable wall is spanned by a frame shed-roofed addition constructed for a kitchen about 1920 when the Albert Davis family took possession. It replaced a recessed hovel-like lean-to according to Carolyn Davis Dixon, who lived there from early childhood. The Davises extended the kitchen to the façade of the main dwelling, placing the exterior door on the same plane, using flat stones for steps. They also added a pantry that

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Dirck Gulick House
Somerset County, New Jersey

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 3

projected from the back of the kitchen with its own entrance facing the road. The Society removed the pantry and relocated the main entrance along the side wall. (Photo # 5)

Interior

The full cellar contains the original bases of the end chimneys. Constructed of stone, broad piers support log-lintels, an indication that no flues rose from the cellar. The west base measures 10' across by 3' deep, indicating there had been a large cooking fireplace above. The base in the east end is triangular in shape and smaller. (Photo # 7)

Framing remains from the original exterior bulkhead entrance in the east gable wall, facing the road. This bulkhead was closed in the past and, possibly for convenience, a new exit opened on the west foundation wall next to the large chimney base, with stone cheek walls flanking the steps. When the new kitchen was constructed over the steps, this exit was converted into a tunnel under the kitchen, to exit beyond it. (Photo # 5)

The structural support system is composed of eight massive hewn beams somewhat varying in size, extending from the front wall to the rear wall and serving as joists. The spacing between them is greater for the four under the west half of the house from those under the east. (This is also true in the rooms above.) Nonetheless, there is no evidence that the two halves of the dwelling were built at different times. A plank partition partly separates the rear cellar space from the front under the east side of the house. An open flight of stairs installed by later occupants descends to the cellar at midpoint from the back wall. The cellar, deepened by about a foot, has a cement floor and traces of whitewash on its walls. There is one casement-style opening on each of the long walls.

First Floor

The ground floor plan offers two rooms on the east side (identified on floor plan as B and C) and one room on the west (A), each half served by one of the two exterior entrances. Large hewn timbers (joists) run the full span of the house from front to rear. They are also of varying dimensions, averaging 6" by 10-1/2" and spaced more widely in the west room (A). A few are beaded. The last, most westerly, internal beam in Room A does not match the others, being less finished. Although of the same proportions and seemingly similar age, it appears to have been a replacement, possibly put in at the time the cooking fireplace was removed and the frame wall erected, unless it replaced a beam that had been scorched by the cooking fire.

The bricks used for nogging in the newly framed wall are somewhat large in dimension compared to others of the 18th century, but could relate to early 19th-century form. They are laid in mud only, which was determined by mortar analysis. The walls are plastered, but an area of coverage that was removed for examination of construction details will remain visible under glass for visitors to see. (Photo # 8) A rebuilt staircase, post-1920, descends alongside the common wall between rooms, terminating with a 90 degree turn into the room from a landing.

Rooms B and C, presently combined, give evidence through mortises in the beams of the usual floor plan of Dutch dwelling houses in this area. The rooms were divided with a 6" thick wall (indicated by whitewash

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Dirck Gulick House
Somerset County, New Jersey

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 4

ghosts) in commonly followed ratio: the greater in front, with a little room behind it. A whitewash outline on the most easterly beam in Room B clearly shows the former location of the cater-cornered fireplace and an outline of a cornice molding for a chimney breast (Photo # 9)

Ghostmarks also remain of a topmost stair riser and tread on the final two internal beams (Beams 5 and 6 from the left) thereby informing about the location of the original flight of stairs, apparently tightly spiraled against the front wall between the two entrances. A series of mortises on the eastern framing beam for the stairs (Beam 6) clearly represent the original placement of a wall separating Rooms B and C on the east and Room A, the kitchen/dwelling room, on the west. Unusual as it seems, the only means to traverse to the west side of the house and the stairway was through a doorway next to the rear wall, indicated by wider spacing of the mortise holes.

Rooms B and C also were originally plastered. The plaster was removed and not replaced when the Society installed insulation against the walls.

Garret

The upper floor or garret was used for several decades for sleeping and for storage. (6) During the occupancy of the Davises double-hung sash were installed in each gable peak, flanking the chimneys. In late 19th century or early 20th century, the space was partitioned into three bedrooms and a bathroom. Door casings with bulls-eye cornerblocks relate to that era. In installing the plumbing the pipes became visible from the ground floor and this led to the mounting of a ceiling on the underside of the beams. Modern flooring was also laid at that time.

The Society removed the ceilings to expose the beams and reintroduced 18th-century-wide floorboards in the east half of the garret above Rooms B and C. They will undertake to replace all modern flooring over time.

The entire garret is ceiled, covering the rafter system, but sawn rafters can be seen in an unfinished storage space. (See floor plan, Fig. 4)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Dirck Gulick House
Somerset County, New Jersey

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 5

Significance

The Dirck Gulick House is important because it is a rare example of a Dutch-built stone house in a Dutch community typified by its frame houses, and because in some other respects it also departed from local conventions. In the Gulick house one sees evidence that a process of assimilation was underway of the housebuilding culture of other nationalities present in mid-18th-century central New Jersey. Thus the Gulick house provides another layer of knowledge concerning the rise of variant forms of the Dutch vernacular style in New Jersey. Thus the Gulick house meet National Register criteria A and C for local significance in architecture and settlement history.

Background history

The Gulick Family of America has been well studied genealogically, and many descendants remain within central New Jersey today. Hendrick Gulick, the progenitor of the family in America, departed from Hamburg for New Netherland in 1653 and settled at Gravesend, Long Island (ironically an English town), with his son Jochem who later became Dirck Gulick's grandfather. Jochem's son Hendrick was born on Long Island about 1678. Hendrick later married Catharine Amerman, who was born in Flatbush, a daughter of Dirck Amerman. Thus began a close relationship between the Gulicks and Amermans. Later the two families bought adjoining properties in the Western Precinct of Somerset County, and more marriages between them took place in following generations. (7)

The Gulick family were also associated with the establishment of farms in Middlesex and Somerset counties. Dirck Gulick, a member of the fourth generation of the family in America, was one of the first Dutchmen to invest in undeveloped land in the Western Precinct of Somerset County (today Montgomery Township) with the intent of settlement. He was one of the contributors to the founding of the present Harlingen Church congregation.

Dirck's father Hendrick died in Somerset County in 1758. The family had followed the usual route of settlement from first homes on Long Island to uncrowded lands in East Jersey Province. Hendrick and Catharine Gulick, like several others, went to Monmouth County first, about 1711, and then to Somerset. The couple eventually had 11 children, the first two sons named after their grandfathers: Jochem, born about 1700, Dirck, about 1702. These two brothers would later occupy neighboring properties at Dutchtown, in today's Montgomery Township, where their homes survive. Family members, including Dirck's parents, settled in the Eastern Precinct of Somerset County (today Franklin Township), and in New Brunswick Township in Middlesex County (today South Brunswick). One member, Johannes, invested in the exploratory copper mine on Ten Mile Mountain in Franklin Township at an early time. (8)

Dirck Gulick as a young man, however, sought his own land and looked farther afield. Lands lying west of the Millstone River and considerably south of the Raritan were still unoccupied. Enormous tracts were in the hands of rich absent investors, sometimes organized in companies. The 9000-acre tract (so-called Harlingen Tract) was internally located, removed from rivers, without roads. It was first purchased by 17 Dutchmen in 1710 for future profit. After dividing it into 21 "Great Lots" and "Small (wood)Lots" on the Sourland Mountain slopes, the original buyers marketed it. In 1727 Gulick with Hendrick Vanderbilt as a partner bought into two

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Dirck Gulick House
Somerset County, New Jersey

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 6

of the "Lots" from absentee owners Stryker and Wendell, who lived as far away as Albany and Boston., respectively (9) and these two had bought from the first investors, illustrating how land speculation preceded settlement. The two young buyers listed themselves as carpenters, living in Somerset. Only Dirck Gulick remained, becoming one of the pioneers to open up the interior of this township.

Dirck married Geertje Reed sometime soon after. Their first child, Hendrick, was born in 1730, but since Dutch Reformed congregations were few and served by a infrequently by a visiting preacher on a circuit, the child was not baptized until 1733, and it took place at the Dutch Reformed Church of North Branch.. His brother Guisbert was also baptized there two years later. It is assumed that Dirck and Geertje lived on the property in an earlier dwelling, as the choice of church would have been nearest this property. The Harlingen congregation was just beginning and not yet at its present location just east of Dutchtown, but the Gulicks baptized their third child Catharine in its meeting house on the Parsonage Lot (10) in 1743. In this decade, the records indicate that his brother Jochem had a house at Dutchtown on the east side of the great path (later route 601) that divided the 9000-acre tract into two columns of lots. This was not opened as a public road until 1767, but a road leading from Dutchtown crossroads (site of the Gulick homes) to the Millstone River was reported in 1744. (11) Within these same years, the Amerman family had obtained the adjoining tract north of Jochem. Dirck's son Hendrick eventually was to marry Charity Amerman.

During the years before the construction of the stone house, it is evident that the Gulicks lived in the neighborhood. In 1739, they traveled again to the North Branch Church to be a witness at a DeHart family baptism, and Dirck appeared in the records of the Western Precinct of the county (Montgomery and Hillsborough townships) for capturing stray livestock on and off starting in 1749. (12)

Dirck Gulick had his new stone house built in 1752, perhaps the year in which he turned 50 years old, a goodly age in that century. He was known and established in the Dutchtown community. When the Harlingen Church obtained its present lot in 1751 from John Van Dike, Jr., both Dirck and Jochem Gulick joined other founders in signing a petition the following year to obtain a dominie, or pastor. Dirck himself, later became a deacon of this church. He was also appointed a road commissioner in 1755. He last appears in the records in 1762, and it is assumed that he died about that time, as a widow Gulick, possibly his wife, is mentioned in the 1767 road return for the road noted above.

There are no wills for Dirck and his wife, but land records indicate that two sons, Hendrick and Guisbert Gulick, received the home farm and divided it between them, each having frontage on the main path. In time Hendrick received his brother's share. Over the years small tracts were sold from the farm, but Hendrick continued to live on the homestead until his death in 1818. His wife remained in occupancy until her death in 1822. They are both buried in the Belle Mead Cemetery on the old Parsonage Lot, which belongs to the Harlingen Church. As a couple, they had a total of 11 children. Their son Paulus became administrator of the estate and saw to the division of the farm among all the heirs. The house with 33/100th of an acre was assigned to his sisters Magdalena, unmarried, and Jane, the widow of Nathan Stout, along with some other lots. (13)

The inventories for the couple—Hendrick and Charity—reveal a certain amount of wealth and good living within the confines of this small dwelling. Hendrick's personal estate was appraised at \$2003. The garret was in use with a feather bed, bedstead and curtains, as well as a place to store grain. There was a second bed

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Dirck Gulick House
Somerset County, New Jersey

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 7

downstairs. They were well set up for dining with both a kitchen and a dining table and numerous chairs. As for table settings, there was a considerable quantity of pewter ware, lots of earthenware, three china bowls and cups and saucers, also a spoon rack. Some of these pieces were stored in a corner cupboard of two parts, and for the linens there was the "Dutch cubbard" (a *kas*). By coincidence, the Van Harlingen Historical Society has received from a descendant of the Gulick family of Kingston a ca. 1790 *kas* that belonged to them. (Photo # 9) There were also "lots of books" or "bowls" (writing not clear). An interesting item was a ten-plate stove, a heater that was popular with the Germans. Alone it could not sufficiently warm a space but could contribute to comfort. Andirons, tongs, and shovel are also mentioned. On the practical side, there was a "washing machine" as well as a washtub, old spinning wheels, wool wheels and reels. There also was a looking glass (a mirror) in the "little back room." (14)

After the next generation took possession, apparently only one major change was made to the house, which was removal of the cooking fireplace and the west end wall and their replacement with the leanto kitchen addition. Mid-century maps indicate a Nathan Stout as owner of the house, presumably a grandson of Hendrik and Charity, but in 1860, Zephaniah Stout of Princeton finally sold the house out of the family. The property, composed of two lots, was purchased by Amos Wyckoff for \$1630. The period of significance for the Dirck Gulick house, 1752-1860, spans the years of its occupancy and ownership by family members.

After the Period of Significance

Still in debt in 1896, with \$300 owed on a mortgage, Wyckoff saw the property put up for sale by the sheriff and purchased by Philip Baezner for \$300. Upon Baezner's death in 1906, the house lot had to be sold to pay off his debts. Jefferson D. Cray paid \$1050 for it. In 1916, Cray arranged to sell two tracts (3.74 acres and 5.56 acres) with the house to Alfred and Eliza A. Davis of Bayonne, New Jersey, for \$3500. (15) In 1920 Davis turned it over to his son Albert and his family which included Carolyn Davis, five years old at the time. Carolyn Davis Dixon has been an important source of information regarding the changes made in the historic house during her family's long period of occupancy. After her mother's death, the property was sold to the 3-M Company, which continues to own it.

Architectural Significance

The stone house he built as a "retirement" dwelling at age 50 is of special interest in the study of pioneer Lowlands architecture, not only because of its unusual choice of fabric for the Dutch of central New Jersey, but in a number of other features hinting at a commingling of architectural influences among the several nationalities present within the 18th-century Raritan Valley. An ongoing study into the incidence of survival of Dutch houses in Somerset County makes it possible to determine how few have survived from the 18th century. (16) Of those Dutch houses identified as having historically stood in the areas where the greatest concentration of Dutch culture has been found—the communities along the Raritan River, its north and south branches and certain of its other tributaries—only three stone houses are among the survivors and a fourth has been recorded for study. Two of the three stand in Montgomery Township: the Dirck Gulick house and the nearby Hendrick Stryker house, both in Dutchtown. One other still stands along the North

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Dirck Gulick House
Somerset County, New Jersey

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 8

Branch of the Raritan River associated with Guisbert Lane, a Dutchman. (17) The Johannes Moelich (later Mellick) house in Bedminster, now considerably altered, was built by a German. In nearby Hillsborough Township, the stone house of Abraham DuBois was recorded by the Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS, NJ-334), but was later demolished.

Were there ever many masonry houses built by the Dutch in central New Jersey? Seemingly not. Real estate advertisements of the 1740s and '50s (18) once in a while mentioned a stone house available in Franklin Township (neighboring Montgomery on the eastern side of the Millstone River) but it cannot be automatically assumed that stone houses were built by Dutch builders or for Dutch clients, because of the presence of at least a few English investors and settlers in the same community. Still, the Eastern Precinct, as Franklin Township was known in the 18th century was overwhelmingly Dutch in population, so the odds favor it. But the norm among the Somerset County Dutch was frame construction, which can still be readily seen, for example, in the many frame buildings in the Six Mile Run Historic District, a ten-square-mile area that was a Dutch enclave in the Eastern Precinct. However, to the west of Dutchtown, in Hunterdon County, where a flow of German settlers came in from Pennsylvania to occupy much land from about 1710 onward, traditions were different. Many German settlers built their houses of stone, either right away or eventually. The survival of the Gulick House therefore is significant to understanding cultural history, and it is a clue to the influences on early building in Montgomery Township. Despite a strong background in Dutch communities as he was growing up, he departed considerably from the familiar traditions. Despite the fact that Dutchtown was a Dutch enclave, German settlers were only several miles away along the roads over the Sourland mountains.

The Gulick house is of architectural interest as both an expression of common practices among Dutch housebuilders and because it also diverges from those practices. It raises the question whether the known presence of German settlers just across the border in Hunterdon County and even a few in the Western Precinct itself had some influence. Specifically, what caused Gulick to accept stone construction, a double entrance, the spiral stairs, the floor plan of the house, and its full cellar? There is also no indication in the Gulick house that it was built with a jambless fireplace, a feature widely associated with the Dutch. Was the jambless fireplace by this time considered outdated, in favor of the English style of fireplaces being popularized in the new vernacular Georgian houses then appearing in many places? ,

The Gulick house is of somewhat coursed fieldstone, with a suggestion of quoins at the corners of the façade. It is one-and-a-half stories high and two rooms deep in typical fashion for this county. Characteristic of Dutch construction regionally, the gable peaks are framed with clapboard sheathing. It has used over-sized hewn planed and beaded beams that run through its depth of 25 feet in the usual manner found in Dutch framed houses using anchor bents. In these basics it meets the standard for Dutch building in this area.

It differs, however, in that it has a double entrance on its four-bay façade, the entrances in the two interior positions. This is also the arrangement of the other stone house in Dutchtown, the Hendrick Stryker House, and within the Raritan Valley this feature does not seem to be repeated in any other houses. However, a county-wide architectural survey of Hunterdon found—among the diversity of vernacular styles—some examples of double entrances. (19) The use of paired exterior entrances on Dutch masonry houses is a curious matter, because seemingly it is not uncommon and in some cases characteristic in other regions. It may have an

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Dirck Gulick House
Somerset County, New Jersey

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 9

ancestor in the single-file linear houses of Kingston, New York, or Bergen County, New Jersey, for example "the Old Stone House" in Ramsey, which resembles Dirck Gulick's house.

As square footage goes for two-room-deep houses of this time, the Gulick house is small. The neighboring Stryker house has far more impressive dimensions, with a high roof, providing for a spacious garret. The need for a larger house perhaps no longer existed for Gulick, a man of 50, several of whose children were already grown. The frame house of the 1740s belonging to Dirck's brother, Jochem, built just across the main road from him, is equally small.

Both the Stryker and the Jochem Gulick dwellings stay with the typical Dutch floor plan of large/small room in double file; in fact, the former may have had three small rear rooms, uncommon in this area but a possible arrangement, as favored in Monmouth County. The windows are quite large and accommodate 12/8 sash. All four openings in the façade have segmental stone arches above them. It is curious though unanswerable as to why the masonry work of both walls and arches is not carefully executed. The arches vary in size of stones and in proportions.

It is difficult to learn why segmental arches were employed. Could it be a carryover from the much earlier style of the Dutch to use them almost as a decorative device over their double casement windows, as seen on the brick (Flemish bond) Van Veghten House in Finderne, Bridgewater Township, a ca.1720 river mansion, built by an emigrant from the Catskills in the Hudson Valley of New York? They were seen even much earlier in Albany, New York, in the façade of the 17th-century Coeyman house. On the other hand, they are found in dwellings of other houses relating to the Palatines, who often contrasted them with red bricks laid up soldier fashion. There are examples of houses built about mid-18th century by Germans in Readington Township, Hunterdon, amidst Dutch houses. Casper Berger, a German Redemptioner who became a builder in Readington, went in 1752 to another German settlement in Bedminster, Somerset County, to erect for Johannes Moelich the stone house immortalized in his descendant's *Story of an Old Farm*. Segmental arches over windows and doors were also widely used at the same time in the brick and stone houses of English settlers.

These facts suggest that Dirck Gulick was influenced to choose masonry over wood. Since the same choice was made by the builder of the neighboring Hendrick Stryker House, even to the double entrances, both structures being at the base of the Sourland Mountain, it is possible the availability of stone in field and stream was a factor.

Perhaps the other most surprising finding from the ongoing study of Dutch architecture was the Gulick house's divergent floor plan: specifically the absence of a second small back room on the west side of the house. (See floor plan) This is the only example found among Dutch houses to exhibit a three-room plan with the "kitchen" or all-purpose "dwelling room," extending the entire depth of the house. The size and placement of the chimney itself would have made it almost impossible to create a little room at the back because the space would have been too narrow. Although the depth of the house is relatively shallow among two-room deep houses, the possibility that this west half of the house originated as a deep one-room house, which would have been a most unusual event, was eliminated in the recent structural study. (20) Therefore, it remains to date an unexplained occurrence, unless once again, the plan was copied from neighboring houses of the next county, where a survey of buildings found some of this footprint. (21)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Dirck Gulick House
Somerset County, New Jersey

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 10

The recent in-depth examination of the Dirck Gulick House also settled the question of the where the original stairs to the garret were placed. Judging by the outline of a final tread and riser on an interior beam between the double entrances it was concluded that a tight spiraling flight was accommodated there. This is just short of being unique, since no other example of this location has been seen to date, although there is a report of such a finding in the Doremus House in Montville, Morris County, in a Dutch enclave in northern New Jersey. Surviving examples of original stairs show them as usually enclosed--at least in part--and against an internal wall, often in a small back room or the end of a hall.

The location of the cooking fireplace on the main floor in the Gulick House holds to Dutch practice. Although the house has a full cellar, a feature not always found at this time (The Stryker house does not have one), it is not embanked, a German custom for having a walk-in kitchen. The two bases for supporting the internal end chimneys on the main level have no flues, indicating that no cooking was ever conducted there. Had there once upon a time been a jambless cooking fireplace, a European custom followed at first in the New World, it is doubtful that there would have been a cellar at all.

The scattering of the immigrant Palatines of 1708-10 along the Hudson, their intended destination, and also into New Jersey to various locations represents another flow into Somerset County. They are seen in 1714 in Franklin Township with a Lutheran congregation and with a German church in New Brunswick in 1720. (22) They made their way to Bedminster and finally to Oldwick (once New Germantown). Some of the earliest members of the predecessor Harlingen Dutch Church (Church over the Millstone) in 1727 had German names. And deeds have revealed that Germans were tenants on some properties held by absentee investors in Montgomery Township. Some of their names are found on lists of those taking a pledge of allegiance to the King.. This may very well account for certain influences on Dutch architecture where the two backgrounds met up.

It may be asked what were the influences on Dirck Gulick , and for that matter his near neighbor and contemporary Hendrick Stryker, or even on Stryker's father-in law, Judge Joseph Hageman, who bought the property ca. 1738 from absentee investor Isaac Gouverneur, an original participant in the 17-man purchase of the "Harlingen Tract." When Gouverneur's estate was advertised for sale, mention was made that there was a tenant named Weaver living on the farm. It also mentioned property on the South Branch of the Raritan in Hillsborough Township where a handful of Germans were tenants.

Dutch-American building style varies by region, but within its own community it is usually found to be consistent. While the Gulick and Stryker stone houses are the exception in this community, even they differ from one another, the latter house observing the prevailing floor plan of front and back rooms, though possibly with three rather than two small rooms, which would be another distinction. This house has much more impressive dimensions, with a depth of 33 feet, and a higher-pitched roof. Its bulkhead entrance is in the typical location in the south-facing façade, while Gulick's was placed at gable end, where the ground sloped away. The Stryker House has flat lintels above its openings. It lacks a full cellar and has no openings on its rear façade except for a small exterior doorway at the far west end and a small window also serving the west small room. There is no surviving large hearth for a cooking fireplace, both end walls being paneled with small fireboxes, and the stair location is unknown. The demolished Abraham DuBois House, erected on part of a

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Dirck Gulick House
Somerset County, New Jersey

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 11

huge tract of land bought in the teens, also appears to have been his replacement home as an earlier house stands on the property. Erected in 1757, per datestone, it is conventional in floor plan, with a balanced façade and center hall. (23) Compared to these and other Dutch houses of 18th-century central New Jersey, the Dirck Gulick house is both a representative example and a remarkable departure. The 1752 datestone makes it very clear that the house was built for the Gulicks; what remains unclear is why they had it built the way they did.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 1

Dirck Gulick House Somerset Co., N.J.

End Notes

1. Original Record of Voting Districts, 1829, in Montgomery Township Archives, Municipal Building.
2. Robert Erskine Revolutionary Period Map, No. 87-A and B
3. Preservation Plan for Dirck Gulick House, prepared by Holt, Morgan, Russell, Architects, Princeton, N.J.
4. William McMillen, Consultant, Richmond Town Restoration Museum, Staten Island, N.Y. McMillen found a casing with molded edge within the wall. It was also evident on the exterior that the stonework below the window had been added.
5. *Ibid.*
6. Inventory of Hendrick Gulick Estate, 1818. In Somerset County Surrogate's Office, Somerville, N.J.
7. Information garnered from several genealogies of the Gulick Family in manuscript form at Rutgers University, Special Collections Library, as well as a published genealogy by David E. Gulick, *The Gulicks of the U.S.A.* There is an inconsistency in these records, which is possibly understandable because of the Dutch rule of nomenclature after grandparents. In the Gulick family can be found several with the first name Jochem of about the same age. The names Peter, Samuel, and Johannes also appear frequently. Dirck had four brothers, including the eldest Jochem. It is assumed that the Jochem living across the road from Dirck was his brother.
8. *Ibid.*
9. Original parchment deed in the archives of the Firststone Library, Princeton University, Rare Book Collection.
10. The Parsonage Lot of 160 acres was created by Peter Sonmans, son of Arent, an original shareholder in the Province of East New Jersey, at time he sold the 9000-

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 2

Dirck Gulick House Somerset Co., N.J.

acre Tract to the 17 Dutchmen. It was the site of the first place of worship and first parsonage. The first permanent dominie, J.M. Van Harlingen, began the burial ground, in which his wife is buried (Dutch tombstone), which later became the Belle Mead Cemetery, still belonging to the Harlingen Church..

11. Book A, Somerset County Road Returns. Original ms. records are available in the County Administration Building, Deed Search Room, Somerville, N.J.
12. Record of estrays original manuscript record published as *Hillsborough Township: The First Years, 1746-1825, Earmarks and Town Meetings, 1749-62* Hillsborough and Montgomery townships were combined as the Western Precinct until 1771.
13. Surrogate's Office, Somerset County Administration Building, Somerville, N.J.
14. Inventories, *loc. cit.*
15. Somerset County deeds, County Administration Building, deed search room.
16. Field Notes and Research for book on Dutch Architecture in New Jersey by Ursula C. Brecknell, Clifford Zink, and Gail Hunton, 2001-2002
17. Rosalie Fellows Bailey, *Pre-Revolutionary Dutch Houses and Families in Northern New Jersey and Southern New York*, pp. 441, 478
18. "Newspaper Extracts," *New Jersey Archives*, Volumes II and III, *passim*
19. Introduction, by Dennis Bertland, Ed., *Hunterdon County Master Plan, Sites of Historic Interest*
20. Preservation Plan
21. *Hunterdon County Master Plan, Sites of Historic Interest*
22. Norman C. Wittwer, Jr., *The Faithful and the Brave*. pp. 15ff.
23. Historic American Buildings Survey, # 334, N.J.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 1

Dirck Gulick House, Somerset Co., N.J.

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Montgomery Township, Somerset County, N.J. 1972

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United States Department of the Interior
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National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 2

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Zink, Clifford W. "Dutch Framed Houses in New York and New Jersey," *Winterthur Portfolio*, Vol. 22 (1987) No. 4 (Winter)

Public Records:

Somerset County Administration Building, Somerville, N.J.

Deeds and Mortgages (also chain of title prepared for Alfred Davis)

Surrogate's Records (include map of the property as divided among heirs, 1819)

__ Road Returns, Book A -9 (1744) A- (1756)

Unpublished will of Hendrick Gulick (father of Dirck), 1731, in *Somerset County Genealogical Magazine*, Vol. 4 (1986), No. 4 (December)

Hillsborough Township: The First Years, 1746-1825, Earmarks and Town Meetings. Hillsborough Historic Commission, Hillsborough Township, Somerset County, New Jersey. 1975

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Readington Reformed Church Records, partially in print in *Genealogical Magazine of New Jersey* and elsewhere

Original deed of 1727 to Dirck Gulick and Hendrick Vanderbilt in Firestone Library, Rare Book Room, Princeton University, Princeton, N.J.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 3

Dirck Gulick House, Somerset Co., N.J..

Historic American Buildings (HABS) Surveys:

Symen Van Wickle House, Franklin Township, N.J.
Cornelius Stoothoff House, Franklin Township, N.J.
Abraham Staats House, South Bound Brook, N.J.
Abraham DuBois House, Hillsborough Township, N.J.
Franklin Inn (Annie Van Liew House), East Millstone, Franklin Township, N.J.

National Register Nominations:

Jacobus Vanderveer House, Bedminster Township, N.J.
Readington Village Historic District, Readington Township, N.J.
Potterstown Historic District, Readington Township, N.J.
Stanton Historic District, Readington Township, N.J..
Dirck Van Veghten House, Bridgewater Township, N.J.
River Road Historic District, Montgomery and Hillsborough townships
Road Up Raritan Historic District, Piscataway Township, N.J.

Maps

1778/9 Erskine/DeWitt Revolutionary War Map, 87-A and B
1850 *Map of Somerset County, New Jersey*. Camden, N.J.: J.W.Otley & J. Keily
1873 *Atlas of Somerset Co. New Jersey*. New York: Beers, Comstock & Cline

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MS. Notes and charts by Harvey Gulick and his daughter Helen Huntley in collections of Genealogical Society of New Jersey at Rutgers University, Special Collections; also Robert Bayles (undated) and B.M. Kitchen (1966) in same collections at Alexander Library, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, N.J.

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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 9 Page 4

Dirck Gulick House, Somerset Co., N.J.

Somerset County Cultural and Heritage Commission. *Somerset County Cultural Resources Survey*. Somerville, N.J. 1989

Preservation Plan

Dirck Gulick House. Holt, Morgan, Russell, Architects, 2002. With grant from Somerset County to Van Harlingen Historical Society of Montgomery

Field Notes and Research

Ursula Brecknell, Clifford Zink, and Gail Hunton for draft of book on Dutch Architecture of New Jersey. Ongoing study with grants from the New Jersey Historical Commission, 2001, 2002

Consultant

William McMillen, Specialist, Restoration Work, Richmond Town Museum, Staten Island, N.Y.

Personal Interviews /Correspondence

Carolyn (nee Davis) Dixon, at her home in Belle Mead, N.J.

Claire Tholl, Bergen County specialist in Dutch architecture: correspondence in past years

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 10 Page 1 Dirck Gulick House, Somerset Co., N.J.

Boundary Description:

The Dirck Gulick House is located on Montgomery Township Tax Map in Block 1001, centered on lot # 48 and uses adjacent lot # 51 along its south boundary for its entrance lane. Lot 48 contains 6.75 acres; lot # 51, 2.56 acres. Portions of these lots are wooded at edges and at back.

Justification of Boundaries:

These lots have been set off for the use of the Van Harlingen Historical Society of Montgomery by the 3-M Company, landowner.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number Photos Page 1 of 1

Dirck Gulick House, Somerset Co, N.J..

PHOTOGRAPHS

Photographer: R. William Pauley

Dates taken: between 1999-2002

Negatives: in files of the Van Harlingen Historical Society of Montgomery, Inc.

1. Exterior of house, front façade, showing kitchen lean-to at left. Camera pointing northeast.

2. Another view of façade showing more detail showing Dutch door to right, in half open position. Camera pointing north.

3. View of east gable of house, showing clapboarded peak. Taken from the old main road (Route 601). Camera pointing west.

4. Rear view of house (north exposure). Wall has but two windows, one of 9/6 sash (not visible) and one of 12/8 for the larger west room (A). Late 19th/ 20th-century dormer for illuminating garret. Camera pointing south.

5. West gable wall with kitchen lean-to, showing exterior entrance and relocated bulkhead. Camera pointing east. Also illustrates open space behind house.

6. Datestone in northeast corner of principal façade. Dated 1752 with Dirck and Geertje Gulick's initials. Camera pointing north.

7. Chimney base for the cater-cornered fireplace that served the front east room. It is constructed of stone with lintel log. The base for the cooking fireplace is considerably larger but not easily photographed because of boiler connections. Camera pointing north.

8. Brick nogging between studs comprising the west gable wall after the masonry wall and chimney were removed. Plaster still covers some of the wall. Doorway leads to kitchen lean-to. Camera pointing west.

9. Final end beam toward exterior wall in large front room recording the position of the triangular fireplace before it was removed. Below it can be seen the molded cornice of an original Gulick family piece, a Dutch kas dated late 18th-century. Camera pointing east.

10. Close-up of oversized beams showing in unpainted area the location of the interior wall which separated the front and back rooms on the east side of the house (B and C). Camera pointing east. Small back room is at left.

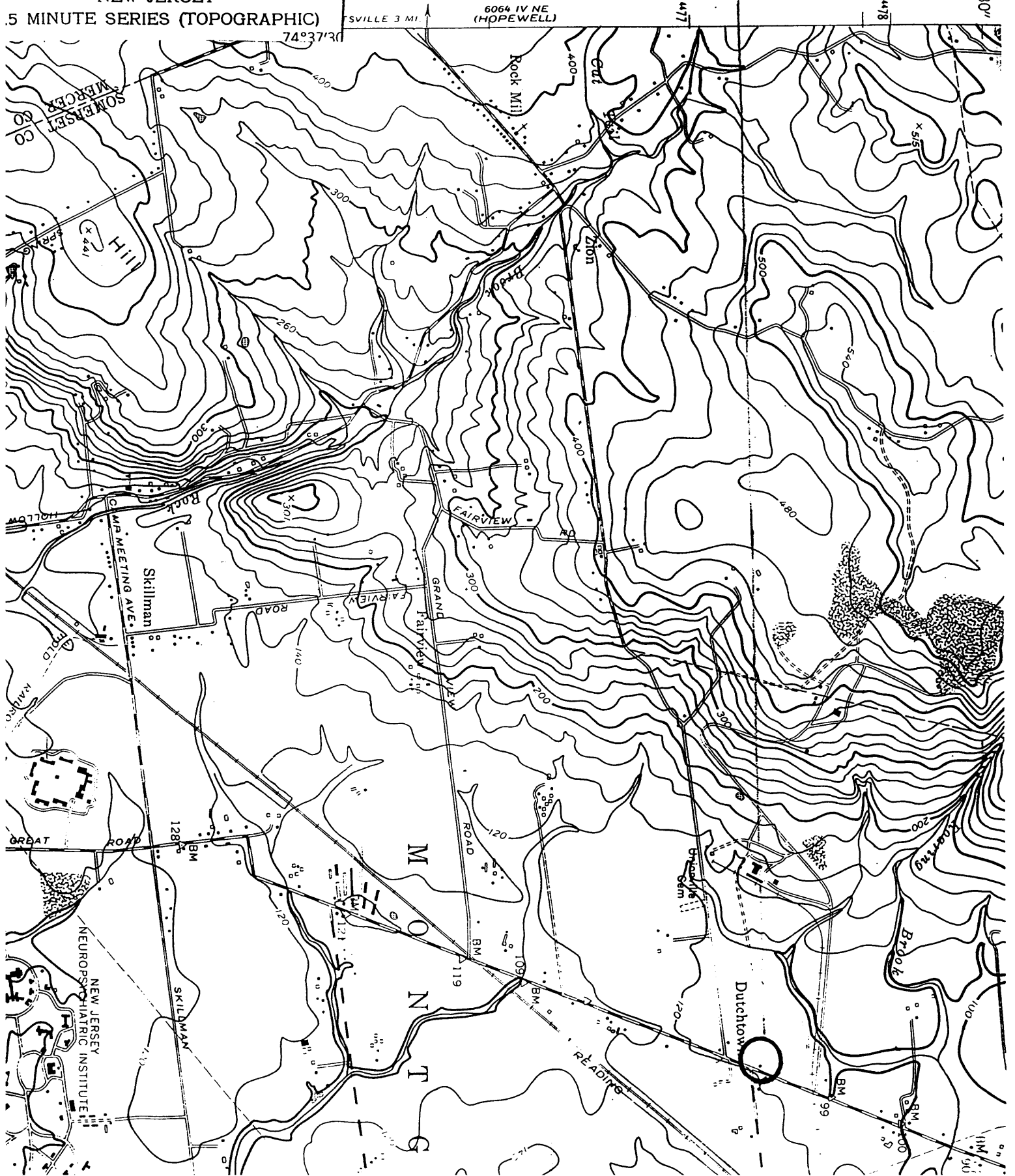
11. The small back room as used for library. Bookshelves are removable. Beams flowing through from front to back can be seen overhead. Window for this room was given a smaller size, a sash of 9/6 panes. A local tavern table and a chair from the Van Harlingen family of Millstone are gifts to the Society. Camera pointing north.

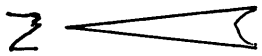
DIRCK GULICK HOOSE

Rocky Hill Quadrangle, N.J.

USGS

ROCKY HILL QUADRANGLE
NEW JERSEY
5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

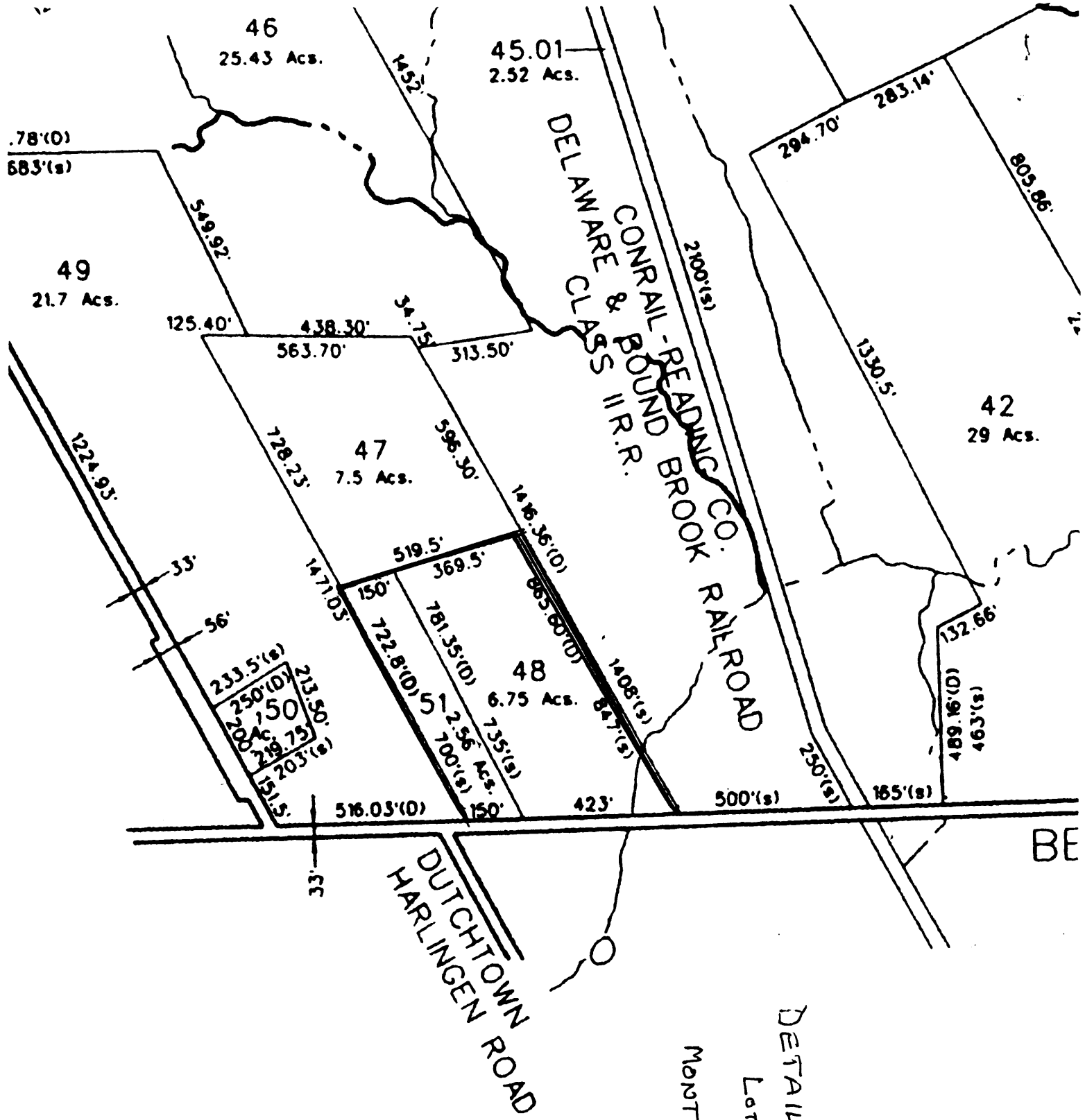




TAX MAP

TOWNSHIP OF MONTGOMERY
SOMERSET COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

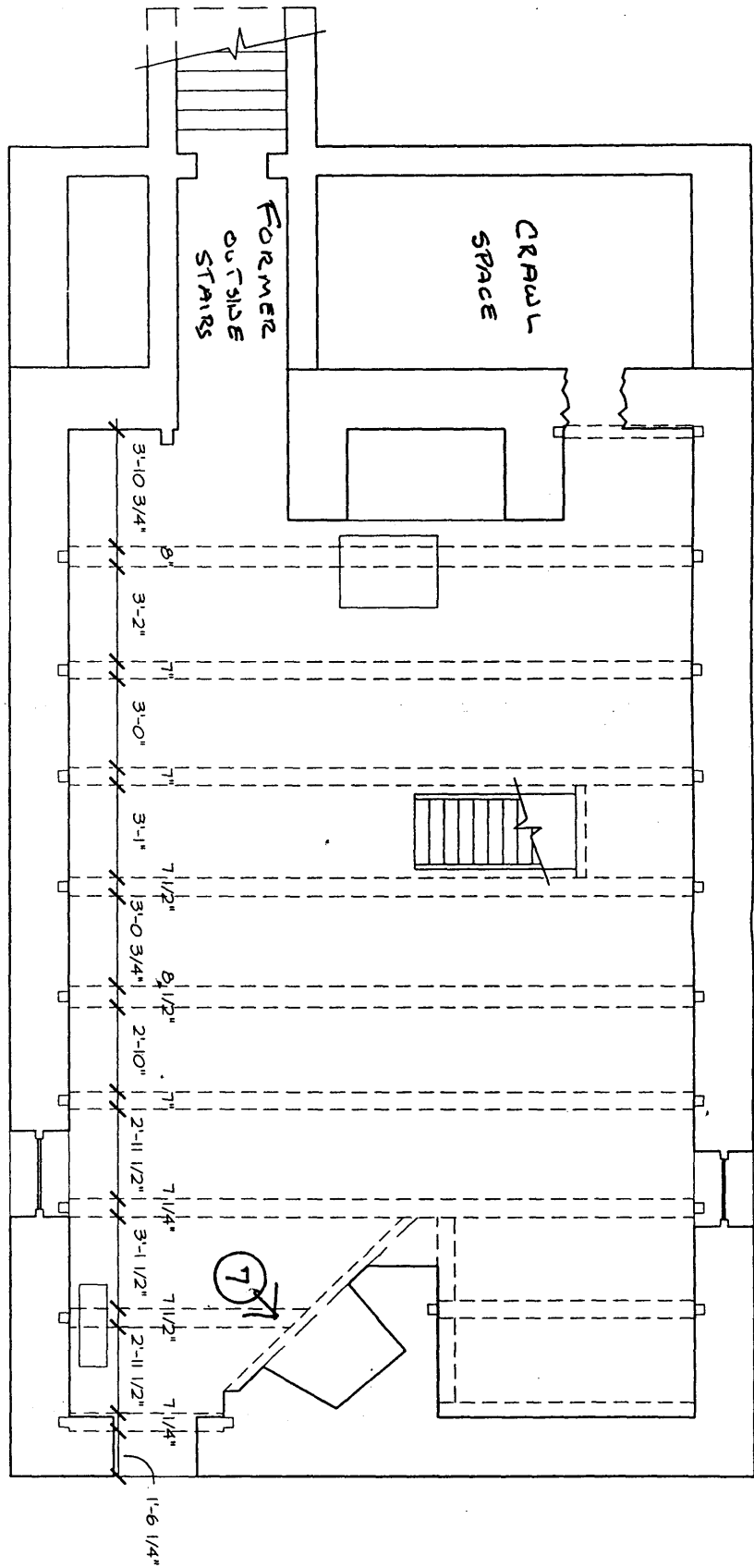
BASE MAP PREPARED BY: Richard Thomas Coppola and Associates, Princeton, New Jersey • Revised January 1950
 BUILD-OUT BASE MAP PREPARED BY: Richard Thomas Coppola and Associates, Princeton, New Jersey • January 1950



S H E

DETAIL
Lots 48 and 51
MONTGOMERY TOWNSHIP
TAX MAP

BE



FIRST FLOOR BEAMS

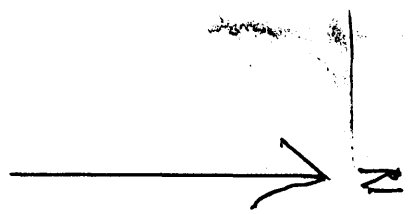
SCALE: 1/4" = 1'

DIRCK GULICK HOUSE

HOLT · MORGAN · RUSSELL ARCHITECTS, P.A.
 260 Alexander Street Princeton NJ 08540 609-924-1268 Fax 609-924-9085
 ARCHITECTURE · PLANNING · INTERIORS · HISTORIC PRESERVATION

SCALE:
 DRAWN BY: CRB
 DATE: 5/20/01

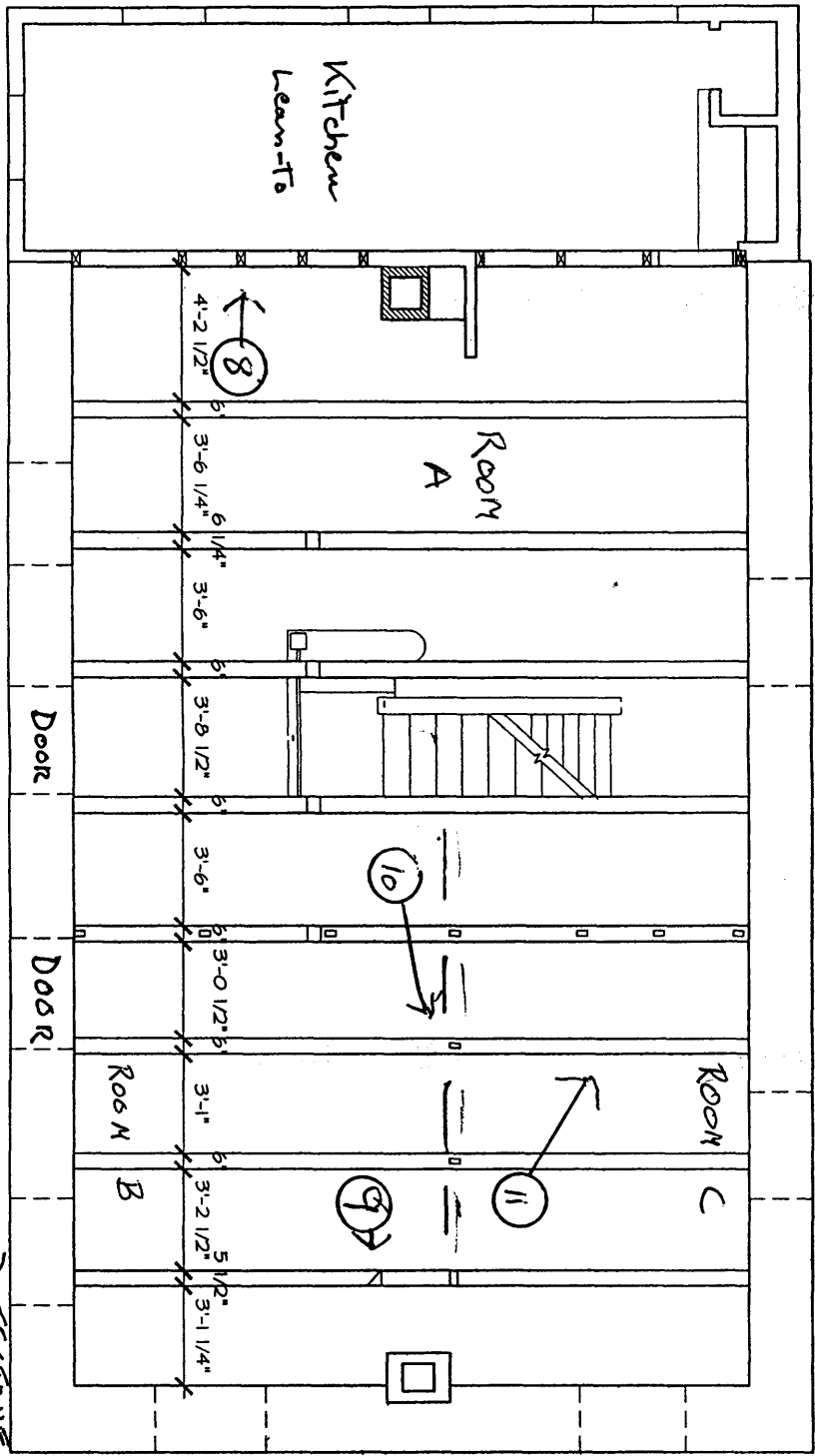
Preservation Plan for
 The New Hanover Historical Society



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SECOND FLOOR BEAMS

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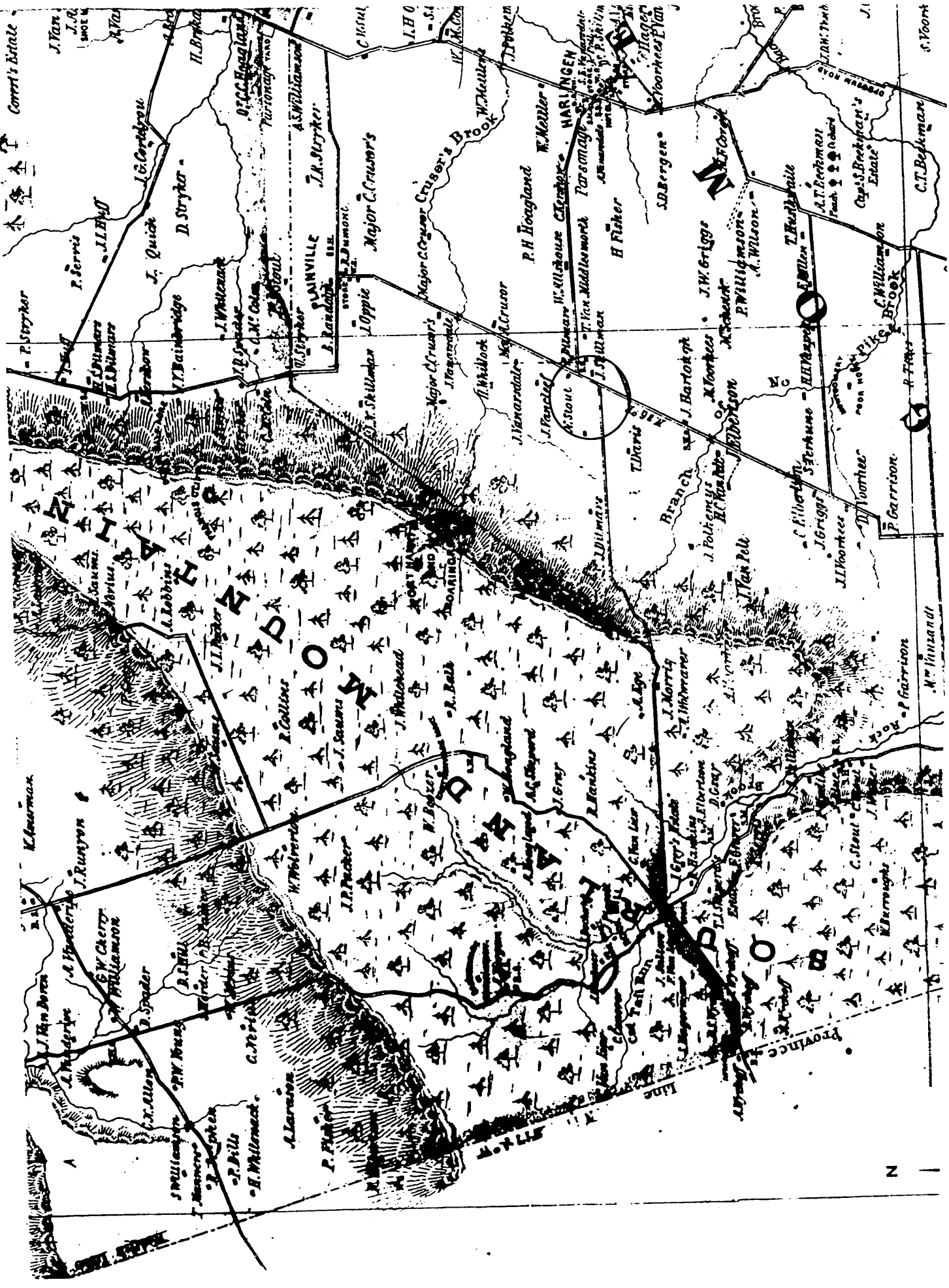
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DIRCK GULICK HOUSE

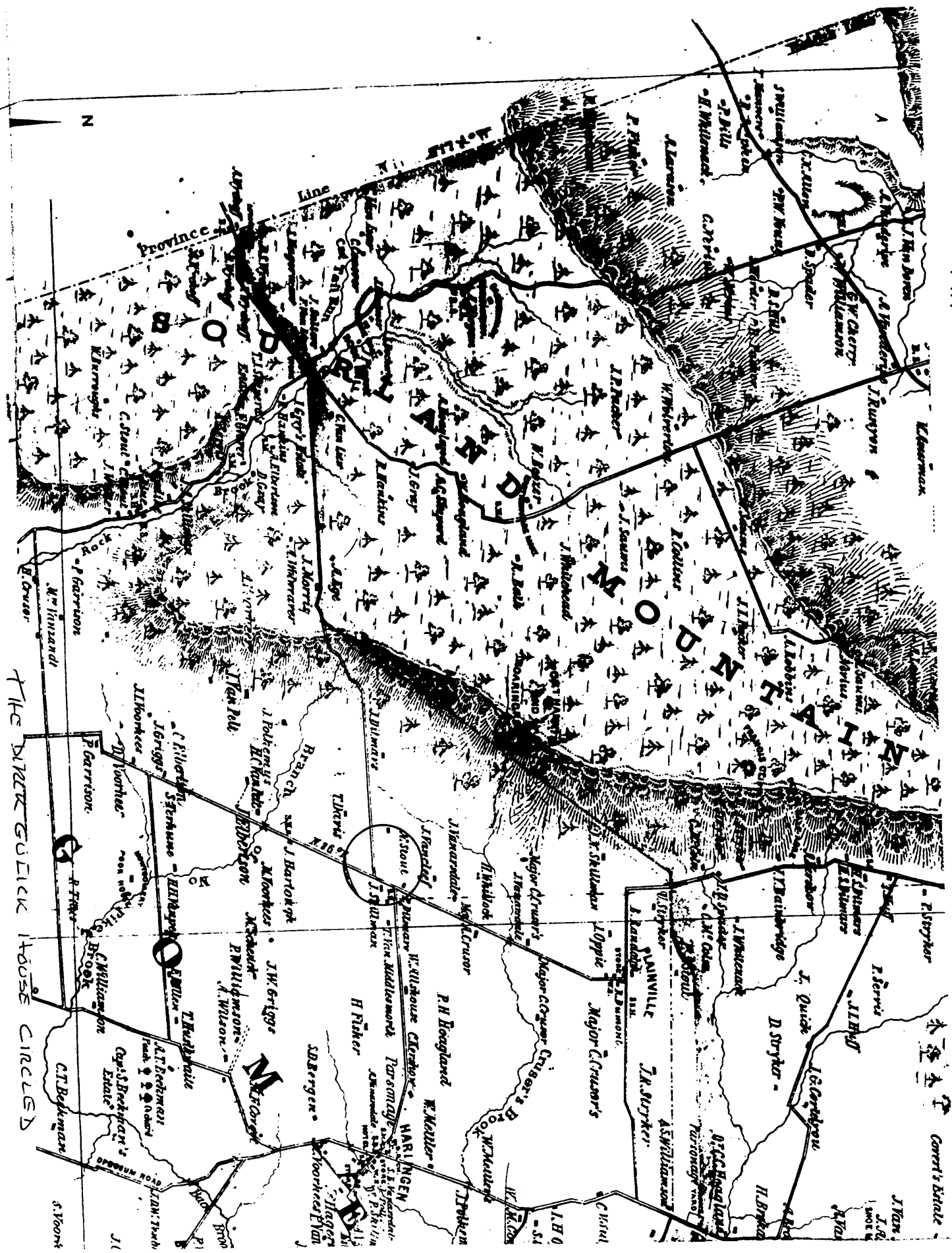
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| | ARCHITECTURE | PLANNING | INTERIORS | HISTORIC PRESERVATION |

PRESERVATION PLAN FOR VAN HALLINGEN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MAP OF SOMERSET COUNTY, NEW JERSEY, 1850, Otley and Keily



MAP OF SOMERSET COUNTY, NEW JERSEY, 1850, Otley and Kelly



THE DIETZ GULICK HOUSE CIRCLED

N

Province Line

S. Toom

J. I.

11th

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30th

FIG. 2 Photograph published in the Somerset County Historical
Quarterly, Vol. 6, No. 4 (October 1917)
It was taken some years earlier, as it has
no kitchen lean-to.

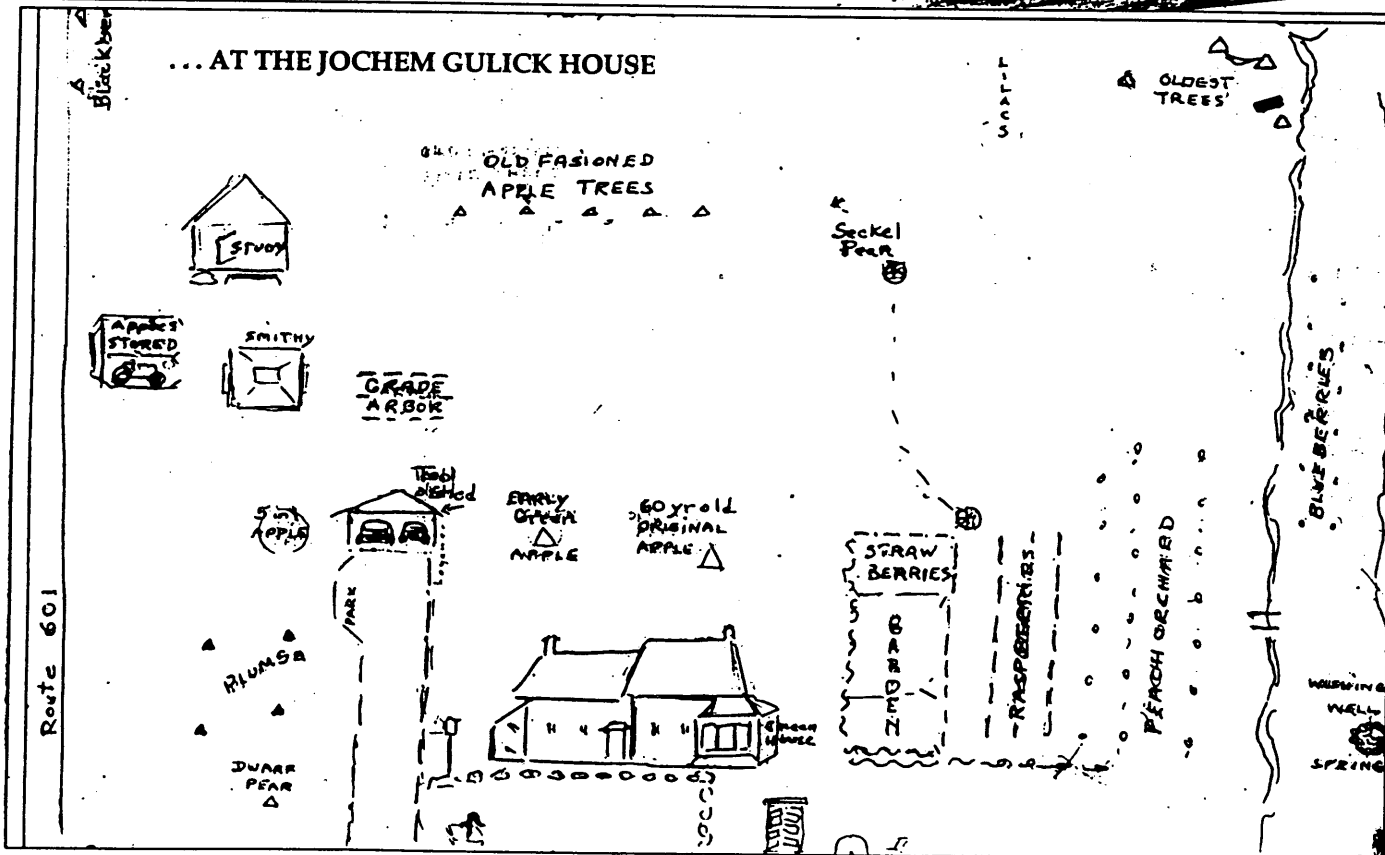
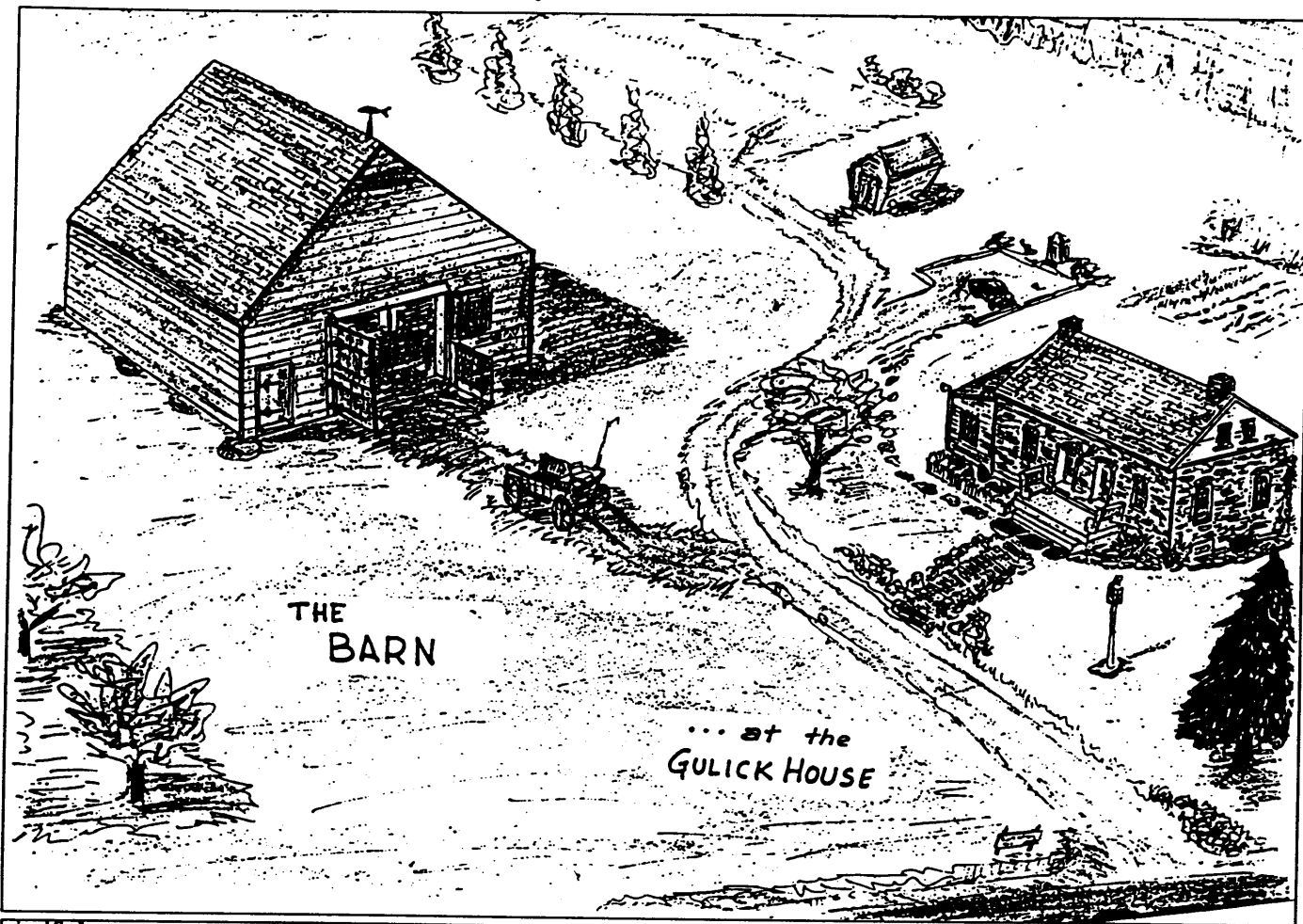




Fig 3. Photo, perhaps taken in 1907, suggested by car. Showing Gulick House in its former setting. Open leant has been added to its west gable.

DUTCHTOWN—THE TWO 18TH CENTURY FARMS

216-1 SKETCH BY R. W. PAULEY showing FUTURE ERECTION OF DUTCH BARN THAT SOCIETY OWNS



SKETCH BY HERMAN WARD, SHOWING HIS HOUSE AND PROPERTY