

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: New Jersey
COUNTY: Monmouth
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE JUL 24 1974

HB no 47m

1. NAME

COMMON:
Wardell House

AND/OR HISTORIC:
Sycamore Farm

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
419 Sycamore Avenue

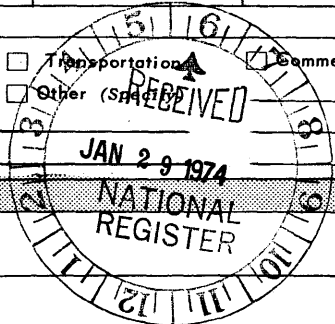
CITY OR TOWN:
Shrewsbury

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:
Third

STATE: **New Jersey** CODE: **34** COUNTY: **Monmouth** CODE: **025**

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Comments _____



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Estate of Margaret R. Meacham

STREET AND NUMBER:
John E. Toolan, Esquire, 214 Smith Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Perth Amboy

STATE: **New Jersey** CODE: **34**

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
County Clerk's Office, Monmouth County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:
Court Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Freehold

STATE: **New Jersey** CODE: **34**

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
New Jersey Historic Sites Inventory

DATE OF SURVEY: **1973** Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Historic Sites Office, Department of Environmental Protection

STREET AND NUMBER:
John Fitch Plaza, Labor and Industry Building P.O. Box 1420

CITY OR TOWN:
Trenton

STATE: **New Jersey** CODE: **34**

STATE: New Jersey
COUNTY: Monmouth
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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

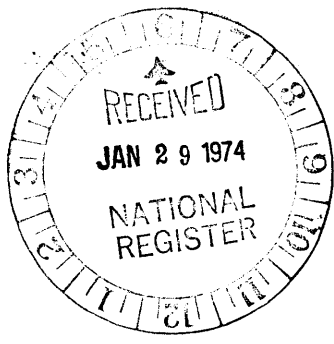
This house was built in 1764 by John Wardell. Statements taken on March 22, 1786 describe the house as "some of the primest in that country (America) It was two-story high and had 9 rooms in it". This basic floor plan still remains today, it is 5 bays with a center entry. It has a broad center stair hall, measuring 12 feet by 40 feet. The open staircase with landing is on one end of the hall. There are two rooms on each side of the hall, approximately 20 feet square. The ceilings are 11 feet high. The second floor plan is similar. These rooms are of substantial proportions.

In the early 19th century, probably towards the end of the first quarter, the house was redecorated, as it remains today, using Greek Revival elements. The front entry has sidelights, transom, pilasters and entablature from this period. The interior trim and casings are also of this period. The fireplace mantels were also changed, being replaced by marble mantels with marble colonettes. Probably at this time the stair newel was replaced with the present carved acanthus leaf newel.

In the early 20th century further additions were made to the existing building. Wings were added to both the east and west ends, adding a library, butler's pantry, breakfast solarium, and bathrooms. The roof was rebuilt and dormers added, forming bedrooms on the third floor.

The landscaping of the grounds is noteworthy. In addition to old lilac, weeping cherry, and other ornamentals, several of the sycamore trees on Sycamore Avenue are of the original thirteen planted at the time of the American Revolution.

Inside the carriage house built at the turn of the 19th century is completely enclosed a one story building which is probably 18th or early 19th century. It is of hewn oak construction.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian | 16th Century | 18th Century | 20th Century
 15th Century | 17th Century | 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Sycamore Farm is significant agriculturally as the site of successful farmland continuously worked since the late seventeenth century, located on the Burlington Path adjacent to the Council Pine, where Indians would gather to hold council on their annual journeys to and from the shore. Cited as yielding "40 bushels an acre" in the late 18th century, it was used for dairy farming and, most recently, horse farming.

The Wardell House is significant architecturally as one of the great houses of pre-revolutionary New Jersey. It was built in 1764, possibly on the foundations of the earlier substantial house of John West. It was redecorated in the early 19th century, probably by William L. Lippincott, also in an elegant manner, using Greek Revival forms.

Located at historic crossroads in the center of Shrewsbury, early records reveal the property was the center of the second community of the North Jersey Shore. Thomas Rudyard, a Proprietor and the first Deputy Governor of the Province of East Jersey, acquired the land from Dame Elizabeth Carterett and others in 1682. The same year John West married Ann, daughter of Thomas Rudyard, and there references to the Proprietor's and other meetings of political significance at John West's Great House prior to 1700. Ellis, in his History of Monmouth County, page 340, states: "The first election for freeholders was held in March, 1710, at the 'Great House', the residence of John West." John Wardell, who built the present structure as his home in 1764, as Senior Warden of Christ Church, Shrewsbury, was responsible for the erection of the present church building in 1769, also serving as Judge of the Court of Common Pleas of the County of Monmouth. As a leader of the American Loyalists, he is described by General Skinner as "very obnoxious to the favores of independence". General Clinton stationed one company at Sycamore Farm early in the War for Independence, yet John Wardell, after "receiving the Submissions of the People in Consequence of Sir William Howe's Proclamation: at his house in mid-April, 1777, was forced to flee to New York and his property confiscated. Over two centuries Wardell House had these principal owners: William Lippincott (1779, who received the property after confiscation), William L. Lippincott (his son, who prospered auctioning property confiscated from Loyalists), Benjamin Stephens (Father of John L. Stephens), John Corliers and John Corliers White, Benjamin Corlies (1897), George D. Tallam (1856), William L. Borden (1895), Edward Kemp (1897), James Leob (1901), Loomis L. White (1907), Thomas Meacham (1945), and Bradford Judd (1967). It remained a social and cultural center of the community, for example serving as the meeting place of the Shrewsbury Debating Society and a site of frequent charitable benefits for Library, Christ Church and others.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

American Loyalist Papers, Lennox Collection, New York Public Library, MSS & Archives Division, New York, N.Y.

Deed and Wills (various), Monmouth County Hall of Records, Freehold, N.J.

Ellis, Franklin: The History of Monmouth County, New Jersey 1885.

Holmes, Frank R. (Ed.): History of Monmouth County, New Jersey 1664-1920 Vol. 1 and 2, Lewis Historical Publishing Company, New York, N.Y., 1922.

(SEE CONTINUATION SHEET)

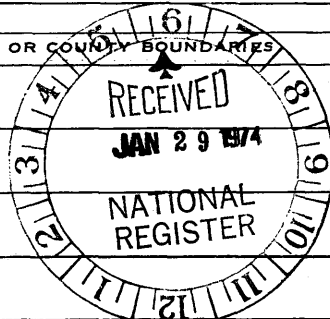
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
NW	Degrees Minutes Seconds 40° 19' 25"	Degrees Minutes Seconds 74° 03' 55"		Degrees Minutes Seconds 40° 19' 22"	Degrees Minutes Seconds 74° 03' 46"	
NE	40° 19' 26"	74° 03' 43"		(house)		
SE	40° 19' 18"	74° 03' 44"				
SW	40° 19' 19"	74° 03' 56"				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 21.60 acres

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Eleanore M. Judd (Revisions by Charles Tichy, Historic Sites Section)

ORGANIZATION: Citizens for Shrewsbury Historic Park DATE: 6/30/73

STREET AND NUMBER:
924 Broad Street

CITY OR TOWN: Shrewsbury STATE: New Jersey 07701 CODE: 34

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name: Richard J. Sullivan

Title: Commissioner, Department of Environmental Protection

Date: Dec. 20, 1973

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

AR Quortman
Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 7/24/74

ATTEST:
Ronald M. Greenberg
Keeper of The National Register

Date: 7/22/74

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

Wardell House
New Jersey 34
Monmouth 025

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE New Jersey	
COUNTY Monmouth	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	JUL 24 1974

(Number all entries)

9. Bibliography continued (1)

Jerseyana Club: Shrewsbury Century Homes, Part I, Shrewsbury Borough School, Shrewsbury, N.J. 1964.

Kraybill, Richard L.: The Story of Shrewsbury 1664-1964 Commercial Press, Red Bank, N.J. 1964.

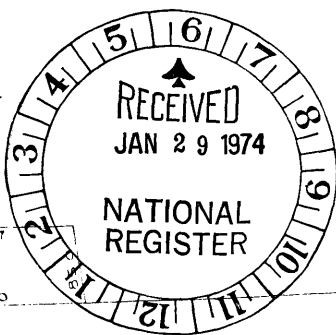
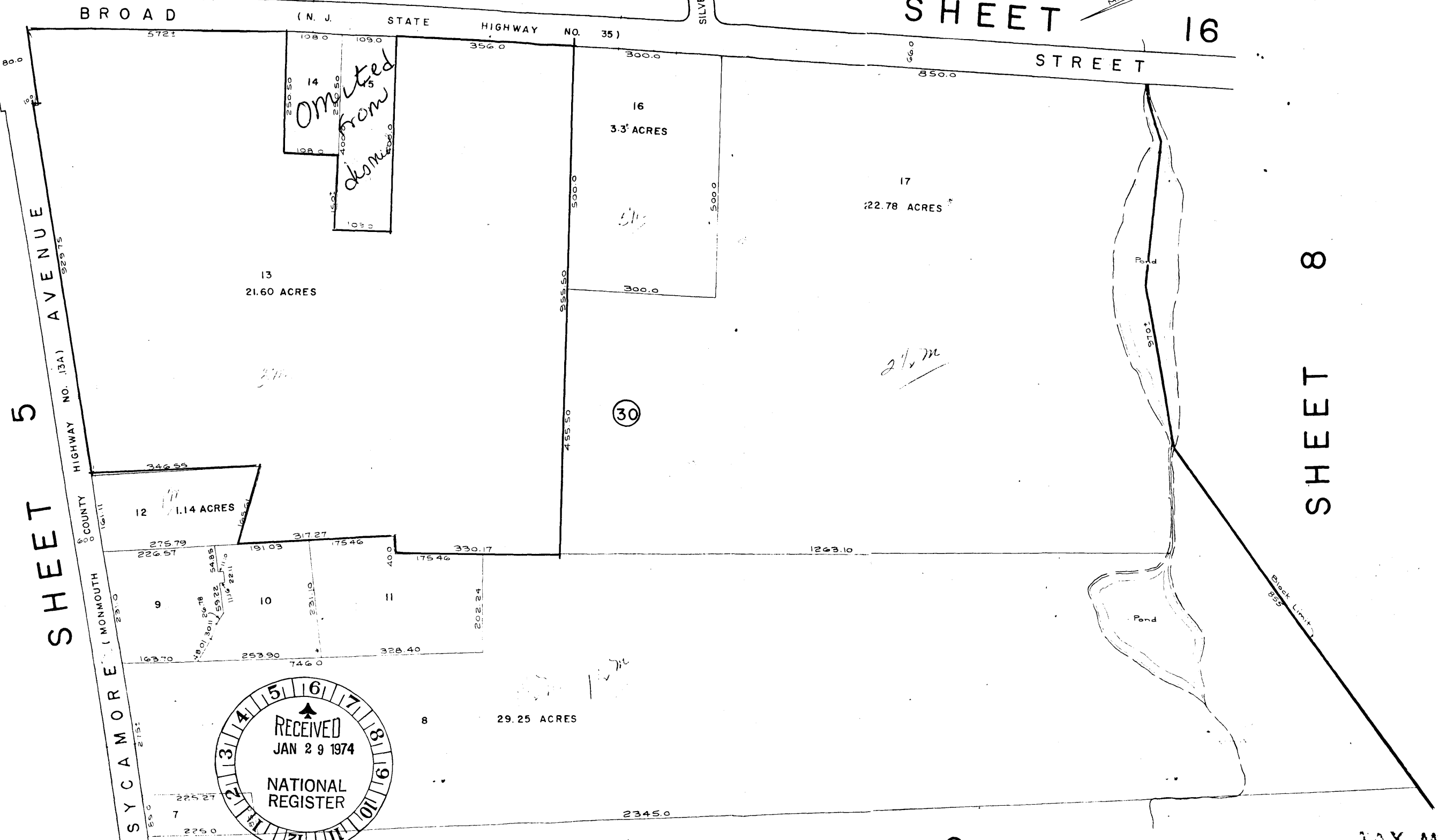
New Jersey Archives, Edited by William Nelson, Vol. 21 et. al. Press and Printing Publishing Company, Patterson, N.J. 1899.

Steen, James: History of Christ Church Shrewsbury, New Jersey from 1702 to 1903 bound with introduction by Rev. Edward M. Story, Shrewsbury, N.J. 1972.

The Public Record Office, Chancery Lane, London W.C. 2, England A.O. 12/14, 85, 101, 109; A.O. 13/56, 112.

Congressional Representation
Senators: Clifford Case
Harrison Williams
Congressman James J. Howard





NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY
 DIVISION OF TAXATION
 PUBLIC UTILITY TAX BUREAU
 APPROVED AS A TAX MAP PURSUANT TO THE
 PROVISIONS OF CHAPTER 175 LAWS OF 1973 ETC.
 FOR THE DIRECTOR DIVISION OF TAXATION
 BY *J. H. [Signature]*
 DATE JUN 17 1965 STATE SUPERVISOR SERIAL NO. 426

TAX MAP
 TOWNSHIP OF SHREWSBURY
 MONMOUTH COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
 SCALE 1" = 100'
 JUNE 1965
 STATE SUPERVISOR
 COUNTY CLERK