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

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms* Type all entries—complete applicable sections

## 1. Name

historic Windsor Historic District

and or common

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For NPS use only received AUG 2 5 1988

date entered

### 7. Description

Condition					
excellent					
<u> </u>					

fair

	Check one
deteriorated ruins	unaltered
unexposed	

Check one \_\_\_\_\_\_ original site \_\_\_\_\_ moved date

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Windsor is a rural, nineteenth century, crossroads village of approximately 75 houses, many with numerous outbuildings, and an inn and a church which have been the center of social activity for more than 150 years. Despite the rapid population increase around it, this small hamlet still rests undisturbed beside the old turnpike and the railroad which spawned it, and among the farm fields which nourished its growth. The past century has changed it little; about seventy-five per cent of the houses seen today could have been seen by an observer one hundred years ago. Due to the loss of a few nineteenth century structures, the more recent buildings have only served to maintain the community's size.

Main Street, the old Bordentown-Amboy turnpike, and the railroad tracks which run along it, crosses Church Street to form the center of Windsor. The only other street in town, School Drive, is L-shaped, meeting both major streets at a right angle. Near its merger with Church Street, School Drive passes the two story, 1909 red brick school house. Church Street in both directions, and Main Street in a northerly direction, continue beyond the village into the surrounding countryside. To the south, Main now dead ends before the ruins of the former turnpike bridge over the Assunpink Creek, once the site of Hutchinson's mills (ca. 1817).

Approached from any of the three possible directions, Windsor is visible while one is still among fields. Its historic compactness, on a truly pedestrian scale, is intact. Traveling east from the direction of Edinburg on the Edinburg-Windsor Road (Church Street), one can see ahead the church steeple and the trees of the village marking its location on the horizon. Open farmland continues to border the road until the first houses of the village are reached.

In addition to its compactness, the village is unified spatially by a consistency of vernacular architectural style and modest scale. Many of the houses are white, and almost all are 2 or  $2\frac{1}{2}$  stories, of wood frame construction, with pitched roofs. Most commonly, houses are set close to the road on narrow, deep lots and have large, open porches--recalling the pre-automobile era when closeness to roadways was seen in a favorable light. Two particularly good groupings of such houses, built in the 1840s and 1850s, are found between numbers 5 and 19 on the east side of Main Street, and on Church Street between numbers 48 and 58. The former grouping contains seven houses; the latter has five. Several houses built in the last quarter of the nineteenth century are placed farther back from the road on larger lots.

Few houses in the village are surrounded by nursery-bred, exotic landscaping. Grass and common local shade trees provide the major landscape elements. Although picket fencing used to prevail along the frontage of many houses (fencing not replaced as it deteriorated earlier in this century), property lines are often unmarked by fencing or plantings. Contiguous backyards frequently form expanses of open grass dotted with outbuildings, which include barns, chicken coops, work and storage sheds, privies, and detached garages. On the western segment of Church Street, these backyards in turn merge with open fields, giving

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panoramas of woodlots up to a mile beyond. At the eastern end, Church crosses State Highway 130, which provides a man-made village boundary, and then continues into the open countryside.

Today, as in the past, the focal point of Windsor is the intersection of Main and Church Streets and the adjacent railroad track. Nearby were once the general store and the passenger station and freight shed (demolished ca. mid-20th century). Still extant are the imposing Whittington-Hutchinson House (ca. 1845) and the Baldwin House (ca. 1845), both vernacular Georgian-Greek Revival structures set facing the tracks, and the Windsor Hotel (ca. 1832), now the Sherwood Crossing Inn, on the site which has supported an inn since 1818. Although the fabric of the building has been altered (1985), the inn is still a center of local activity.

Another center of community life is the Windsor Methodist Church (c. 1839), situated on the crest of Church Street a short distance west of the inn. Surrounded by the church burying ground, this simple Greek Revival church is often used for community meetings, as well as for Sunday services. Reminding visitors that this was a working man's village, the old, front-gabled shirt factory (ca. 1860) stands on Church Street to the southeast of the inn, and near the southern end of Main Street is the building that once served as John Hutchinson's store (ca. 1860; now utilized by the Township Road Department).

Architecture in Windsor:

For the most part, Windsor is a village of nineteenth century vernacular architecture. Some of the earliest houses, built near the intersection of Main and Church Streets in the 1840s, exhibit some Greek Revival detail. A few later nineteenth century houses show the influence of the Italianate, Gothic Revival, and Queen Anne styles, but this influence is manifested only by a little bracketing or scroll work, a pointed attic window, a finial, a steeply pitched roofline, or a patterned, stained glass window.

As far as plan and form go, there are three easily recognizable house types found in Windsor.

Type I (ca. 1832-1865): Five bay, Georgian plan house with center entrance and rear ell, giving it a T-shape in many cases, although some have a shed-like ell across the rear facade. These houses have one (though sometimes two) interior brick chimney (some have a replacement exterior chimney) at

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the gable end. One more elaborate example, the Whittington-Hutchinson House (Windsor Rest Home), has four end chimneys, as well as dormers. Some of the earliest of these houses have vernacular Greek Revival entrances, as well as roofline bracketing and front porches, which became popular as early Victorian styles were introduced. A few have the addition of bay windows. This is by far the most prevalent house type in Windsor.

Some examples: 5, 7, 9, 15, 19, & 23 S. Main; 17 N. Main; 11, 43, 45, 46, & 67 Church

Type II (ca. 1840-1865): Four bay house, usually with ell. Often, these houses have little architectural detail, with the possible exception of roofline bracketing. Most have porches, which often have turned posts. The entrance is located in the second or third bay. End interior chimney.

Some examples: 13 & 48 S. Main; 23 N. Main; 16 School Drive

Type III (ca. 1840-1865): Three bay house with ell. Entrance in end bay may have sidelights and a single leaf door or transom and double leaf door. Occasionally the three bay house will have a center entrance. Porch is the rule. End chimney.

Some examples: 5 & 44 S. Main; 43 Church St.

Other houses in the village include additional varieties of those described above, as well as the L-shaped, late Victorian house (#23 Main St.) and the early twentieth century bungalow (21 Main St.). A few mid-nineteenth century houses are front gabled (15 & 29 N. Main). The most notable of these is #41 Church Street, Windsor's only attempt at high-style, Greek Revival architecture. Most nineteenth century houses have brick foundations; a few have fieldstone and brick.

Few houses in Windsor have escaped change in the past 150 years. In most cases, the change has been the addition of synthetic siding. More than seventy-five per cent of the buildings have their original clapboard covered. Sometimes the change has been the replacement of the original porch posts.

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However, only occasionally has the alteration involved a change in fenestration or an addition to the structure so that, should the applied siding be stripped from the buildings, they would look almost as they did at the time of their construction.

#### Windsor's Architecture

(Houses, churches, commercial buildings, public buildings; outbuildings excluded)

1832-1850:	18	(24%)	Significance:
1850-1875:	37	(49%)	
1875-1910:	7	( 9%)	Key and Contributing Buildings: 62
Post-1910:	$\frac{14}{76}$	(18%)	Non-contributing Buildings: 16
1832-1875:	55	(72%)	Contributing Sites: 2
1832-1910:	62	(82%)	Non-contributing Sites: 1

#### MAIN STREET

South of Church Street, east side:

(Block 11/Lots 1 & 2) <u>Site of "Old Brick Store"</u> ca. 1850s; demolished ca. 1970 Non-contributing

Brick store was built in the Greek Revival style by Barclay Perrine, the first postmaster. Served as general store and post office. At one time a shirt factory operated on the second floor; later, the upper floor was used as a meeting hall. The last owner of the store was Harry Bowne Taylor. Site is now parking lot for Sherwood Crossing Inn.

#### #5 (11/3) ca. 1840 Contributing

21 story, 3 X 1 bay, vernacular Federal/Greek Revival house. Gable across, asphalt shingle roof with center chimney slightly off ridge. Entrance in left

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bay has sidelights, replacement door, hip-roofed porch. 6/6 and 1/1 sash. Asbestos shingle siding. Two story ell has interior chimney at rear gable end. On 1848, 1875 maps.

#7 (11/4) ca. 1840 Contributing

Robbins/Taylor House.  $2\frac{1}{2}$  story, 5 X l bay vernacular Georgian/Greek Revival house. Gable across, asphalt shingle roof; exterior chimney on left side. Projecting cornice with paired, carved brackets. 2/2 sash. Trabeated center entrance with pilasters, 4-light transom, and sidelights. Gothic, single light/2-panel door. Three-bay, flat-roofed porch, centered on facade, has projecting cornice with brackets, and chamfered box posts; railing. Two-story ell. Aluminum siding. On 1848/1875 maps.

#9 (11/5) ca. 1840 Contributing

Judge Randall C. Robbins House.  $2\frac{1}{2}$  story, 5 X 2 bay, gable across, vernacular Georgian/Greek Revival house like #7, but with 6/6 sash. Projecting cornice with paired, carved brackets. Trabeated center entrance with decorated, frosted glass in sidelights and transom lights. Door has four octagonal panels. Flatroofed entrance porch has cornice with brackets; wide, plain frieze; and paired, fluted, box posts. Ell. Aluminum siding. On 1848, 1875 maps. Formerly the home of Judge Robbins who penned history of village (See bibliography under "Magrilla" and appendix.).

#13 (11/7) ca. 1840 Contributing

2½ story, 4 X l bay, gable across house. 1/l sash. Entrance in third bay. Colonial Revival porch across right three bays has Tuscan columns; railing. Exterior chimney on right side. Picture window on left side. Aluminum siding. Two-story ell. On 1848, 1875 maps.

#15 (11/8) ca. 1840 Contributing

21 story, 5 X 1 bay, vernacular Georgian/Greek Revival house. Gable across, asphalt shingle roof. Denticulated cornice. 2/2 sash. Ell. Trabeated, recessed center entrance with transom and sidelights; 4-panel, Gothic Revival door. Porch, centered on facade across 3 bays, has flat roof, carved brackets, and turned posts. Asphalt shingle siding. 21 story, 2 X 2 bay barn. On 1848, 1875 maps.

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#### <u>#17 (11/9)</u> ca. 1840 Contributing

2½ story, 3 X 1 bay, significantly altered house. Gable across, asphalt shingle roof. Exterior chimney on right side. Altered fenestration; 1/1 sash. Entrance in left bay has 6-panel replacement door, aluminum awning with wrought iron supports. Brickface, 1st story; aluminum siding, 2d story. One story ell. On 1848, 1875 maps.

#19 (11/10) ca. 1845 Contributing

2½ story, 5 X 2 bay vernacular Greek Revival/Folk Victorian house. Gable across, asphalt shingle roof has overhanging eaves with exposed rafter tails. Interior chimney at each gable end. 6/6 sash. Trabeated center entrance with transom and sidelights is flanked by tapered pilasters. Door has single light above two panels. Cant bay with 1/1 sash to right of entrance. Porch across facade has Eastlake turned posts, turned balusters; cornice with carved brackets. Two story ell is four bays deep and has center chimney on ridge; 6/6 and 1/1 sash. Leanto on right (south) side of ell. Asbestos shingle siding. 2½ story barn with corrugated metal roof has clapboard siding on 1st story and vertical board on 2d. Replacement sash. On 1875 map.

#21 (11/11) ca. 1925 Non-contributing

 $1\frac{1}{2}$  story, 3 X 3 bay, front gabled, Craftsman style bungalow. Asphalt shingle roof with center chimney. 1/1 sash. Entrance in right bay has glass, Craftsman style door. Gabled porch across two bays has tapered posts on concrete bases. Side gables. Vinyl siding.

#23 (11/12) ca. 1870 Contributing

 $2\frac{1}{2}$  story, 5 X 2 bay, Vernacular Victorian/Gothic Revival, L-shape house. Slate roof. Center chimney on ridge of front gable and side gable sections. Front gable has carved trusswork and pendant and Gothic-arched window at attic story. Same treatment in right gable end. 2/2 sash. Center entrance has 2-light transom; double leaf door has elongated single lights above two vertical panels. Second entrance in right bay has single door with one light above two vertical panels. Porch across facade has early 20th century box posts on brick bases; railing; flat roof. Semi-octagonal bay on left (north) side. Two story, flatroofed ell.  $2\frac{1}{2}$  story, wood-shingled barn has two hay doors; two modern garage bays.

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#### <u># (11/14)</u> ca. 1860 Contributing

John Hutchinson Store. Two story, 2-bay, front gabled commercial building. Front gabled with slate roof. Irregular fenestration: 2d story has two windows with 6/6 sash; first story has center entrance with double leaf door (single light over one panel) and oversized window with 2/2 sash to right of entrance. Shed-roofed porch across facade supported by four square posts. Vinyl siding. Rear facade has large, double leaf hay door. On 1875 map as "John Hutchinson Est." Continued to serve as small store with blacksmith shop in rear until 1920s or 1930s. Now owned by Township and utilized as part of Road Department complex.

#33 (11/15) ca. 1925 Contributing

<u>Treat's Garage/Washington Township Road Department</u>. One story, 3 X 9 bay commercial building. Stepped, boomtown front. Rockface concrete block construction with stuccoed front facade. Asphalt shingled gable roof. Exterior chimney on right side. Original central garage bay has been enclosed; center entrance with steel door. Paired, 1/1 sash to left of entrance; single 1/1 to right of entrance. Built as early automobile garage by Treat family who also had living quarters in the building. After Route 130 was constructed, family moved business to highway.

U.S. Post Office trailer also on property to right (south) of building. Temporary, non-contributing structure.

#45 (11/17) ca. 1950 Non-contributing

One story, 3 X 2 bay, L-shape, tract type house. Enclosed front-gabled porch across left two bays. Aluminum siding.

#51 (11/18) ca. 1950 Non-contributing

One story, 3 X 4 bay, gable across house. Two exterior chimneys, right side. Horizontal 1/1 and 2/2 sash. Wood shingle siding with some stoneface on front facade. Entrance off center to right.

#53 (11/19) ca. 1950 Non-contributing

One story, 3 X 1 bay, L-shape ranch house. Enclosed gabled entrance. 1/1 sash. Vertical board siding with some brickface on front gabled section.

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South of Church Street, west side:

#16 (10/45) ca. 1850 Contributing

Two story, 4 X 2 bay (1st) house. Gable across, asphalt shingle roof with interior chimney at right gable end. 1/1 sash. Entrance off center, 3d bay. Colonial Revival flat roofed porch across facade has slightly tapered box posts; railing. Flat-roofed, one story ell. Stuccoed. On 1875 map.

#24 (10/42) ca. 1850 Contributing

21 story, 2 X 2 bay, front gabled house. Asphalt shingled roof with center chimney off ridge, right slope. Gothic pointed, 4-pane window in gable peak; other sash 2/2. Wraparound porch across front facade and partially across right (north) facade, enclosed ca. 1915-20. Semi-octagonal bay on right side has Gothic paneling beneath projecting cornice. Two story ell. Wood shingle siding. On 1875 map.

#26 & 26B (10/41) ca. 1850 Key

2½ story, 4 X 1 bay, double house. Gable across, asphalt shingle roof which slopes in rear to cover leanto addition forming modified catslide. Interior chimney at each gable end. 2/2 sash. Entrances in middle bays have original 6-panel (3 over 3) doors. Flat-roofed porch across facade has turned posts; railing. Clapboard with corner boards. On 1875 map. This is a fine example of vernacular workers' housing; excellent condition.

#30 (10/40) ca. 1845 Contributing

 $2\frac{1}{2}$  story, 3 X 1 bay gable across house. 6/6 sash. Entrance in right bay has sidelights. Wood shingle siding. Two story ell with interior chimney on ridge at rear gable end. Leanto. On 1875 map; possibly on 1848 map.

#32 (10/39) ca. 1850 Contributing

2 story, 5 X 1 bay (1st story), gable across house. Interior chimney at right gable end. Cornice with single carved brackets. Center entrance with replacement door. Flat-roofed porch in front of middle three bays has carved brackets, replacement posts and railing. Leanto with attached garage. Aluminum siding.

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#### #36 (10/38) ca. 1955 Non-contributing

One story, 4 X l bay, gable across ranch house set sideways on lot with gable end to street. Front (north) facade has recessed entrance in left corner bay. Paired 2/2 (horizontal) sash and picture window. Brickface and asbestos shingle siding. One story garage/barn has vertical board siding.

#### Hutchinson Houses ca. 1850: #38, 40, 44, 46, 48, & 50

The following houses are shown on the 1875 Mercer County Atlas map as belonging to Amos Hutchinson, owner of Hutchinson's Mills. The mills were located a short distance south of the houses, which probably were rented to mill workers and workers in the other industries of Windsor. Individual houses may date from 1845-1860.

#### #38 (10/37) Contributing

21 story, 3 X 1 bay, gable across house. Asphalt shingled roof. Entrance in right bay has 3-light transom. Shed roofed porch across facade has turned posts, railing; 2/2 sash. Two story ell with leanto. Aluminum siding.

#### #40 (10/36) Key

2½ story, 3 bay, gable across house. Slate roof; interior chimney on ridge at left gable end. Pointed, gothic attic window crowns. Cornice with single, carved brackets. 2/2 sash. Entrance in right bay has original, oval-paneled door. Porch across facade has turned posts. Large (3 bay deep), 2 story ell. Clapboard with corner boards. This house retains practically all of its original fabric. It is the best preserved example of workers' housing in Windsor. Original outhouse with vertical board siding to rear of house.

#### #44 (10/35) Contributing

2½ story, 3 X 1 bay, gable across house. Interior chimney at left gable end has corbelled cap. Small, carved brackets under cornice. 2/2 sash. Center entrance. Porch across facade has flat roof: cornice with paired brackets and turned posts. Two story ell with leanto. Cedar shingle siding.

#46 (10/34) Contributing

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2 story, 3 X 1 bay, gable across house. Front facade fenestration significantly altered (asymmetrically placed contemporary windows). Entrance in 2d bay. Hipped roof on entry porch supported by wrought iron posts. Clapboard with brickface on front facade at lst. Outhouse. Although this house has suffered from alterations, it retains its original shape.

#### <u>#48 (10/33)</u> Contributing

2 story, 4 X 2 bay, gable across house. Interior chimney on ridge at left gable end. 2/2 sash. Entrance in 2d bay. Porch across facade has flat roof, turned Eastlake posts, and carved brackets; railing. Two story ell with leanto. Aluminum siding.

#### #50 (10/32) Contributing

2 story, 2 X l bay, stepped back, gable across house. (Right bay section stepped back from first; left bay section is cross gabled). Center chimney behind ridge. Cornice with returns. 2/2 sash. Shed roofed porch in front of right bay, with entrance in side of left bay section, has turned posts. Two story ell. Aluminum siding.

#### # (10/29) Non-contributing ca. 1963

One story, 5 bay, ranch house. Hipped roof. Multi-pane bay window in left bay to left of entrance. Two car garage in right bay. Red brick. Foundation of house built of brick from Hutchinson's mill which formerly occupied site. Two greenhouses located north of house.

Site of Amos Hutchinson's Mills (ca. 1817)

Block 10/Lots 29 & 31; Block 11/Lots 21 & 37 Contributing

(See Maps and Significance)

There are no extant buildings associated with the Amos Hutchinson mill complex at this site. However, some features of the complex are still discernible. On the north bank of the creek and immediately west of Main Street there are still traces

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of features including masonry revetting walls, a culvert beneath the road, which may be the sawmill head race, and other less distinct masonry remains which may relate to the mill itself. A modern house and garden (see description above for Block 10/ Lot 29) obscures the grist mill site. The site of the mill complex is heavily overgrown along and near the creek while the remainder is grass covered. About 1950, the turnpike (Main Street) bridge approach was demolished and a new cul-de-sac was constructed, terminating the western end of Main Street.

Aside from the house and two greenhouses, the property is undeveloped with structures. Subsurface tests (Cultural Resource Survey, 1983; Hunter, et al) revealed traces of the mill pond; however, highway and bridge construction activity has significantly disturbed that portion. No subsurface tests were conducted at the sites of major buildings. Although the construction of the modern house has undoubtedly disturbed the grist mill site, there is still significant archeological potential because of the extent of the 8-building complex. In addition to the two mills, blacksmith and wheelwright shops, residences and other major structures, mill pond and millraces, old photographs show several small outbuildings not noted on maps. Therefore, the archeological potential of the site is probably, in spite of several disturbances, significant. The Hunter report does indicate that the site may be of interest to researchers in the future.

North of Church Street, east side:

# (12/1&2) ca. 1832 Contributing

Windsor Hotel/Sherwood Crossing Inn.  $2\frac{1}{2}$  story, 3 X 2 bay (orig. 5 X 2), gable across structure with two story ell (with later extension). Asphalt shingle roof with interior chimney at right gable end. Significantly altered Alterations include: Enclosure of porch across facade, closure of two 1986. windows at second story, application of aluminum siding, application of stoneface to first story on front facade, and application of pseudo-stone chimney on right(south) end. Present hotel/inn built in 1832, perhaps as a remodeling of Present structure, attributed to original (ca. 1818) hotel/stagecoach stop. William McKnight of Hightstown, may have incorporated the earlier building. Although the building has suffered significant recent alterations, it is still contributing to the district for the following reasons: (1) It has continuously served as an eating place and center of village activity from the time of its construction to the present, and (2) it retains its original shape. Some of the

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alterations could be remediated (Aluminum siding and pseudo chimney could be removed; windows could be opened.) On 1848 and 1875 maps.

#### #11 (12/3) ca. 1850 Contributing

2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> story, 4 (2d) X 2 bay, gable across house. Asphalt shingled roof with interior chimney on rear slope. Front facade has altered fenestration with paired, 1/1 sash and two entrances. Porch across facade has hipped roof with wrought iron supports. Gable rear, two story ell; leanto on left (north) side. Vinyl siding. On 1875 map.

#### #13 (12/4) ca. 1850 Contributing

21 story, 3 X 2 bay (2d), 4 X 2 bay (1st), gable across house. Asphalt shingle roof with interior chimney on rear slope. 6/6 sash. Contemporary casement window to right of entrance in third (center) bay. Entrance porch across right two bays has hipped roof and wrought iron supports. Aluminum siding. On 1875 map.

#### #15 (12/5) ca. 1850 Contributing

House semi-attached to #13 with concrete block firewall. 2½ story, 3 X 2 bay, front-gabled house. Asphalt shingled roof with exterior chimney on left (north) side. Projecting cornice with returns and carved, single brackets. 6/6 sash. Entrance in right bay has 2-light transom and replacement double leaf door. Porch across facade has flat roof, projecting cornice with single brackets, chamfered posts with carved brackets. Two story ell. Vinyl siding. On 1875 map.

#### #17 (12/6) ca. 1850 Key

2½ story, 5 X 1 bay, center gable house. Roof has flared eaves. Interior chimney at right gable end. Cornice with returns and carved brackets. Roundarched window with molded crown and louvered shutter in center gable. Windows have 4/4 and 2/2 sash. Center entrance has transom with two octagonal lights. Original, 4-panel (octagonal) door and 19th century screen door. Porch with flat roof, projecting cornice, and single brackets extends across center three bays. Porch has elaborate, scroll-cut, arched frieze and replacement box posts. Two story (smaller scale) ell may antedate main block. Ell has two 19th century doors (4-panel; 4/2-panel) on right side (south elevation), 6/3 sash. Post and

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beam construction (ell); hand-hewn beams. Leanto. On 1875 map.  $2\frac{1}{2}$  story, 1 X 3 bay, clapboard-sided barn.

#23 (12/7) ca. 1850 Contributing

2½ story, 4 X 2 bay, gable across house. Exterior, concrete block chimney on right (south) side. Projecting cornice with scroll-cut brackets at gable ends. 2/2 sash. Entrance in third bay; replacement door. Replacement entrance porch has flat roof. Two story ell with leanto. Clapboard. On 1875 map.

#25-27 (13/1 & 2) ca. 1870 Contributing

2 story, 4 X 2 bay, gabled double house; front parapet. Interior chimney with corbeled cap on right side (south elevation); interior chimney with stuccoed cap on left side. 2/2 sash. Entrances in middle bays have screened porches (ca. 1920). Asbestos shingle siding. On 1875 map.

#29 (13/3) ca. 1860 Contributing

21 story, 2 X 1 bay, front gabled house. Tin roof with center chimney on ridge. Pointed window in front gable peak. 2/2 sash. Three bays on front facade at first story with entrance in right bay. Flat-roofed porch across facade has projecting cornice with single, carved brackets; simple, box posts with carved brackets; decorative spindlework, triangular panels suspended between front posts. Shed ell. Asphalt shingle siding. On 1875 map.

North of Church Street, west side:

#12 (14/52) ca. 1840 Contributing

2½ story, 5 X 2 bay, gable across house. Exterior, concrete block chimney at right gable end. Center, trabeated entrance with 5-light transom; 3-light sidelights. Six-panel door. Replacement 1/1 sash. Porch across center three bays has flat roof, projecting cornice with carved brackets, and chamfered posts. Two story ell with leanto. Asbestos shingle siding. On 1848 and 1875 maps.

# (14/51) ca. 1930 Non-contributing

One story cinder block and frame (shiplap siding) with irregular shape and fenestration. Gabled roof. House only partially visible from street due to

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dense shrubbery. No discernable style; appears to be built without architect's or builder's plan.

CHURCH STREET

West of Main Street, north side:

#11 (14/2) ca. 1840 Key

Whittington-Hutchinson House/Windsor Rest Home: 21 story, 5 X 2 bay, gable across, vernacular Georgian/Greek Revival house situated sideways on lot with front facade facing railroad and Main Street. Slate roof has two pedimented dormers with 6/6 sash. Four interior brick chimneys with corbelled caps, two at each end on front and rear slopes. Exposed fireplace back on right side. Cornice with returns. Sash is 4/4 and 6/6 with simple architrave surround. First story sash on front facade is slightly elongated. Center entrance has been altered so that only the left panel of sidelights remains; replacement door. Flat-roofed porch across facade and across left side (south elevation) has ca. 1915 tapered box posts on concrete bases and an enclosed entrance at the rear of the main block. Two story flat-roofed ell is 3 bays deep and has leanto. Clapboard (main block and ell). House shown on 1848 and 1875 maps. Latter map shows ownership by a J. J. Whittington. Later owned by the J. Hutchinson family (late 19th century through the mid-1930s). This house is, with the possible exception of the church, the largest structure in Windsor. Since the 1930s it has served as the Windsor Rest Home.

#39 (14/3) ca. 1920 Non-contributing

 $1\frac{1}{2}$  story, 3 X 2 bay, gable across house. 1/1 sash. Center entrance with gabled roof supported by wrought iron posts. Asbestos shingle siding.

#41 (14/4) ca. 1840 Key

Two story, 3 X l bay, front pedimented, Greek Revival house. Full entablature on front and sides had dentil molding. Horizontal board in front pediment, which is supported by colossal, slightly tapered box posts (House may have originally had four posts) at each corner, creating full facade portico. Colossal pilasters at corners of front facade. Entrance in right bay has single light transom; replacement door. 6/6 sash. Vertical board siding on front facade; shingle on sides. Chimney on left slope at rear may be replacement. On 1848 and 1875 maps. Although much of the vernacular architecture of Windsor exhibits some

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Greek Revival detail, this is the only example of an attempt to effect high style residential architecture in the village.

#43 (14/5) ca. 1850 Contributing

Two story, 5 X 1 bay, gable across house. Interior chimney on ridge at right gable end. Slate roof. Pent roof across facade; pedimented center entrance porch has wrought iron supports. Windows with simple architrave surrounds have 4/4 and 4/1 sash. Ell. Asbestos shingle siding. On 1875 map.

#45 (14/6) ca. 1860 Contributing

Parsonage of Methodist Church:  $2\frac{1}{2}$  story, 5 X l bay, gable across house. Interior chimney on ridge at left gable end; exterior chimney at right gable end. Center entrance with replacement single French door. Small window openings; 2/2 sash. Entrance porch across middle three bays has flat roof; large, carved brackets; and chamfered posts. On 1875 map. House constructed for use as a parsonage for the Methodist Church at about the time that the present church building was enlarged. House has continuously served that function and now is the residence of the Reverend Rousseau.

#### Windsor Methodist Episcopal Church (14/6) ca. 1840/1863/1885 Key

Two story, 2 X 3 bay (2d), front pedimented, vernacular Greek Revival church. Replacement, 3-stage, belfry/steeple. Horizontal board siding in pediment. Full entablature on all sides has large dentils. Front facade has center, pedimented entrance at first story; two, elongated windows at second story. These, and similar side windows had stained glass added in 1902. Second story is clapboard; first story is parged brick. Marble tablet above entrance reads: "1839 Centerville, Enlarged 1885". First story windows have 8/8 sash. One story addition in rear with entrance.

#### Methodist Cemetery (14/6) ca. 1840 Key

Small, unfenced, church cemetery with approximately 300 burials, most of which lie in rectangular area west of church. Smaller number of graves situated behind church, and a few lie east of the church on a small strip of land between the church and the parsonage. Most graves are marked with simple, unadorned limestone tablets. A few have simple bas relief sculpture, such as clasped hands or flowers. Some larger markers are granite, such as the obelisk for George R. Robbins, attesting to the affluence of the Robbins family. Another obelisk to

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the east of the church marks the grave of Barclay Perrine, Windsor's first postmaster, and his family. Most graves date between the mid-1880s and the 1950s. They provide a record of the births and deaths of the villagers and the farmers from the surrounding countryside. Prominent names include Hutchinson, Tindall, Kemble, Coleman, Conover, Rogers, Cubberly, Gordon, Robbins, Brown, Pullen, Hammell, Spear, Cole, Steele, Morris, Perrine, etc.

#### #55 (14/7) ca. 1880 Key

2½ story, 4 X 2 bay, gable across, vernacular Victorian house. Patterned, slate roof. Two story cant bay with hipped roof on facade to left of entrance. 2/2 sash. Entrance in third bay has original single light/paneled door. Entrance porch across right two bays has scroll-cut, "gingerbread" arches between Eastlake turned posts; railing. Flat-roofed ell. Clapboard. House, which was probably built by Albert Moore, is an exceptionally well-preserved example of late 19th century architecture. Barn to rear of house is 2½ story, 3 X 2 bay, gable across structure with vertical board siding and 2/2 sash; contemporary garage door; attached shed.

#59 (14/8) ca. 1880 Contributing

 $2\frac{1}{2}$  story, 3 X 2 bay, multi-gabled, L-shape house. Steeply pitched roof with center chimney behind ridge. Stepped back, projecting, front gables with flathead window in each gable peak. Largest front gable (right bay) has paired 1/1 sash at second and triple 1/1 sash at first. Most other sash is 2/2. Entrance in smaller (middle) projecting gable has 4-panel door with square, stained glass-bordered transom light. Projecting gabled ells have wraparound porch with hipped roof and square, replacement posts. Two story, cant bay with hipped roof on right side (east elevation) has single light/2-panel door which is accessed by porch. Aluminum siding.  $2\frac{1}{2}$  story, 2 bay, gable across barn with vertical board siding and corrugated metal roof. House belonged to Samuel Brown family in late 19th century.

#63 (14/9) ca. 1960 Non-contributing

Two story, 3 X 2 bay, gable across, raised ranch house. Off-center entrance. Paired 8/8 sash. Garage in left bay. Aluminum siding with brickface on front facade.

#67 (14/10) ca. 1880 Contributing

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2½ story, 5 X 2 bay, front-facing, L-shape house. Gothic-arched window in attic story of front-gabled ell (left bay). 2/2 and 1/1 sash. Center entrance with 2-light transom and double leaf door with single light/octagonal-paneled leaves. Two story, semi-octagonal bay on right side (east elevation). Flat-roofed, one story ell in rear. Aluminum siding. Barn to rear is 2½ story, 2 bay, front-gabled structure with shiplap siding and shingles in gable peak; shaped window crowns.

#### #73 (14/70) ca. 1840 Contributing

I. South House.  $2\frac{1}{2}$  story, 5 X 1 bay, gable across, vernacular Georgian house. Interior chimney on ridge at right gable end. 6/6 sash. Center entrance has 3-light transom, 6 panel door. Replacement denticulated surround has fluted pilasters. High foundation, parged. Two story ell has 6/6 and 2/2 sash and porch with turned posts on right (east) side. Enclosed, contemporary addition to end of porch. Vinyl siding. Garage with vertical board siding. On 1848, 1875 maps. Latter shows house owned by I. South.

#### #77 (14/11) ca. 1920 Non-contributing

One story, 3 X 3 bay, bungalow with two front gables. Interior chimney on ridge. Clapboard with shingle in gable peaks. Tripartite window; paired windows with 3/1 sash. Enclosed porch on right half of facade has gabled corner entrance, stuccoed wall and posts, and jalousie windows. Brick ell, ca. 1960.

#81 (14/12) ca. 1915 Non-contributing

One story, 3 X 2 bay, hipped roofed bungalow. Exterior chimney on left side (west elevation); center chimney. 6/6 sash. Gabled center entrance with Colonial Revival surround; sidelights. Shiplap siding.

#### #85 (14/14) ca. 1890 Contributing

21 story, 2 X 2 bay, front-gabled, planbook house. Center chimney on ridge. Flathead window and fishscale shingles in front gable peak. Cornice with returns. 1/1 sash with some oversize windows on front facade. Entrance in left bay has single light/paneled door. Colonial Revival porch across facade and partially across right side (east elevation) has Tuscan columns; railing. Gabled, two story, cant bay on right side; one story ell. Clapboard. One story, one bay, gabled outbuilding has vertical board siding and fieldstone foundation; two leantos.

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#### #89 (14/15) ca. 1840 Contributing

Two story, 4 X l bay, gable across house. Chimney off-center on ridge. 1/1 replacement sash in small openings. Second story fenestration not symmetrical with first, which has larger window openings. Entrance in third bay; replacement door. Porch across facade has flat roof and turned posts. Two story ell has side entrance porch with turned posts (right side-east elevation). On 1848 and 1875 maps.

West of Main Street, south side:

#46 (10/48) ca. 1840 Contributing

2½ story, 5 X 3 bay, gable across, vernacular Georgian/Greek Revival house. House more massive than most of its kind in Windsor. Interior chimney at right end on forward slope. 6/6 sash. 6/6/6 triple hung elongated sash on facade at first. Center, trabeated entrance with 4 transom lights; sidelights. Single light/2 panel door (ca. 1880). Flat-roofed porch across facade has replacement wrought iron posts. Leanto across rear elevation. On 1848 and 1875 maps. Residence of I. Baldwin who operated store on Church Street, ca. 1875.

#48 (10/49) ca. 1840 Contributing

2½ story, 3 X l bay, gable across house. Chimney on ridge at right end has corbelled cap. Slate roof; cornice with returns. 2/2 sash. Entrance in left bay has double leaf door (single light/molded panel leaves). Porch across facade has flat roof and replacement square posts. Ell has interior chimney at rear gable end, 2/2 sash, slate roof. Contemporary, one story addition to ell. Aluminum siding. On 1848 and 1875 maps.

#### #50 (10/50) ca. 1860 Contributing

 $2\frac{1}{2}$  story, 5 X l bay, gable across house. Interior chimney on ridge at left gable end. Cornice with returns; paired, carved brackets. Two story, semioctagonal bay with hipped roof on facade, left bay. Center entrance with 2-light transom and double leaf door (beveled glass single light/molded vertical paneled leaves). 2/2 sash. Two story, flat-roofed ell. Stuccoed. Barn in rear is  $2\frac{1}{2}$ story, gable across structure with vertical board siding. Hay door on facade. Two contemporary garage doors. On 1875 map.

#52 (10/51) ca. 1850 Contributing

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2½ story, 3 X 1 bay (1st. story), gable across house. 2/2 sash. Center entrance has single light/paneled door. Shed roof porch across three bays has box posts. Stepped-down, two story ell and leanto has eyebrow windows at second story. Aluminum siding. On 1875 map.

#54 (10/52) ca. 1870 Contributing

12 story, 3 bay, front gabled house. Scalloped vergeboard and pendant on front gable; paired flathead windows in peak. Interior chimney, right slope. Center entrance with one-light/vertical-panel door. Ca. 1920 porch across facade has shed roof and tapered concrete posts; rail with wooden, vertical slats. Shed leanto. Asbestos shingle siding. On 1875 map.

#58 (10/53) ca. 1870 Contributing

21 story, 3 X 2 bay, vernacular Victorian house. Hip roof with ridge running to rear. Front dormer. 1/1 sash. Exterior brick chimney on right side (west elevation). Two story cant bay. Entrance in left bay has single light transom and single light/paneled door. Entrance porch across left two bays has flat roof; cornice with paired, carved brackets; chamfered posts. Clapboard with corner boards. On 1875 map.

#64 (10/54) ca. 1960 Non-contributing

 $l\frac{1}{2}$  story, 3 X 2 bay, gable across, tract-type house. Picture window on facade; irregular fenestration. Exterior chimney on right end. Shingle siding.

# (10/55) ca. 1890 Contributing

Two story, 2 X 2 bay, foursquare house. Wood-shingled, pyramidal roof with center chimney. Three bay facade at first with entrance in right bay. Entrance porch across right two bays has hipped roof and turned posts. Shed-roofed rear entrance porch with turned posts. Clapboard. House vacant and boarded.

East of Main Street, north side:

<u>#5 (13/21)</u> ca. 1860 Contributing

 $2\frac{1}{2}$  story, 3 X 2 bay, front gabled house. Center chimney on ridge. Rounded window in gable peak has gothic tracery. 2/2 sash. Entrance in right bay has 2-light transom. Double leaf door has two octagonal panels on each leaf.

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	Faye	Mercer County, New Jersey	

Flat-roofed porch across facade has replacement posts. Two story ell has shed roof. Aluminum siding. On 1875 map.

#17 (13/23) ca. 1860 Contributing

21 story, 3 X 1 bay, gable across house. Interior chimney at right gable end. Replacement, horizontal 2/2 sash. Flat-roofed porch across facade has paired, carved brackets, wrought iron posts. Two story ell. Aluminum siding. On 1875 map. Blacksmith shop in 19th century on this property.

#### #21 (12/9) ca. 1850 Contributing

2½ story, 5 X 2 bay, gable across house. Interior chimney at each gable end. Center entrance with replacement door. Gabled, two story, semi-octagonal bay (ca. late 19th century) on facade to right of entrance. Porch across left three bays of facade has flat roof, box posts. 1/1 replacement sash. Flat roofed ell across rear facade. Asbestos shingle siding. On 1875 map. Outbuilding facing School Drive: 1½ story, 2 X 2 bay, gable to street building with shed roof porch across facade. Entrance in right bay has single light/3-panel door. Asbestos shingle siding. Late 19th century commercial building.

#### #23 (12/10) ca. 1845? Contributing

Cider House. 2 story, 4 X 2 bay, double house with shallow pitched, frontgabled roof. Interior chimney on left (west) slope. 2/2 sash. Entrances in middle bays are later addition when converted to residence as is entrance porch. Vinyl siding. On 1848 map; shown on 1875 map as Cider House. Continued as cider house into early 20th century. Altered in first quarter of 20th century.

East of Main Street, south side:

#4 (11/30) ca. 1865 Contributing

2½ story, 2 X 3 bay, front-facing, L-shape house. Shaped surround in front gable peak. Projecting cornice; brackets probably intact under aluminum siding. 1/1 sash. Entrance in right bay has original 4-panel (octagonal) door. Wraparound porch has replacement box posts. Semi-octagonal, flat-roofed, bay window on left side (east elevation). Side gable on left side. On 1875 map.

#10 (11/31) ca. 1850 Contributing

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21 story, 2 X 1 bay, gable across house. Interior chimney at each gable end. 2/2 sash. Center entrance with flat-roofed enclosed porch. Shed-roofed ell. Aluminum siding. On 1875 map.

#14 (11/32) ca. 1950 Non-contributing

Site of Baptist Church. 12 story, 3 X 2 bay, gable across, tract/cape house. Aluminum siding. Large front gable, right bay, has brickface. Center entrance. Tripartite picture window to left of entrance. Breezeway and attached garage to left (east). House sits on site of Windsor Baptist Church (ca. 1897). Due to lack of members and funds, church building was moved to Trenton in 1922, where it now stands at corner of Chambers and Samuel Streets.

#16 (11/33) ca. 1860 Contributing

2½ story, 3 X 2 bay, front-gabled house. Cornice with returns. Flathead window in gable peak. 2/2 and 1/1 sash. Entrance in right bay; replacement door. Porch across facade has replacement wrought iron posts. Shed-roofed ell. Aluminum siding. On 1875 map.

#20 (11/34) ca. 1860 Contributing

2½ story, 3 X 1 bay, center gable house. Slate roof. Interior chimney on ridge at each gable end. Pointed window in front gable peak. 2/2 sash. Center entrance with single light/paneled door. Gabled entrance porch (20th cent.) Two story, flat-roofed ell across rear facade. Shed-roofed porch on left side (east elevation). Asphalt shingle siding. On 1875 map.

#24 (11/36) ca. 1860 Key

Shirt Factory/Odd Fellows Hall/Grange Hall. 21 story, 2(2d) X 6 bay, front gabled building. Interior chimney on right slope behind second bay. Octagonal vent in front gable peak. 6/6 sash. Center entrance with double leaf door (single light w/patterned glass/paneled leaves). Gabled entrance porch (ca. 20th cent.). Windows which flanked entrance closed (ca. 20th cent.). Side entrance on left (east elevation: 2d bay) has 4-light/3 vertical panel door. Asbestos shingle siding. Brick and fieldstone foundation. Leanto on rear elevation. Originally a shirt factory which employed workers, mostly women and a few children. When building rent was raised in late 19th century, the building became the Odd Fellows Hall. Beginning in 1902, the Windsor Grange No. 40 met in the building, finally purchasing it in 1936. Through the course of its usage of

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the structure, the Grange produced many successful plays and minstrels, including <u>Uncle Tom's</u> <u>Cabin</u> and <u>Mail Order Brides</u>. In recent years the building has been used as the Gospel Mission. On the 1875 map.

#### SCHOOL DRIVE

Southwest side:

#16 (12/8) ca. 1860 Contributing

2½ story, 4 X l bay, gable across house. Exterior chimney on right side. 6/6 sash. Entrance in third bay has gabled, hooded entrance (ca. 20th cent.); replacement door. Rear-gabled, stepped-down, two story ell with interior chimney on ridge at gable end. Screened porch at left rear corner. On 1875 map.

Northeast side:

#### Windsor Public School (13/24) ca. 1909 Non-contributing

Two story, rectangular brick building with T-shape entrance pavilion on front facade. Hipped roof on main block has asphalt shingle roof, projecting cornice with brackets. Pavilion has projecting, center pedimented ell with projecting bracketed cornice and semi-round window in pediment; corner brick pilasters. Round-arched, two story, window surround for stairwell, centered on facade has tripartite window in upper level and band of four smaller windows at lower level; first and second level windows separated by concrete tablet bearing name and date of school. Side entrances to pavilion. Irregular fenestration with single and grouped windows with concrete lintels and sills. Concrete water table. Multi-color brick. Fire escape on rear facade. No longer used as village elementary school; now serves as vocational school for Township.

#18 (13/25) ca. 1860 Contributing

2½ story, 3 X 1 bay, gable across house. 6/6 and 1/1 sash. Entrance in right bay has single light/multi-panel door. Flat-roofed entrance porch with box posts. Leanto on right (south) side. Two story, shed-roofed ell across rear facade has leanto. Asbestos shingle siding with stoneface on facade. On 1875 map.

#22 (13/26) ca. 1870 Contributing

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 $l\frac{1}{2}$  story, 3 X 3 bay, front-gabled house. Irregular fenestration with 1/1 replacement sash.

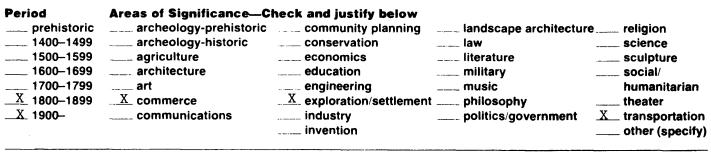
#26 (13/28) ca. 1860 Contributing

Basket Factory. 2½ story, 2 X 2 bay, gable across house. Concrete block chimney at left (northwest elevation) side. Pointed, gothic window in gable end is now vent. 2/2 sash. Three bay facade, 1st story, has off-center entrance with single-light/panel door. Ca. 1920 porch across facade has low wall with box posts. Two story, stepped-down, ell has shed roof; leanto on right (southeast) side. House has been stuccoed. Shown on 1875 map as basket factory.

#32 (13/4) ca. 1900 Contributing

Two story, 2 X 2 bay, American Foursquare. Hipped roof. 2/2 sash. Three bay facade at 1st has off-center entrance; replacement door. Wraparound, hipped roof porch has concrete wall, wooden box posts. One story addition (ca. 1930) to front corner on right. Wood shingle (2d story) and clapboard (1st).  $1\frac{1}{2}$  story, 2 X 2 bay, gable to street outbuilding northwest of house has vertical board siding, 2/2 (horizont.), 6/6 sash. Postdates house.

### 8. Significance



Specific dates 1832–1925

Builder/Architect Various

#### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Windsor is significant as an example of a nineteenth century, rural village that illustrates the ordinary lives of the common people of an earlier era and the impact of changes in transportation in New Jersey. It was born in 1818 as a stagecoach stop to service a turnpike from Bordentown to South Amboy. Its major development was linked to the Camden and Amboy Railroad, following its construction in 1832 when a cluster of buildings, virtually a new town, were built. Finally, the fact that it remains today, almost no larger than it was at the turn of the century, is due in some measure to the fact that truck transportation supplanted rail, and that the new highway system (Route 130) bypassed the town in the 1930s. Windsor is a good example of a country crossroads village that still retains most of its original vernacular architecture and maintains a sense of identity due to its setting amid the pastoral landscape of rural New Jersey.

#### Early Settlement of the Area

By the early 1700s, most of the region east of Trenton had been sold and subdivided into farms of 500-1000 acres. The original owners were Quakers, and due to their advocacy of religious freedom, many religious sects were represented throughout the countryside, which was settled by immigrants from England, Scotland, Holland, and France (Hageman, pp.862-863).

The exact date of settlement of the area of Washington Township is not known. John Chamberlain established a farm north of the Old York Road about 1750. He was joined in the vicinity by other settlers named Hamill, Conover, Schenck, Kowenhoven, Ely, Tindall, Hight, and Hutchinson, and by the time of the American Revolution, two small villages, New Sharon and Canton, had been established in what is now the eastern part of the Township. The outlying farms produced corn, rye, and apples, but due to their remote location, there was only a limited market for the produce (Robbins, "Magrilla Dweller..." p.1).

#### Creation of Centerville (formerly Magrilla; now Windsor)

In 1816 the New Jersey Legislature authorized the construction of a turnpike to carry stagecoaches from Philadelphia to New York, and when a highway was laid between Bordentown and South Amboy in 1818, there was a need for a stagecoach stop in the area that had been known as Magrilla, a heavily wooded vicinity northeast of Bordentown (Robbins, p. 1). A building was erected to serve as a stagecoach stop and inn, and until the 1830s it was, with the exception of grist and saw mills to the south, the only major building in what is now Windsor (Robbins, p. 5).

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheets.

10. Ge	eographica	Data			
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	s and counties for pro	-		ounty boundar	ies NA
state		code	county		code
	orm Prepare		county		
name/title	Linda B. McTeagu		ation Planning	Consultant f	or
organization	Washington Townsl	nip	d	ate Feb	oruary 27, 1987
street & numbe	er 1117 State Highwa	ay 130	te	elephone (60	9) 259-7082
city or town	Robbinsville		S	tate New	y Jersey 08691
12. St	ate Historie	c Prese	ervation	Officer	Certification
The evaluated :	significance of this prope	rty within the s	state is:		
665), I hereby n according to th Deputy		vation Officer f inclusion in th set forth by th	he National Register	and certify that	Act of 1966 (Public Law 89- it has been evaluated
t <b>itle</b> Assist	ant Commissioner fo	or Natural	& Historic Res	ources date	August 15, 1988
atie	e only certify that this property i <u>he National Register</u>	s included in th	he National Register	date	./ .
Attest:	-			date	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •
Chief of Re	gistration				

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Then, in 1830 the Camden and Amboy Railroad and Transportation Company acquired a charter to establish a railroad link between the Delaware River and Raritan Bay. The construction of the line from Bordentown to Hightstown along the westerly side of the turnpike resulted in the growth of Centerville, which emerged as a cluster of houses around the already existing hotel, enlarged or rebuilt in 1832. It is thought that the name "Centerville" was chosen because the new village was centrally located among the already existing towns (Robbins, pp. 6-7). This new village became one of the first in the state to have rail service. Area farmers had profitably supplied crushed rock used for the roadbed at a price of one dollar per perch (27 cubic feet). The first trains were pulled by horses, but the animals were soon replaced by the famous "John Bull" locomotive when regular commercial service was established in 1833 (Lane, p. 288).

Due to the Camden and Amboy, Centerville grew so rapidly that in the 1840s it was a thriving village with three stores, a passenger station, a freight house, a blacksmith, a school, and several mills (Robbins, pp. 6-7). Houses began to line the turnpike between the hotel and the mills to the south (Map of Mercer County, 1848). Most of the earliest of these, such as those lining the eastern side of Main, just south of the hotel, were vernacular houses built in the Georgian five bay plan but with Greek Revival detail, reflecting the national prominence of that style during the 1840s. This detail includes simple trabeated center entrances with transom lights and sidelights, six over six sash, and cornices with returns at the gable ends. Although practically all of the new houses were gable across structures, one erected on Church Street (#41) imitated the Greek temple form more closely, with its pedimented front gable and colossal, In addition to the aforementioned houses, a few others were tapered pillars. constructed as simple three bay, gable across buildings. All but one of the buildings were set close to the roadways, usually on narrow lots. The exception, which is also one of the largest in the village (#46 Church Street), was placed far back from the road overlooking the railroad and turnpike at the intersection of Church Street, the focal point of the town.

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#### The Hutchinson Mills

Throughout most of the nineteenth century, Hutchinson's saw and grist mills were the chief industry of the area (Hageman, p. 865). They had preceeded the village by several years, but became part of Centerville as the village spread southward from the hotel and as the mill operations expanded, becoming the dominant economic activity of the area.

The Hutchinson Mills originated as Joseph Wright's sawmill which was established on the site between 1802 and 1808 (Hunter). Road surveys of this period show that a road linking Wright's mill and Crosswicks Creek crossed the Assunpink Creek on the mill dam. In 1820, the Wright family sold the property to Amos Hutchinson of West Windsor Township. Hutchinson added a grist mill in the 1820s, and his sons Jonathan and Isaac Hutchinson, operated the business until 1827 when both mills were purchased by a different Amos Hutchinson, a relative of the former Hutchinson of that name. The second Amos operated the mills until his death in the late 1880s, and the mills were sold.

The Everts and Stewart <u>Map of Mercer County</u>, 1875, shows the Hutchinson complex to consist of eight major structures clustered near the pond and the dam. The sawmill (demolished by 1903) was situated on the north bank of the Assunpink Creek near the turnpike bridge (last bridge at site demolished about 1920). A grist mill (demolished after 1936) was set slightly farther back from the pike (Main Street) north of the sawmill. Two other buildings stood northwest and northeast of the grist mill, one near the railroad and the other near the highway. South of the turnpike were the millpond (destroyed by flood in the early 20th century) and at least four major buildings, with outbuildings, including a blacksmith shop and a wheelwright shop.

The Hutchinson Mills occupied an extemely advantageous location relative to the turnpike and the railroad. The U. S. Industrial Censuses of New Jersey, 1850-1880, indicate the importance of the mills to Windsor and the surrounding countryside. At their peak at mid-century, they were the most heavily capitalized business in the township with about \$30,000 invested. Annually, the grist mill was handling about 30,000 bushels of grain valued at \$22,500. The sawmill provided large quantities of shipplank which were transported to New Brunswick. In a village that included fewer than 70 buildings in 1875, the mills were a sizeable presence. In addition, seven houses, six of which lined the western side of Main Street (#38-50) were owned by Hutchinson and may have been rented to those who worked at the mills.

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The present inn was constructed about 1832, possibly incorporating the earlier stagecoach stop. Historical accounts of the village attribute the present structure to William McKnight (Hageman, p. 864). After the hotel was enlarged and houses were built, locals began to gather at the "Lazy Bench" nearby to exchange gossip. In addition to the other buildings, a Methodist church had been built on a small rise on the road running west of the hotel (now Church Street), and it became another center of local activity.

The Methodist Church grew out of a "Camp Meeting" held in the woods near Centerville in 1838. Until then, Methodist "circuit riders" preached at meetings at several locations near Centerville, but converts at the Camp Meeting decided to organize their own church at the village. In the spring of 1840, they voted to erect a church building and, since they didn't have much money, built a plain brick building of one story. The church was paid for by subscriptions, with some members paying as much as \$50. each. William McKnight of Bordentown gave the lot, and Samuel Brown and Jacob Rogers contributed the mason work. The building was completed without delay and was dedicated on June 17, 1840, with the Reverend Charles Pittman preaching the morning sermon and the Reverend John Lenhart preaching the evening sermon. The membership increased substantially in the next two decades, so that by 1863 the church was enlarged and remodeled, and a parsonage was built next door (Robbins, pp. 5-6).

The reconstructed building reflects the continued popularity of the Greek Revival style in Windsor (Centerville). It was built gable end to street, with an imposing pediment accented by a projecting cornice and large dentil molding. By contrast, the parsonage, erected at about the time of the expansion, is a simple,

relative named Amos Hutchinson, who operated the mills throughout the nineteenth century (Hageman, p. 865).

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five bay Georgian plan house. Although of the same size and shape as others in the village, it lacks the trabeated entrance with transom lights and sidelights, as well as other detail of similar houses.

#### Centerville Becomes Windsor

Until 1846 there was no post office closer than Hightstown, but the bustling commercial activity in Centerville warranted the establishment of one there. The request was granted, and Barclay Perrine became the first postmaster of "Windsor." The name was changed because there was already a post office called Centerville in Hunterdon County (Hageman, p. 864; <u>Washington Township Centennial</u> Brochure, p. 9).

An Act of the New Jersey Assembly in 1859 created Washington Township, whose twenty square miles encompassed Windsor and three other villages, all formerly part of East Windsor Township. At that time, prominent Township landowners included David Gordon, John Pullen, David Silvers, M. Allen, Leonard Hubit, and George H. Allen. Descendants of many of these men reside in Windsor today. That Windsor was the most important of the Township's four communities was evident due to the fact that the first Township election was held at the "house kept by Elizabeth Miller in the village of Windsor" (Hageman, p. 864).

#### Windsor in the Late Nineteenth Century

The proximity of the railroad continued to foster the growth of Windsor, bringing several small manufacturing concerns to the village. Most notable of these was the shirt factory (#24 Church Street, ca. 1860) which employed several dozen workers, mostly women, who operated sewing machines on the building's two levels (Taylor). Across the street was the Cider House (#23 Church Street, ca. 1845?), and at the bend of School Drive was a basket factory (#26 School Drive). There were also a few harness shops and blacksmiths, as well as about three general stores (Map of Mercer County, 1875). The largest of the latter, which was the only brick building in town, was built by Barclay Perrine, the postmaster, and stood on the southeast corner of Church and Main (Block 11/Lot 1; demolished ca. 1970; Washington Twp. Centennial, p.32; Taylor). At one time this building housed a shirt factory on the second floor. Other stores were operated on Church and Main, including John Hutchinson's store (Block 11/Lot 14--- next to #33; ca. 1860).

In 1875, as it approached its prime, Windsor had about 150 residents, a number larger by half than the population of Robbinsville, the Township's next

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largest town. It continued as a small country town, however, growing slowly but steadily (Killenberger, p 165). The late nineteenth century saw the addition of several new houses, vernacular structures with late Victorian trim. Unlike earlier houses, some of these new dwellings were set farther back on their lots, so that they had expansive front lawns. White picket fences extended along the frontage of many of the earlier houses, and the church cemetery was also ringed by such fencing. Shade trees lined the streets, adding to the bucolic atmosphere of a little country town (Washington Township Centennial).

The debt for the enlargement of the Methodist Church was finally paid off in the 1880s, not without the help of the Ladies Aid. The group made a quilt, and for ten cents one could have his name sewn into the pattern. Mrs. G. R. Robbins got to keep the quilt because she raised \$170.20, more than any of the other ladies, from people who wished to have their names recorded for posterity. (Washington Township Centennial, p. 12).

As Windsor approached the turn of the century, there were five trains running in each direction daily and four mail deliveries. The village was a community of earnest, hardworking people who enjoyed life's simpler pleasures, such as skating on the millpond in winter and boating in the summer. The pond was also the scene of baptisms conducted by the minister of the Windsor Baptist Church (Church erected on Church Street in 1897; see #14 Church Street). Spectators would line the banks at sunset to witness the immersion of new members (Taylor). The Methodist Church was often the scene of festivals and other social activity. The Reverend Blackiston loved parades, and for the Fourth of July in 1899, he organized a big celebration which included floats representing Liberty, George Washington, and Dewey's gunboat (<u>Washington Township Centennial</u>, p. 14).

At the end of the century, the shirt factory moved its operations to Bordentown (Taylor), and the building became the Odd Fellows Hall. The Windsor Grange No. 40 was organized in 1902, and began to meet in the old factory as well. In later years they were to produce a number of plays, such as <u>Uncle</u> <u>Tom's Cabin</u>, a production which enjoyed great success (<u>Washington Township</u> <u>Centennial</u>, p. 28).

#### Twentieth Century Windsor

By the 1930s, changes in transportation and the economy of the area resulted in the death of most commercial activity in Windsor. The mills had fallen vacant earlier in the century when farmers stopped growing grain and due to the lack of lumber in the area (Delzell). They stood for a decade or two and then were

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demolished (ca. 1930s). The dam had broken in the mid-1920s, eliminating the pond, and the Windsor Grange was unsuccessful in raising the money to restore it (<u>Washington Township Centennial</u>, p. 28). The construction of Route 130 in the mid-1930s fostered automobile and truck travel, so that passenger service on the rail line was eventually discontinued and commercial service was curtailed (Taylor; Delzell).

Although some fifteen buildings have been built in this century, due to the loss of about a dozen earlier structures, including the mills, the station, and the general store, Windsor is essentially no larger today than it was in the 1890s, both in population and number of buildings. However, Windsor's isolation from traffic and development have protected it from significant mutilation. Even though many buildings have been sheathed in synthetic siding, their shapes remain unchanged, and the simple, vernacular architecture is intact. Many of the original outbuildings, such as barns, sheds, and outhouses, are standing, and many are still in use. Therefore, when one comes upon Windsor, there is a sense of the discovery of a nineteenth century village. The twenty square miles of Washington Township is one of the last remaining rural areas in the densely populated and heavily traveled corridor between New York and Philadelphia, and Windsor is one of the few area villages which have been untouched by modern development. Others of its period have been ringed by intrusive, condominium and commercial development.

Windsor's importance lies not in its simple buildings--nor in events. A mention of its name in historical texts is rare. Rather, its importance is found in the absence of fine buildings, momentous events, and important persons. It presents a picture of a nineteenth century working man's town, and its very ordinariness makes it special, for while monuments to the prominent abound, reminders of the lives of the majority--the common folk--are scarce indeed. Today, Windsor is important as testimony to the changes in nineteenth century transportation and their impact on life in rural New Jersey.

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#### Interviews

Interview with Vivian Delzell, in Windsor. February 5, 1987.

Interview with Mabel Taylor (age 101), in Windsor. February 8, 1987.

Interviews with Hazel Herman, Washington Township Historian. February 12, 15, 18, and 24, 1987.

#### Maps

Map of Mercer County, New Jersey. Camden: Lloyd Van Der Veer, ca. 1848.

Map of Mercer County, New Jersey. Philadelphia: Everts and Stewart, 1875.

#### Addendum

Hunter, Richard W. et al. Cultural Resource Survey for U.S. Route 130/ N.J. Route Sections 14B, 14C, 14D and 17B, Hamilton, Washington and East Windsor Townships, Mercer County, New Jersey (Vol. I - Text). Federal Highway Administration and New Jersey Department of Transportation, Bureau of Environmental Analysis, March 1983 (Revised June, 1985).

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#### Verbal Boundary Description

Beginning at the northeast corner of lot 30, block 11, the boundary runs in a southwesterly direction along the eastern lot line for 113.61 feet. It then turns and runs in a northwesterly direction along the rear lot lines of lots 30. 31, 32, 33, 34, and 35 until it meets the eastern lot line of lot 36. At that point it turns and runs in a southerly direction along the rear lot lines of lots 5, 7, 8, and 9. At the southern lot line of lot 9, it turns and runs in a northwesterly direction along the southern lot line of lot 9 for 49 feet. Then it turns south and runs along the rear lot lines of lots 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, and 15. At the southernmost corner of lot 15, it runs in a straight line across lot 16 to the northeastern corner of lot 17. It then runs along the rear lot lines of lots 17, 18, and 19. At the southeastern corner of lot 19, it turns west and runs to the rear lot line of lot 20; it runs in a southwesterly direction along the rear lot line of lot 20. Continuing in that direction, it crosses lot 37 to the northeastern lot line of lot 21. At that point, it runs in a southerly direction until it reaches the curb line of State Highway 130. It then turns and continues in a southwesterly direction along Route 130 to the south bank of the Assunpink It then turns and runs in a westerly direction along the south bank of Creek. the creek to the western lot line of lot 20, block 10, the United New Jersey Railroad and Canal Co. right of way.

The boundary turns and runs in a northeasterly direction along the western lot line of lot 20, block 10, to the southeast corner of lot 48. There it turns northwest and runs along the southern lot line of lot 48 and then north along the southwestern lot lines of lots 48, 49, 51, 52, 53, 54, and 55.Q. At the western lot line of lot 55.Q, the boundary runs north to Church Street and across that street to the southwest corner of lot 9, block 14. (Note: Lot 55.Q exists only for tax purposes as a 1 Acre building lot of lot 55, which is not included in the district.)

At the southwest corner of lot 9, block 14, the boundary runs in a northwesterly direction along the front lot lines of lots 10, 70, 11, 12, 13, 14, and 15. At the southwestern corner of lot 15, it turns and runs in a northeasterly direction along the western lot line of lot 15 to the northwestern corner of that lot where it turns southeast and runs along the rear lot lines of lots 15 and 14, across lot 13 to the northwestern corner of lot 12, and then along the rear lot lines of lots 12, 11, 70, 10, 9, 8, and 7. At the northeastern corner of lot 7, it turns and runs in a northeasterly direction along the rear lot lines of lots 53, 52, and 51. At the northernmost corner of lot 51, it turns and runs along the northeastern lot line of that lot. At the easternmost corner of lot 51, it

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turns and runs, in a straight line diagonally across lot 1, the United New Jersey Railroad and Canal Co. right of way, to the northeast corner of lot 31, block 13.

From the northeast corner of lot 31, block 13, the boundary runs in a southerly direction along the northeastern lot line of lot 31 and, continuing in that direction, along the rear lot lines of lots 4, 28, 27, and 22. At the southeastern corner of lot 22, it turns and runs along the southeastern lot line for 257 feet. It then continues in a straight line diagonally across lot 21 to the northwest corner of Church Street and Route 130. It then runs in a straight line across Church Street to the northeast corner of lot 30, block 11, or the point of beginning.

#### Boundary Justification

The boundary as drawn includes all of the extant buildings shown on the 1848 and 1875 maps of Windsor, as well as the site of Hutchinson's Mills. It excludes open farmland and one late nineteenth century house which is situated on a 25 acre farm tract. Although the house is near the center of the village, it is not shown on the 1875 map and does not face on either of the two main cross streets. Excluded also are the commercial properties along Route 130. That development (ca. mid-20th century) bears little relation to the period of Windsor's significance. Beyond lot 15, block 14 on Church Street, properties are excluded because the houses postdate the period of significance and/or they appear to be more closely associated with the outlying farmland than with the village center. It is at this point that mailing addresses indicate "Edinburg-Windsor Road", rather than "Church Street", thus signifying that the properties are outside of the village proper.

The site of Hutchinson's Mills (Block 10/Lots 29 & 31; Block 11/Lots 21 & 37) is included because of the significant archaeological potential (see "Description" and "Significance" sections) of the mill complex. In addition, it is visually contained within the district due to the natural boundary of the Assunpink Creek and the fact that the site is the western terminus of Main Street.

