

## NEW JERSEY OFFICE OF CULTURAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

HISTORIC PRESERVATION SECTION

INDIVIDUAL STRUCTURE SURVEY FORM

HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY NO. 17

HISTORIC NAME: Dr. John Christie Ware

COMMON NAME:

LOCATION: Bungalow

BLOCK/LOT 1105/43

246 E. Saddle River Rd., SE

MUNICIPALITY: corner Ackerman Rd., Saddle River

COUNTY: Bergen

USGS QUAD: Park Ridge River

UTM REFERENCES

OWNER/ADDRESS:

Zone/Northing/Easting

Dorothy Ware

## DESCRIPTION

Construction Date: 1909-1910

Source of Date: Owner who is the daughter of the first owner

Architect: J.C. Ware, according to the

Builder:

owner

Style: Arts &amp; Crafts Bungalow

Form/Plan Type: rectangular with projecting porte cochere

Number of Stories: 1 1/2

Foundation: boulders

Exterior Wall Fabric: boulders with wood shingles in gables

Fenestration: 4 bays, 8 1 sash

Roof/Chimneys: broad gable extending over front porch; 2 interior chimneys with boulder stacks

## Additional Architectural Description:

Recessed porch at south end with boulder posts.

4 bay porch extending into porte cochere across front (west facade), boulder bases and splayed wooden posts

Projecting 1 story bays at north and south ends.

Overhanging eaves.

2 tri-partite shed dormers on front with square, multiple lights.

PHOTO Negative File No. 19844-11, slide

Map (Indicate North)



17 SITING, BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION, AND RELATED STRUCTURES:

1.7 acres. On east slope overlooking Saddle River. House faces west (the river). Freestanding pergola with boulder posts in south yard. Well and boulder, 1 story garage with hip roof at NE. Overgrown grounds. Retains much evidence of original landscaping. Generous setback from the road. Panoramic views from house.

SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT: Urban  Suburban  Scattered Buildings   
 Open Space  Woodland  Residential  Agricultural  Village   
 Industrial  Downtown Commerical  Highway Commercial  Other

SIGNIFICANCE:

The Ware Bungalow is among the most architecturally distinguished of the numerous bungalows erected in Bergen County in the early 20th century. It is an outstanding example of a building constructed of boulder walls. In its use of indigenous materials, here stone and wood, in a sturdy frank fashion which emphasizes the natural qualities of the materials, the house reflects the ideals of the turn-of-the-century Arts and Crafts movement. The close relationship of the building and its scenic setting is also characteristic of architecture based on Arts and Crafts ideals.

The house and its landscaping, according to Ware's daughter, were designed by John Ware, a chemistry professor at New York University who was its original owner. The American Arts and Crafts Movement in architecture was greatly influenced by the Craftsman magazine and books of Gustave Stickley. In them Stickley illustrated house designs which resemble the Ware Bungalow in both styling and the use of boulder walls. It is very likely Ware was influenced by these designs, although his bungalow is larger than (cont.)

ORIGINAL USE: residence PRESENT USE: residence  
 PHYSICAL CONDITION: Excellent  Good  Fair  Poor   
 REGISTER ELIGIBILITY: Yes  Possible  No  Part of District   
 THREATS TO SITE: Roads  Development  Zoning  Deterioration   
 No Threat  Other

COMMENTS:

The fact that the property is overgrown and the house somewhat run-down is alarming as it is unusual in Saddle River for an older house to be replaced by a new, larger house. Fortunately the lot is undersized and this might insure the preservation of the existing building.

REFERENCES:

NJHSI 0258-49  
 Interview with Dorothy Ware, 8-31-83.  
 1913 Bromley atlas, shown, no name.  
 1902 Robinson Map: Jas. Ware

RECORDED BY: TRB  
 ORGANIZATION: BCOC&HA

DATE: 8-1983

Dr. John Christie Ware Bungalow  
 246 East Saddle River Road  
 Saddle River  
 Bergen County, NJ

Significance, cont.

than most designs in Stickley's publications.

Bergen County has numerous early 20th century buildings with textural boulder walls, particularly in the northcentral and northwestern parts of the county where early 20th century development was often in the form of country houses with scenic settings. The bungalow, a 1½ story house with broad roof extending over porches, was a nationally popular house-type. The Ware Bungalow is the most architecturally interesting building of its style and material in Saddle River and among the outstanding example of the type in Bergen County. The Ware Bungalow is also important in Saddle River's turn-of-the-century developmental history as a location for country homes for "city people." The house is occupied by the original owners daughter, who is the Saddle River borough historian.



View looking NW.  
 Neg. file #  
 19844-9



Early 20th century  
 photograph. Original  
 in the collection of  
 Dorothy Ware.  
 Neg. file #  
 19844-12