

DATA SHEET

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: New Jersey
COUNTY: Essex
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE APR 1 1976

1. NAME

COMMON:
Jacobus House

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
178 Grove Avenue

CITY OR TOWN:
Cedar Grove

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:
11th

STATE:
New Jersey

CODE:
34

COUNTY:
Essex

CODE:
013

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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work <input type="checkbox"/> In Progress <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious		
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific		

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
John McGinty

STREET AND NUMBER:
178 Grove Avenue

CITY OR TOWN:
Cedar Grove

STATE:
New Jersey

CODE:
34

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Essex County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
Newark

STATE:
New Jersey

CODE:
34

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Historic American Buildings Survey (NJ-475) (NJHSI-629.1)

DATE OF SURVEY:
1938

Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Library of Congress

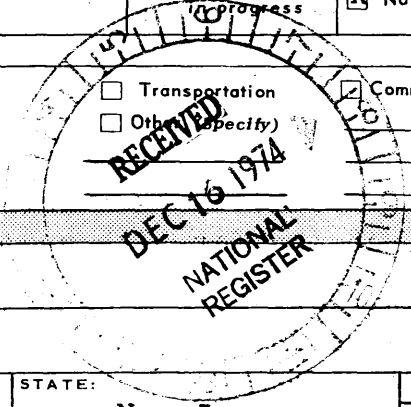
STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
Washington

STATE:
D.C.

CODE:
11

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



STATE: **New Jersey**

COUNTY: **Essex**

ENTRY NUMBER: **512**

DATE: **APR 1 1976**

FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The historical value of the Jacobus House, in Cedar Grove, New Jersey, dates back to the time of the early Dutch settlers. Both material and documentary evidence suggest this and by examination of some of these aspects, it is reasonable to assume that the basic structure of the house was built by a farmer named Jacobus, at or around 1725 and that some alterations occurred in the early nineteenth century.

The physical location of the Jacobus house is in concert with this assumption. The one-and-a-half story Dutch house, usually fieldstone and frequently one room wide, was typical throughout northern New Jersey; examples cover over a century, ranging from the Jacobus Demarest House in River Edge, New Jersey (1678) to the Roelof Westervelt House in Tenafly (1798).

Much of northern New Jersey was in fact settled by Dutch farmers, even after the British took New Amsterdam in 1664. In New York, the Dutch influence was remarkable tenacious, and the Dutch and Flemish style cottages permeated the Hudson valley, Long Island and much of northern New Jersey. Furthermore, Cedar Grove is about seventeen miles from New Amsterdam (New York) and hence would still be in contact with the major Dutch settlement and source of supplies.

The exterior of the house is hand-cut ashlar of sandstone, common for 18th and 19th century construction in the area. Northern New Jersey has many houses of the Flemish type of Dutch, which the Jacobus House may be. The walls are twenty-one inches thick on all sides, although the side and back are not ashlar, but rubble stone, now faced with stucco. Logically the street side of the house would be most dressed, and the stone is laid in the Flemish bond pattern, typical of the early Dutch and Flemish stone houses. The gable ends are likewise typical, done above the eaves in wood. It is consistent with the face the Dutch were the first to use wood shingles.

The exterior door is of little significance since it has been changed and modified from what was probably a divided door in front. The fanlights, however, over and around the front door, are of the old, bubbly and wavy glass and affirm the fact that the door itself was solid, as is indicated by the Historic American Buildings Survey drawings of the house. The glass may date from the early nineteenth century renovation. Whereas a transom over a divided door was very common in the eighteenth century, it is unlikely the glass is that old, although the openings may be. The back door is notable only in that it is a five feet high and was probably added early in the house's history.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

3. 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)

C 1723

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|---|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | <u>Community History/</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | <u>Settlement</u> |
| <input 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

Community History/Settlement

Originally called Peckmantown or Peckman's River, Cedar Grove was later renamed recognizing a prominent grove of cedar trees in the village.

The earliest permanent residents appear to have been Van Rippers, Vreelands, Doremuses and Jacobuses, all of Dutch descent.

One of the last remaining physical records of the founders of Cedar Grove is the Jacobus house at 178 Cedar Grove Avenue.

The original house was probably built by Johannis Jacobus sometime after 1744 when the land was surveyed by David Ogden.

Little has been discovered about Johannis except that he was a farmer and fathered at least three children -- Henry, Garrett, and Geesjie from 1741-1756 -- during his marriage to Madglena "Lena" Spear. Records of the Second River (Belleville) Dutch Reformed Church indicate that Johannis may have produced children by an earlier marriage, but this is uncertain since there was at least two, and possibly three, Johannis Jacobuses in the immediate area in the 1740's and 50's.

Sons Garrett and Henry both purchased a part of the farm from their father in 1788. Almost nothing is known of Henry, but it appears that Garrett Jacobus was accused of being a Loyalist in 1778 during the American Revolution and his property confiscated the next year. A cemetery stone turned up in Newark in the 1930's indicated that Garrett may have married a woman named May who subsequently died at 22 years of age in 1772, perhaps in childbirth.

Further documentation of either brother has yet to be found.

The brothers sold the farm to John J. Speer around 1806, but as Garrett and Henry's mother was a Speer, the property may not have left the family. In any case, Cornelius H. Jacobus and Nicholas Stagg owned the farmstead by 1836. Stagg and Jacobus were partners in farming, but did not maintain the farmstead for any long period of time. For the next generation

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Bailey, Rosalie Fellows, Pre-Revolutionary Dutch Houses, New York: 1936.

Boardman, Samuel W., Jr. From Then to Now-A History of Cedar Grove, Verona: Verona - Cedar Grove Times, 1958.

Historic American Buildings Survey, New Jersey - 475, Henry T. Jacobus House, Cedar Grove, 1938.

(cont.)

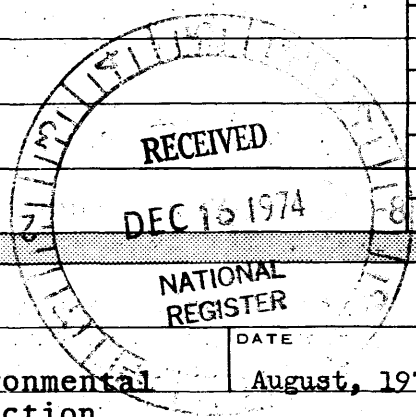
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

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	
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	0	'	"	0	'	"	0	'	"	0	'	"
NE	0	'	"	0	'	"	0	'	"	0	'	"
SE	0	'	"	0	'	"	40	51	02	74	14	07
SW	0	'	"	0	'	"						

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: less than 1

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Terry Karschner, Historian - Curator

ORGANIZATION: Historic Sites Section, Dept. of Environmental Protection DATE: August, 1974

STREET AND NUMBER: Box 1420

CITY OR TOWN: Trenton STATE: New Jersey 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: David J. Bardin
 Title: Commissioner, Dept. of Environmental Protection
 Date: December 10, 1974

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

[Signature]
 Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 4/1/75

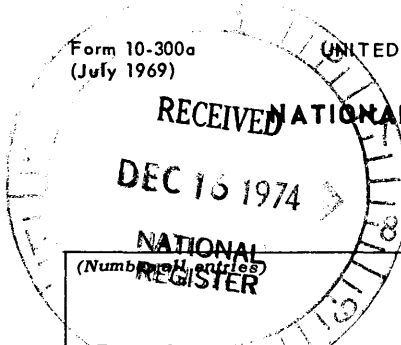
ATTEST:
[Signature]
 Keeper of the National Register
 Date: APR 1 1975

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE	New Jersey	
COUNTY	Essex	
FOR NPS USE ONLY		
ENTRY NUMBER		DATE
		APR 1 1975

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet) 1.



Jacobus House
178 Grove Avenue
Cedar Grove, New Jersey 34

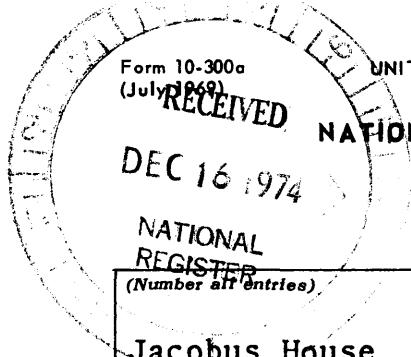
7. Description (con't)

The windows, possibly original only in the front, may be the initial fenestration. The positioning in the kitchen, with the windows under some of the supporting beams, may indicate that the fenestration was added to or modified after the eighteenth century. Measurement and proportion suggest that the extreme south window did not exist and that the front door and adjacent north window were both door openings with then one window beyond on either side. The windows are six panes over six but, as the most vulnerable aspect of an old house, are unreliable evidence. The "eye-brow" windows above them, although usually attributed to Greek Revival architecture only, adorn a number of northern New Jersey eighteenth century houses, and therefore, may be original.

The roof is presently a gambrel roof with shed dormers, but was raised from a loft to provide a more spacious second story around the middle of the nineteenth century. The loft was probably one room, as the floor boards are laid with no regard to room partitions. Most Dutch farmhouses had one story with a low loft. Some houses had a central hall one or two rooms deep, a loft above and perhaps a second loft above that. The house has chimneys on the north and south ends, which are typically unexposed, i.e., built within the walls. The general floor plan affirms the pre-Revolutionary War date; no Dutch houses of the traditional format were built after 1825, and those built before 1776 were quite small.

The house, even now, is small and may have originally been only two rooms with a hall added later. Or it may be an adaptation or simplification of the typical Dutch plan which includes a central hallway with two nearly square rooms on either side and a hall stairway leading to four similar rooms crowded under the low rafters of the roof. Frequently the kitchen would be a wing at one end of the house. There is evidence of an outbuilding kitchen or lean-to kitchen on the south end of the house, as shown in a picture taken around 1900, now owned by the Cedar Grove Historical Society. Neither interior fireplace would belie this common practice.

The interior of the house presents further substantiation of the origin and date. The basement includes the



Form 10-300a
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

(Continuation Sheet) 2.

STATE	
New Jersey	
COUNTY	
Essex	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
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Jacobus House
178 Grove Avenue
Cedar Grove, New Jersey 34

7. Description (con't)

typical Dutch arch supports for the above fireplaces. The beams are hand hewn and rest on similar sills over a rough stone foundation. The level of the base of the arches indicates the original floor, probably mud, was excavated to its present level, perhaps when a furnace had to be accomodated. The beams are pegged and tenoned to the sills.

The first floor, of two rooms, has an original fire-place in the living (north) room that measures 65" by 38" and was built with sandstone jambs and lintel, with a rough stone firebox. The mantel presently in the house is from the nineteenth century, probably from 1840 when stoves were first used and fireplaces were enclosed and redecorated. The floors, now covered, are random width with the older slip/tongue arrangement. The beamed ceiling is definitely Dutch in style; the beams are planned to a fine smoothness and were meant to be exposed, along with the underside of the above floor, now covered. The hall, not altogether uncommon in an eighteenth century Dutch farmhouse, may represent a passage...through the middle of the house for an airdraught in summer. The stair is open with a doorway at the top and although old and worn, may be a later addition nonetheless, as are the Victorian style banister and balusters; perhaps both were added around the time of the Civil War when times were prosperous. All mouldings are Greek Rivival in style.

The second main floor room (the south room) is presently a kitchen but it is questionable whether this was its original purpose. It may have been so with the other room a sleeping/living room. The pot iron is still in the original fireplace, a matching fireplace for the north one. The typical neat cupboard with pegged and tenoned panels may have post-eighteenth century mouldings and doors, but as a cupboard, was cerainly part of the Dutch kitchen structure. The original paint was grey, perhaps the faded version of the grey-blue found on the mouldings of Dutch eighteenth century houses. The floors are the same wide pine boards as found in the living room, but only extend up to the foot of the hearth. The fireplace is also about four feet south of the position above the basement arch were it was

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet) 3.

STATE	New Jersey	
COUNTY	Essex	
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ENTRY NUMBER		DATE
	APR 1	1976

NATIONAL REGISTER
(Number of Entries)

Jacobus House
178 Grove Avenue
Cedar Grove, New Jersey 34

7. Description (con't)

meant to be located originally. The beams change at this point in the first floor and basement ceiling and it is likely the house was at some time expanded. The beams, with the exception of the two in the south end, are the same in wood and treatment as those in the living room.

Upstairs, presently three bedrooms and a bath and at the time of the roof-raising, four bedrooms, has random width pine floors, some boards secured with rose-headed nails. The floor seems original to the time of the first building, when it would have been an area of drying and storage. The knee-wall windows penetrate the walls at knee level and more modern dormers were added above. The walls are plaster over stone and the stone walls clearly terminate half-way up the end walls, below the wood gable ends. All the upstairs doors are different, from a variety of time periods. One, however, is definitely eighteenth century in construction and style and its panels and mouldings are raised in both a Dutch and New Jersey manner. This door is on one of the smaller openings, whereas the closets, nineteenth century additions, have doors of more modern height. The closets were probably added when the roof was raised. The line of the old roof can be traced in the plaster throughout the upper story. The attic, newer and therefore of little count, follows the typical nineteenth century building style.

Additional information on the house is revealed by its listing in the Historic American Buildings Survey. Fifteen drawings, and three photographs, are on file with the Library of Congress from when the house was recorded in 1937. The date for the house's construction is an error based on one of two confusions. Firstly, the owner at the time of the recording may have confused stories of the house's first building with the time of its alteration (1830-1850). Or the owner may have confused the fact that the Jacobuses, while living in the stone house at 178 Grove Avenue, built in 1850 the frame house now at 168 Grove Avenue for the elder members of the family. He may have believed they had lived at 168 and then built 178. Mr. George Jacobus, still a resident of Cedar Grove, lived in 168 as a boy and recalled the facts of the building from stories he long ago heard.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet) 4.

STATE	New Jersey	
COUNTY	Essex	
FOR NPS USE ONLY		
ENTRY NUMBER	APR 1	DATE
		1975

(Number all entries)

Jacobus House
178 Grove Avenue
Cedar Grove, New Jersey 34

7. Description (con't)

As it stands, the house, by its facade, stone arches, floor plan, beams, floors and fireplaces, seems clearly to be from the early ~~eight~~ eighteenth century, between 1725 and 1750. Alterations, including the mouldings, roof and possibly parts of the stairway and mantel indicate major restorations and alterations around the early or middle nineteenth century (1830-1850). The dormers and some additional work may have been done after 1850. However, the house still retains the integrity of its style and for that reason has noteworthy historical value.

666010



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

(Continuation Sheet) 5.

STATE	
COUNTY	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	APR 1 1975

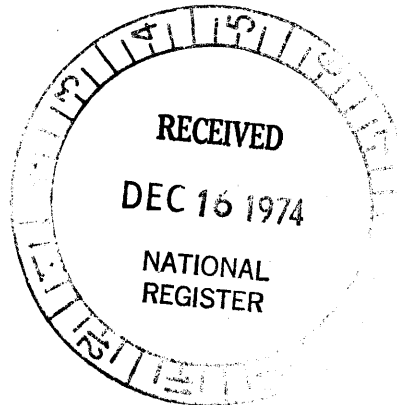
(Number all entries)

8. Significance (cont'd.)

the farm passed through a number of hands, all named Jacobus. Henry T. Jacobus purchased it in 1851.

Henry Jacobus followed the farming tradition of the family and operated this small agricultural interest for over 30 years; becoming one of the townships most prominent and respected farmers. Married and living in the house in 1851 with eight children it was probably Henry Jacobus who remodeled and enlarged the house to its present appearance.

Henry T. Jacobus died in 1884, and although the house was willed to his youngest son George, by 1888 the farm and house were no longer in the possession of the Jacobus Family.



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

(Continuation Sheet) 6.

STATE	
COUNTY	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	APR 1 1975

(Number all entries)

9. Bibliography (cont'd.)

New Jersey Archives: Newspaper Extracts. 1778, 1779.

Essex and Hudson Counties, New Jersey. William H. Shaw,
Philadelphia: 1884. (pp 820-855)

United States Census. 1850. New Jersey, Essex County.

United States Census. 1870. New Jersey, Essex County.

Genealogical Magazine of New Jersey

Volume 3. (pp. 49, 123, 124, 127, 156)

Volume 4. (pp. 36, 38)

Volume 29 (pp. 20)

"The Jacobus House". John and Sarah McGinty. Unpublished
research on the history of the house.

Historic American Buildings Survey. New Jersey - 475.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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RECEIVED	
DATE ENTERED	APR 1 1975

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

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8. PAGE 7.

Jacobus House
Cedar Grove
Essex County, 013
New Jersey, 34

8. Significance (cont.)

Architecture.

The Jacobus House is a representative example of carefully hand-cut ashlar sandstone typical of Northern New Jersey construction in the 18th and 19th centuries. Relatively few of these structures exist today and only one other is extant in Cedar Grove.

The sandstones are laid up in a Flemish bond pattern on the facade facing the road presenting an affluent appearance to travelers while the rear facades are roughly-coursed rubble stone. Altered throughout the 18th and 19th centuries the house represents vernacular.

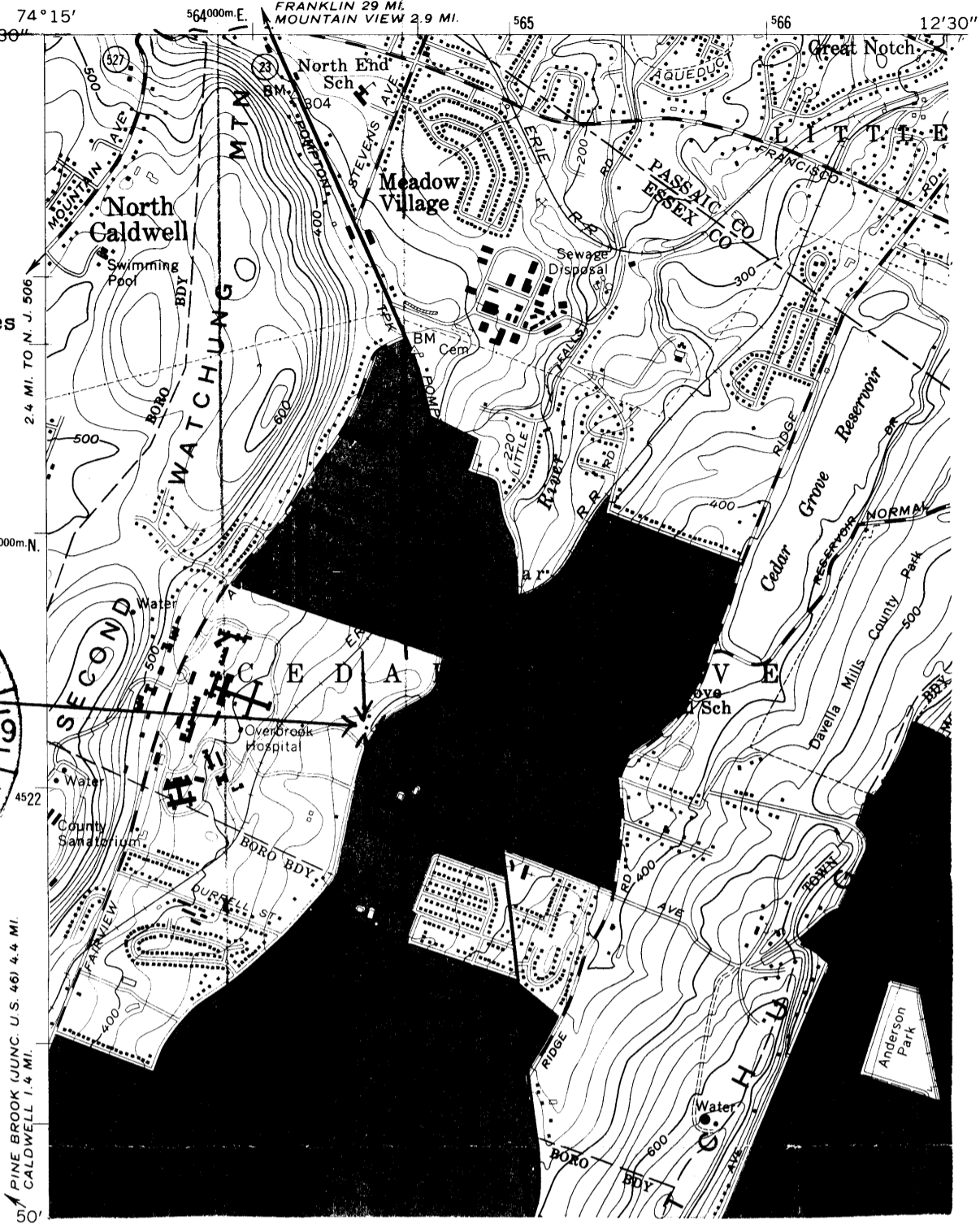
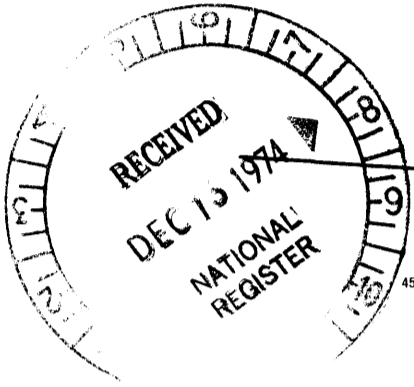


6155 IV NE
(POMPTON PLAINS)

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

Jacobus House
Cedar Grove
Essex County, 013
New Jersey, 34
Latitude:
40-51-02
Longitude:
74-14-07

U.S.G.S. Map: 7.5 Series
Orange Quadrangle
1:24,000
1955



PINE BROOK (JUNC. U.S. 46) 4.4 MI.
CALDWELL 1.4 MI.
50'

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM**

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

STATE New Jersey	
COUNTY Essex	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER APR 1 1975	DATE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME			
COMMON: Jacobus House			
AND/OR HISTORIC:			
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: 178 Grove Avenue			
CITY OR TOWN: Cedar Grove			
STATE: New Jersey	CODE 34	COUNTY: Essex	CODE 013
3. MAP REFERENCE			
SOURCE: U.S.G.S. Map: 7.5 Series: Orange Quadrangle			
SCALE: 1:24,000			
DATE: 1955			
4. REQUIREMENTS			
TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS		Lat.: 40-51-02	
1. Property boundaries where required.		Long.: 74-14-07	
2. North arrow.			
3. Latitude and longitude reference.			

