

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service



# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

### 1. Name of Property

historic name Joseph Taylor House

other names/site number Fell-Thompson-Ackerman-Cable-Taylor House

### 2. Location

street & number 475 Franklin Turnpike  not for publication

city or town Borough of Allendale  vicinity

state New Jersey code NJ county Bergen code 003 zip code 07401

### 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I certify that this  nomination  request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant  nationally  statewide  locally.  See continuation sheet for additional comments.

Rich Booy Asst Commissioner 5/30/2014 11/6/14  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

NJ - DEP  
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria.  See continuation sheet for additional comments.

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

### 4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register.  
 See continuation sheet.

determined eligible for the National Register.  
 See continuation sheet.

determined not eligible for the National Register.

removed from the National Register.

other, (explain:) \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

[Signature]

11/14/15

**8 Statement of Significance**

**Applicable National Register Criteria**

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

**Criteria considerations**

(mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or grave.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object or structure.
- F** a commemorative property
- G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

**Narrative Statement of Significance**

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

**Bibliography**

(cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

**Previous documentation on file (NPS):**

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey
- # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Engineering

**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

**Period of Significance**

1915

**Significant Dates**

1915

**Significant Person**

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

**Architect/Builder**

Unknown

**Primary location of additional data**

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository: Bergen County Division of Cultural and Historic Affairs

Name of Property: **Joseph Taylor House**

County and State: **Bergen County, NJ**

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**10. Geographical Data**

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**Acreage of property**     2.8 acres

**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	18	573310.00	4542753.93	3			
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
2				4			

See continuation sheet

**Verbal Boundary Description**

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

**Boundary Justification**

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

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**11. Form Prepared By**

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name/title     Margaret Newman

organization     in conjunction with HMR Architects     date     October 24, 2014

street & number     PO Box 222     telephone     609.273.7003

city or town     Carversville     state     PA     zip code     18913

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**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

**Continuation Sheets**

**Maps**

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

**Photographs**

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

**Additional items**

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

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**Property Owner**

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(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name     Concerned Citizens of Allendale, Inc.

street & number     475 Franklin Turnpike     telephone     201.760.0804

city or town     Allendale     state     NJ     zip code     087401

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**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.470 *et seq.*)

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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**(NOTE: Any references to the Fell-Ackerman-Cable-Taylor House (or versions thereof) in the following text should be understood to mean the house that became the Joseph Taylor House.)**

The Fell-Ackerman-Cable-Taylor House is located on a 2.8-acre site above the early 18<sup>th</sup>-century road that later became the Franklin Turnpike, a two-lane, local road in Allendale, New Jersey. This section of Franklin Turnpike is lined with 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century residences set back from the road; a late 20<sup>th</sup>-century condo development sits off the Turnpike behind the Fell-Ackerman-Cable-Taylor House on land that was once a part of the estate. Roughly centered and at the highest point of its site (Photo 1), the frame house was constructed over several phases beginning in the mid-18<sup>th</sup>-century. Today, it is a sprawling Colonial Revival house in a roughly H-shaped plan with a classically-inspired double portico on the east façade and a Dutch Colonial addition with gambrel roof anchoring the west elevation. The house stands at the top of the site sloping down to Franklin Turnpike to the east, outbuildings to the northeast and a terraced rear yard to the southwest. An asphalt driveway enters off the Turnpike, circling past three outbuildings, one structure and the house to return to the Turnpike entrance. Within the circle, a sloping lawn is dotted with mature deciduous trees. Grass with trees and ornamental shrubs surround the house including a large front lawn. Stairs lead through rock retaining walls to a large grassy area below the house to the southwest. This stone wall continues around the site, forming a boundary with Franklin Turnpike on the east and townhouse development to the northwest. The walls, most of which date to the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, Colonial Revival period, but some of which, particularly along the Turnpike, may be from the 19<sup>th</sup> century, are considered contributing structures of the site.

### **The Exterior of the Fell-Ackerman-Cable-Taylor House**

The frame of the Fell-Ackerman-Cable-Taylor House is sheathed with clapboards and is topped by a series of asphalt gable roofs, forming an asymmetrical H-shaped plan. The original section is 28'x19'6"; when constructed, it was a one-room deep, 1 ½ story frame house oriented south which today forms half of the cross bar of the "H." The front section is 40'x20'. It runs perpendicular to the original and was added ca. 1830. At the same time it was constructed, the roof of the original section was raised, making it two stories. In 1915, the two early sections were enclosed by additions with the long, 66'x34', rear section of the H added to the west; the 28'6"x15' section added to the north of the original section to form the other half of the cross bar of the H; and a front, 40'x10' double portico was added across the east façade. The 1915 additions and the alterations to the two early sections give the house its Colonial Revival appearance extant today (Photo 2).

The two-story, two-bay deep, five-bay long center hall, 40'x20' front section was added ca. 1830 and altered in 1915. It is dominated by the double portico, with six square columns with simple capitals and square bases that spans its entire façade (Photo 3). The columns extend beyond the roofline forming the posts of a latticed balustrade that originally capped the roof. This balustrade remains on the north side and is made up of an "X" and three "I" pattern. The floor of the portico is slightly raised and constructed of brick in a herringbone pattern. The Colonial Revival center entrance is comprised of a two-panel door with fluted surround with corner blocks, panels under side lights and square transom with metal casing in the lights which form curving, geometric shapes (Photo 4). Recalling the Palladian window of Federal architecture, a six-over six center window sits above the entrance, bordered by paneled side lights and topped by a square transom. This window echoes the entrance below. Six-over-six windows with simple surrounds with drip caps and louvered shutters flank the entrance and "Palladian" window.

The north and south gabled elevations of the front section have shallow eaves with simple cornice returns topping corner boards. Chimneys cap both gable ends. Each side elevation has four, six-over-six windows—two per story—with the same

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simple surrounds with drip caps as the façade; the shutters are solid panels. On the south side, a rectangular brick chimney back protrudes beyond the plane of the clapboard on the first story and a bulkhead door accesses the basement (Photos 5 and 11).

To the west, behind the front section, the original, 28'x19'6" house to the south with the 28'6"x15' 1915 addition to the north form the center bar of the H-shaped plan. The original, 28'x19'6" house constructed ca. 1768 on the property of John Fell, was a 1 ½-story, three-bay, one-room deep house. Much like the extended one-room plan type "C" identified in the Early Stone Houses of Bergen County, the entrance was likely in the center, where it remains today. Although the original floor plan is unknown and access to the floor framing is unavailable, it was likely two rooms with the center entrance accessing the larger room with a smaller room to the east. The eastern column still extant in this room could represent the location of an original partition wall.

Ca. 1830, an upper ½ story was added to the original house and then, like the rest of the house, this section was heavily modified in 1915 when it was doubled in depth. Today, the south elevation retains the original three-bay, center entrance configuration but with updates from the 1915 Colonial Revival period. The two-paneled door is topped by a leaded light and has a wrought iron thumb latch. On the first story, paired casement windows have leaded lights. The leaded glass and wrought iron hardware recall earlier colonial architecture but date to the 1915 period. The second story has two pairs of six-over-six windows which are edged with paneled shutters. In addition, there is a small leaded glass window at the western end of the first story which provides light to a bathroom. The fenestration and door surrounds continue the simple treatment of the front section with plain stock trim with drip caps. A herring bone brick patio sits in front of this elevation; fourteen-light paired French doors topped by a four-light transom access this patio from the front and rear sections. A six-over-six window with paneled shutters caps the French doors of the east wall of the rear section. There is no upper window on the rear wall of the front section (Photos 6 and 7).

The rear (west), 66'x34' section forms the other end of the asymmetrical H-plan. Longer than the front, the Dutch Colonial Revival section was added in 1915 and may have replaced an earlier wing. The west elevation is dominated by the curved overhang of the gambrel roof that forms a broad porch across the entire façade (Photo 8). With its brick herringbone floor and square columns with simple capitals and square bases, this porch mimics the classical front portico of the façade but in the Dutch Colonial Revival style. Similarly, the main entrance within the eighth bay of this ten-bay façade has the same fluted surround with corner blocks and paneled sidelights as the front. In the rear, the sidelights have 18 small lights while the paneled door is similarly enhanced with 30 upper lights (Photo 9). To the south of this, two pairs of 12-light French doors provide access from the porch to a parlor. To the north, there are two additional paneled doors with upper lights as well as five, six-over-six windows. With the exception of the main entrance, the door and window surrounds with drip caps match the rest of the house and are simple with no elaborations. Topping this porch, a large shed dormer spans the elevation with nine, six-over-six windows and one four-over-four window at a second story bathroom. Two chimneys top the gambrel roof: one at the southern end and one 1/3 of the way from the north (Photo 10).

The north and south elevations of the rear 66'x34' section show the flaring gambrel to the west with a gable to the east. Both elevations have four windows—two per story—with six-over-six sash with simple surrounds with drip caps flanked by paneled shutters. The upper half gambrel, half gable end is pierced by a semi-circular window. The south side has brick window wells at the two windows of the basement level (Photos 8 and 10).

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The east elevation of the 66'x34' rear section is three bays long with three, six-over-six windows at the second story and two six-over-six on the first story adjacent to a small, four-over-four window at the northern end. The windows all have simple surrounds with drip edges and the six-over-six windows are flanked by paneled shutters. This elevation is topped by an asphalt gable roof pierced by two triangular dormers that are enclosed with multi-light, fixed sash (Photo 11).

The 28'6"x15' section added in 1915 forms the north elevation. It is three bays long topped by the gable roof that encloses this addition as well as the original 28'x19'6" house. At the second story, three sets of paired six-over-six windows have the matching simple surrounds with drip caps seen throughout the house. They are flanked by paneled shutters. A four-over-four window at the western end denotes the location of a second story bathroom. At the first story, a protruding central bay dominates, enclosed with five pairs of 12-light casement windows. Pilasters edge the ends of the bay and simple pilasters topped by a decorative block and anchored by stepped bases separate each set of windows. The pilasters and decorative blocks are architecturally similar to the door surrounds of the primary entrances on both the east and west elevations. This bay is topped by a flaring flat-seam metal roof with a roof balustrade with simple posts supporting the "X" with three "I" pattern. This matches the roof balustrade that originally graced the east portico (Photo 12).

### **The Interior of the Fell-Ackerman-Cable-Taylor House**

The Fell-Ackerman-Cable-Taylor House has a sprawling Colonial Revival interior on two stories and a basement. Generally speaking, the walls and ceilings are plaster, often covered in wallpaper added in the 1970s, with windows, wood floors and crown moldings dating to 1915 and the Colonial Revival period. Each of the primary entrances accesses a hall.

From the east Colonial Revival portico, one enters the center hall with stairs running up the north wall and flanking parlors of the ca. 1830 section. While the stairs, fireplace openings, baseboards, interior doors and door trim likely date to the 19<sup>th</sup> century, the rest of the existing fabric dates to the 1915 Colonial Revival renovation of this section. The 19<sup>th</sup>-century stairs have round balusters with a turned detail at the base and a lovely rounded wood banister that winds around to the second story (Photos 13-15 and Figure 12). The south parlor (Room 102) has a marble surround and hearth which date to 1915 with chimney breast cabinets from ca. 1830. The baseboard is from the 19<sup>th</sup> century while the crown molding dates to 1915 (Photo 16). The north parlor (Room 103, the library in 1915) has a 19<sup>th</sup>-century fireplace opening with a post-1930s wood mantel and brick hearth; the paneled walls also post-date the 1930s as does the crown molding. The baseboard is from the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The wood cabinets with surface-mounted "HL" hinges, wrought iron latches and leaded glass upper cabinets over paneled lower cabinets date to the 1915 Colonial Revival period (Photo 17, Photo 18, Figure 16 and Figure 17).

Moving west, the dining room (Room 105, the music room in 1915) was constructed in 1915. It has parquet floors, pocket doors, egg and dart crown molding, large bay with paneled window seat and paired casement windows and a fireplace with marble hearth and mantle with gilt bronze ornamentation. All are classic features of a Colonial Revival interior (Photo 20, Figure 14 and Figure 15).

Adjacent to the dining room sits what is now known as the "John Fell Room" (Room 106, the dining room in 1915). This is the extent of the first floor of the original ca. 1768 house built on Fell's property. While it was likely originally two rooms, today it is one large room that dates to the Colonial Revival period when the room was made to look like an idealized early colonial interior. The floors are wide wood boards, the walls have tall paneled wood wainscot with a deep cornice over a dentil frieze and the ceiling has faux exposed floor joists in between wood trim set in a diagonal pattern. There are two solid wood

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columns; the eastern column may be located where an original partition ran. Each column has a different design and turning pattern. Local legend states that the columns are masts from John Fell's ships. This seems unlikely as most of this room dates to the 1915 period. The leaded glass casement windows, brick fireplace and wrought iron door hardware complete the romanticized historic feel of this room (Photo 19, Photo 20 and Figure 13).

On the west end within the 1915 Dutch Colonial Revival section, there is a hall, parlor, kitchen and additional auxiliary spaces. Like at the front of the house, the hall at the rear has a stair running along its north wall and crown molding throughout. To the south, a parlor (Room 108, the breakfast room in 1915) is graced with crown molding, a plaster ceiling medallion, a brick fireplace with chimney breast cabinets, wood surround and tile hearth (Photo 21).

The kitchen (Room 110) remains where it was originally built in 1915 and retains a significant degree of original fabric including the crown molding, doors and brick fireplace with woods surround. Original cabinets with their original hardware remain on the north, south and east walls (Photo 22).

To the north, the original laundry and work room from 1915 have been broken up into several storage rooms and a mudroom. The finishes date to post-1970.

The second story of the Fell-Ackerman-Cable-Taylor House consists of ten bedrooms and four bathrooms. The plaster walls generally have wallpaper and are topped by a crown molding except the bedrooms at the northwest corner which were originally servants' bedrooms. The ceilings are also plaster. The floors are wood; in the front section, the 19<sup>th</sup>-century wide boards remain. The rest are narrow gauge wood from 1915, similar to the ground story. The remaining fireplaces have been enclosed but the wood mantels remain; it seems likely that they date to the 19<sup>th</sup> century but they could also be Colonial Revival features (Photos 24-26). The lovely 19<sup>th</sup>-century round banister encloses the stair in the front section (Photo 23). The paneled doors in the front section date to the 19<sup>th</sup> century while the rest are from 1915.

The attic provides a great deal of information about the sequence of construction of the house. The rafters of the original mid-18<sup>th</sup> century house are visible. These are distinguishable from the 19<sup>th</sup> century rafters by their beefier dimensions and by white paint along the sides at their bottom halves. This seems to indicate that the rafters of the original 1 ½-story house were exposed at the second floor ceiling and painted. The original chiseled numbers survive on these rafters. However, they are now out of sequence, indicating they were reused when the upper half story was added to align with the roofline of the front addition, added ca. 1830.

In 1915, when the large additions enveloped the house, the 18<sup>th</sup> century rafters were cut off at the ridge, leaving notched openings in the ridge beam. Sections of the south side of the 19<sup>th</sup> century wood shingle roof remain and are now covered by the 20<sup>th</sup> century addition.

With the exception of the original 18-century section where there is only a crawl space, there is a full basement comprised of seven rooms under the Fell-Ackerman-Cable-Taylor House. The front, east section dates to ca. 1830 while the rear (west) and north sections date to 1915.

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## **The Evolution of the Fell-Ackerman-Cable-Taylor House**

The Fell-Ackerman-Cable-Taylor House evolved over three building campaigns. The original house was constructed on what appears to be the property of John Fell ca. 1768. Oriented south, the 28'x19'6" house was 1 ½ stories, one room deep with three bays; it likely had a two-room plan and a center entrance. While local historians have always attributed this house to John Fell, deed research could not confirm this. In 1803, the original 220-acre Fell plot was purchased by a local landowner who owned large amounts of land in Franklin Township. In 1803 and then after his death in 1804, his land was divided up and sold. With these divisions and the lack of recitals to previous deeds found throughout the deed search, it is unclear if the existing original house was a part of Fell's estate. In addition, the humbleness of the original house, with its small scale, two-room plan and 1 ½ story construction, seems unlikely to have been lived in by the wealthy and prominent John Fell. By the 1760s, it would seem more likely that Fell would have built a grander house.

From the architectural fabric visible in the attic, it is clear that the original house was built in the 18<sup>th</sup> century and had 1 ½ stories. In the first half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, the roof was raised as part of the second phase of construction.

Ca. 1830, John and Maria Ackerman likely built the addition and added the upper half story to the original mid-18<sup>th</sup> century house. The five-bay, two-room deep 40'x20' addition with front porch was added to the east of the original, creating a house with a capital T-shaped plan. This addition oriented the house to the Franklin Turnpike, making the east elevation the primary façade. At some point in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, a porch was added to the original 18<sup>th</sup>-century house; by the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, it had been enclosed (Figure 4).

Finally, in 1915, Joseph Taylor added the front east 40'x10' double portico and the large 66'x44' west section and the 28'6"x15' north section which enclosed the earlier house and converted it to the large Colonial Revival mansion extant today (Figures 12-15).

## **Additional Resources**

In addition to the house, there are six resources located on the site. One building post-dates the period of significance and therefore is considered non-contributing. The other five resources—three buildings and two structures—are considered contributing. The terraced stone walls and stairs, located in the southwest quadrant of the site, along the Franklin Turnpike and along the western boundary, likely date to the Colonial Revival period of 1915 or earlier; they are contributing structures to the site.

## **Barn**

The barn, located at the bottom of the hill close to Franklin Turnpike, likely dates to later in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, putting its construction to Stephen Cable between 1866 and 1912. The traditional detailing of the board and batten siding and the size of the mortise and tenon framing point to later in the 19<sup>th</sup> century date. Graffiti found on an interior wall dates to 1891. The first time it appears on a map is the 1924 Sanborn map.

The rectangular barn is sheathed in vertical board and batten siding. Its asphalt gable roof has a cross gable centered by a louvered cupola. The deep eaves have exposed rafter tails. Sliding wood doors with cross bucks grace the west and south elevations. Although boarded, the windows contain six-over-six sash. The barn is a contributing building to the site (Photo 27-29).



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## Garage

A frame garage sits adjacent to the barn at the bottom of the hill. It appears for the first time in written records in 1940 when it was included in a local tax assessment likely putting its construction between 1924 and 1940 as it is not included in the 1924 Sanborn map. It is a long rectangle with German siding on the sides and board and batten in the front and at the upper gable end. Two sliding wood doors with cross bucks are centered on the front. The roof is asphalt; the windows are six-over-six. The garage is a contributing building to the site (Photo 30).

## Shed

Located near the house, a two-story frame shed is built into the hill within the grassy circle ringed by the driveway. Each of the two stories has an at-grade entrance and is comprised of a single room. An asphalt gable roof with deep eaves and topped by a louvered cupola crowns the clapboard building with stone foundation. The south door has four lights over two panels topped by a 3-light transom. The north door has 6-lights above two panels. A low stone walled path provides access to the north (Photos 32 and 33).

Little is known about this building and it does not show up on any documentation. Architecturally, it appears to date to the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The doors have rim locks similar to those found in the 1830 addition. The framing for the upper floor is dimensional lumber likely dating to the mid-to-late 19th-century. The lower level has a dirt floor. It appears to date to the period of significance and is therefore considered a contributing building to the site.

## Root Cellar

A root cellar is built into the hill to the south of the barn and garage, located along the circular drive. Its date of construction is unknown and it is not documented anywhere. Constructed of concrete with a curved poured concrete ceiling and poured walls on a concrete slab, it is a 20<sup>th</sup>-century feature. Because it could fall within the period of significance, it is considered a contributing structure to the site (Photo 34).

## Pool House

The frame, 1959 pool house is located in the southwest section of the site adjacent to a large grassy area where a pool was added in 1957 and removed in 2012. Constructed of clapboard with an asphalt gable roof, it is open at one end with an enclosed changing room at the other. It was constructed outside the period of significance and is, therefore, considered non-contributing (Photo 35).

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(NOTE: Any references to the Fell-Ackerman-Cable-Taylor House (or versions thereof) in the following text should be understood to mean the house that became the Joseph Taylor House.)

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

### Summary Paragraph

The Fell-Ackerman-Cable-Taylor House began ca. 1768 as a 28'x19'6" frame house, constructed on the property of John Fell, a New York City merchant and prominent Bergen County citizen who became a famous Revolutionary War Patriot. A subsequent owner, likely the Ackerman Family, built a 40'x20' addition to the original house ca. 1830. In 1915, Joseph Taylor, a wealthy New Yorker, added two large sections (66'x34' to the rear (west) and 28'6"x15' to the north) and remodeled the existing 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century house in the Colonial Revival style, nearly doubling the house's size. The quality of the design is unusually high, making it likely that an architect familiar with the local historic architectural vernacular led the project. The Fell-Ackerman-Cable-Taylor House is representative of a movement in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century in New Jersey in which wealthy businessmen purchased existing older homes to establish country retreats. Usually with the assistance of an architect, the houses were remodeled and often enlarged in the Colonial Revival style as a form of appreciation of American colonial architecture. Based on romanticized versions of their colonial antecedents, these remodelings resulted in a new architectural expression which used 20<sup>th</sup> century materials and incorporated 20<sup>th</sup> century standards. With its ca. 1768 origins, ca. 1830 wing and large 1915 additions, the Fell-Ackerman-Cable-Taylor House meets National Register Criterion C with local significance as an example of the an older home remodeled to become a Colonial Revival estate. The period of significance of the resource is identified as 1915 with the construction of the large Colonial Revival additions.

## HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

### A Brief History of Allendale

The area that today is known as Allendale was originally a part of the 42,500-acre Ramapock (various spellings include Romopock and Ramapo) Tract surveyed in 1710. Early settlers arrived soon thereafter; typically, these early European arrivals were farmers. To fuel the furnaces and forges in Ringwood, many farmers cut down their woodlands and began to cultivate them. Fruit trees were common. By 1733, the King's Road (probably today's West Saddle River Road) passed through the Ramapo Tract. Inns were established by the 1750s; Ringwood Iron Works, established in 1742, was greatly expanded in 1764. On June 1, 1771, Franklin Township, which included today's Allendale, was formed by Governor William Franklin; it was inhabited by both American patriots and British loyalists through the Revolutionary War. The Continental Army encamped at nearby Hackensack and Paramus at various times in the War. The road that became the Franklin Turnpike through Allendale, chartered as a toll road in 1806, existed by 1783 and probably earlier. At the beginning of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, it was a part of a stagecoach route; a toll gate house was established in Allendale by 1812. While businesses tend to follow the establishment of a turnpike, few seem to have existed within the boundaries of Allendale until the 1850s, although a school was established in Allendale by 1826 and others may have existed earlier.<sup>1</sup>

Farming continued to be the main industry in Allendale through the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century. "As early as 1819, according to the American Universal Geography, the northern part of Bergen County was known for its cattle and dairy products as well as the cultivation of strawberries."<sup>2</sup> With the establishment of the railroad, Allendale changed. On March 10, 1841, the Paterson and

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Ramapo Railroad Company was incorporated. Joseph Warner Allen was sent to survey the course of the railroad; his course was approved in 1845 and the railroad was completed in 1848. In 1849, Hohokus Township, containing Allendale, was set off from Franklin Township. Around 1850, a small depot along the line was dubbed "Allendale" after surveyor Allen, although the community that arose around it wasn't officially named Allendale until the Borough of Allendale was set off in 1894. The railroad and depot spurred development with the establishment of the first general store ca. 1859 and post office in 1869 around which the town blossomed. Strawberry farming remained a major industry in Allendale with the railroad allowing the crops to be quickly transported to major centers including New York City. The first housing boom occurred in Allendale in the 1870s. This occurred simultaneously with the growth of Allendale as a summer retreat; in the 1880s "...as Allendale's reputation as an outstanding resort area grew, the small village came to be known as 'the Newport of Bergen County.'"<sup>3</sup>

In 1904, Allendale was considered a "pleasant country village grown up around the station, and composed almost entirely of country homes...It is a good farming country, and considerable fruit is raised. All about here are farms which for the city man who wants to get back to Nature, and bring up his children in a knowledge of her ways, should be investigated."<sup>4</sup> With the ever-increasing railroad traffic and the establishment of the trolley in 1911, Allendale was becoming increasingly suburban; by 1916, most of Allendale's larger farms had been subdivided for residential development.<sup>5</sup> This trend continued through the 20<sup>th</sup> century with the population nearly doubling between 1950 and 1960 following the post-WWII building boom increasing from 2,409 to 4,092. Today, the 2.8 square mile Allendale with a population of 6,505 remains a largely suburban community.<sup>6</sup>

## **John Fell, 1756-1793**

John Fell purchased a 220-acre tract in today's Allendale by 1768; as no deed has been found, the date of acquisition of the property is unknown but a 1768 map of the "Romopock" Tract completed by George Reyarde, Jonathan Hampton and Benjamin Morgan shows Fell and H.L. Hopper as the owner of the 220-acre tract. The map shows Fell's tract outlined in yellow meaning it had been sold a deed given.<sup>7</sup> John Fell was born in New York City in 1721. He ran John Fell & Co, a merchant firm in New York until moving to Bergen County where in 1766, he was appointed a Judge of the Court of Common Pleas. Because of this appointment, it is believed that Fell was occupying his 220-acre Ramapock Tract by 1766. He named his estate "Petersfield," likely for his son, Peter, who was born in 1752. John Fell was a significant and influential man in Bergen County, serving as a judge for over 20 years until 1786. He was also an important advocate for the American fight for independence. In 1775, Fell was a member of the first Provincial Congress and led its Committee of Safety, a group that worked to gain support for the American cause. He became known as a "great Tory hunter." In 1776, Fell was named chairman of the Congress. Fell's reputation as a famous patriot and Tory hunter led to his arrest by the British. On April 22, 1777, Fell was arrested at Petersfield and taken to New York City where he remained in jail until January 7, 1778. After over a year, he was permitted to return home to Petersfield on May 11, 1778. In November 1778, Fell was elected by the New Jersey Legislature to serve as a delegate to the Continental Congress, one of five men representing New Jersey. He served through 1780. Today, Fell's diary from his Congressional service from November 1778-1779 is housed at the Library of Congress. In 1787, as a delegate from Bergen County, Fell voted to ratify the new U.S. Constitution.<sup>8</sup>

John Fell married Susannah Marschalk, a widow, at Trinity Church, New York City in 1749. They had at least three children, Peter, Susannah and Elizabeth. Peter served as a Lieutenant Colonel of the First Regiment of Bergen County Militia during the Revolution.

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It is believed that John Fell was occupying his land by 1766 when he was first appointed a Bergen County judge. A house was definitely in existence by 1778 when Fell was listed on the Tax Ratable Lists for Franklin Township.<sup>9</sup> He was listed until 1793 when he sold the property. A house also is indicated as "Fell's" on the 1781 "A Sketch of the Northern Parts of New Jersey" by John Hills<sup>10</sup> (Figure 1). The house is shown adjacent to the road that leads from "Hopper's" (today's Ho-Ho-Kus) to "Ramapoe" (today's Mahwah). This appears to be today's Franklin Turnpike. There are two buildings located within the vicinity of the word "Fell's:" one on the east side of the road; the other on the west. The Fell-Ackerman-Cable-Taylor House stands to the west of Franklin Turnpike and local lore, as well as significant research by local historians<sup>11</sup> attributes the original section of the house as having been lived in by John Fell. Unfortunately, this cannot be confirmed through deed research. While all evidence points to the house standing within Fell's original 220-acre Ramapock tract, its small scale and simple 1 ½ story configuration, does not match the wealth and prominence of John Fell, a prosperous New York City merchant and Bergen County judge. Fell's wealth was evident in the 1778 and 1779 tax ratables where he was noted as possessing two slaves and was one of only four people in all of Franklin Township who owned a riding chair.<sup>12</sup> From this, it would seem that he would have lived in a grander house.

It is possible that the two buildings near Fell's name on the 1781 map both belong to him. The one to the south and on the east side of Franklin Turnpike could have been Fell's House (although this is contradicted in a later deed) while the one of the west side of Franklin Turnpike that became the Fell-Ackerman-Cable-Taylor House could have been a tenant house (although later deeds list only a singular house (not houses) on the property). Additional research may clarify this; to date, nothing has been found.

According to the 1983 Bergen County Historic Sites Survey, Fell sold the property in 1783. However, deed research and tax ratable lists prove the sale occurred in 1793 when John Fell sold his 220-tract to John H. Thompson for £2000 on November 1, 1793.<sup>13</sup> In the deed, John Fell, Esquire, and his wife Susannah are described as being of "Petersfield" while Thompson is of the City of New York. The property begins at "a large old marked white oak tree" next to Peter Dubois's. The description continues, identifying various natural boundaries until the full 220-acres are described. A "messuage or dwelling house" is listed in the singular not plural, making it unclear whether a tenant house existed on the property. The 1793 deed carries no recital to any previous deed, making it unclear exactly when or from whom Fell acquired the property.

### **John H. Thompson, 1793-?**

There is no information about John H. Thompson's tenure on the property although previous reports written about the house have listed him as responsible for the second phase of construction when a second story and east wing was added to the original mid-18<sup>th</sup> century 1 ½-story house. In 1793, when he purchased the property, Thompson was listed as, "a merchant from New York." According to the 1983 Bergen County Historic Sites Survey, Thompson was a Revolutionary War profiteer but there has been no subsequent information found to confirm this nor has there been any additional information found out about Thompson. Interestingly, Thompson sold property that was adjacent to Fell's land in 1799. In this deed, he is listed as living in the City of New York.<sup>14</sup> This may mean that although Thompson purchased the Fell property, he may not have ever lived there but rather may have bought and sold land in Franklin Township as an investment. This would corroborate the Bergen County Tax Ratable Lists which do not list John H. Thompson as being taxed from 1777-1797.<sup>15</sup>

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## **1803**

While previous deed research on the property left a gap in the recordings from 1793 until 1823, additional research has begun to piece together what happened to Fell's property. In 1803, the 220-acre "Petersfield" remained intact. On March 12, 1803, Michael Mersan sold to Peter Tebow (also Debow) the parcel of land, "being at Petersfield." The deed contained the same description as the 1793 deed, beginning at a large marked white oak, containing 220 acres.<sup>16</sup> As before, this 1803 deed carries no recital to any previous deed, making it unclear exactly when or from whom Mersan acquired the property. A review of both the grantor (John H. Thompson) and grantee (Mersan and spelling variations) did not provide additional information. Peter Tebow owned a substantial amount of land in Franklin Township,<sup>17</sup> he (or likely his father) is shown on the 1768 Ramapock Tract map as "Peter Debow," owning 308 acres.<sup>18</sup>

Peter Tebow continued buying Franklin Township property in 1803. On July 31, he purchased 7 ½ acres from the trustees of the estates of "Henry Cuyler the Elder and Henry Cuyler the younger." This land was located on the "publick road leading from Hopper's Town to Ramapock." This is the Franklin Turnpike. Importantly the deed describes a "stake about due east of the Mansion House formerly belonging to John Fell Esquire but now in the possession of the said Peter Tebow."<sup>19</sup> Plotting this deed puts Fell's House to the west of Franklin Turnpike but where was located exactly is unclear.

Peter Tebow appears to be the one responsible for dividing up the 220-acre Petersfield. Tebow died in February or March 1804 meaning the sale must have occurred sometime between August 1803 and the beginning of 1804. At his death, his real estate was divided among his children and other beneficiaries but no mention is made of the tract that later deeds are attributed to the Fell-Ackerman-Cable-Taylor House. Unfortunately, using grantor and grantee indexes (with all spelling variations of the names) did not uncover the deed(s) that divided the estate. After July 1803, there are no references to John Fell or to Petersfield in any of the discovered deeds.

## **1809**

The trail of the property goes cold until 1809 when on May 13, Albert and Susannah Smith sell to Edward Smith an 80-acre tract described as follows: beginning at the southeast corner of land of Peter Tebow, deceased on the north side of the road leading to Ramapough to the line of James Ackerman through the wolf swamp to a sapling marked on two sides along a range of marked trees to the line of Albert Zabriskie to the line of the ditch of said Tebow.<sup>20</sup> This description has no commonalities with the description of Fell's 220-acre tract in the 1793 deed. While the 1793 deed does list "swamps" as an asset of Petersfield, it makes no mention of the public road and the only neighbor listed is Peter Dubois whose name doesn't appear again. According to local historian Pat Wardell, the 80-acre tract described in 1809 was a part of Petersfield but the deeds' descriptions do not make this obviously clear. As before, the 1809 deed carries no recital to any previous deed, making it unclear exactly when or from whom Smith acquired the property and grantor and grantee indexes did not help.

## **The Curtis Family, 1810-1823**

On April 17, 1810, Edward Smith sold the same 80-acre tract described above to Josiah Curtis.<sup>21</sup> It is here that corroborating evidence exists which puts the Fell-Ackerman-Cable-Taylor House on this 80-acre parcel. In January 1811, in a petition for the vacation of "The Shunpike," a road used to avoid paying the tolls of the Franklin Turnpike which ran through Franklin Township roughly between today's Ramsey to Ho-Ho-Kus,<sup>22</sup> landholders are listed including "Mr. Curtis."<sup>23</sup> By understanding the neighboring property owners, local historian Pat Wardell, has Curtis as occupying the Fell-Ackerman-Cable-Taylor House. Josiah Curtis died in 1819. In his will, he gave to his sons, William and Josiah, "all my farm or plantation whereon I now dwell as

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has been bought of Edward Smith.<sup>24</sup> In 1823, William Curtis sold 90+ acres in three tracts of land—including the 80-acre tract with the same description as above—to Abner and Nancy Armstrong.<sup>25</sup> Nancy was one of five daughters of Josiah and the sister of William.<sup>26</sup> At the time of the sale, the Armstrongs were living in Franklin Township, meaning maybe they moved into the house at some point after Josiah's death in 1819.

### **1828-1830**

In July 1828, Abner Armstrong sold the same three tracts to William Carr of the City of New York.<sup>27</sup> Carr owned the property for two years. When he sold the three tracts in 1830, he continued to be listed as "of the City of New York" (Book D3, p. 201).<sup>28</sup>

### **John G. and Maria Ackerman, 1830-1866**

In 1830, John G. Ackerman of Franklin Township acquired the three tracts of land. Ackerman was born in Saddle River Township, New Jersey in 1794. He married Maria Vanderbeck, born in 1805. In May of 1830 when they purchased the property, they had four young daughters: Charity, Henrietta, Mary and Jane.<sup>29</sup> The Ackermans appear in the 1830 census. Although the census was completed in November and they likely were living on the property, because they had lived in Franklin Township previously, it is unclear in which house they were living when the census was taken. In the 1830 census, John and Maria were listed as were the four daughters. In addition, there were two white males between the ages of 15 and 19 listed. These are not known family members so could be farm laborers. There was also a free colored female between the ages of 10 and 23; she was the domestic laborer.<sup>30</sup> With their large and growing family and additional boarders, the Ackermans may have constructed the addition in the 1830s.

In 1846, they sold 47 acres of their land in two tracts to Garret A. Felter and his wife Maria, the sister of John G. Ackerman. As the descriptions for each tract and the amount of land are different from three tracts they purchased in 1830, it is unclear exactly what sections of the property were sold. The Felters are listed in the 1850 census. The Ackermans continued to live in the Fell-Ackerman-Cable-Taylor House and kept the land around it. By 1850, when they were again listed in the Federal Census, their real estate was valued at \$7,000. John was listed as a farmer. Their two daughters—Jane and Martha (born in 1832) and two sons, Andrew and Cornelius, both born after 1830—were living with them in the household. Dubrois Hasbrouck, a doctor, was also living with them. In 1850, Dr. Hasbrouck purchased the adjacent 47 acres from the Felters. He must have sold the property as he was not found in the 1860 census.<sup>31</sup>

At the end of the 1840s, Joseph Warner Allen, for whom the "Allendale" railroad station was later named, stayed with the Ackerman family in the house while he was surveying the route of the Paterson and Ramapo (later Erie) Railroad. The railroad began operating in 1848. When the local station stop was established around 1850 it was named "Allendale" in honor of Allen.<sup>32</sup>

In 1860, the Ackermans continued to live in the property. John was 66 and Maria, 56; daughter Jane, 29 and son, Cornelius, 20. Cornelius was a mason. Also living with them was: a "young lady" named Catherine Gerchum, 15; a "servant" from Ireland named Mary McCurman, aged 20; and, Thomas Riley, a 14-year old. Although his occupation wasn't listed, it is likely that he was a laborer on the farm.<sup>33</sup> A map from 1861 shows John G. Ackerman continuing to own the property; on the map "Allendale Station" is found within "Hohokus" Township<sup>34</sup> (Figure 2). The Ackermans continued to sell off parts of their property.

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## **Stephen and Emma Cable, 1866-1912**

In 1866, the Ackermans sold the now 14-acre property to Emma and Stephen Cable for \$5,000.<sup>35</sup> Stephen Cable, born ca. 1815, was a Ferry Master for the Pavonia Ferry which was connected to the Erie Railroad. He married Emma Berdell, born in 1814; she was the daughter of Robert S. Berdell, a former president of the Erie Railroad. While not found in the 1870 Federal Census, the Cables were living at the property by 1872 when Emma Cable and her daughter, Mary Emma Cable Reading (her husband was James A. Reading) conducted the first Sunday School for the Church of the Epiphany, Allendale's oldest church, at the Cable house on January 7, 1872 during Epiphany season. According to one source, Mrs. Cable was inspired to organize the Sunday School when she found Sunday school books in her attic, left by Miss Jane Ackerman, the daughter of the previous owner. Miss Ackerman had founded the Ackerman Union Sunday School in 1869. The textbooks prompted Mrs. Cable to reestablish the religious school.<sup>36</sup>

Over the course of 1872, the Sunday School grew until it was attended by 70 people. By the summer of 1873, more suitable accommodations were required so the school moved across the street to the barn of John Zabriskie, which was renovated for a school room and a chapel called Hope Chapel. By 1874, a more permanent location was desired so Mrs. Cable donated \$50 and a plot of land on the east side of the brook opposite the Cable house to the Episcopal Church of the Epiphany. By 1875, the board and batten Chapel in the Willows, designed by New York architect F. Charles Merry was underway. The 1876 *Atlas of Bergen County* map of Hohokus Township showed the Cables owning the Fell-Ackerman-Cable-Taylor House with the Readings next door. Across the street was the chapel. The chapel was later moved to its current location further up Franklin Turnpike at the intersection of East Orchard Street<sup>37</sup> (Figure 3).

The 1880 census listed Stephen Cable, ferry master aged 68, living in the house with his wife Emma, aged 65.<sup>38</sup> Stephen Cable died in 1887. Emma, his wife, continued to own the property but rented it out; by January 1890, she was living in Harlem.<sup>39</sup> The names of various tenants are known. In 1889, Mrs. Kate Harris rented the house and used it as a summer boarding house called the Albermarle House; this was during the period when Allendale was known as the "Newport of Bergen County."<sup>40</sup> In 1890, Mrs. E. Rosencrans rented the house while Mr. Adam Badeau rented it in 1892.<sup>41</sup> While the Cables are not listed in the New Jersey Census of 1895,<sup>42</sup> by 1900 Emma Cable was back in Allendale. She was listed as a widow and a farmer. Also living with her were her widowed daughter Mary Reading, age 54, who was a music teacher, and Robert B. Reading, aged 30, her grandson listed as a mechanical engineer.<sup>43</sup> By 1910, Mary and Robert Reading were no longer living with 96-year old Emma Cable (Robert died before his mother Mary Reading who died in 1903). Rather, Emma's son, Robert Cable, was living in Allendale with her in the house; he was listed as a farmer. Joining them were Robert's wife, Mary and a servant named Mary McMahon.<sup>44</sup> Shortly after the census was taken, Emma Cable moved to Paramus where she died at the age of 101 in 1915. It is likely that at this same time, Robert and Mary Cable moved to Ridgewood. They were living there by 1912.<sup>45</sup>

## **Joseph Taylor, 1912-1951**

On March 30, 1912, Robert and Catherine Cable sold the now 8-acre property to Joseph B Taylor.<sup>46</sup> Joseph Taylor was born in Brooklyn ca. 1868, a grandson of William Taylor, founder of the Columbian Iron Works in Brooklyn, supplier of iron for such projects as the Brooklyn Bridge. Taylor graduated from Columbia University in 1888 with a degree in civil engineering. He married Charlotte Bossart Pitcher and they had five children: William, Arnold, Ethel, Ruth and Margaret.

Taylor was a prominent member of New York's business community and society. The Taylor's move to Allendale and subsequent remodeling of the property were noted in the local paper. On March 29, 1912, *The Ramsey Journal* noted: "Mr.

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Stephen Van Houten Jr. Contractor and Builder will remodel the barn on the Cable property recently purchased by Mr. J.B. Taylor." This is corroborated by Allendale native Dick Van Houten. He told Allendale resident Jim Wright that his father, Stephen, not only worked on the barn but also constructed the 1915 additions to the house under architect William Dewsnap, a New York City architect who lived in Allendale. Dewsnap is known to have designed several local buildings including the Episcopal Parish House, the Allendale Public Library<sup>47</sup> and the Allendale fire house on which he is documented to have worked with Stephen Van Houten.<sup>48</sup> Dewsnap also published books of his architectural plans beginning in 1904; he published at least eight editions through 1915. Called *Country and Suburban Houses: A Collection of Exterior and Interior Sketches with Floor Plans for Houses in the Colonial, Artistic, Half Timer, Stucco, Cement and Other Styles of Architecture*, the book was reviewed in the magazine *The Craftsman* in 1904, "Some of Mr. Dewsnap's designs are models of excellence, and his floor plans are worked out with care and skill."<sup>49</sup> His designs represent the full range of early 20<sup>th</sup> century styles included Colonial Revival, Dutch Colonial, Tudor Revival and Queen Anne. Unfortunately, no documentary evidence could be found that confirms the oral history of the Dewsnap connection with the Fell-Ackerman-Cable-Taylor House.

According to Allendale historian Pat Wardell, James E. Webb, a local builder, constructed the Taylor addition. James Webb built numerous houses in the Allendale area. In the 1920s, he developed the houses on the north side of Crescent Place.<sup>50</sup> How Wardell established this connection is unclear as contemporary accounts of the construction do not include Webb's name nor was any primary documentation of his involvement in the house discovered. However, because of Taylor's wealth and prominence, it seems likely that an architect was involved in the 1915 work. Drawings were uncovered that show electrical plans for the house but they do not include any architectural or engineering firm names. Comparison to contemporaneous architectural drawings—including those published by Dewsnap in 1904 in the first edition through 1915, his eighth edition of his book of architectural plans<sup>51</sup>—show that the penmanship on the drawings is utilitarian, not the flowing script often employed by architects of the day. Whether this is because they are engineering drawings or because they were not created by an architect but rather a builder is unclear.

Regardless of who designed and/or built the addition, it was underway in 1915. On December 9, 1915, *The Ramsey Journal* stated: "J. B. Taylor is building a cottage for his gardener. Joseph B. Taylor has been making great changes in his residence on Franklin Turnpike. A large addition, giving much more room to the house, has followed the Colonial lines of the balance of the edifice, and when completed will be a beautiful home. During the reconstruction of the house Mr. Taylor's family have been living in Ridgefield. He is also erecting a tenant's house on the rear of the property."

The Taylors were prominent members of Allendale and New York City society. Mr. Taylor served on the school board and was a member of the Allendale Council. His wife, Charlotte Taylor, was a member of the Ladies' Village Improvement Association.<sup>52</sup> In 1916, with the completion of the renovations of the house and their move to Allendale, the Taylor family members were often included in the town gossip section of *The Ramsey Journal*. The Taylor girls were in various plays at their colleges and entertained a lot at the Taylor "mansion." Their parents also were often entertaining guests at the house. From the newspaper, it is clear that the Taylors and Van Houtens were friends. This reinforces the idea that Van Houten helped Taylor with his 1915 building campaign.<sup>53</sup>

In 1920, Joseph B. Taylor, 52, was living in Allendale and was listed as a consulting mechanical engineer. All five of the Taylor family children were living with their parents. Ruth was 21, William was 13, Margaret, 11 and Arnold, 7.<sup>54</sup> Ethel was 25 and was an actress in New York. She graduated from Smith College and, in 1917, had a leading part in a play produced by the Theater



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Workshop Company of New York City. After World War I, she was with the first troupe in Europe to entertain the American troops waiting to be sent home. Her Broadway performances were numerous: in 1924, she was in *Shipwrecked*; in 1925, she was in *Three Doors* and, in 1930, she was the lead in *Miss Gulliver's Travels*, a play she wrote. After leaving her parents' home, she moved to New York and became a prolific children's author. She died in 1975.<sup>55</sup>

By 1930, neither Ruth nor Margaret (Margaret was at Smith College, Ruth was married) were living at home but Ethel, William and Arnold remained.<sup>56</sup> The Taylors lived in both Allendale and the Plaza Hotel in New York. In 1933, Margaret Taylor married Robert Kohler, son of former Governor Walter Kohler of Wisconsin and the grandson of the founder of the Kohler Company, maker of bathroom fixtures. They were married in the grand ballroom of the Plaza. Throughout the engagement, social articles about the upcoming wedding appeared in the *New York Times*; the Taylors were listed as of Allendale and New York.<sup>57</sup>

Through the late 1920s and 30s, the Taylors, often accompanied by daughter Ethel went to Europe annually. Their names appear on numerous New York passenger lists found on ancestry.com.

Charlotte Taylor died at the Plaza Hotel in May 1939. With the death of Joseph Taylor on June 29, 1942, his son, William R. Taylor, became trustee of the Taylor estate in Allendale per his father's will. In November 1945, the Parke-Bernet Galleries auctioned off items from the Taylors' Allendale house. Parke-Bernet was the largest fine art auction house in the U.S. at the time; it was acquired by Sotheby's in 1967.<sup>58</sup> A catalog from the three-day auction is within the archives of the Brooklyn Museum of Libraries and Archives: "English and Other Furniture, Oriental Rugs, Paintings, Silver, Bibelots, Bronzes, Decorations, Laces and Linens, Property of the Estate of the Late Joseph B. Taylor, Allendale, N.J. and of Mrs. Neil H. Coe, Jackson Heights, N.Y." Taylor was a collector. Items from his estate included china, silver serving sets and antique European lace. He also had several pieces of 17<sup>th</sup> century English furniture including a ca. 1600 "Henry VIII" type chair, a William and Mary velvet side chair and oak dresser. The three-day auction yielded \$68,940.<sup>59</sup>

The house remained on the market into the 1950s. In April 1951, the Carlson Realty Company made a request to buy it and convert the house to a restaurant. This request was denied as the property was zoned residential.<sup>60</sup> In October 1951, the United States Trust Company of New York and William R. Taylor sold the property in Allendale to Frederick and Rose Pfister.<sup>61</sup>

## **1951-2010**

According to Pat Wardell in an interview with Rose Pfister, when the Pfisters moved into the house, it had been on the market for eight years; this means that it was put up for sale in 1943, within a year of Taylor's death. The Pfisters lived there for over 20 years. In 1957, they added a pool. In 1958, they constructed the "cabana" by the pool.

The Pfisters reroofed the house with asphalt shingles in 1966 (as early as 1940, the roof was asphalt), added central air conditioning to the house in 1971 and, in 1972, completed some additional renovations to one of the porches and the bathrooms. After Mrs. Pfister had become blind, she moved out of the large house and into the small cottage on the property. The Fell-Ackerman-Cable-Taylor House was repeatedly vandalized and the small house was burned by vandals at some point in the 1970s; by this time, Pfister was living in Florida. The house passed to Jean Paul Pfister, their son. Ca. 1979, the property was rezoned from single family to townhouse use and Jean Paul Pfister sold 5.2 acres in the northwest corner to a developer who constructed the Allison Village Condominium Complex, a 20-unit subdivision. In 1985, Pfister proposed a 10-unit condo conversion of the house and barn and additional new construction on the property.<sup>62</sup> This was rejected by the Allendale

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Council. Pfister then put the property on the market. By July 1987, it was for sale; a brochure described the property and recently restored 8,000 sq. ft. house as having "understated elegance."<sup>63</sup> The house was purchased by Carolyn Halyalkar and her husband in 1994.<sup>64</sup>

The Halyalkars were in negotiations with developers for the construction of townhouses on the 2.8-acre site when, in 2006, the Concerned Citizens of Allendale was founded to save the house from demolition. Because of the threat, Preservation New Jersey named the Fell-Ackerman-Cable-Taylor House to its 10-Most Endangered Sites List in 2009. On March 4, 2010, the Concerned Citizens of Allendale acquired the property, paying \$1.6 million acquired through grants and fundraising. A preservation plan and this National Register nomination were commissioned by the Concerned Citizens of Allendale.

### **The Colonial Revival in New Jersey and the Fell-Ackerman-Cable-Taylor House**

The Philadelphia Centennial of 1876 is credited with beginning the revived interest in American colonial architecture. The tour the following year by McKim, Mead, White and Bigelow in 1877 to study original Georgian and Adam buildings in New England resulted in an emerging new style based on free interpretations of colonial precedents. This new style did not replicate the original architecture but rather rendered its detailing in a new way, creating a new style.<sup>65</sup> Especially for wealthy patrons, this new Colonial Revival style was often architect designed.

Although not identified, because of the wealth and prominence of Joseph Taylor, it seems likely that an architect was involved in the 1915 renovation of the Fell-Ackerman-Cable-Taylor House. By 1915, the use of an architect was common. This is confirmed by Allendale architect William Dewsnap in his 1907 book, "No one but an unwise person would undertake the building of his house without an architect; because he is building his home and it should be a joy and satisfaction to him, not a constant reminder that if he were to build again he would have done it in a different way."<sup>66</sup> The high quality of the additions, especially the western rear addition, makes likely the involvement of an architect. This is evident at the north addition where the Colonial Revival is fully embraced. Its prominent bay filled with casement windows with pilasters and classical ornamentation epitomizes the Colonial Revival style (Photo 12). The double portico with roof balustrade on the east façade is similarly pure Colonial Revival architecture (Photo 3). It is also likely that the architect also possessed an understanding of both high-style examples of colonial architecture and the traditional vernacular construction of early Bergen County. The overhanging flared gambrel roof which forms the west porch is a nod to the stone houses of Bergen County built by early settlers with Dutch cultural affiliation. However, in the 20<sup>th</sup> century interpretation, the addition is much grander, a full 10 bays across. This gambrel is juxtaposed with the more traditional gable roof on the front of the addition, making it a unique combination of local tradition and classic colonial (Photo 10). The front gable is pierced by glass-enclosed triangular dormers, a modern twist on the pedimented dormers of the Georgian and Federal styles (Photo 11). On the east façade, the second-story center window is a Colonial Revival interpretation of a Palladian window (Photo 3). Throughout both additions, the formal symmetry of the Georgian and Federal style is abandoned for the requirements of the interior plan. On all the elevations, the small asymmetrical windows denote the location of an interior bathroom (Photos 6, 8 and 12); another example that the Fell-Ackerman-Cable-Taylor is a modern interpretation of a historic style.

The additions to the Fell-Ackerman-Cable-Taylor House are on par with several notable architect-designed Bergen County Colonial Revival houses. The Mackay-Lowe House in Tenafly is one example. Designed by Frank Forester in 1922, the stone 1 ½ story house with gambrel roof is, like the Fell-Ackerman-Cable-Taylor House, an interpretation of a local historic house type. Like the Allendale estate, the Mackay-Lowe is much bigger, comprising a full 12 bays; this house was featured in *Architectural*

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*Record* magazine in October 1922 (280-281). Another example is the frame Atterberry-Brockhurst House in Franklin Lakes.<sup>67</sup> Built between 1902 and 1913, this house has a prominent bay window similar to the Fell-Ackerman-Cable-Taylor House; it too also subverts the traditional symmetry of the style. It is a contemporary of the Allendale house. Similarly, Aymar Embury II was a society architect out of New York who constructed numerous homes in Bergen County. He was the author of several books including the 1911 *The Dutch Colonial House* and *Country Houses* written in 1914. His championing of the Dutch Colonial Revival likely influenced the design of the Fell-Ackerman-Cable-Taylor House.<sup>68</sup>

As the Colonial Revival style evolved into the 20<sup>th</sup> century, it began to impact older American homes which were remodeled to mirror Colonial Revival architecture rather than the original colonial sources. These remodelings were done in reverence of the earlier styles but were based on 20<sup>th</sup> century conceptions rather than actual architectural evidence. In New Jersey, this was occurring at historic farmsteads which were remodeled into country retreats by people of means. These working professionals—bankers, doctors and business executives—were creating gentlemen country houses that mirrored the architect designed grand estates of the American aristocracy that arrived in New Jersey at the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, albeit on a smaller-scale. These estates provided lands that enabled wealthy families to enjoy the country on the weekends while the historic vernacular farmhouses provided a canvas on which to add Colonial Revival embellishments: elaborate entrance porches, sidelights and transoms and dormers. Examples of this trend include the Boudinot/Southard Farmstead in Bernards Township, Somerset County; the Van der Veer-Harris House in Hillsborough Township, Somerset County; and, the Stillwell-Preston House in Saddle River, Bergen County among others. In these remodelings, traditional and modern materials were used to reflect an idealized version of the colonial past with the end result a mix of time periods and a distinct new form of country house.<sup>69</sup>

Joseph Taylor lived in both New York City and Allendale. He used the Fell-Ackerman-Cable-Taylor House as his country retreat where he had a full-time gardener to tend to the numerous formal and informal gardens that dotted his 8-acre estate. As stated by a railroad 1904 brochure advertising Allendale, "All about here are farms which for the city man who wants to get back to Nature, and bring up his children in a knowledge of her ways, should be investigated."<sup>70</sup> The Fell-Ackerman-Cable-Taylor House was an estate for leisure and entertaining. As a prominent member of the community, Taylor needed a large house that denoted his high status. His 1915 remodeling campaign, which overlaid the original mid-18<sup>th</sup> century construction and ca. 1830 wing, fits into the New Jersey Colonial Revival country house remodeling template. On the exterior, he removed a Victorian porch from the east façade and added a classically inspired double portico with roof balustrade (Photo 1). On the south elevation, another Victorian porch was removed and an early colonial façade created with the leaded glass casements evoking the diamond-paned sash of the 17<sup>th</sup> century. In true Colonial Revival fashion, on the second floor above these casements, sit paired six-over-six windows, a hallmark of the style (Photo 6). On the interior within the earlier sections, some historic features—wide floor boards, baseboards, the stairs, interior doors and the fireplace openings (Photos 14-16)—were left and were supplemented with features that harkened back beyond the Victorian to the colonial origins of settlement in the area. Thus, the original mid-18<sup>th</sup> century house was made into a dining room with stained paneled wainscoting, ceiling beams and trim that evoked the historic "structure" of the mid-18<sup>th</sup> century house, leaded glass casement windows and wrought iron hardware; all giving the sense of an early colonial interior (Photos 19 and 20). Similarly, the library was paneled and leaded glass built-in cabinets were given HL hinges, evoking an earlier, more primitive time (Photos 17 and 18).

While Taylor and likely his architect were remodeling the Fell-Ackerman-Cable-Taylor House, in nearby Saddle River, Veryl Preston, the president of Eastern Steel, worked with prominent New York architects Warren & Wetmore to convert the ca. 1800

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Stillwell farmhouse into his country estate. In 1915, they added a large addition and "transformed the farm house into a gracious country house...the gambrel-roofed, 1 ½ story, frame Stillwell House, which appears to have been built around 1800, was incorporated into the 1915 design so that the mass of the older building is clearly visible...this mix of architectural styles is typical in homes of the wealthy in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century." According to the National Register nomination, the Stilwell-Preston House is Saddle River's "most architecturally distinguished early 20<sup>th</sup> century house."<sup>71</sup>

Both the Stillwell-Preston House and the Fell-Ackerman-Cable-Taylor House represent this important mix of styles where historically based but modern Colonial Revival details were overlaid upon the earlier architecture to form a new style. The resulting Colonial Revival country house—which in the case of the Fell-Ackerman-Cable-Taylor House is a product of more than 150 years of construction—represents an important chapter in American and New Jersey architectural history.

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<sup>1</sup> Patricia Webb Wardell, *Allendale: Background of a Borough* (Allendale: Allendale Historical Society, 1994), 1-17.

<sup>2</sup> Wardell, 17.

<sup>3</sup> Wardell, 36.

<sup>4</sup> Wardell, 51.

<sup>5</sup> Wardell, 51-152.

<sup>6</sup> <http://www.allendalenj.gov/Demographics.html>; [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Allendale,\\_New\\_Jersey](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Allendale,_New_Jersey)

<sup>7</sup> George Reyarde, Jonathan Hampton and Benjamin Morgan, "A Map of Romopock Tract 1768" Alexander S. Morris's Survey. New Jersey State Archives.

<sup>8</sup> Wardell, 9; Donald W. Whisenhunt, Ed., *Delegate from New Jersey: The Journal of John Fell* (Port Washington, NY: Kennikat 1974), 6-11.

<sup>9</sup> Wardell, 7.

<sup>10</sup> John Hills, surveyor, "A Sketch of the Northern Parts of New Jersey, Copied from the Original by Lieut. I. Hills, 23<sup>rd</sup> Regt., 1781," Library of Congress Maps of North America, 1750-1789, 1251, [http://memory.loc.gov/cgi-bin/query/D?gmd:19:/temp/~ammem\\_sVuE::](http://memory.loc.gov/cgi-bin/query/D?gmd:19:/temp/~ammem_sVuE::)

<sup>11</sup> Patricia Webb Wardell wrote a book about the history of Allendale and completed deed research and several reports on Fell-Ackerman-Cable-Taylor House and Claire K. Tholl who is a noted Bergen County historian and cartographer.

<sup>12</sup> Wardell, 7/

<sup>13</sup> Bergen County Deed Book J, page 43.

<sup>14</sup> Bergen County Deed Book F, page 318.

<sup>15</sup> *Bergen County, New Jersey Taxpayers, 1777-1779* (Miami Beach, Florida: T.L.C. Genealogy, 1990), 340.

<sup>16</sup> Bergen County Deed Book Q, page 390.

<sup>17</sup> Bergen County Surrogate's Docket Book 1, page 58, case number 232.

<sup>18</sup> Reyarde, "A Map of Romopock Tract 1768."

<sup>19</sup> Bergen County Deed Book R, page 182.

<sup>20</sup> Bergen County Deed Book D2, page 453.

<sup>21</sup> Bergen County Deed Book E2, page 298.

<sup>22</sup> Wardell, 15; Patricia Wardell, "A Dictionary of Place Names in Bergen County, New Jersey and Vicinity."

[http://www.dutchdoorgenealogy.com/bergen\\_county\\_new\\_jersey\\_dictionary\\_place\\_names.pdf](http://www.dutchdoorgenealogy.com/bergen_county_new_jersey_dictionary_place_names.pdf)

<sup>23</sup> Patricia Webb Wardell, "475 Franklin-Turnpike, Fell-Thompson-Ackerman-Cable House, Block 1809, Lot 14," from the Fell-Ackerman-Cable House file. Bergen County Division of Cultural and Historic Affairs, 6.

<sup>24</sup> Bergen County Will 3798B.

<sup>25</sup> Bergen County Deed Book T2, p. 823 from Wardell report.

<sup>26</sup> Bergen County Will 3798B.

<sup>27</sup> Bergen County Deed Book A3, page 290.

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- <sup>28</sup> Wardell report, 3.
- <sup>29</sup> Wardell report, 7.
- <sup>30</sup> 1830 Federal Census.
- <sup>31</sup> Wardell report and 1850 Federal Census.
- <sup>32</sup> Wardell report, 2.
- <sup>33</sup> 1860 Federal Census.
- <sup>34</sup> G.M. Hopkins, *Map of the Counties of Bergen and Passaic, New Jersey* (Philadelphia: G.H Corey, 1861).
- <sup>35</sup> Deed Book D6, 542.
- <sup>36</sup> "History of the Church of the Epiphany" report from The Concerned Citizens of Allendale.
- <sup>37</sup> Godfrey Pittis, *History of the Church of the Epiphany, Allendale, NJ 1872-1907* (Ridgewood, NJ: Paramus Historical & Preservation Society, 1907); A.H. Walker, *Atlas of Bergen County* (Reading, PA: C.C. Pease, 1876), 117.
- <sup>38</sup> 1880 Federal Census.
- <sup>39</sup> Wardell report, 8; 1890 Federal Census.
- <sup>40</sup> Wardell, 36.
- <sup>41</sup> Wardell report, 8.
- <sup>42</sup> 1895 New Jersey State Census
- <sup>43</sup> 1900 Federal Census.
- <sup>44</sup> 1910 Federal Census.
- <sup>45</sup> "Mrs. Emma Cable Dies at 101 Years," *New York Times* (November 20, 1915).
- <sup>46</sup> Bergen County Deed Book 811, 291.
- <sup>47</sup> Wardell, 111-12.
- <sup>48</sup> *The American Contractor*, Volume 34 (January 25, 1913), 19. <http://books.google.com/books?id=521YAAAAYAAJ&pg=RA3-PA19&dq=allendale+van+houten+taylor+dewsnap&hl=en&sa=X&ei=JSiNUYyoI9D84APJqYHICg&ved=0CDMQ6AEwAA#v=onepage&q=allendale%20van%20houten%20taylor%20dewsnap&f=false>
- <sup>49</sup> [http://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B005DH39H6/ref=olp\\_product\\_details?ie=UTF8&me=&seller=](http://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B005DH39H6/ref=olp_product_details?ie=UTF8&me=&seller=)
- <sup>50</sup> Wardell, 116.
- <sup>51</sup> William Dewsnap, *Country and Suburban Houses: A Collection of Exterior and Interior Sketches with Floor Plans for Houses in the Colonial, Artistic, Half Timer, Stucco, Cement and Other Styles of Architecture* (William Dewsnap, 1904).
- <sup>52</sup> Wardell, 78, 94,101.
- <sup>53</sup> *The Ramsey Journal*, society pages, weekly throughout 1916.
- <sup>54</sup> 1920 Federal Census.
- <sup>55</sup> Wardell, 341; "Ethel Stoddard Taylor" Internet Broadway Database <http://ibdb.com/person.php?id=68869>; *New York Times* obituary (March 29, 1975) <http://select.nytimes.com/gst/abstract.html?res=F30816FD395E157493CBAB1788D85F418785F9>
- <sup>56</sup> 1930 Federal Census.
- <sup>57</sup> "Margaret Taylor Married at Hotel" *New York Times* (April 30, 1933); "Miss Brady Honors Margaret Taylor; Gives Luncheon and Bridge at Parents' Home," *New York Times* (March 30, 1933); "400 Couples Dance at Yale 'Prom'" *New York Times* (February 3, 1931). <http://www.sothebys.com/en/inside/locations-worldwide/new-york/overview.html>
- <sup>58</sup> "Silverware and Porcelain Sold" *New York Times* (November 8, 1945); "Auctions Yield \$44,992" *New York Times* (November 9, 1945); "Sarouk Carpet Brings \$900" *New York Times* (November 10, 1945);
- <sup>60</sup> "475 Franklin Turnpike, Block 1809, Lot 14" file, Allendale Building Inspector File, Allendale Borough Hall.
- <sup>61</sup> Bergen County Deed Book 3266, 314.
- <sup>62</sup> Allendale Building Inspector File
- <sup>63</sup> Wardell report.
- <sup>64</sup> Allison Pries, "Fell House in Safe Hands," *The Record* (March 5, 2010), L-1.
- <sup>65</sup> Virginia and Lee McAlester, *A Field Guide to American Houses* (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1996), 326.
- <sup>66</sup> Dewsnap, 1.

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<sup>67</sup> T. Robins Brown and Schuyler Warmflash, *The Architecture of Bergen County, New Jersey: The Colonial Period to the Twentieth Century* (New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers University Press, 2001) , 155-157.

<sup>68</sup> Aymar Embury Papers, Special Collections Research Center, Syracuse University Libraries,  
[http://library.syr.edu/digital/guides/e/embury\\_a.htm#d2e91](http://library.syr.edu/digital/guides/e/embury_a.htm#d2e91)

<sup>69</sup> Richard Porter, Boudinot/Southard Farmstead National Register Nomination; Janet W Foster, Washington Valley Historic District National Register Nomination; Ann Keen, Van der Veer-Harris House National Register Nomination.

<sup>70</sup> Wardell, 51.

<sup>71</sup> New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, Historic Preservation Office, New Jersey Historic Sites Inventory 7, October 1983.

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## **Boundary Description**

The nominated property consists of all of Block 1804, Lot 14, Unit 21 in Allendale, Bergen County, New Jersey. This equals 2.8-acres. This is the southeastern corner of the roughly 8-acre, Block 1804, Lot 14 purchased by Joseph Taylor in 1912. Ca. 1979, the northwestern 5.2 acres were sold for development and are now the neighboring Allison Village Condominium Complex.

There are six contributing resources on the site. They include four buildings—the house, barn, garage and shed—and two contributing structures: the root cellar and stone fences. In addition, there is a non-contributing pool house that was built after the period of significance.

## **Boundary Justification**

This is the extent of the property owned by the Concerned Citizens of Allendale, Inc. With its Colonial Revival house, outbuildings and structures from a mix of time periods and Colonial Revival landscaping around the house, the 2.8 acre-site is a good representation of Joseph Taylor's 20<sup>th</sup> century estate.

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**Current Photographs**

All exterior photos taken by Margaret Newman, June 2013. All interior photos taken by HMR Architects, December 2012-February 2013.

**Photo 1**

The Fell-Ackerman-Cable-Taylor House from Franklin Turnpike.

**Photo 2**

The east elevations of the front and rear sections. The rear section was added in 1915.

**Photo 3**

The east façade of the front section. This section was constructed ca. 1830 and heavily altered in 1915 when the Colonial Revival double portico, front entrance and center second story window were added.

**Photo 4**

The Colonial Revival entrance of the east façade of the front section.

**Photo 5**

The south elevation of the ca. 1830 front section. The surviving architectural fabric dates to the 1915 renovation.

**Photo 6**

The original mid-18<sup>th</sup> century house forms the center of the south elevation of the Fell-Ackerman-Cable-Taylor House. Originally three-bays long and one-bay deep, this elevation was heavily altered in 1915 into the Colonial Revival style; its appearance today dates to this renovation.

**Photo 7**

The leaded glass and wrought iron hardware of this elevation recall earlier colonial architecture.

**Photo 8**

The southwest corner of the Fell-Ackerman-Cable-Taylor House from the south lawn. The stone retaining walls are contributing structures to the site.

**Photo 9**

The Colonial Revival entrance of the rear section.

**Photo 10**

With its ten-bay length, the Dutch Colonial Revival rear section, added in 1915, is longer than the front section. The west elevation is dominated by the curved overhang of the gambrel roof that forms a broad porch across the entire façade.

**Photo 11**

The overall appearance of the north elevation of the front section is likely little changed from its original ca. 1830 construction although the materials date to the 1915 renovations of the house. The rear section with the east elevation shown dates to 1915 and epitomizes the Colonial Revival style.

**Photo 12**

The north elevation was constructed in 1915. It sits adjacent and to the north of the original mid-18<sup>th</sup> century house. With its roof balustrade, decorative pilasters and numerous multi-light windows, it is classically Colonial Revival.

**Photo 13**

The front hall of the ca. 1830 front section, looking east. With the exception of the stair, most of the fabric dates to 1915.

**Photo 14**

The front hall of the ca. 1830 front section, looking west.

**Photo 15**

This balustrade is likely an original ca. 1830 feature, one of the few 19<sup>th</sup> century features remaining.

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**Photo 16**

The south parlor (Room 102) is a mix of 1915 and original, ca. 1830 fabric.

**Photo 17**

The north parlor (Room 103) mostly dates to the 1915 renovations.

**Photo 18**

The leaded glass bookcases with its HL hinges are classic features of the Colonial Revival renovations.

**Photo 19**

The interior of the original mid-18<sup>th</sup> century house now reflects the Colonial Revival period when this room (Room 106) was made to look like an idealized early colonial interior.

**Photo 20**

From Room 106 looking north to Room 105, added in 1915.

**Photo 21**

The south parlor (Room 108) sits within the 1915 Dutch Colonial Revival rear section.

**Photo 22**

The kitchen (Room 110) remains where it was originally built in 1915 and retains a significant degree of original fabric.

**Photo 23**

The second floor hall within the front ca. 1830 section. The balustrade is an original 19<sup>th</sup> century feature; the rest of the fabric dates to 1915.

**Photo 24**

The second floor hall of the rear 1915 section.

**Photo 25**

Bedroom 201 with its mix of 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century features is typical of the second floor of the house.

**Photo 26**

Bedroom 229 is in the rear section of the house; it dates to 1915.

**Photo 27**

The barn and garage are located at the bottom of the hill from the house, close to Franklin Turnpike. The barn dates to the 19<sup>th</sup> century likely built by the Cables between 1866 and 1912. is unclear when the garage was built but it was extant by 1940 when a local tax assessment was completed for the property. Both the barn and the garage are contributing buildings to the site.

**Photo 28**

The east elevation of the barn.

**Photo 29**

The north elevation of the barn.

**Photo 30**

The east and south elevations of the garage.

**Photo 31**

The relationship of the barn and garage to the circular driveway and the house on the hill.

**Photo 32**

Located near the house, the two-story frame shed is built into the hill within the grassy circle ringed by the driveway. It is considered a contributing building to the site. This photo shows the south and east elevations of the shed.

**Photo 33**

The north elevation of the shed.

**Photo 34**

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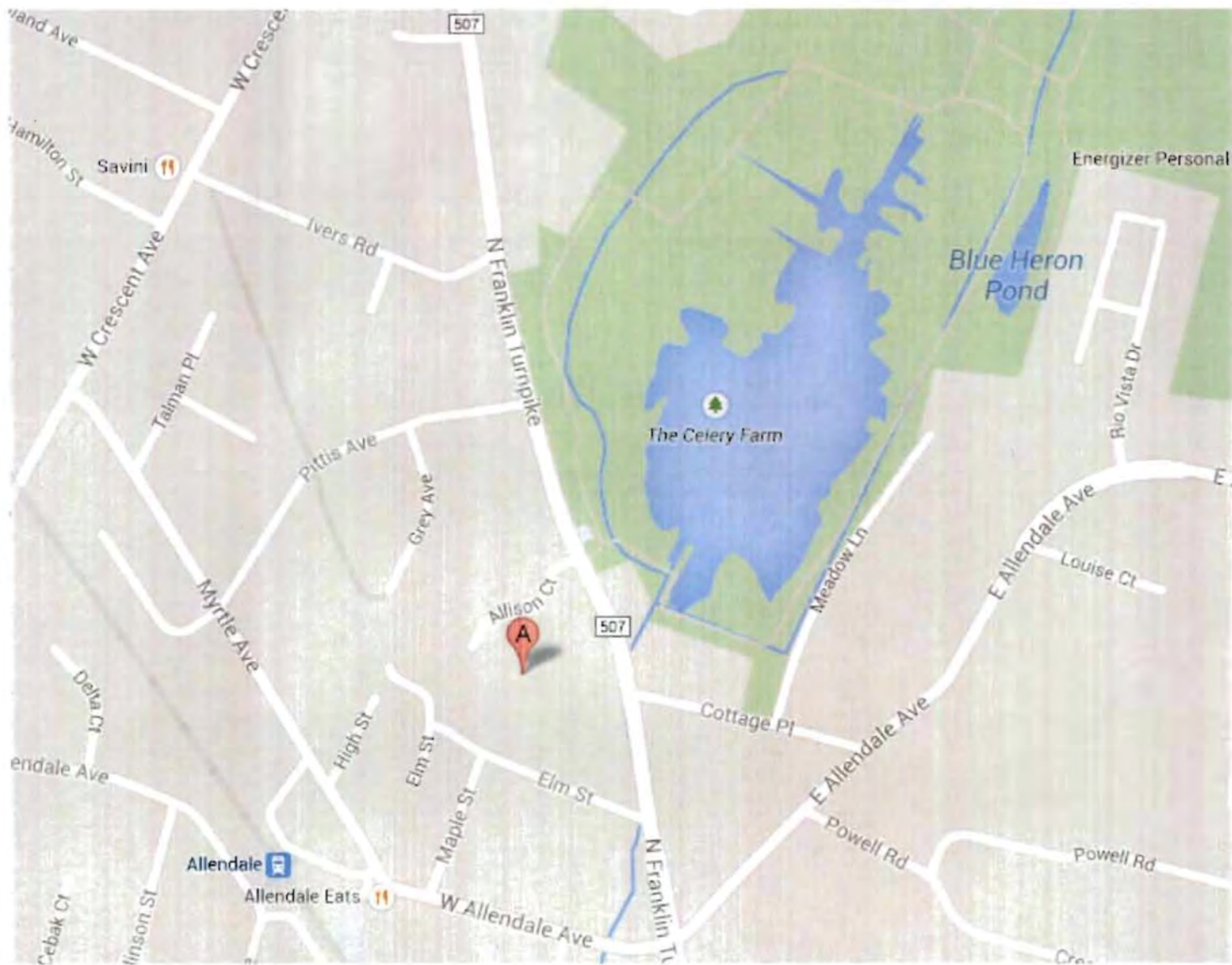
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The root cellar is built into the hill to the south of the barn and garage, located along the circular drive. It is considered a contributing structure to the site. This is the east elevation of the root cellar.

**Photo 35**

Located in the southwest section of the site adjacent to a large grassy area sits the frame pool house built in 1959. It was constructed outside the period of significance and is, therefore, considered non-contributing. This is the north elevation of the pool house.



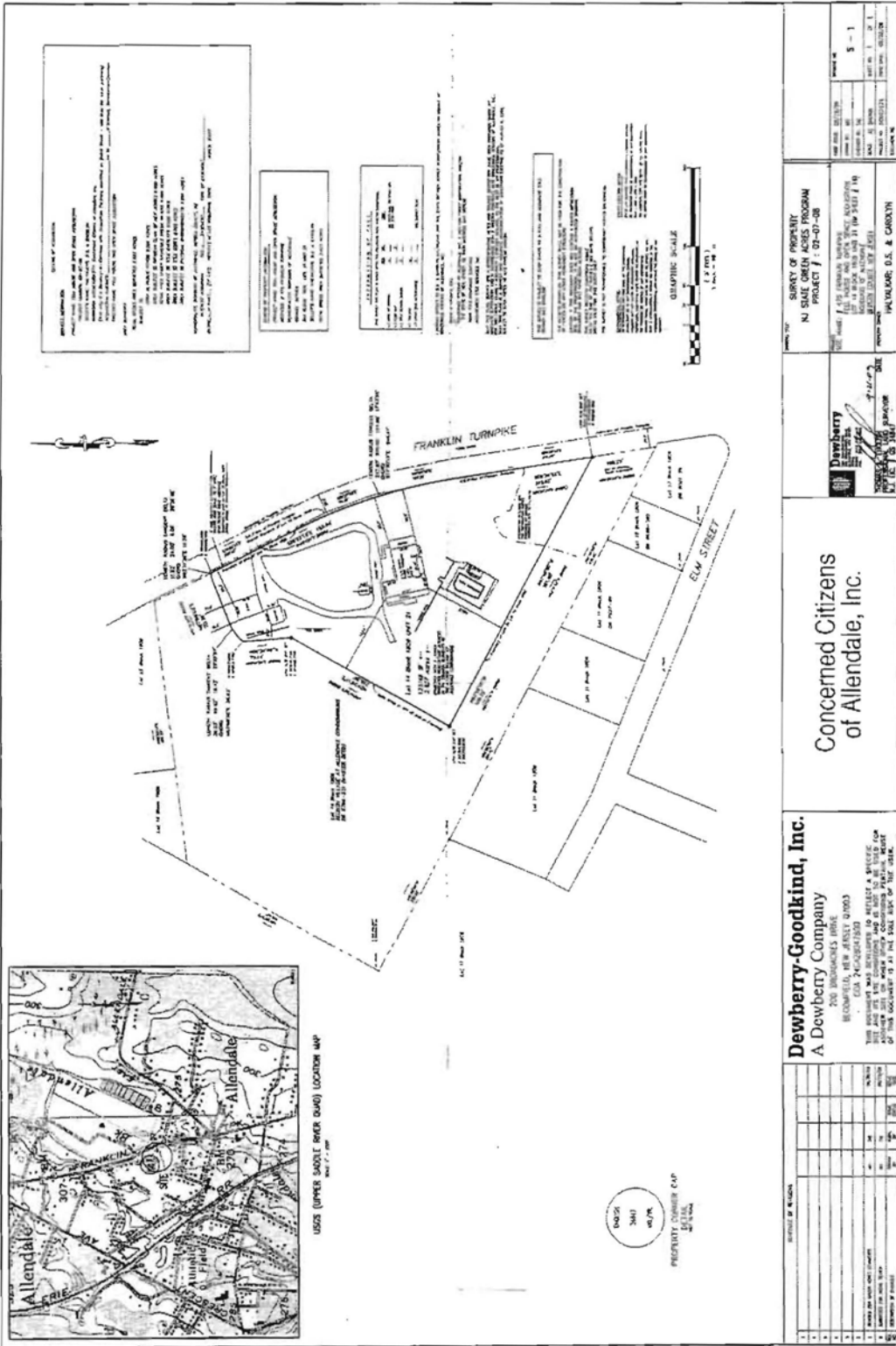
**Joseph Taylor House**  
475 Franklin Turnpike  
Borough of Allendale, Bergen County, NJ

41.032705 Latitude  
-74.127889 Longitude



Joseph Taylor House  
475 Franklin Turnpike, Borough of Allendale, Bergen County, NJ  
Zone 18 573310mE 4542753mN

Figure 22: 2009 site plan showing the roughly 8-acre, Block 1804, Lot 14 purchased by Joseph Taylor in 1912 in relation to the 2.8-acre Block 1804, Lot 14, Unit 21 included in the nomination.



**Dewberry-Goodkind, Inc.**  
A Dewberry Company

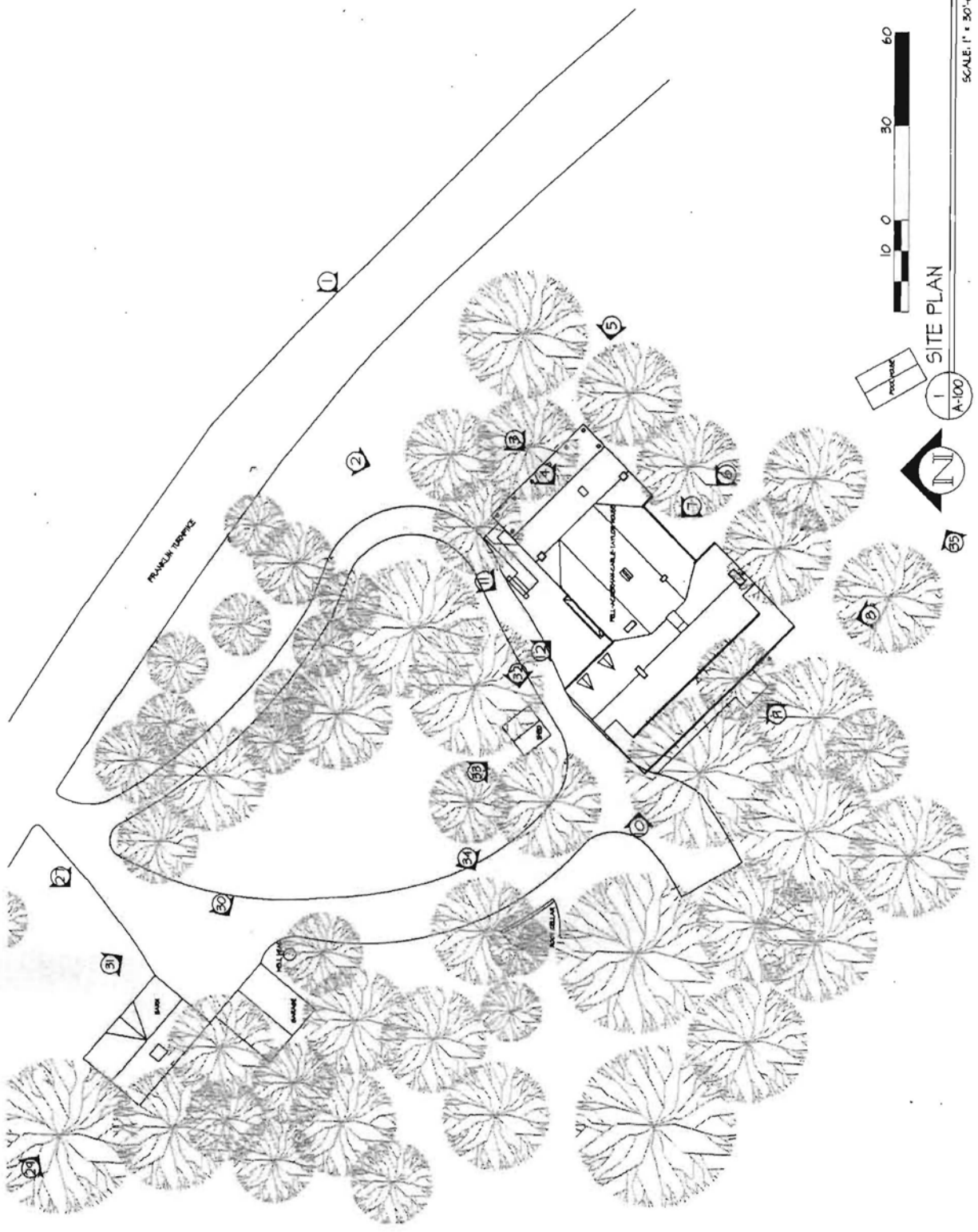
200 BROADWAY, NEW YORK, NY 10003  
TEL: 212-904-4000  
WWW.DEWBERRY.COM  
YOUR PROJECTS ARE OUR BUSINESS. WE SELECT A PROJECT AND WE ARE THE COMPANY AND PEOPLE TO BE CALLED FOR YOUR DOCUMENTS TO THE STATE DEPT OF TAXES.

**Concerned Citizens  
of Allendale, Inc.**

**SURVEY OF PROPERTY  
IN STATE OPEN ACRES PROGRAM  
PROJECT # 05-07-08**

Dewberry & Davis  
CONCERNED CITIZENS OF ALLENDALE, INC.  
PREPARED BY: J. R. GIBSON, D.S. & CAROLYN  
DATE: 11/11/09  
SCALE: AS SHOWN  
SHEET NO. 1 OF 1  
TOTAL SHEETS: 1  
PROJECT NO. 05-07-08  
DATE OF SURVEY: 11/11/09  
DATE OF PLOTTING: 11/11/09  
DATE OF PRINTING: 11/11/09  
DRAWN BY: J. R. GIBSON  
CHECKED BY: CAROLYN  
APPROVED BY: J. R. GIBSON  
DATE: 11/11/09

NO.	DESCRIPTION	DATE	BY
1	PREPARED	11/11/09	J. R. GIBSON
2	CHECKED	11/11/09	CAROLYN
3	APPROVED	11/11/09	J. R. GIBSON



1 A-100 SITE PLAN

SCALE: 1" = 30'-0"



A-101

BASEMENT FLOOR PLAN

DATE: 08/14/10  
BY: J. H. [unreadable]  
CHECKED BY: [unreadable]

PROJECT: 100-100-100-100-100-100  
SHEET NO. 100-100-100-100-100-100

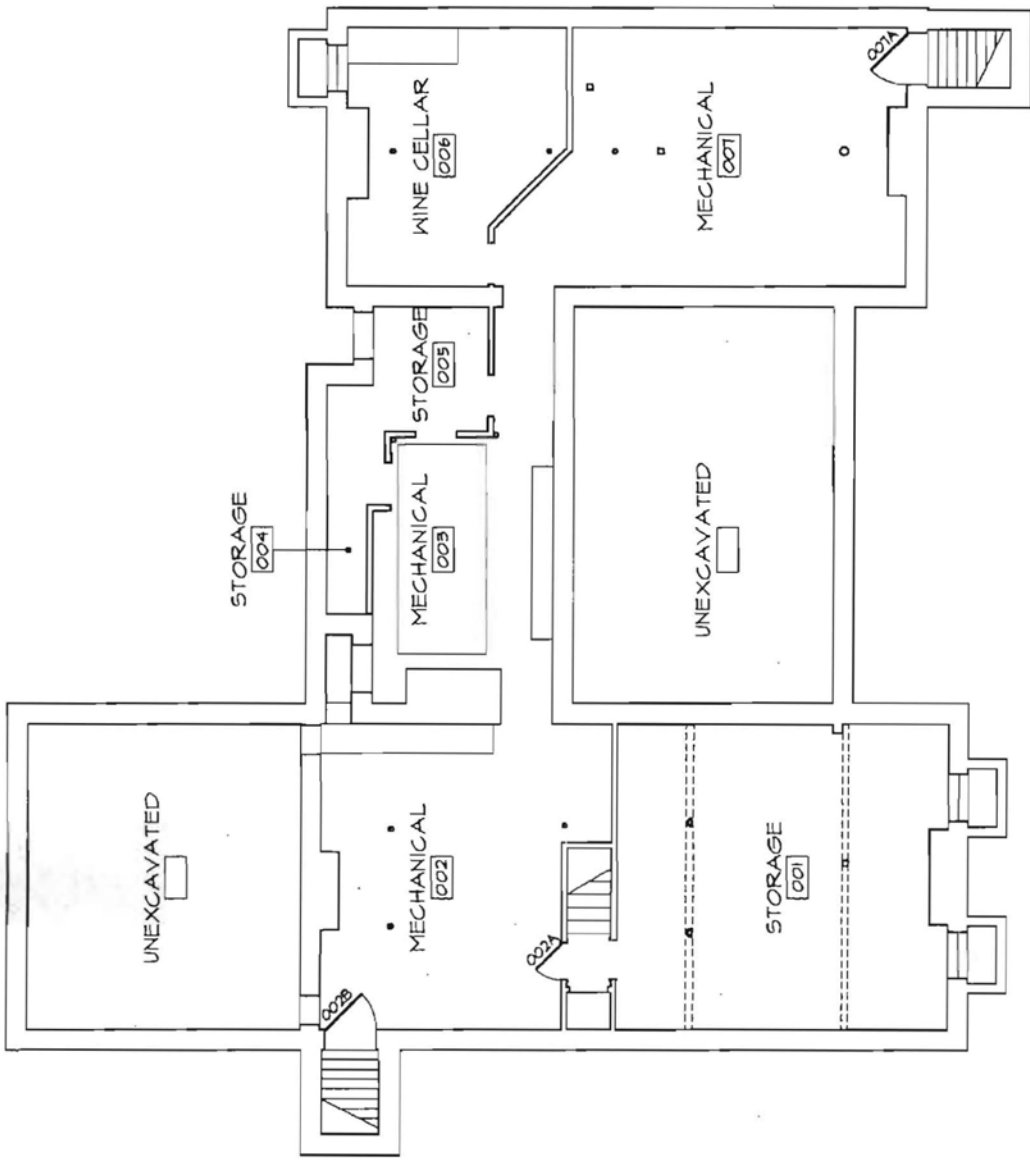
HMR ARCHITECTS



NATIONAL DIRECTOR UNIVERSITY  
Joseph Taylor House  
ALLENDALE, BERGEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY  
45 FRANKLIN PARKWAY

NO.	DATE	REVISION

A-101



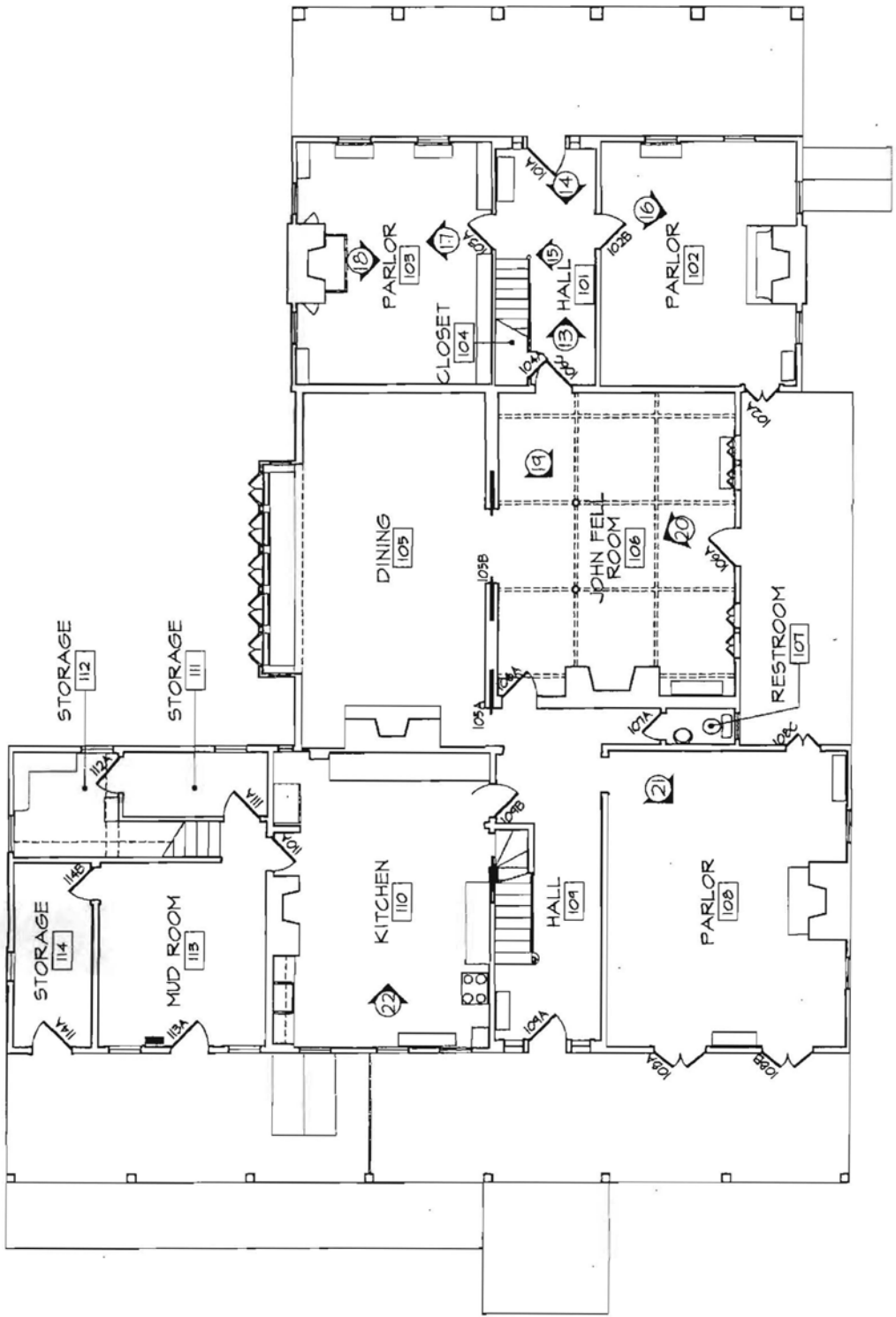
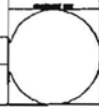
PROJECT NORTH

TRUE NORTH

SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"

BASEMENT FLOOR PLAN

A-101

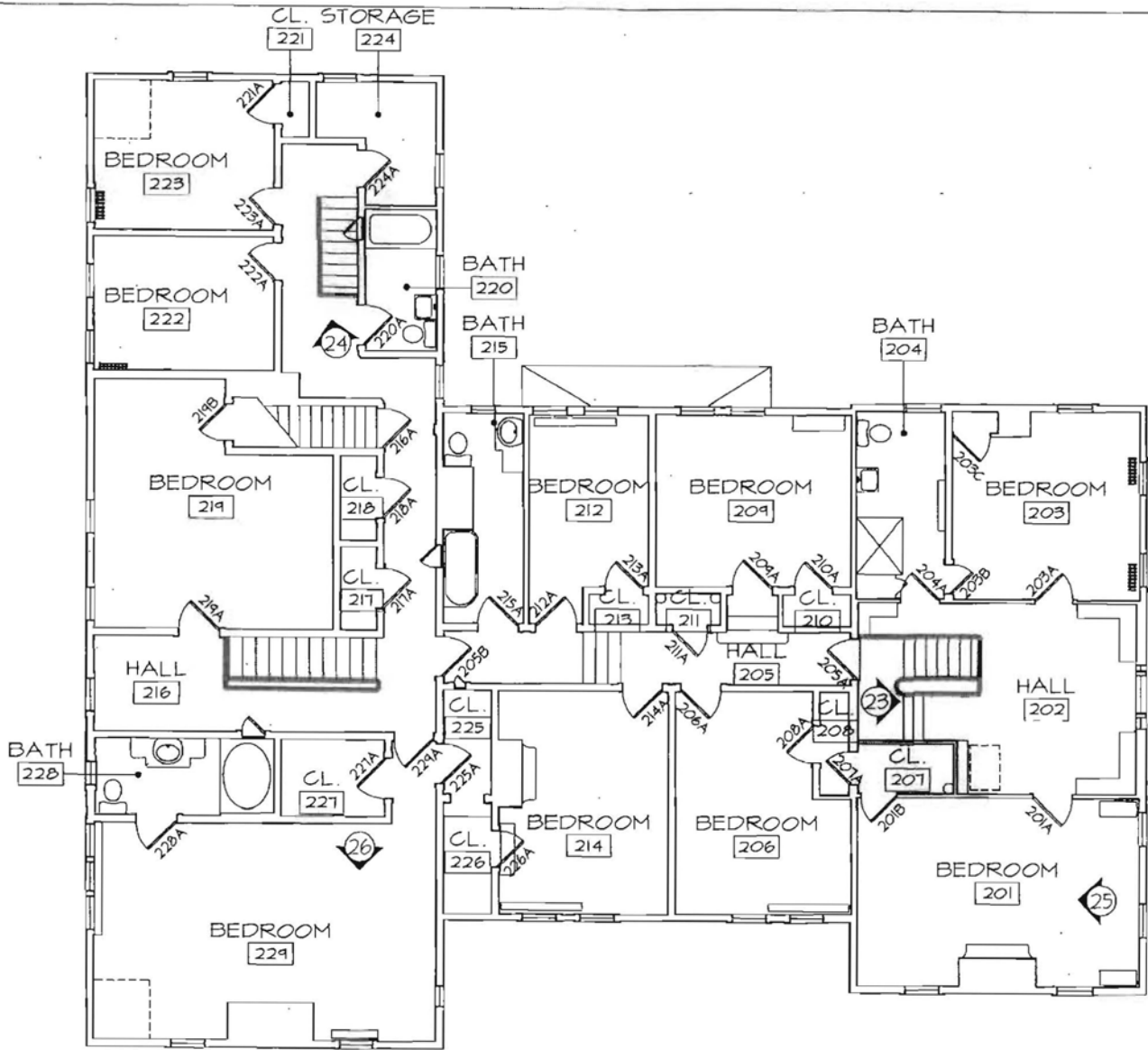


SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"

1 FIRST FLOOR PLAN

A-102





SECOND FLOOR PLAN

SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"

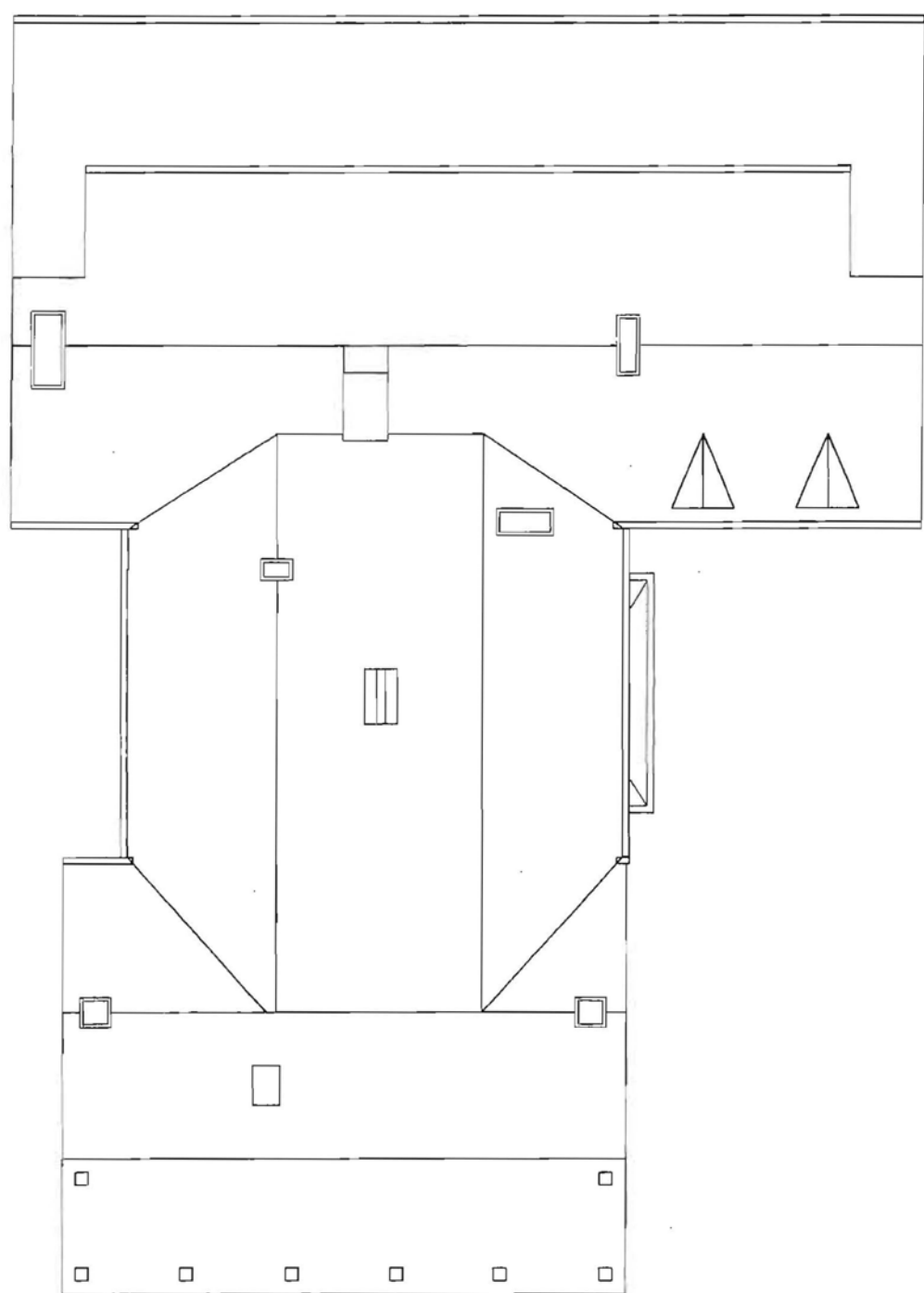
HMR <small>ARCHITECTS</small>	NATIONAL REGISTER NOMINATION <b>Joseph Taylor House</b> ALLENDALE, BERGEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY <small>435 FRANKLIN PARKWAY</small>	SECOND FLOOR PLAN <span style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold;">A-103</span>	A-103	<small>         DATE: 10/07          DRAWN BY: JTB          CHECKED BY: JTB          DATE: 10/07          PROJECT NO.: 107-103-001          SHEET NO.: 1 OF 1       </small>
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A-104

ROOF PLAN

SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"



A-104

NATIONAL REGISTER NOMINATION  
Joseph Taylor House  
ALLEDALE, BERGEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY  
475 FRANKLIN PARKWAY



HMR ARCHITECTS

NEW JERSEY ARCHITECTS No. 122  
122 Alameda Road, Suite 110, Allendale, NJ 07001  
Tel: 908.259.7100 Fax: 908.259.7104

NOVA J. SHAW  
SCALE 1/8" = 1'-0"  
DATE 2004

ROOF PLAN

A-104



Figure 1: 1781 Hills Map. Fell's property is indicated at the center of the map.



Figure 2: 1861 map showing J.G. Ackerman owning the house.



Figure 3: 1876 map showing S. Cable as owning the house.



Figure 4: The house ca. 1900; it was owned by the Cable family.



Figure 5: The house ca. 1915 after the front has been constructed. At the rear of the house, an earlier section may still exist. Courtesy: Concerned Citizens of Allendale, Inc.

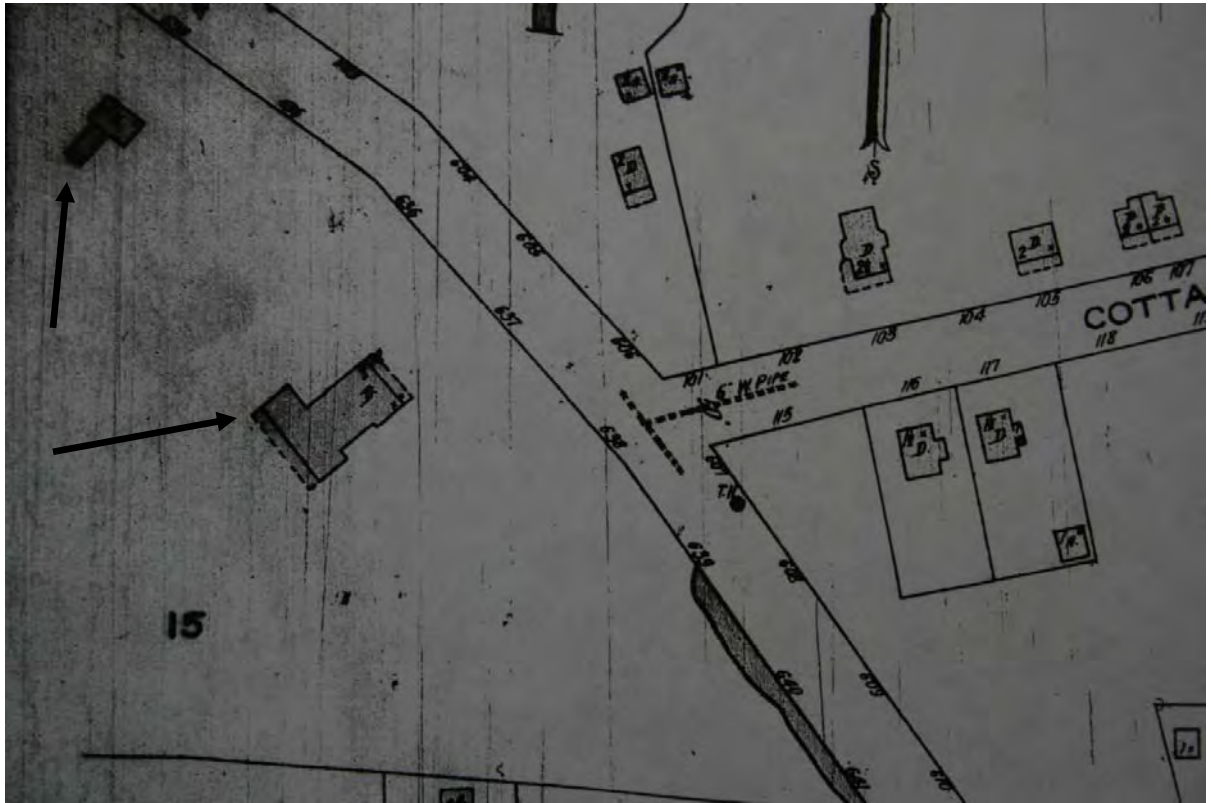


Figure 6: Sanborn map, 1924. Note the barn is also shown.



Figure 7: Undated historic photo. Courtesy: Concerned Citizens of Allendale, Inc.



Figure 8: Undated historic photo. Courtesy: Concerned Citizens of Allendale, Inc.





Allendale Spring 1932

Figure 9: Four views: the stone retaining wall behind the house, upper left; the South Garden, upper right; the drive leading to the barn, lower left; and the drive leading away from the rear of the house, 1932. Courtesy: Concerned Citizens of Allendale, Inc.



*Allendale Summer 1933*



Figure 10: From the top: the front, side and rear views, 1933. Courtesy: Concerned Citizens of Allendale, Inc.



Figure 11: From the top: the rear of the house and the barn, undated, assumed to be in the 1930s. Courtesy: Concerned Citizens of Allendale, Inc.



Figure 12: Undated historic photo of Room 101 – Hall, assumed to be taken in the 1930s. Courtesy: Concerned Citizens of Allendale, Inc.



Figure 13: Undated historic photo of Room 106 – “John Fell Room,” assumed to be taken in the 1930s. Courtesy: Concerned Citizens of Allendale, Inc.



Figure 14: Historic photo of Room 108 - Dining (labeled Music Room), undated, assumed to be taken in the 1930s. Courtesy: Concerned Citizens of Allendale, Inc.



Figure 15: Historic photo of Room 108 - Dining (labeled Music Room), undated, assumed to be taken in the 1930s. Courtesy: Concerned Citizens of Allendale, Inc.



Figure 16: Historic photo of Room 103 - Parlor (labeled Joe's Library), undated, assumed to be taken in the 1930s. Courtesy: Concerned Citizens of Allendale, Inc.



Figure 17: Historic photo of Room 103 - Parlor (labeled Joe's Library), assumed to be taken in the 1930s. Courtesy: Concerned Citizens of Allendale, Inc.



Figure 18: The original John Fell House was built ca. 1760. Oriented south, the house was 1 ½ story, one room deep with three bays and a center entrance.

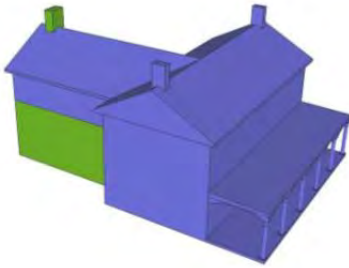


Figure 19: Ca. 1830, John and Maria Ackerman likely built the addition and added the upper half story to the original Fell House. The five-bay, two-room deep addition with front porch was added to the east of the original, creating a house with a capital T-shaped plan. This addition oriented the house to the Franklin Turnpike, making the east elevation the primary façade.

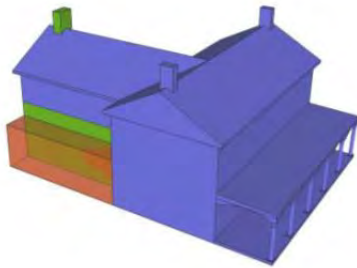
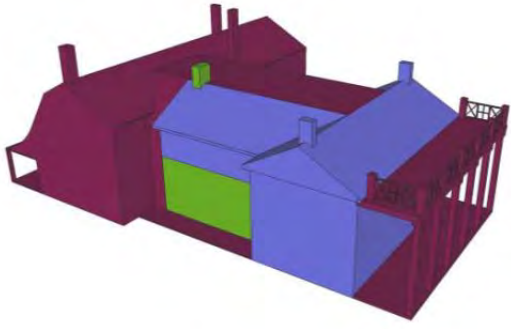


Figure 20: At some point in the 19th century, a porch was added to the original Fell House; it was later enclosed at the end of the 19th century.



**Figure 21: Finally, in 1915, Joseph Taylor, likely under the direction of an architect, added the front east portico and the large west and north sections which enclosed the earlier house and converted it to the large Colonial Revival mansion extant today.**





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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: RESUBMISSION

PROPERTY ~~Fell Askerman Cable~~ <sup>Joseph</sup> -- Taylor House  
NAME:

MULTIPLE  
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: NEW JERSEY, Bergen

DATE RECEIVED: 11/28/14      DATE OF PENDING LIST:  
DATE OF 16TH DAY:                      DATE OF 45TH DAY: 1/14/15  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 14000464

DETAILED EVALUATION:

ACCEPT       RETURN       REJECT      1/14/15 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM./CRITERIA C

REVIEWER Lisa Deline

DISCIPLINE Historic

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_

DATE 1/14/15

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Fell--Ackerman--Cable--Taylor House

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: NEW JERSEY, Bergen

DATE RECEIVED: 6/20/14 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 7/11/14  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 7/28/14 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 8/06/14  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 14000464

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N  
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N  
REQUEST:  SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT  RETURN  REJECT 9/30/14 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM./CRITERIA Return

REVIEWER W. D. ...

DISCIPLINE History

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_

DATE 9/30/14

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments  Y  N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.

**National Register of Historic Places  
Comments  
Evaluation/Return Sheet**

**Property Name:** Fell-Ackerman-Cable-Taylor House  
**Property Location:** Bergen Co, NJ  
**Reference Number:** 14000464  
**Date of Return:** 9/30/14

**Nomination Summary**

The Fell-Ackerman-Cable-Taylor House nomination is being returned for technical issues. The property is being nominated at the local level under Criterion C in the area of significance of architecture. The period of significance is 1915-1942.

Issues

The Joseph Taylor house is being nominated for its significance as a 1915 remodel of an existing 18<sup>th</sup>- and 19<sup>th</sup>-century property in the Colonial Revival style.

For architecturally significant properties, the period of significance is the date of construction, or in this case, the date of this significant remodeling—1915. The significant date would also be 1915. Please refer to the National Register Bulletin *How to Complete the National Register Registration Form*, pages 42-43 for guidance on periods of significance and significant date selection.

Name of property. Please revise the historic name. The historic name used should be the one that best reflects the property's historic importance or was commonly used for the property during the period of significance. Refer to the above-referenced bulletin, page 8 for additional guidance. Please correct the nomination headers to the revised historic name.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Lisa Deline, Historian  
National Register of Historic Places  
[Lisa\\_Deline@nps.gov](mailto:Lisa_Deline@nps.gov)