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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

JUN 29 1989

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

NATIONAL
REGISTER

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Stephen Cary House
other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number Mountainside Road, RD 3 not for publication
city, town Mendham Township vicinity
state New Jersey code 034 county Morris code 027 zip code 07945

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	<u>4</u>	_____ buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	_____	_____ sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	_____	_____ structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>4</u>	_____ objects
			_____ Total

Name of related multiple property listing: NA

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register NA

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby 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. See continuation sheet.

John C. Jensen 6/20/89
Signature of certifying official Date
Assistant Commissioner for Natural & Historic Resources/DSHPO
State or Federal agency and bureau

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

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

5. 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:) _____

Andrew Zyner 7/27/89
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

domestic/single dwelling
agriculture/agricultural field
agriculture/animal facility
agriculture/agricultural outbuilding

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

domestic/single dwelling
agriculture/agricultural field
agriculture/animal facility
agriculture/agricultural outbuilding

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(enter categories from instructions)

Federal

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation stone, brick
walls brick, clapboard
roof metal
other

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

EXTERIOR:

The house is situated on a rise facing south on Mountainside Road, and consists of a two-and-a-half story, three-bay main block with a gambrel roof, built of brick in the first half of the nineteenth century. To the east are two lateral frame additions: a recessed, two story, three-bay wing with gable roof dating from the late nineteenth century, and a one story wing also with gable roof connected by an enclosed breezeway, added in the twentieth century. The original brick portion and two story frame addition are fronted by one story porches with square posts and balusters, dating from the late nineteenth century.

The foundation of the original block is uncoursed fieldstone, while the foundation on the later additions is brick. Standing seam metal roofs cover each wing, with paired internal gable end chimneys visible on the east end of the original block and a single external gable end chimney located on the east end of the two story addition.

The main facade of the original house shows typical local interpretation of the Federal style with its gambrel roof, side hall plan, and simple fenestration. The brick on this facade is laid in English bond, while common bond was used on secondary facades. The six panel front door appears to be original, and is surrounded by an elliptical arched wooden enframement with keystone. The regularly spaced windows used in the main block are consistently double-hung with nine-over-six sash headed by flat arches on the first floor and segmental arches on the second. The west facade contains a pair of windows on the first floor and a single centrally placed window in the gable end, while the fenestration on the north mirrors that of the main facade. An added dormer with one set of paired six-over-six windows projects from the roof over the central bay.

The two story frame addition, sheathed in wooden clapboards, contains a paneled door to the east similar to the original front door. Windows used are a combination of sash types, including a contemporary projecting picture window next to a single double-hung two-over-two light window on the first floor, and a double-hung six-over-six sash mixed with two two-over-two light windows on the second of the main facade. The east elevation is bisected by the single external chimney, which is flanked on either side by a two-over-two light sash on the second floor, with a pair of six light modern casement windows on one side on the

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Stephen Cary House, Mendham Township & Borough,
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first floor. The north elevation mirrors that of the main facade, with the exception of the absence of the picture window.

The enclosed breezeway connecting the two story addition to the newest wing (ca. 1977) is fronted by a small open entrance porch with three steps and simple square posts and railings leading to a narrow door with a pair of casements to one side.

Built into a bank, the one story wing, also covered in clapboards, contains a large three part multipaned bay window and a single door under a small gabled overhang supported by metal posts and a low block wall.

INTERIOR:

In its original configuration, the plan of the earliest brick portion of the house consisted of a side hall, running the length of the house and containing the stair, with two rooms opening off the hall. During the twentieth century, the wall between the two main rooms on the first floor was removed, creating a single large room; however, the floorplan of the second floor is unchanged, with the exception of the installation of a modern bath in a former storage closet.

Much of the original Federal woodwork remains in the earliest wing, including the staircase, with its thin, square sectioned balustrade and tapered newel post, bead-edged window frames, baseboards, and four fireplace mantles ornamented with simple geometric classical motifs. The mantle in the former front parlor is particularly fine, with incised gouge carving of oval quatrefoils.

Much original building fabric is extant, but thoroughly hidden from view. The attic and basement reveal little about the building's construction or history, except that its frame utilized hand-hewn pegged beams.

The two story wing was an addition to the brick block made in the late nineteenth century, demonstrated by the exterior brick wall visible in the attic of the addition. Further evidence of its later date include rough log-like joists in the basement under the present kitchen of a type often seen in service buildings, and the use of two-over-two sash, widely used in the period following the Civil War and up into the early 1900's.

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LAND AND OUTBUILDINGS:

The house and its 4.6 acre steep, wooded lot are separated from the barn and pasture land included in the property by Mountainside Road. Still in agricultural use, the land, a 10.6 acre tract, is relatively unchanged from its probable nineteenth century appearance, and is free from views of encroaching development in a growing rural suburban area.

The one and a half story four-bay banked barn is a well preserved example of traditional construction, with a stone foundation and vertical frame siding. Built in three visible sections, the central portion probably dates from the 1820's, when Stephen Cary, the original owner of the house, purchased the farm. The northern facade contains a pair of centrally placed two story sliding wooden doors; the western facade is blank except for a foundation level ventilator. The southern side is open at ground level, with an added projecting forebay, with an additional set of doors with handwrought strap hinges and a single sliding door located at ground level on the eastern side. A small six light fixed window also appears on the eastern side level with the top of the stone foundation, and a pair of louvered shutters ventilates the gable end.

East of the barn is a small one story storage building of frame construction with a combination of board-and-batten and vertical wood sheathing on a stone foundation. A single external stone chimney appears on the center of the north facade. Large glazed areas, crisp decorative crosspieces on the siding and dutch-type door, and molded composition tile on the gabled roof suggest a twentieth century construction.

East of the house is a small banked frame shed with vertical wood siding and a gable roof covered in asphalt shingle. A single two light window is located on the west side of the small structure, used historically as a springhouse.

All elements contribute to the significance of the property.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G NA

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

architecture

Period of Significance

1825 - 35

Significant Dates

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

N/A

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

Built by farmer Stephen Cary between 1825-35, the Cary House is one of less than a dozen examples of early nineteenth century gambrel roof side hall plan houses in Mendham Borough and Mendham Township. The Cary House is significant under Criterion C as a strong example of a dwelling in a vernacular Federal style particular to a limited area of Morris County, exhibiting fine craftsmanship of architectural detail within the vocabulary of that style. Although one of a group of similar houses in the locale, the Cary House is one of only three nineteenth century brick structures extant in the Mendhams, and the only one still used as a residence. Additionally, the property retains a significant amount of open land historically attached to the property, as well as a well-preserved example of a banked barn dating to the time of construction of the house. Additions to house and barn in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries have been restrained and are in keeping with the original structures.

The original brick portion of the Cary house was built by Stephen Cary, a farmer who acquired a 59 acre parcel including the house site from Josiah Conkling in 1822. Born in 1794 in New Jersey, Cary married Sybil Beach around 1830; one can assume that the house was built with the rewards of several years of hard work and saving in order for the farmer to have a proper and substantial home for his bride. The Cary name (sometimes spelled Carey) appears often in local church and government records from the mid-eighteenth century onward. Prominent Carys include John Cary, invited to Mendham to build the first meeting-house of the Hilltop Presbyterian Congregation in 1745, and Daniel Cary, a major area landholder beginning in the 1770's. The 1850 Federal Census lists the Stephen Cary household as including three sons and two daughters born between 1833 and 1840, as well as a Jane Cary, age 42, perhaps an unmarried sister of Stephen. Stephen Cary died intestate in 1870, survived by Sybil and children Anna, Edward, and Phebe. Edward died, unmarried, in 1877, followed by Sybil two years later. Anna, a spinster, deeded her share of the property to her sister Phebe, who had married 76 year old Henry Drake in 1879, when she was 43. Phebe

See continuation sheet

9. Major Bibliographical References

Previous documentation on file (NPS): NA

- 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 Record # _____

See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional data: NA

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property 15.2 Mendham Quad

UTM References

A

1,8	53,39,6,0	4,51,56,2,0
Zone	Easting	Northing

B

1,8	53,39,8,0	4,51,51,4,0
Zone	Easting	Northing

C

1,8	53,37,2,0	4,51,51,4,0
Zone	Easting	Northing

D

1,8	53,36,8,0	4,51,56,0,0
Zone	Easting	Northing

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The nominated property is comprised of two lots: lot 17 in block 16, Mendham Twp., and lot 23, block 501 located in Mendham Borough as shown on the accompanying map. The lots are contiguous but divided by Mountainside Road, also the border between township and borough.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

Lot 17, block 16, and lot 23, block 501 are the remaining integral parts of the Cary farm on which the house and contributing outbuildings are located.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Sally Milner

organization Acroterion

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city or town Morristown

date November 9, 1988

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Cary Drake became sole owner of the property when her husband died in 1887, and maintained it until 1907, when it was sold to one William Howell.

A construction date for the house of approximately 1825-1835 is further supported by the dates of two brick buildings in Mendham strongly related in style to the Cary house, the Phoenix House, a public hostelry built in the 1820's, and Hill Top Presbyterian Manse, built in 1832. Both of these buildings share architectural features characteristic of the local Federal vernacular with the Cary house, including the gambrel roof, classically derived woodwork details, paneled door in an elliptical arched paneled enframing without sidelights, prominent internal end chimneys, and, in the case of the Manse, a side hall plan.

Brick as a building material for homes is unusual for the region, and a professional mason was more than likely employed to lay the American bond pattern used in the Cary House. The only known mason working in Mendham in the late 1820's and 1830's was J.B. Chidester (Chedister), documented as the mason for the Methodist Church building of 1833 (now demolished) in the records of the congregation. Possibly Chidester was also the mason for the Cary House as well as other brick structures of the period. An 1853 map of Morris County shows a brickyard located in the southern section of Chester Township, a probable local source for building materials in the early to mid-nineteenth century.

Usually recognized as an urban type in the New York/New Jersey region, the gambrel roof side hall plan two story house was a widely popular dwelling form which was introduced to the area during the Federal period. Well suited to narrow city lots, the type was often adapted in less densely settled areas with the addition of one or more extensions to serve the needs of growing families. The Cary House extensions follow the traditional New Jersey pattern of lateral additions.

Similar houses of the same period exist in Mendham and neighboring Chester, Ralston, Brookside and Morristown in a corridor along the Washington Turnpike (now State Highway 24), which was completed in 1806 and became an important early nineteenth century commerce route. These include the Leddell House (Mendham Township) executed in stone, the Thompson House and St. Mark's Parish (Mendham), both of frame construction, the Losey House (Brookside), also frame, and the Barnes House, Taylor House, and Four Bridges Road, (Chester Township), all of frame construction. Historic views of South, Washington and West Park Streets in Morristown in the early to mid-nineteenth century prominently feature a number of the type in brick and frame; however, all but one of the three bay Morristown examples have been demolished.

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The era in which these homes were built was a time of growth and prosperity for Morris County, demonstrated in the solid, substantial nature of a brick structure like the Cary House. Vigorous in its simplicity, the house displays elements of the Federal style as interpreted by local craftsmen in a confident architectural expression of an economically emerging rural area.

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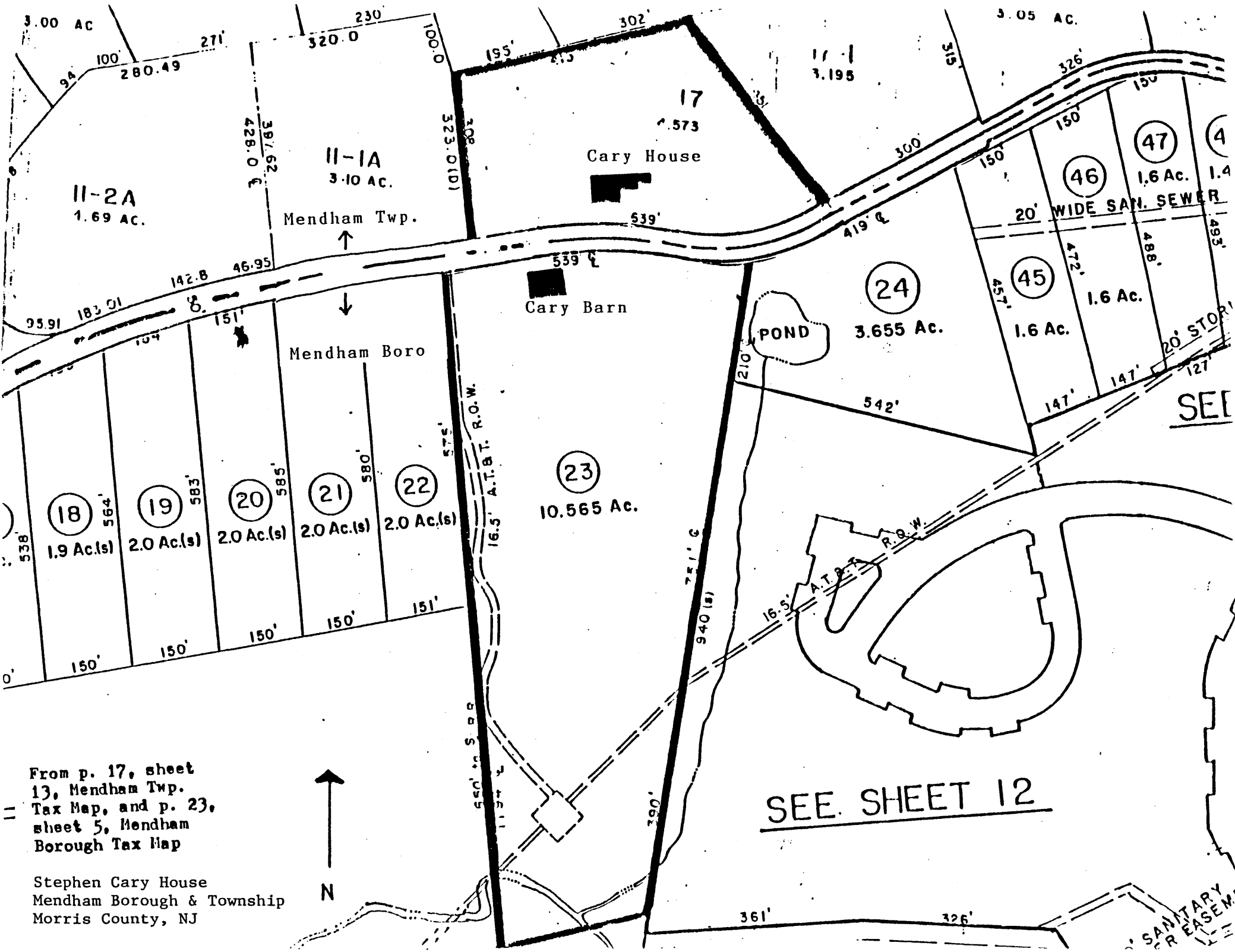
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INVENTORY OF PHOTOGRAPHS

The following photographs of the Stephen Cary House, Mountainside Road, Mendham Township, New Jersey were taken by Jim Delguidice, Specialized Photodesign, 150 Main Street, Chatham, New Jersey, who retains the negatives. All photos were taken in March 1988.

1. Stephen Cary House; 6) facing northeast
2. Stephen Cary House - Barn ; 2) Mendham Borough, NJ; 6) facing due west
3. Stephen Cary House; 6) facing north
4. Stephen Cary House; 6) facing northwest
5. Stephen Cary House; 6) facing southwest
6. Stephen Cary House - attic
7. Stephen Cary House - attic, construction detail
8. Stephen Cary House - mantel
9. Stephen Cary House - mantel
10. Stephen Cary House - mantel
11. Stephen Cary House - upper hall
12. Stephen Cary House - stair
13. Stephen Cary House - front door, interior
14. Stephen Cary House - window detail
15. Stephen Cary House - interior brick wall at point of addition
16. Stephen Cary House - property; 2) Mendham Borough, NJ; 6) facing south
17. Stephen Cary House - outbuilding; 2) Mendham Borough, NJ; 6) facing south
18. Stephen Cary House - barnyard; 2) Mendham Borough, NJ; 6) facing northeast
19. Stephen Cary House - approach ; 6) facing due east
20. Stephen Cary House - springhouse; 6) facing northwest



From p. 17, sheet
 13, Mendham Twp.
 Tax Map, and p. 23,
 sheet 5, Mendham
 Borough Tax Map

Stephen Cary House
 Mendham Borough & Township
 Morris County, NJ

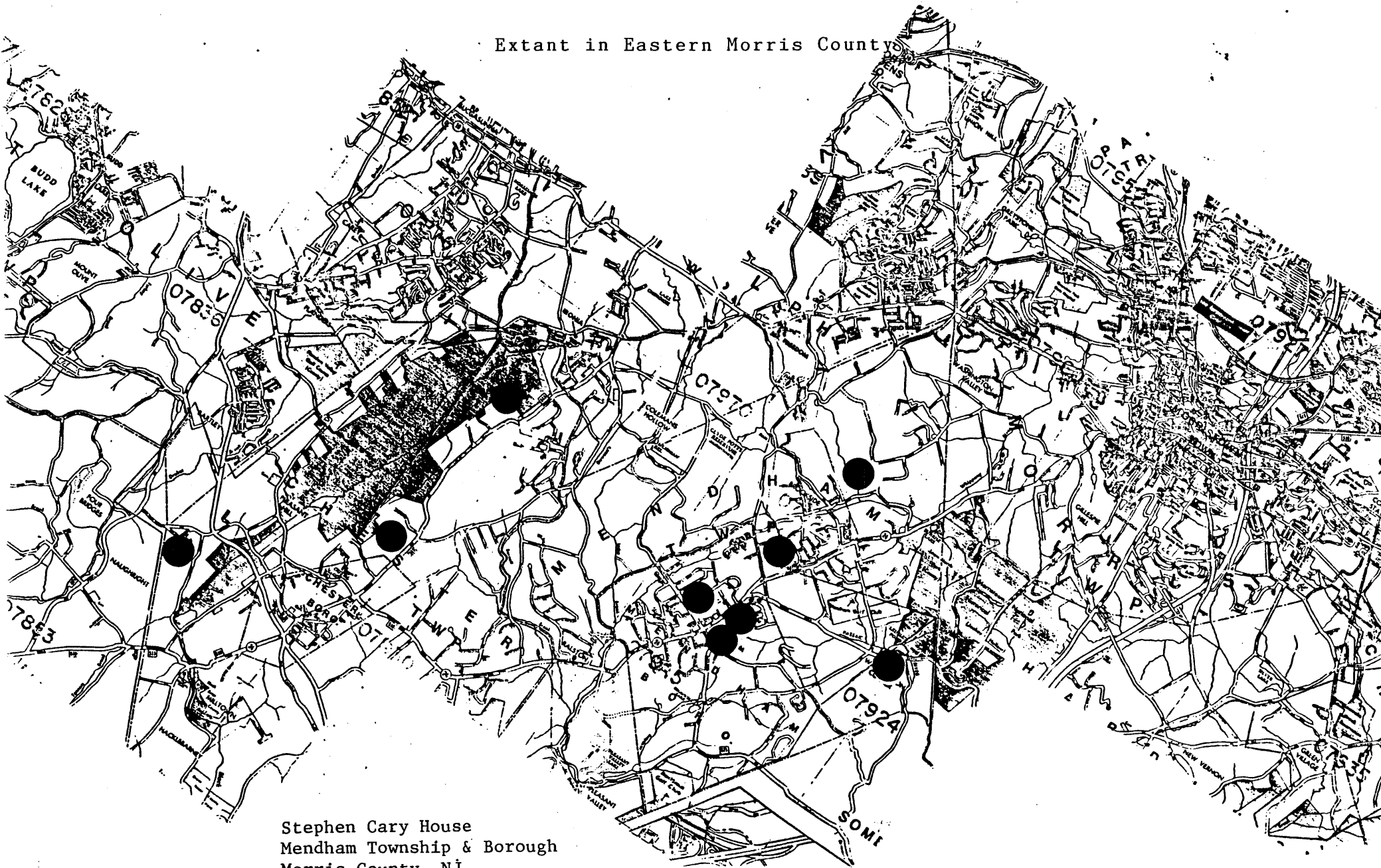


SEE SHEET 12

SANITARY
 RELEASE

Distribution of Early Nineteenth Century Side Hall Plan Gambrel Roof Houses

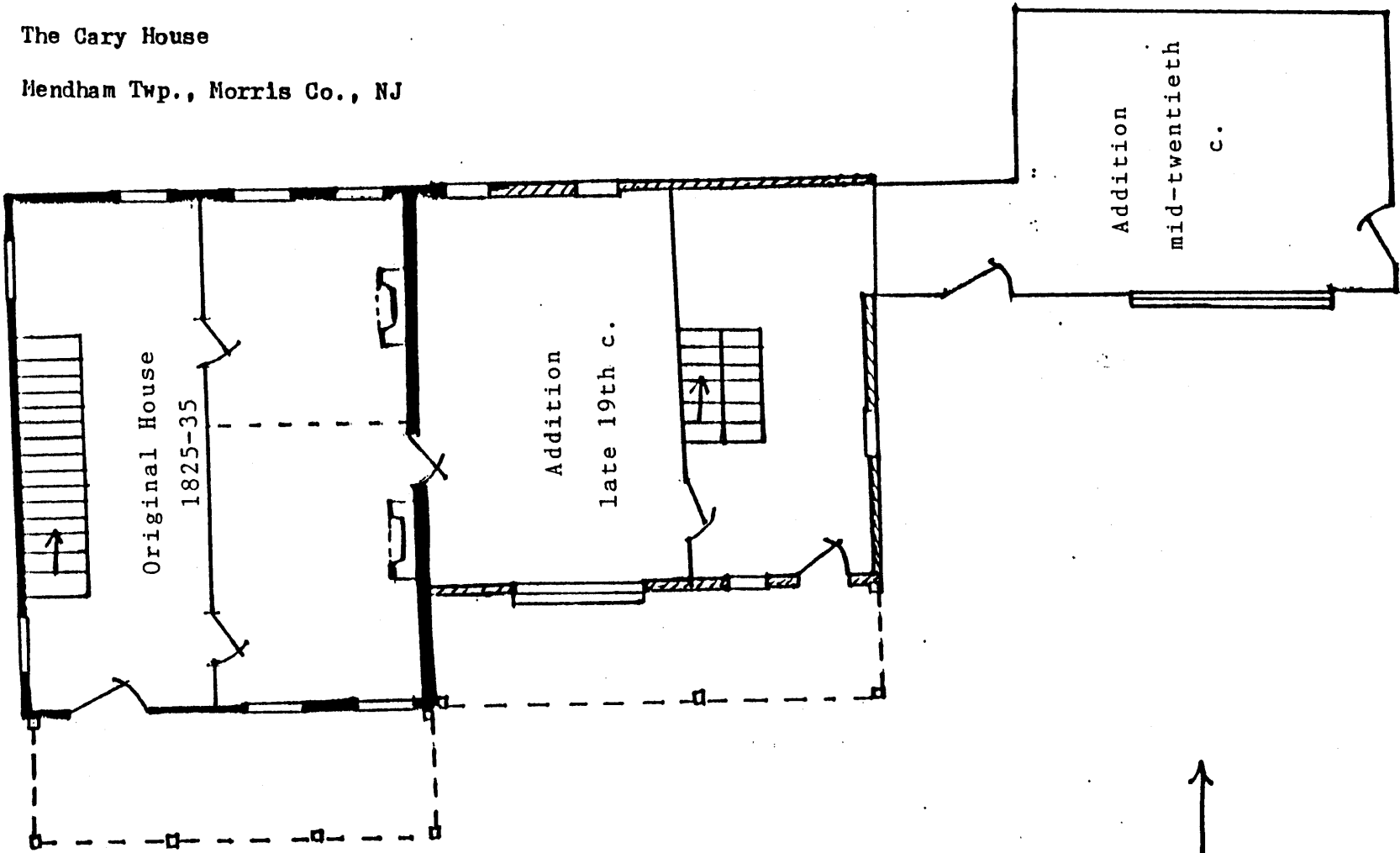
Extant in Eastern Morris County



Stephen Cary House
Mendham Township & Borough
Morris County, NJ

The Cary House

Mendham Twp., Morris Co., NJ



First Floor Plan (not to scale)

