

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_\_

### SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 92000377 Date Listed: 5/1/92

Trimmer-Dufford Farmstead Morris NJ  
Property Name: County: State:

Stone Houses and Outbuildings in Washington Township MPS  
Multiple Name

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This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

*601 Patrick Andrews*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of the Keeper

10/15/92  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Action

=====

#### Amended Items in Nomination:

This building is nominated for its architectural significance, but applicable National Register Criterion C is not checked. The NJ SHPO says that this was a technical oversight. The form is officially amended to include Criterion C.

#### DISTRIBUTION:

- National Register property file
- Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)

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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 *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 Trimmer/Dufford Farmstead

other names/site number \_\_\_\_\_

### 2. Location

street & number 186 W. Mill Road

not for publication

city, town Washington township

vicinity

state NJ code 034

county Morris

code 027

zip code 07853

### 3. Classification

#### Ownership of Property

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

#### Category of Property

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

#### Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing
<u>4</u>	<u>2</u> buildings
_____	_____ sites
_____	_____ structures
_____	_____ objects
<u>4</u>	<u>2</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing:  
stone houses and outbuildings of Washington Township

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

### 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.

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): \_\_\_\_\_

Patricia Andrews

5/1/92

for  
Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Domestic / single family

Agricultural / outbuilding storage

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Domestic / single family

Agricultural

7. Description

Architectural Classification (enter categories from instructions)

Federal

Greek Revival

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation stone

walls stucco stone

roof asphalt

other

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The Trimmer/Dufford Farmstead is an assemblage of stone and frame, mostly 19th-century buildings located in the lowlands along the South Branch of the Raritan near the confluence of a small creek and the river. In addition to a substantial stone house, the complex consists of a stone wagon house/blacksmithy, stone smoke house, and two frame barns. The well maintained farmstead is set in park-like grounds and surrounded by a rolling landscape of fields and woods with scattered farms and modern dwellings, thus preserving its historical rural landscape.

House:

Facing south with a short set back from West Mill Road, the gable-roofed stuccoed-stone house is a two-part linear composition. It consists of a 5-bay, 2-story, stone main block with double-pile, center-hall plan and paired interior end-wall chimneys and a 3-bay, 1 1/2-story, one-room-plan stone, west wing with gable-end chimney and frame rear appendage. Its Federal/Greek Revival detailing suggests a construction date of c. 1810-40, although the wing may be somewhat earlier. The main block has a built-up box cornice with crown and bed moldings, returns, and frieze that is carried on the raking eaves; a similar cornice is found on the wing. Other early exterior features include the architrave window trim and the main block's central front entry which has sidelights, transom, and corner lights, symmetrically molded trim, and panels below the sidelights. The panel door is a modern reproduction detailed to match surviving fabric; there probably was an entry porch originally. The main block's 12/12 sash windows are modern replacements; the wing's 9/6 and 6/6 sashes may be early fabric. The gable-roofed dormer on the front of the wing evidently is a 20th-century installation; the wing's shed-roofed front porch appears to have been rebuilt. The main block's shed-roofed 1-bay rear entry porch and the wing's green house appendage are more modern additions. The main block's 3-bay rear elevation also has been partially repointed in recent years.

**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    N/A

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)  
architecture

Period of Significance  
c. 1800 - 1870

Significant Dates  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Cultural Affiliation

\_\_\_\_\_

N/A

\_\_\_\_\_

Significant Person

Architect/Builder

N/A

N/A

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

The Trimmer/Dufford Farmstead possesses architectural significance under National Register Criterion C for several reasons. The farmstead retains three stone buildings whose form, construction and detailing provide an excellent illustration of the area's early stone architecture and are representative of Washington Township's stone house and outbuilding property type of c. 1770-1870. The house is a good early 19th-century example of the 2-story, double-pile, center-hall block with a lateral 1 1/2-story service wing and retains notable late Federal/Greek Revival interior detailing. Its masonry is representative of the stuccoed, rubble stone construction popular in the area in that period, as is the stonework of the remodeled wagon house and smoke house. Built by descendants of Mathias Trimmer, one of German Valley's pioneers, on a portion of the homestead farm acquired by him in 1750, the house is evidence of the acculturation of the German population over several generations. While the house evidences some 20th-century alterations, they have not had any significant impact on its integrity of design and materials. Despite these renovations the property retains its essential historical character and thus qualifies for inclusion in the Washington Township Stone Houses and Outbuildings Multiple Property nomination.

The farmstead is located on the 338-acre property acquired in 1750 by second generation German immigrant Mathias Trimmer (?-1793), large portions of which descended in his family. The property was one of several farms subdivided from James Logan's 1,666-acre holding in the fertile South Branch valley, property which was acquired and settled by Germans in the 18th century. In 1793, Mathias divided the property between his two sons John and David, who each received respectively 220 and 110 acres.<sup>1</sup> The lands on which the subject farmstead stands subsequently passed into the hands of John's son Andrew. An 1857 deed describes the property as "the homestead farm formerly of Andrew Trimmer now occupied by Wm.

See continuation sheet

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

Previous documentation on file (NPS): N/A  
 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:  
 State historic preservation office  
 Other State agency  
 Federal agency  
 Local government  
 University  
 Other

Specify repository:  
Washington Township Historic Preservation Commission

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of property 2.17 Hackettstown, NJ Quad

UTM References

A 

1	8	5	1	7	1	6	0	4	5	1	3	4	0	0
Zone		Easting				Northing								

B 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

D 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The entire property in Washington Township known as Block 33/66.1

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The nominated property encompasses all that remains of the farmland associated with the farmstead.

See continuation sheet

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Dennis N. Bertland, Director  
organization Bertland Associates date September 1991  
street & number P.O. Box 11 telephone (908) 689-6356  
city or town Fort Murray state NJ zip code 07865

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The main block has a full cellar whose northwest corner is partitioned off by stone walls which also support the first floor framing. The hewn-timber framing consists of a large latitudinal summer beam on which rest lap-jointed joists. Rising from arched bases, the paired end-wall chimneys are joined below the roof peak (above central gable windows) into "platforms" for the brick stacks. The roof framing, visible in the unfinished east end of the attic, consists of hewn rafters, purlins, and queen posts with saw cut girts and diagonal braces.

The first and second stories of the main block retain much early fabric, and the decorative elements exhibit late Federal/Greek Revival influences (most of the moldings are based on the Grecian ovolo) suggesting an installation date of c. 1825-40. The variety of the detailing present suggests that remodeling occurred on one or more occasions at an early date. Early features include plaster walls and ceilings, random width flooring, architrave and symmetrically molded door and window trim, recess-panel doors hung on butt hinges, baseboards, paneled window reveals in all but the two upper north rooms, six brick fireplaces with flat lintels of splayed stretchers, pilastered mantels of varied design, and flank-ing cupboards in several rooms. A notable feature is the open staircase, rising to the attic and consisting of two double runs of unequal length, broken by landings with turned newel posts, square spindles, oval walnut railing, enclosed below its first run by a triangular panel of quirk-beaded boards. A flat-archway with heavy pilasters and entablature divides the central hall in half on the first story, and double doors connect the southwest and northwest parlors and the southwest parlor and the hall.

The cellarless west wing also exhibits features typical of the early 19th century. The single first-story room has a large cooking fireplace built of stone except for the flat, splayed brick lintel and north jamb which incorporates a bake oven. Other features include a simple mantel shelf, architrave door and window trim with a Grecian ovolo outer molding, batten-doored closet and winder stairs, molded chair rail, and quirk-beaded baseboard. The ceiling plaster has been removed exposing the hewn attic floor joists, and the flooring has been replaced. The frame rear addition is said to be framed with hewn timber with brick nogging and built over a cistern. The two doorways connecting the rear addition to the kitchen retain early architrave trim; most of the other finishes are modern.

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## Outbuildings:

Just west of the house stands a large stuccoed-stone, 1 1/2-story wagon house which probably dates c. 1830-60, may have been used as a blacksmith shop in the mid 19th century. During its recent conversion into a guest house the main gable-end wagon entries were replaced with modern treatments; other features include hewn clear-spanning loft floor joists and a new roof. North-east of the house is a rubble-stone, partially stuccoed & partially repointed, two-level, smoke house of 19th-century date. It has a gable-end entry (new door) and rebuilt roof with boxed overhanging eaves. What appears to be the stone base of a firebox survives inside in the northwest corner, immediately above which on the west wall is a small hole; another small smoke hole is located in the north gable. To the southwest of the house is a group of modest, frame, gable-roofed outbuildings. It includes a 2-story, 3-bay garage (apparently of mid-20th date, but perhaps earlier and re-modeled); a small 2-story barn of vertically sided frame construction above the coursed-rubble-stone ground story (probably the 19th-century ell of a barn which has not survived) and extending from the barn's west side a long, 1-story, stable (mid 20th, probably replacing an earlier barn).

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Dufford." Local informants claim that Willian Dufford was a blacksmith and had his shop in the stone building next door. The farm left the ownership of the Dufford family in 1908.<sup>2</sup>

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> Theodore Frelinghuysen Chambers, Early Germans of New Jersey, Dover, NJ: Dover Printing Company, 1895, pages 151, 522, & 554.

<sup>2</sup> Morris County Deeds, Book W4, page 30 and Book T-19, page 55; J. Lightfoot and Sam. Geil, Map of Morris County, New Jersey, 1853; Frederick W. Beers, Atlas of Morris County, New Jersey, New York: Beers, Ellis, and Soule, 1868; E. Robinson, Atlas of Morris County, New Jersey, New York: E. Robinson, 1887.



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Major Bibliographic References

Beers, Frederick W. Atlas of Morris County, New Jersey.  
New York: Beers, Ellis and Soule, 1868.

Chambers, Theodore F. The Early Germans of New Jersey. Dover,  
NJ: The Dover Printing Company, 1895.

Morris County Deed Records, Clerks Office, Court House,  
Morristown, NJ.

Lightfoot, J. and Sam Geil. Map of Morris County, New Jersey.  
1853.

Robinson, E. Atlas of Morris County, New Jersey. New York: E.  
Robinson, 1887.

Washington Township (Morris County, New Jersey) Stone Building  
Survey. Washington Township Historical Commission, 1991.

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### Photographic Identification:

The following information is the same for all of the photographs submitted with the nomination:

Name:	Trimmer/Dufford Farmstead
Location:	186 West Mill Road Washington Township, Morris County, NJ
Photographer:	Dennis Bertland
Date of photographs:	Spring/Summer 1991
Negative repository:	Bertland Associates, Box 11, Port Murray, NJ 07865

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FLOOD HAZARD LINE

TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON EXEMPTED 25.6 AC.±

33.3 AC.± TOTAL  
66

178.56±  
178.76±  
180.97±  
0.69 AC.±  
64  
164  
303±  
90±

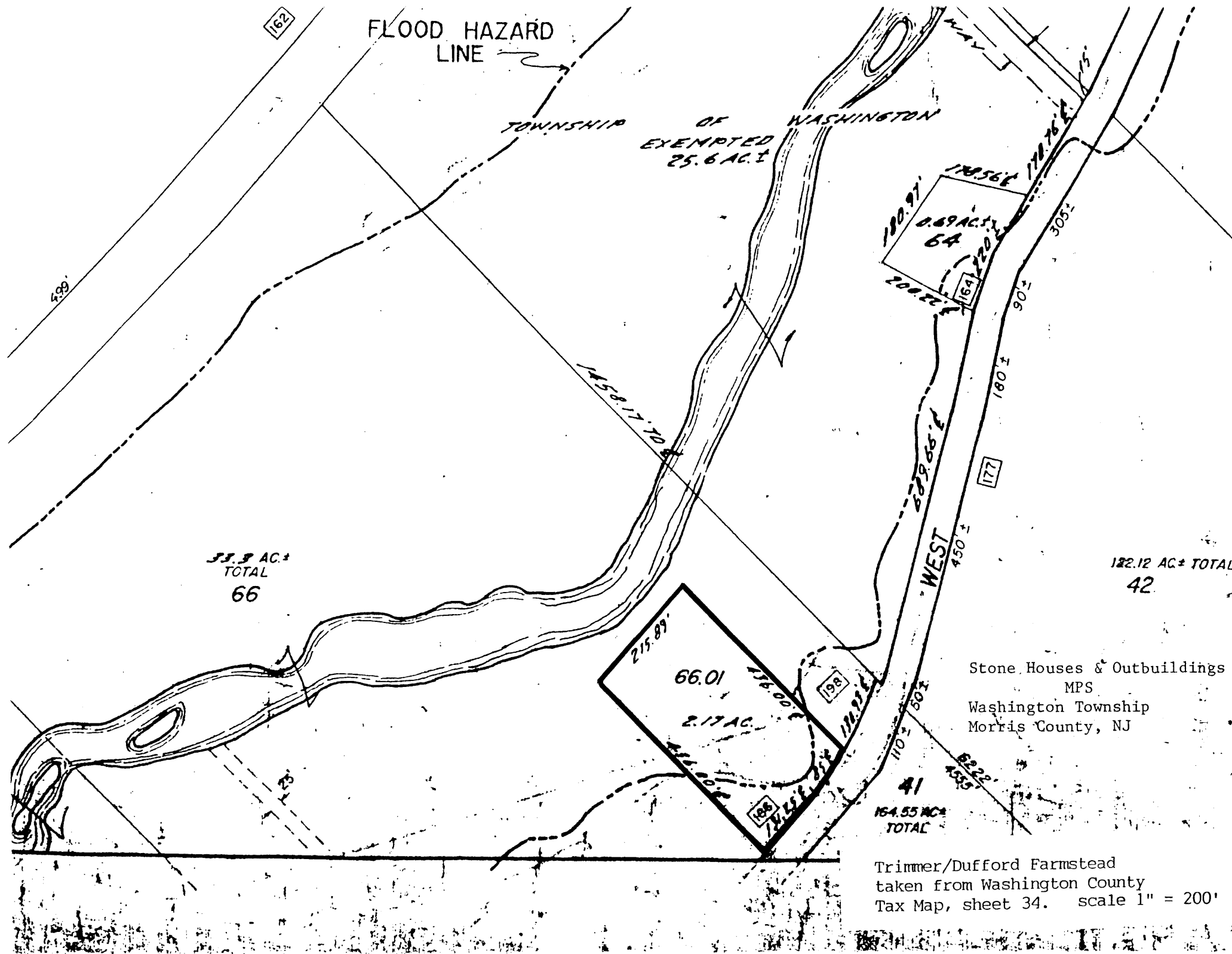
122.12 AC.± TOTAL  
42

215.89±  
66.01  
175.00±  
2.17 AC.±  
198  
172.22±  
168  
110± 80±

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41  
164.55 AC.± TOTAL

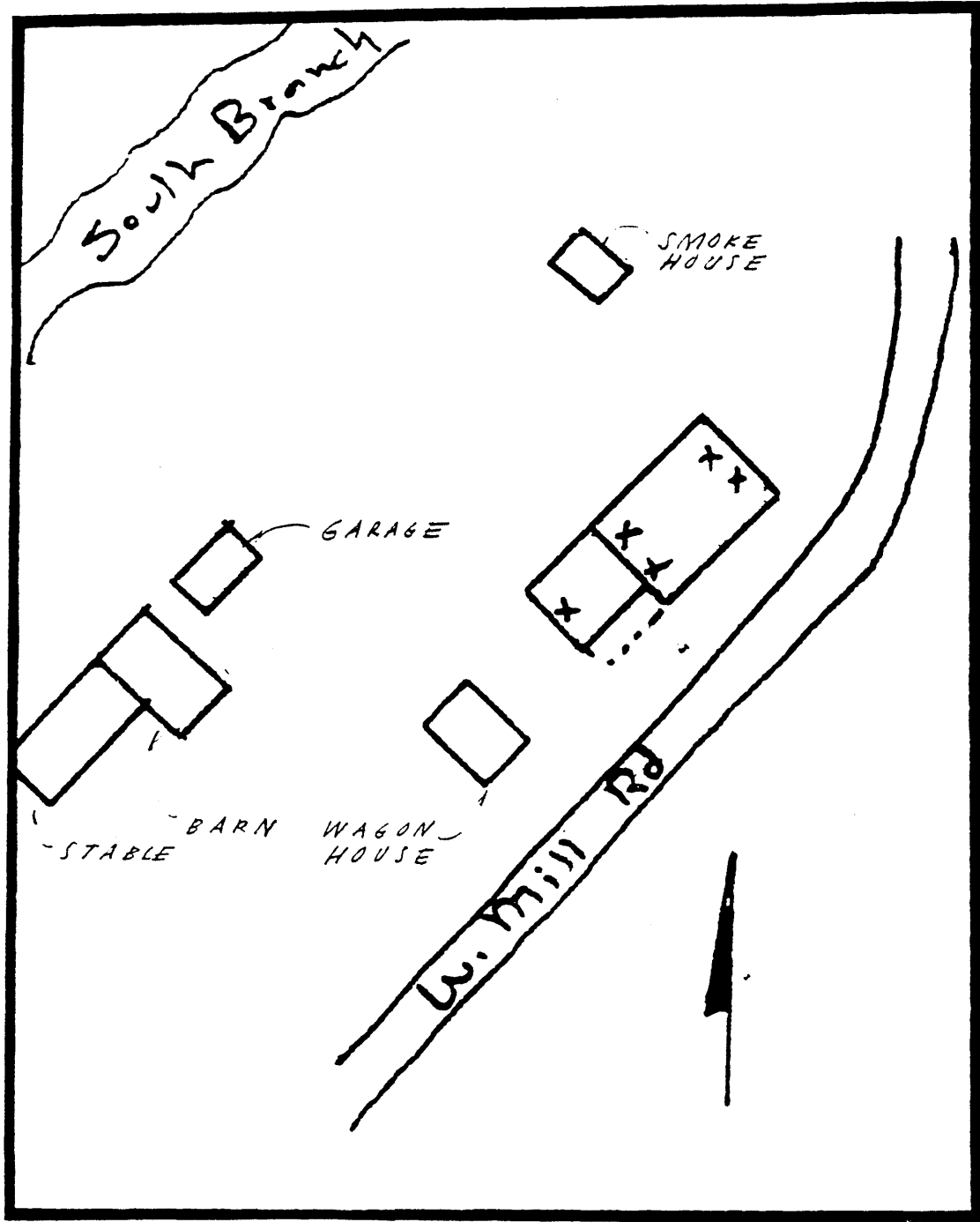
Trimmer/Dufford Farmstead  
taken from Washington County  
Tax Map, sheet 34. scale 1" = 200'



# TRIMMER/DUFFORD FARMSTEAD

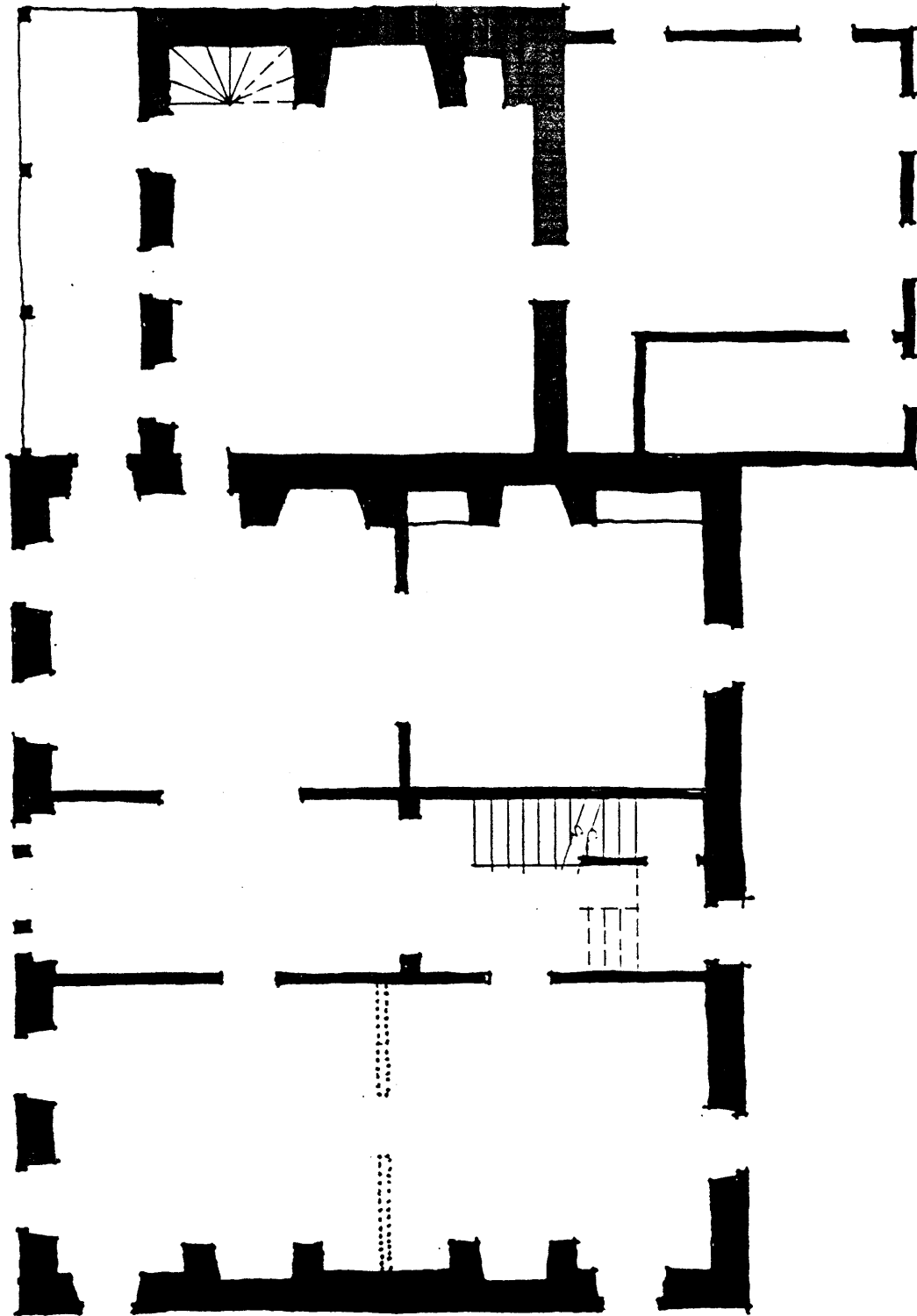
## SITE PLAN

NOT TO SCALE



Stone Houses & Outbuildings MPS  
Washington Township  
Morris County, NJ

FLAND  
TRIMMER/DUFFORD HOUSE  
FIRST FLOOR PLAN



Stone Houses & Outbuildings MPS  
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