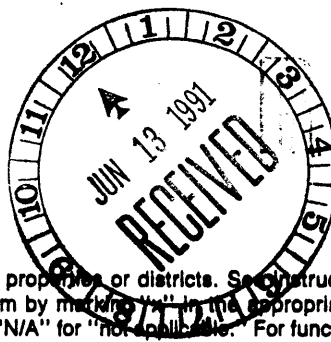


United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form



RECEIVED JUN 12 1991 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).

1. Name of Property

historic name Manasquan Friends Meetinghouse and Burying Ground other names/site number Manasquan Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends

2. Location

street & number Route 35 at Manasquan Circle not for publication N/A city, town Wall Township vicinity N/A state New Jersey code NJ - 034 county Monmouth code 025 zip code 07719

3. Classification

Ownership of Property: [X] private, [] public-local, [] public-State, [] public-Federal. Category of Property: [X] building(s), [] district, [] site, [] structure, [] object. Number of Resources within Property: Contributing (1, 1, 2), Noncontributing (1 buildings, 0 elites, 0 structures, 0 objects), Total (1).

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: N/A

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this [X] 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 [X] meets [] does not meet the National Register criteria. [] See continuation sheet. Signature of certifying official: Acting Assistant Commissioner for Natural & Historic Resources/DSHPO. Date: 6/6/91. 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: [X] 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: Patrick Andrews Date of Action: 7/22/92

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

RELIGION/Religious Structure

Church School

FUNERARY/Cemetery

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

RELIGION/ Religious Structure

Church School, Dining Hall, Kitchen

FUNERARY/Cemetery

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

OTHER: 19th Century Vernacular

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation Brick

walls Wood

roof Asphalt Shingles

other

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The Manasquan Friends Meetinghouse and Burying Ground property consists of approximately one acre of relatively open, high ground; lawn covered and shaded by large dispersed trees. Buildings on the property include the meetinghouse and a small modern storage shed. The burying ground is located north and immediately adjacent to these structures.

The property is an irregularly shaped lot bounded on the west and south by New Jersey State Highway 35 and Route 524 and on the east by Brielle Road, the last vestige of the main 18th century road connecting the communities of Middletown, Red Bank, Shrewsbury, Eaton(town), and Trap with Squan Bridge, Butcher's Works, and Tom's River.

The meetinghouse is positioned perpendicular to Brielle Road on the southern portion of the property. Built in 1884 after two previous meetinghouses were destroyed by storms, it survives today as a simple, one-story, rectangular frame structure supported by a brick foundation and sided with unpainted white cedar shingles. The gable roof is covered with asphalt shingles.

The symmetrical front (east) elevation has a central pair of double paneled doors capped by a plain rectangular transom. Above the transom is a small window that opens into the attic. Originally the front door was the only entrance into or out of the building. The entryway is covered by a small, gable-roofed porch supported by chamfered posts with brackets, and is flanked by a pair of large 12 over 12 paned, double-hung sash windows. A pair of similar windows, with shutters, originally created symmetrical facades on the south and north elevations. The rear (west) elevation was an unpierced wall.

The interior is plain and austere in the Quaker tradition. Entrance into the main room is through a small foyer with small bathrooms flanking each side. Originally heated with a wood burning stove, the large meeting room has yellow pine floors, a waist high wainscot, and exhibits a west wall "facing bench." Freestanding handmade benches, taken from the previous meetinghouse and/or made locally, are in the plain distinctive Quaker style and are original to the building. A small wall bench is located on the east wall adjacent to the front doorway. Original door hinges, hardware, and porcelain doorknobs are extant.

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

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Period of Significance

Significant Dates

Religion

c. 1700 c. 1900

1884

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

Architect/Builder

Unknown

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

The Manasquan Friends Meetinghouse and Burying Ground is nominated under Criterion "A" in the area of Religion and meets the special requirements of Criteria Consideration "A" as a religious property that derives its primary significance from historical importance. This religious property clearly demonstrates direct association with the history of Quaker religion in Manasquan and Monmouth County and simplistically conveys significant traditional cultural values of Quaker society. The property exhibits a rare late 19th century frame meetinghouse, completed during a period of extraordinary decline in Quaker membership, and endures today as one of only two known historic Quaker meetings in Monmouth County. Built in 1884 as the last of three meetinghouses to successively occupy the site since 1693, the present meetinghouse, associated burying ground, and related property create an unusual setting of considerable integrity within an area of extensive 20th century development. The Manasquan Friends Meetinghouse and Burying Ground property has been in continuous use for religious purposes for almost 300 years and is one of the last visual expressions of Quaker society to survive intact in Manasquan.

The opening of the "new" 1884 meetinghouse was celebrated by a special meeting reported in the Friend's Intelligencer,

"The Friends living at Squan, New Jersey, having completed their new meetinghouse, invited their friends to join them in holding the first meeting in it...We were cheered by the announcement that the First Day School, closed some time since, will be at once re-established, and by the assurance given by several Friends that there is a revival of interest in our principles, and that this will show itself in an improved attendance of the meeting. Those who attended the meeting will have occasion to remember the life that characterizes them, and to feel grateful for the hospitality and kindness extended by the Friends of Squan."

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 #

[X] See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional data:
[X] State historic preservation office
[] Other State agency
[] Federal agency
[] Local government
[] University
[] Other
Specify repository:

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property Less than one acre Ashbury Park, NJ Quad

UTM References

A [1, 8] [5, 7, 9, 6, 8, 0] [4, 4, 4, 2, 6, 3, 0]
Zone Easting Northing
B [1, 8] [5, 7, 9, 6, 5, 0] [4, 4, 4, 2, 7, 2, 0]
Zone Easting Northing
C [1, 8] [5, 7, 9, 7, 3, 0] [4, 4, 4, 2, 7, 4, 0]
D [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] []

[] See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description Beginning at the northwest corner of the intersection of Monmouth County Highway Route #524 and Brielle Road, the east boundary follows the line of Brielle Road north for approximately 360 feet, then extends southwest for approximately 257 feet, then curves in a southeast direction for approximately 250 feet to the beginning, forming a triangular shaped lot.

[] See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes the meetinghouse, cemetery, and adjacent land that is historically associated with the property.

[] See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Patricia H. Burke/member
organization Manasquan Friends Meeting date February, 1991
street & number 315 Essex Avenue telephone 201-449-5719
city or town Spring Lake state New Jersey zip code 07762

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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Section number 7 Page 2

Manasquan Friends Meetinghouse, Wall Township,
Monmouth County, NJ

Little has changed in the meeting room since its construction. The west window of the north wall has been converted into a doorway and the "facing bench" has been shortened on each end to accommodate doorways leading into rear additions.

A social room/kitchen/cellar addition was added to the rear of the structure in 1931. Two other additions were constructed on the side and rear of the building in 1955 and 1966. The present exterior white cedar shingle siding was applied in 1947 to create the appearance of the first two meetinghouses and to alleviate maintenance concerns. The original exterior horizontal pine weatherboard remains intact and undamaged underneath. The condition of the building is excellent.

The burying ground immediately north of the meetinghouse occupies the northern two-thirds of the property. The author, T. Chalkley Matlack, describes the burying ground in 1938, "Though the Meeting House (SIC) at Squan is attractive and interesting, the quaintness of the place really centers in the Burial Ground ... In the middle of the yard are a number of graves marked with oddly fashioned narrow wooden stakes that have grown dark with age and the weather."

These 17th and 18th century wooden grave markers were fashioned according to Quaker tradition--plain and unadorned. Time and weather have taken their toll and the wooden stakes are now gone. The burying ground today has numerous unmarked graves and a few 19th and 20th century stone grave markers. Among the family names seen in this Burial Ground are Allen, Bailey, Brown, Cook, Curlies, Curtis, Dorsett, Elmer, Frazee, Gifford, Havens, Johnson, Lafetra, Martin, Moore, Morris, Pearce, Pettit, Potter, Reynolds, Roe, Pharo, Sloan, Tilton, and Wolt. Among those that most frequently appear are Pearce, Frazee, Tilton, and Cook.

The meetinghouse constitutes one contributing building and the cemetery one contributing site. The modern storage shed is non-contributing.

6/8/92

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Manasquan Friends Meetinghouse, Wall Township,
Monmouth County, NJ

A D D E N D U M

A deed for the meetinghouse property was first recorded in July of 1685 when Quakers from Neversinks and Middletown purchased land from the Board of Proprietors of the Eastern Division of New Jersey. The Quakers who held these "Squan Patents" soon organized a Preparative Friends Meeting at Manasquan. The first meetinghouse was built between 1693 and 1701 with the first burials taking place in the adjacent cemetery around this same time.

The earliest recorded minutes (for the years 1672-1732) for Shrewsbury Quarterly Meeting, which included Manasquan, are missing. Death records from 1674-1853 are extant and deposited in the Haviland Records Room, New York Yearly Meeting, New York, New York.

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Manasquan Friends Meetinghouse, Wall Township,
Monmouth County, NJ

This 1884 announcement re-confirmed the existence of a committed and determined Quaker congregation, first established at this location in the late 17th century. In July 1685, Quakers from Neversinks (Shrewsbury) and Middletown purchased land from the Board of Proprietors of the Eastern Division of New Jersey. The Quakers who held these "Squan Patents" essentially founded the community of Manasquan and soon organized a Preparative Friends Meeting. The first meetinghouse was built between 1693 and 1701 within the present boundaries of the property and soon became the focal point for not only religious worship, but for social functions, as well.

Manasquan Meeting was initially affiliated with the Philadelphia Yearly Meeting until 1833 when it became part of the New York Yearly Meeting. In 1827, serious differences in the interpretation of Quaker philosophy resulted in the formation of separate Orthodox and Hicksite groups. The Quakers at Manasquan were followers of Minister Elias Hicks and were considered "Hicksites," at this time.

Evangelical congregations in New Jersey, including Baptist, Presbyterian, Dutch Reformed, Methodist and others saw dramatic growth in the mid-1800's while the number of Quaker meetings dropped precipitously during this same period. However, Manasquan Meeting continued to be active throughout the 1800's and managed to avoid the problems of decreasing membership that plagued other area meetings. The same cannot be said of nearby Shrewsbury Meeting where membership continued to decline into the early 20th century. By 1921, the last Shrewsbury member had passed away and the meetinghouse closed. It was the Manasquan Meeting that took over the responsibility of maintaining the meetinghouse property until several decades later when Shrewsbury meeting became active once again.

The present Manasquan Meetinghouse is the last of three meetinghouses to be constructed on this site. In August of 1808 a storm damaged the first meetinghouse, and in 1812 a remodeled second building was completed. Historic photographs indicate this second structure was relatively small, frame constructed, and sided with cedar shingles. In 1882, the second meetinghouse was seriously damaged by another storm. Members of the meeting decided to construct the present meetinghouse on the foundation of the second building, completing construction in 1884. Although later expanded, with rear and side additions, the current meetinghouse retains a high degree of integrity in its historic setting and exhibits a relatively unaltered interior meeting space.

There is a high probability that undisturbed and potentially significant archeological deposits and features relating to the first meetinghouse exist within the boundaries of the property.

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Monmouth County, NJ

The adjacent burying ground is clearly associated with the meetinghouse, which is the principle resource being nominated and therefore, does not have to meet the requirements of Criteria Consideration "D" for Cemeteries. However, the burying ground has considerable cultural significance. The present congregation can trace descent from those interred there possibly from as early as the late 17th century.

During the American Revolutionary War those Friends who chose to fight in the war were "read out" of meeting. Yet, one of the graves in the burying ground is that of Private William Pearce, Continental Line, Revolutionary War. Private Pearce was born in 1735 and died in 1799. Other families interred include some of the earliest settlers in the area, such as Ananiah Gifford, an early surveyor.

The earliest recorded minutes for Shrewsbury Quarterly Meeting, which includes Manasquan (Squan), Squancom (Squankum), and Topanemus (Freehold) are, unfortunately, missing for the years 1672-1732. However, minutes from 1732 to the present (Friends Historical Library, Swarthmore College, Swarthmore, Pennsylvania) as well as records of birth, marriage, and death from 1674-1853 (Haviland Records Room, New York Yearly Meeting, New York City) are extant and offer the opportunity to quantitatively study demographic, cultural, and social history of the Quaker community in Manasquan during this historic period.

John Woolman

Members of the Manasquan Meeting were visited on more than one occasion by John Woolman, an influential 18th century Quaker minister who journeyed and preached throughout the American colonies. His opinions concerning slavery and other social issues substantially influenced social thought in this country as well as England. His essay Considerations on Keeping Negroes, Second Part, was printed by Benjamin Franklin in 1762. Woolman's journal contains two entries regarding his association with Manasquan (Squan) Meeting:

Soon after my return home I felt an increasing concern for Friends on our seacoast. And on the 8th day, 8th month, 1746, with the unity of Friends and in company with my beloved friend and neighbor Peter Andrews...we set forward...and had meetings at Barnegat, Manahawkin, and Squan..."

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Manasquan Friends Meetinghouse, Wall Township,
Monmouth County, NJ

Several years later John Woolman again visited Manasquan Meeting:

In the 8th month, 1761, having felt drawings in my mind to visit Friends in and about Shrewsbury, I went there and was at their Monthly Meeting and their First Day meeting and had a meeting at Squan and another at Squankum, and as way opened had conversation with some noted Friends concerning their slaves, and the goodness of the Lord. From a Care I felt growing in me some years, I wrote Considerations on Keeping Negroes, Part Second, which was printed this year, 1762.

Lewis Benson

One of the most significant members of Manasquan Meeting was Lewis Benson (1906-1986). A respected scholar and author who wrote numerous articles published in theological journals, he is best known for his book entitled Catholic Quakerism. In addition, he spent 25 years accomplishing the arduous task of indexing and cross-referencing the journals of George Fox, the founder of Quakerism. Henry J. Cadbury, Hollis Professor of Divinity Emeritis, Harvard University, said that Lewis Benson was the most renowned Fox scholar in the world. Lewis Benson founded the New Foundation Fellowship which is an ongoing worldwide movement for renewal among the Religious Society of Friends.

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Manasquan Friends Meetinghouse, Wall Township,
Monmouth County, NJ

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Cox, John Jr., "Quaker Records: Shrewsbury Monthly Meeting,"
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York Yearly Meeting, New York City, 1911.

Deeds and Wills, Records on file, Haviland Records Room, New York
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Manasquan Chamber of Commerce, Manasquan, Diamond Jubilee
Commemorative Edition, 1962.

Matlack, T. Chalkley, "Brief Historical Sketches concerning
Friends' Meetings of the Past and Present with special
reference to Philadelphia Yearly Meeting," 1938.

Moulton, Phillips P., editor, The Journal and Major essays of
John Woolman, New York: Oxford University Press, 1971.

"Records of Women's Minutes, 1680-1732, Shrewsbury and
Manasquan," Documents on file, Friends Historical Library,
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Wall Township Tercentenary Committee, Wall Township, 1671-1964,
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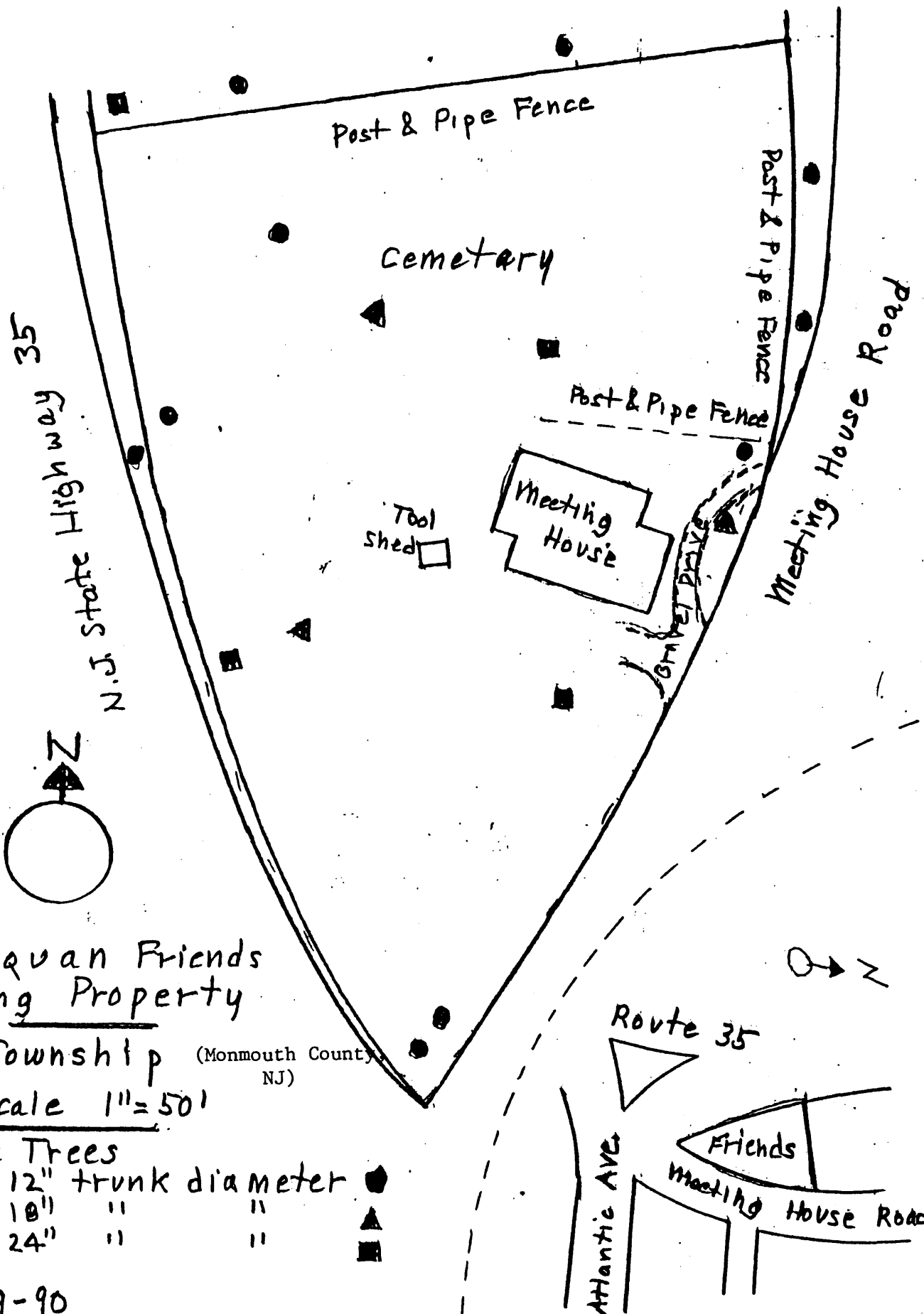
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Section number _____ Page 1

The following photographs of Manasquan Friends (Quaker) Meetinghouse and Burying Ground (cemetery) in Wall Township, Monmouth County, NJ, were taken by Charles Applegate, a member of the Meeting. Manasquan Meeting retains the negatives. The photographs were taken in September 1990.

- #1. Manasquan Friends Meetinghouse - south side; camera facing north.
- #2. Manasquan Friends Meetinghouse - east side & main entrance; camera facing west.
- #3. Manasquan Friends Meetinghouse - main entrance door showing detail; camera facing east.
- #4. Manasquan Friends Meetinghouse - main entrance doors closed inside; camera facing east.
- #5. Manasquan Friends Meetinghouse - library; camera facing north.
- #6. Manasquan Friends Meetinghouse - coat room; camera facing south.
- #7. Manasquan Friends Meetinghouse - meeting; camera facing east.
- #8. Manasquan Friends Meetinghouse - facing benches; camera facing west.
- #9. Manasquan Friends Meetinghouse - facing bench and doors to dining room; camera facing west.
- #10. Manasquan Friends Meetinghouse and Burying Ground - cemetery; camera facing south.



Manasquan Friends Meeting Property

Wall Township (Monmouth County NJ)

app scale 1" = 50'

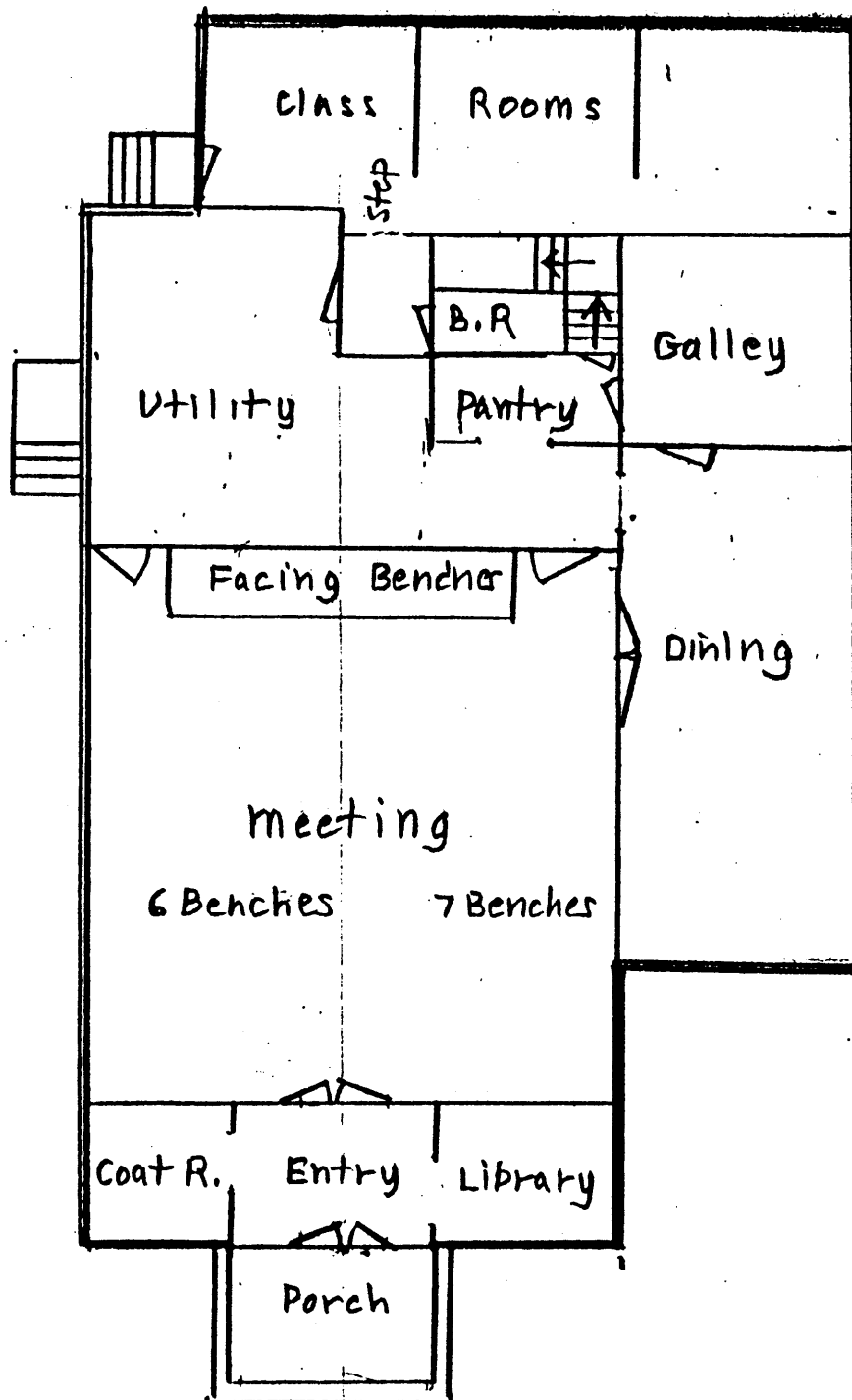
Shade Trees
 over 12" trunk diameter ●
 " 18" " ▲
 " 24" " ■

TX-19-90



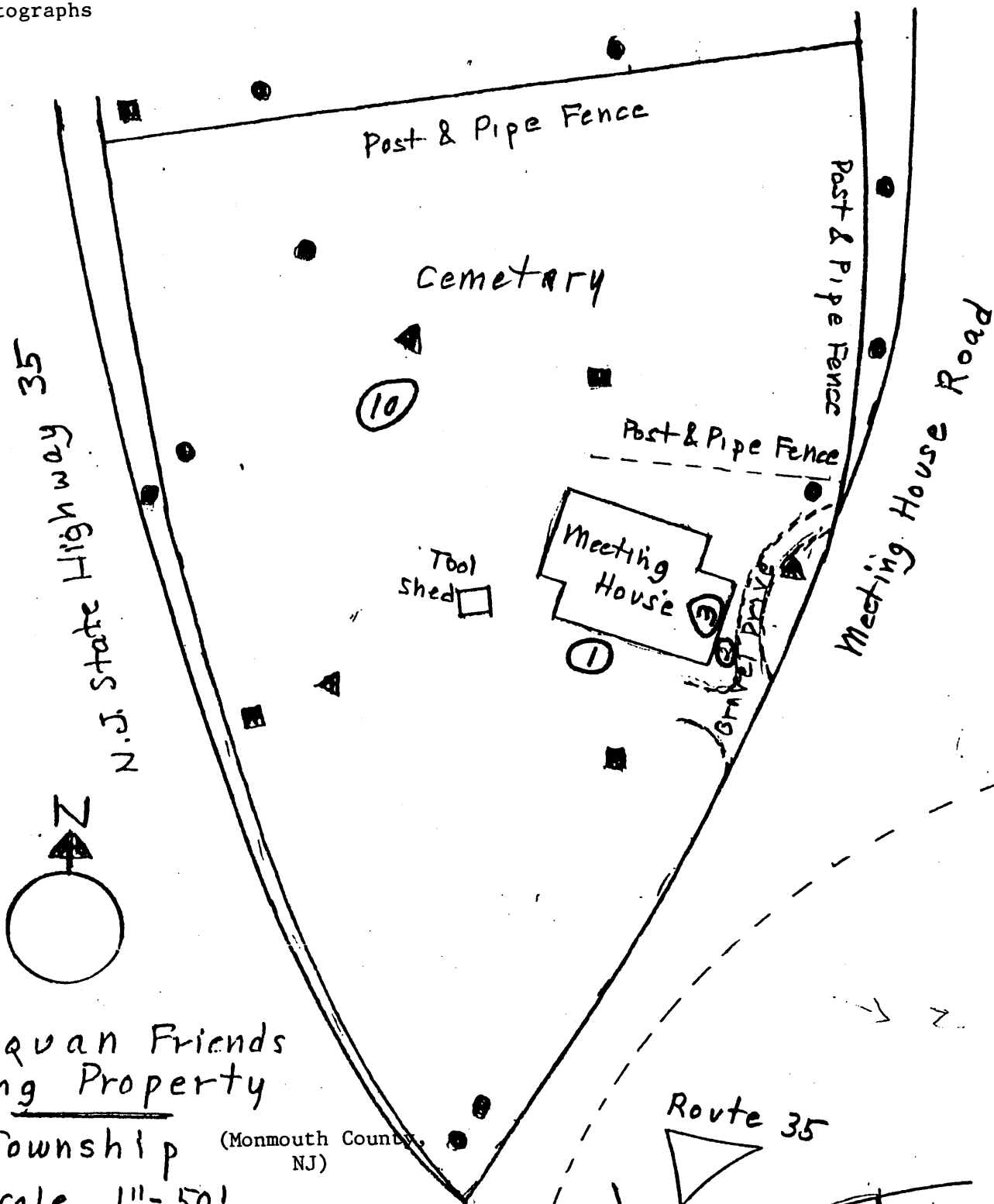
Manasquan Friends Meeting House

app scale
1" = 10'



Wall Township,
Monmouth County, NJ

○ Photographs



Manasquan Friends Meeting Property

Wall Township (Monmouth County, NJ)

app scale 1" = 50'

Shade Trees

over 12" trunk diameter

- " 10" " "
- " 24" " "



TX-19-90

Route 35

Atlantic Ave

Friends Meeting House Road

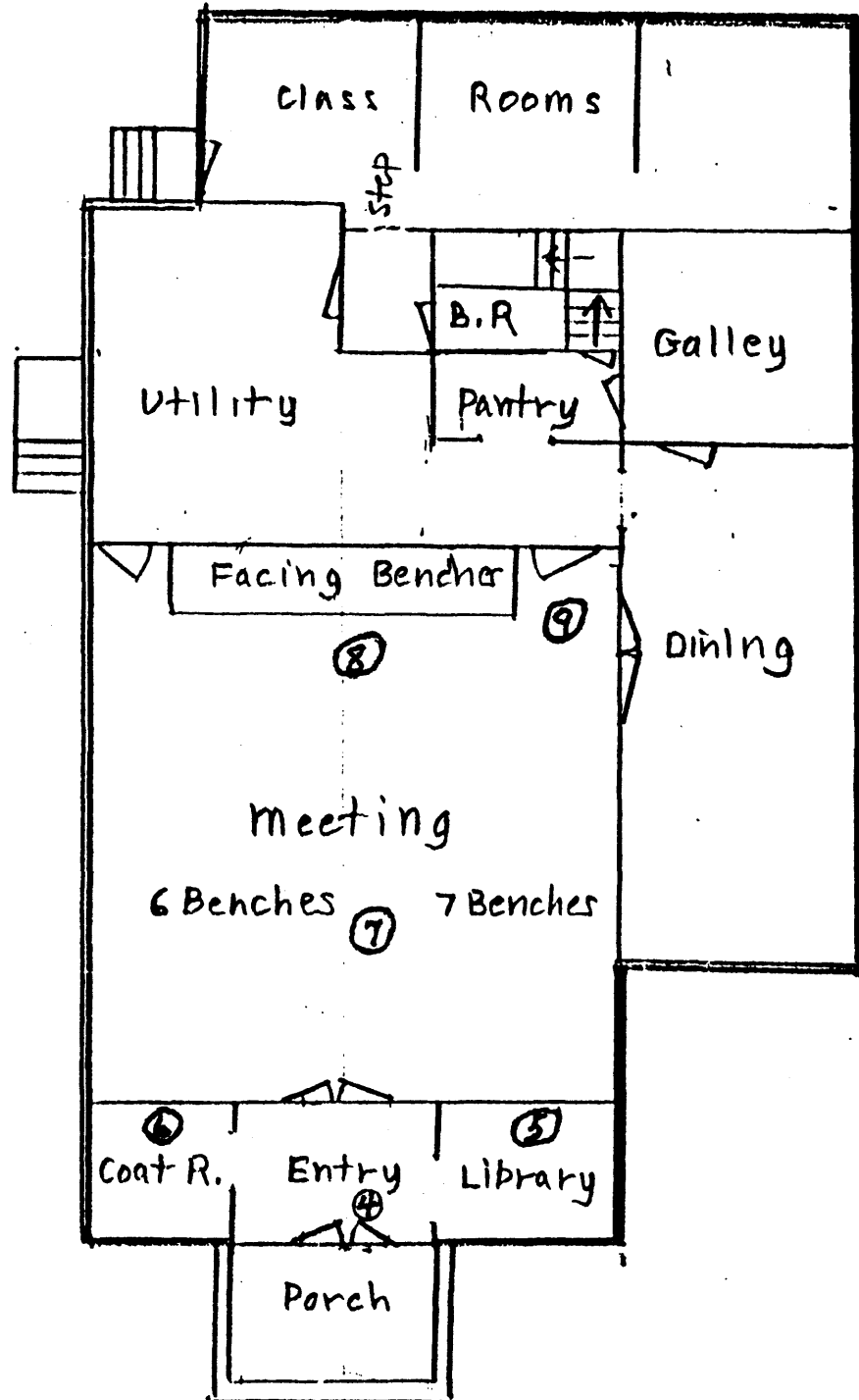
Manasquan Friends Meeting House

app scale

1" = 10'

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 Photographs



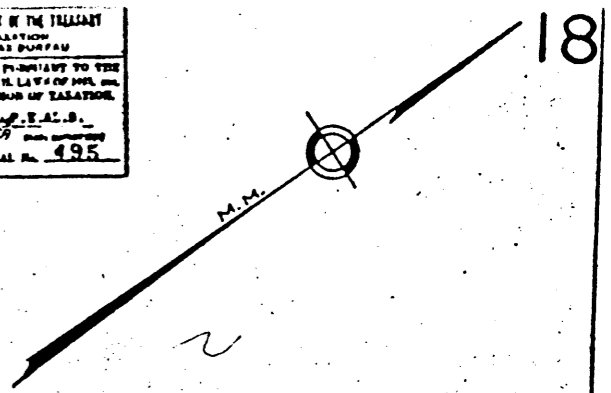
TX-19-90

Wall Township
Monmouth County, NJ

TOWNSHIP ENGINEER
REVISED OCT. 1, 1972
DEC. 31, 1980
DEC. 31, 1986
JAN. 1989 THOMAS CRADER 21782

JUN 13 1991

MAP REPLY POINTMENT IN THE TALLANT
DIVISION OF TAXATION
PUBLIC UTILITY TAX BUREAU
APPROVED AS A TAX MAP PURSUANT TO THE
PROVISIONS OF CHAPTER 114 OF PUBLIC LAW 1988
FOR THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF TAXATION.
J. H. ... E.A.L.S.
DATE OCT 30 1979 SERIAL NO. 495



Manasquan Friends Meetinghouse
Wall Township
Monmouth County, NJ

ROAD FROM MANASQUAN RIVER
BRIDGE TO GLENDDOLA

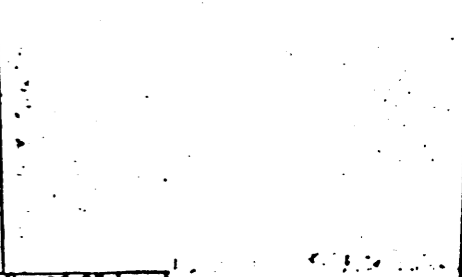
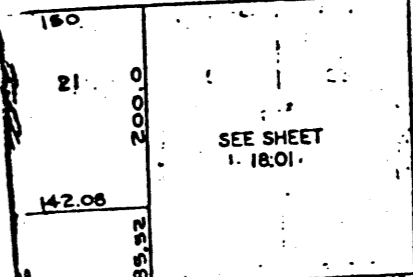
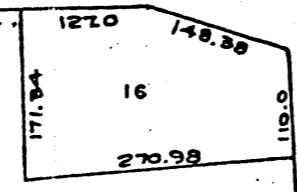
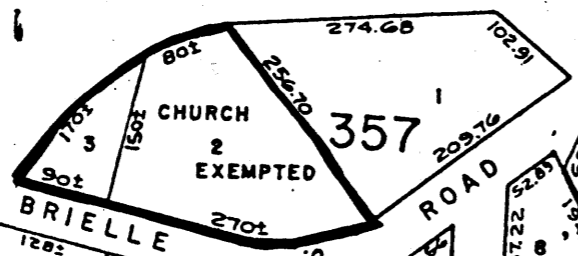
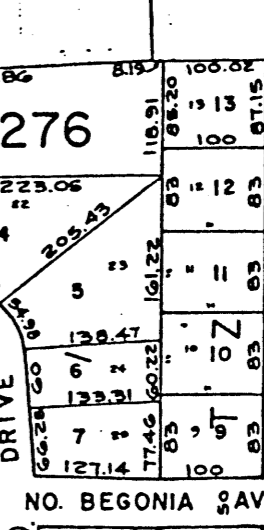
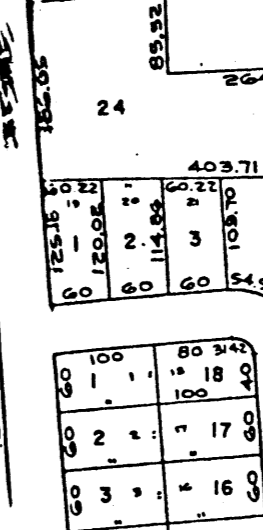
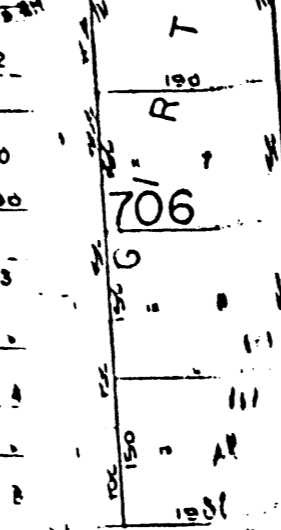
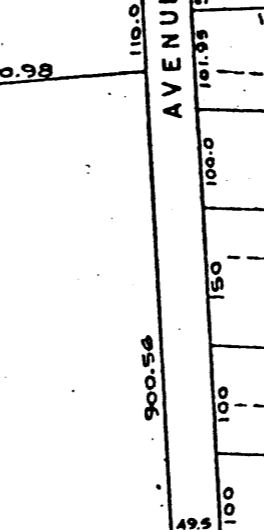
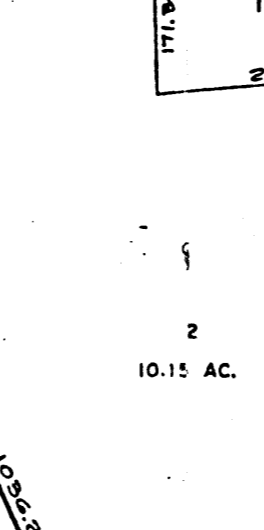
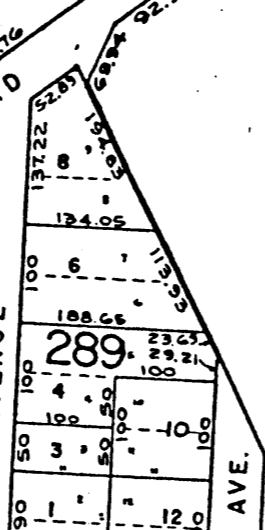
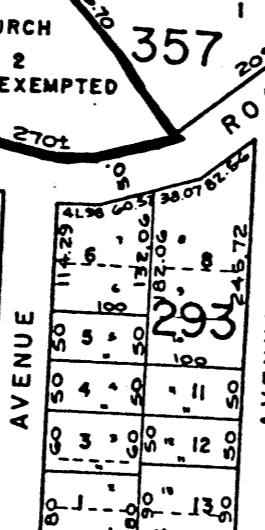
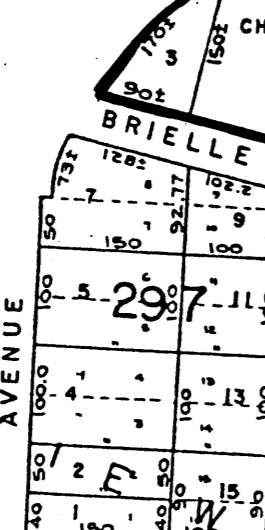
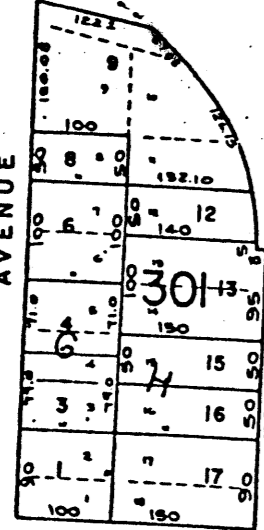
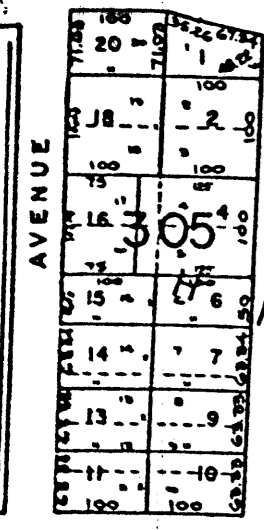
NO. 120 35

N. J.

STATE

HIGHWAY

WHITE



COTTONWOOD DR.

NO. BEGONIA AVE.

TOWNSHIP OF WALL
MONMOUTH COUNTY, N.J.

TAX MAP
MARCH 28, 1969

THOMAS W. BIRDSALL
TOWNSHIP ENGINEER

(15)