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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

DATA SHEET

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1977

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

I.	NVENTUR	Y NUMINATION	FORM DATE ENTE	RED '"'	10/1	
	SEE	INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW T	TO COMPLETE NATIONAL R COMPLETE APPLICABLE SI			
1	NAME :	,	COMITETE ATTECABLE OF	-0110143		
	HISTORIC	(*				
	The	Grimes Homestead				
	AND/OR COMMON	Grimes Farm				
Ţ						
í	LOCATIO					
	STREET & NUMBER	45 Bloomfield A	Avenue	NOT FOR RURI ICATION		
	CITY, TOWN			NOT FOR PUBLICATION CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT		
		ıntain Lakes	. VICINITY OF	5th COUNTY	CODE	
	STATE Nev	v Jersey	034	Morris	027	
	CLASSIFI	CATION				
	CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE		
	X DISTRICT	_ PUBLIC	Xoccupied	AGRICULTURE _	_MUSEUM	
	-BUILDING(S)	X PRIVATE	UNOCCUPIED		_PARK	
	STRUCTURE	вотн	WORK IN PROGRESS		XPRIVATE RESIDENCE	
	SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE X	•	_RELIGIOUS	
	OBJECT	_IN PROCESS	XYES: RESTRICTED		_SCIENTIFIC	
		BEING CONSIDERED	YES: UNRESTRICTEDNO		_TRANSPORTATION _OTHER:	
	OWNER (OF PROPERTY			<u></u>	
į	NAME					
		en Properties				
	STREET & NUMBER		- M			
	CITY, TOWN	sex Street and Route	= M	STATE		
		wood	VICINITY OF	New	Jersey	
-	LOCATIO	N OF LEGAL DESCR	RIPTION			
•	COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEED	S,ETC. Morris County F	Hall of Records			
	STREET & NUMBER					
	CITY, TOWN	Court Street		STATE		
	Morristown			New Jersey		
6	REPRESE	NTATION IN EXIST	ING SURVEYS			
	TITLE New J	Jersey Historic Site	es Inventory			
		s County Planning H	Board		<u> </u>	
٠	DATE 197	75	FEDERAL XSTATE	X _{COUNTY} LOCAL		
	DEPOSITORY FOR	Historic Sites Sect Court House			1 Protection	
	CITY, TOWN	Trenton	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	STATE		
		Morristown		New	Jersey	

CONDITION

CHECK ONE

CHECK ONE

_EXCELLENT

__FAIR

__DETERIORATED
__RUINS
__UNEXPOSED

__UNALTERED

_XORIGINAL SITE
__MOVED DATE_____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Grimes Farmstead appears to date from the 19th century, although small sections of the building could predate 1780.

Engulfed by a hodge-podge of additions the main building is 21 1/2 feet by 17 feet. It is a 1 1/2 cantury clapboard unit which has a gable roof with return. A cross gable has been added to this unit. The window in the cross gable is Victorian with louvered shutters. The front facade has been added to this unit. The facade has three bays, unevenly spaced. The entrance-door is in the middle, although it is not quite centered. The windows are 6/6 double hung with louvered shutters. A later 19th century one story flat roofed porch protects the doorway and one window.

A leanto clapboard wing was added to the rear of this main unit either late in the 19th century, or early in the 20th. Projecting beyond this is another clapboard leanto addition, identified as a milk room.

Covering the East gable end of the main unit is an enclosed one story porch which also protects the second major section; a 1 1/2 story narrow clapboard unit. Appearing to be an entity in itself the exact disposition of this unit has yet to be determined, although it was probably a dwelling of sorts. Its front facade has, however, two bays, one being a side entrance. The second floor has narrow kneewall windows. A leanto addition, functioning as a kitchen, has been added to this unit also, probably in the early 20th century.

A narrow breezeway connects the kitchen with another early 20th century 1 1/2 story clapboard wing, presently functioning as a dairy.

The West facade of the main unit has not gone unmarred by alterations as a large two story flat-roofed wint was appended to it in the early 1900's.

PERIOD AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW __PREHISTORIC __ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC __COMMUNITY PLANNING __LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE __RELIGION __1400-1499 __ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC __CONSERVATION __LAW __SCIENCE __1500-1599 __AGRICULTURE __ECONOMICS __LITERATURE _SCULPTURE _1600-1699 __ARCHITECTURE __EDUCATION __MILITARY XSOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN X₁₇₀₀₋₁₇₉₉ __ART __ENGINEERING __MUSIC __THEATER X₁₈₀₀₋₁₈₉₉ X_PHILOSOPHY __COMMERCE __EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT _TRANSPORTATION __1900-__COMMUNICATIONS __INDUSTRY __POLITICS/GOVERNMENT _OTHER (SPECIFY) __INVENTION

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Grimes Homestead is one of the few clearly documented physical remnants of the Abolition movements of the 19th century in New Jersey. The Grimes Family was clearly active in anti-slavery efforts and evidence indicates this farmhouse was one of the numerous stops on the Underground Railroad to Canada.

New Jersey in the 19th century had a serious dicotomy. Considered even today as the northernmost of the Southern States, prior to the Civil War there was enormous sympathy for the continuation of slavery in the south. (This was partially a result of the southern plantation owners having economic and social ties in the state. Many Southerners, for instance, summered in the more tolerable Jersey climate).

New Jersey itself, however, was gradually emancipating its slaves. In part this was most certainly encouraged by a counter-movement in the state. The often maligned abolition movement played an important part in New Jersey's social history. The Quakers in South Jersey had long opposed the institution of human bondage. Also, in the second quarter of the 19th century humanistic reforms played an important part in the moralistic evolution of New Jersey. Theodore Weld and the Grimke Sisters, centered in New Jersey, are today recognized (although somewhat belatedly) as leaders in America's social/educational reforms, particularly in their opposition to slavery.

The Grimes Family, although a minor influence nationally, did play a significant part in New Jersey's opposition to slavery.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES								
		ection		News,				
10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA								
ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPER UTM REFERENCES	TY 2 acres							
A 1.8 5 1.7 3.9 10 ZONE EASTING C VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCR	NORTHING	B J L ZONE EAS	STING NORT	HING				
VERBAL BOOKBART BLOCK								
LIST ALL STATES AND	COUNTIES FOR PROPERTI	ES OVERLAPPING S	TATE OR COUNTY BOX	JNDARIES				
STATE	CODE	COUNTY		CODE				
STATE	CODE	COUNTY		CODE				
11 FORM PREPARED		Mountain L	or. Anne Broua akes Historic					
Terry Karschne ORGANIZATION	r, Historian-Cu	raton	DATE					
	Section, Dept.	of Environm		ion				
STREET & NUMBER P. O. Box 1420			TELEPHONE 609-29	2-2023				
CITY OR TOWN			STATE	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·				
Trenton	DECEDIATION	OFFICER C	New Jers					
12 STATE HISTORIC	PRESER VATION JATED SIGNIFICANCE OF T)N				
NATIONAL	STATE		LOCAL					
As the designated State Historic Pr hereby nominate this property for criteria and procedures set forth by STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OF	inclusion in the National Rethe National Park Service.			d according to the				
	Department of E	nvirdnmental	Protection	OCT - 6 1976				
FOR NPS USE ONLY I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CHIEF	PROPERTY IS INCLUDED I	NE NATIONAL RI	EGISTER DATE #//	1/20				
	DLOGY AND HISTORIC PRI	ESTATION W	DATE 3	18.37				

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

Grimes Farm Mountain Lakes Morris County New Jersey 034

CONTINUATION SHEET

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GE 2

SIGNIFICANCE

Dr. John Grimes (1802-1875), the most noted and vociferous advocate of slavery abolition for the family, was born in the homestead and apparently lived there until he was 26. At that time Grimes began a medical practice in Newfoundland, Passaic County. By 1832, however, he had retuned to the homestead to practice. Subsequently he located in Boonton.

In 1840 Dr. Grimes published the New Jersey Freeman, the states first paper openly opposed to slavery. This important newspaper was printed monthly until 1850.

Once arrested in Essex County for harboring a runaway slave Grimes and his family was repeatedly harrassed by proslavery New Jersey citizens; at his home in Boonton and the homestead in Mountain Lakes, both stations on the underground railroad.

Dr. Grimes obituary in the Jerseyman in 1875 stated,
"In the earlier days, his father's house, Mr. Jonathan
Grimes of Parsippany (Mt. Lakes today) was a prominent
station on the celibrated Underground Railroad. In later
days it was transfered to his own home in Boonton through
which many a poor runaway has been helped on his way to
Canada. They came to him from Baxter Sayre, Esq. of Madison
(long since dead) he forwarding them in the night to Newfoundland, the next station."

Form No. 10-300a (Rev. 10-74)

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DATE ENTERED

APR 1 1977

Grimes Farm
Mountain Lakes
Morris County
CONTINUATIONSHEET

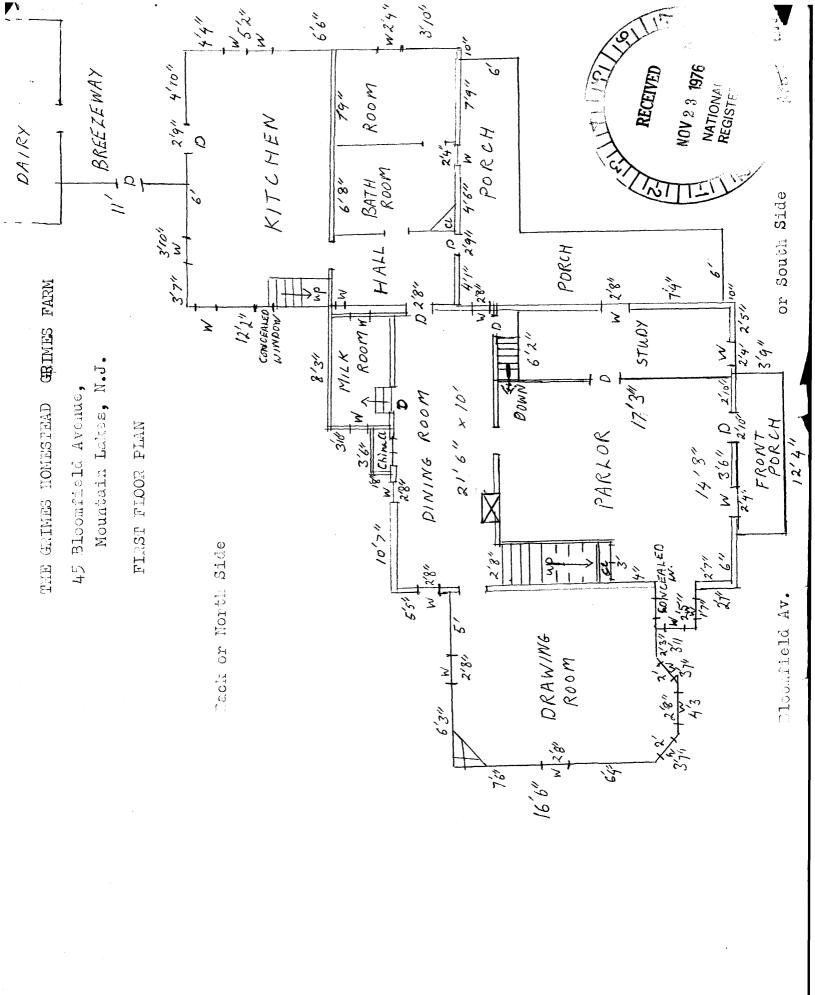
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PAGE 1

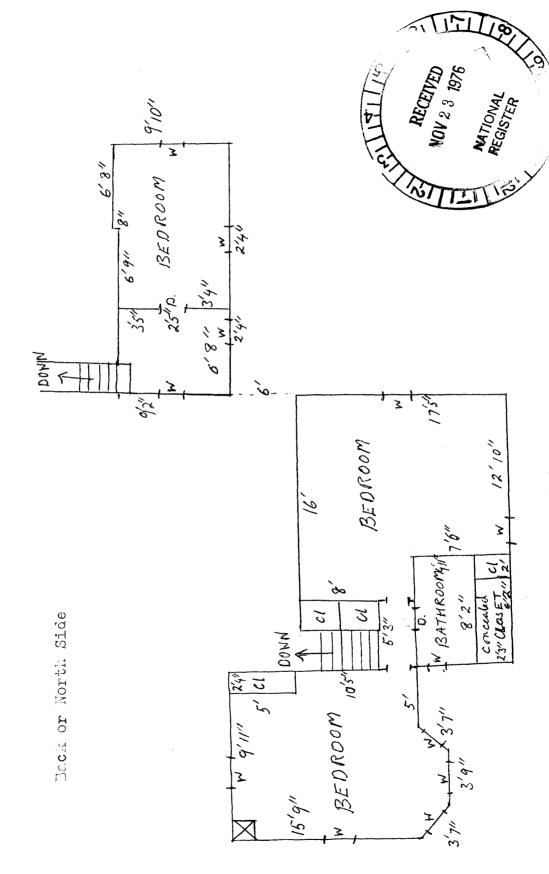
BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES (continued)

Conversations with Mrs. Ruth Grimes "Dr. John Grimes Obituary", Jerseyman, May 14, 1875

Munsell W.W ed., <u>History of Morris County New Jersey</u>, New York: W.W. Munsell Co., 1882.



45 Boonfield Avenue, Mountain Lakes, N.J. SECOND FLOOR PLAN



Bloomfield Avenue or South Side

FHR-8-300A (11/78)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

Grimes Homestead Mountain Lakes, Morris County New Jersey

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The subject property is located in the "Residential Zone" RA, permitting single family detached house used as a single family dwelling. The minimum of area of each shall be fifteen thousand (15,000) square feet and no lot shall have a width of less than one hundred feet (100). Therefore, a typical lot would be 100 feet by 150 feet.

The highest and best use of the subject property is for single family residences in accordance with the existing building ordinances of the Borough of Mountain Lakes at the time of this appraisal.

There is a building currently on the new property location. This structure was apparently built in the 1930's and is a simple one story frame cottage. Of no historical or architectural significance, this building is to be demolished.

The new siting of the Grimes Homestead will not be in the same geographic orientation as the original, but will relate rather to the recently constructed Craven Road in order to create a mor appropriate visual impact from the public approach. (If kept in its original vaguely NW-SE configuration the rear of the building will face the public right-of-way.) In the proposed siting the Greek Revival addition (mid-19th century) will be at the northernmost corner and the 18th century unit will be jutting off to the southwest making both segments visible from the street. Only the Victorian wing to the back will be partially hidden from view.

The building will be set back forty feet from the street. The access driveway will be to the east of the building.

As the Grimes Homestead will utilize the foundations of the 1930's cottage (to be demolished) it is not anticipated that any archeological resources will be effected. While the new site has not been carefully surveyed for archeological potential a surface investigation uncovered nothing.

FHR-8-300A (11/78)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION—SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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DATE ENTERED. Survey 126/74

Grimes Homestead Mountain Lakes, Morris County

New Jersey CONTINUATION SHEET

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The Grimes Homestead must be moved to a new site in order to save the building.

The Mountain Lakes Historical Society, current owners of the building, is endeavoring to save this National Register property.

The former owner plans to construct an office building on the site to expand his commercial enterprise. A demolition permit was issues to this property owner, but after successful negotiations he donated the house to the Mountain Lakes Historical Society on the condition that it be removed from its present site prior to June 1, 1979.

Over a two year period, the alternatives were considered, including exchanging a vacant property with that of the Grimes Homestead and having the municipality condemn the property. The property exchange was unacceptable to the owners as no lot was available adjacent to his present business. Financially, Mountain Lakes Borough was unable to withstand the \$100,000 loss condemnation would bring about.

As it is no longer feasible to save this building on its original site, it will be moved.

The Mountain Lakes Historical Society wishes that the building remain on the National Register during and after its move.

Every attempt is being made to recapture the essential historic environment of the house on its new site as it exists now at 45 Bloomfield Avenue, Mountain Lakes. A local architect is working on the project. He has donated his services and done a detailed measured drawing of the structure.

In addition, a professional planner and engineer have been hired for surveying, siting the new lot, and arranging the placement of the house. On its new site, all utilities are underground and therefore the appearance will be more authentic than the current wires and poles at the existing location.

The new location was historically part of the original Grimes farm of 48 acres of farmland extending to the North along Intervale Road (former Powerville Turnpike). The new setting does not possess historical significance that would be adversely affected by the placement of the Grimes house rather the appropriateness of this building on the new 1/2 acre lot could be undeniably the perfect location. Although preferable to leave it on the original site, this is no longer possible and the new location will protect the house from commercial and highway encroachments.

After the move is complete and rehabilitation has been done the historical society wishes to sell the building. An attorney is drawing up a deed on the house and the new

FHR-8-300A (11/78)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

Grimes Homestead Mountain Lakes, Morris County New Jersey

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lot with these easements to be incorporated:

- 1. Covenants prohibiting demolition.
- 2. Covenants prohibiting unsympathetic alterations to the exterior or frame of the building.
- 3. Covenants prohibiting major interior changes of the nature requiring building permit including but not limited to removal or addition of partition walls. Approval for certain interior changes may be given by the Mountain Lakes Historical Society or their successor guardian of historical houses and landmarks under whose jurisdiction rests the "John Grimes Homestead". Any interior changes may be begun only after written approval has been granted by the above organization. Once a year at a mutually agreeable date and time the owner will allow an inspection of the premises by an appointed representative of the Mountain Lakes Historical Society or its successor mentioned above.

Description of the Property on which the Grimes Homestead will be located $Block\ 118\ Lot\ 4-B$

The subject property is situated on the southerly side of Craven Road approximately two hundred feet \pm (200' \pm) northwest of the intersection of Intervale Road and Craven Road in the Borough of Mountain Lakes, Morris County, New Jersey. This parcel is now known as Block 118, Lot 4-B and was created in a recently approved sub-division containing twelve lots.

The subject property contains 21,003 square feet and has a frontage of 125.12 feet along Craven Road, westerly sideline of 222.96 feet, a rear lotline of 90.00 feet, and a easterly sideline consisting of 100.00 feet plus 100.67 feet to Craven Road.

Location, size and configuration of this lot can be seen on the attached subdivision map copy which is attached to the Addenda of this report as Sheet "A".

The lots are currently being improved with curbing, base paving in the road and underground utilities to serve each of the lots in this new subdivision. Each lot will be connected to electricity, water, telephone and municipal sewers and all will be serviced by municipal services similar to other properties in the surrounding area.

FHR-8-300A (11/78)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

Grimes Homestaed

Mountain Lakes, Morris County

New Jersey

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As this application was being readied for HCRS the landowner granted a few more days. The Grimes Homestead now has to June 10th to be moved.

T. Karschner 5/29/79

