

NEW JERSEY OFFICE OF CULTURAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES
HISTORIC PRESERVATION SECTION
INDIVIDUAL STRUCTURE SURVEY FORM

HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY NO. 21

HISTORIC NAME: B. C. Wadcell House, "The Cedars" COMMON NAME: Shedyside House 1104/51
 LOCATION: Barn and Gazebo, 223 W. Saddle River BLOCK/LOT Barn 1102/23; gazebo: 1102/22
 Road, with accessory buildings at 224 and 214 W. Saddle River Road.
 MUNICIPALITY: Saddle River COUNTY:
 USGS QUAD: Park Ridge UTM REFERENCES:
 OWNER/ADDRESS: 223: Hugh & Barbara Owen; Zone/Northing/Easting
 barn: Noyes, Robert & Murie; gazebo: John + Ruth Pizzarelli

DESCRIPTION

Construction Date: c. 1865-8 Source of Date: Inskoop, tradition
 Architect: Builder:
 Style: Second Empire Form/Plan Type:
 Number of Stories: 2½
 Foundation: brick and some fieldstone from earlier house on site.
 Exterior Wall Fabric: clapboard
 Fenestration: 5 bays, 6/E
 Roof/Chimneys: Mansard; 4 chimneys included, added exterior chimney at N
 Additional Architectural Description:

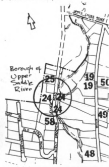


1104/51

2 story, 5 bay front (E) porch with larger chamfered posts on 1st story than on 2nd story, turned balusters on railing, upper story has paired brackets over posts.
 Double door entrance, paneled doors with glazed upper panels.
 Front has 3 gable dormers with shaped surrounds, central dormer has paired windows.
 1 story, rectangular-in-plan projecting bay on N side.
 Added 1 story sunporch at S.
 Central hall plan. Interior remodelled but retains moldings.
 Well under a room in house.

PHOTO Negative File No. 2-4, slide

Map (Indicate North)



21 SITING, BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION, AND RELATED STRUCTURES: House: 2.23 acre property. Barn: 1.01 acre property. Houses faces east, located c. 25' from road. On property is small barn and newer early 20th c. garage about 75' from house. Garage of rock-faced artistic concrete block, gable roofed. Stone retaining wall along drive at NE, also recent split rail fence. Western part of property is wooded. Across West Saddle River road is barn originally built about same time as house. Located about 10' east of road. Circa 1920 remodelled to serve as dormitory for YWCA camp and called "Armide Rest" or "Barnabide." Emil Matson was craftsman for the renovation. (cont. p. 3)

SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT: Urban Suburban Scattered Buildings
 Open Space Woodland Residential Agricultural Village
 Industrial Downtown Commercial Highway Commercial Other

To the north and south are other residential structures. A single 20th century house is located between the house and the Second Empire style house at 229 West Saddle River Road (0258-25). The Saddle River forms the western boundary of the barn's property.

SIGNIFICANCE:

The Benjamin Coe Wandell House with its accessory buildings has both architectural and historical significance. The house is a fine example of Second Empire style architecture with this mode's characteristic mansard roof. Its visual significance is enhanced by its proximity to another large 2½ story frame Second Empire style house at 229 West Saddle River Road. While now in different ownerships, the Wandell House's accessory buildings, in particular a large barn and a picturesque riverside gazebo, exist and contribute to the house's sense of continuing history. The house is significant to the history of Saddle River as a resort location in the late 19th century and early 20th century. Judge Wandell, the first owner, is believed to be "the first of the New Yorkers to establish a summer home in Saddle River" (The Landscape, March-April 1900). Contributing to the site's significance in recreational history is its role between 1919 and 1941 as a vacation camp run by the NY Central Branch of the YWCA. The association with the Wandell family is also of interest.

The house is believed to incorporate the foundation of an earlier building and the 1861 Hopkin's Map does suggest the Terhune House was on this site. According to tradition Judge Benjamin Coe Wandell built his summer home circa 1865-68. The building's architectural style corroborates this date as the Second Empire style was (cont.)

ORIGINAL USE: summer home **PRESENT USE:** nursery school and residence
PHYSICAL CONDITION: Excellent Good Fair Poor
REGISTER ELIGIBILITY: Yes Possible No Part of District
THREATS TO SITE: Roads Development Zoning Deterioration
 No Threat Other

COMMENTS:

The house is currently for sale. Painting this building in colors historically proper for its age and style and placing the colors in a way to emphasize the detailing will enhance the house's visual appearance and historical integrity.

REFERENCES:

"223 West Saddle River": NJHSI 0258-24
 SRHC files, ✓ Bob Sengstacker "Oldtimer Recalls Days of Saddle River's Resort"
Ridgewood News, nd ; 1927 brochure
 for "Shadyside Camp", Aug 1908 newspaper clipping
 SRHC Files; "SR: Wandell School"; xerox biography of F. L. Wandell from Holland
 Society publication, 1918, pp. 202-3; other clippings.
The Landscape July 1882, Sept. 1883, April 1900
 Obituary, Francis Livingston Wandell, New York Times May 9, 1918, 13:5.

RECORDED BY: SRRC/TRB
 ORGANIZATION: SRHC/BCOC&HA

DATE: 9-1983

(cont.)

SITING, BOUNDARY-DESCRIPTION, AND RELATED STRUCTURES: (continued)

The barn is a 2½ story, gable-roofed structure with board-and-batten siding on S. side; converted into a house; it is set on a downward slope, and is at a lower level than the road. Recent 1-2 story additions form an ell at the NW. North of these additions is a freestanding 1-2 story building with hip roof and boulder walls. This 3-bay-wide early 20th century structure is built on sloping property. South of the barn, now on the property of 214 West Saddle River Road, is a gazebo located on the river bank of the Saddle River. The frame gazebo is of eclectic late-19th-century design. It has solid railing, open sides with plain posts with brackets supporting a gable roof. Rising from the center of the roof is a 2 bay wide, open-arcaded cupola with flaring hip roof terminated by a finial. The gazebo is located on a 0.8 acre property.

SIGNIFICANCE: (continued)

most popular in the 1860's and 70's. Unfortunately further research is needed to provide a biography of Judge Wandell. He is believed to have been a judge in New York City. More is known about Judge Wandell's son, Francis Livingston, as he was involved in a contested divorce about 1882, which received newspaper coverage and in 1917-19 gave the Wandell School to the Borough of Saddle River. Francis and his brother Townsend practiced law together in New York City. Apparently the house passed to Townsend on his mother's death in 1900 as maps of 1902 and 1913 list "T" or "T. L." Wandell as owner. Francis lived across the Saddle River on the property of the Ward Edge Tool factory (see 255-261 East Saddle River Road, 0258-19).

From 1919 to 1941 the estate was loaned to the Central Branch of the YWCA in New York City and used as "Shadyside Camp", a vacation resort accommodating about 80 young women after the barn was remodelled into a dormitory.* Emil Matson, the camp's caretaker, renovated the barn, built a dam in the Saddle River increasing its swimming potential, built a boathouse and tennis courts. The camp was a memorial to Josephine Wandell Gill, founded by Mr. Gill and Mrs. Francis L. Wandell. Some of the camp's facilities were on the Francis Wandell estate (see 255-261 East Saddle River Road, 0258-19). In recent years the Wandell House was home to Shadyside Nursery School.

REFERENCES: (continued)

1861 Hopkins map: A. Terhune?

1876 Walker Atlas: B. C. Wandell.

1887 Driving Map: B.C. Wandell

1902 Robinson Map: T. Wandell.

1913 Bromley Atlas: T. L. Wandell.

1964 Inskeep map: A. Terhune 1840; B. C. Wandell, 1865; Francis L. Wandell. Fully equipped school was gift of Francis Livingston Wandell in 1917. (Building finished in 1919)

Westervelt, I, p.410.

CKT List

SIGNIFICANCE (cont.)

*The barn was not originally associated with the Wandell House, as the 1876 Walker Atlas maps show it as owned by William Ward. Ward was the owner of an Edge Tool factory (see 255-261 East Saddle River Road, 0258-19) and it is likely this building was used in his manufacturing enterprise. It is probable that it became part of the Wandell estate after Ward's death in 1891.



224 West Saddle River
Road, Barn looking NE
Neg. file # 2-3



224 West Saddle River
Road, early 20th century
building North of barn.
Looking SW Neg. file #
2-5



Gazebo at 214 West
Saddle River Road
Looking NE
Neg. file #2-0
slide