

**Craftsman Farms**

USDI/NPS NRHP Registration Form (Rev 8-86)  
United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service  
National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

**1. NAME OF PROPERTY**

Historic Name: Craftsman Farms

Other Name/Site Number: \_\_\_\_\_

**2. LOCATION**

Street & Number: Route 10 and Manor Lane Not for publication: \_\_\_\_\_

City/Town: Parsippany-Troy Hills Township Vicinity: \_\_\_\_\_

State: NJ County: Morris Code: 027 Zip Code: 07054

**3. CLASSIFICATION**

Ownership of Property  
Private: \_\_\_\_\_  
Public-local: X  
Public-State: \_\_\_\_\_  
Public-Federal: \_\_\_\_\_

Category of Property  
Building(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
District: X  
Site: \_\_\_\_\_  
Structure: \_\_\_\_\_  
Object: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Resources within Property  
Contributing  
11  
1  
2  
14

Noncontributing  
5 buildings  
       sites  
1 structures  
       objects  
6 Total

Number of Contributing Resources Previously Listed in the National Register: 14

Name of related multiple property listing: \_\_\_\_\_

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**4. STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION**

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, 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.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Certifying Official Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal Agency and Bureau

In my opinion, the property \_\_\_ meets \_\_\_ does not meet the National Register criteria.

\_\_\_\_\_  
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 \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_ Determined eligible for the \_\_\_\_\_  
National Register
- \_\_\_ Determined not eligible for the \_\_\_\_\_  
National Register
- \_\_\_ Removed from the National Register \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_ Other (explain): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Keeper Date of Action

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**6. FUNCTION OR USE**

Historic: Domestic	Sub: Single Dwelling
Current: Domestic	Sub: Multiple Dwelling

**7. DESCRIPTION**

Architectural Classification: Bungalow/Craftsman	Materials: Foundation: Stone and Concrete Walls: Log, Fieldstone Roof: Wood Shingles Other Description: _____
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**Describe Present and Historic Physical Appearance.**

Gustav Stickley built his envisioned farm-school in the New Jersey Highlands in the western portion of Parsippany-Troy Hills in 1908. Stickley was attracted to this farmland because of its beautiful vistas, natural resources, and proximity to New York City.

Craftsman Farms is an early 20th Century farm/farm-school designed and built by Gustav Stickley in the Craftsman architectural style. This style consisted of building simple houses of natural materials -- logs, field-stones, and wood shingles -- in harmony with the natural setting. At one time, Craftsman Farms covered over 400 acres. Today, all the farmland has been sold for single family homes to the north and apartment buildings to the east.

Included within the boundaries of Craftsman Farms are eleven contributing buildings, two contributing structures, and one contributing site. Five buildings and one structure do not contribute to the significance of the complex. Stickley designed and constructed nine buildings and three structures: the main log house (1908); three shingle cottages; a workshop; and a bakery or herdsman house with detached carriage house; a horse stable; a milk house (east of the cow stable); a cow stable; a fieldstone bridge structure; and terraced stream. The Garrigus Farmhouse by the stream was built in the late 18th to early 19th

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century and is still occupied. Also, included within the boundaries are five (5) buildings and one (1) structure constructed by the Farny family between 1917 and 1941. The main log house annex is the only Farny building that can be classified as contributing. It was constructed in 1917 three months after the sale of the property and is attached to the main log house by a breezeway. The annex is the most significant Farny building because it was constructed in a manner that harmonizes with Stickley's design. The other Farny buildings classified as noncontributing are: a circa 1940 house at 19 Manor Lane; a circa 1903 house at 17 Manor Lane; two wood shingle garages/sheds along the communal road to the main log house; a metal pool; and a stone/concrete duplex apartment across from the horse stable. The noncontributing Farny buildings were included because they are oriented in a way to provide a park-like community where the tenants share the open space around the main log house similar to Stickley's philosophy.

The main entrance to Craftsman Farms was a narrow winding road that branched off of the Mt. Pleasant Turnpike (Route 10), crossed a pudding stone bridge (No. 15 on tax map), and passed by the 18th-19th century Garrigus Farmhouse. Stickley did not disturb the old farmhouse because his philosophy was to build with minimal alteration of the existing natural and built environments. The Garrigus Farmhouse is one-and-a-half story gable roof Greek Revival style home with clapboard siding and attic windows in the frieze. On its east side is a large 19th century two story gable roof addition (No. 7 on tax map). Just east of the Garrigus Farmhouse is the Morris and Essex Railroad Line to Dover and Morris Plains. Continuing up the private road to the main log house, on the south side, is the Watnong Brook, which was terraced with fieldstones to provide ice. Where the road levels off and makes a right angle turn lies a pond that spills into the brook. Above, and west of the pond, is the main log house of Craftsman Farms which is nestled among rhododendrons, oak trees, and rare imported plants (No. 1 on tax map).

**Main Log House (No 1 on Tax Map)**

The main log house is "T"-shaped with one-story kitchen attached to the rear of the primary one-and-one-half story house. The larger portion has a north-side axis with a large gable roof. Long shed dormers at the front and back sides of the house give light and ventilation to the second story bedrooms. The exterior

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wall fabric consists of chestnut wood round logs with hewn sides laid together. Where the logs cross at the corner they are halved and laid over each other, overhanging about one foot. The seams are chinked with mortar. The round logs also serve as interior walling that were stained with wood-oil. Some walls are now painted white. The gables are shingled and the roof is covered with heavy green tiles. The east portion of the roof below the dormers is covered with asphalt shingles. Three fieldstone chimney stacks rise separately with one at each gable end; the third from the kitchen on its common wall with the main house. Diamond-paned casement sash windows are used throughout the house.

All of the first floor rooms were planned with cross ventilation. The 26'x 28' kitchen has groups of seven casement windows on the north and south walls. The west wall consists of a large ice box that is now used for storage. On the east wall by the rear chimney stack is an old iron stove that has been converted to gas and electric. To either side of this are doors leading to the main part of the house. Under the gable roof, on the main floor, are three long spaces oriented north-south. These are the dining room, the large room or living room, and the piazza or veranda. Each space is 50' long. The dining room is 12' 6" wide. It has window groupings at either end and a fireplace made of fieldstone with a copper hood on the common wall with the kitchen. Two passageways on the east wall lead to the living room.

The living room is 20 feet wide and is structurally subdivided down the middle by a row of squared timber columns that carry a heavy timber beam. The beam lies atop the two fireplaces located at each end wall. These massive fireplaces are made of fieldstone from the site and have built-in ventilating ducts. The fireplaces have low-hanging copper hoods with the following Craftsman mottoes inscribed on them; "By Hammer and Hand Do All Things Stand," "The Life So Short The Craft So Long To Learn," "Sweet Is The Homecoming At Eventide When We Welcome Glows From Hearth and Heart," "A World of Strife Shut Out, A World of Love Shut In," and "The Old Farm With Pictures of Berries and Fruit On The Walls And Nary A One On The Table At All." Seating nooks flank each side of the fireplaces. Stairs to the second floor are located along the west wall between the two openings to the dining room. There are three sets of window groupings that face the piazza that is separated by two doors to the 14' wide porch.

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The second floor contains a central hall surrounded by a large bedroom to the south, two bedrooms to the north, and a small bedroom to the east. Three bathrooms were placed on the west side with one associated with the large bedroom, one off of the hall and the other associated with the bedroom in the northwest corner. All rooms, except the small bedroom, have cross ventilation. The corners under the low spots of the gable roof were utilized for clothes closets. The bedroom walls were once covered with Japanese grass cloth, and the fireplace hearths are of blue Grueby tiles.

**Outbuildings and Other Residences**

Attached, by an enclosed breezeway, to the south side of the kitchen is the main house annex (No. 2 on tax map). It was constructed by the Farny family for their servants in 1917. The annex is sensitively built consisting of fieldstones, wood shingles, and diamond paned casement windows. The annex was constructed in a manner that closely mimicks the Craftsman mode. The annex today serves as a duplex apartment.

Across the private road from the main house are two shingle cottages (No. 3 on tax map) in similar form to the main log house. They face east and once had a view of the meadows. The cottages are practically identical. They are one story with a low pitched gable roof that forms a sheltered porch. The porches are enclosed using the Craftsman mode. The interiors are focused on the large massive fireplace modeled after the ones in the main log house. They have a family room in front of the fireplace and a kitchen behind. There are two bedrooms and a bath on the south side. In front of these cottages are the stone wall and gateway that once led into the farm pastures. Above the two lower cottages, in the woods, is another Craftsman cottage of similar form. It is covered with white stucco siding and has a large rear addition (No. 6 on tax map).

Behind the main log house lies a large two-story building called the workshop (No. 4 on tax map). It was built into the side of the hill in the Craftsman style consisting of fieldstone and casement windows. There is a garage door on the southeast corner of the groundfloor to provide access to the maintenance shop. The second floor exterior wall fabric is made of vertical natural wood siding and casement windows. According to the Craftsman Farms resident agent, the top floor burned and was reconstructed. The ground level of the workshop functions as a work place for

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the resident agent and the second floor contains two rental apartments. Next to the workshop is a metal pool, built by the Farny family in the 1920s, which is still used by Craftsman Farms residents (No. 5 on tax map).

West of the workshop and metal pool are two houses built by George Farny. Nineteen Manor Lane (No. 16 on tax map) is a one story frame house with a gable roof, clapboard siding and brick fireplace built circa 1940. The other, at 17 Manor Lane, (No. 17 on tax map), is a one-and-a-half story frame/stone house with a salt box roof, clapboard siding, and a stone fireplace built circa 1930. These two houses were included because they are oriented to the main log house and share a private road right-of-way which passes between the pool (No. 5 on tax map) and 17 Manor Lane then proceeds up to the cottage on the hill (No. 6 on tax map).

There are two shed-type roof garages along the private road by the workshop, one has five open stalls and the other has one (Nos. 8 and 9 respectively on the tax map). The garages/sheds have not been documented as original Craftsman buildings.

Continuing up the private road across Manor Lane, one comes to the other half of Craftsman Farms. On the northwest corner of Manor Lane and the private road lies the bakery (vernacular misnomer) or herdsman house (No. 10 on tax map). It is a large rectangular two-story structure with a low-pitched gable roof. The exterior walls are constructed with fieldstones on the first floor and wood shingle on the second floor. It has two-part casement windows and the centered front entrance is supported by a log door-head. Behind the house and to the west is a small, two-story, gable roof carriage house covered with stucco on the lower half and wood shingles on the top half. This house is a single family residence situated on Block 19, Lot 13.

Next door to the herdsman house is the horse stable, the largest building on Craftsman Farms. The horse stable (No. 11 on tax map) is a two story rectangular shaped structure with a low pitched gable roof. The exterior walls are constructed with typical Craftsman materials--fieldstone, wood shingles, and casement windows. The stable was built into the side of a steep hill. Its fenestration on the south side once consisted of three openings for carriages. The west side doorway has been replaced with a contemporary overhead door, the middle one has the original swinging double doors, and the east side opening has

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been converted to an entrance to a ground floor apartment. The second floor with its entrance on the hillside has been sensitively converted into a duplex apartment. Southwesterly, across the private road from the horse stable, is a stone/concrete one story duplex apartment (No. 12 on tax map). It has a gable roof with two small shed dormers. The exterior walls facing the road are constructed of concrete block, but the walls facing the woods are made of fieldstones. This structure was constructed in the Craftsman style, but has not been documented as an original Craftsman Farms structure.

Following the private road down past the mailboxes, then heading to the right up the hill, lies the remains of the cow stable, sometimes called the silo (No. 13 on tax map). The cow stable was designed and built by Gustav Stickley. An extant fireplace provided the cow stable with heat. The stable was built of fieldstone and had a low-pitched gable roof. It later served as a music store showroom. In the early 1970s there was a fire, but what remains today are the walls on the hillside, the cement floor, and the stone fireplace. Next to the ruins on the east side and oriented to the south is the milk house or swine house (No. 14 on tax map). The walls of the milk house are constructed with fieldstones and it has a shed-style roof. Its fenestration consists of two doorways each with two-part double hung 8 over 8 sash windows placed to the right. A large circular slate patio surrounds the front of the building.



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**8. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties: Nationally: X Statewide:     Locally:    

Applicable National Register Criteria:       A     B X C X D    

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

Areas of Significance:	Period(s) of Significance	Significant Dates
XVI. Architecture	1908-1917	_____
R. Craftsman		

XXVI. Decorative and Folk Art

NHL Criteria: 2, 4

Significant Person(s): Gustav Stickley

Cultural Affiliation: N/A

Architect/Builder: Gustav Stickley (1857-1942)

**State Significance of Property, and Justify Criteria, Criteria Considerations, and Areas and Periods of Significance Noted Above.**

Craftsman Farms is the former home and school of Gustav Stickley, one of the leaders of the Arts and Crafts movement in America. Stickley produced a new architectural style and a strikingly simple kind of furniture that profoundly influenced taste at the beginning of the 20th century. His belief in simple design, natural materials and careful craftsmanship gave a lasting legacy to American architecture, interior design, and aesthetics.

Craftsman Farms was established by Gustav Stickley in 1908 on 650 acres of land in Morris County, New Jersey. Stickley's intention was to establish a farm-school for children ages six to seventeen who would learn from master craftsmen. Although the farm-school never achieved the success Stickley had hoped for, he built a number of buildings and lived in the main one from 1908 to 1915.

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Today, all that remains of Craftsman Farms is a 27 acre site that contains most of the buildings Stickley built. The site is located in Parsippany/Troy Hills township and has been preserved by the Farny family in much the same condition as it was when Stickley lived there.

Craftsman Farms was to be Stickley's Craftsman Farms School for Citizenship where children would learn hand craftsmanship under the direction of masters. Stickley believed that children should first learn the ideal and practice of doing something useful with their minds and hands combined with abundant outdoor life. Through work, the child would learn the necessity for knowledge. Stickley designed Craftsman Farms to be self-sustaining with gardens, orchards, dairy, ice ponds and stables.

Craftsman Farms was built as an embodiment of Stickley's philosophy of building in harmony with the environment by using natural material and building only on land not suitable for farming. The main log house and outbuildings were built on slopes leaving the level land for farming. Stickley built the main log house because he believed ". . . a house of wood which has not been metamorphosed into board and shingle, but still bears the semblance of the tree, rouses in us the old instinctive feeling of kinship with the elemental world that is a natural heritage." [1]

Gustav Stickley is famous for his furniture which was later dubbed Mission Style. At the turn of the century Stickley formed the Stickley Brothers furniture firm in Binghamton, New York. There he handcrafted functional furniture built of oak and strove to retain the finer and less pretentious styles of earlier furniture. Today, Stickley's Mission Style furniture is sought after by collectors.

Stickley published The Craftsman, a national monthly magazine, between 1901 and 1917. The magazine published Craftsman house plans, ideas for the home and garden, and writings by famous authors and essayists such as John Muir, John Ruskin and Ralph Waldo Emerson. Frank Lloyd Wright, the famous 20th century architect, visited Craftsman Farms and was impressed with what he saw. Like Frank Lloyd Wright, Stickley shows sensitivity to the relationship of the building to the environment. As harmonious as Wright felt his Prairie Style homes were to the flat topography of the midwest, so Stickley integrated his log homes to the forest around them. The easy accessibility of his plans

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for economical and simple houses resulted in the proliferation of the Craftsman Style House. Craftsman-influenced homes dot the landscapes throughout New Jersey and the United States, and marked the beginning of a new middle class way of life in America.

Gustav Stickley's headquarters were in New York City, East of Fifth Avenue between 38th and 39th Streets. An eleven story structure called the Craftsman Building is still standing on that site. It housed the Craftsman Homebuilders Exposition, the editorial staff, and the Craftsman Restaurant. The exposition was advertised as a "treasure-house for the homelover" where one could see Craftsman furniture and furnishings. There were exhibits of home building materials and gardens.

In 1916, Gustav Stickley went bankrupt and was forced to sell Craftsman Farms. George Farny purchased Craftsman Farms in August of 1917. Farny was an engineer and international entrepreneur whose offices were in St. Petersburg, Russia, and New York. Farny, who was educated in Europe and the United States, became a citizen of the United States and served as a Major in the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers during World War I. He was a New Jersey conservationist, a member of the State of New Jersey Planning Commission, and the chairman of the New Jersey State Parks and Recreation Commission. Farny State Park in Morris County was named in his honor. The first ten or more years after Farny purchased Craftsman Farms, he actively farmed and operated the dairy for the Morristown market. In the late 1920s, Farny gave up farming and rented his land to other farmers. Farny converted several of the original Craftsman Farms buildings into residential units before his death in 1941. According to George Farny's son, Cyril Farny, Craftsman Farms never operated as a winter resort, but there was a short rope tow on the hill for his boys to practice skiing.

Farny's main log house annex is a good example of the Craftsman influence during this period. The annex, constructed after Farny moved in, was built with natural materials and oriented in a way not to disturb Stickley's main log house. The other Farny buildings have some Craftsman elements and are situated in a way that reflected Stickley's philosophy, but the basic form is more representative of a later period. With the growing interest in Stickley that re-emerged in the 1970s organizations like the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of Design, The Cooper-

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Hewitt Museum in New York City, and other groups in New York and Pennsylvania have been interested in seeing Craftsman Farms.

Since the late 1930s Craftsman Farms existed as a small park-like rental community. All the original Stickley-built buildings remain intact except for the cow stable that burned in the 1970s. The original buildings have experienced minimal architectural alternations and the few structures added by the Farny family have been sensitively built in the Craftsman style. The remaining structures of natural material, and the landscape with its pond and terraced stream are almost the same as when Gustav Stickley left them in 1917.

"Scholars and architectural historians compare Craftsman Farms to the Frank Lloyd Wright House in Oak Park, Illinois. And the compound's Japanese-inspired landscape, though now overgrown, has been likened to Monet's gardens at Giverny. There is close to complete agreement that Stickley was indeed the key figure within the American Arts and Crafts movement and that Craftsman Farms sums this up more than any other single place." [2]

Craftsman Farms is replete with the spirit of Stickley. As the consummate promoter of simple good taste and as the source for the products reflecting that taste, Gustav Stickley promulgated his ideal of the moral influence of good craftsmanship.

**Footnotes**

1. Stickley, Gustav. The Craftsman. Craftsman Publishing Company, New York. 1909 p. 11
2. Clark, Robert Judson, ed. The Arts and Crafts Movement in America 1876-1916. Princeton University Press. Princeton, New Jersey. 1972 p. 38.

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**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

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Stickley, Gustav. More Craftsman Homes, Craftsman Publishing Co. New York 1912.

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Vol. 18, No. 6, September, 1910  
Vol. 19, No. 1, October, 1910  
Vol. 23, No. 2, November, 1912

The American Life Foundation, The Work of L. & J.G. Stickley, Fayetteville, New York, Watkins Glen, New York 1978.

The Mission Furniture of L. & J.G. Stickley/edited by Stephen Gray. New York Turn of the Century Editions, New York 1983.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- 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: # \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Location of Additional Data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State Agency
- Federal Agency
- Local Government
- University
- Other: Specify Repository: \_\_\_\_\_

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**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

Acreage of Property: 33.64

UTM References:	Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing		
	<b>A</b>	18	543960	4522460	<b>B</b>	18	543300	4522700
	<b>C</b>	18	543400	4522880	<b>D</b>	18	543880	4522960
	<b>E</b>	18	543880	4522880	<b>F</b>	18	544200	4522720
	<b>G</b>	18	544140	4522520	<b>H</b>	18	543980	4522620

## Verbal Boundary Description:

Block 25, Lots 31, 52, and 53; Block 19, Lots 9, 10, and 13 in Parsippany-Troy Hills Township, Morris County, New Jersey. Boundary contains original core of Craftsman Farms.

## Boundary Justification:

The 33.64 acres that remain are the core of the original Stickley property surrounding his house (Main Log House).

**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

Name/Title: Bruce Benton, New Jersey State Historic Preservation Office,  
 Department of Environmental Protection, CN-402, Trenton, New Jersey;

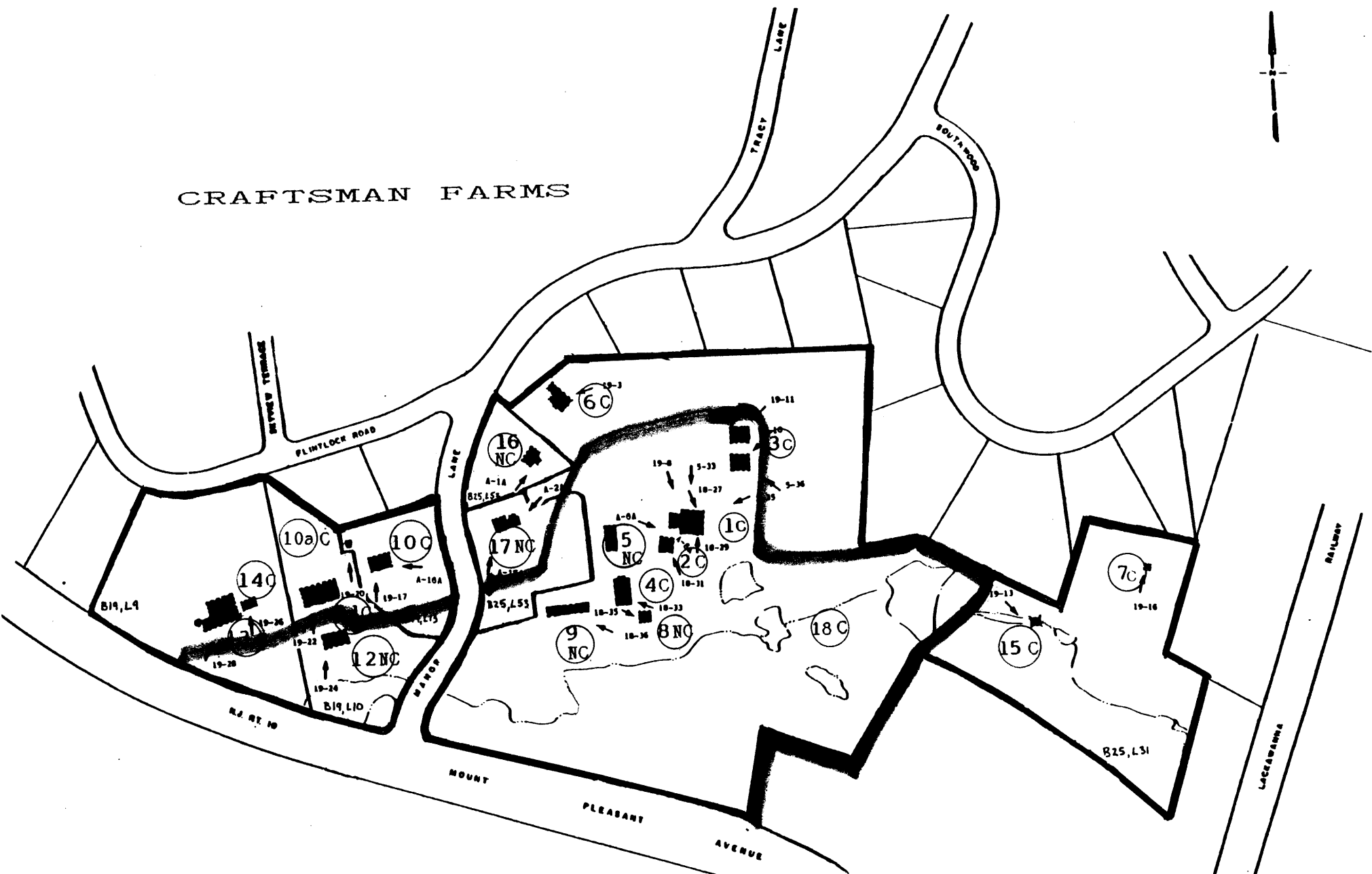
edited by Carolyn Pitts

Organization: History Division (418), WASO, NPS Date: 11 May, 1990

Street & Number: Room 4209, 1100 L Street, NW Telephone: (202) 343-8165

City or Town: Washington State: DC ZIP: 20013-7127

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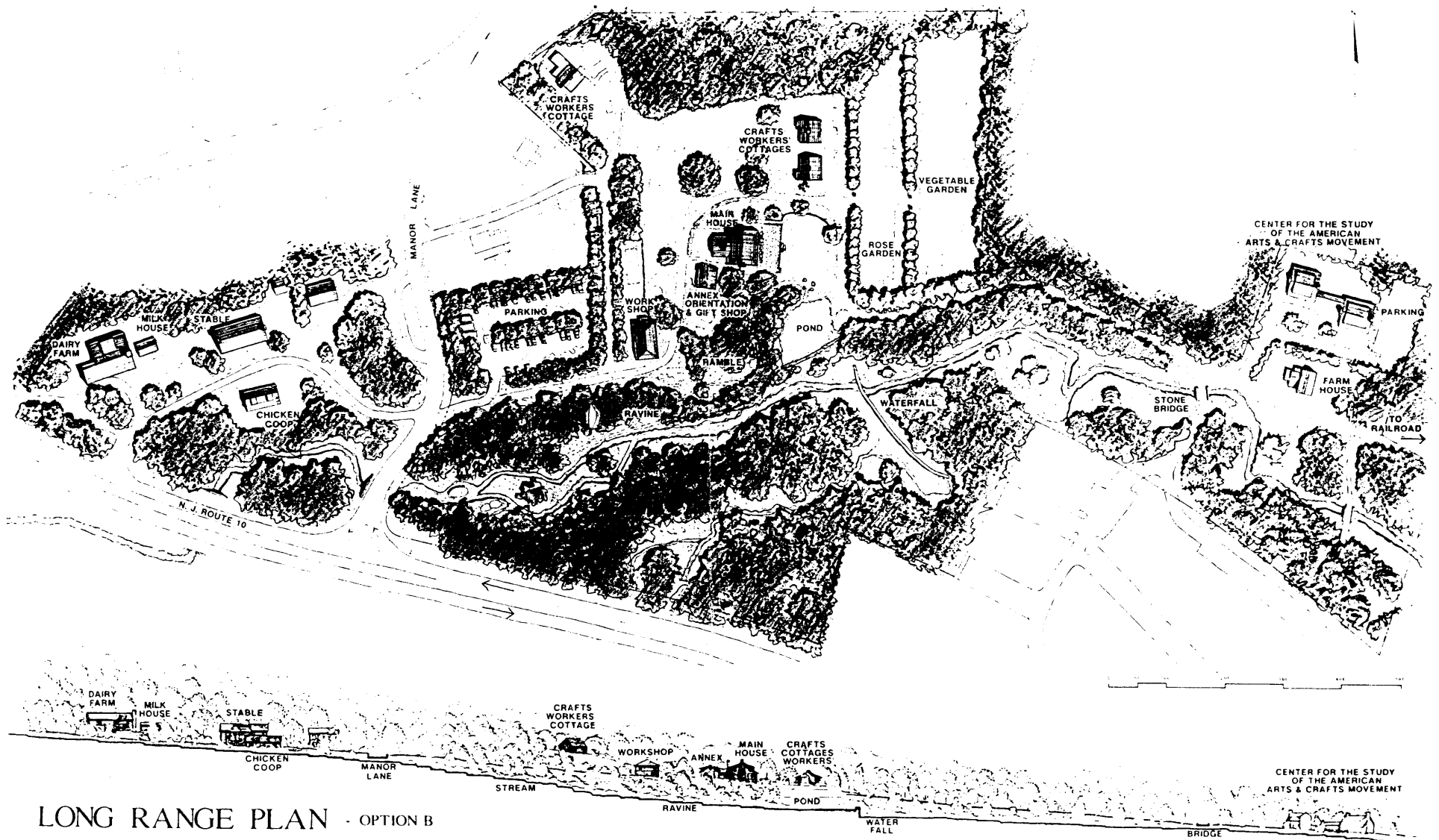


**PRIVATE ROAD.**

TAX MAP  
 TOWNSHIP OF  
**PARSIPPANY-TROY HILLS**  
 MORRIS COUNTY, NEW JERSEY  
 SCALE 1" = 100'  
 DEC 1971

INTERNATIONAL SERVICES AND TECHNOLOGIES INC.  
 10000 COUNTY ROUTE 100, SUITE 100, NEW YORK, NY 10001





LONG RANGE PLAN - OPTION B

# CRAFTSMAN FARMS

Parsippany, New Jersey

Conceptual Master Plan - John Ellis & Associates, Architects and Planners

Township of Parsippany - Owner - Frank B. Priore, Mayor  
 Craftsman Farms Foundation - Direction and Management

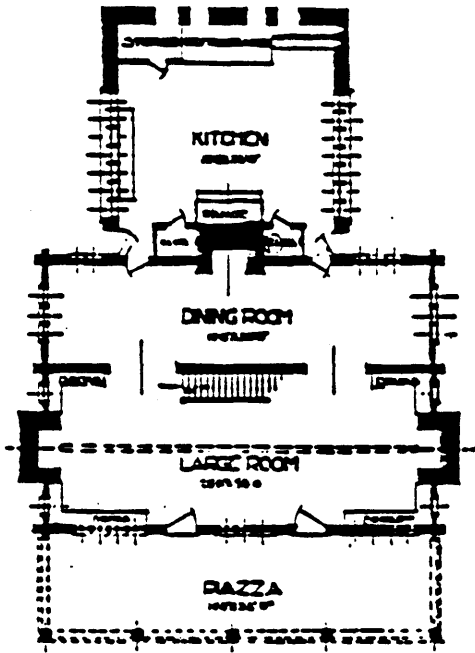
March 1990

Main Log House  
Craftsman Farms

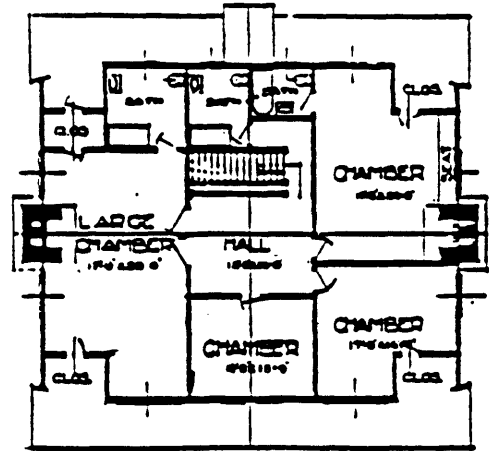
Parsippany-Troy Hills

Morris County

New Jersey



THE LOG HOUSE: FIRST FLOOR PLAN.



THE LOG HOUSE: SECOND FLOOR PLAN.

Plans copied from More Craftsman Homes by Gustav Stickley.