

PH 0500828

DATA SHEET

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED JUL 12 1977
DATE ENTERED JAN 5 1978

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC * Tusculum

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER *N of Princeton on*
Cherry Hill Road

NOT FOR PUBLICATION
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

CITY, TOWN Princeton *vic*

VICINITY OF

5th

STATE New Jersey

CODE 34

COUNTY Mercer

CODE 021

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC ACQUISITION	<input type="checkbox"/> ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
			<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Mrs. Ario Pardee

STREET & NUMBER
Cherry Hill Road

CITY, TOWN Princeton

VICINITY OF

STATE

New Jersey

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.
Mercer County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER
South Broad Street

CITY, TOWN

Trenton

STATE

New Jersey

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE Historic American Buildings Survey (see continuation sheet)

DATE

1964

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Library of Congress

CITY, TOWN

Washington

STATE

D.C.

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The historic buildings at Tusculum include three stone structures dating from the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. The principal building is the house (1), a gable-roofed rectangular structure of local quarried stone. The main section is 2½ stories high and 5 bays wide. The present roof is of slate and there are four in-wall chimnies. It was built for John Witherspoon in 1773; a stone bearing this date is visible in the east gable. Present windows are 12/12 and are capped by flat arches of stone. The original plan consisted of a central hall, with off-set stair at the rear (4), flanked by two rooms on either side. On the interior, the staircase, with relatively elegant turned balusters, and scrolled stairends, and the paneled fireplace wall of the northeast room on the second floor, remain intact from this period.

At an indeterminate time prior to the mid-nineteenth century, a frame wing was added to the west. Changes were also made to the interior, including the installation of Greek Revival mantelpieces and cast iron fireplace liners in the southeast room on the first floor and the two southern rooms on the second floor.

In the 1880s the house was extensively altered by the installation of 2/2 sash, and porches with turned posts on both the main section and the wing. An octagonal addition was made to the west. In the 1920s the house was restored for the present owner by Arthur Brockie of the Philadelphia firm of Brockie and Hastings. The Victorian accretions were removed and the present 12/12 sash and a small gabled portico installed. The two west rooms in the main part of the house were combined into one. In the mid-1930s the wing was faced with stone from a local quarry (at Cherry Grove in Lawrence Township). A frame wing, designed by a local architect, Rolf Bauhan, was added to the east and a frame addition made to the north side of the west wing to accommodate modern kitchen and bathroom facilities. At the same time the roof of the west wing was raised approximately two feet.

The imposing Federal barn (2), erected c. 1830, is also of stone. Partially embanked, it is reached by a ramp on the north side, although entered at ground level on the south. Its principal embellishments are an elliptically arched entrance on the north and an elliptical louvered "fan" over the south entrance.

The springhouse (3) is a small gable-roofed vernacular stone structure, also embanked.

Modern buildings on the property are functional, simple, and not intrusive.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	—ECONOMICS	—LITERATURE	—SCULPTURE
—1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	—MILITARY	—SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	—ART	—ENGINEERING	—MUSIC	—THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	—COMMERCE	—EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	—PHILOSOPHY	—TRANSPORTATION
—1900-	—COMMUNICATIONS	—INDUSTRY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	—OTHER (SPECIFY)
		—INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1773, c. 1830 BUILDER/ARCHITECT unknown

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The farm at Tusculum was developed, and the main house built in 1773, by John Witherspoon, sixth president of the college of New Jersey (Princeton University), and a future signer of the Declaration of Independence. That Witherspoon viewed himself as a scholar-statesman-agriculturist is indicated by his choice of the name of Cicero's retirement farm for his property. The house is an excellent example of a comfortable farmhouse of the period; the later barn is one of the best surviving stone barns in the state.

Although Witherspoon initially offered the house for rent, continuing to reside himself in the president's house at the college, he reserved the right to cultivate the fields. His tenants would have land sufficient for a garden, but he wished to use the remainder of the property for experimental agriculture. His advertisement in the Pennsylvania Journal in August 1773 explained "the Proprietor being fond of agriculture and engaged in a scheme of improvement will not let any of the lands for tillage."¹

Witherspoon himself played an important role in the politics of the emerging nation, not only through his own role in the Continental Congress, where he was a strong supporter of independence, but through training such students as James Madison, Aaron Burr, and Philip Freneau. As an educator, he freed the college's curriculum from a narrow ecclesiastical mold, although he himself was a minister, and encouraged his students to seek other forms of public service. When his son-in-law, Samuel Stanhope Smith, arrived in Princeton in December 1779 to take the post of professor of moral philosophy, Witherspoon turned the president's house over to him and moved to Tusculum. From there he continued to conduct the affairs of the college until his death in 1794.

Tusculum then passed to his second wife, Anne, who sold it in 1796. It then passed through a succession of owners, evidently as a tenant farm, until its purchase in 1815 by Richard Stockton, himself the son of another Signer. On his death in 1826, Tusculum was willed to his son, Samuel Witham Stockton, who occupied it until his death in 1836. It was during this period, c. 1830, that the stone barn was erected. The young Stocktons also evidently refurbished the interior of the house, installing Greek Revival mantels and iron fireplace liners.

1. Reprinted in Archives of the State of New Jersey, 1st ser., XXVIII, 597.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Bill, Alfred Hoyt, A House Called Morven, Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1954.

Collins, V. Lansing, President Witherspoon, 2 vols., Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1935.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 20

UTM REFERENCES

*see sheet
new sheet
1/17/70*

E 18/527-800/4468-380

D	1,8	5,277,50	44,681,9,0	C	1,8	5,278,4,0	44,680,3,0
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
B	1,8	5,280,8,0	44,681,7,0	A	1,8	5,279,3,0	44,684,3,0

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The easternmost boundary of the tract parallels Cherry Hill Road about 25 feet to the west, starting at a point 50 feet south of the median of the entrance drive and running 1040 feet to the north. It then runs west, paralleling a driveway for 430 feet and then turns southwest, along a tree line, for 670 feet. It then runs south-southeast for 610 feet, at which it turns easterly for 910 feet to the place of beginnings. (Directions and distances approximate; see plot plan.)

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE Constance M. Greiff/Director

ORGANIZATION Heritage Studies

DATE Dec. 2, 1976

STREET & NUMBER 10 Nassau Street

TELEPHONE 609-924-1728

CITY OR TOWN Princeton

STATE New Jersey

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL STATE LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE *[Signature]*
TITLE SHPO

DATE Feb 1977

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHITECTURE AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION *[Signature]* DATE 1/5/78

ATTEST: *[Signature]* KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER DATE 1-4-78

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

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JUL 12 1977

DATE ENTERED

JAN 5 1978

CONTINUATION SHEET Tusculum

ITEM NUMBER 6 .

PAGE 2

New Jersey Historic Sites Inventory
Historic Sites Section. Department of Environmental
Protection. Box 1420. Trenton. N.J. 1964.

Historic Sites Survey of Princeton Borough and Township.
(locally known as Bassett survey) Borough Hall,
Princeton. N.J. 08540 1968

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Tusculum remained in Stockton ownership until the 1850s, once again as a tenant farm. One of the young sons of Commodore Robert F. Stockton, John Potter Stockton, later American Minister to Rome, was given charge of management of the property at the age of thirteen, as part of what his father considered appropriate training for a man of property.

After the Stocktons sold the property it once again went through a number of hands, as a tenant farm, until its purchase by Edward Jewell in 1857. He held it until 1886. After an interval of three years, it was sold to a local dentist, Dr. Pardoe. Pardoe occupied it from 1889 until its purchase in 1924 by the present owner. Currently it is still an operating farm, its principal cash crop being hay. The present owner has set aside the 20 acres covered in this nomination for preservation purposes, an acreage sufficient to allow the continuation of its historic farm use on a small scale.

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CONTINUATION SHEET Tusculum

ITEM NUMBER 9

PAGE two

Greiff, Constance M. et al, Princeton Architecture,
Princeton:Princeton University Press, 1967.

Stockton, Bayard, "Tusculum," The Princeton Book,
Princeton, 1879.

Interview with Mrs. Ario Pardee, Nov. 2, 1976.

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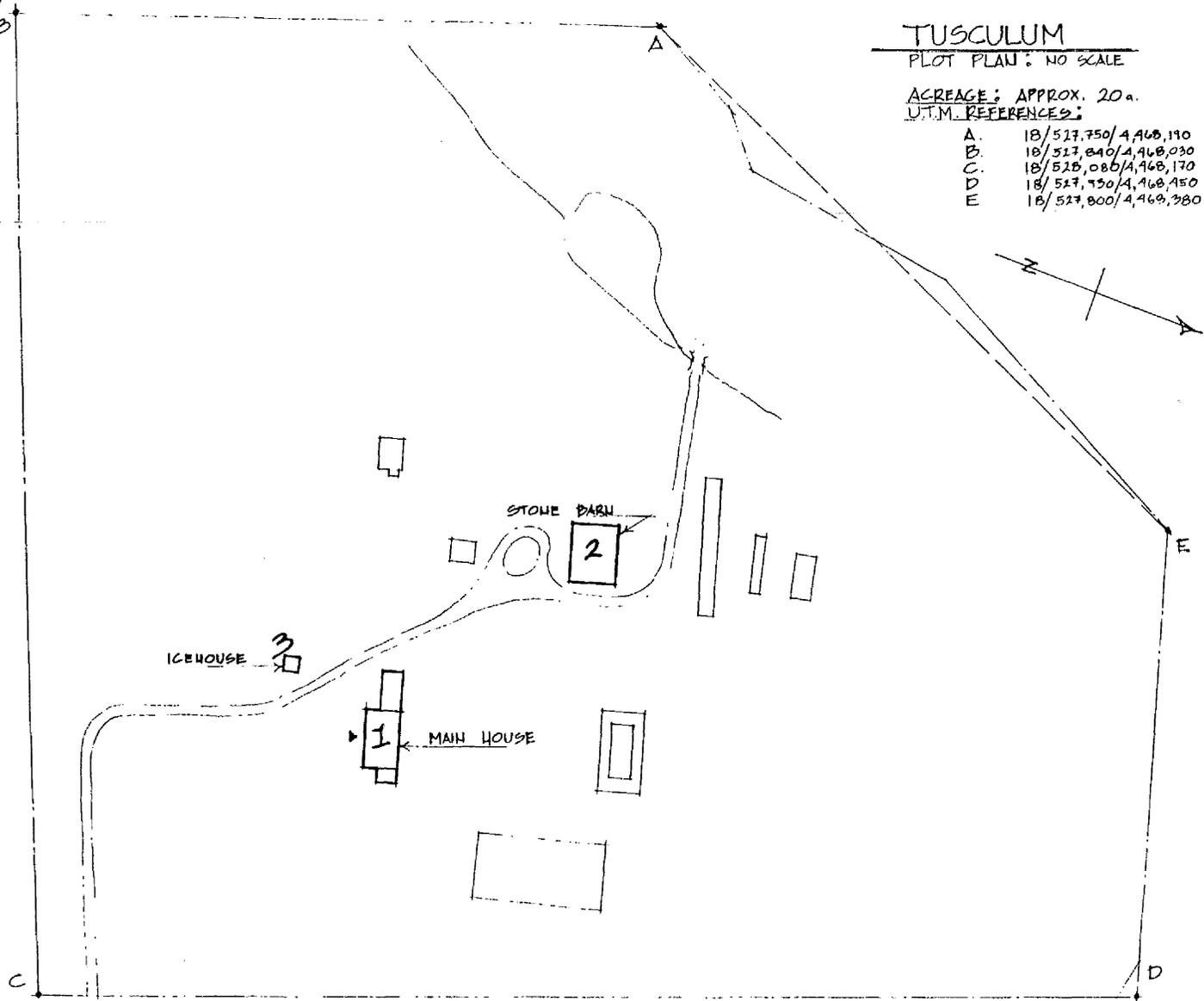
CONTINUATION SHEET Tusculum

ITEM NUMBER 10 PAGE 2

E. 18 527800/4468380



JAN 5 1978



TUSCULUM

PLOT PLAN: NO SCALE

ACREAGE: APPROX. 20 a.

U.T.M. REFERENCES:

- A. 18/517,750/4,468,190
- B. 18/517,846/4,468,030
- C. 18/528,086/4,468,170
- D. 18/527,750/4,468,450
- E. 18/527,800/4,468,380

78663171

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

Tusculum

Mercer County, NEW JERSEY

ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION ACCEPTED

fu
Keeper *Shelton Byrd 10/24/80*