NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION OFFICE OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION

HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY NO.

Converse Cottage 504 Atlantic Avenue COMMON NAME: 120/9

BLOCK/LOT

MUNICIPALITY:

COUNTY: Ocean

Beach Haven Beach Haven, NJ Ronald Fitzgerald 504 S. Atlantic Avenue Beach Haven, NJ 08008

UTM REFERENCES:

Zone/Easting/Northing 18/565270/4378840

Construction Date: c. 1890

style Source of Date:

Architect: poss. Wilson Bros. & Co. Phila

Builder:

Oueen Anne

Form/Plan Type: irregular

Number of Stories:

2 & 1/2

Foundation: low, cemented over

Exterior Wall Fabric: asbestos siding (originally clapboard)

3 Bay

Roof/Chimneys:

combination gables with hip; conical on round turret, shaped interior

chimney

Additional Architectural Description:

A large enclosed porch is located on the east, north and south sides which echoes the shape of the building. The porch contains elliptical fanlight windows. The double door has side lights and a gabled roof. The second floor has large recessed windows with wooden surrounds located in the turret. The third floor has small dormers or paired windows in the gable ends. A molded cornice runs a long the gable roof. round tower has a curved balcony (echoing its shape) and gabled windows with returns and brackets. A triangular window is found on the south side in the peak of the roof. The porch appears to have been enclosed in the early twentieth centruy. Originally it appeared open with flared square posts, turned balustrade and banister with elbows like its twin, 1503, the Dr. Williams House.

Negative File No.

Map (Indicate North)

MARINE STREET

PHOTO

SITING, BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION, AND RELATED STRUCTURES:

The structure is located on a corner lot and is surrounded by modern buildings to the east and north. To the west is a structure similar in size and date. The structure to its south (#506 Atlantic) is a converse plan of this building.

SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT: Urban
SIGNIFICANCE: The structure, known as Converse Cottage because it is a mirror image of 506 Atlantic (and was owned by John H. Converse), is one of the most elaborate homes on Long Beach Island. Although somewhat altered, the building still contains a richly decorated tower, various window types and turned window surrounds. This house, a long with 506 Atlantic, was probably designed by Wilson Brothers and Company of Philadelphia since records of the company show that the firm also designed Philadelphia homes for the original owners of these two houses.
ORIGINAL USE: PHYSICAL CONDITION: Excellent
COMMENTS.
REFERENCES: "Historic Structures of the Borough of Beach Haven", a pamphlet published
by the Beach Haven Bicentennial Commission. 1976. "Wilson Brothers and Company Catalogue of Work Executed", pringed by Lippincott Co., Phila, PA 1885
"Walking tour of Victorian Houses South of Centre St., Beach Haven", presented by the Long Beach Island Historical Association.
RECORDED BY: M. May ORGANIZATION: Heritage Studies ORGANIZATION: Heritage Studies