

NOMINATION REPORT

37 North Mountain Ave
The Georgian Inn

BLOCK 1507
LOT 20



Prepared By:
Township of Montclair
Historic Preservation Commission
205 Claremont Avenue
Montclair, NJ 07042

June 2008

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This report has been prepared in accordance with Montclair Code Section 347-135B(1).

347-135B(1):Nomination Proposals. The party proposing for designation under this section shall prepare and submit to the Commission a nomination report for each proposed property, site or district. For individual landmark designations, the report shall include one or more photographs, the tax lot and block number of the property as designated on the Official Tax Map of the township and a physical description and statement of significance and proposed utilization of the site.

I. Executive Summary

The Township of Montclair Historic Preservation Commission was created by ordinance in June of 1994. The Historic Preservation Commission is charged with accomplishing the protection, enhancement and perpetuation of especially noteworthy examples or elements of the township's environment in order to:

- (1) Safeguard the heritage of Montclair by preserving resources which reflect elements of its cultural, social, and architectural history
- (2) Encourage the continued use of historic and/or noteworthy buildings or structures
- (3) Foster civic pride in the history and architecture of the Township
- (4) Promote the economic welfare of the township through the preservation of historic sites and landscapes
- (5) Enhance the visual and aesthetic character, diversity continuity and interest in the township and its neighborhoods
- (6) Discourage the unnecessary demolition or other destruction of historic resources
- (7) Encourage beautification and private investment in the township
- (8) Promote the economic welfare of the township through the preservation of its historic sites and landscapes

As per **Montclair Code Section 347-135A**, criteria for designation, "the Commission shall consider as worthy of designation those buildings, structures, objects, sites and districts that have integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association and that meet one or more of the following criteria:

- (1) Are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- (2) Are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- (3) Embody distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction; that represent the work of a master; that possess high artistic values; or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction.
- (4) Have yielded or may be likely to yield information important to prehistory or history.
- (5) Are otherwise of particular historic significance to the Township of Montclair by reflecting or exemplifying the broad cultural, political, economic or social history of the nation, state, region or community."

II. Property Fact Sheet

Zoning Description

Address: 37 North Mountain Ave
Block: 1507
Lot: 20
Zone: R-3 Garden Group Zone
Property Size: 54,190 square feet

Physical Description

Year Built: 1902
Style: Classical Revival
Architect: Van Vleck & Goldsmith
Stories: 2 ½ stories
Exterior Finish: Brick
Roof: Slate Gambrel Roof
Foundation: Stucco

III. Statement of Significance

This outstanding Classical Revival residence was designed for Mr. C.E. Van Vleck Esq. of Montclair by Messrs. Van Vleck & Goldsmith, architects. The 2 ½-story building built in 1902 is brick with a gambrel slate roof and chimney. The roof is detailed with bracketed classical cornice with dentils below. The foundation is stucco with a molded cap that extends below the first floor windows. The window sashes are detailed with splayed lintels with center projecting keystones above the sashes. The entrance door is flanked by two glass paneled side lights with top transoms and dividing Doric pilasters. The flat roofed open porch runs across the entrance bay and is articulated at the corners by broad paneled columns with Doric columns forming three bays at the center. The rear elevation shows an entry way below a circular concrete canopy at the intersection of the south and east wing with a small turret having bell-cast roof above. An enclosed flat roofed porch extends to the south. A carriage house is also located in the northeast corner of the property.

Plans and pictures of the house appear in the "American Architect", November 12, 1913, Volume CIV No. 1977. The impressive gate posts with Vermont marble caps and wrought iron cross piece carrying a lantern were designed later by local Montclair architect C.C. Wendehack, and pictures in "The American Architect," April 5, 1927, Volume CXXXI, No. 2518.

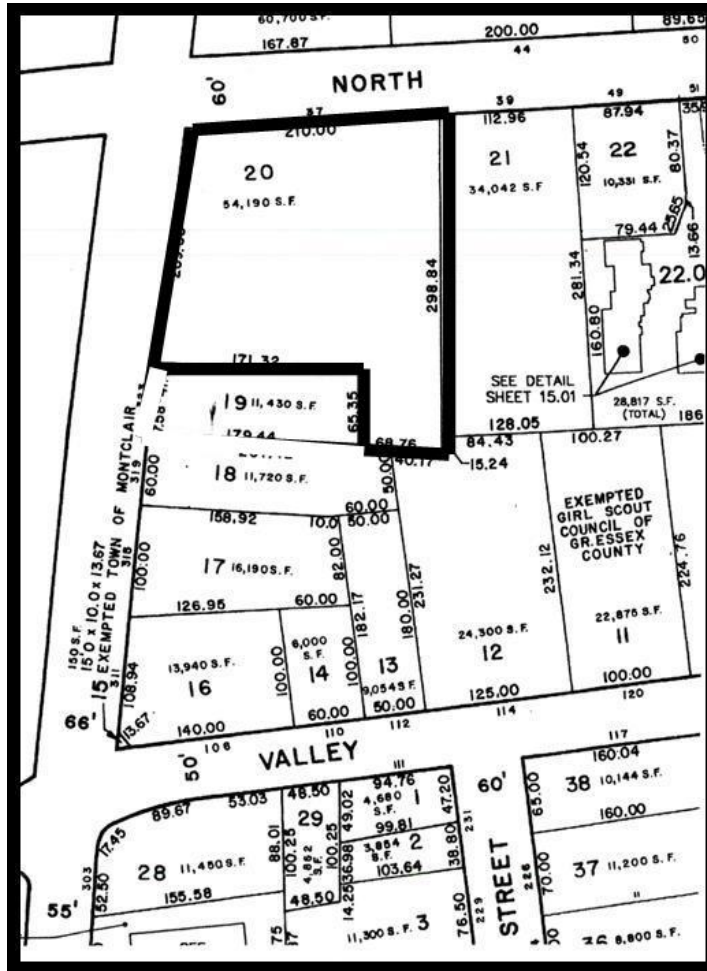
An important owner of the house was Dr. Edward Weston, who invented the Western electric cell, developed the dynamo, and invented many electric instruments.

Appendix A



Appendix B

Block 1507 Lot 20



Appendix C

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

HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY NO. 0713 6 7 9

HISTORIC NAME:
LOCATION: 37 N. Mountain Ave.
MUNICIPALITY: Montclair
USGS QUAD: Orange
OWNER/ADDRESS: Kohout, Bernard T.

COMMON NAME: Georgian Inn
BLOCK/LOT 1507/20; 33-A/51
COUNTY: Essex
UTM REFERENCES: Zone/Northing/Easting

DESCRIPTION

Construction Date: 1902 Source of Date: Tax Assessor
Architect: Van Vleck & Goldsmith Builder:
Style: Classical Revival Form/Plan Type: V shape
Number of Stories: 2½ + B
Foundation: Stucco
Exterior Wall Fabric: Brick
Fenestration: 3 bays, 1/1 D.H. sash, some paired.

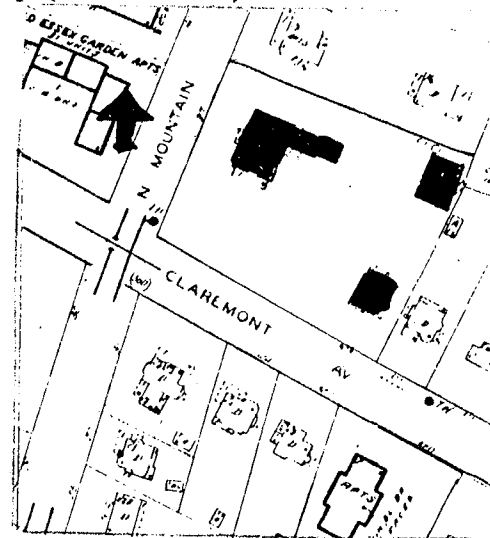
Roof/Chimneys: Gambrel/slate finish/interior end chimney north; 2 interior chimneys north & south.

Additional Architectural Description: Bracketed classical cornice w/dentils below roof. Stucco foundation w/ molded cap extends below high first floor windows. Splayed lintels w/ center projecting keystone above all window sash. Single glass panel ent. door flanked by 2 glass panelled side lights w/ top transoms & dividing Doric pilasters. Flat roofed open front porch across entrance bay, articulated at corners by broad panelled columns w/ Doric columns forming 3 bays at center. Triple window 1st floor side bays. Paired window sash all bays on the 2nd floor; small narrow windows flank center bay windows. Rear elevation shows major first floor entrance below circular concrete canopy at intersection of south & east wing w/ small turret having bell-cast roof above. Large stained glass Palladian window, 2nd floor bay 2, east wall. Enclosed flat-roofed porch extends to the south. Front roof 3 gable dormers w/ returns, arched window sash below, & corner pilasters. Continued on other side under "Significance".

PHOTO Negative File No. R18,33



Map (Indicate North)



NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, OFFICE OF CULTURAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES
HISTORIC PRESERVATION SECTION, 109 WEST STATE STREET, TRENTON, NEW JERSEY 08625 (609) 292-2023

Appendix D

1. Price, Eleanor. "Individual Structure Survey: Site 0713 679." Preservation Montclair, May 18, 1981.