

**NOMINATION REPORT**  
**Mountain Ave Railroad Station**  
**451 Upper Mountain Avenue**

**BLOCK 1801**  
**LOT 54**

**Prepared By:**  
**The Township of Montclair**  
**Mayor and Council**  
**205 Claremont Avenue**  
**Montclair, NJ 07042**

**January 2007**

## Table of Contents

- I. Executive Summary
- II. History of the Site, Physical Description, Statement of Significance

**Appendix A: Photographs**

**Appendix B: Tax Map**

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."

# BASE SURVEY

Historic Site# 0713038

Property Name: **Mountain Avenue Railroad Station**

Street Address: 451 Upper Mountain Ave

Nearest Cross Street: Laurel Pl

Apt/Unit #:

Local Place Name: Upper Montclair

Municipality: Montclair

Ward (District): 1 ( 2 )

Zip Code: 07043

Block / Lots: 1801 / 54

County: Essex

Map Reference:

USGS Quad: Orange

Lot Size: 160,160 sq. ft.

Owner Name: New Jersey Department of Transportation

Ownership Type: Public

Owner Address:

Ownership Updated:

**Property  
Description**

The heavy rubble base, unusual bow windows & half timbered gable make this compact structure the most distinctive of the Upper Montclair Railroad stations. There is an additional home-like quality to the building which was constructed with three rooms. In 1935, Mr. Chet Volski remodeled half of the building into a five room duplex apartment where he and his family lived for more than 20 years. This half of the structure continues to be used as a residence.

**Current  
Photograph**



Elevation: East

Image File #: C0713038-1.jpg

Ref: 7/1/05

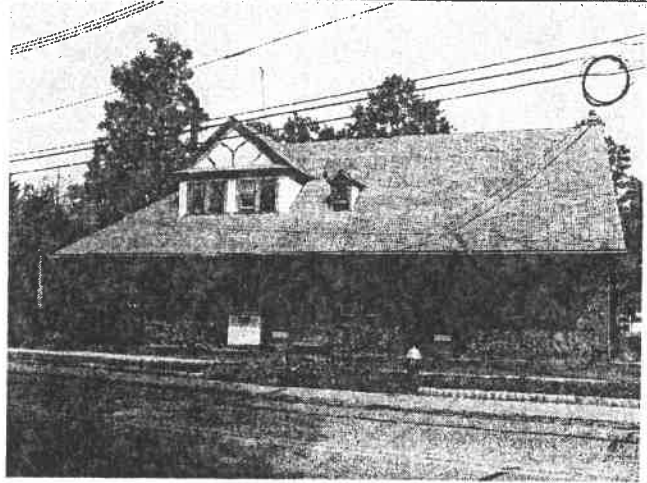


# ADDITIONAL IMAGES

Historic Site# 0713038 Mountain Avenue Railroad Station

IMAGE 1 North elevation Image Id 0713038-1.jpg

IMAGE 4 West elevation Image Id 0713038-5.jpg



Notes: 7/1/05

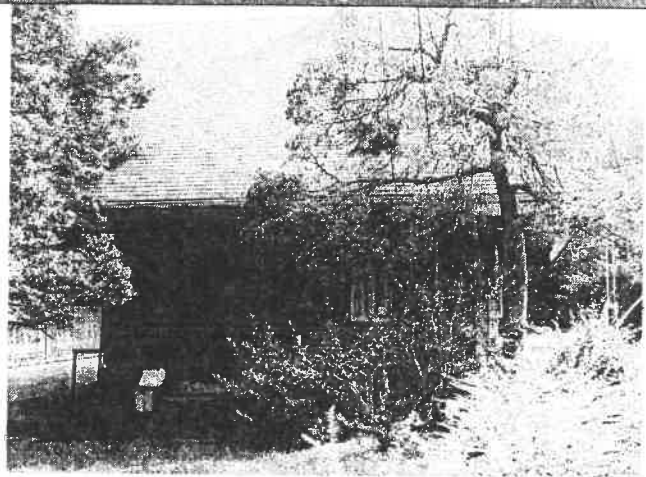
Notes: 7/1/05

IMAGE 2 East elevation Image Id 0713038-2.jpg

IMAGE 5 North elevation Image Id 0713038-3.jpg



Notes: 7/1/05



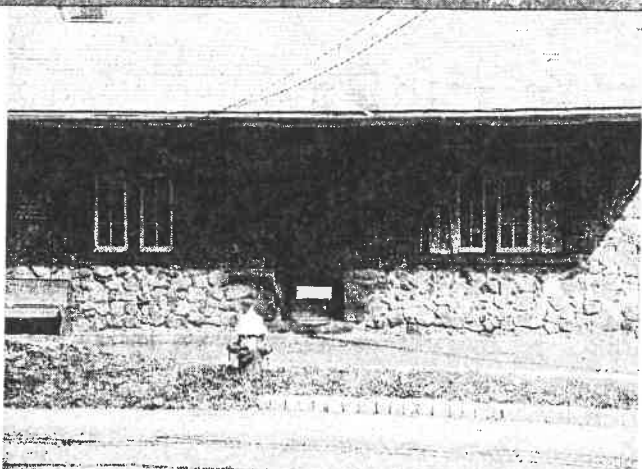
Notes:

IMAGE 3 South elevation Image Id 0713038-4.jpg

IMAGE 6 West elevation Image Id 0713038-6.jpg



Notes: 7/1/05



Notes:

# BUILDING SURVEY

Historic Site# 0713038 Mountain Avenue Railroad Station

---

**Historic Name:** Mountain Avenue Railroad Station

---

**Common Name:** Mountain Avenue Station

**Present Use:** Transportation and Movement, Passenger assembly

**Historic Use:** Transportation and Movement, Passenger assembly

**Constructed:** 1893 *Source: Railroad archives*

**Altered:** 1935 *Source: Published references*

---

**Designer:**

**Rem. Hist. Fabric:** Medium

**Builder:**

**Phys. Condition:** Fair

**Style:** Shingle

**Stories:** 1.5

**Other Elements:**

**Bays:** 4

**Form:**

**Chimneys:** 1

**Exterior Finish:** Stone, Rubble

**Roof Finish:** Asbestos Shingle

---

## Exterior

Exterior is of uncoursed rough face stone, stucco in some places with half-timbered work above. 4 bays (street elevation); multi-light casements, some with top transoms, in groups of 2, 3, & 5. Low pitched hipped roof with gable on south wall. A stone end-chimney south.

The structure is dominated by a large, low pitched hipped roof which extends to an overhang above the station platform north and east, and forms a pediment gable with stucco and half-timberwork on the end wall south.

A large stone chimney breaks this wall east of the roof ridge and a lunette with fan-light tracery punctuates the gable to the left (west).

The street side shows two entrances, the first in bay 3, a single paneled door between grouped casements, and the second as part of a pair of casements in the first bay.

On the platform side, the casements to the south extend as bow windows and there are two entrance doors. All the casements have top transoms and some show an unusual type of diamond tracery detail.

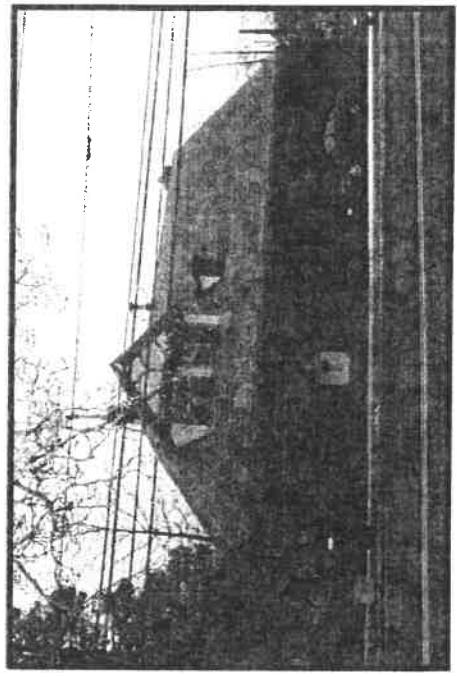
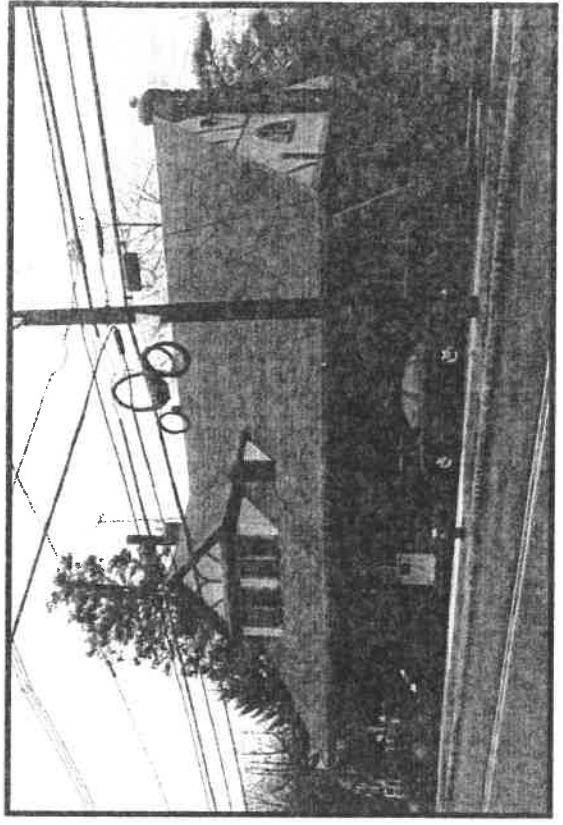
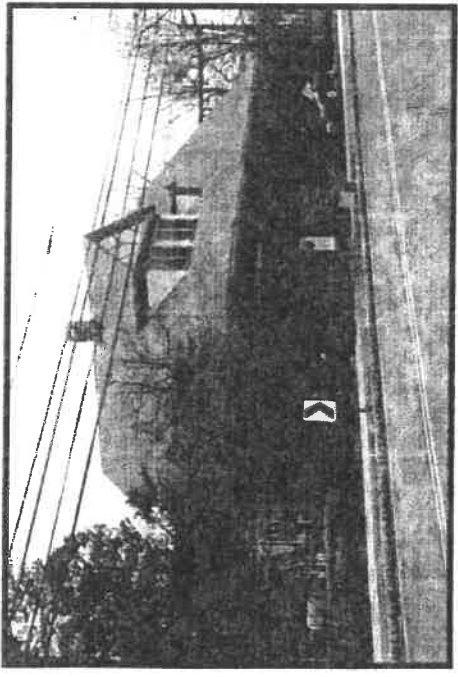
A large dormer with stucco and half-timbered pediment and 2 groups of paired sash below punctuate the east roof to the north (right).

## Interior

## Setting

Suburban/Residential. No threats to site. The railroad is shielded by trees from the surrounding residences. A small township parking lot is adjacent to the eastern boundry. The property is narrows towards the northern end.

# Mountain Ave Railroad Station





# BLOCK 1801 LOT 54

