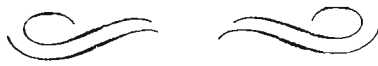


Ocean
County
Survey

LAVALLETTE



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Lavallette survey was conducted by Marilyn Kralik. The project staff and the Ocean County Cultural and Heritage Commission would like to acknowledge the cooperation of the following citizens of Lavallette who provided information that aided in the preparation of this report.

Diana Kralik

Christopher F. Malzone

Joseph J. Malzone

Thomas Rivel

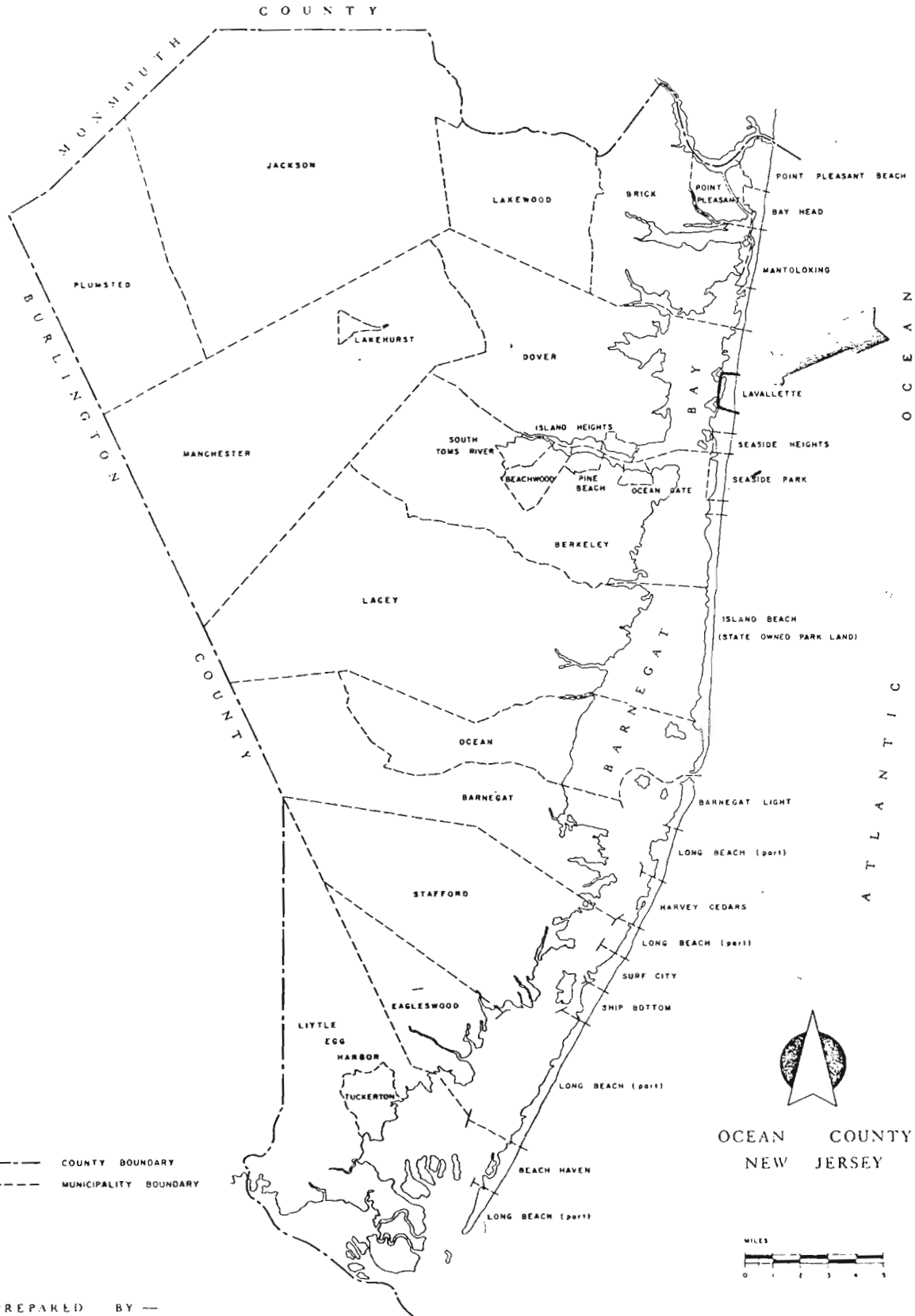
Mildred Schlosser

Georgia Stulz

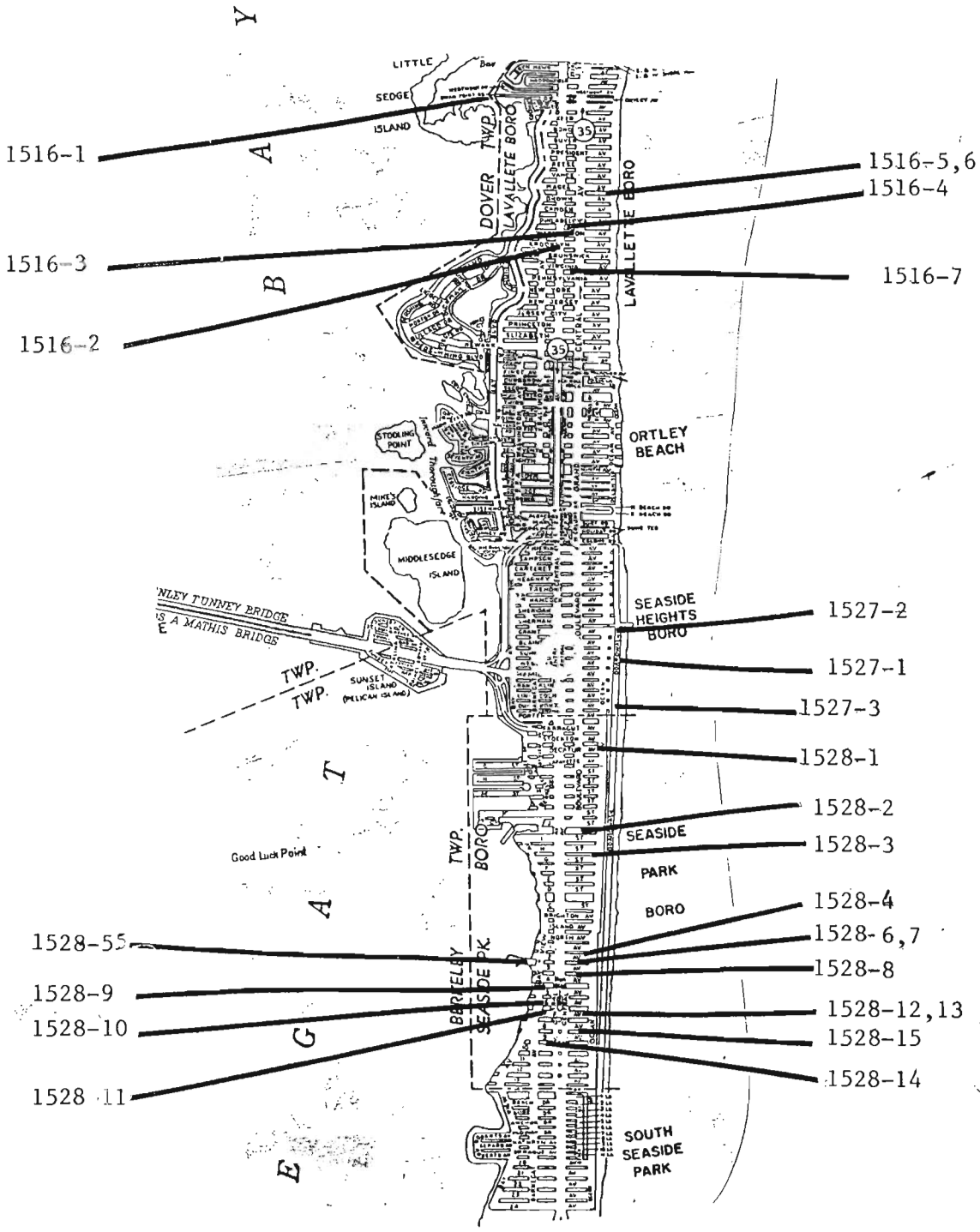
TABLE OF CONTENTS

Letter of Transmittal	i
Acknowledgements	ii
Table of Contents	iii
Introduction	1 - 17
Lavallette Historical Overview	1 - 13
Survey Forms	1516-1-7
Listings	1516-L1-L21
State and National Register of Historic Places Recommendations	
Appendix	

Maps



PREPARED BY —



1516 Lavallette
 1527 Seaside Heights
 1528 Seaside Park
 — Survey Form Site

LAVALLETTE

Lavallette is a borough on the Barnegat peninsula, 0.65 square miles in area, with an extensive waterfront on the ocean and bay. Like its neighbors, Lavallette is essentially the product of controlled real estate speculation and development, with an emphasis on summer attraction. Although the year-round population still tends to be dramatically less than that of the summer season, a steady increase in both has effected changes that are characteristic of all of modern Ocean County.

Lavallette today is a thriving summer resort community, with continuous, densely-settled streets of largely post-World War II residences, and a few reminders of its past.

The most important external force in the development of Lavallette has been the quality of the land itself. In its natural condition, it is a combination of meadow, swamp, and beach, useless for agriculture and requiring extensive land fill before it is suitable for building. It has also been confined to a narrow E/W breadth due to the natural restrictions of ocean and bay. Finite possibilities for physical development have been both beneficial and deleterious. Land values are high, due to the present condition of almost total occupation, and the existence of services (such as schools and sewers.) There has thus been a corresponding tendency to ongoing modernization, expansion, and rehabilitation. As a result, only a small cluster of early buildings have been left in this area, and most of these have been carelessly altered. There is little if any discernible concern for preservation in the town.

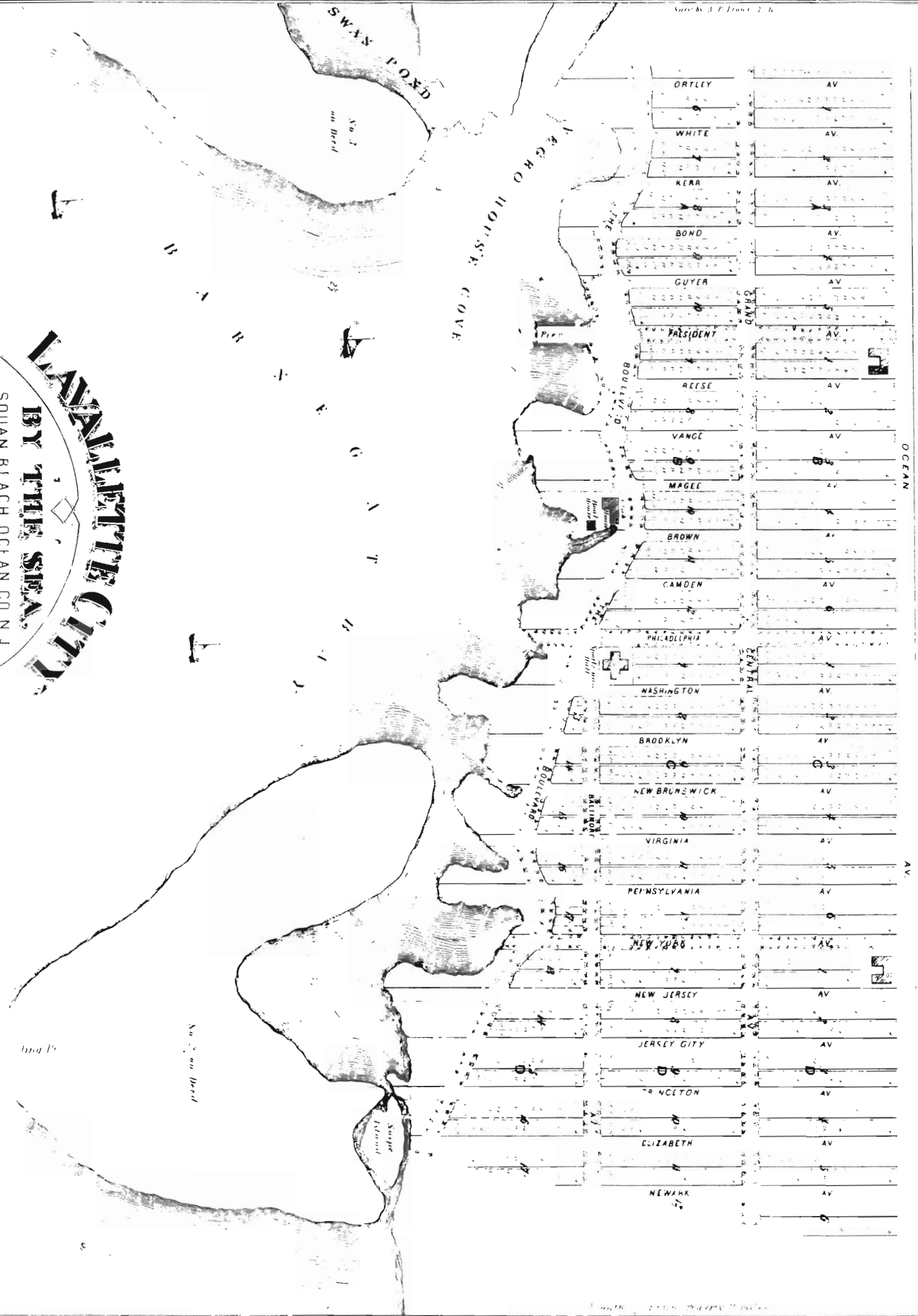
With the exception of two relatively recent acquisitions, West Point Island to the west, and Westmont Shores (or North Lavallette) to the north,

the outlines of Lavallette are surprisingly true to those of the nineteenth century. The land itself was originally considered to be a part of Dover Township. Title to this area can be traced to a man named Axsea Hogland (or Hoagland), who is also known to have owned land in the area of Mantoloking around 1843.¹ Hogland conveyed his holdings to Jacob Ortley in 1863, and they remained in the Ortley family until 1877, when they were sold to the Barnegat Land Improvement Company. The description of the land in these transactions remains the same, and is repeated in the town's petition for incorporation; that is, three tracts of land, including Little Sedge Island, totalling square miles and consisting of meadow and beach.² A single structure is mentioned as a landmark in these documents: the house of Michael Ortley (probably his gunning club) which was located in present day Ortley Beach.³

The Barnegat Bay Land Improvement Company, which was responsible for the creation of Lavallette, was made up of a group of men from Philadelphia and headed by a man named Albert Lavallette. Although Mr. Lavallette's prestige is obvious in the use of his surname (named not, however, for himself but for his ancestor, Admiral Elie Lavallette, who served in the navy from 1800 to 1862) it was actually another founder, Dr. George Kerr, who was the real power, planner, and backer of the resort and who became the first mayor.⁴ The plans for the development, which was properly titled "Lavallette City, By-the-Sea", were extensive. A map of its intended disposition was published in 1878, the year following its initial purchase, in the Woolman and Rose atlas, and shows an impressive grid of nearly 1600 lots and 24 cross streets, some of which were lined with trees. This map is interesting in that all of the E/W streets so planned still exist and bear their intended names (despite the fact that many of them were built decades after their

LANANETTE CITY
BY THE SEA,
SQUAN BLACH OCEAN CO. N. J.

WOOLMAN & ROSE MAP
1878



LANANETTE CITY
OCEAN AV.

planning.) There is less verisimilitude in the N/S thoroughfares, (other than Grand Central and Baltimore Avenues) due to the later intervention of the railroad, and the fill area created along the bay. An Ocean Avenue, apparently anticipated, was never executed.

Hunting and fishing, rather than the modern lure of ocean bathing, were to be the principal attractions to the new development. This is evident from the planned structures which are indicated on that map; a clubhouse and boathouse on the bay, a "sportsman hall", and two large ocean-front hotels. Although none of these planned structures exist today, it is interesting to note that there was an attempt to build at least one of the hotels, proclaimed by Woolman and Rose, on Reese Avenue. An article in the Ocean County Review, dated 1937, contains this intriguing description, with photograph:

The Fischer House on the south side of Reese Avenue was originally built as the servants' quarters of a hundred room hotel, being moved about 1902. The hotel was never completed and its empty rooms furnished a haven for mischief makers, and its decaying frame was utilized as a sort of second hand lumber yard, without the formality of payment. 5

The north side of Reese Avenue, where it is implied that the hotel existed, is the spot on the map where one had indeed been planned. There is no more information presently available on the unfinished hotel, although the lots which it occupied were sold as vacant land in the 1920s. 6

Promotion for the first sale of lots in Lavallette was extended throughout New Jersey as well as in Pennsylvania and New York. The width of this target area was to cause some lingering problems. Although deliberate deception was never intended, the salesmen of Lavallette seem to have worked in ignorance of one another's actions, and there were numerous instances of conflicting title--the effects of which are still experienced today. 7

Apart from this complication, the sales pitch was ambitious. The surest

sell was among those already familiar with the area, such as sportsmen and the patrons of other resorts; when this familiarity was lacking, other means were taken. A common practice was to bring potential customers to the area for a picnic lunch--first chartering a train to Toms River and then sailing across the Bay.⁸

With the coming of the railroad in 1881, solicitation for the sale of property became much easier. The land itself gained in value, looking more probable for settlement, and broader exposure was achieved. Many of the employees of the railroad bought Lavallette property, thereby creating a majority of summer visitors from Philadelphia and its suburbs.

Lavallette was always primarily residential. Homes, hotels and rooming houses formed the basis of the community; there was little else which was unrelated to their service, and nearly everything was closed for the winter. The year-round population was negligible. Sportsmen continued to be patrons for a long while, as did theatre people, until the 1930s.⁹ Families had yet to form a primary vacationing unit. The beach itself was undeveloped; even the boardwalk did not exist until the 1920s.¹⁰ Lavallette had never had a Life Saving Station, due to the very close proximity of Green Island Station #11 to the north, but there is said to have been a "halfway house" for the foot patrols on guard duty between Chadwick and Seaside.¹¹

Early settlement took place in the northern section of town (still occasionally referred to as "old town.") The 1903 Geodetic Survey map shows only the upper grid of streets. The physical condition of these "streets" at that time would seem to have been no better than elsewhere. The principal thoroughfare, Grand Central Avenue, (which forms a portion of present route #35 north) was described as "Just two parallel ruts winding through the lowest places...and the driest spots."¹² Before 1903, there were only

two E/W streets, Reese and Philadelphia Avenues,¹³ and only Reese existed with any authority. It had been destined for greatness by the founders, as the site of the intended and failed hotel; it was to achieve real importance as the site of the railroad station. This structure represented the world outside to Lavallette residents--in addition to bringing customers and supplies, it housed the only telegraph in the town, and served as the Post Office until the formation of the Borough.

The Philadelphia and Long Branch Railroad arrived in Lavallette in 1881, traveling north from Seaside on its way to the Bay Head Junction. Its existence certainly insured the first survival of Lavallette, and at the height of its popularity, 18 passenger trains a day came through the summer.¹⁴ The tracks were laid on the course of the present route #35 south; because of the marshy and uneven terrain, railroad bridges were erected at the ends of Ortley, Bond, Brown, and New York Avenues.¹⁵ Freight trains ran long after passenger service ended, and the tracks remained until the early 1960s.

Incorporation as a Borough came early for Lavallette, in 1887, despite the lack of real population. There are few physical remains of that time. Pictorial evidence suggests that many of the homes were of the 2½ story, vernacular gothic style, sometimes sided with the brown shingle that was popular in Bay Head and Mantoloking. The local builders (only one of the earliest, Captain McCormick, is known) would seem to have worked without architectural guidance. Known nineteenth century structures include the Sheldrick House, on Brown Avenue; the Wallace House on Grand Central, and the Johnson Store greatly modified into the present Martin's drugstore. The Lavallette Hotel has endured several fires and rebuildings, but can trace its origins back to 1879.

Two more pivotal structures from this time are the Union Church on Grand Central and the Lavallette Yacht Club. The Church--one of many such of nondenominational status within Ocean County--was organized in 1883, built in 1887, and incorporated in 1910. The structure has served as municipal offices and community meeting space, and has traditionally been open to visiting clergy.

Although the Yacht Club itself claims an origin no earlier than 1904, Ocean County Records indicate that it was actually incorporated in 1898 in Philadelphia.¹⁶ An even earlier local club, the "Rags to Riches," now defunct, is given credit for inspiring the venture. At least a part of the original brown shingle structure of the club is believed to exist in the present building; constructed in 1905, moved to the bayfront in 1915, and to its present location on "Swan Point" thrusting out into the bay, in 1937. It has a very active historic role in the community life of Lavallette, and was open to nonmembers as well. Part of the BBYRA, it remains very active today.

Apart from income derived from residential sales and rentals, Lavallette did support a limited amount of industry. A single fishery, with three fishpounds, is known to have existed here, and was responsible for drawing large numbers of Latvian and Norwegian workers--many of whom stayed to become permanent residents, forming a substantial population group as well as being responsible for the formation of two churches.¹⁷ Until recently,¹⁸ commercial fishing has taken place in Lavallette for many years; however, the Chadwick Fishery, which is still operating in Chadwick Beach, was run at one time by three residents of Lavallette, including the mayor, Jacob Jacobsen. It advertised a Lavallette address as late as 1937.¹⁹

Two other local commercial enterprises must be noted. The boatworks of

Charles Hankins, presently located on Grand Central Avenue, but originally on the bay, was known as "the only industry in Lavallette" in 1937²⁰ and retains that title today. It is still run by Charles Hankins Jr. and is one of the very few surviving boatbuilders in Ocean County, featuring wooden crafts such as sneakboxes and skiffs. Prior to 1909, one other interesting Lavallette industry, the Lavallette Bottling Company (located in the present Anchorage Gift Shop structure) bottled beer and soda which was shipped from Philadelphia. Although this seems to be an unusual, if not impractical venture for this area at the turn of the century, the Cummings family²¹ evidently found it a valuable supplement to their ice business, located in Seaside, and later used the premises for the sale of retail liquor. The bottles surviving today represent a highly collectible artifact of Ocean County.

Despite its adventurous beginnings, Lavallette's growth was slow until the 1920s, when a deliberate effort to substantiate the community was made by the local government. Shortly before this time, Lavallette's first school was constructed (1914) and it was followed by the establishment of a Catholic Church (1919.) In complement to these structures, a new Borough Hall was built in 1929 and was followed by a second, more elegant school structure. At the same time, the water tower and a comprehensive sewer system were set up, and sidewalks and curbing laid. Additionally, an active effort was made to sell and develop the southern area of the Borough.

The timing of this ambitious attempt was unfortunate, as the Crash of 1929 caused Lavallette to become bankrupt. In addition to the expenses incurred by the improvements mentioned above, nearly one thousand properties within the Borough had their taxes in arrears, and many owners simply abrogated their rights. The situation was saved by an "all-inclusive tax sale,"

and a method of dealing with the delinquent properties designed by the Borough Auditor, Frank L. Gary, which was subsequently adopted by the State of New Jersey and used for the problems of other municipalities.²²

The effect of this situation upon later physical development was profound. The Borough obtained title to most of the lots in the southern section, and WPA funds were used for developing the roads. Some lots were given away free to developers (this practice also took place on West Point Island, which was not made a part of Lavallette until 1969.)²³ A strong combination of Lavallette realtors²⁴ and contractors²⁵ helped the further improvement of the Borough, and eventually, the financial problems were settled. However, as is evident by the architectural styles prevalent in the southern area, construction did not take place to any great extent until the 1940s. It continues today.

In the early 1960s, Lavallette was a self-proclaimed "ideal family resort"--a claim based upon the noncommercial beachfront, a gentle bayfront with provision for both sailing and bathing, and an overall, simple cottage atmosphere that had yet to be exploited. Soon after, a bout of motel-building and the related increase in necessary services drastically changed the look and the character of the town. The beach and bayfront are still protected²⁶ but the built environment is sadly altered.

What remains of old Lavallette can still be found to the north, generally clustered close to Grand Central Avenue. Interspersed with some individual structures of pivotal importance are stretches of repeated early contractor types. Like Bay Head, Lavallette has a predominant vernacular building style: square plan, hipped roof, with center gable and door, and symmetry overall. A less prevalent style is one story high. There is a group of nine identical cottages on the south side of President Avenue which are

characterized by a deeply receding jerkinhead roof and a cast stone foundation--these are known to have been built by Gus Hayes in 1921. Most of these oldest homes have been covered with modern siding. Nevertheless their structural integrity is apparent.

It is difficult to discern a sense of place in modern Lavallette, due to the unplanned development of recent years. However, there are two important groups of related buildings in the Borough which should be noted for their quality and character. The first surrounds the Lavallette Hotel, on Grand Central Avenue, and involves the hotel itself, the Lavallette Theatre directly south, and Schlosser's Real Estate Office across the street. These buildings are related not only by association, but through the 1930s white stucco, art deco-style alterations which each presents to the street--a brave statement of "modernization" from the period following Lavallette's financial depression.

The second pivotal cluster lies at the heart of the Borough and involves the Borough Hall, Elementary School, and the first building of St. Bonaventure's Church. All of these 1920s structures were built of yellow brick with an awareness of highstyle, Colonial Revival details and an attempt at harmony, spaciousness, and planning. Borough Hall achieved some small measure of renown in Beers Atlas ²⁷ and, before alterations, was a unique, academically accurate structure graced by unusual terra cotta moldings. The alterations encompass a false gable roof to the street and a 1980 sand and pebble facade, framed by a nonfunctional shed porch.

Apart from the buildings, the landscape of Lavallette is open. Like most shore towns with sandy soil it is almost entirely lacking in trees, or indeed plant life of any sort in great profusion. ²⁸ In place of lawns, pebbles surround most properties and contribute to a pleasing, casual

"vacation" atmosphere. There are few sidewalks and no large green areas, in contrast to the relative lushness of Bay Head or any of the inland municipalities. However, there is a great deal of planned community space--a memorial park on Bay Boulevard, playgrounds on the bayfront as well as in the center of the town, and plantings in the area of Borough Hall with commemorative dedications. The Geb Guild of Lavallette, a garden club, works for the beautification of the town and has improved public areas on a large scale.

Overall, the image of Lavallette is one of high community pride, both conservative and patriotic in its expression. With a higher architectural awareness, and more preservation forethought, the appearance of the town could reflect these community-minded attitudes.

LAVALLETTEFOOTNOTES

¹ Ocean County Courthouse, Toms River, New Jersey. Book of Deeds 6.5: 269

² Ibid., 78:250.

³ This structure no longer exists, and its precise location has not been determined. Michael Ortley achieved a small measure of fame for his attempt to reopen Cranberry Inlet - an effort that was washed out on the day it was completed.

⁴ Dr. Kerr served as President of the Land Company, and his name is at the top of their letterhead.

Historical Committee of Lavallette Bicentennial Celebration Committee, A History of Lavallette 1887-1977 (Lavallette: Historical Committee, 1977), p.7.

⁵ Morton S. MacQueen, "Yarning at Gari's," in The Ocean County Review, July 20, 1937, p.16.

⁶ Mildred C. Schlosser. Interview by M.R. Kralik. Lavallette, August, 1980.

⁷ Ibid.

⁸ Historical Committee of Lavallette Bicentennial Celebration Committee, p.6.

⁹ Actors included Eddie Root and Harry Coleman. On rainy days, Schlosser's Garage on Grand Central Avenue was the site of impromptu performances by these celebrities. Its roof was one of few in town that didn't leak.

Schlosser, op. cit.

¹⁰ Frank L. Gary, "The Borough," in A History of Lavallette 1887-1977, op. cit., p.25.

¹¹ Historical Committee of Lavallette Bicentennial Celebration Committee, p.86.

¹² James G. Kean, "Early Days in Lavallette," in The Ocean County Review, July 20, 1937, p.1.

¹³ Historical Committee of Lavallette Bicentennial Celebration Committee, p.16.

¹⁴ Grover C. Low, Industrial Directory of New Jersey.

LAVALLETTTE FOOTNOTES CONTINUED:

¹⁵ Historical Committee of Lavallette Bicentennial Celebration Committee, p.86.

¹⁶ Ocean County Courthouse, Toms River, New Jersey. Book of Corporations, I:

¹⁷ Faith Lutheran Church was established by a primarily Norwegian congregation in 1953; the Lettish Church, now defunct, was in existence at the turn of the century. At one time it met in the basement of the Kweetin home, which still stands on President Avenue. On the topic of foreign-born residents of Lavallette, the following statement from Low's Directory (op. cit. p.270) is of interest: "The only foreign immigrants residing in or about the town are 10 Lithuanians." This observation does not coincide with the town's own remembrance of itself.

¹⁸ In the late 1970s, Dave Balint again began a commercial fishing enterprise off the Virginia Avenue beach.

¹⁹ The Ocean County Review, July 20, 1937, p.5.

²⁰ "The Only Manufacturer in Lavallette," in The Ocean County Review, July 20, 1937, p.5.

²¹ Gary, p.32.

²² Historical Committee of Lavallette Bicentennial Celebration Committee, p.83.

²³ As advertised in The Ocean County Review, op. cit., p.19: Ernest Borrelli, Florence Brower, Charles Garibaldi, Jr., Gordon D. Homer, James L. Lee, M.C. Schlosser.

²⁴ Peter Bloom, the Brackman Brothers, Harry DeVaul and Son, George Johnson and Son, Peter Krone, Gilbert Ryan, Louis Sorenson.
Ibid.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Cunningham, John T. The New Jersey Shore. New Brunswick: Rutgers University Press, 1958.

Historical Committee of Lavallette Bicentennial Celebration Committee. A History of Lavallette 1887-1977. Lavallette: Historical Committee, 1977.

Kobbe, Gustav. The New Jersey Coast and Pines. Short Hills: G. Kobbe, 1889.

Kralik, Diana A. Interview by M.R. Kralik, Lavallette, New Jersey, August 1980.

LAVALLETTTE BIBLIOGRAPHY CONTINUED:

Low, Grover C. An Industrial Directory of New Jersey. Camden, New Jersey: S. Chew and Sons, 1915.

Malzone, Christopher. Interview by M.R. Kralik. Short Hills, New Jersey, September 1980.

Malzone, Joseph. Interview by M.R. Kralik. Lavallette, New Jersey, August 1980.

Ocean County Courthouse, Toms River, New Jersey. Book of Corporations.

Ocean County Courthouse, Toms River, New Jersey. Book of Deeds.

Ocean County Principal's Council. Tides of Time. Toms River, New Jersey: The Council, 1940.

Ocean County Review. July 20, 1937.

Rivel, Tom. Correspondence with M.R. Kralik, Lavallette, N.J., September 1980.

Schlosser, Mildred C. Interview by M.R. Kralik. Lavallette, New Jersey, August 1980.

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

HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY NO. 1516-1

HISTORIC NAME: Lavallette Yacht Club
LOCATION: 126-128 Swan Point Road

COMMON NAME: Lavallette Yacht Club
BLOCK/LOT 71/7A

MUNICIPALITY: Lavallette
USGS QUAD:
OWNER/ADDRESS: Lavallette Yacht Club

COUNTY: Ocean
UTM REFERENCES:
Zone/Northing/Easting

DESCRIPTION

Construction Date: 1933 Parts date from 1905 Source of Date: A History of Lavallette

Architect:

Builder:

Style: Vernacular shingle style with many alterations
Number of Stories: 2

Form/Plan Type: rectangle, with additions to all sides

Foundation: brick

Exterior Wall Fabric: asbestos shingle over natural shingle

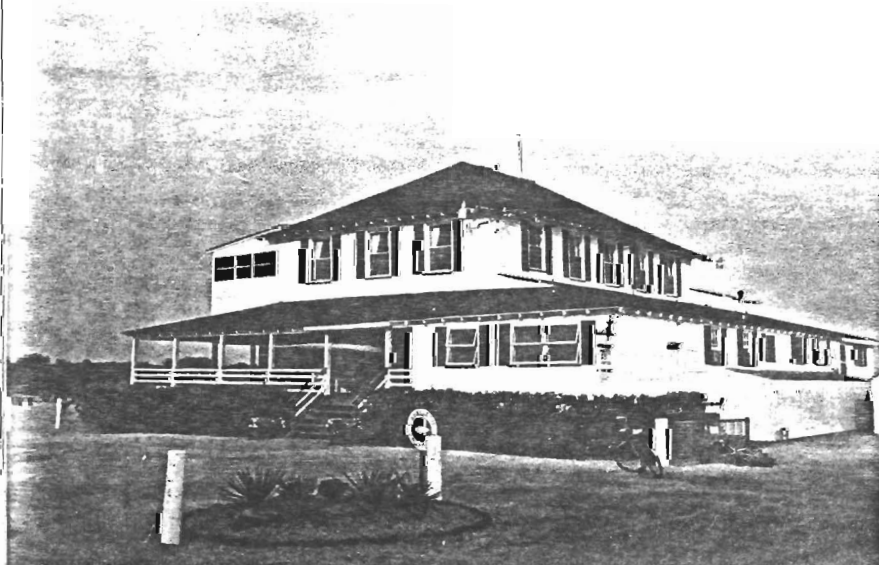
Fenestration: 5 X 3 bay main mass / dhs

Roof/Chimneys: hipped roof

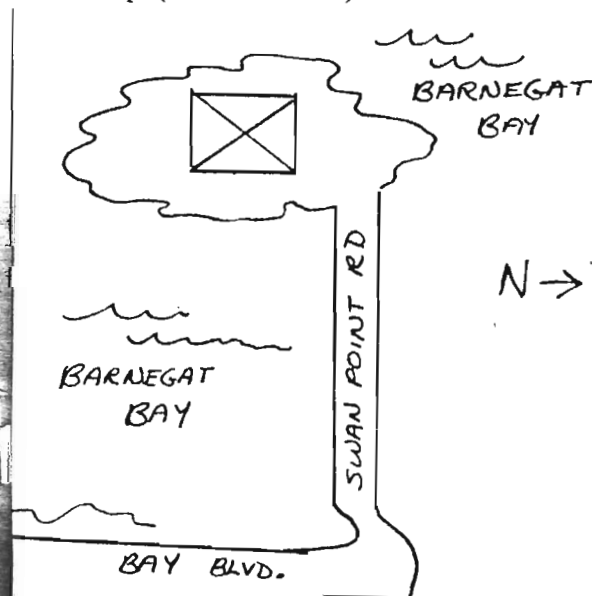
Additional Architectural Description:

First floor projecting porches are open to the front (east) and south; there is an enclosed second floor porch south and an open second floor deck to the west. The asphalt roof is red in color, and serves as a landmark on the bayfront.

PHOTO Negative File No. 1516-1



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

SITING, BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION, AND RELATED STRUCTURES:

The Lavallette Yacht Club is located on "Swan Point", a former island in the bay now connected by an infilled private thruway. To the west is an uninhabited island ("Bennett's" or "Mosquito Island.") There are boat slips to the south; bulkheading south and west, and a yard for the sailboats and parking area to the north and east. A courtyard with a monumental flagpole lies to the south. The pavement is inlaid with the names of Lavallette boats.

SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT: Urban Suburban Scattered Buildings
Open Space Woodland Residential Agricultural Village
Industrial Downtown Commerical Highway Commercial Other Water

SIGNIFICANCE:

The Lavallette Yacht Club was incorporated in 1898 and has had a continuous history. It is said to have grown from an earlier organization, the "Road to Ruin Club", which was made up of business men and professional theater people. There are mementos of the "R to R" within the present structure. The yacht club served as a social center for the Lavallette community. It joined the Barnegat Bay Yacht Racing Association and thereby provided a means of interaction with other local communities as well. At one time, there were L.Y.C. structures at both the ocean and bayfront, but the older structures have been moved and consolidated at the present location since 1947. The Lavallette Yacht Club is the home of the "Archibald", a perpetual trophy for open competition of sneak boxes.

ORIGINAL USE: Yacht Club PRESENT USE: Yacht Club
PHYSICAL CONDITION: Excellent Good Fair Poor
REGISTER ELIGIBILITY: Yes Possible No Part of District
THREATS TO SITE: Roads Development Zoning Deterioration
No Threat Other

COMMENTS:

REFERENCES:

A History of Lavallette

RECORDED BY: M.R. Kralik DATE: August 1980
ORGANIZATION: O.C. Cultural and Heritage Commission

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

HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY NO. 1516-3

HISTORIC NAME: Church of St. Bonaventure
LOCATION: 1206 Grand Central Avenue

COMMON NAME: "The Brick Church"
BLOCK/LOT 39/4

MUNICIPALITY: Lavallette
USGS QUAD:
OWNER/ADDRESS: Church of St. Bonaventure

COUNTY: Ocean
UTM REFERENCES:
Zone/Northing/Easting

DESCRIPTION

Construction Date: 1924 Source of Date: A History of Lavallette

Architect: Builder:

Style: Vernacular Colonial Revival/
Meetinghouse Form/Plan Type: rectangle
Number of Stories: 1

Foundation: brick

Exterior Wall Fabric: pressed brick - all stretcher bond

Fenestration: 3 X 5 bay. Paired sash windows; stained glass

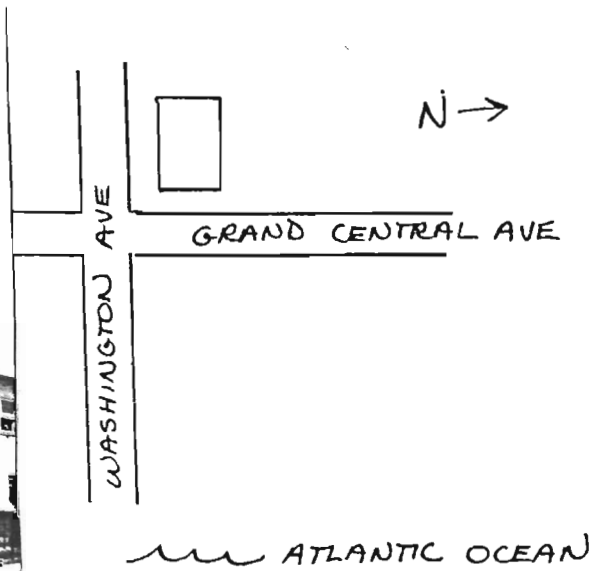
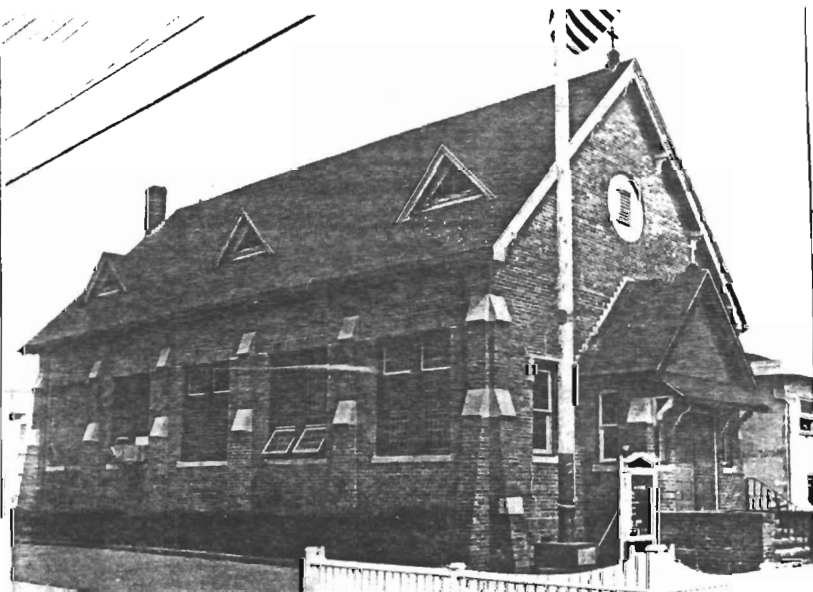
Roof/Chimneys: gable roof facing Grand Central Ave. (east entrance). 3 paired cross gables.

Additional Architectural Description:

There is a small projecting entrance porch with a door hood faced with vertical board. Buttresses with masonry caps mark the exterior walls, and there are masonry window hoods. A small rose window above the entrance has been infilled with a louvre. There are small brackets beneath the roof and door hood, and small roof crosses upon both peaks. The overall appearance is understated.

PHOTO Negative File No. 1516-3

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

SITING, BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION, AND RELATED STRUCTURES: .

St. Bonaventures is located on the northwest corner of Grand Central Avenue and Washington Avenue. It is set off by a small fence and a flag-pole. To the south is the police station; to the north are two newer structures, the 1942 Quonset Hut (1516-L.3) and the 1966 structure which is the present church.

SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT: Urban Suburban Scattered Buildings
Open Space Woodland Residential Agricultural Village
Industrial Downtown Commercial Highway Commercial Other

SIGNIFICANCE:

The congregation of St. Bonaventures was formed in 1918, first as a Mission Church. The church structure, like the Lavallette school (1516-2) is an integral part of the downtown area; its style and material being compatible with the other civic buildings from Lavallette's first "Boom Period."

St. Bonaventures was the mother church for Our Lady of Peace in Normandy Beach.

ORIGINAL USE: Church
PHYSICAL CONDITION: Excellent Good Fair Poor Auxiliary church space
REGISTER ELIGIBILITY: Yes Possible No Part of District
THREATS TO SITE: Roads Development Zoning Deterioration
No Threat Other

COMMENTS:

The structure was renovated and restored in 1964.

REFERENCES:

RECORDED BY: M.R. Kralik DATE: August 1980
ORGANIZATION: O.C. Cultural and Heritage Commission

SITING, BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION, AND RELATED STRUCTURES:

The Union Church is on the ocean block, on the northeast corner of Grand Central Avenue (Route 35 North) and Philadelphia Avenue. St. Bonaventure's new church is across the street. Although the neighboring structures are residential, the church is in Lavallette's business and municipal district.

SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT: Urban Suburban Scattered Buildings
Open Space Woodland Residential Agricultural Village
Industrial Downtown Commerical Highway Commercial Other

SIGNIFICANCE:

A "Union Church" is a familiar Ocean County institution - this is one of four remaining such inter-denominational churches. First organized in 1883, the congregation is still active in the borough. The building has been used in the past as temporary municipal offices and as a community center. (The 1955 brick annex now serves this function.) It also quartered the local Roman Catholic, Lettish, and Lutheran congregations for a while.

ORIGINAL USE: Church
PHYSICAL CONDITION: Excellent Good Fair Poor
REGISTER ELIGIBILITY: Yes Possible No Part of District
THREATS TO SITE: Roads Development Zoning Deterioration
No Threat Other

COMMENTS:

Church was originally oriented due west.

REFERENCES:

RECORDED BY: M.R. Kralik
ORGANIZATION: O.C. Cultural and Heritage Commission
DATE: August 1980

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

HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY NO. 1516-5

HISTORIC NAME: Stevens House
LOCATION: 906 Ocean Front

COMMON NAME:
BLOCK/LOT 10/4

MUNICIPALITY: Lavallette
USGS QUAD:
OWNER/ADDRESS: William Berson
8 Glendale Road
Summit, N.J. 07901

COUNTY: Ocean
UTM REFERENCES:
Zone/Northing/Easting

DESCRIPTION

Construction Date: c.1900

Source of Date: stylistic

Architect:

Builder:

Style: Vernacular Colonial Revival /
shingle style

Form/Plan Type: rectangle

Number of Stories: 2½

Foundation:

Exterior Wall Fabric: natural shingle

Fenestration: 5 bay 9/9

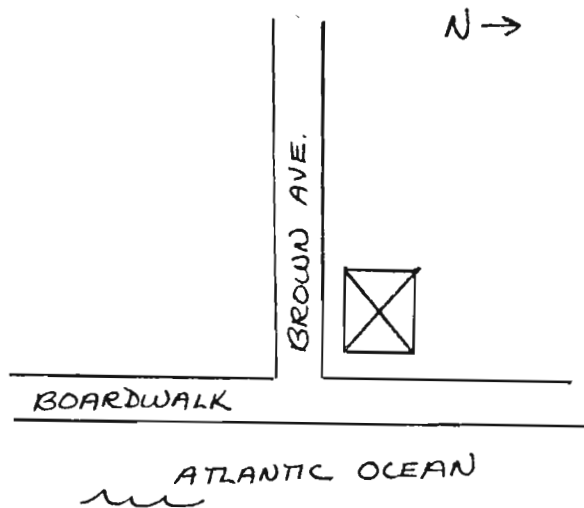
Roof/Chimneys: gambrel roof parallel to boardwalk; 3 cross Colonial Revival roof
dormers / two interior brick chimneys

Additional Architectural Description:

First floor open porch extending front (east) and south. There is a second
floor porchette to the south, and a second floor open deck with elaborated chippen-
dale-style rails.

PHOTO Negative File No. 1516-5

Map (Indicate North)



SITING, BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION, AND RELATED STRUCTURES:

The Stevens House is located on the oceanfront, on the north side of Brown Avenue. There are residences to either side. A 1 story greenhouse is joined to the home on the north side, and there is a garage at the rear.

SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT: Urban Suburban Scattered Buildings
Open Space Woodland Residential Agricultural Village
Industrial Downtown Commercial Highway Commercial Other Oceanfront

SIGNIFICANCE:

The Steven's home is popularly thought to have been designed by an architect, although further information is not known at present. Visually, it is among the most elaborate of Lavallette structures, and of the type more common to the Bay Head area.

ORIGINAL USE: Residence
PHYSICAL CONDITION: Excellent Good Fair Poor
REGISTER ELIGIBILITY: Yes Possible No Part of District
THREATS TO SITE: Roads Development Zoning Deterioration
No Threat Other

COMMENTS:

REFERENCES:

RECORDED BY: M.R. Kralik
ORGANIZATION: O.C. Cultural and Heritage Commission

DATE: August 1980

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

HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY NO. 1516-6

HISTORIC NAME: Sheldrick / Stulz House
LOCATION: 17 Brown Avenue

COMMON NAME: "Gingerbread House"
BLOCK/LOT 10/22

MUNICIPALITY: Lavallette
USGS QUAD:
OWNER/ADDRESS: Clemense Liccardi
RD 3, Box 404
Somerset, N.J. 08873

COUNTY: Ocean
UTM REFERENCES:
Zone/Northing/Easting

DESCRIPTION

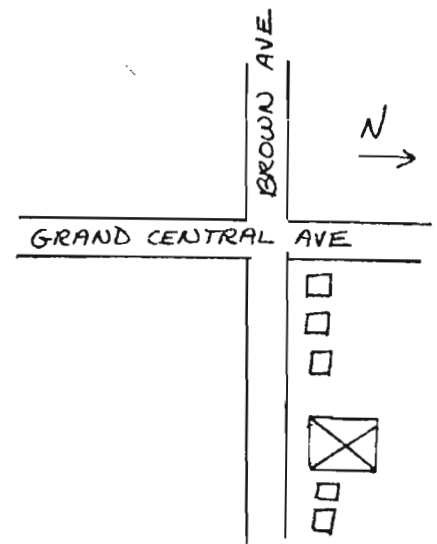
Construction Date: Source of Date: Ocean County Review, 1937
Architect: Builder:
Style: Vernacular 2.A/Gothic Form/Plan Type: rectangle
Number of Stories: 2½
Foundation:
Exterior Wall Fabric: asbestos
Fenestration: dhs
Roof/Chimneys: gable to street
Additional Architectural Description:

An unusual house in Lavallette, as it has retained its ornate 19th century trim. This includes a pierced gable board, vergeboards and sawn brackets and rails on all the porch areas. A two story screened veranda encircles the home on three sides and there are exposed rafter tails.

PHOTO Negative File No. 1516-6



Map (Indicate North)



ATLANTIC OCEAN

SITING, BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION, AND RELATED STRUCTURES:

The oceanblock neighborhood is entirely residential. The house is surrounded by a large fenced yard. There is a garage to the east.

SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT: Urban Suburban Scattered Buildings
Open Space Woodland Residential Agricultural Village
Industrial Downtown Commerical Highway Commercial Other

SIGNIFICANCE:

This is one of Lavallette's oldest homes. Its sawn details are a reminder of a style, now past, once generally prevalent in Lavallette.

ORIGINAL USE: Residence PRESENT USE: Residence
PHYSICAL CONDITION: Excellent Good Fair Poor
REGISTER ELIGIBILITY: Yes Possible No Part of District
THREATS TO SITE: Roads Development Zoning Deterioration
No Threat Other

COMMENTS:

Present siding material is incompatible.

REFERENCES:

Stulz, Georgia. 140 Squan Beach Deive, Mantoloking.

A History of Lavallette.

Ocean County Review

RECORDED BY: M.R. Kralik ORGANIZATION: O.C. Cultural and Heritage Commission

DATE: August 1980

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

HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY NO. 1516-7

HISTORIC NAME: Wallace House
LOCATION: 1600 Grand Central Avenue

COMMON NAME:
BLOCK/LOT 43/1

MUNICIPALITY: Lavallette
USGS QUAD:
OWNER/ADDRESS: Roman Bober
301 Raritan Road
Linden, N.J.

COUNTY: Ocean
UTM REFERENCES:
Zone/Northing/Easting

DESCRIPTION

Construction Date:

Source of Date:

Architect:

Builder:

Style:

Form/Plan Type: rectangle

Number of Stories: 2½

Foundation:

Exterior Wall Fabric: novelty siding on the first floor; patterned shingle above
(fishscale and staggered butt)

Fenestration: 3 bay sash windows with mitred arch heads.

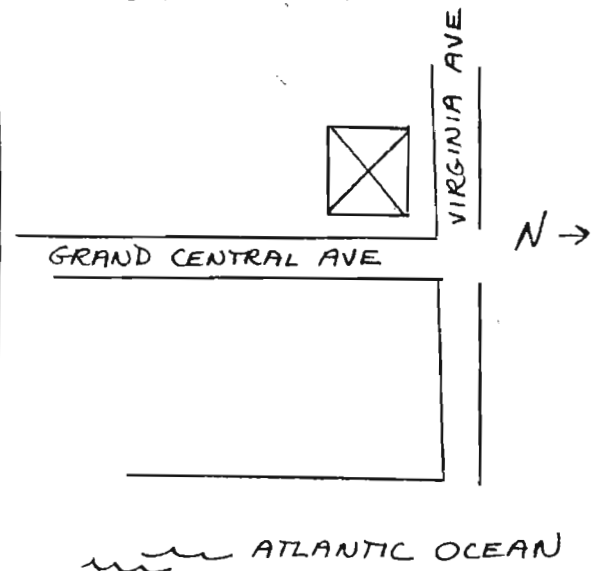
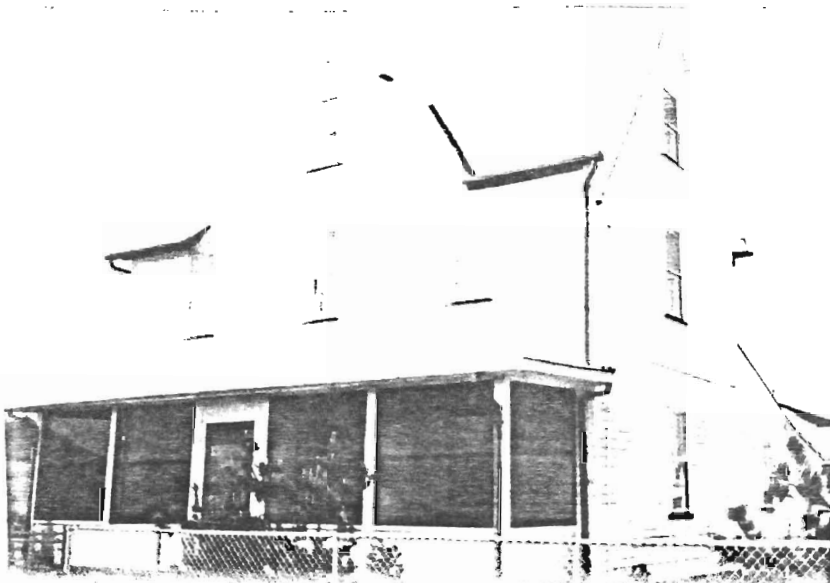
Roof/Chimneys: gable roof running parallel to Grand Central Avenue with center
cross gable peak / one interior brick chimney

Additional Architectural Description:

The facade is highly symmetrical. A screened shed front porch projects front.

PHOTO Negative File No. 1516-7

Map (Indicate North)



SITING, BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION, AND RELATED STRUCTURES:

The Wallace House is located on the south west corner of Grand Central Avenue and Virginia Avenue. The neighborhood is residential at this point, although there is heavy highway traffic in the summer.

SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT: Urban Suburban Scattered Buildings
Open Space Woodland Residential Agricultural Village
Industrial Downtown Commercial Highway Commercial Other

SIGNIFICANCE:

The Wallace House is cited in the 1929 Ocean County Review as being among the few original Lavallette houses. It is visually unique in the Borough (although not elsewhere in the County) and this quality is enhanced by its central location.

Advertisements indicate that it was used as a Rooming House for a time.

ORIGINAL USE: Residence
PHYSICAL CONDITION: Excellent Good Fair Poor
REGISTER ELIGIBILITY: Yes Possible No Part of District
THREATS TO SITE: Roads Development Zoning Deterioration
No Threat Other

COMMENTS:

REFERENCES:

The Ocean County Review, 1929.

RECORDED BY: M.R. Kralik
ORGANIZATION: O.C. Cultural and Heritage Commission

DATE: August 1980

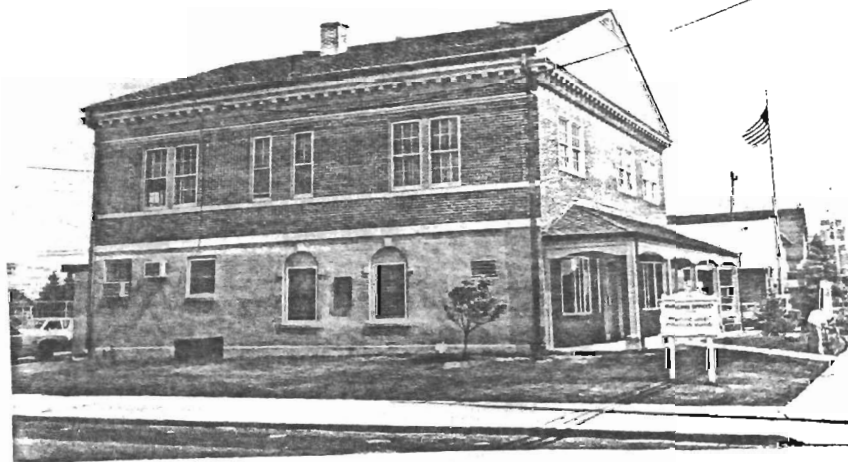
1516-L1



Beach Pavilion / Kerr Avenue and Oceanfront

1 story, wood frame, hipped roof, open plan, square posts and diagonal bracing. The only original beach pavilion left on the Lavallette boardwalk, (early 20th century, around 1927)

1516-L2



Lavallette Borough Hall / East Grand Central and Brooklyn Avenue

2 story, 3 bay, pressed brick, (false) gable roof facing east, vernacular Colonial Revival, 1929. Designed by the architect W.H. Schmieder. Terra cotta cornices and belt course; original design had a terra cotta legend above the door. Alterations, 1979-80 include roof, pebbled siding on east facade, and nonfunctional shed porch.

1516-L3



St. Bonaventure's Roman Catholic Church Quonset Hut / CYO Hall
East Grand Central and Philadelphia Avenue

1 story, plastic siding, aluminum quonset hut construction facing north, 1947. Originally used as a second church structure; superseded in 1964. Recently given as a community center to Lavallette.

1516-L4



5 Camden Avenue

3 story, 3 bay, gable roof parallel to the street. Shingle style with Colonial Revival details, early twentieth century in appearance. First floor open porch extending front and to sides with Doric columns; paired Colonial Revival dormers; demi-lunettes paired in gable ends.

1516-L5



The Marlborough / 9 Reese Avenue

3 story, 3 bay, clapboard and staggered butt shingle, on cast cement block foundation, hipped roof with cross gable, Contractor's Georgian (Lavallette vernacular) early twentieth century in appearance. First floor open porch with cast cement podiums and battered porch posts. One of the earliest and best-known rooming houses in Lavallette, and one of the remaining few.

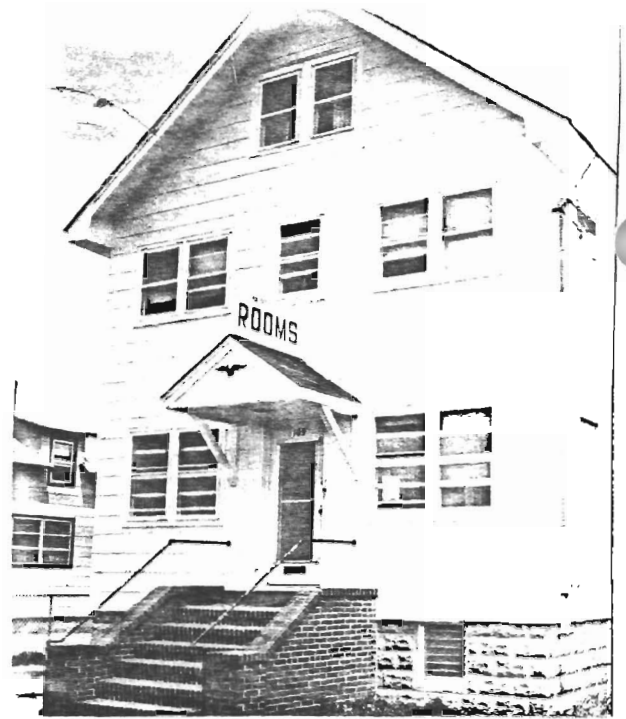
1516-L6



Schlosser's / 600 Grand Central Avenue

1 story, stucco office c.1930 to east of 2½ story, asbestos shingle, hipped roof, Lavallette vernacular residence, c.1900. The original real estate business here was owned by Harry Whitelock; it was sold in the 1920s to Mildred Schlosser, who still owns and manages it. The office addition conforms to the surrounding commercial streetscape.

1516-L7



Hayes Rooming House / 105 President Avenue

3 story, 3 bay, asbestos shingle, gable roof, early twentieth century massing and style. An old and prominent rooming house.

1516-L8



The Anchorage Gift Shop / 702 Grand Central Avenue

2½ story, 3 bay, asbestos shingle, gambrel roof to street, c.1890. One story commercial extension to Grand Central Avenue. The Cumming's bottling works were located here prior to 1900. The Anchorage Gift Shop has been located here since 1946.

1516-L9



West Point Island House / Washington Avenue and Bay Boulevard

2½ story, stucco with brick detail, hipped roof, late vernacular Gothic elements, c.1930. Narrow 1-bay peaked brick entrance bay projection; lancet door and windows. This structure is said to have been designed by a member of the original owner's family and is one of the earliest structures on the bayfront. For a brief period it was used as a convalescent home.

1516-L10



Newman House / 131 Pershing Boulevard, West Point Island

2½ story, siding over stucco with brick trim, hipped roof, Spanish Colonial Revival, c.1925. Characteristic curvilinear wall dormers to north and sides; each has a paired casement window group. Entrance area with curved gable and deck above. Garage in compatible style.

1516-L11



Hurricane House / 141 Pershing Boulevard, West Point Island

2½ story, 3 bay, painted shingle, gable roof parallel to street, c.1925. Exterior side chimneys; demi-lunettes in attic area. First floor porch with asymmetrical entrance and lattice; semi-enclosed. Roof of cedar shakes; white cedar trees screen the entrance. This is typical of many local contractor-built homes.

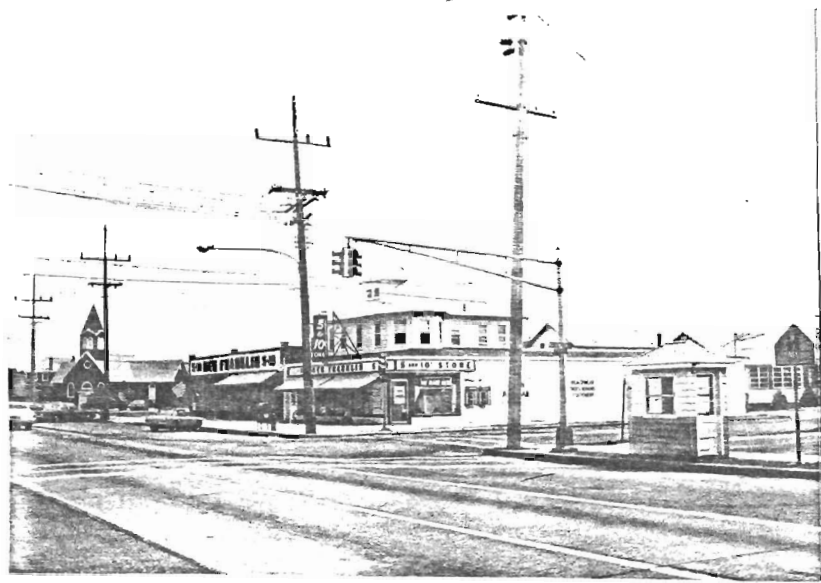
1516-L12



The Lavallette Inn / Old Schoolhouse / 1307 Grand Central Avenue

1½ story, 1-room, 1914 brick schoolhouse with a hipped roof. Structure is part of the present restaurant. First floor commercial extension. Original roofline and west dormer, with double casement windows, can still be seen. This structure became a tavern when its original function was superseded. The "Old School Inn" was first located here; its name has been carried to another location in town.

1516-L13



Washington General Store / The Ben Franklin / Taylor House
1207 Grand Central Avenue

2½ story, asbestos shingle, hipped roof, Lavallette vernacular style, known to have been built by H.P. Senseney of Lavallette around 1910. Originally a combination general store and rooming house. Commercial first floor alterations.

1516-L14



The Lavallette Hotel / Crab's Claw / 601 Grand Central Avenue

3 story, 7 bay, stucco and natural shingle, stepped gable roof, art deco-style alterations; 1913. Lavallette's first hotel was used for many civic and community functions, and now serves as a restaurant. The business at this site can be traced back to 1879. The present structure has been remodelled many times.

1516-L15



The Lavallette Theater Complex / 605 Grand Central Avenue

2 story, 3 bay, stucco, hipped shingle roof, art deco-style alterations, c.1930. Three second floor oriels; center door with projecting marquee and framing commercial windows. This structure remains in continuous use as a movie theater.

1516-L16



10 Kerr Avenue

2 story, 3 bay, natural shingle, jerkinhead roof, bungalow, c.1920. Elevated cast cement foundation and interior brick chimney with crown. Internal first floor porch.

1516-L17



114 President Avenue

2½ story, 2 bay, clapboard and shingle, gable roof to street, vernacular Gothic style, c.1890. Shed front porch

114-a President Avenue

Similar to 114 President Avenue. Asbestos shingle siding, and exposed cast cement foundation.

1516-L18



14 White Avenue

2½ story, 4 bay, cedar shake, hipped roof with central chimney, Contractor's Georgian / shingle style, c.1920. Roof has flared eaves and exposed rafter tails; hipped cross dormers east and west. There is a second floor screened porchette with double entrance doors, and a screened shed front porch. This is a very elaborate example of the vernacular Lavallette house-type.

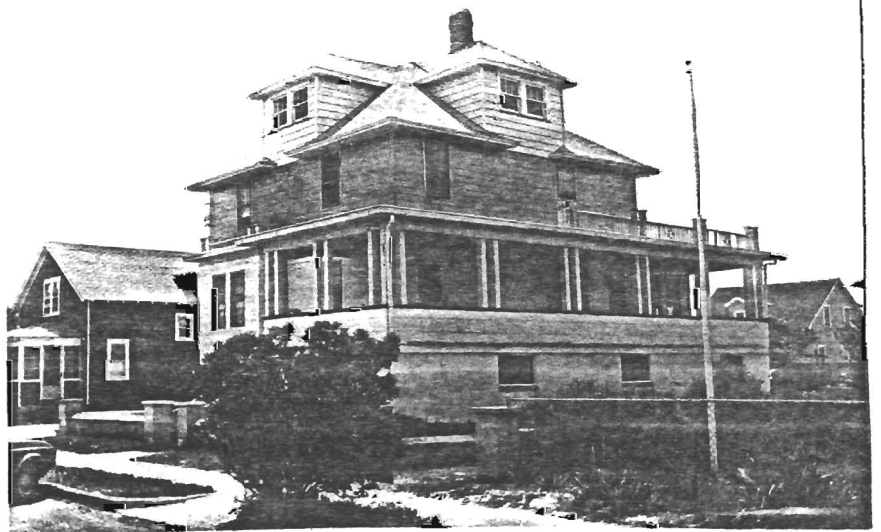
1516-L19



Railroad Station / southeast corner, Reese Avenue and Rte. 35, south

1 story, asbestos shingle, hipped roof running parallel to the highway, 1913. 1-room wide in its original form. Front porch has been infilled; double bays to west remain from the old station. This was Lavallette's second railroad station, and was built after the first burned in 1913.

1516-L20



Gavio House / 20 President Avenue

2½ story, stucco and asbestos shingle, square plan hipped roof, Contractor's Georgian, c.1920. West entrance, with open porch with square posts extending three sides. Bracketed bay, first floor east, with balcony above. Windows are 1/1 with tracery in the upper sashes. Philip Gavio had been a mayor of Lavallette. His home remains one of the most detailed and imposing in the Borough.

1516-L21



Presidential Rooming House / Kweetin House / 21 President Avenue

2½ story, painted shingle, gable roof to street, c.1920. Elevated central entrance with portico, and masonry stair to street, west. Attached carport to the west of the structure. There is a Palladian attic window group and paired 6/1 second floor windows. At one time, this home was used as a Lettish Church. It is a rooming house today.

LAVALLETTE

STATE AND NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

ON REGISTERS:

PENDING STATE REVIEW: Pumping Station at Washinton Ave. between Baltimore Ave. and Rt. 35
SHPO Opinion: 2/2/76

RECOMMENDED FOR STATE AND NATIONAL REGISTERS

The following list of buildings, districts or sites have been reviewed by the survey team and are considered eligible to be placed on the New Jersey and National Registers of Historic Places. For a complete explanation of the register program and criteria, contact the Office of Cultural and Environmental Services, 109 West State Street, Trenton, N.J. 08625. Telephone: (609) 292-2023.

FORM #	NAME AND ADDRESS	YES	POSSIBLE	PART OF DISTRICT
1516-2	Lavallette School Brooklyn Ave.		X	
1516-3	Church of St. Bonaventure 1206 Grand Central Ave.		X	
1516-4	Union Church of Lavallette 1103-1107 Grand Central Ave.		X	
1516-5	Stevens House 906 Ocean Front		X	
1516-6	Sheldrick - Stulz House 17 Brown Ave.		X	