Ms. Carol Shull  
Chief of Registration  
National Register of Historic Places  
National Park Service  
Department of the Interior  
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Ms. Shull:

I am pleased to nominate the Jersey Homesteads Historic District, Roosevelt Borough, Monmouth County, New Jersey to the National Register.

This application has received majority approval from the New Jersey State Review Board. All procedures were followed in accord with the interim regulations published in the Federal Register on November 16, 1981 and your November 6, 1981 letter. One property owner has chosen to object to listing while over 60 owners have responded positively (copies of all correspondence enclosed).

Should you want any further information concerning this nomination, please feel free to contact William Forwood, Acting Administrator, Office of New Jersey Heritage, CN 402, Trenton, New Jersey 08625 or call (609) 292-2028.

Sincerely,

Russell W. Myers  
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

RWM:SP
United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

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 Jersey Homesteads

and/or common Roosevelt Borough

2. Location

All that area within the corporate boundaries of the Borough of Roosevelt; see Property Map

city, town Roosevelt vicinity of congressional district Fourth

state New Jersey code 34 county Monmouth code 025

3. Classification

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Ownership</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Present Use</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>X district</td>
<td>public</td>
<td>occupied</td>
<td>X agriculture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>X building(s)</td>
<td>private</td>
<td>unoccupied</td>
<td>X commercial</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>X structure</td>
<td>X both</td>
<td>X work in progress</td>
<td>X educational</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>X site</td>
<td>X Public Acquisition</td>
<td>X yes: restricted</td>
<td>X entertainment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>X object</td>
<td>In process</td>
<td>X yes: unrestricted</td>
<td>X government</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>X access</td>
<td>being considered</td>
<td>X no</td>
<td>X industrial</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

X military

X museum

X park

X religious

X scientific

X transportation

X other:

4. Owner of Property

name Multiple Ownership; see accompanying Property Ownership List

street & number N/A

city, town N/A vicinity of state N/A

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Office of the Clerk, Monmouth County Hall of Records

street & number West Main Street

city, town Freehold state New Jersey 07748

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

New Jersey Historic Sites Inventory; a Monmouth County Survey

has this property been determined eligible? yes X no

date 1982

X federal ___ state ___ county ___ local

depository for survey records Office of Cultural and Environmental Services, N.J. Dept. of Environmental Protection
The Description is divided into four sections:

I. General Characteristics
II. Present Appearance and Physical Development
III. Boundary Justification
IV. Property Inventory

I. GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS

The Roosevelt Historic District is situated in western Monmouth County, New Jersey, five miles southeast of Hightstown, and forty-five miles equidistant from New York and Philadelphia. The district includes the entire land area, with original boundaries, of the New Deal planned community known as Jersey Homesteads, which was developed by the Division of Subsistence Homesteads during 1933 and 1934, and constructed between 1935 and 1938. The town was renamed Roosevelt in 1945.

The district comprises residential, commercial/industrial, and public buildings which are integrated into a community plan of curvilinear streets, inner commons, park land, and a green belt of farm land and conservation areas. (See Property Map, and 1938 Zoning Plan Map.) The 249 identified sites within the district include: six 19th and early 20th century farmhouses which became part of the Jersey Homesteads agricultural cooperative; 151 buildings which were constructed as part of Jersey Homesteads between 1935 and 1938; and 92 structures (predominantly single-family dwellings) which were built thereafter. A total of 162 buildings, or 65% of the district's structures, contribute to its significance; 31, or 12%, harmonize with the architectural and historical character of the district; and 56, or 22%, detract from its significance. (Refer to the Property Inventory and to the Building Classifications Map.)

In addition, at least 90% of Roosevelt's land area (as opposed to structures alone) contributes to its significance. This is due to three major land use characteristics of the district:

1. The street layout and half-acre lot sizes of the original plan's residential core have not been changed or subdivided.
2. Intact open space and landscape elements of the original plan (including commons, park land, and agricultural green belt) make up approximately half of the district's land area.
3. Non-contributing construction generally is clustered in three areas: at the west end of Pine Drive, on Lake Drive west of S. Valley Road, and on the east end (south side only) of Farm Lane.
II. PRESENT APPEARANCE AND PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Roosevelt is surrounded on the west, north, and east by a rural landscape of cultivated farm land, fallow fields, meadow, patches and strips of woodland, and scattered single-family dwellings. On the southern periphery is dense woodland which is part of the state-owned Assunpink Wildlife Refuge. All four approaches to the borough—from the west on Nurko Road, from the north on Rochdale Avenue (County Route 571), the east on Clarksburg Road, and the south on Roosevelt Road—are tree-bordered two lane roads uncluttered by commercial strip development or other intrusions in land use. (See photographs of approaches to district.)

The district is an irregularly shaped area of 1,244 acres, with boundaries identical to those of the original Jersey Homesteads community. The site for the proposed town was chosen by Benjamin Brown, a New Jersey farmer and a leader in the cooperative movement (see Significance, under Social/Humanitarian), in coordination with the Division of Subsistence Homesteads. In 1933-34, the Federal Government purchased eight contiguous farms in Millstone Township, at that time a sparsely inhabited area which was first settled in the 18th century. The spot was labeled "Paradise" on the 1869 Atlas of Monmouth County, but remained unincorporated until Jersey Homesteads became a borough in 1937.

The terrain within the district is generally level, 100 to 200 feet in elevation; the deep, loamy Freehold soils are high in natural fertility. The primary natural features are Assunpink Brook, which forms the southern boundary of the town, and its tributary Empty Box Brook, which flows westward through the town center.

Roosevelt's physical plan is a variation of the English Garden City Idea. (See Significance, under Community Planning.) In accordance with the Garden City dictum that "natural features should be taken as the keynote of the composition" (Creese, p. 206), the plan left much of the existing agricultural landscape intact, incorporating it into a wide green belt of farm land and conservation areas. The town center is structured on the location of the waterways (Assunpink Brook, Empty Box Brook, and a small unnamed stream) and three pre-existing roads. Rochdale Avenue, built upon an old county route, is the town's main thoroughfare, intersected at the south end by Clarksburg Road and at the north by Oscar Drive (formerly Perrineville Road). Homestead Lane, Farm Lane, Valley Road, Pine Drive, and Tamara Drive were all constructed for the new town (Pine and Tamara Drives were originally named Cooperative Extension Circle). Lake Drive, though added in the 1950's, conforms to the guidelines in the 1938 Zoning Plan (see map of 1938 Zoning Plan). The overall street configuration is curvilinear but symmetrical, laid out with topographical considerations, large looped blocks, and cul-de-sacs characteristic of Garden City planning. The ample residential lot sizes, half acres averaging 100 feet wide by 200 feet deep, add to the district's suburban character.
The open space and landscape elements of the community plan are spatially and visually prominent, and are well-preserved. The commons and the park land were designed as the "inner greens," the counterpart to the encircling green belt. (Refer to the Property Map for land use and property divisions; see also photographs of interior woods and green belt.) The municipally-owned commons, which are wooded instead of open, include those long parcels of land abutting the rear property lines of the residential lots. The park land lies along Empty Box Brook and Assunpink Brook, and is also wooded and criss-crossed with pedestrian trails. Since the 1940's, additional open space conservation areas have been acquired by the borough along Clarksburg Road, and by the state (N.J. Department of Environmental Protection) along Assunpink Brook. While all of this publicly owned open space is protected and unthreatened, the entire green belt to the north and east of the residential core is privately owned and vulnerable to development pressure. Currently most of this green belt is farmed (mainly corn and grain; the poultry farm, dairy, and apple orchard no longer exist), though there are uncultivated fields and wooded parcels (the largest such section lies along the south side of Oscar Drive, east of N. Valley Road).

The Jersey Homesteads plan provided all the physical elements for a self-sustaining town. Between 1935 and 1938, W.P.A. workers built 151 structures: 146 houses (198 residential units, counting each duplex as two units); a factory (#1341-1); a school (#1341-132); a borough hall (#1341-143, now a residence); water works (#1341-2); and sewage treatment plant (#1341-64). Sites were also reserved for a future borough hall (#1341-16), stores (#1341-135 and 134), and churches (none were constructed on the planned sites). In addition, the homesteaders set up a cooperative store and tea room (#1341-142), a cooperative nursery (in the Britton House, #1341-5), a community center (in the Proctor-Ely House, #1341-245), and a synagogue (the original frame structure on Tamara Drive is now gone, replaced by synagogue at 20 Homestead Lane, #1341-8).

The Workers Aid Cooperative Association Factory (#1341-1) and the Roosevelt Elementary School (#1341-132) are the key landmark buildings in Roosevelt. The factory, constructed for the manufacture of garments and as the economic mainstay of the community, was the first completed Jersey Homesteads structure, dedicated in August 1936. The design, described as "sleek as an airplane," incorporates Bauhaus stylistic elements into a one story steel frame rectangle, 100 feet wide by 220 feet long. Its concrete exterior walls are painted white, and all facades carry continuous bands of large industrial-type windows. The concrete-framed entries have rounded recessed surrounds. Unlike the prototypical planned industrial town focused on the centrally-located factory, the Jersey Homesteads factory is situated at the northeast edge of the residential core, bordering the agricultural green belt. Early views of the building (see #1341-1, Farm Security Administration photographs) make apparent the intended physical juxtaposition of factory and farm. Today, the factory is less conspicuous due to subsequent growth of chick vegetation around it.

On the other hand, the Roosevelt Elementary School (#1341-132) is located at the center of the community, in the horseshoe formed by Pine and Tamara Drives. The school, which opened in 1937, is a one story concrete block building composed of two long rectangles, with the factory-like form, horizontal emphasis, and white stucco exterior characteristic of the International Style. Besides classrooms, the building contains an auditorium/gymnasium and a library. In the library is a celebrated mural by Ben Shahn, also completed in 1937 (see Significance, under Art; see also #1341-132 mural photographs). The school's 15.58 acre site with plantings and expansive lawn is a de facto town green, serving an aesthetic function as well as a ceremonial purpose (FDR Memorial and Amphitheater, #1341-133) and recreational use (playground and ball fields).

The Jersey Homesteads houses comprise the bulk of the district's buildings. Eight of the residential units were ready for occupation by July 1936, ninety-six were finished by the end of 1937, and the balance were completed in 1938. The housing designs follow the functional undecorated International Style aesthetic of the factory and the school. (See Significance, under Architecture.) The houses are all constructed of concrete block (originally stuccoed and painted white), with flat roofs (most with wide overhangs), open plans, garages, floor to ceiling windows, and commodious interior features such as parquet floors and built-in kitchen cabinets and appliances.

Within this uniformity, there are four basic house types, listed below along with the numbers of each which were constructed, and selected photographed examples of each type:

1A: 1 story attached (duplex) : 39 built: see #1341-117 and #1341-25
1D: 1 story detached (single-family): 78 built: see #1341-13 and #1341-125
2A: 2 story attached (duplex) : 13 built: see #1341-22
2D: 2 story detached (single-family): 16 built: see #1341-159

Most of the Jersey Homesteads houses, therefore, are one story, either type 1A or 1D. These duplexes and single-family houses are interspersed along the primary roads, and are usually set back at least sixty to seventy-five feet from the street. The two story dwellings generally are grouped along the smaller streets and cul-de-sacs (School Lane, Maple Court, Cedar Court, and Elm Court); on the west side of N. Valley Road between Homestead and Farm Lanes; and at the southwest corner of Tamara and Pine Drives. With the exception of the two story detached houses on N. Valley Road (#1341-157 to 160), the two story units are usually sited closer to the road. Variations within the four Jersey Homesteads house types include two, three, and four bedroom plans, and different arrangements of rooms and windows. Houses may or may not have a dining room or a breezeway.

Alterations to the Jersey Homesteads houses are enumerated in the Property Inventory. Primarily they include the addition of peaked roofs (the flat roofs proved problematic for the wet New Jersey climate), new exterior siding (mainly wood or vinyl), room additions, and changes in exterior paint color.
The housing designs, half acre residential lots, setbacks, and abundant yard vegetation together present Roosevelt as a garden suburb rather than a village. Originally, however, the yards were bare; 1930's photographs show a few small conifers planted around the base of each house, plus some yard trees which were standing prior to the construction of the new town. Subsistence garden plots, which were planned for vegetable growing and were part of the reason for the large house lots, were never widespread in the community. In the late 1930's and early 1940's the homesteaders initiated a beautification project and planted additional trees and shrubs. The Asbury Park Press of February 24, 1938 reported that:

Many colonists have improved the grounds surrounding their homes by planting flowers and vines and building vine frames and small fences, attractively painted. They have reinforced the experimental sidewalks which have proved unsatisfactory...and have groomed driveways to the garages which are attached to all homes. The driveways were left as muddy lanes when the federal government finished building.

Today, mature trees and shrubbery are the outstanding feature in the Roosevelt residential streetscape. Border hedges and fences have also been used to enclose the formerly open yards around and behind the houses, further privatizing the residential area.

Six pre-1930's farmhouses remain in the district (#1341-5, 194, 242, 243, 245, and 248; see photographs). All of these are located in the green belt except the Chamberlain House (#1341-5, known locally as the Britton House), which was embodied into the residential street plan. The earliest of the farmhouses date from the 1820-1840 period, and illustrate three locally-popular house forms. The Proctor-Ely House (#1341-245 has a five bay center-hall Georgian plan. There are also two examples of the I-house type (#1341-242 and 248), with exposed hearthbacks and narrow transomed entries. The Chamberlain House (#1341-5) is built on a three bay side-hall plan and features a Greek Revival sideldight doorway. A Vernacular Victorian house (#1341-243) and a Colonial Revival dwelling (#1341-194) complete the range of farmhouse construction represented in the district.

Construction in the Roosevelt district after the period of its significance (post 1940) consists primarily of single-family dwellings, but also includes: two factory buildings (#1341-3 and 4); stores and post office (#1341-134 and 135); a cemetery (#1341-193); a synagogue (#1341-8); two swim clubs (#1341-192 and 222); and a gas station (#1341-240). A 1950's subdivision of one story ranch houses on Lake Drive (#1341-195 to 221) is harmonious with the form and scale of the Jersey Homesteads houses. Non-contributing residential construction includes ranch houses, geodesic domes, and bi-levels dating from the 1960's and 1970's. (See Building Classifications Map for locations.) Most of these houses are in three well-defined areas: at the south end of Pine Drive (#1341-53 to 63); at the west end of Lake Drive (#1341-224 to 239); and the south side of Farm Lane near N. Valley Road (#1341-188 to 190). A new senior citizens housing complex with twenty-one units
(#134)-191, under construction; see attached architect's sketch) is also non-contributing, as are five houses which have been built on parcels in the agricultural green belt (see #1341-241, 244, 246, 247, and 249). To date, these houses are the only subsequent construction in the planned community which has deviated from the 1938 Zoning Plan.

III. BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The boundaries of the historic district correspond to those of the Borough of Roosevelt. They are shown on the attached Borough of Roosevelt Property Map and on the U.S.G.S. Map. The district boundaries were determined so as to include the entire land area of the New Deal planned community of Jersey Homesteads. The overall town plan, rather than the structures alone, is significant as an example of English Garden City planning in form, and a New Deal subsistence homesteads community in function. The district, therefore, encompasses the three basic and intact components of the original physical plan: the residential core with factory and community buildings; the inner commons and park land; and the green belt.
IV. PROPERTY INVENTORY

Below is an inventory of the 249 structures identified within the district. It is keyed to the Property Map and the Building Classifications Map. The Property Map also illustrates all vacant land, public/park land, and agricultural land. The format of the inventory is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Inventory Number</th>
<th>Keyed to the Property Map. Asterisk indicates B/W photograph or color slide of the site. Keyed to the Building Classifications Map. Three categories were used to classify Roosevelt's built environment: Contributing (C): Those buildings and structures which date from the period of the district's significance, which have some architectural and/or historical importance, and which visually contribute to the cohesiveness of the district. Homesteads Houses with compatible additions or with roof alterations, new siding, window or door replacements retain their &quot;Contributing&quot; status if original massing, materials, and/or fenestration are still evident. Harmonizing (H): Includes Jersey Homesteads structures which have been significantly altered (extensive changes placed two such buildings in this category); or newer construction which is compatible (in massing, materials, setbacks) with the historic character of the district. Non-Contributing (NC): Those buildings which detract from the character and significance of the district. There are no Jersey Homesteads structures or pre-existing farmhouses in this category.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Building Classification</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Address |
| Block and Lot Number |
| Building Name/Type |

| Date |
| Description |
| Alterations |

Those designated "Homesteads House" refer to the 200 dwellings built between 1935 and 1938 as part of Jersey Homesteads. Definition of the four types of Homesteads Houses is contained in the DESCRIPTION.

1A = 1 story attached (duplex)
1D = 1 story detached (single-family)
2A = 2 story attached (duplex)
2D = 2 story detached (single-family)

Major alterations are noted: massing, additions, roof, fenestration, exterior surface. Paint color changes are not noted.


4* (C) W. side N. Valley Road. B6, L17. Factory Building, c.1946. Small rectangular industrial building with concrete exterior; B and 12-light industrial-type windows; "Oscar Nisnevitz" on door lintel.

5* (C) NW corner Homestead Lane and N. Valley Road. B6, L16. Pre-existing farmhouse, c.1830-1850. Locally known as Britton House; E. and A. Chamberlain shown as owners on 1851 Lightfoot Map. 2½ story, three bay house with square side-hall plan; 2 story, two over three bay kitchen wing; brick foundation; clapboard exterior; gable roof with twin end chimneys on east end, interior end chimney on wing; quarter-round lights in gables; Greek Revival entry with transom and sidelights (20th century door); 6/6 sash. No apparent major alterations.


8* (C) 20 Homestead Lane. B6, L12,13. Congregation Anshei Roosevelt, 1955. 1 story synagogue with irregular plan, flat roof, white stucco exterior; central pavilion accented with stone piers and a Star-of-David motif in opaque colored glass panels.

9 (C) 18 Homestead Lane. B6, L11. Homesteads House, Type 1D. No major alt.

10* (C) 14-16 Homestead Lane. B6, L9,10. Homesteads House, Type 1A. No major alt.

11 (H) 12 Homestead Lane. B6, L8. Homesteads House, Type 1D. Extensive alt.: second story addition, gable roof, alum. siding, fenestration changes.
1341-12* (C) 10 Homestead Lane. B6, L7. Homesteads House, Type 1D. No major alt.; well conserved.

13* (C) 8 Homestead Lane. B6, L6. Homesteads House, Type 1D. No major alt.; well conserved.

14* (C) 4-6 Homestead Lane. B6, L4,5. Homesteads House, Type 1A. No major alt.; well conserved.

15 (C) 2 Homestead Lane. B6, L3. Homesteads House, Type 1D. Alt.: alum. siding on three sides.

16* (C) E. side N. Rochdale Avenue. B6, L2. Roosevelt Municipal Building and Firehouse, 1938-39 with later additions and alterations. Built originally as a firehouse. 1 story white stucco building with rectangular plan, three garage bays, and 1/1 windows.

17 (C) 36 N. Rochdale Avenue. B2, L9. Homesteads House, Type 1D. No major alt.

18 (C) 32-34 N. Rochdale Avenue. B2, L10,11. Homesteads House, Type 1A. Alt.: wood shingles on #32; wood siding on #34.


20 (C) 10-12 School Lane. B2, L15,16. Homesteads House, Type 2A. Alt.: alum. siding, brick face, peaked roof on #10; alum. siding on #12.

21 (C) 14-16 School Lane. B2, L13,14. Homesteads House, Type 2A. Alt.: alum. siding on both units.

22* (C) 7-9 School Lane. B2, L17,18. Homesteads House, Type 2A. Alt.: alum. siding on #9.

23 (C) 5 School Lane. B2, L19. Homesteads House, Type 1D. No major alt.

24 (C) 4 Pine Drive. B2, L20. Homesteads House, Type 1D. Alt.: vertical wood siding on one corner; garage infill.

25* (C) 6-8 Pine Drive. B2, L21,22. Homesteads House, Type 1A. Alt.: wood siding on #6. No alterations on #8.

26 (C) 10 Pine Drive. B2, L23. Homesteads House, Type 1D. No major alt.; garage filled in.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1341-27</td>
<td>(C)</td>
<td>12 Pine Drive, B2, L24. Homesteads House, Type 1D. Alt.: alum. siding and brick face.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>(C)</td>
<td>18 Pine Drive, B2, L27. Homesteads House, Type 1D. No major alt.; two 8/12 sash windows added to main facade.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30*(C)</td>
<td>(C)</td>
<td>20-22 Pine Drive, B2, L28, 29. Homesteads House, Type 2A. No major alt.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>(C)</td>
<td>24 Pine Drive, B2, L30. Homesteads House, Type 1D. Alt.: compatible addition to garage on east end.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32</td>
<td>(C)</td>
<td>26-28 Pine Drive, B2, L31-32. Homesteads House, Type 1A. Alt.: #26 has wood siding on east half; #28 has single-slope roof.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33</td>
<td>(C)</td>
<td>30 Pine Drive, B2, L33. Homesteads House, Type 1D. No major alt.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34</td>
<td>(C)</td>
<td>2 Maple Court, B2, L34. Homesteads House, Type 2D. No major alt.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35</td>
<td>(C)</td>
<td>3-6 Maple Court, B2, L35,36. Homesteads House, Type 1A. Alt.: #3 has new windows, brick face on main facade. No alt. on #4.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36</td>
<td>(C)</td>
<td>1 Maple Court, B2, L37. Homesteads House, Type 2D. Alt.: alum. siding.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>37</td>
<td>(C)</td>
<td>32 Pine Drive, B2, L38. Homesteads House, Type 1D. No major alt.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>38</td>
<td>(C)</td>
<td>34 Pine Drive, B2, L39. Homesteads House, Type 1D. Alt.: stone face siding on main facade only.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>39</td>
<td>(C)</td>
<td>36-38 Pine Drive, B2, L40,41. Homesteads House, Type 1A. Alt.: vertical wood siding on #38. No major alt. on #36.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40</td>
<td>(C)</td>
<td>40 Pine Drive, B2, L42. Homesteads House, Type 1D. Alt.: wood siding on south and west sides only; compatible second story added to original one story house.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41</td>
<td>(C)</td>
<td>42-44 Pine Drive, B2, L43,44. Homesteads House, Type 1A. Alt.: large gable roof on #44. No major alt. on #42.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Item number</td>
<td>Description</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------</td>
<td>-------------</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>43</td>
<td>48-50 Pine Drive. B2, L46,47. Homesteads House, Type IA. Alt.: #48 has second story addition with modern design influences and vertical wood siding; no major alt. to first story. No major alt. on #50; well conserved.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>46</td>
<td>5-6 Cedar Court. B2, L50,51. Homesteads House, Type IA. Alt.: #5 has wood siding; #6 has stone face siding.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>47</td>
<td>3 Cedar Court. B2, L52. Homesteads House, Type I D. Alt.: stone face siding on first story.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>48</td>
<td>1 Cedar Court. B2, L53. Homesteads House, Type I D. No major alt.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>51</td>
<td>56-58 Pine Drive. B2, L56,57. Homesteads House, Type IA. Alt.: gable roofs on both units.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>52</td>
<td>60 Pine Drive. B2, L58. Homesteads House, Type I D. No major alt.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No.</td>
<td>(C)</td>
<td>Address</td>
<td>Type</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----</td>
<td>-----</td>
<td>---------</td>
<td>------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>69</td>
<td></td>
<td>27 Pine Drive. B4, L5. Homesteads House, Type 1D.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>71</td>
<td></td>
<td>21 Pine Drive. B4, L2. Homesteads House, Type 1D.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>72</td>
<td></td>
<td>1 Tamara Drive. B4, L1. Homesteads House, Type 2D.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>73</td>
<td></td>
<td>3 Tamara Drive. B4, L15. Homesteads House, Type 2D.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>74</td>
<td></td>
<td>5 Tamara Drive. B4, L18. Homesteads House, Type 2D.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>75</td>
<td></td>
<td>7 Tamara Drive. B4, L17. Homesteads House, Type 2D.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>76</td>
<td></td>
<td>9-11 Tamara Drive. B4, L18,19. Homesteads House, Type 1A.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>77</td>
<td></td>
<td>13 Tamara Drive. B4, L20. Homesteads House, Type 1D.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>79</td>
<td></td>
<td>27-29 Tamara Drive. B4, L22,23. Homesteads House, Type 1A.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80</td>
<td></td>
<td>25 Tamara Drive. B4, L24. Homesteads House, Type 1D.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>81</td>
<td></td>
<td>41 Tamara Drive. B4, L26. Homesteads House, Type 1D.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1341-82 (C) 43-45 Tamara Drive. B4, L27,28. Homesteads House, Type 1A. No major alt.

83 (C) 47 Tamara Drive. B4, L29. Homesteads House, Type 1D. No major alt.


85 (C) 51 Tamara Drive. B4, L31. Homesteads House, Type 1D. No major alt.

86 (C) 18 S. Rochdale Avenue. B4, L32. Homesteads House, Type 1D. Alt.: wood siding.

87 (C) 20 S. Rochdale Avenue. B4, L33. Homesteads House, Type 1D. No major alt.

88 (C) 22-24 S. Rochdale Avenue. B4, L34,35. Homesteads House, Type 1A. Alt.: #22 has gable roof; fenestration changes; garage filled in. #24 has vertical wood siding on part of the exterior.

89 (NC) N. side Brown Street. B12, L6. 1½ story house with rectangular plan, alum. siding, built 1940's or 1950's.


91 (C) 23 S. Rochdale Avenue. B12, L4. Homesteads House, Type 1D. No major alt.

92 (C) 19-21 S. Rochdale Avenue. B12, L2,3. Homesteads House, Type 1A. Alt.: #21 has single-slope roof; stone face siding on part of the exterior. No major alt. on #19.

93 (C) 17 S. Rochdale Avenue. B12, L1. Homesteads House, Type 1D. Alt.: single-slope roof; stone face siding.

94 (H) 1 Clarksburg Road. B12, L9. 1 story concrete block house, c.1960. Similar in plan to Homesteads Houses; brick face and alum. siding added to exterior.

95 (C) 15 S. Rochdale Avenue. B10, L4. Homesteads House, Type 1D. Alt.: brick face and alum. siding.

96 (C) 11-13 S. Rochdale Avenue. B10, L2,3. Homesteads House, Type 1A. Alt.: gable roof on #11; alum. siding on #13.
1341-97  (C)  1 Lake Drive. B40, L1. Homesteads House, Type 1D.  
Alt.: alum. siding; single-slope roof.


101  (C)  8 S. Rochdale Avenue. B3, L38. Homesteads House, Type 1D.  
Alt.: compatible addition, with single-slope roof, on south end;  
garage filled in.

102*  (C)  10-12 S. Rochdale Avenue. B3, L39,40. Homesteads House, Type 1A.  
Alt.: #10 has compatible rear addition. No major alt. on #12.

103  (C)  44 Tamara Drive. B3, L41. Homesteads House, Type 10.  
Alt.: vertical wood siding on one side; garage filled in.

104*  (C)  42 Tamara Drive. B3, L42. Homesteads House, Type 2D.  
Alt.: vertical and diagonal wood siding on parts of the exterior;  
new Anderson-type windows.

105  (C)  40 Tamara Drive. B3, 43. Homesteads House, Type 1D.  
Alt.: garage filled in, compatibly designed.

106  (C)  38 Tamara Drive. B3, L44. Homesteads House, Type 1D.  
No major alt.

107  (C)  36 Tamara Drive. B3, L45. Homesteads House, Type 1D.  
Alt.: vertical wood siding; addition.

108  (C)  2 Elm Court. B3, L46. Homesteads House, Type 1D.  
Alt.: brick face and vinyl siding.

109  (H)  4 Elm Court. B3, L47. Homesteads House, Type 2D.  
Extensive alt.: large addition; stone face and alum. siding;  
window replacements.

110  (C)  5-6 Elm Court. B3, L48,49. Homesteads House, Type 1A.  
No major alt.

111  (C)  3 Elm Court. B3, L50. Homesteads House, Type 2D.  
Alt.: stone face and alum. siding.
134-112 (C) 1 Elm Court. B3, L51. Homesteads House, Type 1D.
Alt.: brick face and alum. siding.

113* (C) 34 Tamara Drive. B3, L52. Homesteads House, Type ID.
Alt.: appears to have small compatible addition.

114 (C) 30-32 Tamara Drive. B3, L53,54. Homesteads House, Type 1A.
Alt.: #30 has stone face siding and gable roof; #32 has alum. siding.

115* (C) 18-20 Tamara Drive. B3, L28,29. Homesteads House, Type 1A.
Ben Shahn Residence and Studio.
Alt.: second story added to #20 in 1960's; Japanese-influenced
design by architect George Nakashima. No major alt. on #18.
Studio behind house has rectangular plan, flat roof, and white
stucco exterior; built in 1950's. Both units well conserved.

116 (C) 14-16 Tamara Drive. B3, L26,27. Homesteads House, Type 2A.
Alt.: alum. siding on #14; vertical wood siding on #16; some
new windows on both units.

117* (C) 10-12 Tamara Drive. B3, L24,25. Homesteads House, Type 1A.
No major alt.

118 (C) 6-8 Tamara Drive. B3, L22,23. Homesteads House, Type 2A.
Alt.: #6 has new compatible windows.

119 (C) 2-4 Tamara Drive. B3, L20,21. Homesteads House, Type 1A.
Alt.: #2 has brick face and asbestos shingle siding; #4 has
vertical wood siding.

120 (C) 17-19 Pine Drive. B3, L18,19. Homesteads House, Type 1A.
No major alt.

121 (C) 15 Pine Drive. B3, L17. Homesteads House, Type 1D.
Alt.: garage filled in, compatibly designed.

122 (C) 11-13 Pine Drive. B3, L15,16. Homesteads House, Type 1A.
Alt.: #11 has gable roof and garage filled in; #13 has vertical
wood siding on part of the exterior.

123* (C) 9 Pine Drive. B3, L14. Homesteads House, Type 1D.
Alt.: garage filled in; rear addition with alum. siding and
single-slope roof.

124 (C) 5-7 Pine Drive. B3, L12,13. Homesteads House, Type 1A.
Alt.: #5 has an added entry; #7 has stone face siding.
3 Pine Drive. B3, L11. Homesteads House, Type 1D.
Alt.: some new compatible windows.

1-3 School Lane. B3, L9,10. Homesteads House, Type 2A.
Alt.: stone face and alum. siding on #3; no major alt. on #4.

2-4 School Lane. B3, L7,8. Homesteads House, Type 2A.
Alt.: alum. siding on both units.

6-8 School Lane. B3, L5,6. Homesteads House, Type 2A.
Alt.: #6 has large garage filled in; #8 has rear addition with vertical wood siding; rough-textured stucco on both units.

1 Pine Drive. B3, L4. Homesteads House, Type 1D.
No major alt.

24-26 N. Rochdale Avenue. B3, L2,3. Homesteads House, Type 1A.
No major alt.

22 N. Rochdale Avenue. B3, L1. Homesteads House, Type 1D.
Alt.: gable roof.

1 story school with rectilinear plan, horizontal emphasis, and factory-like form characteristic of the International Style. Constructed of concrete block with white stucco exterior; flat roof. In the library is a celebrated mural by artist Ben Shahn, also completed in 1937 (see SIGNIFICANCE under Art). Aluminum doors, designed by Otto Wester (who was employed as an artist by the Resettlement Administration), feature hand-hammered panels depicting people engaged in various types of work, from agriculture to garment-making. Originally on the west facade (main entry), the doors have been removed for restoration and will be hung inside the building. Alt.: in 1982 the windows (as seen in the photographs herein) were replaced by smaller ones of similar type, thus diminishing the size of the openings.

W. side of N. Rochdale Avenue, adjacent to Roosevelt Elem. School. B3, L34. Franklin D. Roosevelt Memorial, dedicated 1962. Designed by Ben Shahn and built by the citizens of Roosevelt. Sculpted five-foot, four-inch bronze bust of FDR by Jonathan Shahn, on a nine-and-a-half-foot marble pedestal carved with the following: "Franklin Delano Roosevelt In Homage." The sculpture faces a four-tier brick amphitheater set among plantings with a backdrop of trees.

1341-135* (C) SE corner N. Rochdale Avenue and Farm Lane. B9, L20. Store Building and Post Office, 1950's. 1 story concrete block building, painted white, with flat roof and plate glass windows. Privately owned; half is leased to Fed. Govt. for Post Office; half is vacant.

136 (C) 2 Farm Lane. B8, L10. Homesteads House, Type 1D. Alt.: garage addition; some new windows.

137 (C) 13-15 N. Rochdale Avenue. B8, L8,9. Homesteads House, Type 2A. No major alt.

138 (C) 17 N. Rochdale Avenue. B8, L7. Homesteads House, Type 1D. Alt.: gable roof; vertical wood siding on front; garage filled in.

139 (C) 19-21 N. Rochdale Avenue. B8, L5,6. Homesteads House, Type 1A. Alt.: #19 has altered entry. No major alt. on #21.

140 (C) 23 N. Rochdale Avenue. B8, L4. Homesteads House, Type 1D. No major alt.

141 (C) 25-27 N. Rochdale Avenue. B8, L2,3. Homesteads House, Type 2A. Alt.: #27 has some new windows. No major alt. on #25.

142 (C) 1 Homestead Lane. B8, L1. Homesteads House, Type 1D. Location of original Cooperative Grocery and Tea Room; now private residence. No major alt.

143* (C) 5 Homestead Lane. B8, L50. Original Borough Hall, 1930's. 2 story concrete block building with 1 story wing; similar in plan to Homesteads House, Type 2D. Now private residence.

144 (C) 7-9 Homestead Lane. B8, L48,49. Homesteads House, Type 1A. No major alt.

145 (C) 13 Homestead Lane. B8, L47. Homesteads House, Type 1D. No major alt.

146 (C) 15 Homestead Lane. B8, L46. Homesteads House, Type 1D. Alt.: compatible rear addition; garage filled in.

147 (C) 17 Homestead Lane. B8, L45. Homesteads House, Type 1D. No major alt.

148* (C) 19-21 Homestead Lane. B8, L43,44. Homesteads House, Type 1A. Alt.: #21 has vertical wood siding on part of main facade only; some new windows. No major alt. on #19.

149 (C) 23 Homestead Lane. B8, L42. Homesteads House, Type 1D. No major alt.
1341-150  (C)  25 Homestead Lane. B8, L41. Homesteads House, Type 1D. No major alt.

151* (C)  27 Homestead Lane. B8, L40. Homesteads House, Type 1D. No major alt.

152  (C)  29-31 Homestead Lane. B8, L38,39. Homesteads House, Type 1A. Alt.: entries on both units are slightly altered.

153  (C)  33 Homestead Lane. B8, L37. Homesteads House, Type 1D. No major alt.

154  (C)  35 Homestead Lane. B8, L36. Homesteads House, Type 1D. Alt.: added entry.

155  (C)  37 Homestead Lane. B8, L35. Homesteads House, Type 1D. Alt.: two casement window replacements on main facade.

156  (C)  22 N. Valley Road. B8, L34. Homesteads House, Type 1D. No major alt.

157  (C)  20 N. Valley Road. B8, L33. Homesteads House, Type 2D. Alt.: gable roof; breezeway filled in, with second story addition above; some new windows.

158  (C)  18 N. Valley Road. B8, L32. Homesteads House, Type 2D. Alt.: gable roof; breezeway filled in, with half-story addition above; garage filled in.

159* (C)  16 N. Valley Road. B8, L31. Homesteads House, Type 2D. Alt.: gable roof; breezeway filled in with windows.

160  (C)  14 N. Valley Road. B8, L30. Homesteads House, Type 2D. Alt.: compatible rear addition with single-slope roof. Retains original breezeway (cf. #157, 158, 159 of same plan).

161  (C)  10-12 N. Valley Road. B8, L28,29. Homesteads House, Type 2A. Alt.: #10 has alum. siding; new windows and entry; addition on south end. #12 has gable roof; brick face and alum. siding.

162  (C)  34-36 Farm Lane. B8, L25,26,27. Homesteads House, Type 2A. Alt.: compatible addition on west end; long windows replaced with 2/2 sash.

163  (C)  30-32 Farm Lane. B8, L23,24. Homesteads House, Type 1A. Alt.: #30 has gable roof; #32 has garage filled in.
134-164* (C) 28 Farm Lane. B8, L22. Homesteads House, Type 1D. No major alt.

165* (C) 26 Farm Lane. B8, L21. Homesteads House, Type 1D. No major alt.

166 (C) 22-24 Farm Lane. B8, L19,20. Homesteads House, Type 1A. Alt.: #22 has gable roof and garage filled in; #24 has added second story with vertical wood siding.

167* (C) 20 Farm Lane. B8, L18. Homesteads House, Type 1D. No major alt.

168* (C) 16-18 Farm Lane. B8, L16,17. Homesteads House, Type 1A. Alt.: #16 has second story addition with single-slope roof (under construction). No major alt. on #18.

169* (C) 14 Farm Lane. B8, L15. Homesteads House, Type 1D. Alt.: alum. siding.

170 (C) 10-12 Farm Lane. B8, L13,14. Homesteads House, Type 1A. Alt.: compatible addition on #12. No major alt. on #10.

171 (C) 8 Farm Lane. B8, L12. Homesteads House, Type 1D. No alt.; well conserved.

172 (C) 6 Farm Lane. B8, L11. Homesteads House, Type 2D. Alt.: breezeway filled in.

173 (C) 5-7 Farm Lane. B9, L18,19. Homesteads House, Type 1A. Variation of Type 1A: second story on one unit (#7). No major alt.

174 (C) 9 Farm Lane. B9, L17. Homesteads House, Type 1D. No major alt.

175 (C) 11 Farm Lane. B9, L16. Homesteads House, Type 1D. No major alt.

176 (C) 13 Farm Lane. B9, L15. Homesteads House, Type 1D. Alt.: brick veneer.

177 (C) 15 Farm Lane. B9, L14. Homesteads House, Type 1D. Alt.: addition of full second story with gable roof; vertical wood siding.

178 (C) 17 Farm Lane. B9, L13. Homesteads House, Type 1D. Alt.: gable roof.
1341-179 (C) 19 Farm Lane. B9, L12. Homesteads House, Type 1D.
Alt.: compatible rear addition; garage filled in.

180 (C) 21 Farm Lane. B9, L11. Homesteads House, Type 1D.
No major alt.

188 (NC) 23-37 Farm Lane. B9, L3-10. Suburban tract houses, 1970's.
"Colonial" split-levels with gable roofs, shingle and alum. siding,
and nearly identical plans.

189 (NC) 2 N. Valley Road. B9, L1. Geodesic Dome house with wood shingle
siding, 1976.

190 (NC) 4 N. Valley Road. B9, L2. Geodesic Dome house with wood shingle
siding, 1976.

191 (NC) E. side of N. Valley Road between Farm Lane and Empty Box Brook.
B9, L24,25,26,27. Roosevelt Senior Citizen Housing Development,
Under construction 1983. Housing project on two acres, consisting
of 21 residential units grouped into eight 1 story structures, and
a community building. Passive solar design elements; gable roofs;
cedar shingle siding. See attached architect's rendering. Non-
conforming setback from N. Valley Road. Designed by Kelbaugh and
Lee Architects, Princeton; funds provided by the Farmers Home
Administration.

192. (H) NE corner N. Valley Road and Cemetery Road. B7, L6. Pine Valley
Swim Club, 1950's or 1960's. Swimming pool and small service bldg.

193 (C) E. end of Cemetery Road. B7, L7,8. Roosevelt Cemetery, 1940's on.
8.77 acres total; lot 7 is owned by Roosevelt Borough; lot 8 is
owned by Congregation Anshei Roosevelt. Many of Roosevelt's original
homesteaders are buried here, as well as the artist Ben Shahn.

194* (C) 64 Lake Drive. B7, L10. Pre-existing farmhouse, c.1910.
2½ story Colonial Revival house with two over three bay rectangular
plan; wing on west end; gable roof; concrete foundation; 6/1 sash.
Alt.: alum. siding. House appears to have been built on site of a
19th century farm, replacing the original farmhouse; a mid-19th
century wood-shingled barn, with a stone foundation, lies adjacent
to the house. A long rectangular, wood-sided stable is also on the
38.8 acre property, which is now a horse ranch.

195- (H) N. and S. sides of Lake Drive between S. Valley Road and Spruce Lane.
1 story houses with nearly identical rectangular plans, low-pitched
gable roofs, and white asbestos shingle siding. Some have been re-sided
with alum. and/or wood. Their horizontality and fenestration harmonize
with the Homesteads Houses.
1341-222 (H) S. side Clarksburg Road, east of Spruce Lane. B14, L3. Hilltop Swim Club, 1950's. Swimming pool and small service building.

223 (NC) 33 Clarksburg Road. B13, L1. Ranch-style house, 1960's. 1 story; gable roof; alum. siding.

224- (NC) N. and S. sides of Lake Drive, west of S. Valley Road. B9, L23,24, 25,28,29; B10, L11-18,25. Suburban tract houses, 1970's. Bi-levels and ranch-style houses with gable roofs; shingle and alum. siding.


240* (NC) W. side of N. Rochdale Avenue, opposite Oscar Drive. B2, L4A. Gas Station, 1950's. Cinder block building with red brick facade.

241 (NC) W. side of N. Rochdale Avenue, opposite Oscar Drive. B2, L4B. House, 1950's. 1½ story; gable roof; shingle siding.

242* (C) N. side of Nurko Road, 0.4 mi. west of N. Rochdale Avenue. B1, L4. Pre-existing farmhouse, c.1820-1840. House appears on 1851 Lightfoot Map as owned by J.J. Ely, Esq. 2½ story I-house, two bays deep, with six over five bay facade; gable roof with slate tiles and three interior ridge chimneys; fieldstone foundation; clapboard exterior; and 1½ story rear ell. The main block of the house was built in at least two sections; it has an exposed brick hearthback on the east end, 6/6 sash, narrow entry with two-light transom (20th century door), and a mid-19th century porch with slender pierced posts. No major 20th century alt.; in fair condition. Brick smokehouse and wood-sided shed, both 19th century, are also on the site, which is tenant-farmed.

243* (C) N. side of Nurko Road, 0.4 mi. west of N. Rochdale Avenue. B1, L5. Pre-existing farmhouse, c.1890. 2½ story Vernacular Victorian house with Picturesque plan and three bay main facade; multiple intersecting gable roofs; brick foundation; and clapboard exterior. The house has recently been restored and retains its original Stick Style vergeboard, 2/2 sash, and porch with turned posts. The sidelighted entry and exterior brick chimney are not original. Excellent condition.
1341-244  (NC)  N. side of Nurko Road, 0.3 mi. west of N. Rochdale Avenue. B1, L6. Ranch-style house, 1960's. 1 story; gable roof; weatherboard siding. Although the house itself is Non-Contributing, its c. 8 acre site is a significant component of Roosevelt's greenbelt.

245  (C)  N. side of Nurko Road, 0.2 mi. west of N. Rochdale Avenue. B1, L10. Pre-existing farmhouse, c.1820-30. Known locally as the Proctor-Fly Farm; location of Roosevelt's first Community House in the 1930's. 2 story, five bay house with center hall plan; gable roof with one interior end chimney (at least one chimney has been removed); brick foundation; alum. siding; simple doorway; 2/2 sash windows. Altered fenestration on second story of main facade: four of the windows have been replaced with two large windows at each end. Fair condition. Dilapidated chicken coops behind house. Most of the 33.8 acre site is farmed.

246  (NC)  E. side of N. Rochdale Avenue, opposite Nurko Road. B5, L4. Ranch-style house, 1950's. 1 story; gable roof; red brick and stone face siding. Although the house itself is Non-Contributing, its c. 39 acre site is a significant component of the agricultural greenbelt.

247  (NC)  E. side of N. Rochdale Avenue, opposite Nurko Road. B5, L12. 1½ story cottage with alum. siding; 1½ story shed with asbestos shingle siding; 1940's/1950's. Although the buildings are Non-Contributing, the land is a significant component of Roosevelt's agricultural greenbelt.

248*  (C)  E. side of N. Rochdale Avenue, 0.10 mi. south of Nurko Road (at the end of a long driveway). B5, L11. Pre-existing farmhouse, c.1820-1840. 2½ story I-house, two bays deep, with symmetrical six bay facade; gable roof with two interior end chimneys; concrete veneer over brick and fieldstone foundation; clapboard exterior; and 2 story rear ell. The windows are 6/6 sash with small cornices; the doorway has a plain enframement with a rectangular transom light and a pedimented portico (20th century door). In fair condition, but retains original form. The house faces south, and is surrounded by farmland and pasture; none of the farm outbuildings remain.

249  (NC)  E. side of N. Rochdale Avenue, 0.10 mi. south of Nurko Road. B5, L10. Ranch-style house, 1950's or 1960's. 1 story; gable roof; red brick exterior. Although the house itself is Non-Contributing, its 30.2 acre site is a significant component of Roosevelt's agricultural greenbelt.
8. Significance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Period</th>
<th>Areas of Significance</th>
<th>Check and justify below</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>X</em> prehistoric</td>
<td>____ archeology-prehistoric</td>
<td>X community planning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1400-1499</td>
<td>____ archeology-historic</td>
<td>____ landscape architecture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1500-1599</td>
<td>____ agriculture</td>
<td>____ religion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1600-1699</td>
<td>____ architecture</td>
<td>____ conservation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1700-1799</td>
<td>____ art</td>
<td>____ law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1800-1899</td>
<td>____ commerce</td>
<td>____ economics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>X 1900-</td>
<td>____ communications</td>
<td>____ literature</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Specific dates: 1933-1938
Builder/Architect: Subsistence Homesteads; Alfred Kastner, Supervising Architect

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Borough of Roosevelt is an intact New Deal planned community originally known as Jersey Homesteads. Its political origins, social background, and physical form reflect major currents in twentieth century American government, thought, and culture. The significance of the district lies in the following interrelated areas:

- **POLITICS/GOVERNMENT**
- **SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN**
- **COMMUNITY PLANNING**
- **ARCHITECTURE**
- **ART**

**POLITICS/GOVERNMENT**

Roosevelt is part of a prominent chapter in American political history in which the Federal Government participated and experimented in community building, public housing, economic planning, and population redistribution. In response to the hardships of the 1930's Depression, a strong back-to-the-land sentiment and the appeal of subsistence farming brought together individuals and groups of widely divergent political philosophies. Out of a panoply of ideologies and schemes emerged the New Deal community program. Roosevelt is one of thirty-four communities which were developed during 1933 and 1934 by the Division of Subsistence Homesteads in the Department of the Interior. In 1935 the program was transferred to the Resettlement Administration, and then to the Farm Security Administration in 1937. Eventually there were ninety-nine New Deal communities, counting the thirty-seven later initiated by the Resettlement Administration, and the twenty-eight relief communities planned by the Federal Emergency Relief Administration.

The subsistence homesteads program, which was first directed by M.L. Wilson, and later, under the Resettlement Administration, by Rexford G. Tugwell, was devised as a method of relieving mass industrial unemployment, by relocating urban workers to rural areas and by demonstrating the economic value of combining seasonal industrial work with part-time farming or gardening. The general guiding principle was to establish experimental but permanent communities as object lessons.
in decentralized industry and a new pattern of life, based on greater economic security, an improved physical environment, and closeness to nature. The communities included four types: experimental farm colonies; subsistence gardens for urban workers; colonies for stranded workers; and homesteads for part-time (seasonal) industrial workers. Because Jersey Homesteads was organized economically around a garment factory, it falls into the last category, which included twenty-nine communities, located mainly in the South and Midwest. In terms of constructed units, Jersey Homesteads was the ninth largest of all the communities. It was planned during 1933 and 1934, constructed between 1935 and 1938, and cost $3,402,382.

Roosevelt is unique among the New Deal communities for three reasons:

1. It was planned as the only cooperative agro-industrial community of the subsistence homesteads program. Except for home ownership and subsistence garden plots, every aspect of Jersey Homesteads was organized on the cooperative idea, with cooperative factory, farms, and retail stores. The Workers Aid Cooperative Association, founded in 1936, owned and operated the garment factory, which manufactured suits, coats, dresses, as well as hats. As planned, most of the homesteaders (about 100) were initially employed in the factory. The farm cooperative, owned and operated by the Jersey Homesteads Agricultural Association organized in 1936, included a dairy, poultry farm, and general-crop farm. The farms employed nine to thirteen homesteaders; contrary to the original plan to supply only the community, the agricultural cooperative developed as a commercial enterprise. A cooperative clothing store, grocery, and tea room completed the economic structure of the town. (The original cooperative grocery was located in #1341-142; the first cooperative clothing store was located in #1341-5, then in the factory.)

Because of a combination of factors—including inexperienced management, differing goals and interests among the homesteaders, and an economic market not conducive to experimental enterprises—all of Jersey Homesteads' cooperatives soon failed. The factory and farms were sold in 1939 and 1940 respectively. A women's hat manufacturer subsequently owned the factory, followed by several light-manufacturing firms (it now houses a woodworking shop and studios). The farm cooperative was divided into five private farms, each cultivating approximately eighty acres, and three poultry farms, each with about 1400 chickens. All of the eight private farmers had been former operators of the cooperative. The three consumer cooperatives (clothing store, grocery, and tea room) continued to operate until the 1940's. The Federal Government continued to own the land and the houses, renting them at $14 to $17 a month, until 1947 when the houses were sold to residents, thus liquidating the Government's investment in the community.

1Statistics from Hearings on the Farm Security Administration, 78th Congress (1943-44); in Conkin, p. 332-337.
(2) Roosevelt's community plan remains physically intact with original buildings, public open space, and green belt. (See discussion on the plan's significance under COMMUNITY PLANNING.) Many of the other homesteads communities have lost important elements of their original plans and appearance, or have been annexed to neighboring municipalities, or have been severely altered by later development. When Jersey Homesteads became a borough with its own town government in 1937, it incorporated all of the original land area of the New Deal community, and municipal boundaries have remained unchanged to the present. (The borough name was changed in 1945 to honor the recently-deceased President.) Subsequent physical growth generally has conformed to the 1938 Zoning and Land Use Plan. (See attached map of the 1938 Zoning plan.)

(3) Roosevelt was the only New Deal community to be settled by a homogeneous population of urban Jewish garment workers. (Discussed below.)

SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN

Although Roosevelt's political genesis was in the New Deal era, its social roots reach back into a long history of Jewish agricultural and industrial colonization in the United States. Roosevelt is socially significant because of its ties to past efforts of Jewish immigrants in America to go on the land and to develop strong agricultural communities. As early as 1881, an agrarian group called Am Olam began establishing Jewish farm colonies. The first permanent Jewish agricultural settlement in the United States was founded in southern New Jersey at a place called Alliance. New Jersey became the locus of several enduring colonies started in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, including those at Norma, Brotmanville, Carmel, Rosenhayn, Garten Road, Woodbine (Vineland), Bound Brook, and West Farms (Farmingdale). The Jewish Agricultural Society, set up in 1900 with funds from the Baron de Hirsch, was instrumental in the organization and finance of Jewish agricultural colonies. The society's advocacy of agro-industrial communities, decentralization of industry, and cooperatives provided ideological and practical precedents for the New Deal subsistence homesteads program.

Benjamin Brown, a well-known enthusiast of the cooperative movement, a Jewish immigrant from the Ukraine, and a New Jersey farmer, was the link between this history of Jewish agricultural colonization and the realization of Jersey Homesteads. He had long desired to establish cooperative agro-industrial communities for Jewish needleworkers from New York City. When the subsistence homesteads program was announced in 1933, he was ready with a specific back-to-the-land proposal for a community to be located near Hightstown, New Jersey (not far from his own farm). The objectives of the experiment, as Brown outlined, were to
"(1) establish a cooperatively owned and managed set of enterprises that were sufficiently large to provide practically all the members of the community with jobs; (2) decentralize a clothing factory; (3) develop subsistence gardening to enable industrial workers to supplement low cash incomes; and (4) create a social community that would be satisfying to its members." (Lord and Johnstone, p. 138.) With the acceptance of his ideas and political support from Washington, and with the determination of the Manhattan garment workers who rallied around his leadership, Benjamin Brown fathered Jersey Homesteads.

Benjamin Brown's central role in spearheading the Jersey Homesteads project was to influence the social and ethnic composition of the original population. He and Samuel Finkler, an official in the Division of Subsistence Homesteads, were primarily responsible for selecting the homesteaders. Out of over 800 applications, 120 families were selected based on the following criteria: union membership in good standing (if the family head was employed in the needle trades); sufficient occupational skills; understanding of cooperative enterprises and willingness to participate in them; evidence of responsible and well-managed family life; and $500 cash to invest in the cooperative clothing factory. By and large, the chosen homesteaders shared a common background: most had worked in the clothing industry in New York City as cutters, binders, pressers, or operators, and most were members of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union. All of the original 120 families were Jewish; approximately ninety percent were foreign-born, from Russia, Poland, Bulgaria, and Rumania. Furthermore, as the majority of the homesteaders were over thirty-five (80% of the men and 71% of the women) and had invested most or all of their life savings in the experiment, they had a strong personal commitment to the successful actualization of the project. During delays of over two years in constructing Jersey Homesteads, the chosen homesteaders showed their determination by organized insistence that the Government complete the project as planned. These families "regarded themselves, not as recipients of special Government aid, but as specially selected individuals ready to invest most of their savings ($500 for each family) in a social experiment that was to serve as a guide for other groups of workers." (Lord and Johnstone, p. 146)

Due to the economic problems of the cooperative clothing factory in 1938 and its eventual failure in 1939, the Government had difficulty filling the approximately eighty remaining houses in the 198-unit community. Subsequently they were rented to families from the local area who were not participating in the original program of the Jersey Homesteads project, and this resulted in a more heterogeneous population after 1940. Today, few of the original homesteaders remain. But there are still a significant number (though less than one-third of the population of c. 850) who are "second generation" settlers who moved into Roosevelt in the 1940's and 1950's, or are descendants of the original homesteaders.
COMMUNITY PLANNING

Roosevelt failed to find an existence as a cooperative colony as conceived by Benjamin Brown, or as a subsistence homesteads community as planned by M.L. Wilson, Rexford G. Tugwell, and other New Deal visionaries. Still, it indisputably survives as a significant example of community planning in the United States. In addition to those aspects of economic and social planning which relate to the subsistence homesteads program discussed above, Roosevelt can claim a place among a handful of American communities which approximate the Garden City idea as espoused by Ebenezer Howard of England. Unlike the model Garden Cities of Welwyn and Letchworth in England, Roosevelt is not a nucleated village with full community infrastructure. In form and function, it more closely resembles a "garden suburb." Furthermore, Roosevelt's land was never community-owned en toto, nor does its physical plan emphasize multi-family residential units, courtyards, or cul-de-sac street patterns. However, Roosevelt's plan contains strong Garden City idioms: the integration of residential units with community-owned open space and parks; the green belt of farm land and conservation areas; and the provision for decentralized industry, garden plots, and community services. The plan also exhibits "American" qualities in its amplitude of scale (particularly the half-acre house lots), the long Olmstedian strips of green space, and the invocation of the single or semidetached house as an ideal. The attention to pre-existing natural features (such as creeks and topography), the curvilinear street layout, and the careful siting of buildings in relation to one another and to the total plan are also elements of advanced community planning found in Roosevelt.

The English Garden Cities were well-known among New Deal planners and intellectuals, chiefly Rexford G. Tugwell (head of the Resettlement Administration), who believed in many of Ebenezer Howard's basic theories and who personally knew Raymond Unwin, English Garden City architect and spokesman. Tugwell had assigned a Technical Research Unit to study English housing and Garden Cities. He and his staff certainly influenced the physical form of Jersey Homesteads, but its overall planning design is attributed to architect-planner Alfred Kastner (1901-75). After several plans for Jersey Homesteads had proved unsatisfactory, Kastner was asked in 1935 to supervise the design and construction of the project. Kastner's background made him well-suited for the job. Educated at the State University in Hamburg before emigrating to the United States in 1924, he was familiar with pioneering efforts in his native Germany to provide well-planned housing and communities for urban workers (such as Baumhof, Alfredshof, Margaretenhofe, and Ratshof). During his partnership in the 1930's with Oscar Stonorov (1905-70), German-born architect, city planner, and sculptor, Kastner was involved in the planning of several public housing projects. In 1934, for example, the firm designed the Carl Mackley Houses in Philadelphia, which were built for the Federation of Full-Fashioned Hosiery Workers and which featured a cooperative nursery school and a cooperative grocery.
There appears to be no direct correlation between Kastner's German background and his plan for Jersey Homesteads. Aside from the fact that German architects and planners were also advancing garden cities ideas, which were known and selectively employed by Parker, Unwin, and other English architects, there are no direct German planning precedents evident in Roosevelt's plan, which is clearly an American, suburban expression of the English Garden City Idea.

In addition to Roosevelt's national significance as a planned community, it also exists as an important twentieth century representative in New Jersey's planning history, which includes a wide range of communities such as the North American Phalanx, Llewellyn Park, Ocean Grove, the Jewish agricultural colonies mentioned above, Radburn, and others.

ARCHITECTURE

While the physical elements of Roosevelt's plan are associated with the English Garden City Idea, the district's architectural significance stems from its modernist, Bauhaus-influenced buildings, and connection with the early work of one of America's foremost twentieth century architects, Louis I. Kahn (1901-74). Kahn served as Kastner's assistant on the Jersey Homesteads project; from 1935 to 1937 he was Assistant Principal Architect in the firm of Kastner and Storerov. Although there were other preliminary proposals, including Tom Hibben's tamped-earth houses and Quentin Twachtman's unsuccessful prefabricated cement houses, Louis Kahn is attributed with the eventual designs of the individual buildings. The houses, factory, and school are early, simple expressions of the International Style in the United States. Their compositions of juxtaposed rectilinear forms, with horizontal massing, open plans, and smooth exterior surfaces painted white, follow the stark, functional, unadorned modernist aesthetic. Although a number have undergone minor and major alterations (see Property Inventory), the architectural integrity of the district's original buildings is still apparent.

Roosevelt's houses, in particular, appeared quite futuristic in the 1930's, and their aesthetics and construction were the object of much comment and criticism. While the house designs did not always appeal to the press, visitors to the community, or the inhabitants ("they give the impression of so many well-lighted commodious garages," wrote the Saturday Evening Post in 1938), the designers' choice of Bauhaus-influenced architecture for Jersey Homesteads must have seemed appropriate to the experimental nature and underlying principles of the original community. Modern architecture, in the view of its early adherents, especially in Germany, was not only to fulfill the functional needs of the twentieth century but also to assume a social role in bringing about a reformed and collective society.
Roosevelt is associated with the life and work of the American artist Ben Shahn (1898-1969). In the library of the Roosevelt Elementary School (#1341-132) is a large fresco mural painted by Shahn in 1937, while he was employed by the Resettlement Administration as a painter and photographer. (See mural photographs, #1341-132.) The color mural depicts (in a progressive manner, from left to right) selected themes, events, and persons in American immigration and labor history, culminating in the establishment of Jersey Homesteads. Recognizable figures include Albert Einstein, Sacco and Vanzetti, John L. Lewis, as well as several garment workers' leaders, homeesteaders, and New Deal officials. The mural is artistically significant to the art world, and is also intrinsic to Roosevelt's community identity. As Shahn himself said in 1944, commenting on murals:

I learned fresco technique with Rivera on the Rockefeller Center mural... My first big job was the Jersey Homesteads school, and in one way it's still the most successful. People really look at it. They know it by heart. To them, it's like the building, a part of the community. (Morse, p. 62)

Shahn moved to Jersey Homesteads with his family in 1938, and resided at 20 Tamara Drive (#1341-117) until his death thirty-one years later. He is buried in Roosevelt Cemetery (#1341-193; see photograph of memorial). During his lifetime Shahn was a prominent force in the community. He organized, designed, and raised funds for the FDR Memorial, completed in 1962 (#1341-133). His international reputation as an artist attracted other artists to live and work in Roosevelt, such as Ben Appel, Joshua Hecht, Jacob Landau, David Stone Martin, Gregorio Prestopino, Leslie Weiner, and many others too numerous to mention. The painter Bernardo Bryson Shahn, his wife, and sculptor Jonathan Shahn, his son, still reside in Roosevelt.
9. Major Bibliographical References

See Continuation Sheet

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 1,244
Quadrangle name Roosevelt
Quadrangle scale 1:24000

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>UMT References</th>
<th>A</th>
<th>Z</th>
<th>E</th>
<th>N</th>
<th>B</th>
<th>Z</th>
<th>E</th>
<th>N</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Zone</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Easting</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northing</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northing</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northing</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Verbal boundary description and justification
The district boundaries correspond to the corporate boundaries of Roosevelt Borough. (See USGS Map and Roosevelt Property Map.) See DESCRIPTION for boundary justification.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>state</th>
<th>code</th>
<th>county</th>
<th>code</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

11. Form Prepared By

(Preliminary research, writing, and data-collecting assistance; Leslie Weiner, Marilyn Magness, and Bernarda Shahn of Roosevelt)

Name/title: Gail Hunton

Organization: Monmouth County Park System
date: February 1983

Street & number: Newman Springs Road
telephone: (201) 842-4000 ext. 70

City or town: Lincroft
state: New Jersey 07738

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

X 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

date: 10/14/83

For NPS use only
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

date

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:
date
United States Department of the Interior
National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES:

BOOKS:


PERIODICALS:


Armstrong, Ralph F. "Four Million Dollar Village," Saturday Evening Post, CCX (February 5, 1938), 5-7, 36, 38, 39.


"Depending on Themselves, Homesteaders Plan Future," Asbury Park Press (February 23, 1938), 1.

"Einstein Likes Jersey Project: Scientist is Amazed at Progress Achieved at Homesteads," Asbury Park Press (October 24, 1936).

"First of Hightstown Settlers to be in Homes by June 15," Asbury Park Press (May 7, 1936), 13.

"Hightstown Homesteaders Live Millionaires' Life," The Newark Sunday Call (August 2, 1936).

"Homesteads Settlers Fight to Save Utopia," Asbury Park Press (February 21, 1938), 1-2.

"Housing Project at Hightstown is Reported Doomed," Asbury Park Press (December 24, 1935), 1-2.


"Milk and Honey: Jewish Needleworkers Move Into Hightstown Project," Literary Digest, CXXI (June 20, 1936),


"Tugwelltown Liquidated," Hightstown Gazette (August, 1940).


"Workers Buy Homes, Price is Mystery," Asbury Park Press (February 24, 1938), 1-2.
GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS:


MAPS, ATLASES, ICONOGRAPHY:


OTHER:

Interviews with the following residents of Roosevelt, several of whom contributed first-hand knowledge of the community's development since the 1930's: Morris and Augustus Chasan; Aaron and Evelyn Datz; Leo and Faye Libove; Marilyn Magnes; Ralph Seligman; Bernarda Shahn; Roy and Jan Terry; Leslie Weiner.

Architect's rendering shows the 21-unit Roosevelt Senior Citizen Project layout from the north. Groundbreaking is expected next month. The characters on the kite are Korean and instruct the young to respect their elders.

Source: Asbury Park Press (Aug. 28, 1982)

JERSEY HOMESTEADS HISTORIC DISTRICT
ROOSEVELT BOROUGH
MONMOUTH COUNTY, NJ
ROOSEVELT DISTRICT

HOMESTEADS HOUSE

PLAN OF TYPE 2A (2 STORY ATTACHED/DUPLEX)

2 BEDRM/3 BEDRM VARIATION

FIRST FLOOR PLAN

SECOND FLOOR PLAN

HOUSE NUMBERS
ROOSEVELT DISTRICT

HOMESTEADS HOUSE

PLAN OF TYPE 2A  (2 STORY ATTACHED/DUPLEX)

2 BEDRM VARIATION

SECOND FLOOR PLAN

FIRST FLOOR PLAN

JERSEY HOMESTEADS HISTORIC DISTRICT
ROOSEVELT BOROUGH
MONMOUTH COUNTY, NJ
ROOSEVELT DISTRICT

HOMESTEADS HOUSE

PLAN OF TYPE 1D (1 STORY DETACHED/SINGLE-FAMILY)

3 BEDRM VARIATION

JERSEY HOMESTEADS HISTORIC DISTRICT
ROOSEVELT BOROUGH
MONMOUTH COUNTY, NJ