

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions.

### 1. Name of Property

Historic name: Shrawder-Sittig House

Other names/site number: N/A

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

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### 2. Location

Street & number: 553 River Road

City or town: Smithfield Township State: PA County: Monroe

Not For Publication:  Vicinity:

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### 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,


I hereby certify that this X nomination \_\_\_ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property X meets \_\_\_ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

\_\_\_ national      \_\_\_ statewide      X local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

\_\_\_A      \_\_\_B      XC      \_\_\_D

	<b>8/3/2022</b>
<hr/> <b>Signature of certifying official/Title:</b>	<b>Date</b>
<hr/> <b>State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government</b>	

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In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.	
<b>Signature of commenting official:</b>	<b>Date</b>
<hr/>	
<b>Title :</b>	<b>State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government</b>

**4. National Park Service Certification**

I hereby certify that this property is:

- \_\_\_ entered in the National Register
- \_\_\_ determined eligible for the National Register
- \_\_\_ determined not eligible for the National Register
- \_\_\_ removed from the National Register
- \_\_\_ other (explain:) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of the Keeper

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Action

**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- Private:
- Public – Local
- Public – State
- Public – Federal

**Category of Property**

(Check only **one** box.)

- Building(s)
- District
- Site
- Structure
- Object

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**Number of Resources within Property**

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>1</u>	_____	buildings
_____	_____	sites
_____	<u>1</u>	structures
<u>1</u>	_____	objects
<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

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**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC/Single Dwelling  
COMMERCE/TRADE/Department Store  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Current Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC/Single Dwelling  
DOMESTIC/Secondary Structure/Pedestrian Bridge  
\_\_\_\_\_

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## 7. Description

### Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Vernacular  
Colonial Revival

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**Materials:** (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: Stone, Wood, Slate

## Narrative Description

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### Summary Paragraph

The Shrawder-Sittig House property is located at 553 River Road at a prominent intersection on the main thoroughfare of the village of Shawnee on Delaware in Smithfield Township, Monroe County, Pennsylvania. The 0.86-acre site is situated about one-quarter mile west of the Delaware River. The property contains three contributing resources: a dwelling comprised of two formerly separate early-19th century buildings joined by a narrow frame connector, an early 19th century stone foundation wall, and a large boulder with a bronze Pennsylvania Historical Commission plaque erected in 1930 honoring Nicholas DuPuy, the founder of the settlement who once owned this tract of land. The property also includes a single non-contributing resource: a small wood pedestrian bridge constructed ca. 1980. The Shrawder-Sittig property sits at the heart of the community and was once part of a vital early-19th century grist and feed mill complex. The Shawnee Creek and an enhanced natural waterfall which once powered the mill, lie to the rear of the property. The one and one-half story stone building dates from circa 1810. The connected two-story frame house was constructed circa 1815. A substantial stone grist mill once stood along River Road just to the west of the dwellings beyond the Shawnee Creek and a mill pond and mill race were once located to the rear of the property. Traces of the mill race remain. The stone building once served as a storehouse for grain and other goods. In 1941, the property was acquired by Charlotte and Edgar Sittig, who oversaw exterior and interior renovations of the two buildings in the Colonial Revival style. The stone and frame buildings were joined with a four-foot wide, two-story frame connector and redesigned with elements of the Colonial Revival style including an entry portico, slate roof, fireplace surrounds, roof dormers, and a paneled staircase. The Shrawder-Sittig House is significant for the National Register under Criterion C as a locally significant example of the renovation of vernacular early 19th century plank and stone buildings with mid-20th century Colonial Revival style architectural form and details.

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## Narrative Description

### *Setting*

Shawnee on Delaware is a small community along the Delaware River first established in the mid-18th century. The Shrawder-Sittig House is situated along the main street of the village, River Road, at the primary intersection with Hollow Road (Figures 1 to 3; Photos 1 to 3). The property boundary is bordered by these two early roads and the Shawnee Creek. The Shrawder-Sittig property is comprised of two adjacent early 19th century buildings, now joined with a narrow four-foot-wide frame passage, a stone foundation wall and a bronze plaque attached to a large rock along River Road.<sup>1</sup> The one and one-half story, 3 bay stone storehouse building predates the larger two-story, four-bay wood-frame house. Two small additions and a deck were constructed in phases from circa 1924- 2010 at the rear of the frame house. The bridge carrying River Road over the creek at the southwest corner of the property was re-built in 1965 by PennDOT with stone facing and curbing, a design alternative proposed by Charlotte Sittig. Just beyond the bridge over Shawnee Creek is the site of the associated C.R. & R.D. Wilson Flour and Feed Mill. The mill is no longer extant, demolished circa 1904.<sup>2</sup> Behind the Shrawder-Sittig House lies Shawnee Creek, traces of the former mill race and mill pond and a waterfall which once provided waterpower to the mill. An icehouse and outhouse both no longer extant once stood to the rear of the house. A two-story frame dye house building once stood to the immediate north of the stone storehouse and only its stone foundation remains. Along River Road and in the yard of the house is a bronze plaque mounted on a boulder by the Pennsylvania Historical Commission, the Huguenot Society, and the Monroe County Historical Society in 1930 to recognize settlement founder and landowner Nicholas DuPuy (also spelled DePuy and DePui). The site of DuPuy's fort and residence is nearby in close proximity to the Delaware River. Both the historic plaque and the stone foundation walls are contributing resources to the property. The creek, waterfall, traces of the mill race and pond all contribute to the historic setting of this property but are outside of the boundary or are uncounted.

The cluster of historic buildings that form the core of the Shawnee on Delaware community include the Shrawder-Sittig House, the circa 1770-1790 Detrick-Moyer house, the circa 1853 Stony Brook Inn, the circa 1850 Shawnee General Store, the circa 1910 former stone post office/Shawna Shop,<sup>3</sup> and the Shawnee Playhouse, constructed in 1904 as Worthington Hall and rebuilt following a fire in 1985 (Photo 1). Just beyond this grouping of historic properties are the Shawnee Inn and the Golf Resort and modern resort condominiums.

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<sup>1</sup> Much of the property's history, and that of the immediate neighborhood of Shawnee on Delaware along River and Hollow Roads, and the 1720s settlement of Nicholas DePuy and his subsequent occupation of Shawnee, was established by the research of Peter C. Sauvigne, current owner of the property. Some of this information was presented in his lecture "Searching an Old House's History: The Sittig House in Shawnee" for the Shawnee Preservation Society's annual meeting May 1, 2017.

<sup>2</sup> Sauvigne, Peter C. – "Searching an Old House's History" from Shawnee Preservation Society's Annual Meeting May 1, 2017.

<sup>3</sup> Conversation with Susan Sittig in June 2021. The post office building (which became home to the Shawna Shop) was built on the site of the former grist mill associated with the nominated property.

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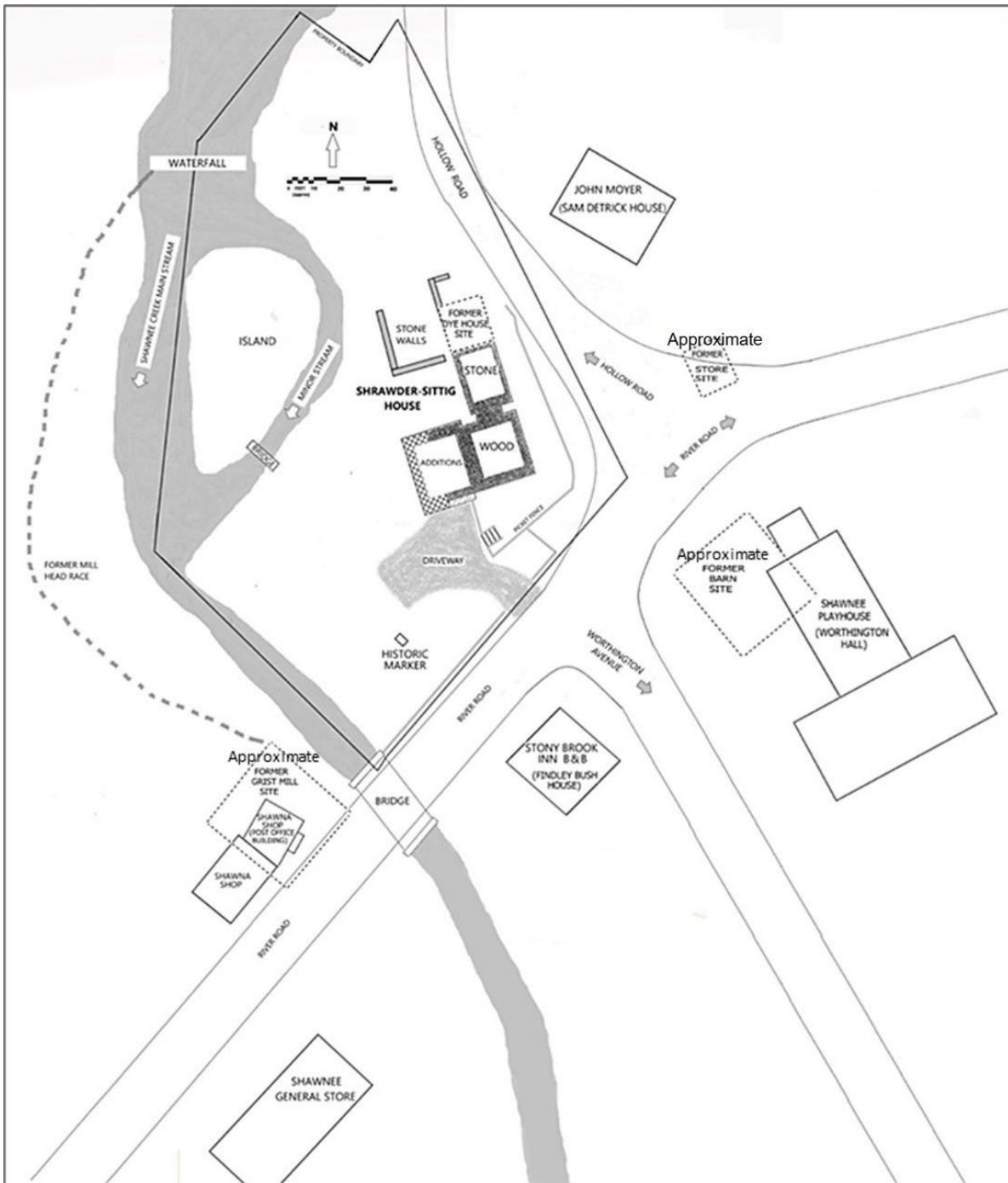


Figure 1. Site Plan

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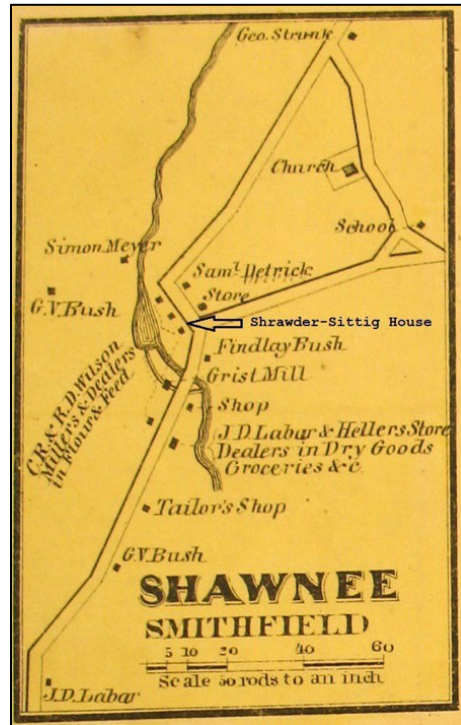


Figure 2. 1860 Walling Map of Shawnee.

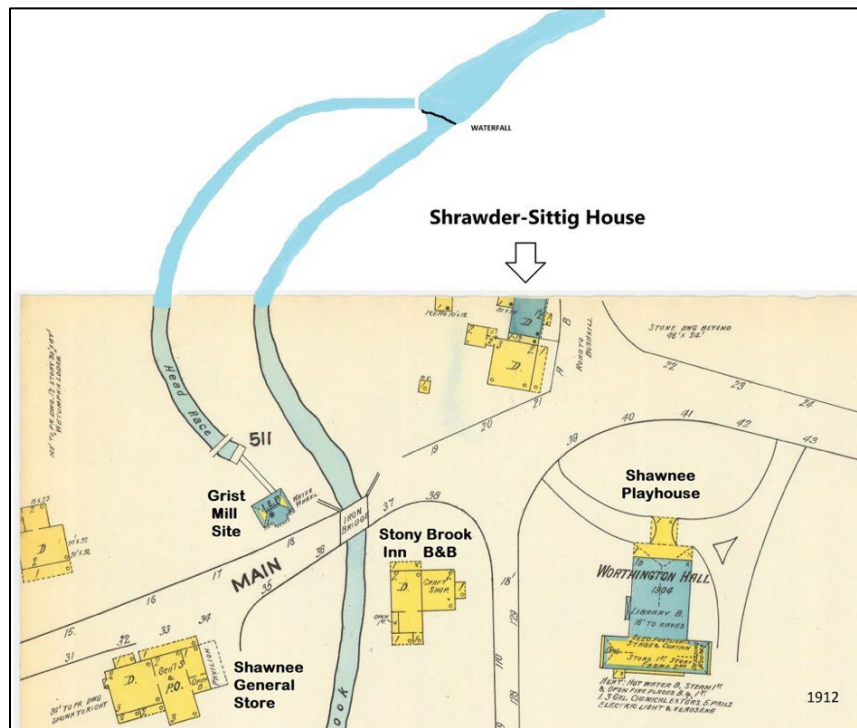


Figure 3. Excerpt of 1912 Sanborn map, with additional creek detail hand-colored for context.

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**Photo 1.** Drone view of Shawnee on Delaware. River Road runs top to bottom and Hollow Road veers off to the right of River Road in this image, view southwest (courtesy of Peter Sauvigne).



**Photo 2.** Drone view of Shrawder-Sittig house with waterfalls at right, view west.



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**Photo 3.** Shrawder-Sittig property at left at juncture of River Road and Hollow Road just to right of center and Detrick-Moyer House on right side, view northwest.

### *Property Overview*

The Shrawder-Sittig House consists of both the circa 1810 stone storehouse and the circa 1815 frame-plank house (Photo 4). The two buildings were connected in 1943 as part of the renovations in the Colonial Revival style undertaken when the property was acquired by new owners, antique dealers Edgar and Charlotte Sittig. Additions to the circa 1815 frame section include the small front entry door portico, the four foot wide frame connector between the two buildings and a one story and basement rear kitchen addition with an attached deck. Extensive interior renovations were carried out in the 1940s as well, but no architectural drawings, contracts or written descriptions of the work undertaken by the Sittig family is known to exist. The current front entry portico replaced a wider front porch of simple design shown in early 20th century photographs, likely added at that time. The interiors of the frame-plank house and the stone storehouse show the application of extensive Colonial Revival details and features. The Sittigs used the Shrawder-Sittig House as both a family home and as an antique shop. Their renovation of these early 19th century buildings was in keeping with the popular early to mid-20th century trend of rehabilitating and remodeling simple, vernacular houses into Colonial Revival style residences with modern amenities. As sellers and exhibitors of American antiques, the Sittigs sought to create an appropriate sales environment for their business as well as a more comfortable family home. The property contains two additional contributing resources, a stone foundation wall adjacent to the stone storehouse and a bronze historic plaque commemorating Nicholas DuPuy. A white picket fence lines the property along River Road and the Shawnee Creek and an enhanced natural waterfall forms the western boundary of the property.

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**Photo 4.** Shrawder-Sittig House, view southwest; the two initially detached buildings were connected in 1943.

### *Shrawder-Sittig House Exterior*

The Shrawder-Sittig House is made up of two formerly separate adjacent buildings, now joined by a four-foot-wide frame connector. The oldest (circa 1810) portion of the property is a 1 and 1/2 story, 3 bay stone building and the frame and plank portion (circa 1815), is a two story, four bay building. Both buildings have side gabled roofs and multipaned 9/6 or 6/6 wooden sash windows.

#### Frame and Plank House Section (circa 1815)

The circa 1815 four bay, two story, frame-plank house is a vernacular form, but reflects the influence of the Georgian or Federal style in the symmetrical front façade, window proportions, and the side gabled roof (Photos 4 and 5). With only four bays, the frame-plank house lacks a Georgian or Federal style central hall. The Shrawder-Sittig house has a prominent, but shallow molded and unadorned cornice. Vernacular houses often borrow details or basic form from the more formal styles of the era while employing traditional floorplans. In Pennsylvania vernacular Germanic floorplans were retained while adopting the more formal symmetrical window and door placement of more formal Georgian and Federal styles. The exterior walls are covered with original horizontal 10-inch-wide wood weatherboard planks set upon a stone foundation. The clapboards of the first floor and basement of the west wall are obscured by the twentieth century addition. Vertical planking is used at the peak of the gable roof on the side elevations. The 9/6 and 6/6 multi-paned wooden sash windows and paneled wooden front door appear to be original. The first-floor sash windows have 9/6 panes, and the second-floor windows have 6/6 panes. Basement level windows are all of three lights set in a single horizontal frame. Paneled and louvered wooden shutters, original to the house, are located on the first and second stories.

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**Photo 5.** Detail view of the front façade of frame-plank house, view northwest.

A small Colonial Revival style portico measuring approximately 4' x 4' was added in the 1940s renovation that replaced a full front façade front porch likely dating from the late 19th or early 20th century. The slate roof was applied in the 1940s renovation, replacing the original roof which was likely wood shakes or a subsequent replacement roof of asbestos shingles or metal sheeting. Original interior brick chimneys are present at the roof peak on both side walls.

Prior to the Sittigs' purchase of the property, a small one-story, one-room addition, now used as a study was made to the rear of the living room (Photo 6). In the 1940s, the Sittigs added a one-story (with basement) wood weatherboard addition to house. The addition contained a new kitchen since the former working kitchen with large hearth became the dining room. The addition has an exterior entrance door and pair of double casement windows on the first-floor rear elevation and a bay window on the first floor north (side) elevation. On the basement level, a garage door was installed on the south (side) elevation of the new addition. Three 6/6 windows face west under the deck and an exterior door faces north. The roof of the addition is of metal sheeting. All siding is wood weatherboard. The deck and steps are unfinished wood with white painted railings. Circa 1990 to 2010 the 1940s kitchen was updated, and a deck was added to provide additional living space to the rear of the frame and plank house. A narrow exterior brick chimney was constructed along the north wall in the 1940s to accommodate a boiler.

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**Photo 6.** Shrawder-Sittig House with later accretions at rear of frame-plank section, view east. The stone walls at left are believed to be remnants of the former dye house.

#### Stone Storehouse Section (circa 1810)

The one and one-half story stone storehouse was built circa 1810 by Philip Shrawder, a German immigrant who fought in the Revolutionary War and operated a store at this location.<sup>4</sup> The building has a substantial front door – 3½’ wide and 7½’ high. The front wall has two 9/6 windows that face Hollow Road. The gable ends are stone to the roof peak with single 6/3 windows on each end (Photo 7). All window and door openings are framed by heavy timbers with corner peg joinery. The slate roof was added in the mid-1940s as part of the Sittigs’ renovations, as are the two dormers on the rear (west) roof slope. The dormers served to add natural light to the attic room. A circa 1900 historic photo shows that the stone store house once had small dormers on the front slope of the roof that were removed as part of the Sittigs’ renovations in the 1940s when the slate roof was installed. The rear wall has two 9/6 windows on the main level and two 3-pane horizontal windows and a wide entry door at the basement level. An interior stone chimney occupies the middle of the north exterior end wall. A single window with horizontal wood bars between the exterior and interior sash is present at the attic level on the north side of the storehouse.

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<sup>4</sup> Northampton County will recorded 3/28/1820 Page 574.

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**Photo 7.** Shrawder-Sittig House, showing the rear elevations and rear yard.

#### Connector (1943)

A 4'-wide frame connector was built in 1943 between the stone storehouse and the plank-frame house (Photo 8). The 1912 Sanborn map suggests that a frame connection of some kind existed at that time (Figure 3). No known documents describe this earlier connector between the buildings. It was likely a single-story wooden porch roof, since no connection to the upper floor existed prior to the Sittigs' renovation. The current 1943 connector is recessed from the front and back of the buildings by about 5½'. There are 4-pane stationary square windows on the first and second floors, facing both east and west. The roof of the connector is slate while the siding is wood weatherboards.

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**Photo 8.** Frame connector built in 1943 between the frame-plank house at left and storehouse at right, view west.

### *Interior*

#### Frame Plank House Section

##### *First Floor*

The frame plank house was built circa 1815 as a vernacular two-story Penn Plan or Quaker Plan house. Originally, the house had three rooms, two on the south side of the house and a large kitchen room on the north side with a substantial fireplace for cooking. The frame plank house also has two interior chimneys with fireplaces present in the center of each exterior wall and a corner stair as are found in two-story Penn Plan houses. The Sittigs' renovation of the property added a wall in the north side kitchen room to create a small entry foyer and removed the interior wall that created two parlors on the south side of the building (Photo 9). The removal of the interior wall created a large living room with a redesigned Colonial Revival style fireplace mantle, crown molding and chair rail. The Sittigs also added a one-story kitchen and basement addition to the rear of the original kitchen. Remnant evidence of the former parlor wall placement exists in the original floorboards as a series of nail holes in a straight line bisecting the current living room. The original location of the winder stairwell in a corner of the original kitchen room was not changed during the 1940s Colonial Revival renovations. The corner stairwell is now situated in the entry foyer created in the 1940s. The vertical wood wall materials of the foyer interior wall are distinctly different from the original walls and feature vertical wainscoting marking its 1940s origin.

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**Photo 9.** Frame plank house first floor foyer, with door entries to dining room at left and small room area below staircase at right. Staircase at extreme right side, view northwest.

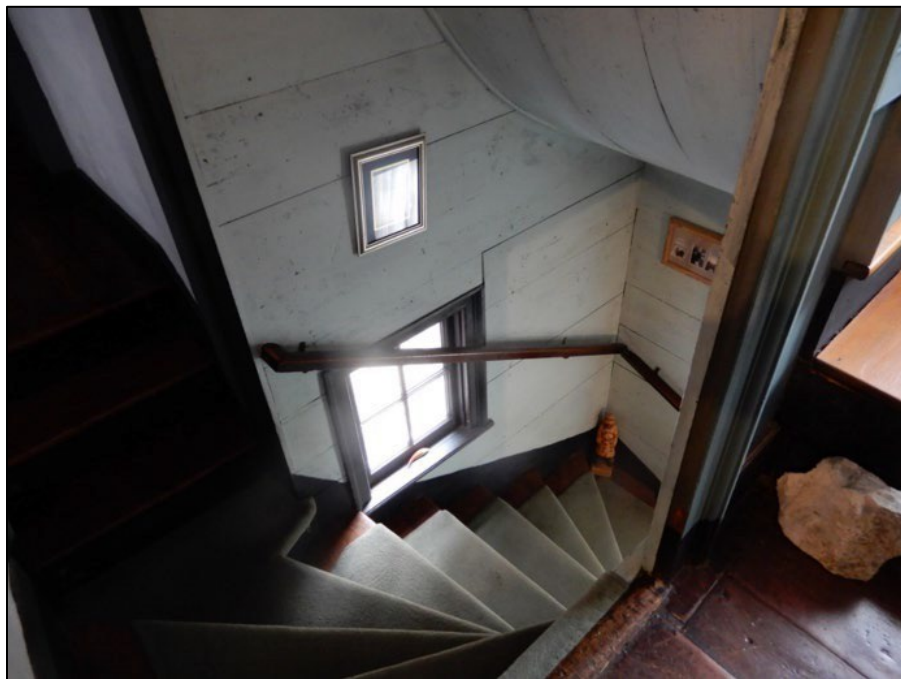
No exposed beams are present on any of the ceilings of the frame plank house. This appears to be the original condition of all the rooms on the first and second floors. The ceiling height in all areas of the first floor as well as the second-floor room areas is 8'-3". Much of the wood window and door trim has a double tier profile that appears to date to the construction of the house or have been duplicated in the 1940s era Colonial Revival renovation. Flooring in all first-floor rooms is original wide wooden planks. All boards vary from 5½ to 9½ inches wide and are secured with rectangular headed period cut nails.

The small entry foyer contains the corner winder staircase, a solid wood paneled front door with a four-light transom above it. The wood door surround has a Colonial Revival profile. The wood trim surrounding all three of the other door entries appears to date from the 1940s and be of matching double tier molding with a quarter round outer edge reflecting the Colonial Revival style. In addition, the east wall 9/6 window with transitional type muntin bars (5/8" wide) together with its double tier molding is all indicative of the Colonial Revival style, as are the chair-rails on all four walls. However, the baseboards on two walls with their distinctive top edge beaded molding appear to date to the circa 1815 construction of the frame and plank house.

The wood winding staircase that leads to the second floor on the north wall appears to have been rebuilt in the 1940s (Photo 10). The ceiling of the staircase is curved, and the long staircase side wall consists of horizontal boards done in a Colonial Revival manner.

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**Photo 10.** Frame plank house staircase to second floor, view northeast.

The north wall has a door entry that leads to a very small room (3 ½' by 5 ½') area below the staircase. A chair-rail on one wall is Colonial Revival. It is this area that has a door entry that joins to the frame-plank house "connector."

To the immediate west of the foyer is the dining room; the room is front to back 16'-3" (Photo 11). Its east partition wall is the same as the above-mentioned west wall of the foyer. Chair-rails are on all four walls matching the profile of the chair-rails in the foyer and the large single room at the south side are Colonial Revival. Baseboards appear to be original and are painted black. The east, south and west walls of the dining room each have doors with Colonial Revival style double tier trim. The one north wall 9/6 window with transitional width muntin bars is also Colonial Revival as is the fireplace wood surround with the fully developed cornice. The fireplace opening is mid-sized, 6' long, 4' high, and 2'-2" deep. The inner fireplace sides, as was typically done to radiate heat, are angled, or splayed. It can't be said that the crane is original. This fireplace was for cooking family meals unlike the south house side fireplace that was strictly for heating the south side of the first floor.



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**Photo 11.** Frame plank house west side first floor dining room with corner cooking fireplace, view northeast.

The south side of the first floor, as stated, was originally two rooms – a larger east room and a smaller west room. Now the full south side area is one room area – from east wall to west wall (Photos 12 and 13). The former existence of a partition wall in line with the right-side corner of the south side end wall fireplace was discovered. Many nail holes and wood abrasions on the original flooring all basically in an 8 or 10 inch wide “path” indicate the former presence of this wall. The front room was 15’-6” deep while the rear room area was 9’ deep. Here, the south side room area will be treated as one full room area. The room is 15’ 5” wide. Each of the four windows in this full room area is 9/6s. All window trim is double tier and is Colonial Revival. The same transitional style muntin bars are seen. Two door entries have the same trim and are Colonial Revival. Curiously, the door entry toward the west end is just over 2’ wide which implies that the door is not original to the floor. This further implies that a door entry once existed in the “discovered” partition wall just mentioned. The west end wall has a door and is most likely not original, that leads to a west side library room built sometime in the 1900s. The chair-rails on all walls are likely Colonial Revival but all the black baseboards are likely original. The vertical plank construction of the north wall (behind the plaster) is now partly exposed. It would seem apparent that any interior wall of a room on either floor is similarly sheathed or formed with such planks. The crown molding at the top of the walls was installed after 1999. The south wall fireplace, 3’-8” long, 3’ high, and 16” deep, is nearly perfectly centered on the wall and was strictly used for heating. The entire wood fireplace surround is Colonial Revival. The hearth is brick.

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**Photo 12.** Frame-plank house first floor south-side living room, view southwest.



**Photo 13.** Frame plank house first floor south-side living room, view east.

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### *Second Floor*

The present-day floor plan of the second floor, which appears to be original has rooms arranged along the north and south sides of the building. The south side consists of two original rooms, a large front bedroom, and a much smaller rear room. The north side is comprised of a larger front hall area, a small room just west of the hall area, and a narrow hall adjacent to the south floor side area that connects to a small rear room now a bath. The floors in all rooms, except the bathroom, is original with boards up to 15" in their widths. All boards are also secured with rectangular headed cut nails.

The front bedroom is square with each wall measuring 15½' (Photo 14). The entry door from the north side front hall is original with original trim. The door entry to the rear or west room also has original trim. The crown molding at the tops of all walls is not original and has been recently installed. All the wood sash windows and surrounding trim are original and feature 6/6 lights. All chair rails and baseboards are also original. Very near the southwest corner of the room is a small Rumford-like fireplace. The fireplace opening, only for heating, is just 2' square and only 9" deep. The cornice and wood surround are all original as is the hearth stone.



**Photo 14.** Frame plank house, second floor south side master bedroom, view southwest.

The rear room, now a laundry area, served as a bedroom in the Sittigs' time and is just 9'-5" wide (Photo 15). The door that was attached to the door entry frame (no door currently installed) from the front room retains its authentic hinges that were secured with blunt ended screws that signifies a first half of the nineteenth century installation on the second floor of the house. This door entry retains its original wood floor threshold. Chair rails and baseboards are all original and match the profile of those in the front room. The two windows in the room have double tier trim and the 6/6 wood window sash is original. The door leading to the hall has vertical wood Colonial Revival style trim.

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**Photo 15.** Frame-plank house, second floor west side small laundry, formerly a bedroom.

The north side's front hall is 8' x 10'. The rear wall has vertical beaded boards that separates the front hall from the small room to the immediate west of the hall. The entry door to the west of the hall room, the chair rail and the baseboard reflect the Colonial Revival style (Photo 16). The two front wall windows with 6/6 sash are original but the trim is Colonial Revival as is the 6-paneled door to the attic staircase. The door trim at the top of the staircase and the door entry to the south front room also have Colonial Revival trim.



**Photo 16.** Frame-plank house second floor front hall, view south.

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The narrow second floor side hall that connects the front hall area to the rear or west side bath is just 2'-5" wide (Photo 17). The long prominent partition wall on the hall's north side along with the chair rail reflects the Colonial Revival style. The 6-paneled door at the west end of hall could be original, but the door trim is Colonial Revival.

The office is a nearly square 8' x 8' room (Photo 18). A very small fireplace of Rumford type appears at the northeast corner of the room. It is 3' wide, 2'-9" high, and just 16" deep. It seems likely that the fireplace wood surround is original, but the cornice above it is of the 1940s Colonial Revival era, as is the door entry trim.

The bath area likely has an original rear wall 6/6 window sash with original double tier trim. The end wall window is not wholly original, but the rear wall baseboard is original. The entry door to the bath is of the mid-20th century.



**Photo 17.** Frame plank house second floor rear narrow hall, view west.

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**Photo 18.** Frame-plank house second floor rear west side office with Rumford fireplace, view northwest

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*Attic*

The two side walls of the attic staircase consist of horizontal boards that essentially duplicate the boards on the staircase to the second floor and are done in a Colonial Revival style (Photo 19). The staircase steps are original. The attic now consists of two modern bedrooms (Photo 20), but the original floors are present and secured with rectangular headed cut nails. A modern bathroom has recently been installed on the west side of the attic. The rafters are now covered, but the original horizontal collar beams that joined the rafters in pairs are exposed. The 4-pane windows at the end walls appear to be original.



**Photo 19.** Frame plank house north side staircase to attic, view west.



**Photo 20.** Frame plank house attic bedroom, view south.

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*Basement*

The unfinished basement is a single large room. The walls of the foundation are all stone – likely quarried locally. The original stone end wall fireplace supports remain (Photo 21). Original ceiling beams or joists each 5” by 7” survive and all are oak – of the *Quercus* genus. The original longitudinal oak summer beam that supports the joists is 9” by 10” and is a single length timber. The one post that supports the summer beam is likely original as are the wooden barred windows at the end walls. The west foundation wall has two very wide doors very near each of its corners. The door at the southwest corner retains its’ original upper and lower half split (Photo 22). The top portion is 4’-1” in height and the bottom section is 5’-8” inches high and consists of three vertical boards. The northwest entry door is not original but is also 4’-1” inch. The two wide basement access doors may reflect the commercial use of the Shrawder homestead as a storehouse. The Sittigs utilized the wide basement entry doors to store antiques in the basement.



**Photo 21.** Frame-plank house end wall basement fireplace support, view southwest.



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**Photo 22.** Frame-plank house end wall basement original exterior door, view west.

### Connector

The interior of the connector was created in the mid-1940s by the Sittig family when they created openings of appropriate dimensions in the opposing end walls of the frame-plank house and the stone storehouse on the first, second and basement floor levels.

On the first-floor level of the frame-plank house section a wall opening was made through the back of the closet under the stairs. On the stone storehouse side, no evidence existed of a previously existing window. The connector passage was trimmed in the Colonial Revival style to match the stone house trim as were the doors, east side window and wide board floor. The Sittigs also created a half bathroom on the first floor of the wood connector between the two houses. The bathroom walls in the connector show the original back of the large south side fireplace and stucco over the stone north side. The west window is in the Colonial Revival style.

On the second-floor level of the frame-plank house section an apparent new penetration of the north wall was made with 3 added steps to properly connect to the winder stairway (Photo 23). The storehouse side shows no evidence of a pre-existing window. The passageway, doors, window, and wide boarded floors are of Colonial Revival style to match details on the stone house side. The bathroom has a wide-boarded floor, but the walls and window are modern.

The basement level on the frame-plank house side had an obvious breach of original foundation to allow the connection to be made. The stone house side has steel lintels that were added to support the continuous stone wall above. A low wood paneled connector walkway obscures much construction. The west side of the connector in the basement is for steam, water and electricity

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passage through the back of the large fireplace structure and through a (now covered) barred basement window on the south wall of the stone building.



**Photo 23.** The very narrow frame connector has doors and door trim with Colonial Revival era styling.

### Stone Storehouse Section

#### *First Floor*

Philip Shrawder, who owned the property from his marriage with Rachel Van Campen in 1793 to his death in 1820, built both the stone and wood plank buildings. He referred to this stone building as his storehouse in his 1820 will. The design of the stone building supports its early use as a storehouse with thick stone walls and an open floor plan.

The exceptionally wide front door allowed for easy transfer of materials of whatever kind into and later out of the building interior (Photo 24). The interior was changed by the Sittigs' renovations with the introduction of a Colonial Revival style stair with paneled side walls and the introduction of chair rails. Wooden ceiling joists are exposed, but it is not known if that occurred in the 1940s or if that was the original configuration of the building. The first floor is a large single room and there is no physical evidence of previous partition walls. There is a small original fireplace on the north end wall with stone fireplace supports still evident in the basement. The room dimensions are 26'-2" in length, 16'-3" in width and 8'-7" in height which creates about 425 square feet of storage space. The centrally located Colonial Revival style staircase with side panels is the most notable feature of this room. The 14 oak joists in the room are beaded on their lower corners and are 9" high and 2¼" wide. Above all the joists are original upper floor level floorboards.

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**Photo 24.** Stone storehouse front wall main first floor room with wide entry door, view south.

The present-day staircase has all the elements of a Colonial Revival style including the handrails, spindles and newel posts at each side plus the two triangular paneled side walls of the staircase (Photo 25). The door that leads to the basement on the north side wall has the same paneled appearance.



**Photo 25.** Stone storehouse first floor room with near centered staircase, view northwest.

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The 6-paneled front door is designed in the Colonial Revival style and is 3'-7" in width by 7'-4" inches in height (Photo 24). The door is horizontally boarded on its inner side rendering it very strong and quite heavy. The inner door trim molding reflects the Colonial Revival style.

Two east wall windows, one at either side of the front door have 9/6 lights. The window sash appears to be original, but the muntins and window trim date from the mid-1940s. Windows and window trim on the west wall reflect the same dimensions and design. The north wall fireplace opening is square at 25" and is just 17" deep. The entire wood fireplace surround is of Colonial Revival style, as is the chair rail on all four walls. The baseboards, however, appear to be original. Original floorboards cover nearly the entire first floor except the area immediately just inside the front door which is of unknown later construction. The floorboards are secured with their original square headed cut nails reflecting their early 19th century era of construction.

### *Second Floor*

The current arrangement of three bedrooms on the 2nd floor was created by the 1940s renovations. The largest north end room extends across the full width of the building (Photo 26). There is an east side ell-shaped hall area and a small bedroom adjacent to the hall at the west side (Photo 27). The second floor may have originally been designed as a large open loft. There is no physical or documentary evidence to show the prior room configuration. The three existing rooms each have slanted ceiling areas or sections due to the intersection of the angled roof slopes. The ceiling height – those areas not associated with the angled roof is 7'-10". No exposed ceiling beams are present. Virtually all the flooring is original on this level and the pine boards are up to 19" wide. All the boards are secured with square headed cut nails. All baseboards on this level appear to be original.



**Photo 26.** Stone storehouse second floor north side bedroom, view northwest

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**Photo 27.** Stone storehouse second floor front side hallway, view south

The staircase that leads up to the ell-shaped hall, the handrailing, the newel posts and spindles are of Colonial Revival style. The east wall of the hall is prominently lined with Colonial Revival style cabinets composed of four pairs of double doors. The south end wall has 6/3 light sashes that are all likely original. On the exterior side of the window frame are three opposing pairs of diamond shaped holes that once housed horizontal bars. All three bars were removed at one time. Similarly, the north end wall in the north end bedroom has a window that has two of its three original bars intact. The bottom bar was removed at one time. The purpose and date of construction of such horizontal wood bars is unknown.

The main, north end bedroom extends the full width of the building and is 10' wide. The end wall window has 6/3 lights and horizontal wood bars. The interior section of the roof dormer has Colonial Revival style wood trim. The roof dormer in the small, west side bedroom is identical to that in the north end bedroom. Both of these west roof slope dormers were added during the in the 1940s renovation. Historic photos show two smaller historic dormers on the east roof slope which were removed during the 1940s renovation when the slate roof was installed.

#### *Basement*

The basement has a poured cement or earthen floor and 11 original exposed oak ceiling beams. They are partially covered at their top sides and just a 7¼" height is seen. Ceiling height from floor to soffits of joists is 6½'. The wide rear wall door may date to the 1940s to accommodate the storage and transfer of large objects for the antique business housed in the building. Two barred windows, both original, with intact wooden bars, appear on the west foundation wall.

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***Dye House Foundation Wall***

A stone foundation wall lies immediately to the north of the stone storehouse (Figures 4 and 5; Photo 28). The foundation wall is all that remains of a frame dye house which once utilized the water from the creek or mill race for the dying of fabrics. The dye house appears at this location on the 1860 county map (Figure 2) and is also shown in a circa 1910 photograph as a two-story frame building. The dyehouse was removed circa 1935.

***PHMC Historic Marker honoring Nicholas Dupuy***

A bronze plaque was mounted to a large boulder along River Road in the yard of the Shrawder-Sittig house in 1930 to commemorate the accomplishments of Nicholas Dupuy, the first settler in what would become the village of Shawnee (Photo 29). The plaque was installed with the assistance of the Pennsylvania Historical Commission, the Huguenot Society of Pennsylvania, and the Monroe County Historical Society. Such plaques predated the development of more standardized historic markers by the Pennsylvania Historical Commission, the predecessor of the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission. Nicholas Dupuy owned this property and several other parcels adjacent to the Delaware River, including the site of his fortified house.



**Figure 4.** Circa 1910 photograph looking at the Shrawder-Sittig property (left); the former dye house is just to the side (right) of the stone storehouse. Note the full front porch on the plank and frame portion of the house and the presence of a picket fence at the curve of River Road.

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**Figure 5.** Circa 1910 view of Hollow Road looking east toward River Road, with light-colored frame dye house at right, across from the Detrick house.



**Photo 28.** Shrawder-Sittig stone storehouse at right and stone foundation wall to the immediate left where the former dye house stood.

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**Photo 29.** PHMC Historic Marker honoring founder Nicholas DuPuy, placed along River Road near the Shrawder-Sittig House in 1930 by the PA Historical Commission, the Huguenot Society of Pennsylvania and the Monroe County Historical Society

### *Waterfall and Creek*

The fast-moving water of the Shawnee Creek and waterfall form the 150' western border of the Shrawder-Sittig House property (Photo 30). The enhanced natural waterfall lies at the upper northwest boundary of the property. The location of this waterfall and the force of the water made this a good site for the development of a mill along the creek in the late 18th and early 19th century (Figures 6 and 7). Remnants of the mill's head race including a ditch and some of the rock structure survives near the original mill site. The waterfall is about 50' wide, and about 12' in height. The height of the natural waterfall was raised by 2 to 3' sometime before 1900 to provide additional waterpower for the mill.



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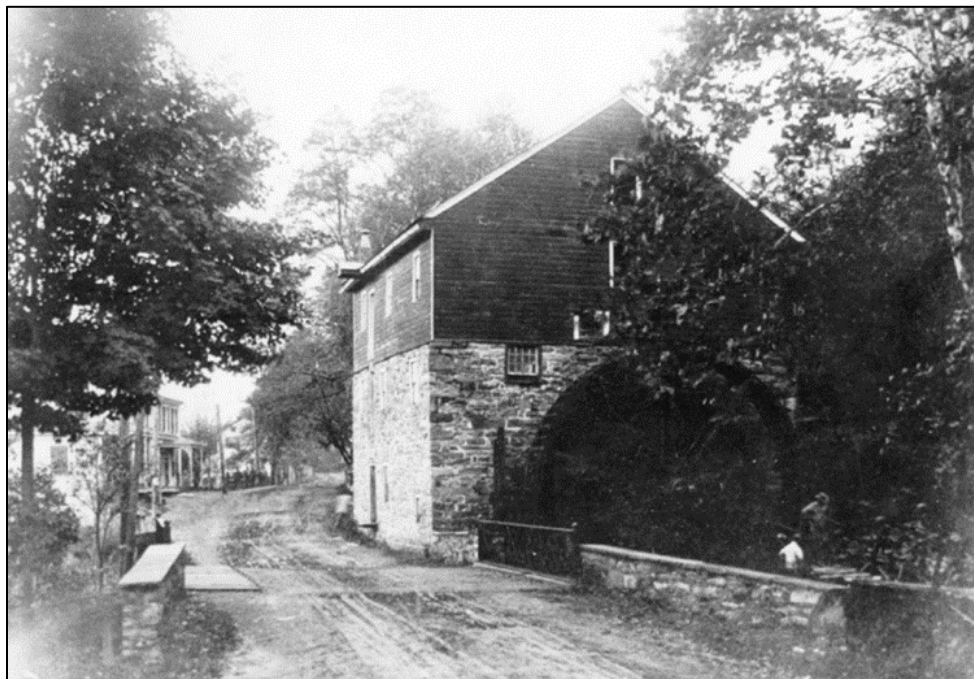
**Photo 30.** Natural and enhanced waterfall and Shawnee Creek behind the Shrawder-Sittig property.



**Figure 6.** Undated Post card of Shawnee Falls, circa early 1900s.

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**Figure 7.** Grist mill on River Road, circa 1901. The Sittig family occupied the historic property in the post 1940 era. The Shawnee General Store is visible on the lower left side. Photo source unknown.

### *Integrity*

The Shrawder-Sittig House retains high integrity to the period of the Sittigs' ownership and the 1940s renovation of the property in the Colonial Revival style. It has integrity of design, materials, workmanship, location, setting and feeling. Particularly, the property retains the integrity of materials and design that reflect its significance, such as the many Colonial Revival details installed during the Sittigs' ownership. The retention of these stylistic nods to the colonial period, as expressed through application to largely vernacular buildings, reflect the importance of this trend within the local community and the larger region. While the property is still in residential use as it was during the Sittigs' period of ownership, it is no longer used as an antique shop, so not all elements of association are still present. Some updates have been made to the kitchen and the rear deck on the frame plank house in the period between 1990 and 2010, but these changes do not impact the ability of the Shrawder-Sittig House to convey its Colonial Revival style and significance as early 19th century buildings reimagined as a Colonial Revival home and antique shop.

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## 8. Statement of Significance

### Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A. Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B. Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C. Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D. Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

### Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A. Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes
- B. Removed from its original location
- C. A birthplace or grave
- D. A cemetery
- E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure
- F. A commemorative property
- G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

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**Areas of Significance**  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Architecture

\_\_\_\_\_

**Period of Significance**

circa 1810 to circa 1945

\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Dates**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Person**

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Cultural Affiliation**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Architect/Builder**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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### Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph

The Shrawder-Sittig House in Shawnee on Delaware, Monroe County, is locally significant under National Register Criterion C for Architecture. The property's Period of Significance is circa 1810 to circa 1945, extending from initial construction of the buildings to when the Federal-era frame plank house and stone storehouse were renovated to reflect the then-popular Colonial Revival style. No documentation has been found regarding the identity of the architect or builders who made the Colonial Revival style changes implemented by the Sittigs. Nonetheless, the completeness of the renovation indicates professional involvement in the creation of the new floorplan, overall design, and abundant unifying architectural details. Key features such as the front door portico on the frame house and paneled stairs in the stone house demonstrate a high level of craftsmanship in executing the Colonial Revival details and features. The Sittigs were prominent dealers in American antiques and chose the Colonial Revival style, popular in the early 20th century, as an ideal representation of the past for their home business and as a way of unifying the design of two adjacent, yet very different, early 19th century buildings. The early 20th century trend of renovating old buildings in rural settings was well established in eastern Pennsylvania with well-known architects and skilled craftsmen working in this area. While the architect and craftsmen employed by the Sittigs are unknown, the quality of their work is evident in the Shrawder-Sittig House. The location of the property on land first owned by village founder Nicholas DuPuy is commemorated with a 1930 historic marker. This further demonstrates early 20th century efforts to honor local history and preserve historic properties, which dovetails with Colonial Revival renovation efforts as part of a local trend to pay tribute to the colonial period at this prominent location at the heart of the village of Shawnee on Delaware. The setting of the Shrawder-Sittig House adjacent to the creek and waterfall were highly desirable since the founding of the community and closely linked to its history and development. With a source of abundant waterpower close by, this location was ideal for the development of a mill fulfilling a critical village need. The creek and waterfall remain as important landscape features tying the Shrawder-Sittig property to its past at the industrial heart of the community. While the mill has not survived, the relationship of the Shrawder-Sittig House to the landscape features and other early buildings at the heart of this commercial activity is still visible.

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**Narrative Statement of Significance** (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

#### ***History of the Property***

The following is a summarized history of the property. For a more detailed history of the property, settlement in this location, and a discussion of the history of Shawnee on Delaware as a recreational destination, please see the Additional Documentation located at the end of the nomination form.

The Shrawder-Sittig property is located within the 10,000 acres of land sold by William Penn's grandson to William Allen in 1728 (Philadelphia Deed Book F Vol. 5 Page 92). Allen sold 86 acres along the Delaware River to Nicholas DuPuy in 1733, even though DuPuy had already purchased 3000 acres directly from Native American landowners. DuPuy was the first European to settle in this area, establishing a fortified residence near the Delaware River's banks. DuPuy,

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of French Huguenot background, is credited as the founder of the community of Shawnee on the Delaware. DuPuy's land became the hub of the community and held an important grist mill complex as early as the mid-1730s near the site of the Shrawder-Sittig property (Figure 8). The DuPuy family sold the land including the grist mill to Abraham van Campen in 1758 (Northampton County Book A Vol 1 Page 136 recorded on November 15, 1758). The specific location of the DuPuy dwelling house conveyed in that deed is unknown, but it predates the Shrawder-Sittig buildings. Abraham van Campen gave his sons John and Benjamin van Campen a 2.5-acre lot with grist mill. (Northampton County Deed Book B1 Page 203.) In November 1784, the brothers John and Benjamin van Campen divided the mill lot that they jointly owned. Benjamin Van Campen took ownership of the 1.5-acre lot where the frame-plank house now stands, and John held the remaining one-acre lot that included the grist mill. (Northampton County Deed Book H 1 page 38.)

On November 19, 1789, Benjamin van Campen died and left all his lands (including the Shrawder-Sittig property) to his widow Rachel. A few years later, on February 19, 1793, Rachel van Campen married Captain Philip Shrawder.<sup>5</sup> Captain Philip Shrawder (whose name also appears as Shrader in various sources), was one of the original officers of the German Battalion of the Continental Army. Serving as a 2nd Lieutenant in July 1776, he advanced to become a Captain on February 8, 1778. He retired when the Battalion was disbanded on January 1, 1781.<sup>6</sup> He became a Captain in the Pennsylvania Rangers and spent time safeguarding settlement interests on the Pennsylvania frontier. Rachel van Campen Shrawder died on September 29, 1805, and left this lot and other lands to her husband Philip Shrawder in a will recorded November 11, 1805. Philip Shrawder is believed to have built the stone storehouse about 1810, after his wife's death, using the building for the storage and sale of grain and other goods and perhaps as his residence. Shrawder built the plank-frame house about 1815 and died a few years later in 1820, leaving no descendants. His will mentioned a new house, store house and a barn. The barn, no longer extant, was located at the site of the current Shawnee Playhouse, directly across River Road from the Shrawder-Sittig property.

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<sup>5</sup> John Shrawder, Handout provided at Captain Philip Shrawder's headstone replacement ceremony at Shawnee Presbyterian Church, Sept 11, 2016.

<sup>6</sup> Founders Online. General Orders – 26 March 1779 in the National Archives

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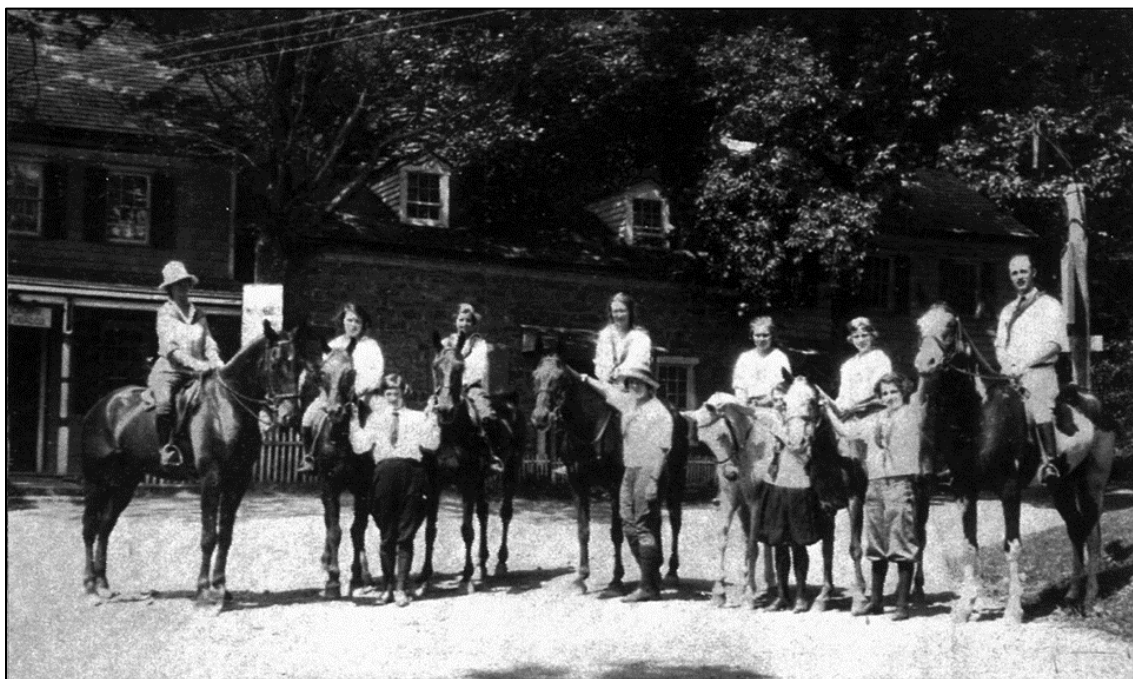
**Figure 8.** Nicholas Scull (1759) map showing Shawnee’s location (see arrow) then called “DePuis” where the only roads in this part of Pennsylvania crossed, attesting to the area’s very early prominence.

The Shrawder-Sittig property was sold to various owners after Captain Shrawder’s death in 1820 and the two buildings were used in association with the nearby grist mill as dwellings for mill workers or as a storehouse. The Wilson family owned the property and operated the grist mill from 1847 until circa 1911, although the grist mill was demolished circa 1904. The frame and plank house and the stone storehouse continued to be used residentially and commercially until they were acquired by Edgar and Charlotte Sittig in 1941 (Figure 9).<sup>7</sup> The Shrawder-Sittig property offered the Sittigs two authentic early 19th century buildings to transform to achieve their personal and professional goals. As a committed preservationist, Charlotte Sittig worked to promote the historic appeal of the village and supported preservation causes throughout the county, serving on the Monroe County Bicentennial Committee and contacting the Pennsylvania Bureau for Historic Preservation for assistance in listing the Shawnee Playhouse in the National Register of Historic Places to facilitate its rehabilitation. She was active in civic causes and worked to preserve and enhance the historic appeal of Shawnee on Delaware. The transformation of two neglected early buildings into a desirable personal residence and appropriate showplace for their antique business was in keeping with the Sittigs’ commitment to the preservation of the historic Shawnee community. The location of the houses on a historic land parcel sold to town founder Nicholas DuPuy in 1733 provided a genuine historic setting for their history-based business. The Sittigs raised their six children there and used their home as the base of their American antique business. The Sittig family owned the property for 58 years.

<sup>7</sup> Peter Sauvigne – “Searching an Old House’s History: The Sittig House in Shawnee” as presented to the Shawnee Preservation Society annual meeting May 1, 2017. Monroe County Deed Book 2400 Page 1817.

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**Figure 9.** Circa 1930 photograph showing Shrawder-Sittig House in the background, tourists on horses on guided ride. Framed photograph displayed at Shawnee Inn and Shawnee Playhouse. Unknown photographer.

### *The Antique World of Edgar and Charlotte Sittig*

Edgar Sittig was born in 1899 and he seemed destined from a young age to become a musician as first a violinist and later as a cellist.<sup>8</sup> Edgar, at about the age of 10, went to Germany with his father and his sister, so that the siblings could study with the pre-eminent violinist and violin teacher Leopold Auer.<sup>40</sup> They later returned to New York City, where in his late 20s, Edgar played with the New York Symphony. But Sittig's music career abruptly ended after a circa 1940 motorcycle accident resulted in a severe arm and hand injury, and he could no longer play his instruments.

In April 1941, Edgar Sittig and his wife, Charlotte, purchased the nearly one-acre property once owned by Captain Shrawder complete with waterfall, creek and buildings. Soon after, they hired an unidentified architect and builder to renovate the exterior and interior of the two neglected buildings on the property. Edgar and Charlotte Sittig chose to employ the Colonial Revival style to revitalize their new home. In part, the couple's embrace of the Colonial Revival style was driven by their passion for the past, and immersion in the world of antiques. Charlotte had grown up in the antique business since her father ran an antique business in Brodheadsville. Charlotte operated an antique business in Philadelphia, prior to their move to Shawnee on Delaware. According to daughter Susan Sittig, the move to the historic property and immersion in its redesign and

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<sup>8</sup> Susan Sittig several conversations in June and July 2021.



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renovation was the perfect inducement for Edgar Sittig to embrace the antique world that supplanted the music profession.<sup>9</sup>

As many people did in the early to mid-twentieth century, Edgar and Charlotte became engaged not just in the buying and selling of early American antique furniture, but in the interaction with many of the very top names commonly associated with the American antique world, most especially that of the very old furniture sector. They used their residence as a showroom and storeroom for their antique business. As their work expanded, they rented space in another building on River Road in Shawnee, operating the Shawna Shop in the former post office. The Sittigs socialized with such luminaries as Charles Montgomery (1910-1978), American art connoisseur, teacher and scholar who wrote the classic book *A History of American Pewter*; Joseph Kendig III (1898-1971), famous York, PA area antiquarian with a vast knowledge of antiquing; and Jonathan Fairbanks (1933 -), an American artist with a prominent knowledge of American arts and antiques. Others included the prominent antique collector, Texan Ima Hogg, Asher Odenwelder and Titus Gresey of Easton. The Sittigs worked with the distinguished decorative arts historian and editor of *The Antiques Magazine* Wendell Garret, and the pre-eminent Israel Sack of New York City.<sup>38</sup> The Sittigs also associated with the DuPont family of Winterthur fame and provided antiques for exhibition there. Their circle also included the eminent historian of Dearborn (Michigan) Historical Museum – the local Oley Valley, Berks Countian and historian Donald Shelley. The Sittigs' reputation and distinction in the antique world grew over the decades until Edgar's death in March 1986.

### ***The Colonial Revival Style in Shawnee on Delaware***

Shawnee on Delaware remained a small rural hamlet well into the 20th century. Agriculture was the primary land use leading to the construction of vernacular farmhouses and outbuildings and the development of a grain milling complex. As recreational tourism in the Pocono Mountains increased at the turn of the 20th century, Shawnee on Delaware attracted new residents drawn to its natural beauty, charming rural landscape and developing amenities such as the Shawnee Playhouse. The trend of rehabilitating historic old homes utilizing the then very popular Colonial Revival style became well established in the early and mid-20th century, especially in rural settings close to major cities. This practice flourished in eastern Pennsylvania, especially southeastern Pennsylvania with close proximity to both Philadelphia and New York City and access to major historic property architects like Brognard Oakie and Edwin Brumbaugh. The Colonial Revival style celebrates the Georgian and Federal building styles of the early days of the American Colonies. This interest in the architecture of America's founding period grew from the Philadelphia Centennial of 1876 and was furthered by the Columbian Exposition of 1893 in Chicago. Both events raised awareness and appreciation for America's history as reflected in its early buildings. The Colonial Revival style was most often not an effort to replicate the original Georgian and Federal style buildings, but to apply the design elements of the style to both new construction and older buildings. Important aspects of the Colonial Revival style include front façade symmetry, a side gabled roof, pedimented doorways, porches and dormers, double-hung, multi-paned windows, wood shutters and a front entry door with transom and/or side lights. The

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<sup>9</sup> Susan Sittig several conversations in June and July 2021.

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renovation of older buildings, often vernacular design farmhouses, into updated homes with Colonial Revival elements usually involved the application of those style details, while retaining some original features such as fireplaces, stairs and floorplans.

This approach of retaining the basic form of two early 19th century vernacular buildings while adding the stylistic details of the Colonial Revival style was employed successfully for the Shrawder-Sittig House. The elements of the Colonial Revival style were added in the form of an entry portico, front door transom light, formal fireplace mantle, chair rails, paneled stairwell to the second floor, wood shutters and repair or replacement of original multi-light windows. The changes in the floorplan linking the two small early 19th century buildings and the application of uniform stylistic trim helped to unify the design of the now single property. More than any other known property in Shawnee on Delaware, the Shrawder-Sittig House remains a high integrity example of this Colonial Revivalization of an older historic property.

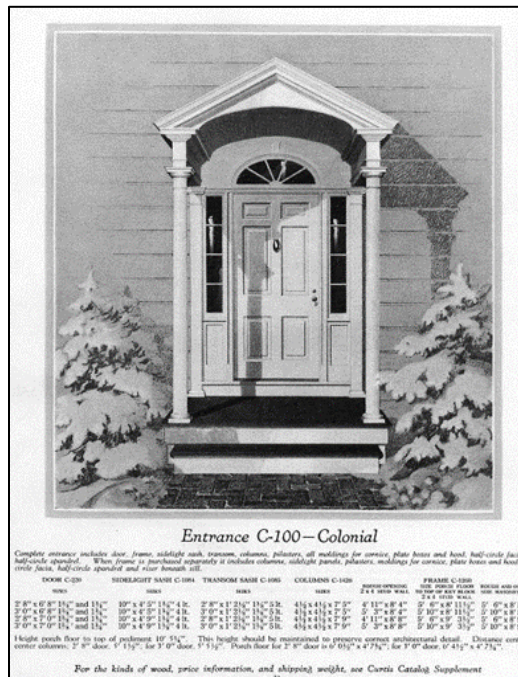
### ***Possible Influences of Shrawder-Sittig House Colonial Revival Renovation***

Although both the architect and builder of the Colonial Revival renovations of the Shrawder-Sittig buildings are unknown, it is possible that whoever was responsible for the renovations had at their disposal the well-known and widely available Curtis Woodwork design book – *Architectural Interior and Exterior Woodwork Standardized*. This excellent reference includes many plates of architectural elements of the Colonial Revival period. An essay “The Spirit of the Colonial Home” focuses on the “delicate, simple, dignified character” of these period homes. Discussions include the importance of painting woodwork white, using small dormers, having symmetrical “divided light” windows, and installing exterior shutters. The changes to the Shrawder-Sittig property certainly reflect that guidance whether this source was used by the renovation architect and builder or not. The front entrance portico added to the frame-plank house and the prominent staircase on the first floor and the extensive cabinet or wall cupboard on the second floor of the stone storehouse are the most visible and perhaps the most important added Colonial Revival features to the property. The Curtis Woodwork design catalog stresses the importance of an entrance porch and a stair system for Colonial Revival style houses. These two important architectural elements are included on plates in the catalog. It seems apparent that the architect and the builder designing the renovation of the Shrawder-Sittig house were well versed in the elements of the Colonial Revival style.

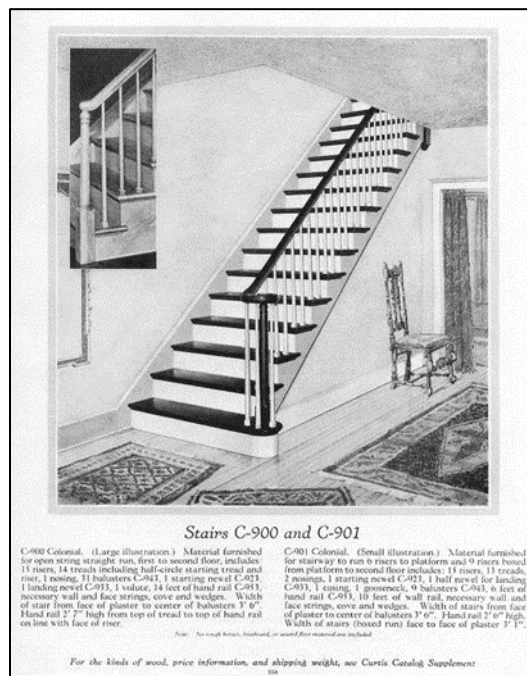
Master architects of the Colonial Revival style R. Brognard Oakie and G. Edwin Brumbach completed many commissions in the eastern region of Pennsylvania, so it is possible that the Sittigs were well aware of their exemplary work. Okie was known for his designs to restore and reconstruct Pennsylvania’s colonial era residences and he had many high-profile commissions in the Philadelphia area and surrounding counties. Brumbaugh too designed many residences often employing the Colonial Revival style, but also led the restoration of significant historic sites such as the Ephrata Cloister and the Daniel Boone Homestead and Old Swedes Church. The architect hired by the Sittigs to oversee their renovation of the property was likely aware of the significant work of Okie and/or Brumbaugh in reinventing historic properties with Colonial Revival style features.

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**Figure 10.** Curtis Companies Plate C-100: The Colonial Portico. Front portico on Shrawder-Sittig plank-frame house is very similar to this portico.



**Figure 11.** Curtis Companies Plate C-900: showing “Colonial” stairs. The staircase on the first floor of the Shrawder-Sittig stone storehouse is quite similar to this staircase.

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***HABS Documentation of Shawnee on Delaware, circa 1930***

More evidence of the growing interest in the historic buildings of Shawnee on Delaware is provided in the photographs and measured drawings created in the early 1930s by a Historic American Building Survey (HABS) team of architects. HABS documentation of numerous old buildings, barns and outbuildings along River Road is available online as part of the Library of Congress Digital Images files, available at: <https://www.loc.gov/rr/print/coll/collguid.html>. Unfortunately, no photos of the Shrawder-Sittig House are included in this collection, but several other 19th century houses in the vicinity are recorded for comparison. HABS photos on River Road in Shawnee on Delaware include the Samuel Michael Barn, Smokehouse and School; the Peter Treible House; the Walter Kautz farmhouse, washhouse, woodshed, icehouse and barn; the Valentine Weaver house; the Dewitt farmhouse, smokehouse and woodshed, springhouse and barn; the Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church; River Schoolhouse; John Turn farmhouse, smokehouse and barn; and Weaver house and lime kiln. From the images provided by the HABS documentation, no buildings show the same original vernacular form or application of Colonial Revival details as the Shrawder-Sittig House. The HABS documentation only shows the appearance of these houses on River Road in Shawnee on Delaware, pre- 1933, so it is possible that changes could have occurred later. The buildings recorded by HABS circa 1933 are generally larger and often possess a number of agricultural outbuildings.



**Figure 12.** Circa 1933 HABS photo, Dewitt Farm circa 1830, River Road, south of US RTE 209, HABS PA-1165.

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**Figure 13.** Circa 1933 HABS photo of Valentine Weaver Farm, built 1867 on River Road.

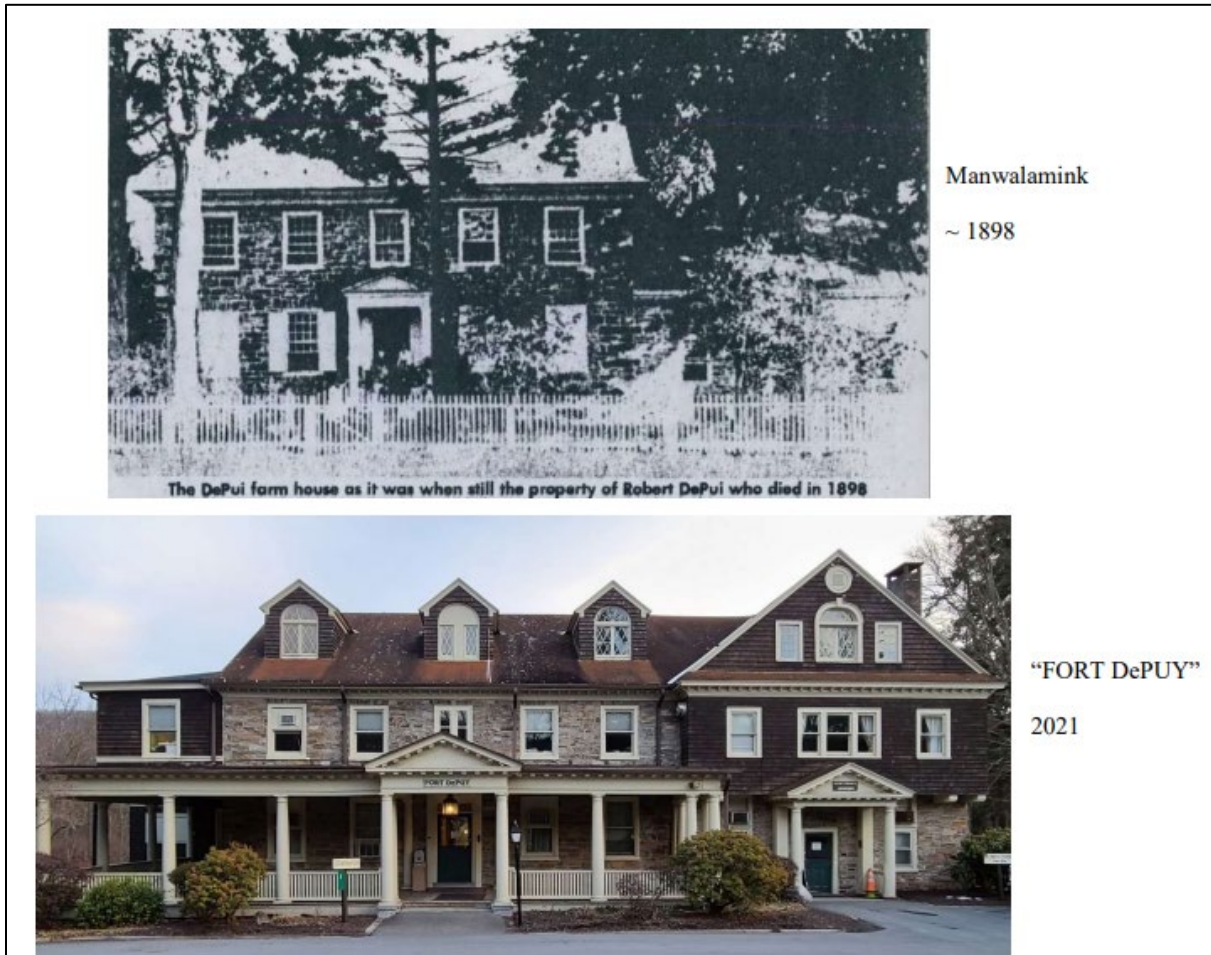
### *Comparisons*

Located in the foothills of the Pocono Mountains, the rugged terrain of this area of Monroe County has retained its rural appearance with historic buildings scattered along its early roads. Within the village of Shawnee on Delaware, there are no clear examples of the Colonial Revival style, although some older buildings may display details of the style on the porches. The Samuel Detrick house at 919 Hollow Road directly across River Road from the Shrawder-Sittig property was built 1770 to 1790 but lacks any exterior Colonial Revival influences.

One of the village's earliest surviving buildings, Manwalamink, built circa 1785 near the site of Fort DuPuy about 1,200' southeast of the Shrawder-Sittig property, has been altered to reflect the Colonial Revival style on its front façade. It has undergone extensive alterations and additions through the years, with major work beginning circa 1907. Continuous updating of the front façade suggests that much of its current appearance is of more recent late 20th to early 21st century construction. Its expansive front porch and front facing gable addition demonstrate the Colonial Revival influence, but of a later era beyond the style's peak of popularity in the early to mid-20th century.

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**Figure 14.** Manwalomink, residence of Nicholas DuPuy, Shawnee on Delaware, images found online at <http://www.pete7a.com/fort.pdf>, not evaluated for NR.

The 1853 Stony Brook Inn likewise shows the influence of the Colonial Revival style but lacks the correct window proportions and application of details to serve as a significant example of the style.<sup>10</sup>

<sup>10</sup> Stony Brook Inn – 1853 in History from – [www.stonybrookinn.com/history](http://www.stonybrookinn.com/history).

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**Figure 15.** Stony Brook Inn on River Road – original section at the right side built circa 1853, view east.

The 1839 Andrew Keller House has a Colonial Revival front portico, but it is unknown what level of style details exist on the interior. Likewise, the circa 1800 Stroud Hollingshead House features a Colonial Revival style portico which could have been added long after the original house was built, but it is unknown if the building contains additional interior stylistic details. The circa 1790 Trach Hunsicker House also offers a Colonial Revival front porch with an unknown interior.



**Figure 16.** Trach-Hunsicker House, Hamilton Twp. Monroe Co., circa 1790, Federal style house with 1910 Colonial Revival porch, Resource # 1980RE00692, NR eligible.

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It is unknown how many possible eighteenth-century and very definite nineteenth-century built houses Edgar and Charlotte Sittig knew and or visited near their own property. Given their interest in the preservation of the Shawnee on Delaware community and work in the antique world, it is very likely they had some familiarity with local historic properties. Three of the HABS houses – the Peter Treible stone house, the John Turn frame house, and the DeWitt frame house all on River Road had, for example, prominent fireplaces with period wood surrounds that conveyed their own individual histories. The Sittigs likely found much to inspire their own renovation work a short distance from their own property.

Despite the extensive Colonial Revival style changes made in the Shrawder-Sittig House, the renovation was sensitive to the preservation of the essential form and character of the original early 19th century buildings. The Sittig family surrounded themselves with accurate but somewhat simplistic expressions of Colonial Revival influences in their decades-long occupation of their house. The alterations the Sittig family created in the frame and stone buildings mirrored the general trends of the Colonial Revival style. The design treatment they chose fostered an appreciation of original architectural elements of both the vernacular forms. The Sittigs' commitment to the preservation of their unique and historic home lasted throughout the 58 years it was occupied by the family.



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### **Interviews by Past Perspectives**

Andrew DeGruchy – owner of Limeworks. Greg Huber had phone interview on June 21, 2021. Notes are in Notebook Number 49 of Past Perspectives archives.

Peter Sauvigne – owner of Shrader-Sittig homestead property by Greg Huber – In person interviews on several occasions in the March to June 2021 timeframe. Notes are in Notebook Number 49 of Past Perspectives archives.

Susan Sittig – daughter of Edgar and Charlotte Sittig – by Greg Huber – four interviews in June and July 2021 – Phone interview notes are in Notebook Number 49 of Past Perspectives archives.

Fred Sittig – middle son of Edgar and Charlotte Sittig - by Greg Huber – one interview on July 3, 2021 – Phone interview notes are in Notebook Number 49 of Past Perspectives archives.

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**Previous documentation on file (NPS):**

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested  
 previously listed in the National Register  
 previously determined eligible by the National Register  
 designated a National Historic Landmark  
 recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_  
 recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_  
 recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary location of additional data:**

- State Historic Preservation Office  
 Other State agency  
 Federal agency  
 Local government  
 University  
 Other

Name of repository: Monroe County Historical Society – General Archives

**Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned):** 2002RE01143

**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreage of Property** 0.86 acres

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

**Latitude/Longitude Coordinates**

Datum if other than WGS84: \_\_\_\_\_

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

1. Latitude: 41.012219

Longitude: -75.110718

**Verbal Boundary Description** (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The boundary corresponds to the current tax parcel, 16.92999, as shown in the maps below from Monroe County, accessed October 28, 2021, from:  
[http://agencies.monroecountypa.gov/MonroePA\\_Prod/maps/map.aspx](http://agencies.monroecountypa.gov/MonroePA_Prod/maps/map.aspx)

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**Boundary Justification** (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The nominated boundary is the current tax parcel. It includes the Shrawder-Sittig House, and associated land extending from the edges of River and Hollow Roads to include the Shawnee Creek and waterfall along and within the edge of the property line, as well as the boulder with bronze plaque. The current legal parcel was created when the two tracts owned by the Sittig family were sold by the estate of Charlotte Sittig to William and Gwendolyn Caldwell in 2000. The current property of two tracts totals 0.86 acres.

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**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title: Gregory D. Huber, Architectural Historian  
organization: Past Perspectives  
street & number: PO Box 82  
city or town: Macungie state: PA zip code: 18062  
e-mail: [greg@easternbarns.com](mailto:greg@easternbarns.com)  
telephone: 610-968-5808  
date: December 16, 2021 (revised April 2023)

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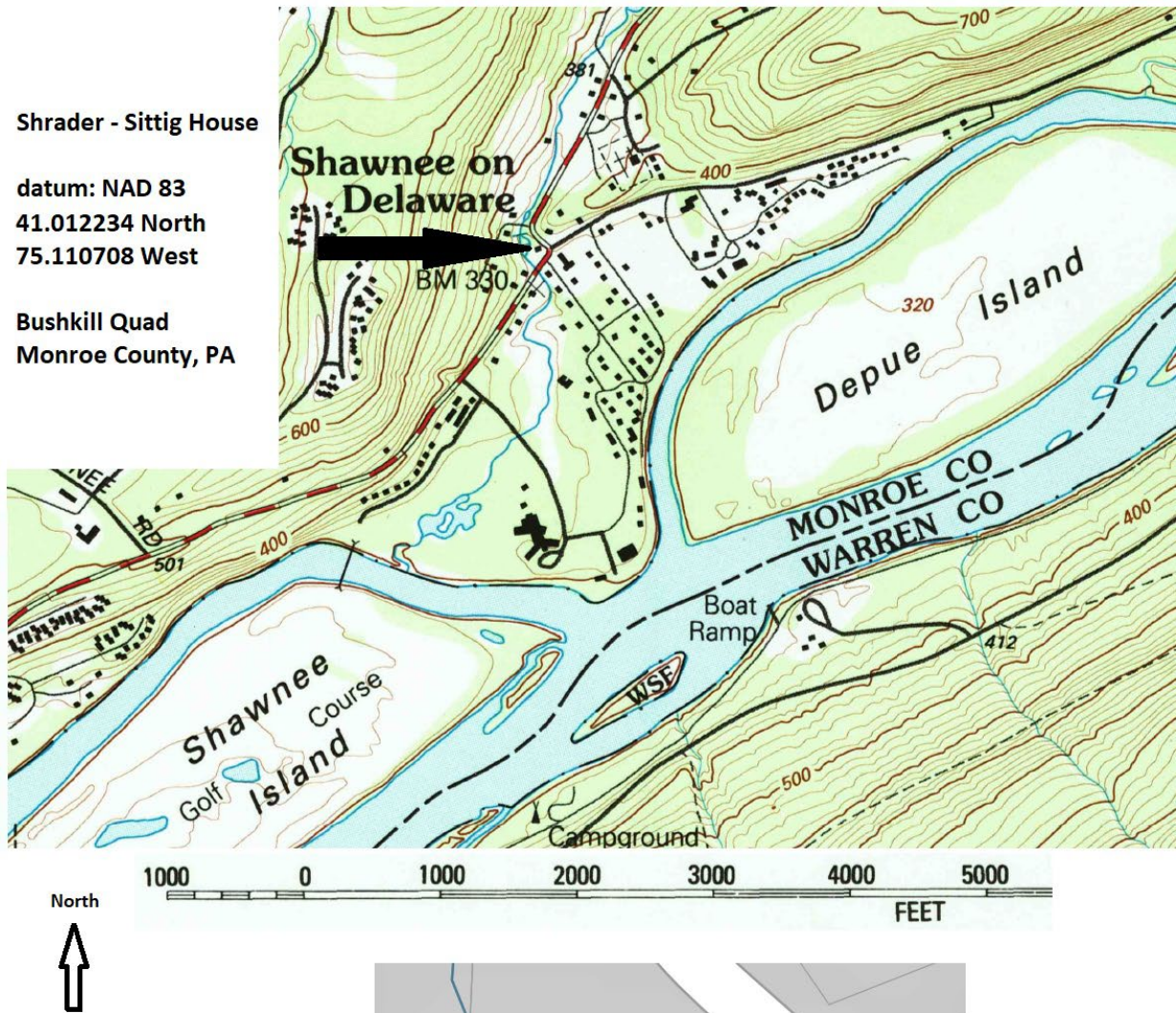
**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A USGS map or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

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Detail from  
Google Maps

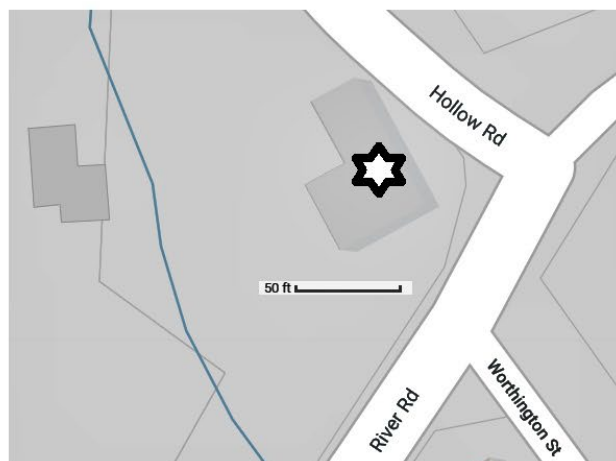


Figure 17. USGS Location Map

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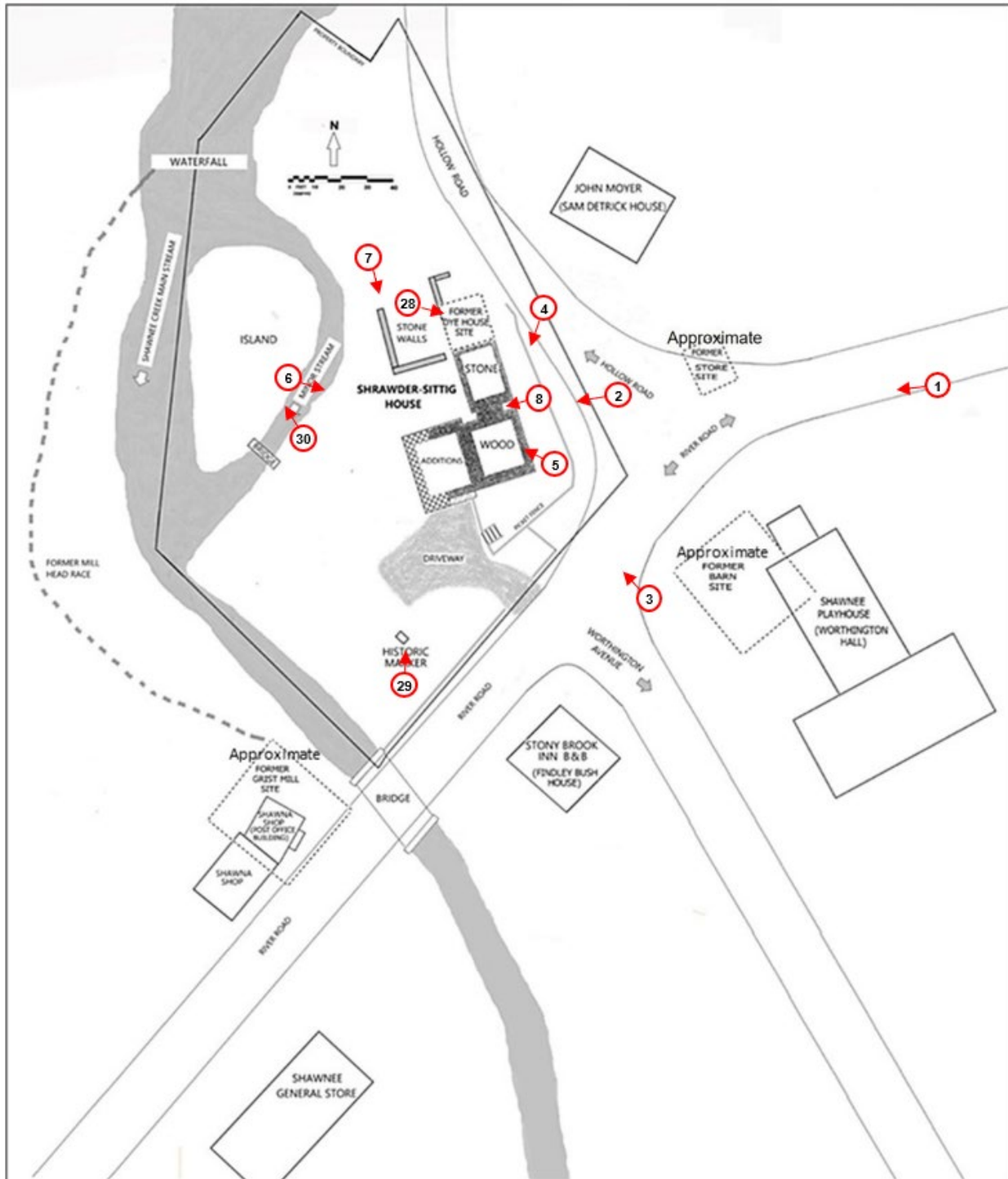


Figure 18. Site Plan and Exterior Photograph Locations

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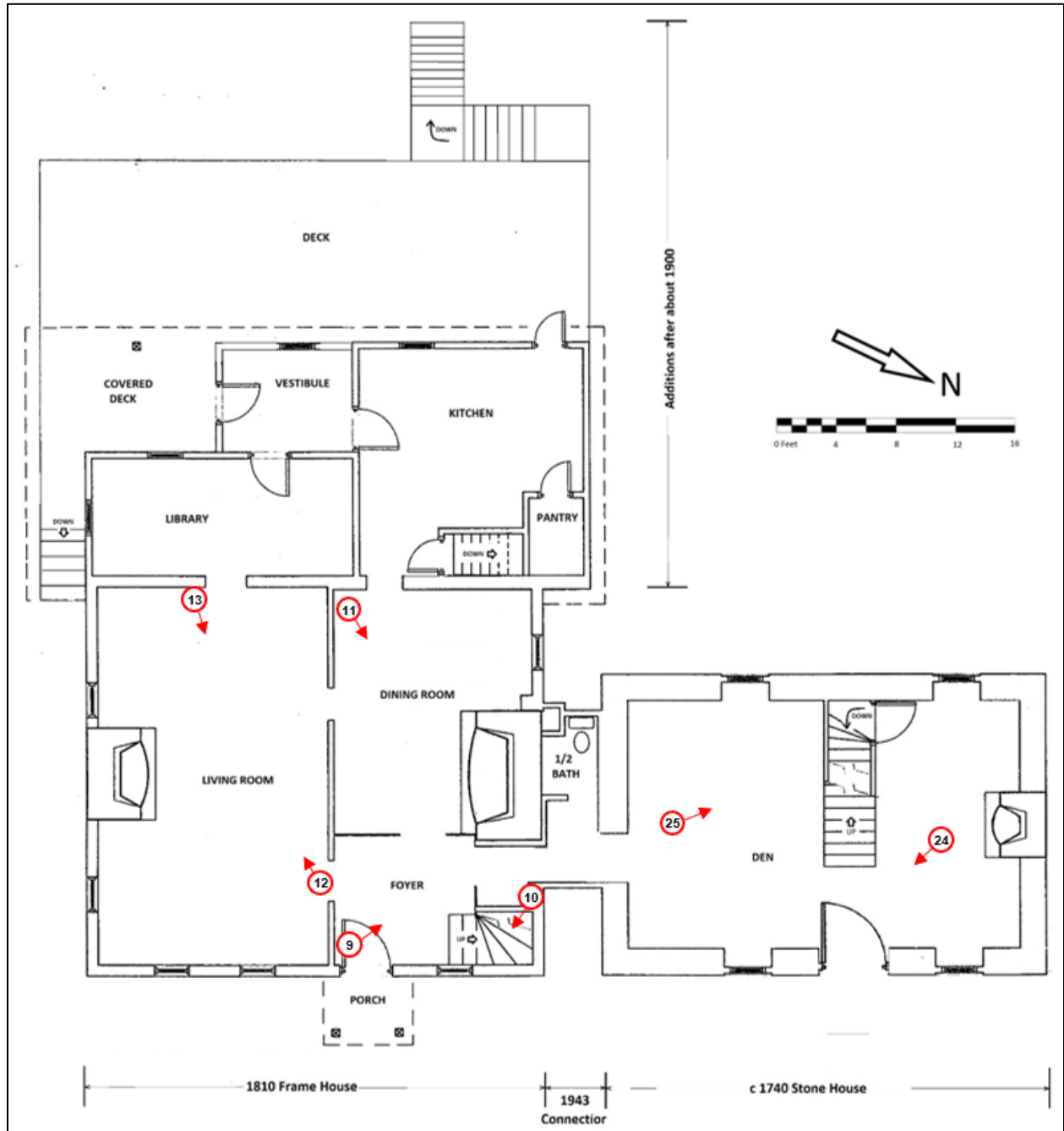


Figure 19. First Floor Plan and Photograph Locations



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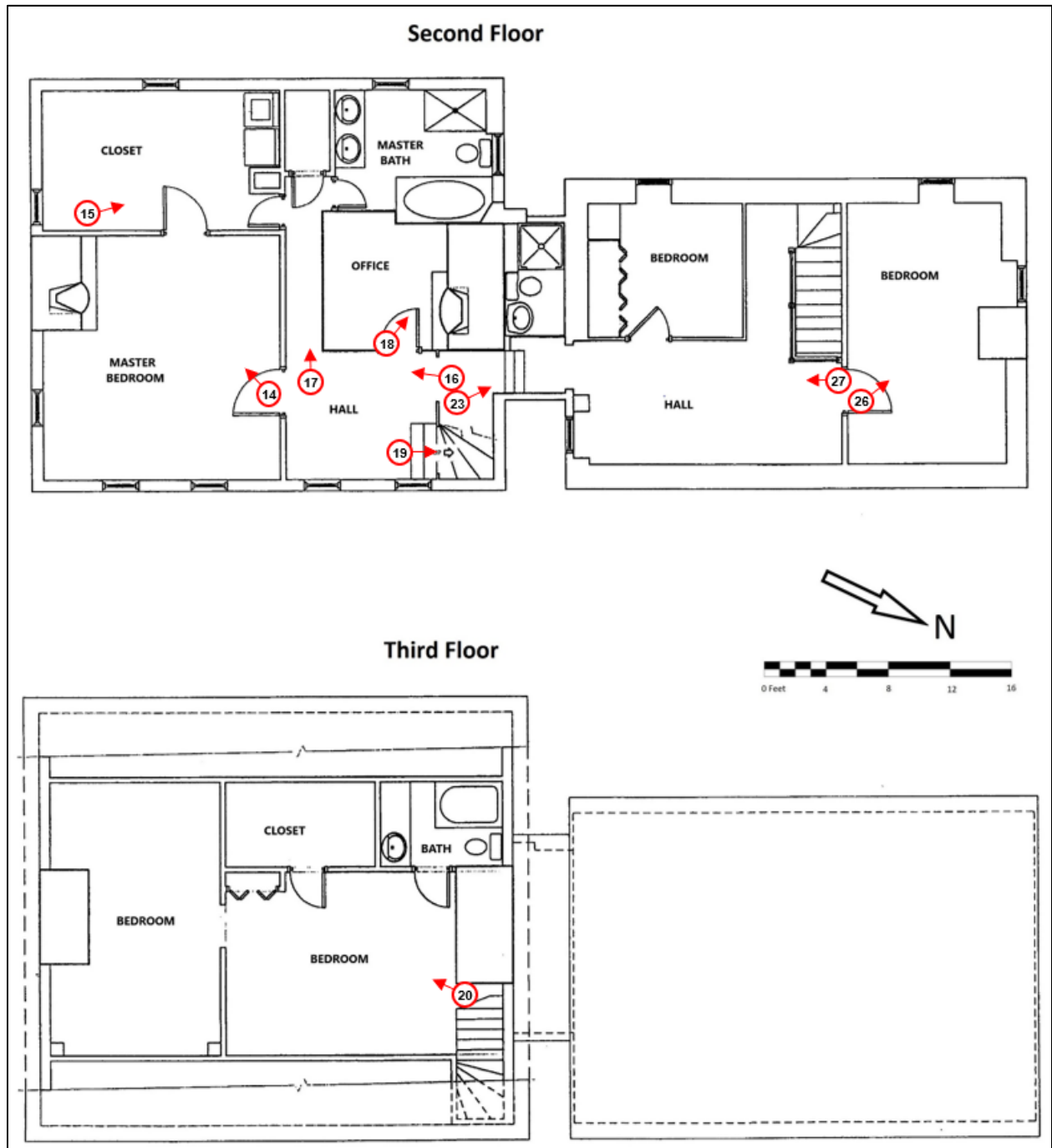


Figure 20. Second and Third Floor Plans and Photograph Locations

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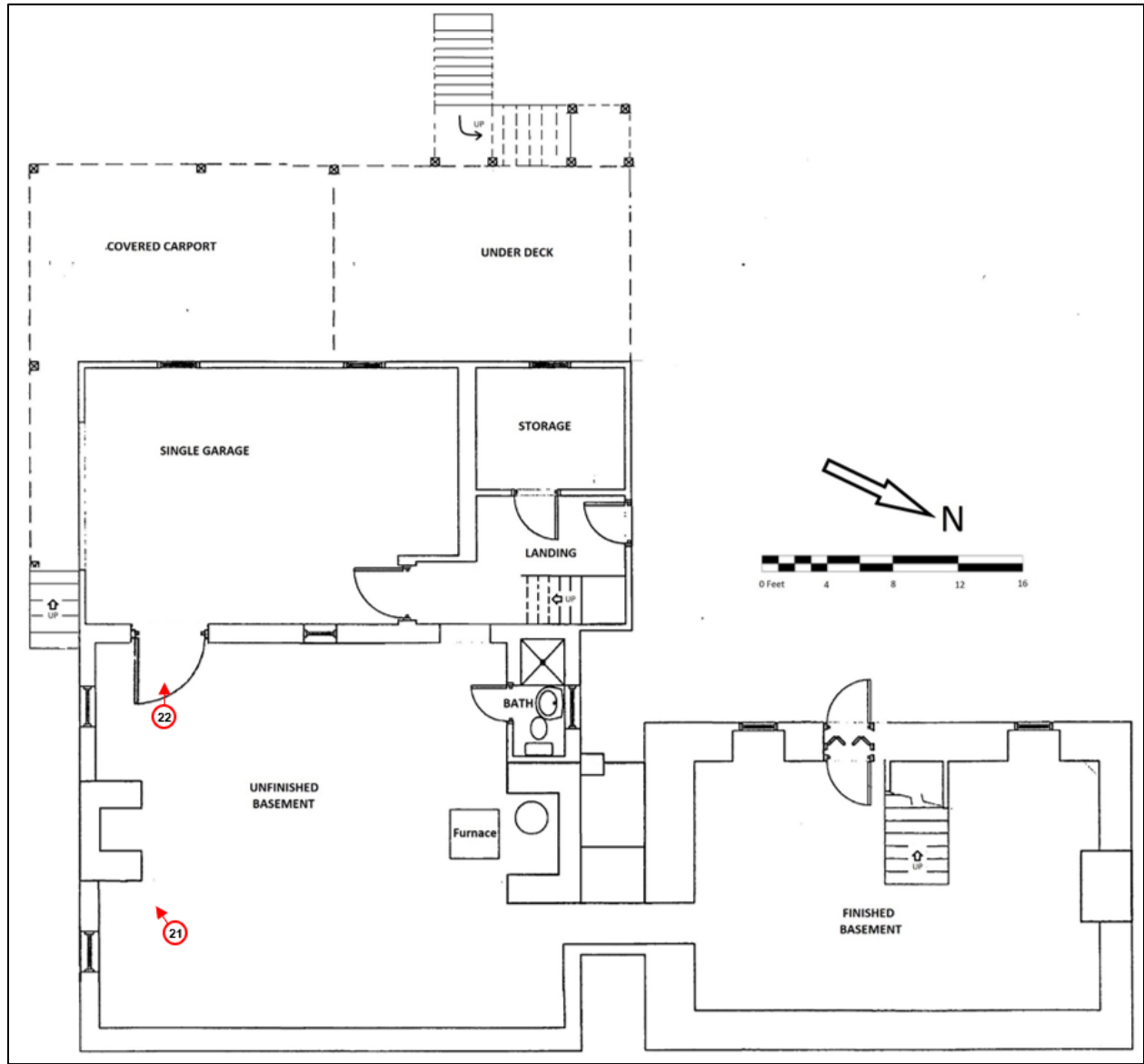


Figure 21. Third Floor Plan and Photograph Locations

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**Photographs**

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

**Photo Log**

Name of Property: Shrawder-Sittig House

City or Vicinity: Shawnee-on-Delaware

County: Monroe

State: Pennsylvania

Photographer: Greg Huber/Peter Sauvigne

Date Photographed: As indicated below

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

No.	Photo Subject/Description	Facing	Photographer	Date
1	Drone view of Shawnee on Delaware.	W	Sauvigne	12/12/2021
2	Drone view of Shrawder-Sittig house with waterfalls at right.	W	Sauvigne	12/13/2020
3	Shrawder-Sittig property at left at juncture of River Road and Hollow Road.	N	Huber	11/18/2020
4	Front view, stone storehouse in foreground.	W	Huber	11/18/2020
5	Detail view of the front façade of frame-plank house.	W	Huber	11/18/2020
6	Shrawder-Sittig House with later accretions at rear of frame-plank section.	E	Huber	11/18/2020
7	Shrawder-Sittig House, showing the rear elevations and rear yard.	S	Huber	11/18/2020
8	Frame connector built in 1943 between the frame-plank house at left and storehouse at right.	W	Huber	11/18/2020
9	Frame plank house first floor foyer	NW	Huber	11/18/2020
10	Frame plank house staircase to second floor.	NE	Huber	11/18/2020
11	Frame plank house west side first floor dining room with corner cooking fireplace.	E	Sauvigne	12/18/2020
12	Frame-plank house first floor south-side living room.	SW	Huber	11/18/2020
13	Frame plank house first floor south-side living room.	E	Sauvigne	12/18/2020
14	Frame plank house, second floor south side master bedroom	N	Sauvigne	12/18/2020
15	Frame-plank house, second floor west side small laundry, formerly a bedroom.	SW	Huber	11/18/2020
16	Frame-plank house second floor front hall.	S	Huber	11/18/2020
17	Frame plank house second floor rear narrow hall.	W	Huber	11/18/2020
18	Frame-plank house second floor rear west side office with Rumford fireplace.	NE	Huber	11/18/2020

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No.	Photo Subject/Description	Facing	Photographer	Date
19	Frame plank house north side staircase to attic.	W	Huber	11/18/2020
20	Frame plank house attic bedroom.	S	Sauvigne	12/18/2020
21	Frame-plank house end wall basement fireplace support.	SW	Huber	11/18/2020
22	Frame-plank house end wall basement original exterior door.	W	Sauvigne	12/28/2020
23	The very narrow frame connector has doors and door trim with Colonial Revival era styling.	N	Sauvigne	12/11/2020
24	Stone storehouse front wall main first floor room with wide entry door.	S	Sauvigne	1/1/2021
25	Stone storehouse first floor room with near centered staircase.	NW	Sauvigne	12/18/2020
26	Stone storehouse second floor north side bedroom.	NW	Sauvigne	12/18/2020
27	Stone storehouse second floor front side hallway.	S	Sauvigne	12/18/2020
28	Shrawder-Sittig stone storehouse at right and stone foundation wall to the immediate left where the former dye house stood.	S	Huber	11/18/2020
29	PHMC Historic Marker honoring founder Nicholas DuPuy.	N	Sauvigne	12/8/2020
30	Natural and enhanced waterfall and Shawnee Creek behind the Shrawder-Sittig property.	N	Huber	11/18/2020

## Additional Historical Documentation

### *Land Ownership of the Area*

In March 1681, King Charles II granted to William Penn 45,000 square miles west of New Jersey and north of Maryland. In July 1718, William Penn, the founder of Pennsylvania, died and willed 10,000 acres to each of his grandchildren, including William the Third. In September 1727, Native Americans sold 3,000 acres to Nicholas DuPuy who migrated down to the Lower Minisink area from Ulster County, New York. The 3,000 acres was much beyond what DuPuy bought from the Pennsylvania authorities. The Proprietaries of Pennsylvania (some of Penn's family members) did not regard this large land purchase as legitimate.<sup>11</sup>

Then, in August 1728, William Penn the grandson sold 10,000 acres to William Allen. (Philadelphia Deed Book F Vol. 5 Page 92.) Allen, born in Philadelphia in 1704, after studying law in London, returned to Philadelphia in 1726 and by means of inheritance and investment in trade, industry, and land became the wealthiest man in the city. His land holdings were extensive, and his name is the Allen of Allentown fame. He died in 1780.

In 1733, William Allen sold numerous parcels of land to Nicholas DePuy including 86 acres along the Delaware River that very soon thereafter included the DePuy grist mill site in the mid-1730s. This is the second tract of land cited in Bucks County (part of which later became Monroe County; Deed Book B Volume 2 page 9). On October 24 1753, DePuy sold two parcels of land to Daniel DePuy, one of which is the location of the now long-gone (since c.1904) grist mill formerly associated with the Shrawder-Sittig property. The deed states a land amount of 40 acres, but was later amended to 54 acres. (Northampton Book A Vol 1 P 142 – recorded November 15, 1758.)

<sup>11</sup> Peter Sauvigne – “Searching an Old House’s History: The Sittig House in Shawnee” as presented to the Shawnee Preservation Society annual meeting May 1, 2017; Keller, p25.

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On April 29, 1754, three DePuy families that include Daniel DePuy, Nicholas DePuy and Samuel DePuy conveyed the 54 acres of land to Abraham van Campen, which included the grist mill. (Northampton County Book A Vol 1 Page 136 recorded on November 15, 1758.)<sup>12</sup> Abraham van Campen was married to Nicholas DePuy's sister Susannah. The specific location of the DePuy dwelling house is unknown, but it was not the frame-plank house built in the 1810s. The van Campen family originated from Ulster County, New York (just as the DePuy family had).<sup>13</sup> The progenitor of the family in America was Gerrit Jansen Van Campen (1640-1745). A well-known phrase, reflecting those early days was uttered by his close relative Moses Van Campen, an American Revolutionary War soldier – "I was nurtured in the school of the rifle and the tomahawk."<sup>14</sup>

In October 1766, Abraham van Campen, Esquire of Walpack in Sussex, New Jersey, gifted to his sons John and Benjamin van Campen a 2.5-acre lot with grist mill. (Northampton County Deed Book B1 Page 203.) In November 1784, the brothers John and Benjamin van Campen divided the mill lot that they jointly owned. John granted to Benjamin a 1.5-acre lot where the frame-plank house now stands, and the now-attached stone storehouse. Benjamin granted to John the remaining one acre that included the grist mill. (Northampton County Deed Book H 1 page 38.)

On November 19, 1789, Benjamin van Campen died and left all his lands to his widow Rachel.<sup>15</sup> Captain Philip Shrawder married Rachel van Campen on February 19, 1793.<sup>16</sup> The Shrawder family played a prominent role in the local community and had adjacent land ownership. Captain Philip Shrawder (whose name also appears as Shrader in various sources), was one of the original officers of the German Battalion of the Continental Army. He was a 2nd Lieutenant in July 1776. He later was promoted to 1st Lieutenant in May 1777, and then Captain on February 8, 1778. He retired when the Battalion ended on January 1, 1781.<sup>17</sup> He was especially skilled in Indian warfare and became a Captain in the Pennsylvania Rangers and spent time safeguarding settlement interests on the Pennsylvania frontier.

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<sup>12</sup> The first Bucks County deed book is referenced is on September 26, 1733 – DB B Volume 2 page 91. The first Northampton County deed book mentioned is on October 24, 1753 – DB A Volume 1 – Page 142. Northampton County was carved out of Bucks County in 1752 and Monroe County came from parts of Northampton County and Pike County in April 1836.

<sup>13</sup> House of Names Website – Van Campen History, Family Crest & Coat of Arms. As far as European origins are concerned, in Dutch, the van Campen name is habitationally based for someone who came from the port of Kampen in Overijssel or other places named with Kamp or "field" as in Zeeland, Brabant and North Holland. The House of Names website states that the first source ever found of the family name originated from Westphalia in Germany. [www.houseofnames.com/van+campen-family-crest/German](http://www.houseofnames.com/van+campen-family-crest/German)

<sup>14</sup> John Niles Hubbard. *Sketches of Border Adventures: In the Life and Times of Major Moses van Campen, a Surviving Soldier of the Revolution*; R.L. Underhill and Company, 1842. Info from the National Archives – Founders Online – General Orders 26 March 1779

<sup>15</sup> His will was recorded October 27, 1789, in Northampton County.

<sup>16</sup> John Shrawder, Handout provided at Captain Philip Shrawder's headstone replacement ceremony at Shawnee Presbyterian Church, Sept 11, 2016.

<sup>17</sup> Founders Online. General Orders – 26 March 1779 in the National Archives

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Rachel died on September 29, 1805, and left the house lot and other lands to Philip Shrawder in a will recorded November 11, 1805, on page 221. Philip Shrawder is believed to have built the stone storehouse about 1810. The plank-frame house was erected about 1815. Shrawder died soon thereafter in 1820.

Philip Shrawder apparently had no descendants and he died with many lands, annuities, and a trust. His will<sup>18</sup> mentioned a new house, store house and a barn. After actions by the Court of Common Pleas in September, 1841, the local Sheriff sold lots with Shrawder's "new house and stone house" and barn to John Reichard and his wife Wilhemina Shrawder Reichard, a niece of Philip's from Germany. The barn stood approximately where the later Shawnee Playhouse (earlier Worthington Hall) stands (Monroe County Deed Book 2 Page 234) – and is shown as the "Wilson barn" in Frank LaBar's book *When the Days Were Not Long Enough*.

In June 1847, John Reichard sold 2.5 acres to Charles and Joseph Wilson who were operating the grist mill.<sup>19</sup> No indication exists of how they were using the frame-plank house or the store house. This land was then shown as two lots – the first lot northwest of River Road containing the "houses" and the second lot southeast with the barn. Importantly, the house lot description exactly matches the 1784 deed of John van Campen to Benjamin van Campen (Monroe County Deed Book 4 Page 28). On December 18, 1852, the Wilson family sold multiple lots of land to John Sherrerd. The two lots containing 2.5 acres are near the top of the page 17: "The Sixth Thereof ..." (Monroe County Deed Book 6 Page 15). On April 1, 1865, John Sherrerd sold back his many land holdings to Elizabeth Wilson (the widow of Joseph) and Charles Wilson. Then the land tracts were combined for a total of 93 acres. The land extended to the Delaware River. (Monroe County Deed Book 13 Page 46.)

Forty-six years passed when on December 23, 1911, the Sarah Wilson estate sold land to Harry Hibbit. Sarah was the daughter of Joseph V. Wilson and wife Elizabeth, born Sherrerd, John Sherrerd's sister. It was at about this time, c.1904, that the old grist mill, on a separate tract of land, was finally demolished. Tract 1 contained the buildings and .78 acres of land that included the road corner that extended near but not into the creek. Tract 2 of .17 acres was near Worthington Hall (later the Shawnee Playhouse) but does not appear to be the barn property. It was a separate small lot (not a contributing resource). (Monroe County Deed Book 70 Page 395.) On November 26, 1919, Harry Hibbitt and his wife sold tracts of land, the same as in the 1911 sale, to William Treible and wife (Monroe County Deed Book 81 Page 475). On June 10, 1938, Hattie Treible sold Tract 1 (.78 acres) to James O'Gorman (Monroe County Book 129 Page 406).

A pivotal day occurred on April 9, 1941, when James O'Gorman and his wife sold land to Edgar H. Sittig and his wife Charlotte.<sup>20</sup> It was this sale of land to the Sittig family that would lead to

<sup>18</sup> Shrawder's will was recorded in Northampton County on March 28, 1820, Page 574.

<sup>19</sup> Peter Sauvigne – "Searching an Old House's History: The Sittig House in Shawnee" as presented to the Shawnee Preservation Society annual meeting May 1, 2017. Monroe County Deed Book 4, p.28.

<sup>20</sup> Peter Sauvigne – "Searching an Old House's History: The Sittig House in Shawnee" as presented to the Shawnee Preservation Society annual meeting May 1, 2017. Monroe County Deed Book 2400 Page 1817.

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the major Colonial Revival renovation of the house and the storehouse. The property was resurveyed to .69 acres (Monroe County Deed Book 2076 Page 105). The Sittig family's land tenure lasted for 58 years – the longest of any family since the DePuy family gained official ownership in the 1730s. It was the Sittig family who added the modern rear additions, with the exception of the current library, which was apparently built at some point past 1923, but earlier than the other additions.

On February 29, 2000, the estate of Charlotte Sittig sold the property to William and Gwendolyn Caldwell (Monroe County Deed book 2076 Page 106). Then on March 23, 2012, the Caldwell family sold the .86 acre tract to the Peter and Linda Sauvigne family, the current owners (Monroe County Deed Book 2400 Page 1817).

#### *Shawnee on Delaware as a Vacation Destination*

The Pocono Mountain region has long been a playground for visitors, celebrities and dignitaries drawn by the spectacular Delaware Water Gap and the beauty of the surrounding mountains and woodlands. Once known as the “second most inland destination next to Saratoga Springs, N.Y.,” many city dwellers from New York and Philadelphia, since the first half of the nineteenth century, have escaped to the Poconos seeking respite from harsh summer conditions in the city and at other times.

Any review of Shawnee on Delaware's history as a tourist attraction bringing thousands of people to travel from New York, New Jersey, and other areas of Pennsylvania from the first half of the nineteenth century to the second half of the twentieth century, and beyond, begins with the Pocono Mountains and some of its resort spots of the nineteenth century and beyond. This area has been so well known for so long that an entire book was devoted to this mountain area, which includes a particular emphasis on the tourist industry.<sup>21</sup>

With 2,400 square miles encompassing Pennsylvania's Wayne, Pike, Monroe, and Carbon counties, the Pocono Mountains region, also known as the Poconos, is home to rolling mountain terrain, stunningly beautiful waterfalls, almost endless woodlands, and 170 miles of winding rivers. The Poconos are a geographical, geological, and cultural region in Northeastern Pennsylvania, United States and is an upland of the larger Allegheny Plateau. The land forms an escarpment overlooking the Delaware River and Delaware Water Gap to the east. These mountains are bordered on the north by Lake Wallenpaupack, on the west by the Wyoming Valley and the Coal Region, and to the south by the Lehigh Valley. The name Poconos comes from the Munsee word *Pokawachne*, which means "Creek between Two Hills."<sup>22</sup> Wooded hills and valleys have long been a popular recreation area, first accessible by horse-driven vehicles, later by railroad and then in the second decade of the twentieth century, by automobile often done by means of a two-hour drive by many of the potentially millions of metropolitan area residents, with many Delaware Valley communities having resort hotels with fishing, hunting, skiing, and other sports facilities. Shawnee on Delaware, that was a “spillover” as a resort area of

<sup>21</sup> Squeri, Lawrence. *Better in the Poconos* (PA State University Press 2002).

<sup>22</sup> PA Places Pocono Travel Guide About Poconos – website [www.paplaces.com](http://www.paplaces.com)

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the Poconos, was one of these, but this did not very largely commence until the start of the twentieth century.

Perhaps the first resort spot occurred in the Delaware Water Gap, three miles south southwest of Shawnee on Delaware; it was the site of the first boarding house hotel established there in 1829 by Anthony Dutot, who initiated what would become a successful resort industry.<sup>23</sup> Later the Dutot place became the legendary Kittatinny Hotel that had 25 guests by 1832. At that time, the area of the Delaware Water Gap was publicized in major periodicals across the then existing country. More publicity was later generated in November 1842 by the local *Struodsborg – Jeffersonian* that stated that the Delaware River area was “in all her majesty”... “of surpassing grandeur.”

Just before the Civil War, in May 1856, the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western Railroad line was created that went from Scranton to New York. Trains, as an enormous new means of transporting a great influx of people, dramatically changed the tourist industry; some tourists stayed the entire season. To keep up with demand, the Water Gap House in 1872, was built on the mountain of Kittatinny with 173 rooms. The house was rebuilt many times over the years. In 1874 it was expanded and by 1892 it could accommodate 300 guests. The newspaper on October 17, 1872, said that the Water Gap was the largest accessible mountain wilderness closest to the largest cities. By the 1890s, the Water Gap was such a hot-spot that the New York *Times* maintained weekly up-dates and made announcements of guest arrivals and their activities. “High Society” had come to the mountains.



Figure 22: Kittatinny Hotel (House) at Delaware Water Gap – Library of Congress  
Unknown photographer

<sup>23</sup> [www.Poconomountians.com/plan-your-vacation/about-the-poconos/Pocono-mountains-history/](http://www.Poconomountians.com/plan-your-vacation/about-the-poconos/Pocono-mountains-history/).



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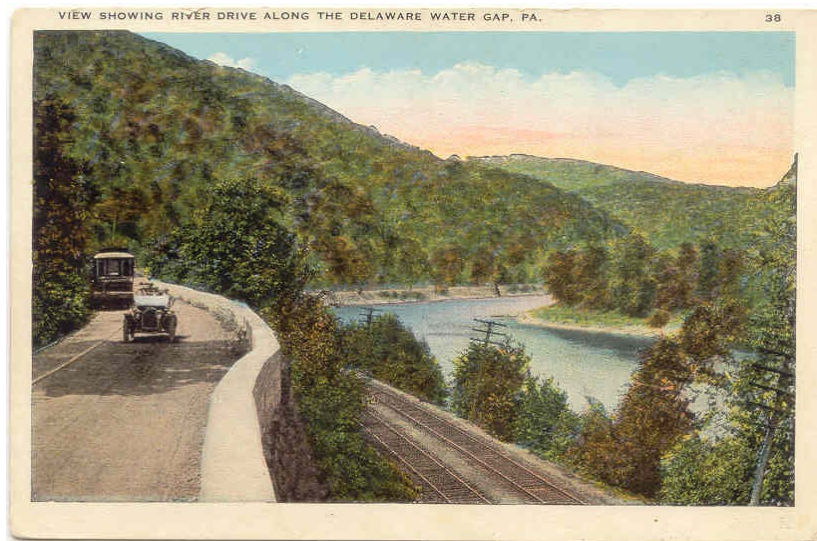
**Figure 23:** Delaware House at Delaware Water Gap, PA – unknown photographer

By the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century the town of Water Gap was a bustling place full of lodges and hotels – and at that time the Delaware House had 300 guests and the Kittatinny that had five floors, with magnificent public spaces and where invited guests were set to linger. The Delaware House later burned in 1915 and the Kittatinny burned in 1931. Neither were ever rebuilt. This signified the end of the golden era of resort living in the gap. The large resort places overlooking the Delaware were gone. But some ghosts of their previous existence still persist to this day. Slowly, the forests have been reclaiming their histories and their land territories. By then, certain areas such as Shawnee on Delaware along the Delaware River had become known as almost pure resort areas.<sup>24</sup>

<sup>24</sup> Video – “Mountain Paradise: The Golden Era of the Delaware Water Gap” – cites the above - from the work of Martin Wilson curator PWPvideo on Youtube and [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shawnee\\_on\\_Delaware,\\_Pennsylvania](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shawnee_on_Delaware,_Pennsylvania)

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**Figure 24:** View of River Drive along the Delaware Water Gap, PA. Post card of unknown photographer

A ferry and wagon road transported visitors along the Delaware River to the Delaware Water Gap. It was listed as one of the great 15 scenic marvels in 1910 when Theodore Roosevelt visited there. The Water Gap's attraction to musicians and artists drew such famous entertainers as Enrico Caruso, Italian operatic tenor, and Fanny Brice the American comedienne, illustrated song model, singer, theatre and film actress. In Paradise Township, a bit northwest of Stroudsburg, Roosevelt, and Presidents Grover Cleveland, Benjamin Harrison and Calvin Coolidge frequented Henryville House Fishing Hotel as well as Buffalo Bill Cody.

The then defunct Inn at Buck Hill opened the Poconos first golf course in 1904 and introduced the region to such winter sports as skiing and tobogganing. Skytop was famous for its five story-high resort with very fine views and had a reputation in its early years for such novel activities as ice skating while being pulled by tractors or skiing with an aid from an airplane.

Judge J. Depue LeBar had moved to Shawnee on Delaware or – Shawnee – from Pahaquarry Township, New Jersey, in about 1850, and by the end of the decade he'd opened a general store in the village. In 1888 the River School was built near Shawnee, made of stone and sporting a wood and iron truss roof-framing system.<sup>25</sup>

Charles Campbell Worthington was a successful businessman, owner of the Worthington Pump and Machinery Corporation. In the late 1890s Worthington began spending an increasing amount of time at his country home in Shawnee on Delaware. He built his first small golf course around 1898. In 1903, he purchased 8,000 acres of land on both sides of the Delaware River. He built Buckwood Lodge, a small mansion, on the side of Kittatinny Ridge in New Jersey, between the river and Sunfish Pond, a small lake higher up the ridge. Worthington gave Sunfish Pond the name of Buckwood Lake, and used it as a water supply for his lodge. In 1900, he retired to live

<sup>25</sup> Pocono Mountains. The Shawnee Inn and Golf resort <https://www.poconomountains.com/listing/the-shawnee-inn-and-golf-resort/291/>

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in Shawnee. In 1904 he built Worthington Hall, later known as the Shawnee Playhouse. It was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1978, but the building was de-listed in 1986 after being demolished following a fire caused by arson on June 24, 1985. The playhouse was rebuilt with help from the people of Shawnee on Delaware and other organizations. Charles Campbell Worthington also established the Worthington Society, a society dedicated to ornithology that was directed by Charles W. Miller.<sup>26</sup>



**Figure 25:** Shawnee Playhouse, view northeast

A major part of the resort-based nature of Shawnee is the historic Shawnee Inn and Golf Resort with its own particular charm. Just two miles from the Delaware Water Gap, the Inn and Golf Resort, built in 1911, makes its home on 250 acres. It has welcomed generations of outdoor enthusiasts and celebrities such as famed golfer Arnold Palmer and legendary comedian and TV giants Jackie Gleason and Art Carney among others.<sup>27</sup>

People with discretionary money frequent such resort places such as Shawnee and have for generations. During such sojourns, many travelers might stop at local shops. The Sittigs knew that relatively wealthy people, as vacationers, would be circulating around Shawnee and what better location existed to establish a place for these people to buy than at the one major road intersection in the village. They were basically following the old adage – “build a better mousetrap and the world will beat a path to your door.” It seems most likely that the Sittigs built a better and even best antique shop in that, in the case of Shawnee, two spots afforded the family the very best opportunity to display their prize antiques – their basically perfectly located showrooms in the two buildings – both the two-story frame-plank building and the smaller stone “storehouse” building together with the Shawna Shop almost directly across the street from the only community general store. The fact that the Sittig family rubbed shoulders with the well-

<sup>26</sup> Charles C. Worthington – (27 April 2021) – in Wikipedia – en.wikipedia.org/wik/Charles\_Campbell\_Worthington

<sup>27</sup> Pocono Mountains. The Shawnee Inn and Golf Resort <https://www.poconomountains.com/listing/the-shawnee-inn-and-golf-resort/291/>

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known Fred Waring (and likely some of his guests) gave the family the exposure they likely sought. With their extensive connections in the antique world, both locally and far away, the Sittigs were a means to expose to the world of unusual and likely even rare antiques to thousands of tourists in the little corner of the Delaware Valley world – Shawnee on Delaware.

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