

DISTEFANO FARMHOUSE
86 Union Street
Medford
Burlington County
New Jersey

HABS No. NJ-1229

HABS
NJ
3-MED,
2-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

National Park Service
Northeast Region
Philadelphia Support Office
U.S. Custom House
200 Chestnut Street
Philadelphia, P.A. 19106

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
DiSTEFANO FARMHOUSE

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Location: 86 Union Street, Medford, Burlington County, New Jersey
USGS Mt. Holly, New Jersey, Burlington Co. Quadrangle
Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates:
18.744950.0395350

Significance: Medford was a site of an iron forge and an important 19th century regional center. This farmhouse is an important local landmark, as a simply appointed farmhouse vernacular structure which has remained relatively unaltered since the late 19th century. The farmhouse is located at the western edge of the historic Village district, on one of the two main roadways leading into the heart of the village, and is the primary structure on one of the larger tracts of land in Medford Township since the township's founding and remaining today.

The farmhouse was identified as a "key" building in a State and National Register Historic District nomination prepared by Constance M. Grieff, Director, Heritage Studies Inc., Princeton, New Jersey. The application papers were prepared in the 1980's but never filed by the Township.

Description: The farmhouse is circa early 19th century and located on the western edge of the village district. It is two and one-half stories, with gable roof and a five-bay center hall plan, built on a full stone basement with masonry piers. Details include beaded clapboard siding and corner boards, brick chimneys at the east and west sides on ridge, flush rakes and boxed eaves with simple cornice moulding. The original 6/6 double hung windows have been changed to 6/1, and a large c.1860 two-story addition is located to the southwest, with a low pitched gable roof. Several one- and two-story nineteenth and early twentieth additions are located at the rear of the structure.

There are six dependent farmhouse structures located to the rear (south) of the farmhouse. These structures and their respective functions include:

1. A 196 square foot living quarters with a full height stone cellar.
2. A 240 square foot wooden storage barn with loft.
3. A 600 square foot concrete block and wood feed barn with earthen floor and hayloft.

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4. A 500 square foot concrete block and wood feed barn with earthen floor and hayloft.
5. A 450 square foot concrete block and wood with concrete floor vehicle service garage.
6. A 180 square foot open wood platform supported by four wood piers; of unknown function.
7. A 420 square foot wood feed barn with earthen floor.

History:

Archival research on this property indicates that there was a building on this property in 1842, and possibly in 1807, when the property owner was Daniel Braddock. In 1868 the tract was acquired by a Jones family member, and the property remained in the Jones family until sold in 1944 to the DiStefano family. The farm was a "working farm" which produced corn, tomatoes and potatoes throughout its history until around 1991 when the crop was changed to soybeans. The DiStefano family sold the property to the Township of Medford in 1994.

Source:

Built in a Compact Manner: Preserving the Village of Medford, New Jersey. Heritage Studies Inc., Princeton, New Jersey. C.M. Grieff, Director, 1981.

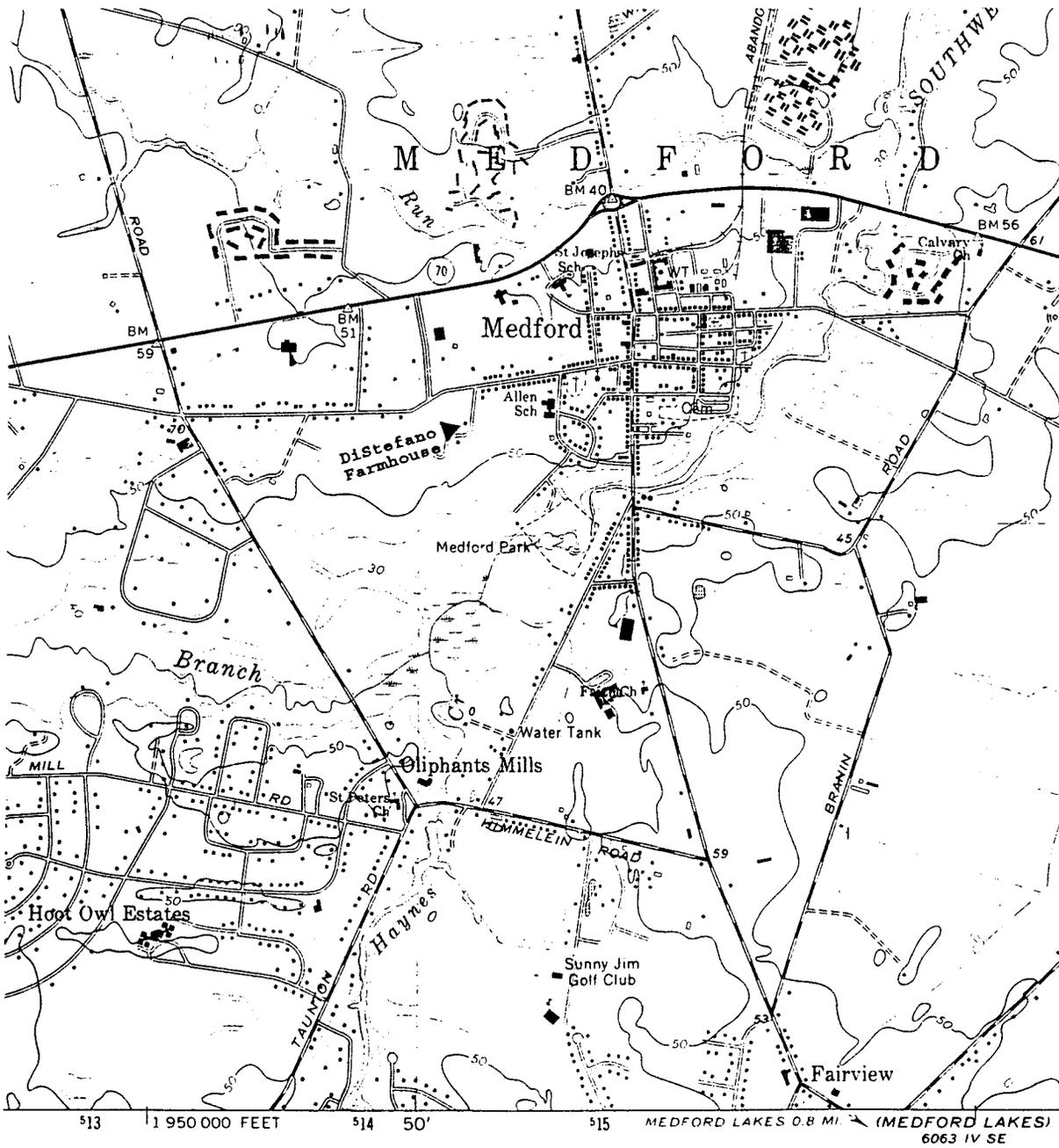
Historian:

Betty H. Trumbower, member, Medford Historic Advisory Board.

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Vicinity Map

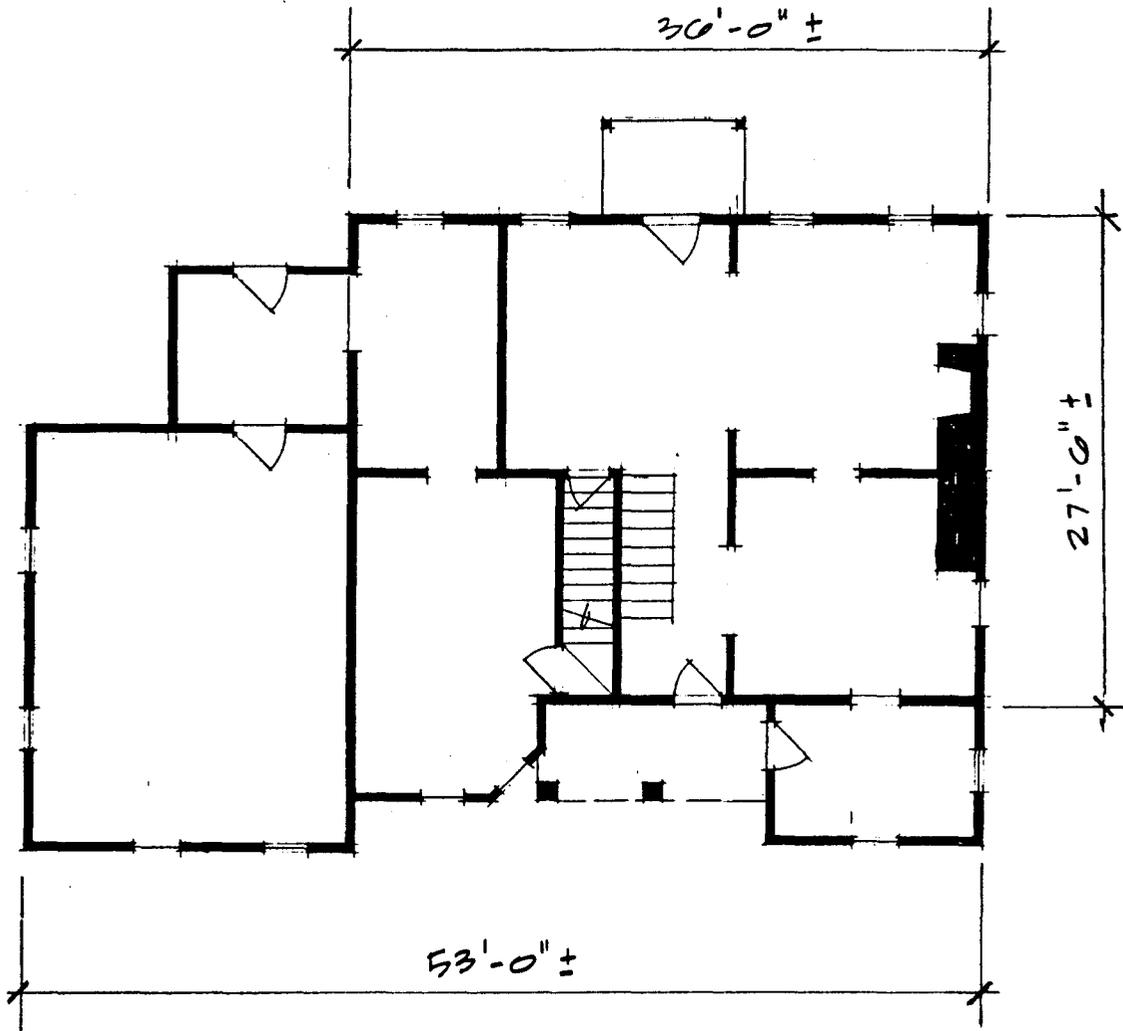
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North



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First Floor Plan, Existing, March 1996

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North



DISTEFANO FARMHOUSE
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Second Floor Plan, Existing, March 1996

▲
North

