

EDIS. 082 c.2
CRBIB# 000714
HISTORIC STRUCTURES REPORT 403/D-7B

PART I

THE HOSE HOUSE AT "GLENMONT"

EDISON NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE

NOVEMBER 1964

STATUS OF HISTORIC STRUCTURES REPORT

EDISON
PARK

PART I

HOSE HOUSE at "GLENMONT" 18

STRUCTURE/BUILDING #

PROJECT: Reconstruction

CLASS BBB

MASTER PLAN

PCP B-21

PROGRAMMED \$1000
1965 7.4

SECTIONS:

Admin.

Called for 8/27/64; 24. 1/4

Due 10/2/64

Rec'd 12/2/64

His.

Called for 8/27/64; 7.4. 11/4

Due 10/2/64

Rec'd 12/2/64

Architecture

Called for _____

Due _____

Rec'd 8/25/64

Called for _____

Due _____

Rec'd _____

Called for _____

Due _____

Rec'd _____

DISTRIBUTED

Park _____

EODC 12/7/64

Region 12/14/64

WASO 1/13/65

REVIEWED

Park _____

EODC 12/10/64

Region 1/7/65

WASO _____

APPROVED:

Region _____

WASO 1/22/65

H30-21A
NLR

3/8/65

Memorandum

To: Chief, RORC

From: Regional Director, Northeast Region

Subject: Historic Structures Reports, Edison NHS

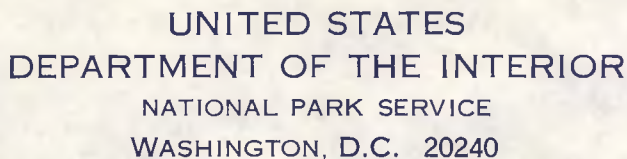
Since Part I Historic Structures Reports for the following structures at Edison NHS are reasonably complete and sufficient for the project involved in each, it is agreeable to this office that Historic Structures Reports, Part II, be waived:

Gardener's Cottage and Potting Shed (RR)	Building #11
Greenhouse (RR)	" #14
<u>Hose House (RR)</u>	" #18
Pump House (RR)	" #17
Blacksmith Shop (RR)	" #7

15/ George A. Palmer

McMelligan/gmf
General
Daily
Area

cc:
Director
Superintendent, Edison
Mr. Whitcraft



IN REPLY REFER TO:

H3O-DCA

JAN 27 1965

Memorandum

To: Regional Director, Northeast Region

From: Acting Assistant Director, Design and Construction

Subject: Historic Structures Report, Part I, The Hose House at
"Glenmont," Edison NHS

The interested divisions have reviewed the subject report and concur with the recommendations contained therein for the reconstruction of the Hose House on its former and original site. I have approved the report transmitted by Mr. Palmer's January 13 memorandum on this date.

John B. Cabot

Northeast Region		Initial and Date
	Reg. Director	
	Asst. Dir.:	
	Adm. Serv. Div.	
	Environ. & Nat. Adv.	
	Asst. Dir.:	
	Finance & Insp.	
	Personnel	
	Programs	
	Sci. Res. & Mon.	
	Interc. & V.	
	Land & Water	
	Maintenance	
	Master Plan Coord.	
	Plan. Manager. & VP	
	Asst. Reg. Dir.-Co-Act	
	Fed'l Agency Assis.	
	NPS Studies	
	State Assistance	

JAN 13 1965

H30-RHA
NEH

Memorandum

To: Director

From: Acting Regional Director, Northeast Region

Subject: Historic Structures Report, Part 1, The Hess House at
"Clement", Edison NJS

The subject report was reviewed by Regional Director Ronald F. Lee
on January 7, 1965, and is recommended to your approval.

George A. Palmer

George A. Palmer

Enclosure

cc:
Chief, ECDC
Superintendent, Edison
Programs (Att: Gene Monteleone)

GMFrane
General
Daily
Area

Wry
1/7
Posted
Gmf

HISTORIC STRUCTURES REPORT, PART I, HOSE HOUSE (GLENMONT), EDISON NHS

REVIEW SHEET

1. Mr. Lukens

I'm in favor of keeping a reconstructed (replica) of the Hose House since they think they can do it for \$830.-

I'm not in favor of going through the useless rigmarole of dropping the original from the Historic Structures Inventory and then adding the reconstruction to the Inventory. We can add the word "Reconstruction".

It doesn't say what the roof of the reconstruction will be covered with but I suspect asphalt shingles were not in general use in 1905. Since it only cost \$39.- in 1905 the roof may have been covered with tar paper or some kind of roll roofing or metal. *12/12/14*
(less likely)

2. Mr. Golub

OK - J. 12/15

3. Mr. Barnes

B

4. Dr. Nelligan

Recommend to NPS



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Eastern Office, Design and Construction
Philadelphia, Pa. - 19106

IN REPLY REFER TO:

H30-H

December 10, 1964

Memorandum

To: Regional Director, Northeast Region

From: Chief Architect, EODC

Subject: Historic Structures Report, Part I, Hose House (Building #18), Glenmont, Edison

The Administrative and Historical Data Sections of the subject report have been reviewed by the interested personnel of this office and are recommended for approval by Chief Hall this date.

The Architectural Data Section, Part I of the subject report was recommended for approval by Acting Chief Eugene R. DeSilets and transmitted to your office August 24, 1964.

Robert E. Smith

Robert E. Smith

cc:

Assistant Director, Design and Construction
Superintendent, Edison

*Posted
Jmf*

Northeast Region		Initial and Date
EC	11	1964
Reg. Director		
Asst. to RD (PA)		
Asst. to RD (Dev. L)		
Resource Studies Adv.		
Asst. Dir. Adm.		
Finance & Prop.		
Personnel		
Programs		
Asst. Reg. Dir.-Oper.		
Interp. & VS		
Land & Water		
Maintenance		
Master Plan Coord.		
Res. Manage. & VP		
Asst Reg. Dir.-Co-Act		
Fed'l Agency Assis.		
NPS Studies		
State Assistance		

DEC 7 1964

H30-RHA
NER

Valley
12/7
Posted
Inf

Memorandum

To: Chief, EODC

From: *Acting* Regional Director, Northeast Region

Subject: Historic Structures Report, Part I, Mose House
(Building #18), Glenmont, Edison NHS

Enclosed are the Administrative and Historical Data Sections of
the subject report to be combined with the Architectural Data
Section previously furnished by your office.

Please let us have your comments on the complete report.

George A. Palmer

Enclosures

cc:
Superintendent, Edison
Mr. Whitcraft

GMFrane *✓*
General
Daily
Area



IN REPLY REFER TO:

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Edison National Historic Site
P. O. Box 126
Orange, New Jersey 07051

H30-RHA

November 27, 1964

Memorandum

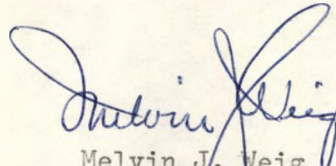
To: Regional Director, Northeast Region

From: Superintendent, Edison

Subject: Historic Structures Report, Part I, Administrative,
Historical, and Architectural Data Sections, Hose
House, Building No. 18

Reference your subject memorandum of August 27, 1964, we submit herewith the original and two copies of the Administrative and Historical Data sections for the above report. Routing, title, and contents sheets have been provided for the report as a whole, to include the Architectural Data in final assembly.

Both Exhibits Specialist (Restoration) Whittington and the writer have reviewed with Supervisory Architect Judd the Architectural Data section as prepared by Architect Souder, EODC, and it has our concurrence.


Melvin J. Weig
Superintendent

In duplicate

Enclosures

Northeast Region		Initial and Date
DEC 2 1964		
Reg. Director		
Asst. to RD (PA)		
Asst. to RD (Dev. L)		
Resource Studies Adv.		
Asst. Dir. Mr. Adm.		
Finance & Prop.		
Personnel		
Programs		
Asst. Reg. Dir. - Oper.		
Interp. & VS		
Land & Water		
Maintenance		
Master Plan Coord.		
Res. Manage. & VP		
Asst. Reg. Dir. - Co-Act		
Fed'l Agency Assis.		
NPS Studies		
State Assistance		

*Costed
Jmf*

Edison National Historic Site
P. O. Box 126
Orange, New Jersey 07051

H30-RHA

November 27, 1964

Memorandum

To: Regional Director, Northeast Region

From: Superintendent, Edison

Subject: Historic Structures Report, Part I, Administrative,
Historical, and Architectural Data Sections, Hose
House, Building No. 18

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Both Exhibits Specialist (Restoration) Whittington and the writer have reviewed with Supervisory Architect Judd the Architectural Data section as prepared by Architect Souder, EODC, and it has our concurrence.

(Sgd.) Melvin J. Weig

Melvin J. Weig
Superintendent

In duplicate

Enclosures



IN REPLY REFER TO:

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Edison National Historic Site
P. O. Box 126
Orange, New Jersey 07051

H30-RHA
NER

November 23, 1964

Memorandum

To: Regional Director, Northeast Region
From: Superintendent, Edison
Subject: Historic Structures Reports

The following information is submitted in response to your subject memorandum of November 4:

Report

Present Status

Part II (Portion), the
Conservatory, "Glenmont"

Some new information has come to light about the Edison Home construction and repairs which entails more writing than was originally anticipated. The Superintendent is personally working on this with as much expedition as possible. We hope to have the Historical and Administrative Data ready within three or four weeks.

Part I, Pump House (#17),
"Glenmont"

Historical Data is ready in draft and is now in review. We hope to have this in final form with Administrative Data in the next week or two.

Part I, Hose House (#18),
"Glenmont"

Same information as for the Pump House above.

Part I, Black Maria (#13)

Supervisory Museum Curator Speiden has been working fairly steadily on this, especially to determine the site of the original building, with reasonable exactness, from old photographs and plans. He still has to prepare the Historical Data text, however.

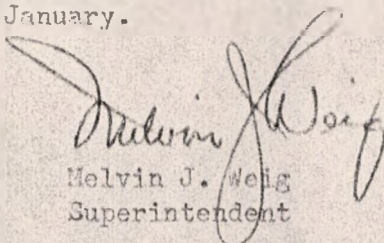
Northeast Region NOV 24 1964		Initial and Date
Reg. Director		
Asst. to Reg. Dir.		
Asst. to Reg. Dir. (Adm.)		
Executive Sec'y		
Asst. to Reg. Dir. (Tech.)		
Finance & Prop.		
Personnel		
Programs		
Asst. Reg. Dir. (Oper.)		
Interp. & VS		
Land & Water		
Maintenance		
Master Plan Coord.		
Rec. Mgmt. & VP		
Asst. Reg. Dir. (Ext.)		
Fed'l Agency Affs.		
NPS Studies		
State Assistance		

*Posted
Inf*

Part 1, Concrete (Small
Storage) Vault (#8)

Work started but not very far along
as yet.

We realize that these reports are overdue and fully understand the urgency involved. Every effort is being made to get them in as quickly as possible consistent with other equally important duties and responsibilities, some of which also have deadlines. We are trying very hard to submit all the listed reports before Christmas except those for Buildings Nos. 13 and 8, which it is hoped may be forthcoming in January.



Melvin J. Weig
Superintendent

In duplicate

J. M. Franey
11/4

H36-EMA
HER

NOV 4 1964

Velly
11/4
Posted
Enf

Memorandum

To: Superintendent, Edison
From: Regional Director, Northeast Region
Subject: Historic Structures Reports

Please advise the present status of the Administrative and Historical Data Sections of the following Historic Structures Reports:

<u>Report</u>	<u>Requested</u>	<u>Due Date</u>
✓ Part II (Portion), The Conservatory, "Glenmont"	7/17/64 and 8/5/64	As soon as possible
✓ Part I, Pump House (#17) "Glenmont"	8/17/64	9/30/64
✓ Part I, Hose House (#18) "Glenmont"	8/27/64	10/2/64
✓ Part I, Black Maria (#13)	8/27/64	10/12/64
✓ Part I, Concrete (Small Storage) Vault (#8)	8/31/64	10/9/64

Your prompt reply will be appreciated.

(Sgd.) Ronald F. Lee

Franey
General
Daily
Area

cc:
Chief, EODC
Mr. Whitcraft

H30-RHA

AUG 27 1964

Memorandum

To: Superintendent, Edison

From: Regional Director, Northeast Region

Subject: Historic Structures Report, Part I, Architectural
Data Section, Rose House at Glenmont, Edison NHS

Enclosed herewith is a copy of the Part I Architectural Data
Section for the subject Historic Structures Report.

Please prepare the Administrative and Historical Data Sections
and forward three copies to this office by October 2, 1964.

(Sgt.) Ronald F. Lee

Enclosure

cc:
Chief, EODC

GMFranev /
General ✓
Daily
Area



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Eastern Office, Design and Construction
Philadelphia, Pa. - 19106

IN REPLY REFER TO:
H30-H

August 24, 1964

Northeast Region		Initial and Date
AUG 25 1964		
Reg. Director		
Asst. to RD (PA)		
Asst. to RD (Dev. & Insp.)		
Resource Studies Adv.		
Asst. Dir. Plan. & Insp.		
Finance & Prop.		
Personnel		
Programs		
Asst. Reg. Dir. Oper.		
Intern. & VS		
Land & Water		
Maintenance		
Rec. Mgmt. Coord.		
Rec. Mgmt. & VP		
Asst. Dir. Tech. Serv.		
Fed. Agency Ass.		

Memorandum

To: Regional Director, Northeast Region

From: Chief Architect, EODC

Subject: Historic Structures Report, Architectural Data Section,
Part I, Hose House at Glenmont, Edison

Enclosed for your review and distribution are three copies of the subject report which was recommended by Acting Chief Eugene R. DeSilets this date. A copy has been retained by this office.

We recommend that the Part II Report be waived because of the size and simple construction of the building.

Robert E. Smith
By: Donald F. Benson
Donald F. Benson, Acting

Enclosure

cc:
Assistant Director, Design and Construction
Superintendent, Edison

APPROVAL SHEET

RECOMMENDED Helvin J. Neig DATE 12/1/64
Superintendent

RECOMMENDED Robert G. Hall DATE 12/10/64
Chief, EODC

RECOMMENDED Ronald F. Lee DATE 1/7/65
Regional Director

APPROVED John B. Cabot DATE 1/27/65
acting Asst. Director, Design & Construction

HISTORIC STRUCTURES REPORT - PART I

HOSE HOUSE, BUILDING NO. 18

Prepared by

Melvin J. Weig
Superintendent

Benjamin Levy
Supervisory Historian

Arthur Spiegler
Historian

and

Norman M. Souder
Architect

August-November 1964

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Subject

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Administrative Data

Prepared by Melvin J. Weig, Superintendent
November 25, 1964

1

Historical Data, with Exhibits 1-3

Prepared by Melvin J. Weig, Superintendent,
Benjamin Levy, Supervisory Historian, and
Arthur Spiegler, Historian, November 25, 1964

2-7

Architectural Data, with Photographs

Prepared by Norman M. Souder, Architect, BODE,
August 1964

i and 1-2

HISTORIC STRUCTURES REPORT - PART I

HOSE HOUSE, BUILDING NO. 18

"ADMINISTRATIVE DATA"

Prepared by

Melvin J. Weig
Superintendent

November 25, 1964

Administrative Data

The Historical Data section of this report reveals that the Hose House, Building No. 18, was erected on the Glenmont grounds in 1904-1905, apparently in connection with installation of a new water line and hydrant for fire protection in 1903. This section of the report also establishes the historic location, from which the building was moved to another site across the driveway in 1951.

Through the years this little structure has deteriorated beyond economical repair, and it should therefore be reconstructed, the old building being used as a model. It is planned to accomplish that work under PCP B-21 approved July 6, 1964, total amount \$1,000 (construction only, \$830), including replacement of the fire hose itself.

Once so reconstructed, it is administratively recommended that the Hose House be placed in its historic location, rather than on the site to which the original was moved in 1951. Such installation will not only reflect its actual position on the grounds in Thomas Edison's time, but it will also be better from an architectural-aesthetic standpoint, in that there will be less interference with the perspective of the Pump House, Building No. 17. The latter is of pleasing Victorian design, in keeping with the Edison Home itself, whereas the Hose House is a far simpler, strictly utilitarian building. Everyone consulted about the matter, including Architect Henry A. Judd and Exhibits Specialist (Restoration) Gordie Whittington, NODC, agrees with this thought.

As stated in the Historical Data section, the above proposed reconstruction and location of the Hose House will bring to mind the concern of Thomas Edison and his family for protection of Glenmont from fire in the days before high pressure pumpers and modern equipment, and will thus help to preserve the rural surroundings and circumstances in which the inventor here lived for many years.

HISTORIC STRUCTURES REPORT - PART I

HOSE HOUSE, BUILDING NO. 18

"HISTORICAL DATA"

Prepared by

Melvin J. Weig
Superintendent

Benjamin Levy
Supervisory Historian

and

Arthur Spiegler
Historian

November 25, 1964

Historical Data

The Hose House, Building No. 18, is a small wood-frame structure for the storage of fire-hose line at Glenmont, the historic estate of the great inventor, Thomas Alva Edison, Edison National Historic Site (Exhibit 1). Historically, the Hose House was located about sixty feet north of the Edison Home, in a circular plot of ground as shown on the revised Site historic base map (Exhibit 2). Mr. C. Thore Hallstrom, gardener at Glenmont for the past 30 years, remembers the historic location exactly, as he was informed about it by the Edison Family, and as it continued up to 1951.

Evidence to establish the date when the Hose House was constructed is an accounting record entitled "Building Hose House in Park," contained in a ledger of Thomas Edison which shows \$35.59 was spent for this purpose from December 1904 through June 1905. Such construction was probably associated with installation of a water line and hydrant very near the same location the year before, presumably to offer better fire protection for the Edison Home. The latter is documented by Service Report No. 646 of the West Orange Water Company, account of Mrs. Thomas A. Edison, with dates of March 28 and April 1, 1903 (Exhibit 3). This line and hydrant are no longer in use, but they were new at the time, and erection of a small structure close by for convenient storage of connecting fire hose was logical.

This was apparently the first time that water from any commercial source was brought close to the Edison Home. Prior to 1904 and for many years thereafter potable water was drawn daily from a well by machinery in the Pump House, and was thence hand carried to the house, as there seems never to have been any connecting piping. Cistern water for washing and other like purposes was supplied by a pump in the basement of the Home which drew from various cisterns constructed nearby.

Mr. Hallstrom recollects that by 1950 the Hose House had deteriorated and become overgrown with shrubbery when it was damaged by a storm that year. In 1951 Mr. Charles Edison, the inventor's son, had the structure repaired and moved it to its present location across the driveway next to the Pump House.

Although the Hose House is a minor shed in the Edison complex of buildings, its presence brings to mind the concern of the inventor and his family for protection of their home from fire loss in the days before high pressure pumpers and modern fire-fighting equipment. It thus helps to preserve the rural circumstances and

surroundings in which Thomas A. Edison lived for many years at
Glenmont.

References

1. Archives, Edison National Historic Site. Ledger No. 7, January 1904-June 1907, p. 172.

EXHIBIT 1

Photograph of north side of the Edison Home showing Hose House, Building No. 18, first structure on right. The Pump House, Building No. 17, is immediately to its rear. Taken October 22, 1960. Negative No. 6816.



10-22-60

6816

EXHIBIT 2

Corrected historical base map of
Glenmont unit, showing original
location of Rose House, Building
No. 18, in Thomas A. Edison's
day.

• EXPLANATORY NOTE •

THIS MAP SHOWS HISTORIC AND OTHER BUILDINGS OR PHYSICAL
FEATURES, WITHIN BOTH PRESENT AND PROPOSED SITE BOUNDARIES,
WHICH ON THE BASIS OF KNOWN EVIDENCE WERE IN EXISTENCE AT
THE TIME OF THOMAS ALVA EDISON'S DEATH ON OCTOBER 18, 1931.

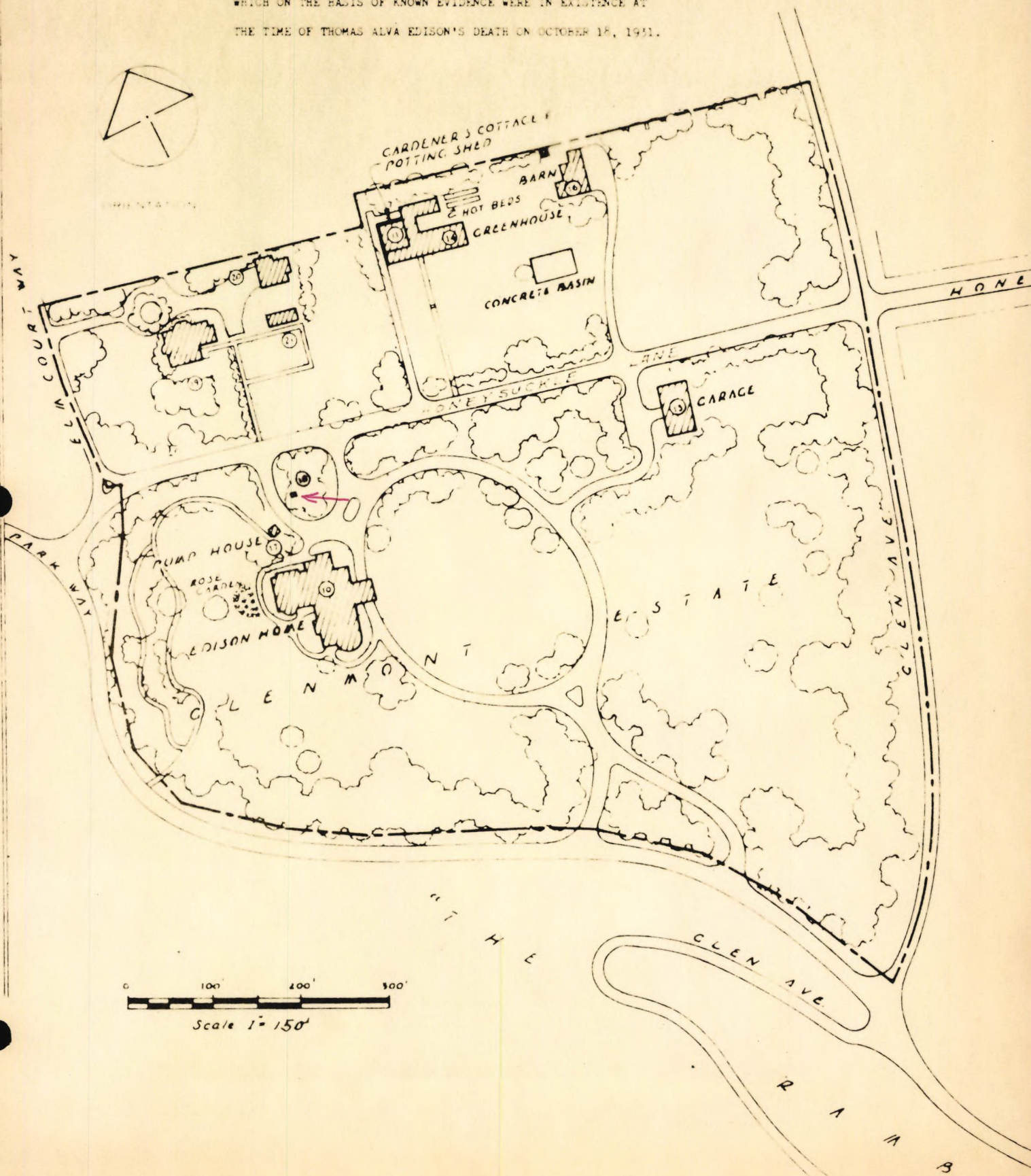


EXHIBIT 3

Machine photocopy of record of West
Orange Water Company relating to
installation of water line and hydrant
in immediate vicinity of the Rose
House, Building No. 18, in March-
April 1903.

WEST ORANGE WATER CO.

SERVICE REPORT.

Mrs. Thomas A Edison
Haverlynn Park

No. 646 March 28 1903

Labor	30.50
Carting Bf. Shillman	5.00
6 lengths 4" pipe @ 55	23.11 ✓
Plumber 2" " 2" " @ 26 pft.	6.24
3 pipe 4" plugs @ 21	6.33 ✓
1 4" P. 115 lb.	3.02 ✓
2-2" gates @ 3.50	7.00
Fittings 1-4" 1898 hydrant	26.00 ✓
1-2" meter	40.00
78 lb. lead @ 5	3.90 ✓
3-2" nipples @ 9¢	.27
Extras 2-2" unions	.75
yarn	.25 ✓
Tapping 4" plugs	1.25
1 Gal. Box	3.00 ✓
1 4" Sleep.	1.09 ✓
Charge 100 ft @ 60.00	60.00
Hydrant 30.00	30.00
Meter 60.00	60.00
meter Chuck 10.00	10.00
Gates 4	4.00
	164.00

For Diagram see other side

WEST ORANGE WATER CO.

SERVICE REPORT.

Mrs. Thomas A Edison
Honeysuckle Ave.

No. 646 April 1st 1903

Labor	April 1st 1903	3.33
Carting	April 6th 1903	1.88
Plumber	April 8th 1903	.65
Pipe	Chunks for meter Chuck	3.74
Meter	April 9th 1903	16.2
Fittings		7.48
Extras		

For Diagram see other side

HISTORIC STRUCTURES REPORT

PART I

ARCHITECTURAL DATA SECTION

ON

HOSE HOUSE

AT

GLENMONT

Edison National Historic Site

Prepared by
Norman M. Souder
Architect
August 1964

for

United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service
Eastern Office, Design and Construction
Division of Architecture

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ILLUSTRATION

I. FOREWORD

The smallest building at Glenmont is the Hose House, located on the service drive adjacent to the Pump House. The original location was in the circle across the drive.

The small shed-roofed structure is used to house a fire-hose cart.

The building has deteriorated to an extent, that it warrants reconstruction. Due to its size, reconstruction is more economical than extensive repairs.

It is not known when the original Hose House was built. It was, however, in existence when Edison was living at "Glenmont" and therefore is regarded as part of the historic site.

Norman M. Souder
Architect
August 1964

II. EXISTING CONDITIONS - EXTERIOR

A. Walls

The Hose House is a 4'-8" x 6'-3" structure with a shed roof and one board and batten door. The roof at its highest point is 7'-10" from the base, sloping sharply to the rear.

The walls are of vertical beaded siding 9-5/16" wide. The edges of the tongue and groove boards are beaded and each board is center beaded as well. The exterior is painted dark green.

B. Door

The board and batten door is four feet wide and six feet high, constructed of wide boards. A cast iron thumb latch and T strap hinges are the only hardware.

C. Roof

The roof is of rough wide board sheathing, covered with asphalt shingles. There is no moulding or trim on the building. The roof sheathing projects slightly beyond the walls to form an overhang.

III. EXISTING CONDITIONS - INTERIOR

A. Floor

The flooring is of seven inch wide tongue and groove boards.

B. Walls

The interior walls are the exposed framing and interior of the sheathing, and were left unpainted.

ILLUSTRATION NO. 1

The Hose House from the northeast.

This simple structure is located on the service drive next to the Pump House shown in the background.

Photo: Unknown

Copy Neg. No. EODC 4862

