

# BERGEN COUNTY STONE HOUSE SURVEY

INDIVIDUAL STRUCTURE SURVEY FORM

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GENERAL

HISTORIC NAME: Van Winkle House

COMMON NAME:

LOCATION: 798 Franklin Lake Road  
(Block 2204, lot 1)

MUNICIPALITY: Franklin Lakes

OWNERSHIP:  Public  Private

OWNER/ADDRESS: James A. Longo  
(same)

REFERENCE

MAP REFERENCES:

- Erskine (1778-80)
- Hopkins-Corey (1861) U.V.R. VanWinkle
- Walker's Atlas (1876) U.V.R. VanWinkle
- Bronley (1912) D. Usher
- Other

RECOGNITION:

- National Register  BCHS Marker
- HABS  Bailey
- Other

ENVIRONMENT

HOUSE ORIENTATION: S 82° E

IMPORTANT RELATED STRUCTURES:

SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT:

- Residential
- Commercial Diagonally across intersection
- Agricultural
- Open Space
- Other

COMMENTS:

TREATMENTS

ORIGINAL: Residence

PRESENT: Residence

TREATMENTS TO STRUCTURE:

- Roads
- Development
- Zoning
- Deterioration
- Other
- No Threat

COMMENTS:  
Intersection may be improved

CONDITION

CONDITION:

- Excellent
- Fair
- Good
- Deteriorated

STATUS:

- Occupied
- Unoccupied
- Work in Progress

ACCESSIBLE:

- Yes, Restricted
- Yes, Unrestricted
- No

Unusual arrangement with only two end walls of stone. Stories tell of a fire in the past, which may be why this house is not typical in many ways. Roof and dormers are probably twentieth century.

PHOTO



MAP



**DESCRIPTION**

**CONSTRUCTION DATE/SOURCE:**

Probably pre-1761/Braun; architectural evidence

**BUILDER:**

Probably Simeon Van Winkle

**FORM/PLAN TYPE:**

"A" or 3/4 house, 3 bay, 1 room deep, 2 fireplaces (32'2" x 20'10"). May have been a saltbox.

**FRAMING SYSTEM:**

- Intermediate Summer Beam
- Intermediate Bearing Wall
- Clear Span (probable)
- Other

**EXTERIOR WALL FABRIC:**

Mostly rubble, local stone

**FENESTRATION:**

6/6, 31" x 55", no lintels.

**ENTRANCE LOCATION/TYPE:**

Off center, plain.

**NUMBER OF STORIES:** 1-1/2

**CELLAR:**  Yes (partial)  
 No

**CHIMNEY FOUNDATION:** on grade

- Stone Arch
- Brick Arch, Stone Foundation
- Other

**FLOOR JOISTS:**

**FIRST FLOOR CEILING HEIGHT:**

**FIRST FLOOR WALL THICKNESS:**  
18"

**GARRET FLOOR JOISTS:**

**GARRET:**

- Unfinished Space
- Finished Space

**ROOF:**

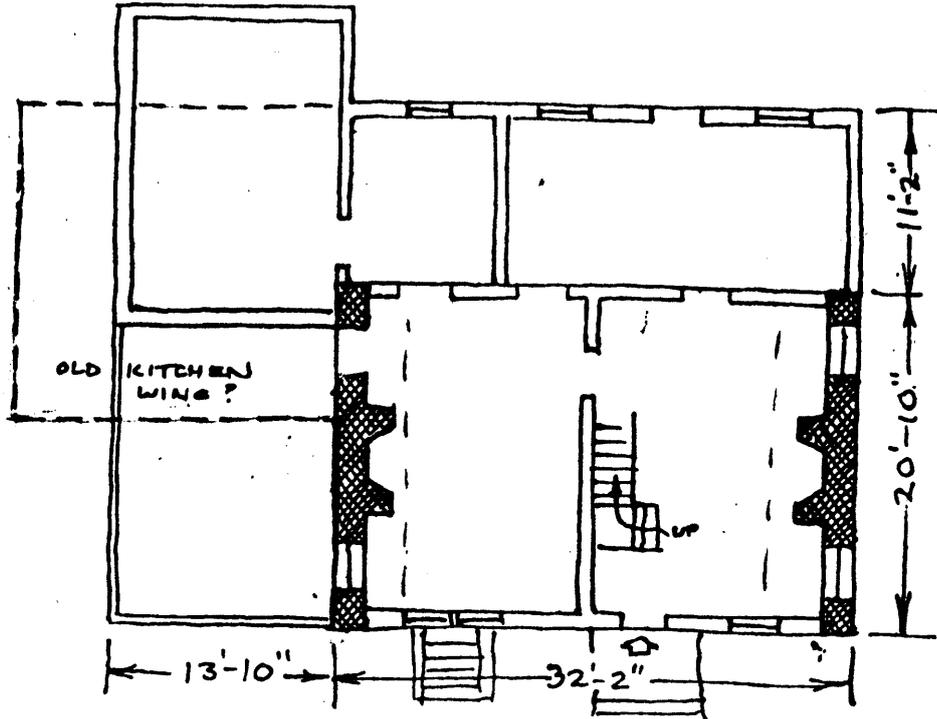
- Gable
- Gambrel
- Curb
- Other

**EAVE TREATMENT:**

- Sweeping Overhang
- Supported Overhang
- No Overhang
- Boxed Gutter
- Other

This house, while having been altered through the years, still retains a sufficient amount of its original fabric that it should be recognized and retained. We are therefore including it for its architectural significance, for its association with the exploration and settlement of the Bergen County area, and for its remaining historic fabric. As such, it is included in the Thematic Nomination to the National Register of Historic Places for the Early Stone Houses of Bergen County, New Jersey.

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FLOOR PLANS



The first Van Winkle settled in Wyckoff on the Stagg property in 1733. They were one of the first ten families here. This Simeon Van Winkle was a carpenter and had the distinction of having the first wagon in the area. A Simeon, who was also a carpenter, is mentioned in an old deed to the Roehr property. Simeon Van Winkle appears to have built the house prior to 1761, as James was born here in 1761, and lived to be 99 years old.

There is also a record of theft by the Continental troops of "four hoops, a haffer, and a hive of honey" valued at [five pounds], from Simeon Van Winkle, while the troops were stationed in the area.

In 1830, the road returns show a small sketch of the house facing the east as it does now.

The stones of this house are laid with mud and hair. The front porch and dormers were added at a later date (not on the sketch mentioned above). The addition at the rear was added in 1919. The walls of the house are almost two feet thick. The fireplaces are very generous, although not the large open ones in which so much of the early cooking was done. The woodwork of the house was replaced in the 1850's after a fire, but the fireplace mantels are the original ones.

James Longo, the present owner, was preparing a flower garden at the side of his house, and uncovered the flat foundation stones of a twenty foot long outside kitchen. This addition had been removed at a much earlier time since local residents do not recall seeing it. An old Dutch [sic] door leads out to it.

A six inch stone, urn-shaped crock was found in the basement rafters. It held Weyman's Snuff, which had been imported between 1822 and 1876 from England to Philadelphia.

The eighty acre farm was owned by Uriah Riper Van Winkle on the 1861 map. Simon Van Winkle died in 1858 when Uriah was 30 years old. The other two children in the Van Winkle family were Elizabeth and Henry. James I. Ackerman, married Elizabeth and lived at the present Roehr house . . . in 1809.

(The above is quoted from Maria Braun's Franklin Lakes: Its History and Heritage.)

#### VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Block 2204, Lot 1 - Franklin Lakes Tax Map

Less than 1 acre

U.T.M.

18 566 270 4538 080  
Paterson, New Jersey