

NEW JERSEY OFFICE OF CULTURAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES
HISTORIC PRESERVATION SECTION
INDIVIDUAL STRUCTURE SURVEY FORM

HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY NO. 15

HISTORIC NAME: Garret Aug. Ackerman House
LOCATION: 212 E. Saddle River Road,
SW corner of Sammill Road
MUNICIPALITY: Saddle River
USGS QUAD: Park Ridge
OWNER/ADDRESS: James Moore

COMMON NAME:
BLOCK/LOT 1402/1
COUNTY: Bergen
UTM REFERENCES:
Zone/Northing/Easting

DESCRIPTION
Construction Date: North wing, c. 1858
South wing, c. 1832

Source of Date: owner

Architect:

Builder:

Style: vernacular

Form/Plan Type:



Number of Stories: north wing: 2 1/2
south wing: 1 1/2-2

Foundation: rubblestone w/ some brownstone ashlar

Exterior Wall Fabric: clapboards, C: shiplap

Finestration: north wing: 3 bays, 2/2
south wing: 3 bays x 2, 4/4 on 1st story, 2/2 on 2nd.

Roof/Chimney/gables; added exterior chimneys, B: interior chimney

Additional Architectural Description:

Northwing: 3 bay porch, c. 1951 photo shows with capitals and elliptically-arched braces suggesting spandrels, side entrance door with sidelights and transom, pointed-arched window in gable, gable end faces street.

South wing: 3 bay porch with plain posts, side entrance door - plain frieze.

Rear, east wing: 1 story, gable roof, exterior end chimney added, believed to have been a summer kitchen.

PHOTO Negative File No. 19844-13, slide

Map (Indicate North)



15 SITING, BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION, AND RELATED STRUCTURES: 2.321 acre property, faces west, setback c. 75' from road on hill on corner lot. To rear (E) is 2½ frame barn c. 1858, shiplap siding, gable roof, and 1 story corn crib w/ vertical board siding.

SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT: Urban Suburban Scattered Buildings
Open Space Woodland Residential Agricultural Village
Industrial Downtown Commercial Highway Commercial Other

SIGNIFICANCE: The Garret Augustus Ackerman House is an unpretentious but attractive example of local regional 19th century frame domestic architecture. As a former farmhouse, it is a remnant of Saddle River's agricultural history. The house's various parts were erected at different times to meet changing needs of inhabitants. The south wing, the oldest, was probably built about 1832. This wing has the eyebrow windows commonly found in early 19th century Bergen County houses. Its brownstone foundation also suggest a pre-Civil-War construction date. The wing faces westward taking advantage of the panoramic views afforded from the hillside setting and fronting the road. This orientation is evidence of a post-18th century construction date, as earlier buildings typically would have faced south or southeast regardless of views and placement of roads. It is possible that the south wing was originally a tenant farmer's residence. In 1858 Garret Augustus Ackerman, a member of one of this area's oldest families made the building the homestead of a 100 acre farm. The Ackerman family tradition credits him with building the house in 1858, but it seems probable that he erected the north wing then, attaching it to an earlier building. The house remained in the Ackerman family ownership until 1951. The building's exterior, except for loss of mid-19th c. porch trim, retains good historic architectural integrity and is enhanced by the presence of early accessory buildings.

ORIGINAL USE: Residential PRESENT USE: Residential
PHYSICAL CONDITION: Excellent Good Fair Poor
REGISTER ELIGIBILITY: Yes Possible No Part of District
THREATS TO SITE: Roads Development Zoning Deterioration
No Threat Other

COMMENTS:

REFERENCES:
1801 Hopkins Map: G. Ackerman. NJHSI 0258-17
1876 Walker Atlas: G. Aug. Ackerman. 1887 Driving Map: G.A. Ackerman
1902 Robinson Map: G. Ackerman
1913 Bromley Atlas: G. Ackerman
1964 Inskeep Map: G. Augustus Ackerman (built 1858) (Civil War Veteran).
CKT List.
SRHC files.
Lampe and Livingston, Ackerman Homesteads, pp. 96-99.

RECORDED BY: TRB
ORGANIZATION: BCOC&HA

DATE: 11-17-83

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 USCS QUAD: Park Ridge
 OWNER/ADDRESS: James Moore

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 BLOCK/LOT 1402/1

COUNTY: Bergen
 UTM REFERENCES:

Zone/Northing/Easting

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Style: vernacular

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 south wing: 1½-2

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