

BERGEN COUNTY STONE HOUSE SURVEY

INDIVIDUAL STRUCTURE SURVEY FORM

98

GENERAL 42

HISTORIC NAME: Packer House

COMMON NAME:

LOCATION: 600 Irving Avenue
(Block 2304, Lot 1-A)
Franklin Lakes

MUNICIPALITY: Franklin Lakes

OWNERSHIP: Public Private

OWNER/ADDRESS: Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Dopp
(name)

REFERENCE

MAP REFERENCES:

- Erskine (1778-80)
- Hopkins-Corey (1861) W.I. Packer
- Walker's Atlas (1876) Henry W. Packer
- Bromley (1912) W.C. Newman
- Other

RECOGNITION:

- National Register
- BCHS Marker
- HABS #6-528
- Bailey
- Other N.J. Inventory

ENVIRONMENT

HOUSE ORIENTATION: S 60° E

IMPORTANT RELATED STRUCTURES:

SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT:

- Residential
- Commercial
- Agricultural
- Open Space
- Other

COMMENTS:

USE

ORIGINAL: Residence

PRESENT: Residence

THREATS

THREATS TO STRUCTURE:

- Roads
- Development (possible)
- Zoning
- Deterioration
- Other
- No Threat

COMMENTS:

CONDITION

CONDITION:

- Excellent
- Fair
- Good
- Deteriorated

STATUS:

- Occupied
- Unoccupied
- Work in Progress

ACCESSIBLE:

- Yes, Restricted
- Yes, Unrestricted
- No

All the stonework, except the quoins on the facade, has been stuccoed, a full shed dormer, a modern wing and a kitchen in what was an added breezeway have been added, giving this house a reproduction look. The original kitchen wing fireplace has been rebuilt and exterior chimneys have been added on the north and south. Two partitions have been moved, so that the stairway is now open to the living room, which is full depth.

PHOTO



MAP



CONSTRUCTION DATE/SOURCE:

1789/Tradition;
c.1795 or later/Architectural evidence.

BUILDER:

probably Conrad H. Packer

FORM/PLAN TYPE:

"0" 4 bay, 2 rooms deep (32'2½" x
30'2½"). Stone wing (17'3" x 30'2").

FRAMING SYSTEM:

- Intermediate Summer Beam
 Intermediate Bearing Wall
 Clear Span
 Other

EXTERIOR WALL FABRIC:

Stucco w/ sandstone quoins on facade,
remainder stucco.

FENESTRATION:

2'9" x 4'4" (12/8), wood trapezoidal
lintels. Sides 2'1" x 3'6" sash (6/6);
rear 2'8" x 3'6" sash (8/8).
Wing: 2'1" x 3'6" sash (6/6).

ENTRANCE LOCATION/TYPE:

Twinn doors w/ 3 lite transom
2'9" x 6'2-1/2". Wing has 2'10" x
5'11" batten Dutch door in north end
bay.

NUMBER OF STORIES: 1-1/2

CELLAR: Yes (partial)
 No

CHIMNEY FOUNDATION:

- Stone Arch
 Brick Arch, Stone Foundation
 Other

FLOOR JOISTS:

FIRST FLOOR CEILING HEIGHT:

7'9"
FIRST FLOOR WALL THICKNESS:

- 20"
GARRET FLOOR JOISTS: Main not
visible, Kitchen wing 4½-5" x
GARRET: /6-7", 29-34" o.c.
 Unfinished Space
 Finished Space

ROOF:

- Gable
 Gambrel
 Curb
 Other

EAVE TREATMENT:

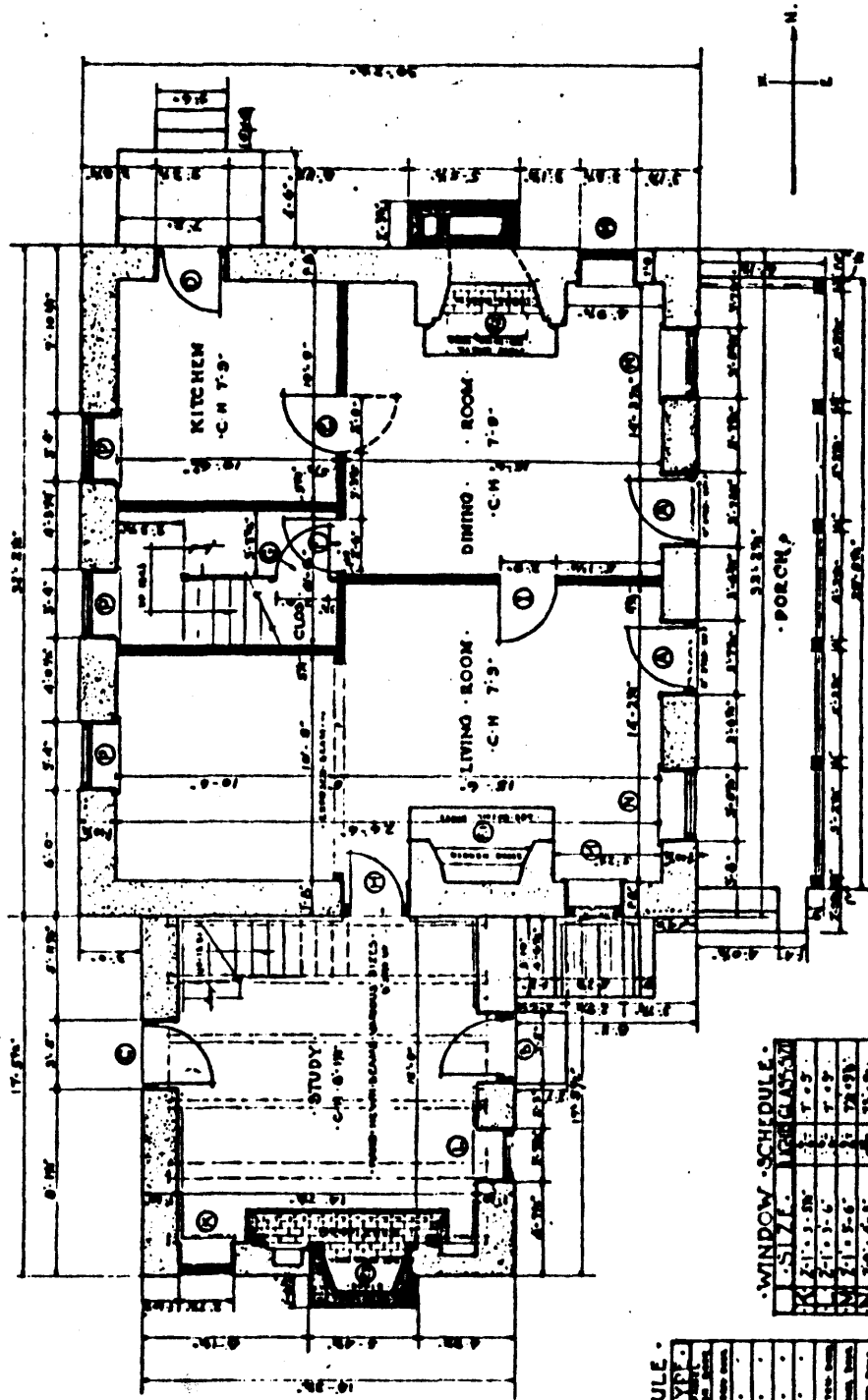
- Sweeping Overhang
 Supported Overhang (front)
 No Overhang
 Boxed Gutter
 Other

This house is significant for its architecture and its association with the exploration and settlement of the Bergen County, New Jersey area. It is a reasonably well preserved example of the Form/Plan Type as shown and more fully described herein. 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.



BERGEN COUNTY STONE HOUSE SURVEY
 HISTORIC NAME: William Packer House
 LOCATION: 600 Ewing Avenue, Franklin Lakes

99



LEGEND
 MASONRY (STONE)
 BRICK
 FRAME & PLASTER

FIRST FLOOR PLAN
 NO SECOND FLOOR PLAN DRAWN - ALL MODERN-RECENT ALTERATION

DOOR SCHEDULE

NO.	SIZE	TYPE
1	2'-0" x 6'-0"	6 PANEL
2	2'-0" x 6'-0"	6 PANEL
3	2'-0" x 6'-0"	6 PANEL
4	2'-0" x 6'-0"	6 PANEL
5	2'-0" x 6'-0"	6 PANEL
6	2'-0" x 6'-0"	6 PANEL
7	2'-0" x 6'-0"	6 PANEL
8	2'-0" x 6'-0"	6 PANEL
9	2'-0" x 6'-0"	6 PANEL
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47	2'-0" x 6'-0"	6 PANEL
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49	2'-0" x 6'-0"	6 PANEL
50	2'-0" x 6'-0"	6 PANEL

WINDOW SCHEDULE

NO.	SIZE	TYPE
1	2'-0" x 3'-0"	6 PANEL
2	2'-0" x 3'-0"	6 PANEL
3	2'-0" x 3'-0"	6 PANEL
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1/4" = 1'-0"
 METRIC

CARROLL A. DE SANTO, JR., O.E.L.

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
 OFFICIAL PROJECT NO. 646-22-848
 1000 WEST 11TH AVENUE, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10019
 PHONE (212) 693-1000

THE PACKER HOUSE
 EWING AVENUE, BORO OF FRANKLIN LAKES, NEW JERSEY

NO. NJ-528

NEW YORK AMERICAN
 BUILDING SURVEY
 MAPS 3 x 9 INCHES

1/4" = 1'-0" FEET
 METRIC

The early history of this house is lost in obscurity. Erskine did not survey this road during the Revolution, so we do not know the owner at this time; but its method of construction shows that the house belongs to an earlier period than the war. The early titles to a large part of northwestern Bergen County were involved and dubious; possibly an attempt to rectify this, Stevens and Company obtained a grant in 1789 for 5000 acres, consisting of tracts in various localities in western Bergen Co.; they sold to many settlers, including a Packer. The sale may refer to this property, as the first Packer arrived about this time.

The progenitor of the Packer family in this region came to Wyckoff from a place unknown; he died when still a young man and lies buried at Wyckoff; his first name is unknown but may have been John, since his son William's eldest son was named John. He is supposed to have had but one child, William J. Packer, b. Jan. 10, 1795,* d. Jan 26, 1863,* married Sept. 27, 1817* Peggy Micklor, b. March 13, 1799,* died about 1875, i sue six sons and five daughters. William Packer must have been well-to-do and have had his full complement of land, for he gave farms to every one of his six sons. The homestead was inherited by the son Henry W. Packer, b. Jan. 29, 1837,* died in 1918, married Jane Cole. He sold the place about 1910 to the Newmans of New York City, and they sold to Henry Barrett Crosby, the present [at the time of Bailey's writing] owner.

The house was probably built at... different periods. The first story of the [kitchen] wing is built of stone laid with a clay and straw mortar and has hand-hewn laths...; the diminutive size of the window opening was... typical of the early period. The main house may have been built by the first Packer shortly after the Revolution; the stone quoins and the stone lintels left in their natural color in patterned contrast to the white-washed stone front of the building are characteristic of the late eighteenth century, although the size of the windows is more typical of the pre-Revolutionary era. The frame half-story was doubtless added to the wing by William Packer....

* Taken from family Bible.

(The above is quoted from Rosalie Fellows Bailey's Pre-Revolutionary Dutch Houses and Families in Northern New Jersey and Southern New York. New York: Dover Publications, Inc., 1968.)

It is suspected that the nameless progenitor of the Packer family could have been Coenradt Henselpacker, who bought Lot #44 of the Ramapo Tract on January 30, 1787. Henry Barret Crosby owned the house at the time of the HABS survey. According to Maria Braun, the Walters owned it in 1965. The wing appears to have been built as a kitchen, which seems to have originally contained a jambless fireplace. There have been reports that the kitchen wing was built first about 1730, but this is very unlikely. - CKT

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:

Block 2304, Lot 1A - Franklin Lakes Tax Map

4.1 acres

U.T.M.

18 567 670 4539 380
Ramsey, NJ