

CONSTRUCTION DATE/SOURCE:

c. 1700, 1752; revamped c. 1800, 1892/
Durie, HABS

BUILDER: David Ackerman and John Zabriskie

FORM/PLAN TYPE:

Was "B" probably & expanded sideways
and in depth to 8 bays, 2 rooms deep,
split level (67'0" x 35'10")

FRAMING SYSTEM:

- Intermediate Summer Beam
 Intermediate Bearing Wall
 Clear Span probably laid on grade in
 Other rear section.

EXTERIOR WALL FABRIC:

Evenly cut, rough faced sandstone, more
irregular and with rubble on rear.

FENESTRATION:

2'10" x 5'2" (6/6, were 12/12), no lintels

ENTRANCE LOCATION/TYPE:

3rd bay from south side on east facade
(also identical door in 6th bay) 3'3" x
6'8" with transom.

NUMBER OF STORIES: 1-1/2

CELLAR: Yes
 No

CHIMNEY FOUNDATION:

- Stone Arch
 Brick Arch, Stone Foundation
 Other

FLOOR JOISTS:

FIRST FLOOR CEILING HEIGHT:

8'6-3/4" clearance

FIRST FLOOR WALL THICKNESS:

1'6" & 1'9"

GARRET FLOOR JOISTS:

not visible

GARRET:

- Unfinished Space
 Finished Space

ROOF:

- Gable
 Gambrel
 Curb
 Other

EAVE TREATMENT:

- Sweeping Overhang (small in rear)
 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

INDIVIDUAL STRUCTURE SURVEY FORM

295

144
GENERAL
ENVIRONMENT
CONDITION
PHOTO

HISTORIC NAME: Ackerman-Zabriskie-Steuben House

COMMON NAME:

LOCATION: 1209 Main Street
~~Block 75, Lots 6B, D & E~~

MUNICIPALITY: River Edge

OWNERSHIP: Public Private

OWNER/ADDRESS: State of New Jersey

REFERENCE

MAP REFERENCES:

- Erskine (1778-80) no name
- Hopkins-Corey (1861) D.A. Zabriskie
- Walker's Atlas (1876) David A. Zabriskie
- Bromley (1912) no name
- Other

RECOGNITION:

- National Register BCHS Marker
- HABS NJ-47 Bailey
- Other

HOUSE ORIENTATION: N 80° E

IMPORTANT RELATED STRUCTURES:

SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT:

- Residential
- Commercial
- Agricultural
- Open Space
- Other

COMMENTS:

USE

ORIGINAL: Residence

PRESENT: Museum

TREATS TO STRUCTURE:

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

COMMENTS:

CONDITION:

- Excellent Good
- Fair Deteriorated

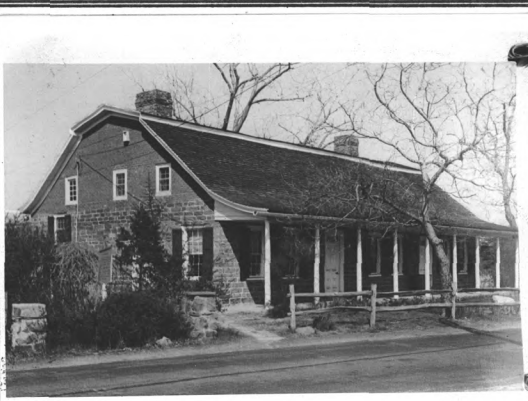
STATUS:

- Occupied
- Unoccupied
- Work in Progress

ACCESSIBLE:

- Yes, Restricted
- Yes, Unrestricted
- No

This is a fine house and a good example of growth from a primitive dwelling into a Revolutionary period mansion. Major restoration work was done in the summer of 1938. A concrete slab was poured and a new wood floor put down, the walls and ceilings were replastered on wire lath, a new heating system was installed, as well as a bath and lavatory. Four dormers were also removed.



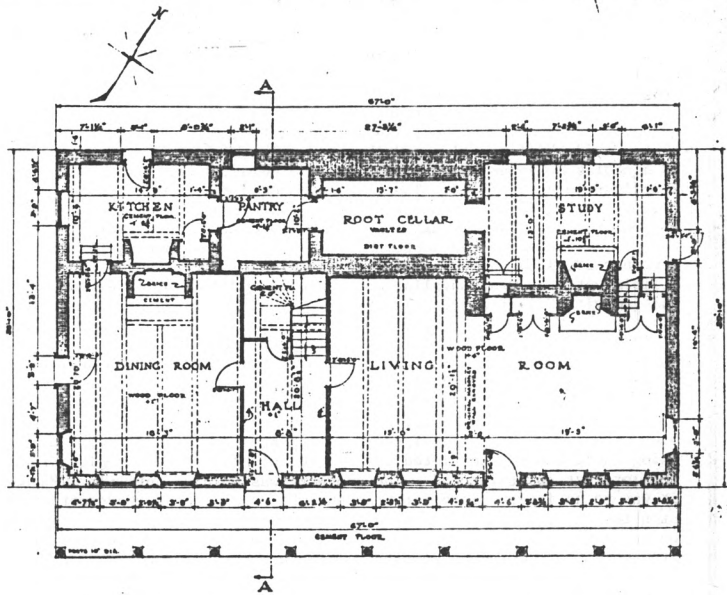
MAP



BERGEN COUNTY STONE HOUSE SURVEY
HISTORIC NAME: Ackerman-Zabriskie-Steuben House
LOCATION: 1209 Main Street, River Edge

296

144
FLOOR PLANS



As of 1682 the first owner of record of this property was Mathew Corneliusen. David Ackerman, an area resident since at least 1685, and his wife Hillegard Verplank, purchased 420 acres from Corneliusen on October 29, 1695. About 1700 he built a dwelling which is believed to be still part of this house, and a little later built a gristmill. He appears to have died between 1710 and 1714. Son Johannes (baptized April 16, 1684) married Jannetje Lozier on June 6, 1713 and inherited the house and mill. The bridge seems to have been built about 1740 from whence the name "New Bridge" developed. Johannes died between November, 1743 and November, 1744, leaving the property among his four sons "David, Niclas, Gilyn and Abraham". The homestead tract was sold by Nicholas Ackerman to John Zabriskie, a Colonial magistrate, and his wife Annetje before 1745. The house was added to in this period and may even have achieved its present size by 1752. John died between June 27 and October 25, 1744 and his son John J., who was living there inherited the place. He (baptized September 3, 1741) married Jannetje Goelet on November 21, 1764 and was a lieutenant colonel in the Bergen County Militia until he went Loyalist and resigned on June 16, 1776. He was charged with "disaffection" in mid 1777 by his uncle Joost Zabriskie and fled to New York City in 1780. His property was confiscated. On December 23, 1783 the New Jersey State Legislature gave that part of the estate that was considered to be "lying at New-bridge" to Major General Frederick William Augustus Baron de Steuben for his services during the Revolutionary War provided that he live there himself. Steuben probably wished to have it as a tenant farm and summer place, preferring to live mostly in the city. He resigned from the army on March 24, 1784 authorizing the agent for forfeited estates to sell the tract and give Steuben the interest on it instead. The property was sold on April 1, 1785 but it was to an intermediary for Steuben, who complained to Governor Livingston that the 13 acre wood lot was being left out of the sale. Finally on September 5, 1788 the State Legislature turned full title over to Steuben who turned around and sold it on December 4, 1788 to a John Zabriskie, Jr. for \$1200. John Zabriskie, Jr., believed to be the grandson of the first John, was born on September 30, 1767. He died intestate on July 6, 1793 at only 25 years of age. His wife Catharine (Hoogland) remarried Abraham Collins and about two years later they sold the property to Dirck and John Banta who retained it until about 1800. They built a new dam and then sold the house and sixty acres to Lucas Van Buskirk. He forfeited it on February 20, 1808 and the property was picked up by Jacobus and Margaret Demarest who sold the house and 49 acres to Albert A. Van Voorhis on May 25, 1808. On January 3, 1815 Daniel and Elizabeth Denniston sold the same premises to Andrew Zabriskie whose son John A. and Mary sold several parcels, including this "4th tract", on December 5, 1839 to David Anderson Zabriskie. His daughter, Magdalena, sold it on October 1, 1909 to Charles W. Bell who sold it on May 22, 1911 to the American Ink Company. This property was bought by David D. and Blanche Bellis and turned over to the Bergen County Historical Society on July 30, 1945. Millicent Hearst, acting for William Randolph Hearst was named on the deed. The house and one acre was owned by Anita and Walter Irwin who sold it for \$9,000 to the State of New Jersey on June 27, 1928.

(Source: National Register Nomination Form)

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Block 75, Lots 6B, D & E - River Edge Tax Map
1.0 acre

UTM
18 581 590 4529 420
Hackensack, NJ