33

BERGEN COUNTY STONE HOUSE SURVEY

INDIVIDUAL STRUCTURE SURVEY FORM

80

GENERAL

HISTORIC NAME: John G. Benson House ~~(Benson, Northern Valley~~

COMMON NAME: Chapter, American Red Cross)

LOCATION: 60 Grand ~~Avenue~~ ~~(Block 2408, Lot 6)~~

MUNICIPALITY: Englewood

OWNERSHIP: ☐ Public ■ Private

OWNER/ADDRESS: Red Cross

REFERENCE

MAP REFERENCES:

- ☐ Erskine (1778-80)
- ■ Hopkins-Corey (1861) G. Bloomer
- ■ Walker's Atlas (1876) Terry
- ■ Bromley (1912) No name
- ☐ Other

RECOGNITION:

- ☐ National Register
- ■ BCHS Marker
- ☐ HABS
- ☐ Bailey
- ☐ Other

ENVIRONMENT

HOUSE ORIENTATION: S 45° E

IMPORTANT RELATED STRUCTURES:

SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT:

- ☐ Residential
- ■ Commercial
- ☐ Agricultural
- ☐ Open Space
- ☐ Other

COMMENTS:

USE

ORIGINAL: Residence

PRESENT: Offices

THREATS

THREATS TO STRUCTURE:

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

COMMENTS: Seems secure under present ownership.

CONDITION

CONDITION:

- ☐ Excellent
- ■ Good
- ☐ Fair
- ☐ Deteriorated

STATUS:

- ■ Occupied as offices
- ☐ Unoccupied
- ☐ Work in Progress

ACCESSIBLE:

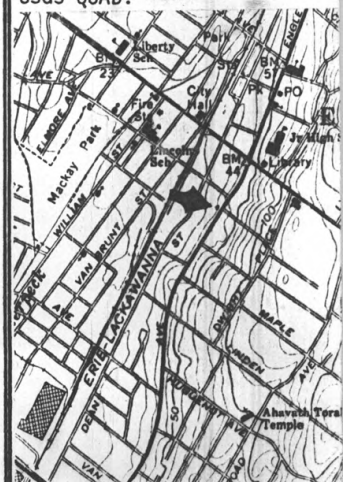
- ☐ Yes, Restricted
- ☐ Yes, Unrestricted
- ☐ No

This is a fine house, amazingly unaffected by its office use. One partition had been removed and the cellar is finished. Even wide boards have been restored. It has Vreeland-type fancy work inside: arches, transoms, decorative surroundings, etc. Over-large shed and gambrel dormer on front, three gable type dormers on rear.

PHOTO

MAP

USGS QUAD: Yonkers



DESCRIPTION

CONSTRUCTION DATE/SOURCE:
Occupants say 1784, BCHS says c. 1800, architectural evidence indicates c. 1810-20.

BUILDER:
John G. Benson

FORM/PLAN TYPE:
Modified "F" 5 bay, center hall, 4 rooms w/ internal fireplaces, 47'0" x 36'4" deep

FRAMING SYSTEM:
- ☐ Intermediate Summer Beam
- ☐ Intermediate Bearing Wall
- ☐ Clear Span
- ☐ Other

EXTERIOR WALL FABRIC:
Evenly cut sandstone on north, east & south. West is random rubble.

FENESTRATION:
6/6, 36" x 67", sandstone trapezoidal lintels.

ENTRANCE LOCATION/TYPE:
Center, has Victorian double doors now, but probably had sidelights. Large fan-light with sandstone arch, but no decorative caming.

NUMBER OF STORIES: 1-1/2

CELLAR:
- ■ Yes
- ☐ No

CHIMNEY FOUNDATION:
- ☐ Stone Arch
- ☐ Brick Arch, Stone Foundation
- ☐ Other

FLOOR JOISTS:
Not exposed.

FIRST FLOOR CEILING HEIGHT:
9'3"

FIRST FLOOR WALL THICKNESS:
22"

GARRET FLOOR JOISTS:

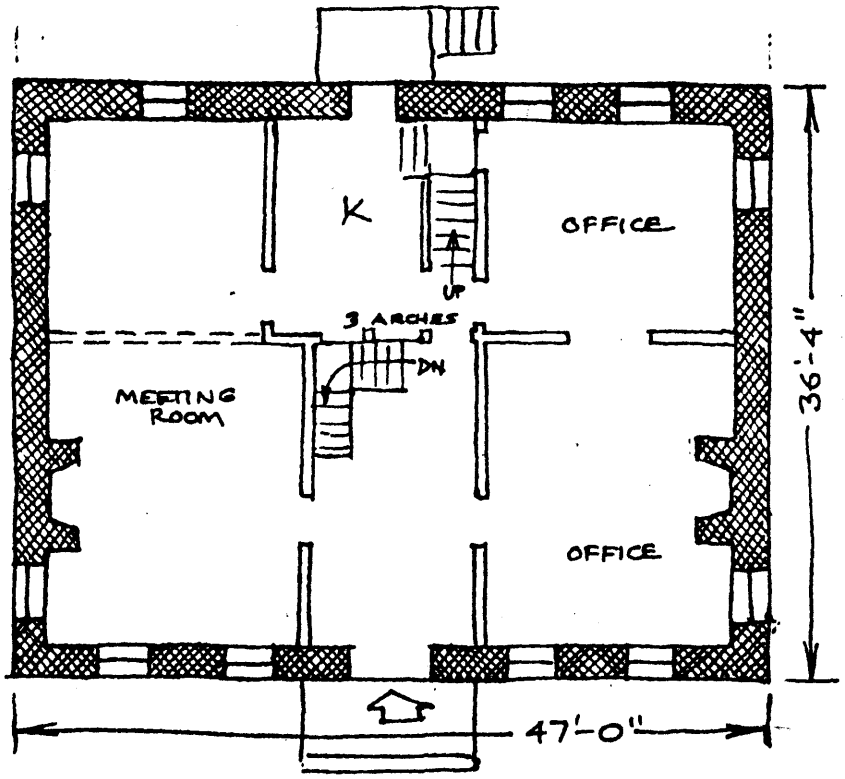
GARRET:
- ☐ Unfinished Space
- ■ Finished Space

ROOF:
- ☐ Gable
- ■ Gambrel
  - ■ Curb
- ☐ Other

EAVE TREATMENT:
- ☐ Sweeping Overhang
- ☐ Supported Overhang
- ☐ No Overhang
- ☐ Boxed Gutter
- ☐ Other

This house 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.

FLOOR PLANS



BACKGROUND INFORMATION

This land belonged to the Lydecker family in the 18th century and was bought by John G. Benson in 1784. His purchase consisted on 379 acres. Benson was a captian in the militia from 1794 to 1797. He died May 8, 1828 and his wife Maria died on August 16, 1835. Their only son Garret inherited the property. His brother-in-law Teunis Banta acquired the property and sold the house and 103.52 acres to George Bloomer and Anderson Bloomer n May 20, 1849. They sold it with nineteen acres to J. Smith Homans, who sold in 1869 to Cornelius Lydecker. In 1870 he sold 1.87 acres to Stephen Lane. The Ferreira family sold to Mabrey in 1921 and they sold to the American Red Cross on April 20, 1936.

(Source: Howard I. Durie)

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:

Block 2408, Lot 6 - Englewood Tax Map

Less than 1 acre

U.T,M.

18 586 350 4526 940
Yonkers, New Jersey-New York