

GENERAL

HISTORIC NAME: Caspar Westervelt House  
 COMMON NAME:  
 LOCATION: 20 Sherwood Road  
 (Block 3309, Loc 5)  
 MUNICIPALITY: Teaneck  
 OWNERSHIP:  Public  Private  
 OWNER/ADDRESS: Dr. George L. Farrell  
 (same)

REFERENCE

MAP REFERENCES:  
 Erskine (1778-80)  
 Hopkins-Corey (1861) P. Westervelt, Sr.  
 Walker's Atlas (1876) Peter P. Westervelt  
 Bromley (1912) no name /velt  
 Other  
 RECOGNITION:  
 National Register  BCHS Marker  
 HABS #6-113  Bailey  
 Other

ENVIRONMENT

HOUSE ORIENTATION: S 70° E  
 IMPORTANT RELATED STRUCTURES:

SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT:

- Residential  
 Commercial  
 Agricultural  
 Open Space  
 Other

COMMENTS:

THREATS TO STRUCTURE USE

ORIGINAL: Residence  
 PRESENT: Residence

THREATS TO STRUCTURE:

- Roads  
 Development  
 Zoning  
 Deterioration  
 Other  
 No Threat,

COMMENTS:

CONDITION

CONDITION:  
 Excellent  Good  
 Fair  Deteriorated  
 STATUS:  
 Occupied  
 Unoccupied  
 Work in Progress  
 ACCESSIBLE:  
 Yes, Restricted  
 Yes, Unrestricted  
 No

The house is impressive, hugging the ground and stretching over 74'0" in length. Three wall dormers break through the eave line of the roof front and rear, giving it an odd appearance. Unusual also is the pairing of the windows on the facade.

PHOTO



MAP

USGS QUAD: Weehawken



**DESCRIPTION**

**CONSTRUCTION DATE/SOURCE:**

1763/Datestone

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

**CELLAR:**  Yes  
 No

**BUILDER:**

probably Caspar Westervelt

**FORM/PLAN TYPE:**

May have been "F" 5 bay, now 1 room  
deep (47'3" x 31'6").

**CHIMNEY FOUNDATION:**

Stone Arch  
 Brick Arch, Stone Foundation  
 Other

**FLOOR JOISTS:**

5" x 10"

**FRAMING SYSTEM:**

Intermediate Summer Beam  
 Intermediate Bearing Wall  
 Clear Span  
 Other

**FIRST FLOOR CEILING HEIGHT:**

7'4" clearance

**FIRST FLOOR WALL THICKNESS:**

20"

**GARRET FLOOR JOISTS:**

5"? x 11"

**EXTERIOR WALL FABRIC:**

Evenly cut sandstone some very long  
blocks, irregular on north side toward  
rear where wing was.

**GARRET:**

Unfinished Space  
 Finished Space

**FENESTRATION:**

34-1/2" x 57-1/2" (2/2), no lintels.

**ROOF:**

Gable  
 Gambrel  
 Curb  
 Other

**ENTRANCE LOCATION/TYPE:**

Center bay, plain, 37" x 7'0"  
w/ portico.

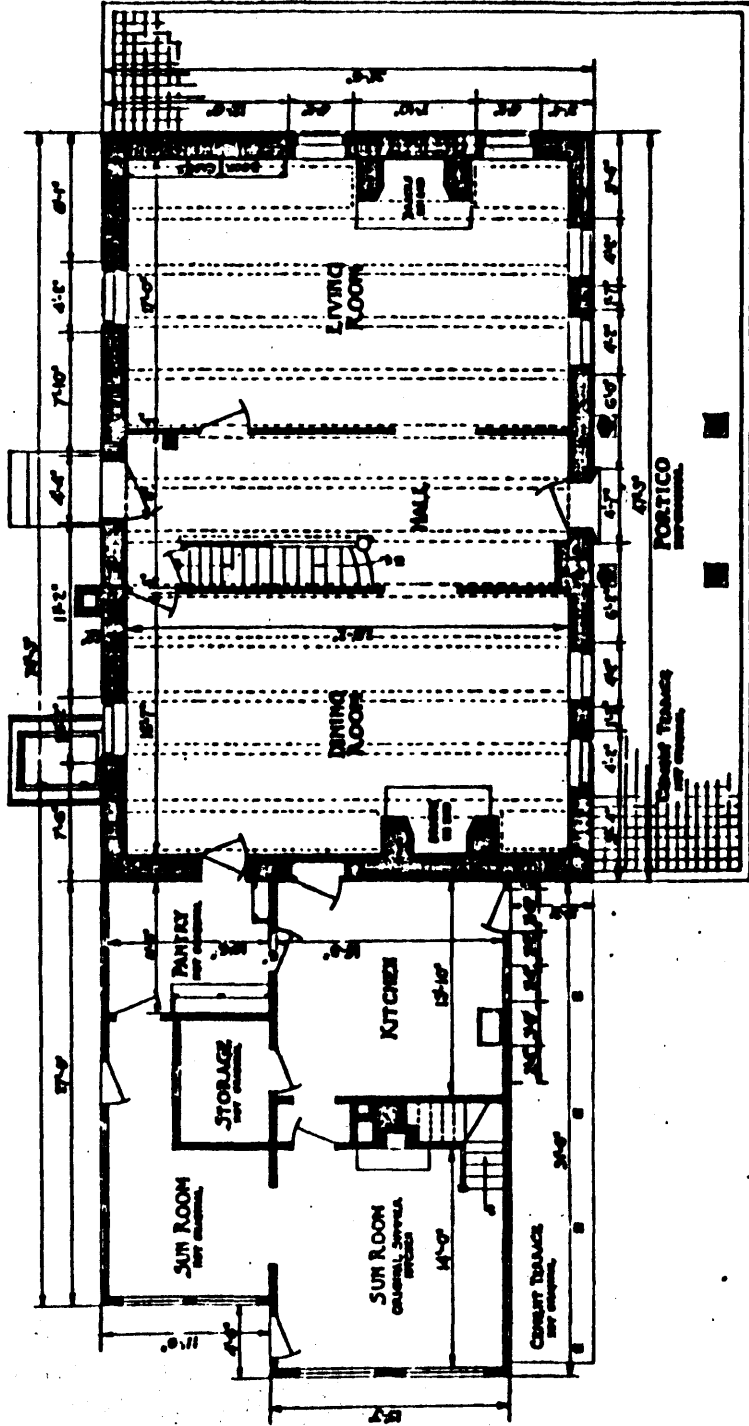
**EAVE TREATMENT:**

Sweeping Overhang may mean roof  
 Supported Overhang has been  
 No Overhang changed or cut  
 Boxed Gutter back.  
 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.



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• FIRST FLOOR PLAN •  
SCALE: 3/8" = 1' FOOT

3/8" = 1' FOOT  
METERS

THE BERGEN COUNTY HISTORIC ARCHIVES  
100 N. 2ND ST., 2ND FLOOR  
TEANECK, NJ 07646

6-115

• THE WESTERVELT HOUSE •  
129 SHERWOOD ROAD, TEANECK, NJ

THEODORE S. HOLMES DEL.  
ROBERT S. WIL

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
OFFICE OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
DIVISION OF PLANNING AND DESIGN

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

According to "History of Teaneck" the letters "WW" on the datestones beside the door stand for Wyntje or Lavinia Westervelt and "CW" for Casparus Westervelt, said to be the builder of the house. It is an early date for so large a house but probably acceptable. There was a wing to the north, which was removed and a frame wing built on the south in 1873. The British are said to have occupied the house during the Revolution and the family was evicted temporarily on two occasions - the second time being when some Hessians came. The last Westervelt to own the house was Peter whose widow sold it in 1905 to Dr. Nelson Ayers. About 1936 it was sold to Mrs. Estelle E. Miller. - CKT

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Block 3309, Lot 5 - Teaneck Tax Map

Less than 1 acre

U.T.M.

18 583 005 4524 480

Weehawkin, New Jersey=New York