UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

STATE:

New Jersey	
Bergen	·
FOR NPS USE ONL	Y
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APR 1 1 1973	
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	(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)					APR 1 1 197	3		1
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	Hopper-Van Horn House								
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	2.	LOCATION	•		^ 	13			1
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	CITY OR TOWN:								
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Z	4.	OWNER OF PROPERTY TOWNER'S NAME:						- 1 -	1
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	Historic American Buildings Survey DATE OF SURVEY: 1934 Federal State County Local								
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7. Description

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CONDITION	☐ Excellent	Good	☐ Fair	Deteriorated	Ruins	☐ Unexposed
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	y⊑ Altei	red	☐ Unaltered	1	☐ Moved	🔲 Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Exterior.

The Hopper House is a random-stone Dutch style Revolutionary structure. Constructed in two sections, the main wing is a 12 story gambrel roof building with clapboard gable ends. The Northeast gable end has a pair of chimneys while the Southwest end has only one brick chimney. The Southeast, or front facade, has five bays with a center hall. The windows are 6/6 sash with three panel shutters. The doorway is the typical Dutch double door with a three light transom overhead. There is a full length portico, possibly mid-19th century, across the front which is supported by 6 inch square columns. The roof has asphalt shingles, but there are wood shingles underneath. The rear facade has 3 bays and the windows here are 12/8 sash with 1 inch wide muntins.

The small wing to the Northwest is a one story random stone building, whitewashed, and with a gable roof. The front has 2 bays; entrance and window (8/8 sash). Indications are that this part of the house was built some years prior to the main facade. To the rear of this wing is a leanto section which is a fairly recent addition. The gable end is clapboard.

Interior.

The long hall of the Hopper House is 9½ feet wide and extends the entire width of the building. There are two main rooms to each side of the hall. The dining room to the Northeast is 17 feet by 16 feet and has a 7feet 5 inch fireplace with mantel. The mantel is approximately of the Revolutionary period. Alongside the fireplace is the entrance to the smaller section. There is a descent of about 7 inches into this kitchen wing of 16½ feet by 13 feet. The 6 inch open beams in this room, ceiling height, and the window and door forms of this section suggests that it is an elder wing as compared to the main structure. The exterior stone work, which is similar to the main facade, might indicate, however, that it was built at nearly the same period as the main structure. Further study should be undertaken to determine more precisely the period of the house.

The bedroom to the Northwest is 15 feet by 16 feet and also has fireplace, but it is bricked up.

The Southeastern room, or parlor, is 17 feet by 16 feet and has a RECEIVED fixeplace with an early 19th century mantel.

MAR 2 2 1973

The remaining room is a small bedroom which is alongside the stairway off the hall.

Most of the doors on the first floor are of the late 18th century 8 1 1 1 type; the Dutch double door in the hall having strap hinges, and the batten door in the kitchen having HL hinges. All windows on the first floor have window seats. The ceilings are 8 feet 9 inches.

The second floor appears to have been either finished off or redone in recent times, possibly at the same time the house was divided off to accommandate two families.

EE INSTRUCTIONS

Pre-Columbian	16th Century:	18th Century	20th Century
15th Century	17th Century	19th Century	
ECIFIC DATE(S) (II Applicable	and Known) 176	9, 1779, 1781	•
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Prehistoric	☐ Engineering	Religion/Phi-	Other (Specify)
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TEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE			
Settlement.			
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Earliest docume	ntation of peop	ole living on this	s property is the

Hopper House has stones going back prior to the Revolution. Robert Erskine's Revolutionary War map (1779) indicates a house on the Ramapo River bank in this locality and it is marked John Vanalen.

Architecture.

Vanalen bought the property in 1769 and sold the same to A. Hopper in 1779. When Rochambeau's Army marched through New Jersey in 1781 Louis-Alexandre Berthier was the French map maker and his maps also show the house and lot.

Whether Vanalen or Hopper built the house which stands today is uncertain. It is possible that the main house was not erected until a few years after the Revolution and the small one room wing was built a few years before.

Historic American Buildings Survey feels the house was built around 1770. They note: "As in the case of most Dutch farm houses, the kitchen wing is somewhat older than the main house, and both were built before 1770."

Whatever the exact date of construction, the Hopper House is an excellent example of the Dutch style architecture unique to the Northern New Jersey-Southern New York area. The house has few exterior alterations and appears much as it did around the time of the American Revolution.



MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES										
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	Bailey, Rosalie. Prerevolutionary Dutch Colonial Houses. 1936. Berthier, Louis-Alexandre. Map of French Army Encampments in New Jersey. 1781.								ersey.	
C:	linton,	Charles.	Survey Not	es. 17	73	9. Coshen, New 1	York I	Public Libra	ary.	
E	rskine,	Robert.	Revolutions	ry Mar	•	1779.			🗣	
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			s property for in		National Register.					
)	in the National Register and certify that it has been					(P) H 9/11				
	evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended					John Atley				
				-	Chief, Office of Arch	eology	and Historic Pres	servation		
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Date

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Form 10-300a (July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
New Jersey	
COUNTY	
Bergen	
FOR NPS USE ONL	Υ.
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
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Congressional Representation

Honorable Clifford P. Case - U.S. Senator Honorable Harrison A. Williams - U.S. Senator Honorable William B. Widnall - Congressman (7th District)





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CONSTRUCTION DATE/SOURCE: 1755-60/architectural evidence-tradition c. 1770/HABS	NUMBER OF STORIES: 1-1/2 CELLAR: Yes main No
BUILDER: Laroe, Bogert or Hopper FORM/PLAN TYPE: Main: "F", 5 bay, center hall with 2 front rooms w/f.p. and 2 back rooms. 46'-2"x35'-3". Wing: "B", 1 room 18'-0"x16'-3"	CHIMNEY FOUNDATION: Stone Arch Brick Arch, Stone Foundation Other FLOOR JOISTS: 8"x10" hewn in main
FRAMING SYSTEM: Intermediate Summer Beam Intermediate Bearing Wall Clear Span Other	FIRST FLOOR CEILING HEIGHT: Main: 8'-0"; Wing: 5'-10" FIRST FLOOR WALL THICKNESS: 21" GARRET FLOOR JOISTS: concealed
EXTERIOR WALL FABRIC: broken stone and rubble all around. Partly stuccoed on front. Whitewashed on rest. Frame shed on rear of wing.	GARRET: Unfinished Space Finished Space
FENESTRATION: 3'-7"x5'1"m.o.(6/6) sash in main 3'-4"x3'-5"m.o. (8/8) sash in wing	ROOF: Gable wing Gambrel main Curb Other
ENTRANCE LOCATION/TYPE: center bay of southeast front. Double leaf (Dutch) style door with transom. Wing has modern replacement door.	EAVE TREATMENT: Sweeping Overhang rear-main Supported Overhang No Overhang wing & front-main Boxed Gutter Other
	the a process of the contract

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.

On August 10, 1700 nineteen Hackensack Indians sold their land to Blandina Bayard, the daughter of Sarah Kiersted, the Indian translator. Blandina was a widow with five children. The tract was three by four Dutch miles (about twelve by sixteen English miles). She built a frame ho se and established an Indian trading post which was operated after her death in 1702 by her daughter-in-law Rachel Bayard and nephew Lineas Kiersted. Rachel had married Blandina's son Petrus, "a mariner". Lucas was the son of Blandina's brother Roelof. Lucas married Jannetje Laroe on February 27, 1703, but they were childless. This early house was close to the site of the Hopper house. The deed had to be re-executed on November 18, 1709, to be conveyed by the Proprietors and the Indians, and the property became known as the Ramapo Tract but was not as extensive as the original grant. Hendrick Laroe bought all of Kiersted's land (1,200 acres) after 1743 and the latter moved to Paramus by 1752. Hendrick had married Maritje Lammarse Smidt and had at least four boys and five girls. He sold off parcels -the 1753 tract was 548 acres, each son to receive 137 acres. Jacobus Laroe got the house lot, where he lived, before his father's death. The old Laroe homestead went to brother John. Jacobus' house is believed to have been built c. 1750. He had sons Hendrick, born in 1755, and Crynis, born in 1762. He sold the house on March 25, 1765 to Isaac Bogert who bought it for his son Jacobus Isaac Bogert. The lot was then 150 improved acres and 41 unimproved acres. Isaac Bogert died in 1784 and his son sold his farm (148 acres) on May 11 and went to live in Weehawken. Apparently Cornelius Haring was renting his house and he bought it. He sold it on April 2, 1788 to his older brother Judge John Haring. He sold it on October 22, 1796 with added acreage totalling 251 acres to Judge Henry Van Dalsem and his wife Nash. On January 24, 1805 they sold to Roelif Verbryck and his wife Mary Haring. On April 6, 1806 it was sold to Abraham Hopper and his wife Charity Zabriskie. He died June 7, 1820 and his widow settled the estate in 1823 and conveyed the property to her son-in-law John G. Hopper and his father Garret W. Hopper. John G. died in 1829 and Garret W. died in 1832. Son Garret I. (John) carried on and sold the house to Abraham Van Horn on February 13, 1849. He died on August 15, 1861 and son William inherited. He had married Anna Van Dien and had eight children in the house. He sold the house and considerable land to Theodore A. Havemeyer on November 1, 1889. In 1917 it was sold by his heirs to Stephen Birch, Sr., who established Marapo Farm. When Stephen Birch, Jr. died in 1970 much of the estate, including the house, was sold to the State of New Jersey for the site of Ramapo College.

(Source: Reginald McMahon in "Indian Trading Post to Ramapo College")

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

398 Ramapo Valley Road - on Ramapo College Campus

1.727 acres

U.T.M.

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