59

BERGEN COUNTY STONE HOUSE SURVEY

INDIVIDUAL STRUCTURE SURVEY FORM

134

GENERAL

HISTORIC NAME: John Hopper House

COMMON NAME: Guido's Restaurant

LOCATION: 231 Polifly Road
~~(Block 113, Lot 1)~~

MUNICIPALITY: Hackensack

OWNERSHIP: ☐ Public ■ Private

OWNER/ADDRESS:

REFERENCE

MAP REFERENCES:
- ☐ Erskine (1778-80)
- ■ Hopkins-Corey (1861) Jac.I. Hopper
- ■ Walker's Atlas (1876) Jacob I.Hopper
- ■ Bromley (1912) no name
- ☐ Other

RECOGNITION:
- ☐ National Register
- ☐ BCHS Marker
- ■ HABS #6-352
- ■ Bailey
- ■ Other N.J. Inventory

ENVIRONMENT

HOUSE ORIENTATION: 545° E

IMPORTANT RELATED STRUCTURES:

SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT:
- ☐ Residential
- ■ Commercial
- ☐ Agricultural
- ☐ Open Space
- ☐ Other

COMMENTS:

USE

ORIGINAL: residence

PRESENT: restaurant

THREATS

THREATS TO STRUCTURE:
- ■ Roads
- ☐ Development
- ☐ Zoning
- ☐ Deterioration
- ☐ Other
- ☐ No Threat

COMMENTS:

CONDITION

CONDITION:
- ☐ Excellent
- ■ Good
- ☐ Fair
- ☐ Deteriorated

STATUS:
- ■ Occupied
- ☐ Unoccupied
- ☐ Work in Progress

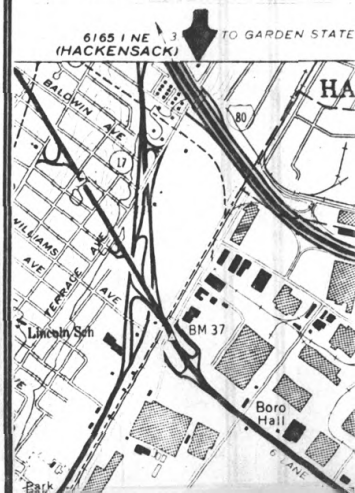
ACCESSIBLE:
- ☐ Yes, Restricted
- ■ Yes, Unrestricted
- ☐ No

A handsome house on a good site, except for the proximity of Route 80. Despite restaurant use and inappropriate decor, the fine mantels and some other early woodwork have been retained. A large addition has been attached across the rear.

PHOTO

MAP

USGS QUAD: Weehawken



DESCRIPTION

CONSTRUCTION DATE/SOURCE:
1816-1818/HABS

BUILDER: John Hopper

FORM/PLAN TYPE: "J", 5 bay center hall with 4 rooms (3 fireplaces in end walls) 48'-9"x37'-3". North wing is "C", 3 bay center door 26'-1"x23'-11". South wing is "C" 3 bay side door 27'-11"x16'-7", and an addition.

FRAMING SYSTEM:
- [x] Intermediate Summer Beam
- [ ] Intermediate Bearing Wall
- [x] Clear Span wings
- [ ] Other

EXTERIOR WALL FABRIC: dressed brown sandstone front in Flemish bond. Other walls are well coursed brown sandstone

FENESTRATION:
2'-9&1/2"x5'-4" (6/6) sash with splayed casings in main. Wings: 2'-4"x4'-7" and 2'-4"x5'-0" (6/6)

ENTRANCE LOCATION/TYPE:
centerbay of East front, split leaf (Dutch) door with fan light and side-lights. Arched lintel with keystone.

NUMBER OF STORIES: 1 & 1/2

CELLAR:
- [x] Yes
- [ ] No

CHIMNEY FOUNDATION:
- [ ] Stone Arch
- [x] Brick Arch, Stone Foundation
- [ ] Other

FLOOR JOISTS: 3-1/2"x8"@25"-27" o.c. in main. Wings are 6"x8"@30"-32" o.c.

FIRST FLOOR CEILING HEIGHT: 9'-4&1/2" in main; so. wing: 7'-10"; no. wing: 8'-

FIRST FLOOR WALL THICKNESS: 20"

GARRET FLOOR JOISTS: 7"x9" @ 36"-46" o.c. in no. wing

GARRET:
- [ ] Unfinished Space
- [x] Finished Space

ROOF:
- [x] Gable wings
- [x] Gambrel main
  - [ ] Curb
- [ ] Other

EAVE TREATMENT:
- [x] Sweeping Overhang front-main
- [ ] Supported Overhang
- [x] No Overhang wings
- [ ] 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.

early 20th C

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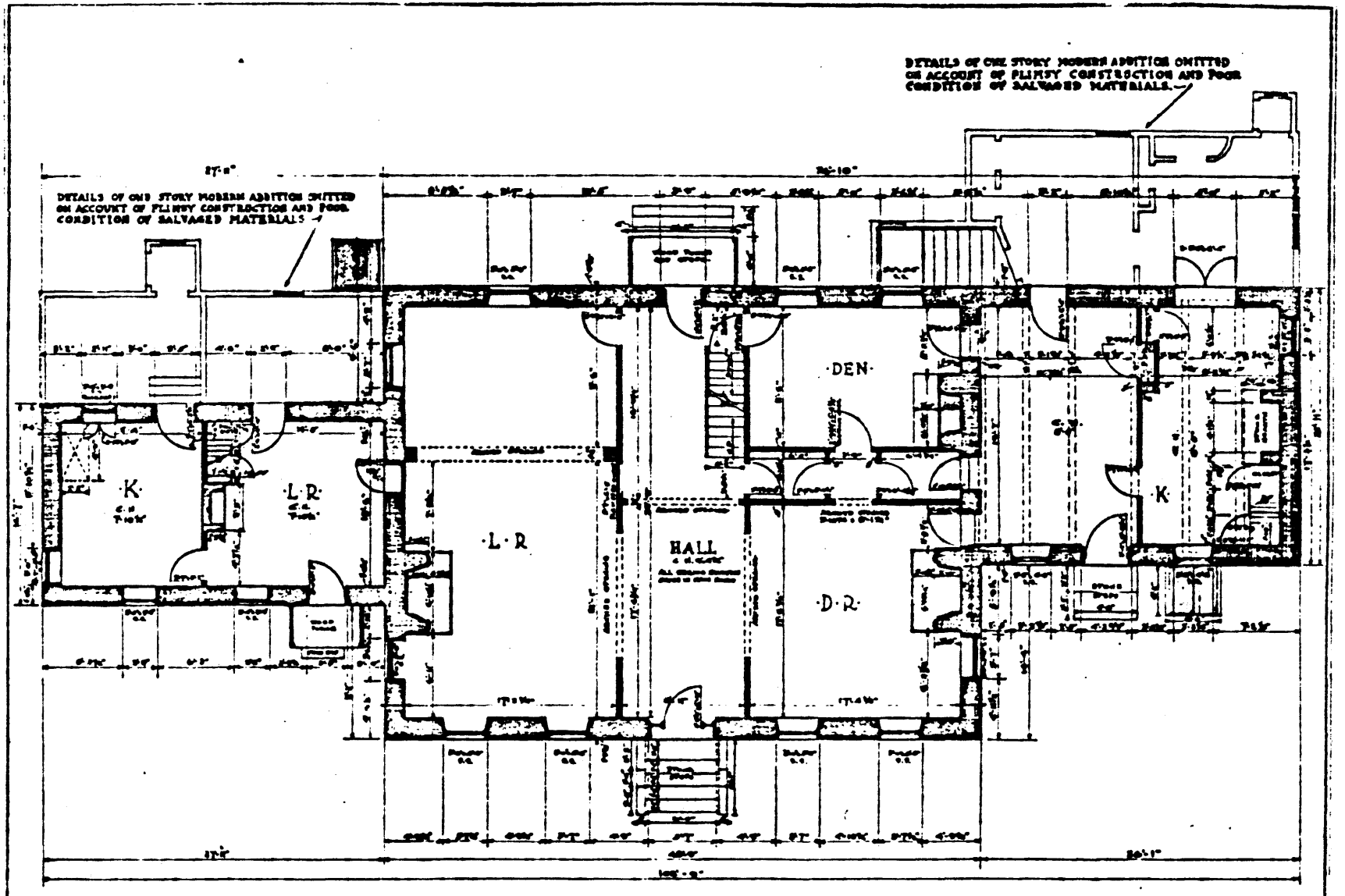

·FIRST·FLOOR·PLAN·

·ROY S. CRANE·DEL·

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
OFFICIAL PROJECT No 265-6907

NAME OF STRUCTURE
·THE·JOHN·HOPPER·HOUSE·
·249·POLIFLY·ROAD·HACKENSACK·NEW JERSEY·

SURVEY NO. NJ-352

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

135

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Hopper family is supposed to be of French descent. They went from France to Holland during the Hugenot [sic] persecution. The first Hopper, Andrew, came to America from Amsterdam as early as 1663 and settled in New Amsterdam. One of Andrew's children, William, went to Hackensack in 1686. He was followed by his two brothers Hendrick and Matthew the next year. Hendrick and Matthew purchased two farms extending from the Hackensack River to Saddle River, each built and settled on his farm.

The house of the [HABS] survey was apparently built upon the farm of Hendrick, for we find that in 1770 it was in the posession of Garret, the fifth son of Hendrick. We know that the farm was inherited by Jacob. However, the records are incomplete until we discovered the farm in the posession of John Hopper who built the present house.

The first house on the Hopper farm stood on the opposite side of the road; it was a brown sandstone structure, for we know in the building of the south wing some of the stones from the first Hopper House were used. This wing was for a long time the slaves' quarters.

The new house was built by John and his wife, Maria Terhune, in 1616-1618. It was built largely by slaves, as were many of the earlier houses, working under expert builders who were engaged for the construction.

The exterior is exceptional, especially the front which is built of dressed reddish brown sandstone laid up in Flemish bond. The house shows Georgian influence in its ornamental features. There is a full length hall with two large front rooms with hand carved mantels of classic designs. However, these rooms show the influence of the nineties with floral decorations. These mar the simplicity of the house.

(The above was quoted from HABS data sheet #NJ-352.)

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA:

Block 113, Lot 1 - Hackensack Tax Map

2.86± acres

U.T.M.

18 579 100 4525 080
Weehawkin, New Jersey-New York