

BERGEN COUNTY STONE HOUSE SURVEY

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INDIVIDUAL STRUCTURE SURVEY FORM

GENERAL

HISTORIC NAME: Winters-Courter House
 COMMON NAME:
 LOCATION: 831 Circle Avenue
 (Block 1544, Lot 7)
 MUNICIPALITY: Franklin Lakes
 OWNERSHIP: Public Private
 OWNER/ADDRESS: H. Kaptein
 (name)

REFERENCE

MAP REFERENCES:
 Erskine (1778-80)
 Hopkins-Corey (1861) J. Winters
 Walker's Atlas (1876) Wm. M. Courter
 Bromley (1912) W.M. Courter
 Other
 RECOGNITION:
 National Register BCHS Marker
 HABS Bailey
 Other

ENVIRONMENT

HOUSE ORIENTATION: S 20° E
 IMPORTANT RELATED STRUCTURES:
 Barn (across street, converted to residence) modern garage
 SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT:
 Residential
 Commercial
 Agricultural
 Open Space
 Other
 COMMENTS:

USE
 THREATS

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:
 Y.L. Restricted
 Yes, Unrestricted
 No

This house has been rough stuccoed on the facade and southwest end. Only the rear shows the broken stone construction.

PHOTO



MAP



DESCRIPTION

CONSTRUCTION DATE/SOURCE:

Plan type appears to be 18th century, but detailing appears to be 19th century

BUILDER:

Probably a Winters

FORM/PLAN TYPE:

"C" 3 bay, 1 room deep.
27'6" x 18'6" deep

FRAMING SYSTEM:

- Intermediate Summer Beam
- Intermediate Bearing Wall
- Clear Span
- Other

EXTERIOR WALL FABRIC:

Rough stucco on facade and southwest end, broken stone on rear, frame addition to east.

FENESTRATION:

6/6 31-1/2" x 51" front;
6/6 28" x 47-1/2" rear.

ENTRANCE LOCATION/TYPE:

Doorway has sidelights, probably 20th century; old photo shows Victorian double door. 59" x 6'4".

NUMBER OF STORIES: 1-3/4

CELLAR: Yes (part)
 No

CHIMNEY FOUNDATION:

- Stone Arch
- Brick Arch, Stone Foundation
- Other

FLOOR JOISTS:

FIRST FLOOR CEILING HEIGHT:

FIRST FLOOR WALL THICKNESS:
18"

GARRET FLOOR JOISTS:

GARRET:

- Unfinished Space
- Finished Space

ROOF:

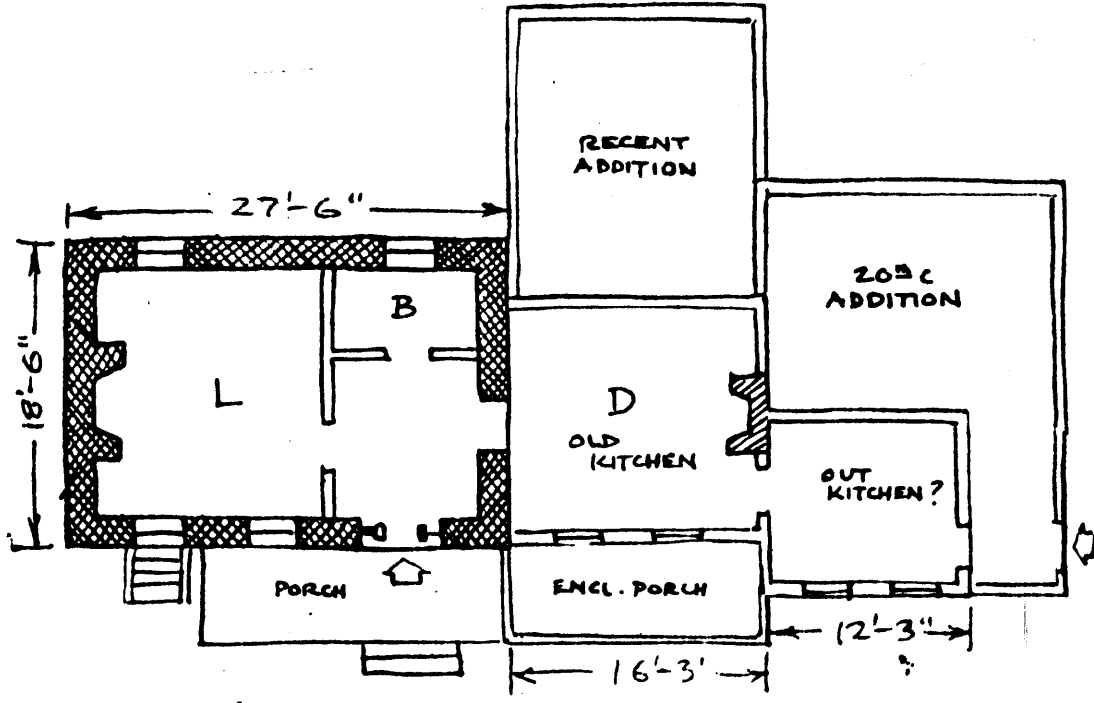
- Gable
- Gambrel
- Curb
- Other

EAVE TREATMENT:

- Sweeping Overhang
- Supported Overhang
- No Overhang
- Boxed Gutter
- Other

This house, while having been altered through the years, still retains a sufficient amount of its original fabric that it should be recognized and retained. We are therefore including it for its architectural significance, for its association with the exploration and settlement of the Bergen County area, and for its remaining historic fabric. 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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FLOOR PLANS



Peter and Margaret Pulis Winters owned this house at the time of their daughter Susen's birth in 1833. She married John Demarest, and these two celebrated their seventy-fifth anniversary in 1925. It is their sons and grandsons who are [were then?] operating Spring Lake Farm in Wyckoff.

The year 1876 finds William M. Coerter in residence here. "Uncle Willie" served in the Civil War, and was one of the few residents of Bergen County to receive a bayonet wound, as Company C of Bergen County's Twenty-Second Regiment never engaged the enemy in actual combat, but was held in reserve. Mrs. Eleanor Coerter Pulis is William Coerter's daughter and was born in this house.

The living room of the "Winter's farm house," as it was called, is thought to be the oldest section. Some of the glass panes in the rear of the house are still the original panes. The ceiling of the living room consists of the heavy wide boards of the second floor, supported by massive beams. Some of these still have bits of bark on them. Another unusual feature of the house is the extraordinary broad staircase, and the square headed nails. There is a built-in cupboard as well as a fireplace in the dining room.

The stone walls of the first floor are $1\frac{1}{2}$ feet thick. Straw and clay are found in the basement foundation.

The barn was across the street, and has been remodeled. Mr. and Mrs. E. Freshwater live[ed?] here at 830 Circle Avenue. Mr. Freshwater is [was?] the Post Master of Franklin Lakes.

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Laciura are the [then] present owners of the "Winters" farm house, located on the road leading from Leaser's corner (formerly Hammond's) directly on the next turn of that road (Circle Ave. and Mountain Ave).

(The above, except for our comments [bracketed], is quoted from Maria Braun's Franklin Lakes: Its History and Heritage.)

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:

Block 1511, Lot 7

1.06 acres

U.T.M.

18 566 680 4541 920
Ramsey, New Jersey