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United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form



NATIONAL REGISTER

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Johannes Parlaman House other names/site number

2. Location

street & number 15 Vreeland Avenue city, town Montville state New Jersey code 034 county Morris code 027 zip code 07045

3. Classification

Ownership of Property

- private public-local public-State public-Federal

Category of Property

- building(s) district site structure object

Number of Resources within Property

Table with 2 columns: Contributing, Noncontributing. Rows for buildings, sites, structures, objects, Total.

Name of related multiple property listing: Dutch Stone Houses of Montville

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Signature of certifying official Assistant Commissioner for Natural & Historic Resources/DSHPO Date 11/25/92 State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official Date State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register. determined eligible for the National Register. determined not eligible for the National Register. removed from the National Register. other, (explain:)

entered in the National Register

Signature of the Keeper: Hugh M. Rappley Date of Action: 1/17/92

for Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC / single dwelling

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC / single dwelling**7. Description**

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

COLONIAL / Dutch Colonial

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation Sandstonewalls Sandstoneroof Asphaltother Wood additions**Describe present and historic physical appearance.**

The Parlaman House was built in stages by successive generations of the original settlers' family. The house was constructed on a bluff overlooking the Rockaway River, and its original portion is one of the oldest surviving Dutch stone houses in Montville. It was recorded by HABS in 1937, and almost without exception, the changes noted to the original structure had taken place by that time.

The eastern section of the main block of the house is the original dwelling, constructed about 1755 by Johannes Parlaman. The 17 x 21 foot house was complete with one room on the main floor, attic space above, and cellar below. The roughly dressed stone walls support hand-smoothed beams, exposed within, running parallel to the gable in a framing system characteristic of Dutch architecture. A massive stone fireplace dominates the eastern gable end wall, retaining the wrought iron crane anchors necessary for an 18th century cooking fireplace. The fireplace, with its stone slab lintels and jambs, is surmounted by a white pine mantle of simple, classically derived moldings.

This room no longer retains any evidence of the stairs which must have led to the attic, but the piecing-in of floorboards on the second floor indicates that the stair was located along the gable wall opposite the fireplace. A front (south-facing) door has been replaced by a 12/8 sash window. The original window to the right of the door is a more narrowly proportioned 12/8 sash. Beneath the window, the exterior entrance to the cellar has also been blocked up. Both alterations occurred about 1935, between the time Rosalie Fellows Bailey had the house photographed for inclusion in her monumental Pre-Revolutionary Dutch Houses and Families (published 1936) and the recording of the house by HABS.

The stonework on the original section is much finer than that of the later addition. The 1755 section includes more regularly sized stones, and single slab dressed sandstone lintels, door sill and quoins. The western section, which

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doubled the size of the house, is of very irregular stone, roughly laid so that the size of the stone diminishes toward the top of the building. In the older section, the wooden window frames are pegged at the corners, framed by a simple molding. The window and door of the later section lack the refinement of molding.

In order to enlarge the house, the western gable wall of the original house was entirely demolished. Even in the basement, there is no partition wall to demarcate the different sections. But the juncture of the distinct masonry walls is clear on the facade, and the thickness of the walls is just a few inches more on the addition, confirming their construction at different dates.

On the first floor, a wooden wall divides the original house from the so-called "west parlor", which is nearly a foot higher (8') than the ceiling of the "east parlor" (7'1"). The fireplace within the western room also has stone lintels and jambs, but instead of a stone hearth it has one of brick. The wooden mantle has a diamond-pattern frieze, and narrow, almost delicate applied pilasters under the projecting mantle shelf.

This section of the house was built with a separate exterior cellar entrance, which has been closed up. In the later 18th century, the house possessed a typical Dutch symmetry, with two front doors occupying the center of the four bays, and two windows with cellar entries as the outer bays. The flagstone platform or "stoep" remains in front of the surviving doorway on the facade. The western section may have had an original rear doorway; this is now an interior passage to a later frame addition. The eastern section had a rear window, like the one on the facade, a very tall and narrowly proportioned 12/8 sash.

Sometime in the early 19th century, the single story building was enlarged with the addition of a heightened second story and a frame wing to the western side of the stone structure. The original roof shape is thus not known, although based upon other examples in Montville, it was most probably a steep gable, with only a modest overhanging front eave. The present roof is also a gable, with a projecting front eave which changes pitch from the main roof only slightly. The

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visible portion of the brick chimneys on the house must also date to this period of alteration.

The frame and clapboard addition above the stone house was unbroken by windows on the facade; two small sash windows were added on the rear. The narrow 9/6 sash windows in the gable end lighted a single bedroom above the oldest part of the house. Wooden partitions divided the area above the west parlor into two bedrooms and a hall. The central hall suggests that the original stairs remained to serve these bedrooms for some time.

The frame addition containing the dining room is an interesting blend of traditional Dutch architecture and the English-derived vernacular common throughout Morris County. It has a three-bay facade with door positioned to one side, a story-and-a-half massing with eyebrow windows on the second floor facade and flushboarding between the eyebrow windows. A shed roofed porch on simple turned supports sheltered the first floor, although this has recently been enclosed as a sun room. The gable roof is punctuated by an end brick chimney. In many respects, this could describe any number of vernacular houses of the first half of the 19th century in the area. However, its interior carries many distinctive marks of Dutch lineage, expressions of the earliest building tradition of the community. The interior is not divided into a side hall plan, as might be expected from the exterior. The single large room contains an enclosed staircase in the corner by the front door, on the gable wall opposite the fireplace. The main room is low-ceilinged (6'11"), although the two utility rooms to the rear each have higher ceilings, and are reached by descending a few steps.

A kitchen originally stood west of the frame wing of the house, its back-to-back fireplaces clearly built to accommodate the needs of cooking and baking for a large farm family. The HABS drawings note that it was removed in 1914 and replaced with a new kitchen. That one-story frame addition with shed roof was completely rebuilt again about 1950 by the present owners as a kitchen, and a two-car garage attached off the western end. The garage has a low pitch gable roof, making it lower in profile than the rest of the house.

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Thus the house proceeds from east to west, from a mid-18th century single-room house to a mid-20th century two-car garage; from finely worked stone walls to a frame of dimensioned lumber and clapboards. The additions reflect the long occupancy of the house, and do not obscure or intrude upon the original fabric.

Northwest of the house stands a two story gambrel-roofed barn of concrete block with stucco finish, clapboard gable ends, and a cupola. It is a mid-20th century replacement of the old barn on the property which burned down. An ornate 19th century cast and wrought iron fence which once enclosed the barn yard still stands.

The house faces the Rockaway River, and until recently, the roadway ran directly in front of the house between it and the edge of the bluff above the river. In 1988, construction of new condominiums on land north of the house led to realignment of the road, and an improvement in the setting of the old Parlaman House. Vreeland Avenue now runs well north of the house, separating its large, gardened lot from the new development, and visually reconnecting it to the river by the grassy lawn which replaces the noisy road.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G N/A

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

ca. 1755 - ca. 1840

Significant Dates

ca. 1755-1840

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

unknown

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

The Johannes Parlaman House is significant under National Register Criterion C, architectural merit. The stone house is of a type distinctive to the 18th century Dutch settlers of Montville and northern New Jersey. Later alterations reflect the changing needs of successive generations of the same family, and attest to the diminishing influence of traditional Dutch architecture in the 19th century. The house is maintained in a good state of architectural integrity, and it meets the criteria for inclusion in the Dutch Stone Houses of Montville Township Multiple Property Nomination.

The history of this house is well documented, and the HABS report, Rosalie Fellows Bailey's narrative, and the Montville Historical Society all agree that the construction date of the original portion of the house was about 1755. That date coincides with the marriage of twenty-five year-old Johannes Parlaman to Marytie Hyler, a neighbor and the daughter of the early settler Nicholas Hyler.

Johannes' mother, Barber (Barbara), was married to Walter Parlaman, the son of early 18th century immigrants to Hackensack. Walter died young, and his widow and son Johannes (born 1730) came to live in Hanover Township, in what was then Hunterdon County. In 1736/7, Barber Parlaman purchased a one hundred acre tract of land along the Rockaway River. The hundred acre parcel had been set off from the large tract taken up by John Reading, Deputy Surveyor General, from the East Jersey Proprietors in 1714. Reading sold the property in question to Michael Schurts in 1728, and he in turn sold it to Daniel Worms in 1730. All of these men were land speculators; only with Barber Parlaman's purchase was the land claimed for settlement.

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The same year she purchased the land, the widow Parlaman married widower Jacob Tymouth [Demouth] at the Pompton Plains Church. Bailey suggests that they built and lived in another house on the property, now gone, which stood south of the present dwelling. No house appears at this location on any of the 19th century maps of Morris County, so that if it stood, it vanished within little more than a century.

It follows the pattern established at the other Dutch stone houses in the area to believe that Johannes built near his mother, on land that was passed from her to him. Typically, it was the second generation of settlers in Morris County's Dutch community who built the stone houses which survive. Like Johannes, the builders were young men, beginning their adult lives, with the financial assistance of land from their parents.

Johannes' first, one-room-plan house was of comfortable size, and the careful attention paid to the stonework and other detailing suggests that he spent considerable time and resources on it. Johannes and his wife had six children. There is speculation by Bailey and HABS that the first addition to the house was made in the 1770s, which corresponds to a period in the family's life when more space would certainly have been desirable.

The house and lands passed to son John in 1805 through Johannes' will. It is also possible that the above-mentioned addition to the house was not made until about 1790, at the time of John Parlaman's first marriage. As the eldest, and the chosen inheritor of the family farm, John Parlaman would have remained living nearby,¹ although he and his wife could hardly be expected to join the senior Parlaman's one-room household. The Federal-style detailing of the west parlor mantle also coincides with a 1790s date.

¹ John Parlaman first appears on the tax roles for Pequannock Township in 1783, when he was a young man of twenty-three. The pattern in the Dutch communities seems to have been that a young man would begin farming land assigned to him by his father in return for paying the taxes as a mark of his coming to adulthood.

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John Parlaman's first wife, Marytie Hiler, died in 1791 after giving birth to a daughter. John remarried in 1793, and by his wife Sarah Miller had two more daughters, Barbara (1797-1844) and Ann (1799-1889). Ann married James Doremus, a Montville neighbor.² John Parlaman died in 1829, leaving the homestead to Ann and James Doremus. They were responsible for raising the roof and adding the second floor to the old house, and building the frame addition which now contains the dining room.

John Doremus died in 1853, but Ann apparently lived out her life in the house in which she was born. Both of the latter 19th century atlases for Morris County (Beers, 1868; Robinson, 1887) identify the house as belonging to "Mrs. A. Doremus." She willed the house to her granddaughter, Ada Huntoon Clark, who lived in Paterson, New Jersey.

The Clarks did not live in Montville, so they began renting the homestead by the turn of the century. Ada Clark in turn passed the property to her children, who owned it when the house was recorded by HABS. The present owner, Nathan Conklin, grew up on a neighboring farm, and remembers the recording of the old house. When Conklin bought the Parlaman property in 1966, he was the first owner who was not a descendant of Johannes Parlaman, the original builder.

The Parlaman House is a well preserved example of of the Montville Dutch stone house. Its primary additions are of interest as they document the changes a single family made to an old homestead during a century and a half of occupancy.

² James Doremus was the son of Johannis Doremus of "Doremustown", an area of the township thickly populated by members of the family. James was a nephew of Henry and Thomas Doremus, the owner and resident, respectively, of the stone house included in this Multiple Property Nomination where George Washington stayed one night in 1780.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bailey, Rosalie Fellows. Pre-Revolutionary Dutch Houses and Families. New York: The Holland Society, 1936.

Fowler, Alex D. Splinters From the Past. Morristown, N.J.: Morris County Historical Society, 1984, pp. 61-62.

Historic American Buildings Survey, N.J. 49 "Johannes Parlaman House", 1937.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # NJ-49
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository:

Morristown & Morris Township Public Lib
1 Miller Road, Morristown, N.J. 07960

10. Geographical Data

Acres of property 2.23 acres Boonton, NJ Quad

UTM References

A

1	8	5	5	2	1	8	0	4	5	2	7	7	2	0
Zone				Easting				Northing						

B

Zone				Easting				Northing						

C

Zone				Easting				Northing						

D

Zone				Easting				Northing						

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The entire, roughly square property between the Rockaway River and Vreeland Avenue in Montville Township known as Block 54, lot 18.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The present property is the remainder of the original tract of land upon which the house was built. Its location on the Rockaway River provides a connection with a waterway important to the historical inhabitants of the house.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Janet W. Foster / Associate Director
organization Acroterion date September 14, 1990
street & number 71 Maple Avenue telephone 201 984 9660
city or town Morristown state N.J. zip code 07960

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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PHOTOGRAPHS
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Johannes Parlaman House
Dutch Stone Houses of Montville

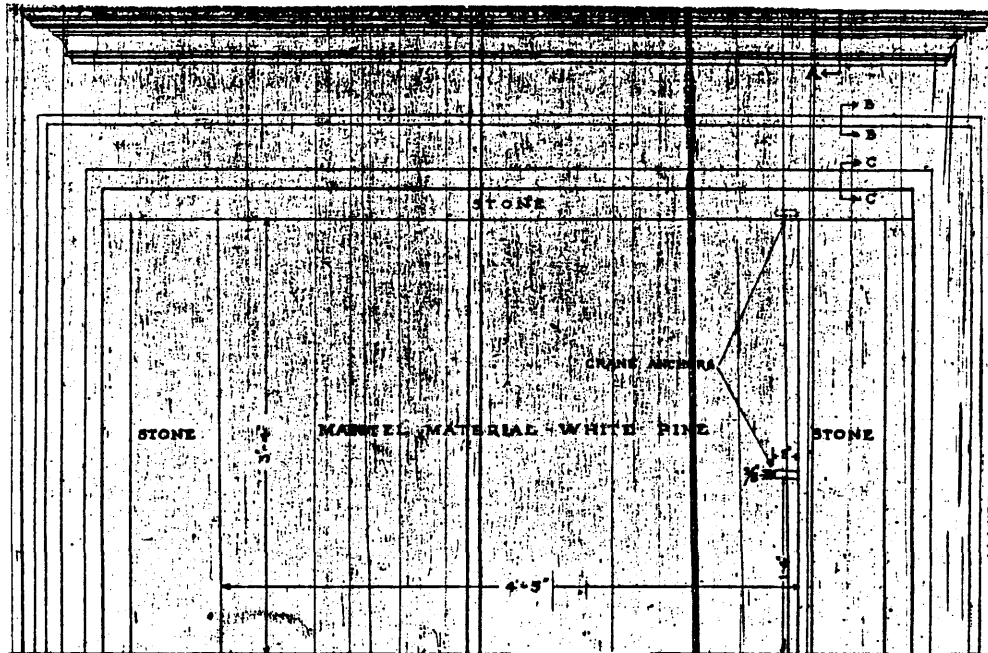
Johannes Parlaman House
15 Vreeland Avenue
Montville Township, Morris County, New Jersey

Photographs by Janet W. Foster
Acroterion Historic Preservation Consultants
taken August 1990.
Original negatives held by Acroterion, 71 Maple Avenue,
Morristown, N.J.

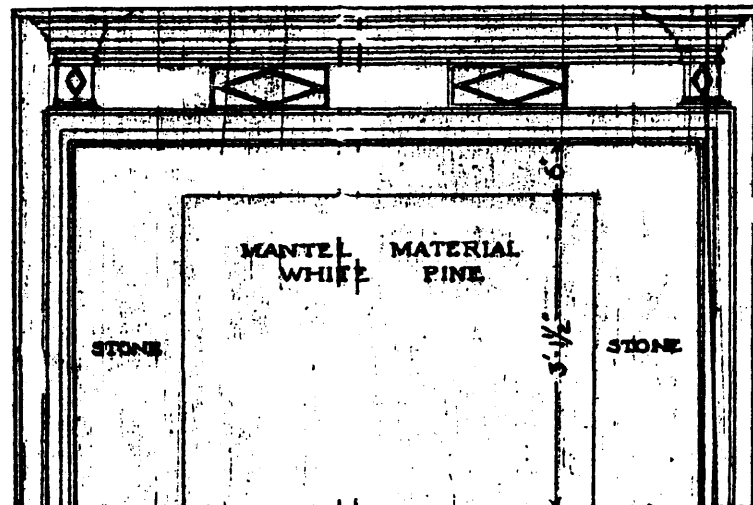
- 1 of 4: Camera facing northeast: facade of stone portion of house.
- 2 of 4: Camera facing west: east gable end of oldest section of house.
- 3 of 4: Camera facing northeast: frame addition of 19th century.
- 4 of 4: Camera facing north: barn (noncontributing) on property.

Johannes Parlaman House
Drawn by HABS

Dutch Stone Houses of Montville MPN
Montville Township
New Jersey



EAST (ORIGINAL) PARLOR MANTEL

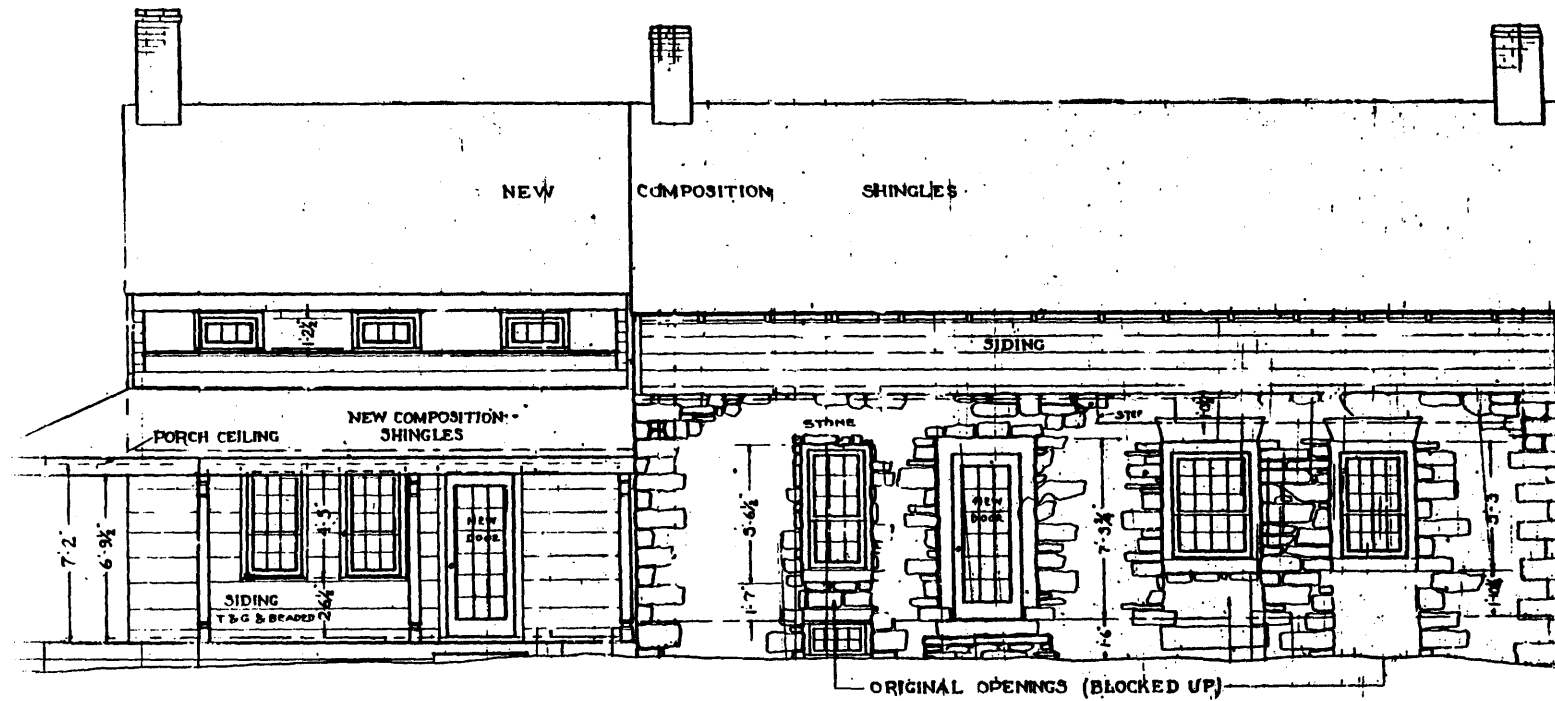


WEST PARLOR MANTEL

Johannes Parlaman House, Dutch Stone Houses of Montville MPN, Morris County, NJ

Johannes Parlaman House
Drawn by HABS

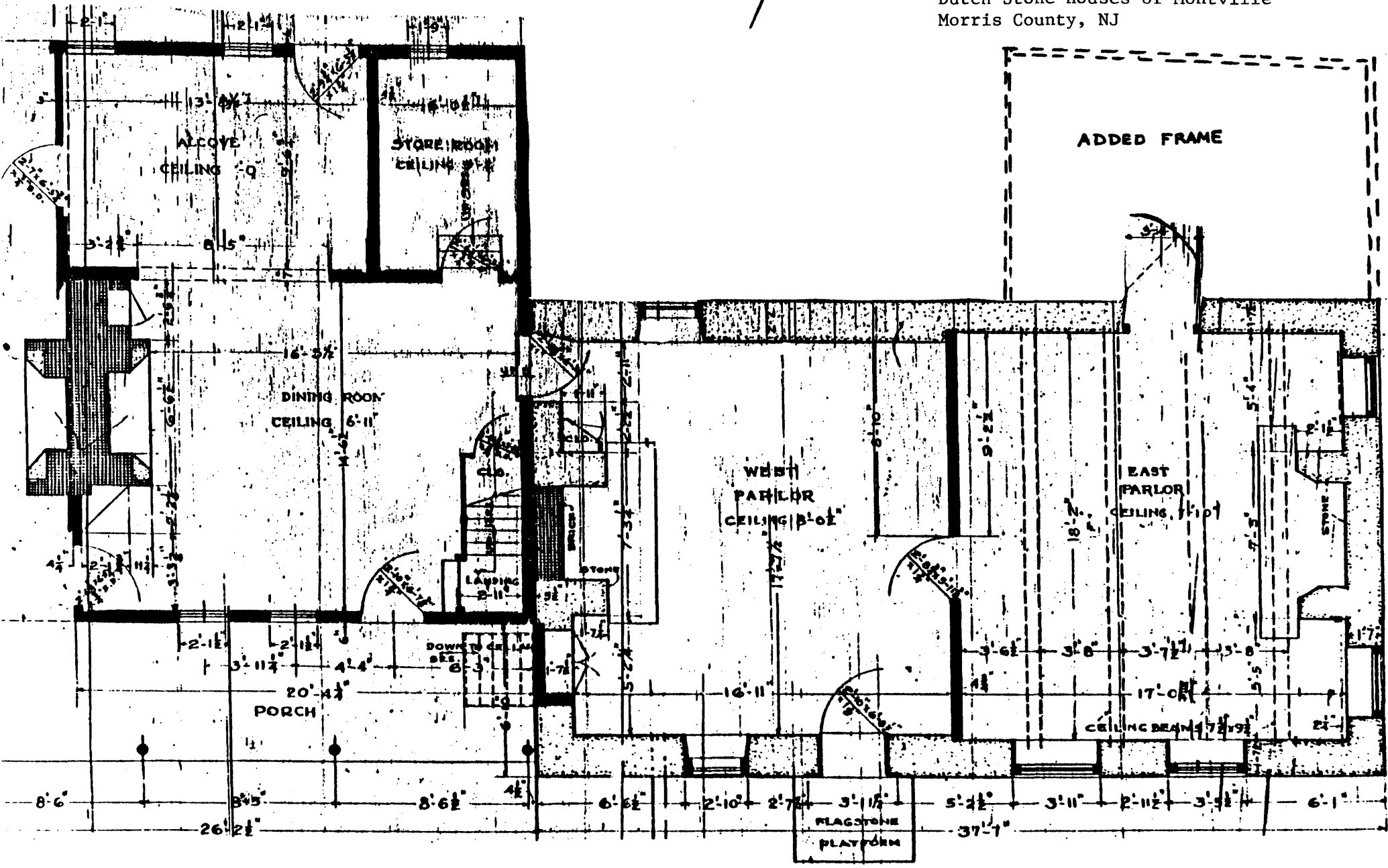
Montville Township
New Jersey



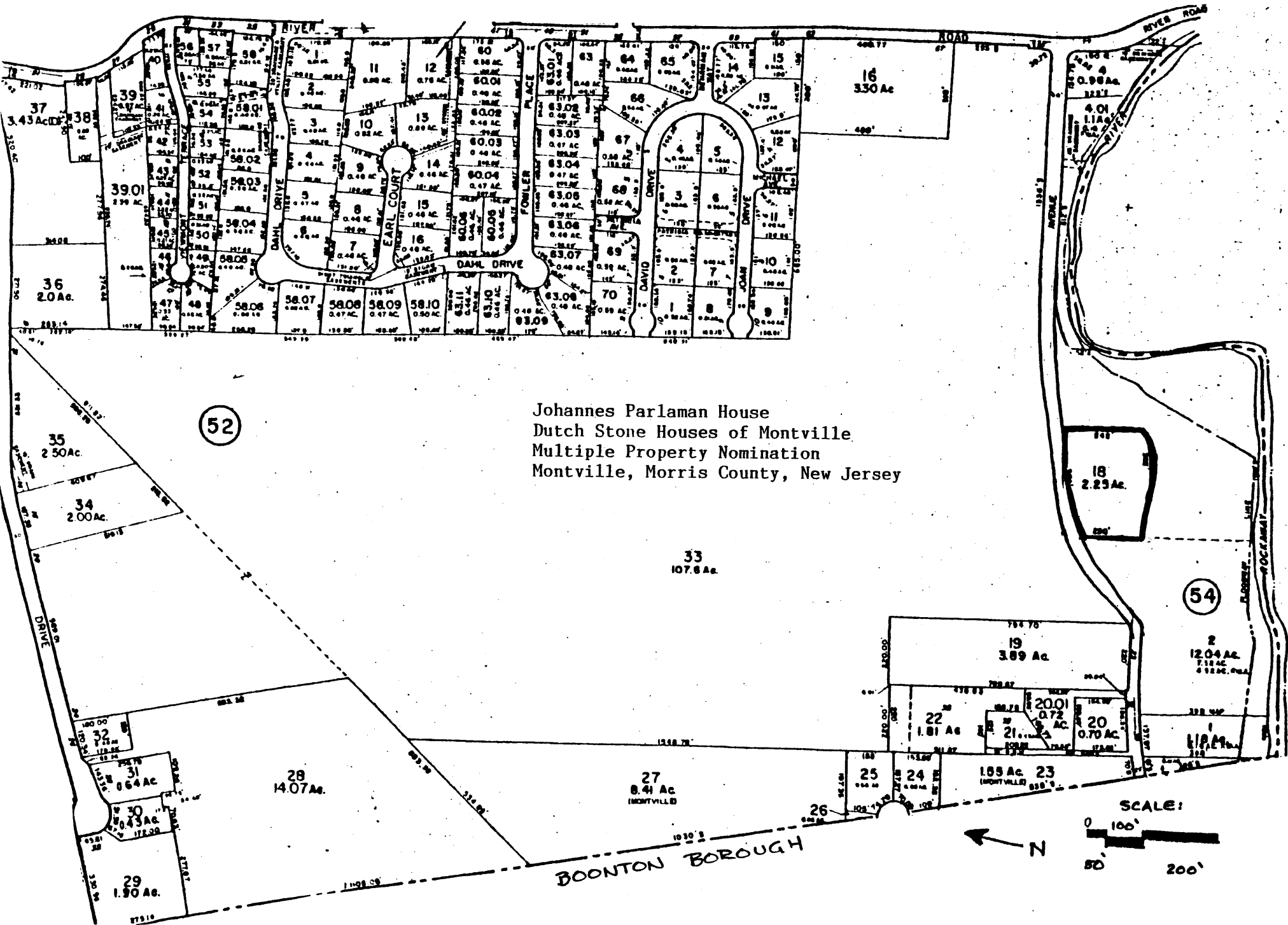
Facade - South Elevation

Later, non-historic additions off drawing
to left of frame portion

Johannes Parlaman House
 Dutch Stone Houses of Montville
 Morris County, NJ



Parlaman House
 As drawn by HABS 1938



Johannes Parlamen House
 Dutch Stone Houses of Montville
 Multiple Property Nomination
 Montville, Morris County, New Jersey

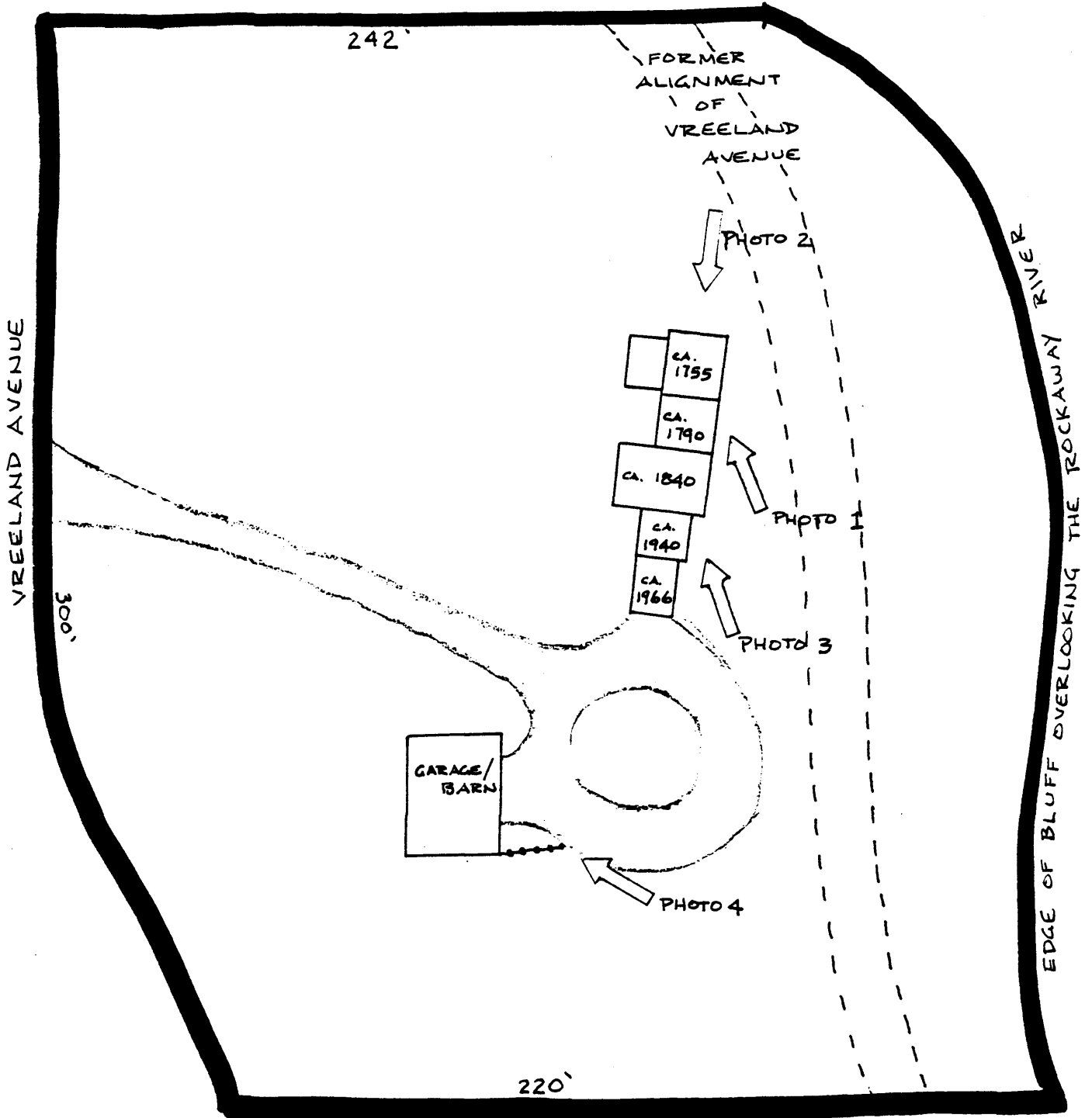
PARSIPPANY MORRIS TROY HILLS COUNTY TOWNSHIP



BOONTON BOROUGH

Johannes Parlaman House

Dutch Stone Houses of Montville Multiple Property Nomination
Montville, Morris County, New Jersey



1 CM = 20 FEET