BERGEN COUNTY STONE HOUSE SURVEY

INDIVIDUAL STRUCTURE SURVEY FORM

32

GENERAL

HISTORIC NAME: DeMott-Westervelt House

COMMON NAME: Peter Westervelt House

LOCATION: 285 Grand Avenue (Block 2805, Lot 12)

MUNICIPALITY: Englewood

OWNERSHIP: ☐ Public ■ Private

OWNER/ADDRESS: Leonard Johnson Day Nursery (same)

REFERENCE

MAP REFERENCES:

☐ Erskine (1778-80)
■ Hopkins-Corey (1861) H.D. Westervelt
■ Walker's Atlas (1876) Mrs.M.Westervelt
■ Bromley (1912) Margaretta Westervelt
☐ Other

RECOGNITION:

☐ National Register ■ BCHS Marker
■ HABS ☐ Bailey
☐ Other

ENVIRONMENT

HOUSE ORIENTATION: S12°W

IMPORTANT RELATED STRUCTURES:

Large Dutch barn

SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT:

■ Residential
☐ Commercial
☐ Agricultural
☐ Open Space
☐ Other

COMMENTS:

USE

ORIGINAL: Residence

PRESENT: Nursery school

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:

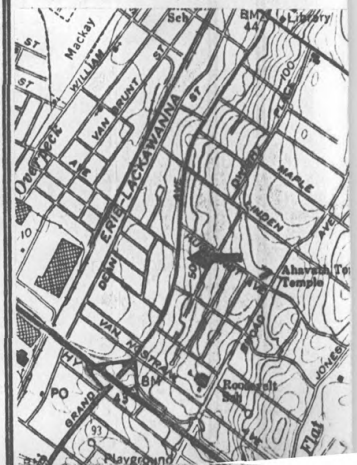
☐ Yes, Restricted
☐ Yes, Unrestricted
☐ No

Bathroom has been added on first floor at rear of through-hall. Dormers added to front and back. Front porch has been extended.

PHOTO

MAP

USGS QUAD: Yonkers



DESCRIPTION

CONSTRUCTION DATE/SOURCE:
1808/HABS
Frame wing added 1810

BUILDER: Peter Westervelt for Henry DeMott

FORM/PLAN TYPE: "I", 3 bay side hall with 2 rooms each w/fireplace 33'-0"x36'-0" Frame wing to East.

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

EXTERIOR WALL FABRIC:
Well coursed red sandstone on South front, East and West. Rough blocks on North (rear).

FENESTRATION:
3'-2"x6'-0" m.o.(12/12) with trapazoidal lintels

ENTRANCE LOCATION/TYPE:
East bay of South front. Double-leaf door with transom

NUMBER OF STORIES: 1-1/2

CELLAR:
- [x] Yes
- [ ] No

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

FLOOR JOISTS: concealed

FIRST FLOOR CEILING HEIGHT: 9'-3"

FIRST FLOOR WALL THICKNESS: 21"

GARRET FLOOR JOISTS: concealed

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

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

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

HABS photo

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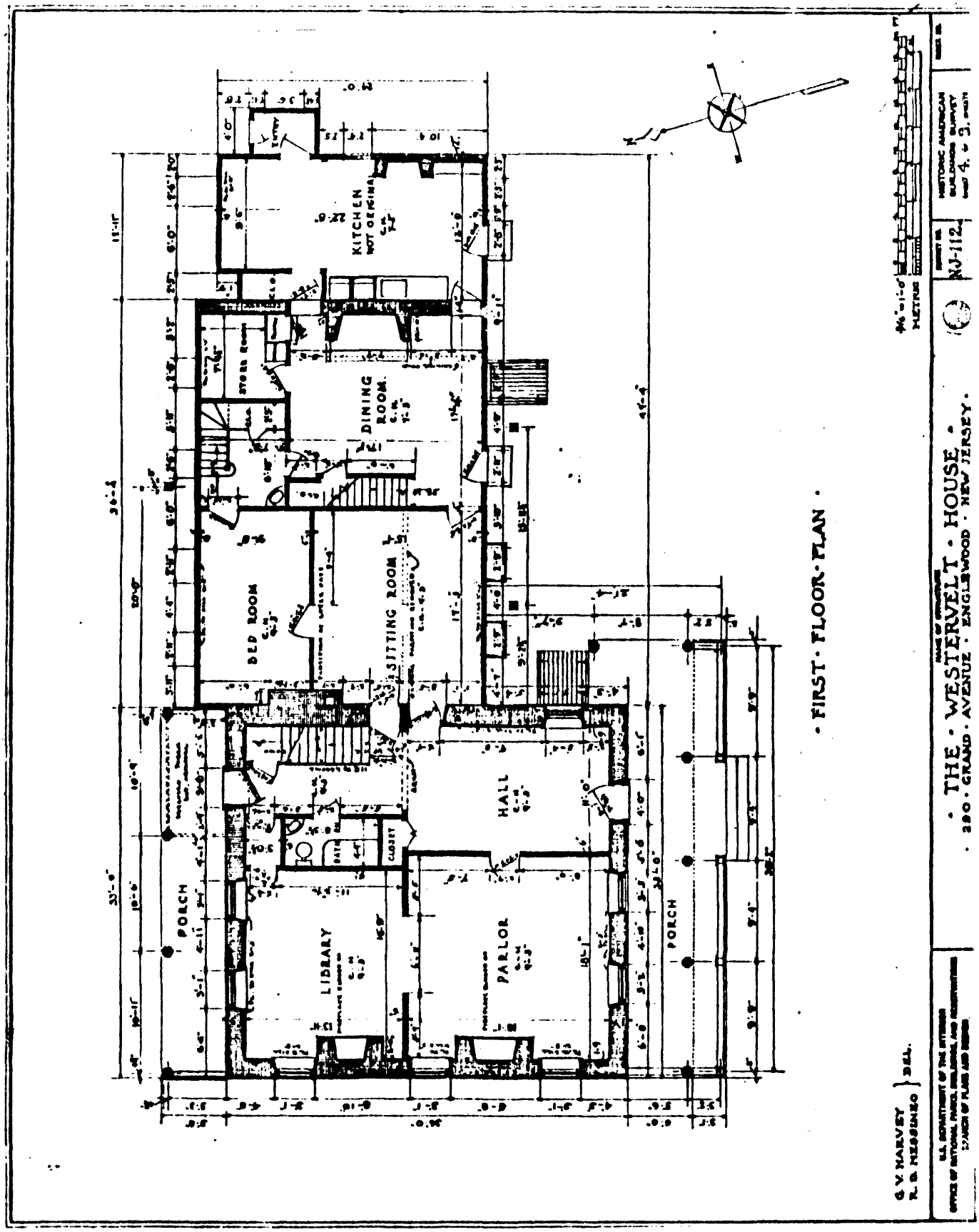

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The first Westervelts landed in New Amsterdam from the Dutch West India ship Hoop (Hope) on May 24, 1662. They first settled on Long Island, but in 1676 Lubbert Lubbertsen Van Westervelt sold out and moved to Hackensack. The builder of the present house, Peter Westervelt, was a descendant of Lubbert; he was a carpenter by trade. The so-called Westervelt house was built for Henry DeMott whose daughter Fransiney Peter Westervelt later married. The marriage took place in 1810 at the time the frame wing was added; the house was inherited later by them and has been known since as the Peter Westervelt house. Their granddaughter Margaretta Westervelt is the present [at time of HABS] owner and [occupied] the house [in 1936].

(The above is quoted from HABS data sheet #NJ-112.)

(The house is now owned by the City of Englewood and is operated as a day nursery.)

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:

Block 2805, Lot 12 - Englewood Tax Map

1.6 acres

U.T.M.

18 586 130 4526 110
Yonkers, New Jersey-New York