

BERGEN COUNTY STONE HOUSE SURVEY

INDIVIDUAL STRUCTURE SURVEY FORM

317

GENERAL

HISTORIC NAME: Yereance-Berry House

COMMON NAME: Rutherford Museum

LOCATION: 91 Crane Avenue
(Block 163A, Lots 18 & 19)

MUNICIPALITY: Rutherford

OWNERSHIP: Public Private

OWNER/ADDRESS: Borough of Rutherford
176 Park Avenue

REFERENCE

MAP REFERENCES:

Erskine (1778-80)

Hopkins-Corey (1861) Garret VanRiper

Walker's Atlas (1876) W.S. Berry

Bronley (1912) Charles Holler

Other

RECOGNITION:

National Register BCHS Marker

HABS # 6-468 Bailey

Other

ENVIRONMENT

HOUSE ORIENTATION: S 45° E

IMPORTANT RELATED STRUCTURES:

SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT:

- Residential
- Commercial
- Agricultural
- Open Space
- Other

COMMENTS: Faces off-ramp of N. J.
Route #17.

USE

ORIGINAL: Residence

PRESENT: Museum

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

Two gable roofed dormers have been recently added. The entrance has been somewhat simplified since the HABS Survey. A wing has been added to the rear, probably to replace the kitchen to the south which was lost when Crane Avenue was put through.

PHOTO



MAP

USGS QUAD: Weehawken



DESCRIPTION

CONSTRUCTION DATE/SOURCE:
1804/HABS
Early 19th century/architectural evidence

NUMBER OF STORIES: 1-1/2
CELLAR: Yes
 No

BUILDER:
Hessel Yearance
FORM/PLAN TYPE: "I" 3 bay, side hall, 2 rooms deep each w/ gable end fireplace (30'2" x 32'1"). Remains of old frame wing to south.

CHIMNEY FOUNDATION:
 Stone Arch
 Brick Arch, Stone Foundation
 Other

FRAMING SYSTEM:
 Intermediate Summer Beam
 Intermediate Bearing Wall
 Clear Span
 Other

FLOOR JOISTS:
4 1/2"-5" x 9 1/2" deep, 23" between

EXTERIOR WALL FABRIC:
Brownstone up to water table, brick above (Flemish bond) painted white.

FIRST FLOOR CEILING HEIGHT:
9'11"

FIRST FLOOR WALL THICKNESS:
14-15"

FENESTRATION:
3'10" x 6'3" M.O. (now 1/1, were 6/6) with stone lintels.

GARRET FLOOR JOISTS:
Not exposed.

GARRET:
 Unfinished Space
 Finished Space

ENTRANCE LOCATION/TYPE:
South end bay of southeast front. 6'4" x 8'3" M.O. w/ 3'0" x 6'8" panelled door w/ side lights, large transom and heavy molding.

ROOF:
 Gable
 Gambrel
 Curb
 Other

EAVE TREATMENT:
 Sweeping Overhang
 Supported Overhang
 No Overhang (Rear)
 Boxed Gutter (Front)
 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.

This house was built by John W. Berry, a direct descendant of Major John Berry. Major Berry purchased the strip of land upon which it stands in 1670 and built his dwelling. The present structure was attached to the north end of the old Berry homestead which was torn down in 1929 to make way for a new street. It remained in the Berry family until 1890 when it was sold for taxes. The [then] present owner, Mr. Smithson, bought the house with ten acres of ground in 1928 for a consideration of ten thousand dollars. The following year he decided to cut the property up in building lots, and at this time the older house was torn down.

Captain John Berry, later Major, was the first of his family in this country. He came from the Island of Barbadoes and obtained a grant of land in 1638 from Governor Carteret. This grant included all the land between the Hackensack and Saddle Rivers extending from the Sandford Patent to Cherry Hill in Bergen County. He bought other tracts of land including the one upon which this house is built. This tract, purchased in 1670, lay between the Hackensack and Passaic Rivers. Berry applied the name New Barbadoes to the district, which name it still bears. This tract of land remained in the Berry family from its purchase in 1670 until 1890. In his day he was one of the most important men in the Colony. He served on the Governor's Council for several years and was acting Governor for a time; besides this, he was a member of the Colonial Assembly, Justice for Bergen County, and a Captain and later Major in the Militia.

(The above is quoted from the HABS report # 6-468.)

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Block 163A, Lots 18 and 19 - Rutherford Tax Map

Less than 1 acre

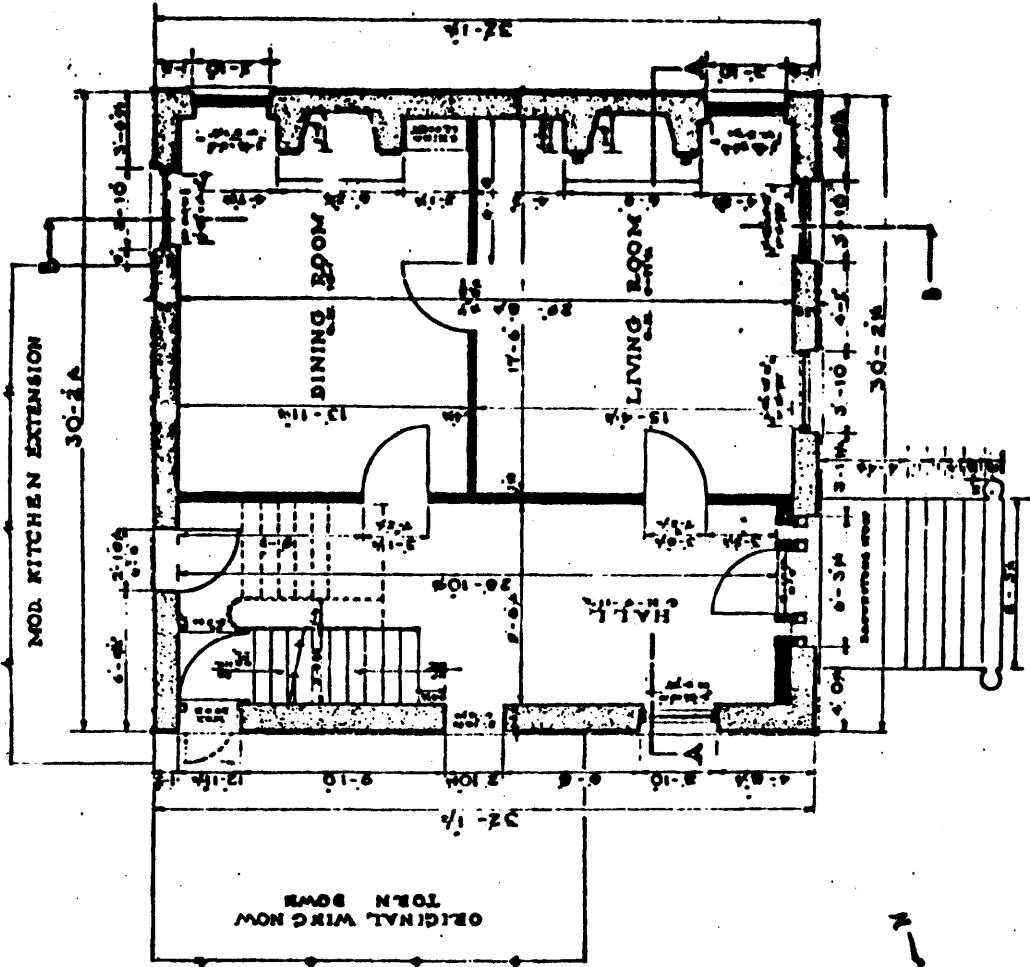
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18 575 520 4518 460
Weehawkin, New Jersey-New York



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HISTORIC NAME: Yereance-Berry House
LOCATION: 91 Crane Avenue, Rutherford

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FIRST FLOOR PLAN



BRICK [hatched pattern]
FRAME [solid black]

J D HOWARD, DEL.
 ALL DIMENSIONS OF THE STRUCTURE
 GIVEN ON THIS PLAN, EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
 OTHERWISE, ARE TO FACE UNLESS OTHERWISE
 NOTED.
 DRAWING NO. H-468
 PROJECT NO. HISTORIC AMERICAN
 BUILDINGS SURVEY
 SHEET 2 OF 20 SHEETS
 THE JOHN W. BERRY HOUSE
 HEADON ROAD AND CLARE AVE. RUTHERFORD, N.J.