

# BERGEN COUNTY STONE HOUSE SURVEY

INDIVIDUAL STRUCTURE SURVEY FORM

122

GENERAL

HISTORIC NAME: Van Houten-Ackerman House  
 COMMON NAME: Lily Pond Farm  
 LOCATION: 1150 Franklin Lake Road  
 (Block 1103, Lot 1)  
 MUNICIPALITY: Franklin Lakes  
 OWNERSHIP:  Public  Private  
 OWNER/ADDRESS: Doris Mortimer (same)

REFERENCE

MAP REFERENCES:  
 Erskine (1778-80) NoName  
 Hopkins-Corey (1861) J. Ackerman  
 Walker's Atlas (1876) Jno. Ackerman  
 Bromley (1912)  
 Other  
 RECOGNITION:  
 National Register  BCHS Marker  
 HABS  Bailey  
 Other

ENVIRONMENT

HOUSE ORIENTATION: S 30° E  
 IMPORTANT RELATED STRUCTURES:  
 Two large stable buildings and miscellaneous small buildings  
 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:  
 About 60 acres will be sold in the near future.

CONDITION

CONDITION:  
 Excellent  Good  
 Fair  Deteriorated  
 STATUS:  
 Occupied  
 Unoccupied  
 Work in Progress  
 ACCESSIBLE:  
 Yes, Restricted  
 Yes, Unrestricted  
 No

This house was redone in the 20th century and lost some of its original look of age. However, the open finished beams remain in the dining room. The addition was probably done c 1820.

PHOTO



MAP



**DESCRIPTION**

**CONSTRUCTION DATE/SOURCE:**  
1768/Roy Watson; Maria Braun

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

**BUILDER:**  
Probably Van Houten  
**FORM/PLAN TYPE:**  
"B", 2 bay, 1 room deep (21'0" x 21'0")

**CHIMNEY FOUNDATION:**  
 Stone Arch  
 Brick Arch, Stone Foundation  
 Other Pier & lintel

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

**FLOOR JOISTS:**  
8" x 8", 32-37" between

**EXTERIOR WALL FABRIC:**  
Broken fieldstone (painted on front)

**FIRST FLOOR CEILING HEIGHT:**  
6'7" clearance

**FIRST FLOOR WALL THICKNESS:**  
Approximately 20"

**GARRET FLOOR JOISTS:**  
5-5 1/2" x 6 1/2-7", 31-33" between

**FENESTRATION:**  
20th century casements 32-1/2" x 49".  
Rear, 32-1/2" x 42"

**GARRET:**  
 Unfinished Space  
 Finished Space

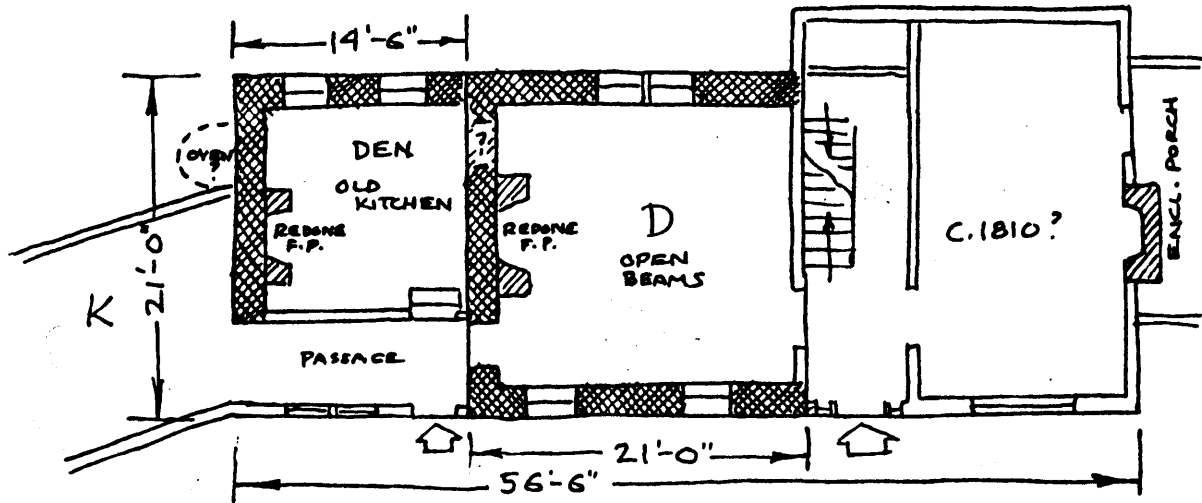
**ENTRANCE LOCATION/TYPE:**  
Transom and sidelights in frame section.

**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



The oldest section of this house is dated 1768 by Roy Watson. The earliest documented owner was John Ackerman in 1854, when he purchased it.

Yan Romine, a yeoman of Hackensack, purchased 600 acres from Willocks and Johnston in 1724. Two hundred of these [acres] were purchased in 1737 by Roelef Van Houten who deeded them to Jacob Van Houten, Jr., in 1761. As late as 1817, the deeds to the Walder house (across the street) give the bounds as starting at the East corner of Roelef Van Houten lands. In the stories handed down, this house has always been pointed out as the original Van Houten house in this area.

When the Atemas purchased the house in 1908 it had been empty for a long time. The windows were three panes wide but very short. And in the extensive remodeling that followed these were replaced with full sized windows. In the former kitchen, a few steps down from the rest of the house, a brick wall oven was covered over. Wide boards had covered the kitchen floor and flat stones were under the kitchen stove. The narrow enclosed stairway was also replaced.

The Mortimers continued to modernize the home keeping it in its old tradition. A fireplace in the present dining room was restored, and in the process the beautiful amethyst colored stones of the facing were discovered. An old hand-hewn beam, found in the chimney was used as a mantle.

(The above is quoted from Maria Braun's Franklin Lakes: Its History and Heritage.)

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:

Block 1103, Lot 1

2.73 acres

U.T.M.

18 563 700 4538 740  
Paterson, New Jersey