

BERGEN COUNTY STONE HOUSE SURVEY

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INDIVIDUAL STRUCTURE SURVEY FORM

GENERAL

HISTORIC NAME: (John G.) Ackerson, House
COMMON NAME:
LOCATION: 142 Pascack Road
 (Block 1103, Lot 19)
MUNICIPALITY: Park Ridge
OWNERSHIP: Public Private
OWNER/ADDRESS: Russell K. Smith
 (none)

REFERENCE

MAP REFERENCES:
 Erskine (1778-80)
 Hopkins-Corey (1861) L. Gurnee
 Walker's Atlas (1876) Levi Gurnee
 Bromley (1912) No name
 Other
RECOGNITION:
 National Register BCHS Marker
 HABS Bailey
 Other

ENVIRONMENT

HOUSE ORIENTATION: S 12° W
IMPORTANT RELATED STRUCTURES:

SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT:
 Residential
 Commercial
 Agricultural
 Open Space
 Other

COMMENTS:

USE

ORIGINAL: Residence
PRESENT: Residence

THREATS

THREATS TO STRUCTURE:
 Roads
 Development
 Zoning
 Deterioration
 Other
 No Threat

COMMENTS: The house is close to the road.

CONDITION

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

This is a good looking spacious house which has lost some of its early features but still has much charm. The frame kitchen wing, which might predate the main house, has a good fireplace with an early mantle, but the others have been removed. The living room fireplace has been Victorianized with a marble mantle. The wing is separate and may have been moved up and attached or built first. The joists are mostly sawn in the wing but these may be replacements, since the rear section has heavy hewn joists. A wall has been removed to enlarge the living room and dormers have been added.

PHOTO



MAP



DESCRIPTION

CONSTRUCTION DATE/SOURCE:

c. 1770-1810/Architectural evidence

BUILDER: An Ackerson, probably John.

FORM/PLAN TYPE:

"F", 5 bay, center hall, 2 rooms deep (32'6" x 43'8"). Frame addition added as kitchen.

FRAMING SYSTEM:

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

EXTERIOR WALL FABRIC:

Well cut red sandstone all around, except some rubble on west end.

FENESTRATION:

Not original. 32" x 58" in front, trapezoidal lintels.

ENTRANCE LOCATION/TYPE:

Plain entrance door in center 37" x 7'5", not original.

NUMBER OF STORIES: 1-1/2

CELLAR: Yes
 No

CHIMNEY FOUNDATION:

- Stone Arch
- Brick Arch, Stone Foundation
- Other

FLOOR JOISTS: 6-7" x 9" deep, 23-24" between, 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ -13" floorboards.

FIRST FLOOR CEILING HEIGHT: 8'4"

FIRST FLOOR WALL THICKNESS: 24"

GARRET FLOOR JOISTS: Not visible.

GARRET:

- Unfinished Space
- Finished Space

ROOF:

- Gable (Wing)
- Gambrel (Main)
- Curb
- Other

EAVE TREATMENT:

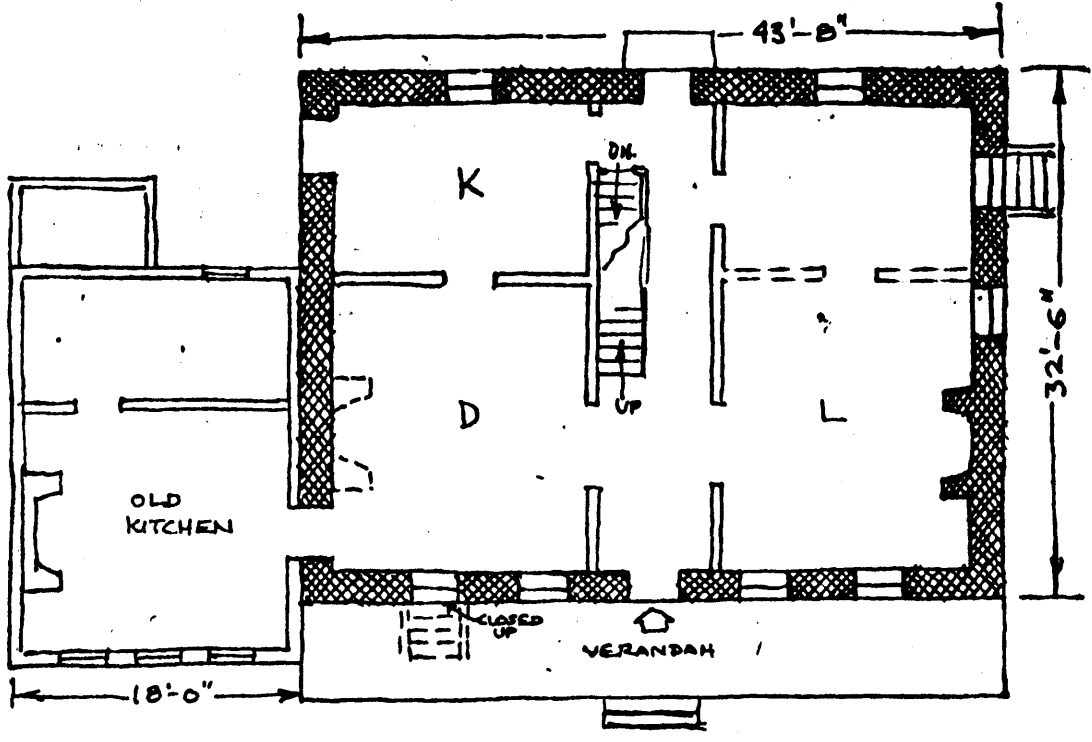
- Sweeping Overhang
- Supported Overhang (in front)
- No Overhang
- Boxed Gutter
- Other

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.

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FLOOR PLANS



Howard I. Durie believes this house to have been built about 1775 for John G. Eckerson, son of Garret Eckerson, on land Garret and his cousin Garret Haring purchased on May 4, 1759 from Rev. Benjamin Vanderlinda containing 348 acres. The 465 acre Wortendyke tract bordered it on the south. Garret Eckerson took the south part and Garret Haring took the north part (both lived on the Tappan Patent). He probably built the frame store and trading center on the east side of Pascack Road soon afterward. His son John G. Ackerson married about 1773 and probably built this house about this time. He was born in 1745 and married Garrety Hogencamp. In 1778 they had Garret (who married Hannah Hogencamp) and in 1780 they had Hannah (who married Nicholas Zabriskie of "Seven Chimneys". In September of 1779 he was taxed for 145 acres, three horses, five cattle and four hogs. John G. died on January 28, 1838 at the age of 92 and willed the property containing about 160 acres to Garret. The latter had gone into business, probably the above store, in 1796 and later established a distillery on Pascack Brook. His son, Garret, Jr. followed in business and added a woolen mill. Garret, Sr. died in 1855 and left the east end of the farm, containing 105 acres, to Garret, Jr. Brothers John and Cornelius released it to Garret in 1856. In 1857 he sold it all to Levi Gurnee (for \$6,300) who remained here until his death in 1897. Later owners were Henry Olsen, Dr. Samuel Alexander and Dr. David Weill (dentist). - CKT

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Block 1103, Lot 19 - Park Ridge Tax Map

Less than 1 acre

U.T.M.

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Park Ridge, New Jersey-New York