

BERGEN COUNTY STONE HOUSE SURVEY
INDIVIDUAL STRUCTURE SURVEY FORM

204

GENERAL

HISTORIC NAME: Myers-Masker *House*
 COMMON NAME:
 LOCATION: 179 Park Avenue
 (Block 44, Lot 1B)
 MUNICIPALITY: Midland Park
 OWNERSHIP: Public Private
 OWNER/ADDRESS: George & Joanne Cotz
 (same)

REFERENCE

MAP REFERENCES:
 Erskine (1778-80)
 Hopkins-Corey (1861) Highan
 Walker's Atlas (1876) E.H. Babcock
 Bromley (1912) Chas. L. Babcock
 Other
 RECOGNITION:
 National Register BCHS Marker
 HABS Bailey
 Other

ENVIRONMENT

HOUSE ORIENTATION: S 28° E
 IMPORTANT RELATED STRUCTURES:
 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:

CONDITION

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

Major visual change is the addition of the second floor over the original unit. Also, wings have been added to the east and north.

PHOTO



MAP



DESCRIPTION

CONSTRUCTION DATE/SOURCE:
1795-6/Howard I. Durie

BUILDER: Thomas Myers

FORM/PLAN TYPE:
"E" center hall, 1 room deep (37'0" x 20'0") w/ wings to east and north.

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

EXTERIOR WALL FABRIC:
All stucco. Apparently had stucco front, sandstone quoins and rubble siles.

FENESTRATION:
34" x 62" sash, apparently replaced during Victorian period.

ENTRANCE LOCATION/TYPE:
Center bay of south front, simple w/ recessed panel and casing.

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

CHIMNEY FOUNDATION:
 Stone Arch
 Brick Arch, Stone Foundation
 Other

FLOOR JOISTS: Rough hewn, 7" deep x 7", 8" & 9" wide, 21-24" between.

FIRST FLOOR CEILING HEIGHT:
7'4 1/2"

FIRST FLOOR WALL THICKNESS:
21"

GARRET FLOOR JOISTS:
Not visible.

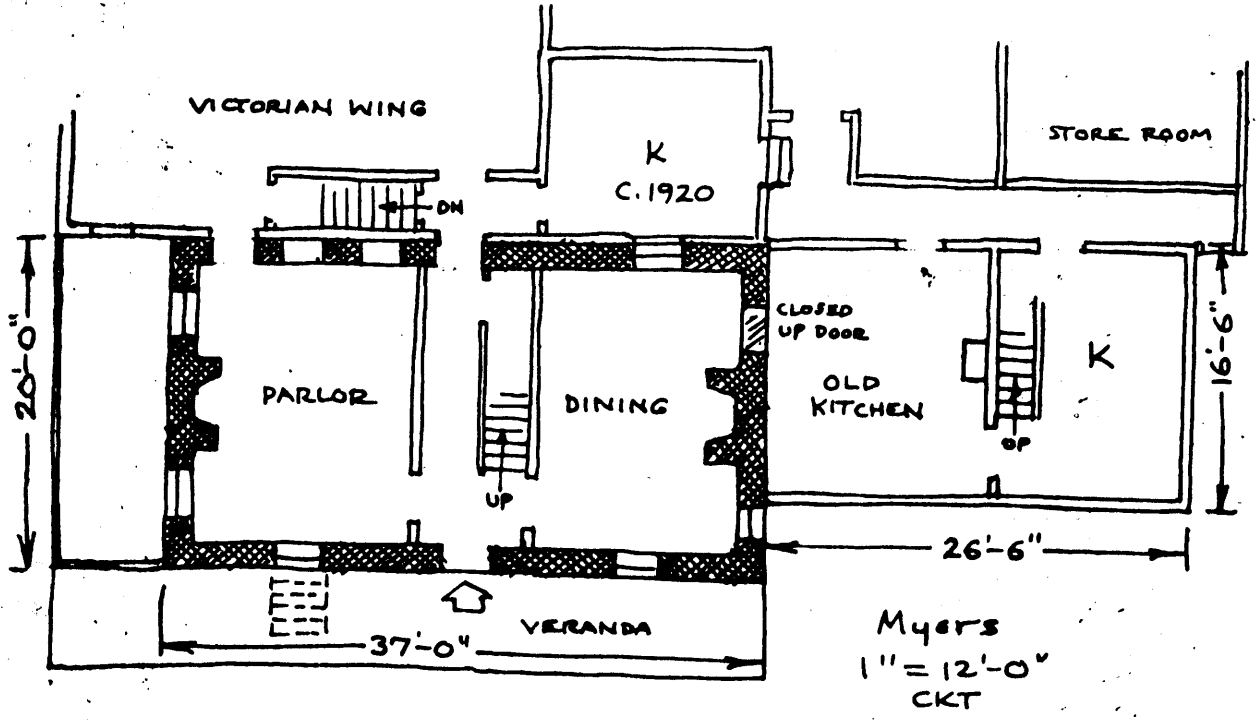
GARRET:
 Unfinished Space (2nd floor added)
 Finished Space

ROOF:
 Gable (modern over 2nd floor)
 Gambrel
 Curb
 Other

EAVE TREATMENT:
 Sweeping Overhang
 Supported Overhang
 No Overhang
 Boxed Gutter
 Other (Altered)

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.

FLOOR PLANS



The first owner of this land was Andrew Bell of Perth Amboy. He and his wife Susannah sold the 39 acres on which the house stands to Thomas Myers of Ramapo on May 25, 1795 and the house was probably built between May 25, 1795 and May, 1796. He had married his cousin Giertye (Gertrude) on January 25, 1794 and had Sarah in 1795. In 1798 they moved to New York City and rented this house. On August 19, 1801 they sold it to their tenant Mark McCracken. He bought an additional twenty acres to the east and then sold both tracts to Richard Riker and Robert Campbell (brothers-in-law) on April 25, 1814 but they did not live here. They sold on April 19, 1823 to Henry L. Masker and his wife Jane. They sold on December 7, 1824 to John L. Masker and he held it until June 16, 1838 when it was sold to Lewis J. Masker. He sold it back to John L. on January 31, 1844 and he owned it until March 30, 1854 when it went to Peter Holdridge. He sold it on April 1, 1856 to Thomas Clark and he to Thomas Higham, Jr. on July 15, 1858. He sold it with 84.71 acres to Abraham C. Wortendyke on April 29, 1869 who turned it over the same day to his son-in-law Edward H. Babcock. The recent owner, Helen Van Iderstine, was a descendant of Babcock.

(Source: Howard I. Durie)

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Block 44, Lot 1B - Midland Park Tax Map

1.61[±] acres

U.T.M.

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Ramsey, New Jersey-New York