

BERGEN COUNTY STONE HOUSE SURVEY

INDIVIDUAL STRUCTURE SURVEY FORM

357

GENERAL 177

HISTORIC NAME: Christie-Parsels House

COMMON NAME:

LOCATION: 195 Jefferson Avenue
(Block 73, Lot 15)

MUNICIPALITY: Tenafly

OWNERSHIP: Public Private

OWNER/ADDRESS: Herbert & Peg Blayman
(same)

REFERENCE

MAP REFERENCES:

Erskine (1778-80)

Hopkins-Corey (1861) Sophia Brinkerhoff

Walker's Atlas (1876) Miss M.A. Newcombe

Bromley (1912)

Other

RECOGNITION:

National Register BCHS Marker

HABS #6-470 Bailey

Other

ENVIRONMENT

HOUSE ORIENTATION: S 15° W

IMPORTANT RELATED STRUCTURES:

SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT:

Residential

Commercial

Agricultural

Open Space

Other

COMMENTS:

USE

ORIGINAL: Residence

PRESENT: Residence

TREATS 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

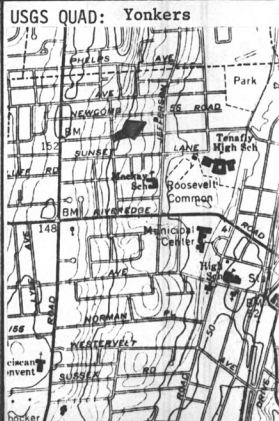
No

Unchanged since HABS inspection.

PHOTO



MAP



DESCRIPTION

CONSTRUCTION DATE/SOURCE:

Wing: 1804; Main: 1836/HABS

NUMBER OF STORIES:

CELLAR: Yes
 No

BUILDER: Wing: William Christie
Main: Samuel Parsels

CHIMNEY FOUNDATION:

Stone Arch
 Brick Arch, Stone Foundation
 Other

FORM/PLAN TYPE: Main: "H" 3 bay, side hall,
1 room w/ gable end fireplace and small
narrow room to rear (31'1" x 33'1").
Wing: "B" 2 bay, 1 room w/ gable end
fireplace (17'8" x 19'1").

FLOOR JOISTS: Main: 3-4"x8-10" deep
@ 22-31" o.c. Wing: 5-7"x9-11"
@ 24-31" o.c.

FRAMING SYSTEM:

Intermediate Summer Beam (Main)
 Intermediate Bearing Wall (Wing)
 Clear Span
 Other

FIRST FLOOR CEILING HEIGHT:

Wing: 7'4"; Main: 8'9"

FIRST FLOOR WALL THICKNESS:

19-22"

EXTERIOR WALL FABRIC:

Red sandstone, coursed on all walls.
Later frame wings to west of original
house.

GARRET FLOOR JOISTS:

GARRET:

Unfinished Space
 Finished Space

FENESTRATION:

Main: 3'7" x 5'2" (6/6) w/ splayed
casings.
Wing: 3'0" x 3'6" (2/2).

ROOF:

Gable
 Gambrel
 Curb
 Other

ENTRANCE LOCATION/TYPE:

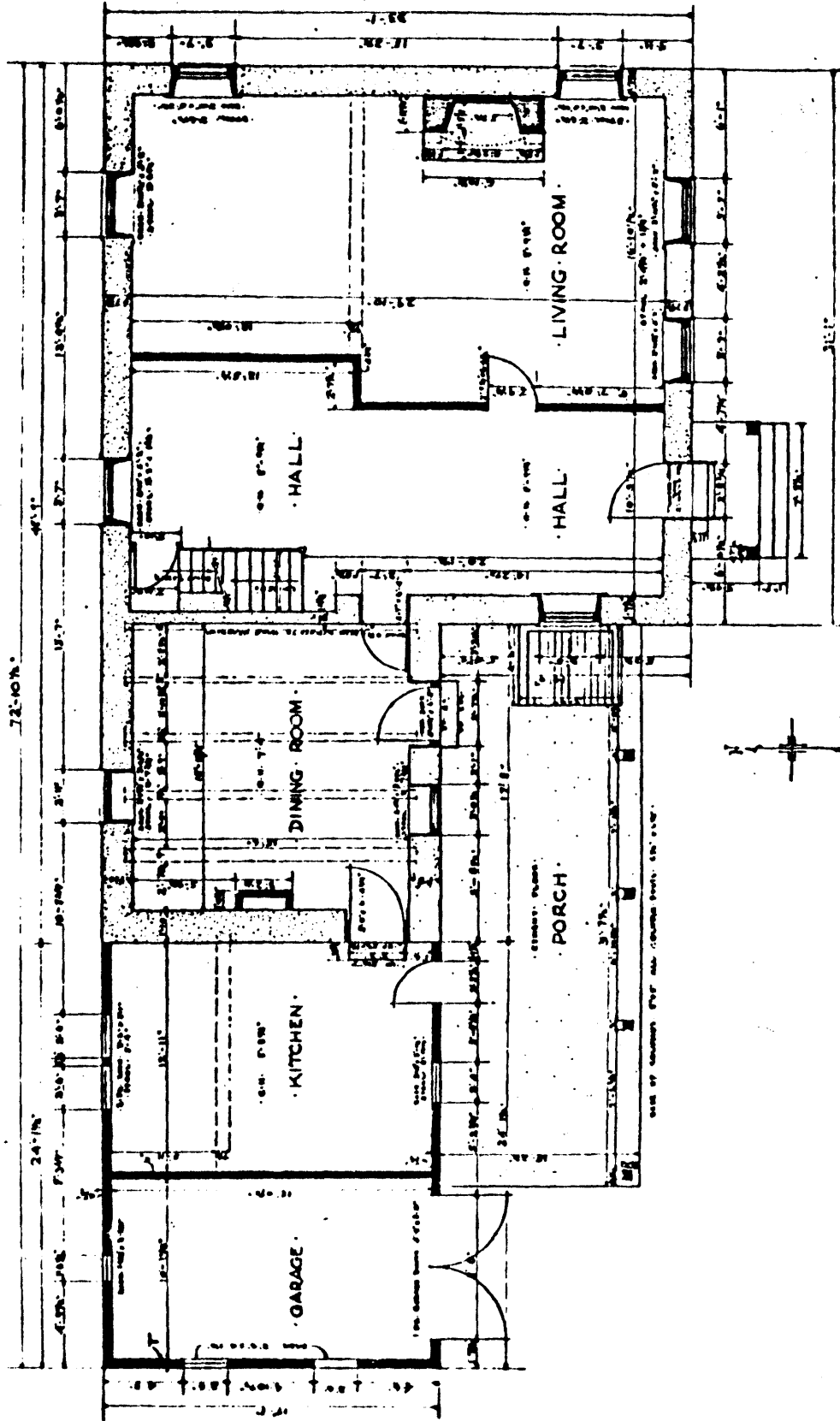
Main: west end bay of south front.
Dutch style split leaf door (3'0" x
6'6") w/ transom. Wing is modern
door in east end bay (3'7" x 6'6").

EAVE TREATMENT:

Sweeping Overhang
 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.

FLOOR PLANS 177



In 1791 James Christie sold one hundred acres of land for five hundred pounds to William P. Christie, the builder of the wing of the present house. The commissioners to divide the real estate of William P. Christie disposed of the dwelling house and forty acres of land to Abraham Cole in 1832 who sold two years later to another William Christie. This William Christie transferred the title in 1836 to Samuel Parsels who built the main house that same year. Samuel and his wife sold the property in 1860 to Charles Newcomb. Since that time there have been six transfers recorded [up until the time of the HABS]. The [then] present owners obtained possession in 1920.

The first of the Christie family James originally came from Scotland in 1685. He was one of the group that was stranded on the Jersey coast by the ship Caledonia. Early in the eighteenth century the family settled at Schraalenburgh. The builder of the wing was a descendant of this first Christie.

The Parsels family are of French origin and originally settled on Long Island sometime during the latter half of the seventeenth century. The first of the Parsels family to come to New Jersey was Nicholas who settled in Hackensack sometime during the first half of the eighteenth century. Samuel, a descendant of this family, was the builder of the "Big House". He owned and operated a saw mill located on the nearby stream.

(The above is quoted from HABS data sheets #NJ-470.)

(The present owners obtained the property in may, 1951.)

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Block 73, Lot 15 - Tenafly Tax Map

Less than 1 acre

U.T.M.

18 586 550 4531 500
Yonkers, New Jersey-New York