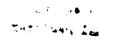
NPS Form 10-900 (Oct. 1990)	RECEIVER 10024-0018
United States Department of the Interior National Park Service	SEP 1 3 1994
National Register of Historic Places Registration Form	INTERAGENCY RESOURCES DIVISION NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. S National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each it by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, ent architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word process	er instructions in <i>How to Complete the</i> em by marking "x" in the appropriate box or er "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, from the instructions. Place additional
1. Name of Property	
historic name The Vreeland Homestead	
other names/site number The Woman's Club of Nutley	
2. Location	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
street & number216 Chestnut St.	NA not for publication
city or townNutley	
state <u>New Jersey</u> code <u>NJ</u> county <u>Essex</u>	-
3. State/Federal Agency Certification	
As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby of request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering prop Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part meets and does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be con antionally attended to cally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)	erties in the National Register of 60. In my opinion, the property nsidered significant
In my opinion, the property in meets in does not meet the National Register criteria. (In See c comments.)	ontinuation sheet for additional
State or Federal agency and bureau	
4. National Park Service Certification	······································
I hereby certify that the property is:	Entered in the Date of Action Mational Register 10.14.94

Vreeland Homestead Name of Property

Essex - NJ County and State

5. Classification				······································	·····
Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)	Category of Property (Check only one box)	Number o (Do not inclu	f Reso de previo	urces within Property ously listed resources in the	y e count.)
I private ☐ public-local ☐ public-State ☐ public-Federal	 ✗ building(s) ☐ district ☐ site ☐ structure ☐ object 	Contributin 1			
			_		structures
		1		0	Total
Name of related multiple p (Enter "N/A" if property is not part	roperty listing of a multiple property listing.)	Number o in the Nat		ibuting resources pro legister	eviously listed
N/A			0		
6. Function or Use					
Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)		Current Fund (Enter categories		structions)	
Domestic/Single Dwelling		•		lubhouse	
7. Description					
Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)		Materials (Enter categories from instructions)			
Dutch Colonial		foundation	San	dstone	
		walls		dstone ther Board	
		roof	Asp	halt	
		other			

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)



8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- $\stackrel{\textbf{X}}{\doteq}$ **C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

N/A **Criteria Considerations**

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- □ A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- **B** removed from its original location.
- **C** a birthplace or grave.
- **D** a cemetery.
- **E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- **F** a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibilography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36) CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # HABS NJ-6 #
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # ___

Areas of Significance

Period of Significance

Significant Dates

N/A

CA 1750 - 1830

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above) N/A

Primary location of additional data:

□ Other State agency

Federal agency

□ University

Name of repository:

K Other

□ Local government

Woman's Club of Nutley

□ State Historic Preservation Office

Cultural Affiliation N/A

Architect/Builder Unknown

Architecture

Essex - NJ **County and State** (Enter categories from instructions)

Name of Property 10. Geographical Data Acreage of Property	0.394		ounty and State
	0.304		
Acreage of Property	0 394		
	0.774	Orange,	, NJ Quad
UTM References (Place additional UTM reference	s on a continuation sheet.)		
1 1 8 5 7 0 0 0 0	0 4 5 1 8 8 0 0 Northing	-	3 Zone Easting 4 See continuation sheet
Verbal Boundary Descrip (Describe the boundaries cf the	p tion property on a continuation sheet.)		
Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries we	re selected on a continuation sheet.)		
11. Form Prepared By			
name/title Gla	adys W. Cordts, Treasure	r	
organization The	e Woman's Club of Nutley		date
street & number210	6 Chestnut St.	tel	ephone 201-235-0004
city or townNu	tley	_ state	N.J. zip code 07110
Additional Documentatio			

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner				
(Complete this item at t	he request of SHPO or FPO.)			
name	The Woman's Club of Nutley			_
street & number	216 Chestnut St.	telephone _	201-667-1081	_
city or town	Nutley	_ stateN.J.	zip code07110	-

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

₽5 Form 10-600-s			
United States Department of the Interior National Park Service	SEP 1 3 1994		
National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet	INTERAGENCY RESOURCES DIVISION NATIONAL PARK SERVICE		
Section number 7 Page 5	Vreeland Homestead Essex NJ		

Section 7

The Vreeland Homestead is located on the north side of Chestnut St. in Nutley adjacent to the west bank of the Third River. The house was constructed in the 18th century using brown sandstone apparently quarried from a nearby local quarry. The land containing the house and adjacent environs have now become the civic center of Nutley with the town's Fire and Public Safety building located on land formerly occupied by the home's barn. Nearby, on land formerly a part of the Van Giesen-Vreeland estate, is the Town Hall, Public Library, High School, Middle School, and the High School field for outdoor sports. The land along the Third River, including that adjacent to the east boundary of this property, is now a part of Memorial Park, dedicated to the men who served in World War I. In the 18th and 19th centuries the Third River was the source of power for industries of the town, ie. grist mills and woolen mills. Today, the heritage of the past has been preserved by the Memorial Park enclosing the Third River, the conversion of the last remaining mill factory into the Town Hall of the municipality, and the preservation of the Vreeland Homestead which remains virtually unaltered since the time of its construction.

The house is an interesting and important example of a building type that was surveyed in 1979 by Bergen County, and from which many examples were nominated to the New Jersey and National Register as a thematic group: the early stone houses of Bergen County. This house is of particular interest since it is architecturally a hybrid. Though the materials and workmanship are characteristic of the Dutch stone houses of Bergen, the facade and floor plan, a five bay, center hall, one room deep plan is rare among the 219 stone houses surveyed. Where five-bay center hall plans are found, they occur in two-room deep houses built during the last decades of the 18th century. As in the Plume House (prob ca 1750-1760) in Newark. Hence, the Vreeland homestead is an example of the early stone house type built by the Bergen County Dutch, but in a transitional location near the Essex and Bergen County boundary, and also transitional in its use of a center hall plan and Flemish bond stone masonry on its facade.

In the 1800's a two floor wooden addition was added to the east gable containing a cooking fireplace and bee-hive oven in the cellar. Nineteenth century maps of the property show a large structure located directly behind the homestead which would be in keeping with a feature of early Dutch houses for the location of an out kitchen for family washing and cooking. Apparently the separate kitchen/out-building was destroyed with the addition. The 19th century deeds used in the research of the home describe the existence of a barn located near the rear of the house on land currently occupied by the Public Safety Building of Nutley.

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Vreeland Homestead Essex NJ

Structure.

The main portion of the house is one-and-one-half stories high, rectangular, with the long axis running essentially in the east-west direction. (This portion of the house was probably the entire original building.) It is approximately twice as long as it is wide. (44'-6"by 21'-7"). The exterior walls, up to the height of the eaves, are constructed of coursed brown sandstone. The stones of the front (south) elevation are more carefully cut, dressed and laid

up, with uniform height of coursing and square, vertical joints, than the other three sides. On these sides the coursing is less regular and straight. Also, small, thin pieces of stone are used as wedges to shim up the stones where the coursing joint varies in width.

The roof is a simple ridged roof with the ridge running east-west along the long axis of the structure. The pitch of the roof from eaves to ridge is medium; approximately 40 to 45 degrees. It is now surfaced with asphalt shingles. The overhang at the rake of the gabled (west) end is only the thickness of the barge board. At the eaves there is a face-applied metal rain gutter at the top of a "barge board" made up of two pieces of lapped siding above the masonry walls.

There are two chimneys, both of brick, one at each end of this rectangular structure. They are both located on the line of the roof ridge and placed so that the structure of the actual chimney flue falls within the building structure. They are, therefore, not exposed on the exterior. The chimney at the east end is covered over, anyway, by a wood-framed addition, separately described.

(There exists a set of measured drawings prepared about 1935 by the U.S. Department of the Interior, Office of National Parks, Buildings and Reservations as part of an Historic American -Buildings Survey.)

Elevations (Facades)

Front (south)Elevation.

This long elevation is treated symmetrically, with an entrance door at the center flanked on either side by two windows. The distance between the jambs of the doorway and the jambs of the windows and ends of the structure are all about the same, providing a nicely proportioned and serene facade. The windows are constructed like a typical double-hung window except, in this case, the upper sash is fixed and only the lower sash is moveable (up). Some sources refer to this type of window as being single-hung. It is typical of all the windows in the Vreeland House. in all cases each sash has six glass lights; or "six over six".

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Vreeland Homestead Essex NJ

The front door is approached by a walk leading from Chestnut Street to an uncovered porch, three risers above the walk. The front door is simply framed and has a brownstone sill, about five inches high, running longer than the width of the door plus its frame. Additional blocks of stone at the course above the sill act as plinths for the door frame. On this elevation the stone lintels of the doorway and windows have sloped ends to provide wedging action and the lower edge of the lintels are of the same length as the masonry opening.

To the right of the porch is a steeply pitched double-door entrance to the basement. It is centered under the window to the right of, and nearest to, the doorway. The head of this basement door frame abuts the underside of the windowsill.

In the stones flanking the front doorway there are roughly-carved initials and dates. Please refer to the measured drawings mentioned above for a detailed delineation of these carvings.

West Elevation

The west elevation is a gabled end. The stone structure extends in height only to the line of the roof eaves and is laid up in a less careful manner than the front of the building. There are no openings in the masonry portion of this elevation.

The gable end of the roof structure is framed in wood and clad on the exterior with wood lapped siding having an exposure of about six inches. The same material is used for a barge board along the rake of the roof. Within this gable there are two windows located symmetrically about the vertical centerline of the gable.

The distance between the windows, frame to frame, is approximately five feet. The windows are the typical six-over-six single-hung wood windows.

Rear (North) Elevation

Thin long elevation is abutted at the east end by a two story wood- framed addition, separately described. The eave line of the addition intersects the roof of the main structure about one-half way up the slope of the roof; the ridge line of the addition being about two feet above the ridge line of the main structure. This addition projects approximately twelve feet north of the north face of the main structure.

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Vreeland Homestead -Essex NJ

The quality of the stonework of this elevation is somewhat less good than that of the west elevation. At the approximate center of the elevation there is a doorway, accessible from a stone platform, without railings, which is two risers above grade. There is a stone step from the platform, plus a stone doorsill, to attain entry through this door. The door frame is of wood. The masonry opening has a stone lintel which extends about six inches on each side of the door frame. The door itself is made up of vertical wood planking with a single glass light at the upper center. This light may be closed by a center opening, horizontally-sliding, wood shutter.

There are two six-over-six windows, one on each side of the doorway, and symmetrically located with respect to the doorway. At a distance of three or four feet to the right of the doorway there in another smaller window, the sill of which is about in line with the head of the doorway. The head of this window is at the line of the underside of the roof eave.

Slightly above grade there are two windows located approximately under the two windows which flank the doorway. These lower windows are narrower than the windows above and are only fifteen inches, or so, in height. They provide light to the basement.

East Elevation

This elevation is almost entirely covered over by a later addition, separately described. The addition begins approximately eight feet back from the south face of the main structure. A porch on the south end of this addition shelters the lower part of exposed portion of the east end of the main structure. Above the porch roof and within the gable end of the main structure is a center-opening casement window which provides light and air to a bathroom which is located in this southeast corner of the second floor of the main structure.

At the west end of the porch, where it abuts the main structure, there is a doorway leading into the main building. This doorway is two risers up from the floor of the porch; it has a four panel wood door.

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Vreeland Homestead Essex NJ

The Addition to the Vreeland Homestead

Structure.

An addition to the original stone structure of the Vreeland house abuts the east side (gable end) of the original structure. The addition, like the original building, is rectangular in plan with the long axis of the rectangle running north-south; that is, perpendicular to the main (original) part of the house. The width of the addition is about two-thirds of it's length. The front of the addition faces south, as does the main part of the house, but this elevation of the addition is a gabled end, as the roof ridge of the addition runs north-south.

The addition is framed with wood and is surfaced, or clad, with wood lapped siding having an exposure to the weather of about eight inches. It sits on a foundation of rubble brownstone masonry; probably from the same quarry as the stone of the original structure. The foundation rises to a height of three and a half to four feet above the surrounding grade, supporting the first floor beams and enclosing a basement about six feet in height.

The roof is a simple ridged roof with the ridge running in the direction of the long axis, i.e. north-south. It has a medium pitch, approximately 40 to 45 degrees. The top of the ridge of the addition is approximately two feet above the top of the ridge of the main structure, as the addition is closer to two stories in height than one and one-half.

The addition is located so that the front, or south wall, of the addition falls about eight feet to the north of the front (south)

face of the original building. There is a porch, now screened in, extending across the full width of the south face of the addition. The depth of this porch is the distance from the south face of the addition to the south face of the main structure; that is, approximately eight feet. The roof of the porch is single-pitched, the pitch being low at approximately a rise of one to a horizontal leg of three. The eave of the porch roof is at the outer face, the higher side abutting the gable end of the addition. The roofs of the addition and it's porch are surfaced with the same asphalt shingles as is the main structure.

Elevations

Front (south) Elevation of Addition

This face of the addition is a gable end. There is essentially no overhang of the roof, either at the rakes or eaves. A porch extends across the full width of the addition, the roof of which is supported at the outer line by the main structure at the left, a partition at the east

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end of the porch and by two intermediate posts. The porch is entirely screened alone the front (south) face. There are wooden steps, with handrails, five risers high from grade to the porch floor.

Within the porch at the front (south) face of the addition there is a four-panel entrance door located somewhat left of center and one step above the level of the porch. At about the center of the space between the door jamb and the east end of the porch there is a fairly new six-over-six double-hung wood window.

At the second floor level, above the porch roof, there are two six-over-six single hung windows, symmetrically placed. The space between the windows and the spaces between the windows and the corners of the building are all equal, at approximately four and one-half feet. The windows are about two feet wide. The heads of the windows are at the eave line of the main roof.

East Elevation of Addition

The addition seen from the east appears as a two story wood framed house resting on a foundation of rubble masonry, with a

one story extension at the left (south) end. This extension is, in reality, the closed-in end of the porch which extends across the face of the first floor at the south side. A window in this closed end matches the adjoining windows of the addition in the east facade.

Within the fully enclosed portion of the addition, at the first floor level, there are three sixover-six, single-hung windows, equally spaced and symmetrically located with respect to a vertical centerline of the addition. At the second floor level there are three windows located directly above the three first floor windows. The second floor windows are smaller in height than the first floor windows and the heads of these windows are in line with the underside of the roof eaves.

There is a chimney projecting through the roof, centered on the

roof ridge, in the east-west direction, and located, visually, in the north-south direction, over the space between the most northerly windows of the east elevation.

The solid foundation extends only under the enclosed addition; the space under the porch being unexcavated and open at the sides. The front edge of the porch (south elev.) consists of a wood beam which is supported at the west end by the foundation of the main house and at the east end by a rubble masonry pier.

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At the southeast corner of the foundation of the addition there is a door, on the east elevation from the exterior into the basement. This door is of wood with a single light of glass. The door head is in line with the top of the foundation. In line with the south edge of the center window of this facade there is an opening in the foundations about two-thirds the width of the first floor windows. The head of this opening is at the top of the foundation and the opening is about two feet high. At present it is blanked off by a sheet of plywood painted to simulate stone

To the north of the blanked-off opening, and approximately under the first floor window above, there is a six-over-three window. This window is the same size as the blanked-off opening and it's sill and head are located on the same lines as the blanked-off opening.

North Elevation of Addition

The north elevation of the addition is relatively simple, consisting of the gable end of the wood framed addition supported by a rubble brownstone foundation. There are no openings in the foundation. There is no roof overhang, either at the eaves or rake.

At the second floor level there are two six-over-six windows symmetrically located about a vertical centerline, with the window heads in line with the eaves of the roof. At the first floor level there is a six-over-six window toward the east and an entrance door toward the west. The window and door are placed symmetrically with respect to a vertical centerline but are closer to the corners of the building than are the windows at the floor. above.

There is a recently-built set of steps and entrance platform serving the back entrance door. The new wood entrance platform is up five-eight inch high risers above a concrete slab-ongrade, the top surface of which is about two inches above grade.

The steps and platform are provided with handrails and guardrails respectively. The wood has been treated with preservative.

West Elevation of Addition

Most of the west face of the addition adjoins the east end of the main structure. However, a portion extends about twelve feet beyond the north face of the main building. This exposed west face, like the other elevations of the addition, is of woodframe construction, surfaced with lapped siding and sitting on a rubble masonry foundation. The top of the foundation is about two feet above grade on this side. At the center of the foundation there is a basement window about eighteen inches in height and the head of which is on line with the top of the foundation. This window is about two and one-half feet wide and consists of a single sash with three lights of glass.

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Vreeland Homestead Essex NJ

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Directly above the basement window is a window at the first floor level. This window is a typical six-over-six, probably double hung. It is approximately three feet wide by three feet high.

Interior Description

Introduction

The Vreeland homestead is a rectangular building with thick stone perimeter walls into which are set floor beams, or joists, to support the first and second floors. The flooring at both of these levels is of wide wood planks. These wood planks and the beams on which they sit are left exposed on the underside to form the ceilings of the rooms at the story below.

The roof is a simple ridged roof framed with wood rafters which are supported by the stone perimeter walls. The partitions which divide the floor spaces into separate rooms are, typically, framed with wood studs and surfaced with plaster on wood lath.

The structural systems of the building, described above, determine to a large degree the appearance of the interior spaces.

First Floor

The first story is divided into three spaces; a living room at the west end, a dining room at the east end and a center hall.

The center hall serves as an entry vestibule. The main entrance door, which is on the south face, is of wood, four panel construction, painted white on the interior face and brown on the exterior. The sides of the center hall are formed by two partitions running from the front exterior wall to the back exterior wall. Each of these partitions has a wide framed opening leading to the living and dining rooms, respectively. These openings begin approximately four feet in from the front wall of the house, but are of different widths. The opening to the living room is five feet one inch wide whereas the opening to the dining room is six feet five and three-quarters inches. These openings are trimmed in wood with simple moldings at the outer edges. The partition walls have a plaster finish on wood lath. The plaster walls and wood trim throughout the first story are painted white. The ceilings and the ceiling beams are stained a dark brown, the planking forming the ceiling being somewhat lighter in tone than the beams.

To the rear of the center hall (north side) there is a stair to the second story, and a door opening to the exterior. The stair begins just past the opening to the living room and climbs upward along the partition for seven risers to a landing in the corner formed by the partition and the exterior wall. There is a six-by-six window at this landing, providing natural light to the hall as well as the stairs

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The stairway changes direction at this point and climbs along the rear wall two risers to a second landing. From this landing there are two more risers leading, both east and south(front) onto the second floor. The door in the exterior wall at the first floor level is under this second landing.

The stair is of wood construction, with a simple round wood hand- rail supported by balusters about one inch square.

The transverse partitions at the first floor are not carried higher than the second floor level. The stair opening through the second floor is edged with a guard railing of cruder design and workmanship than that of that of the stair.

At the first floor level the initial run of the stair and landing are enclosed with wide wood boards. Under the first landing there is an access_door to this enclosed space.

The rear exterior door from the center hall to the outside is located with its right-hand jamb against the east partition wall.As

the headroom under the second landing of the stair is restricted the exterior door is lower in height than the front door.

This door to the exterior is made of three wide wood planks, running vertically. In the center plank there is a fixed, single light, glazed opening. This fixed window may be shuttered at the interior side by the use of two solid wood panels which slide horizontally in wood tracks that are fastened to the inside face of the door.

The living room, at the west end of the building, receives natural light from three windows, two of which are placed symmetrically in the front exterior wall and one which is in the back exterior wall.

The windows of the front wall are treated in a more sophisticated manner than the one in the rear wall. The windows are set close to the outer face of the stone exterior wall, producing deep interior recesses in the wall. At the front windows the sides of these recesses are angled so that the width of each opening at the interior face of the wall is greater than at the exterior face. These angled sides, or reveals, of a recess allow more light to enter a room than if the sides of the recess were perpendicular to the faces of the wall. The windows in the rear wall of this room has the sides of its recess perpendicular to the face of the wall for its full depth. The recesses of all of the windows have wood sills.

At the west wall of the living room there is a fireplace, with mantlepiece, centered in the wall. The fireplace opening is edged with brick and trimmed around with wood. The mantelpiece is also of wood.

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At both sides of the fireplace there is full height storage shelving which extends from the fireplace trim to the exterior walls.

The space between the fireplace and the front (south) wall consists of a cabinet divided into two parts, one above the other.

Each section has a pair of wood paneled doors. The upper section has three shelves. The lower section has one shelf plus the floor. At the other side of the fireplace the storage space is a single floor-to-ceiling closet with three shelves. This space has a four panel wood door.

At the east end of the building is the dining room. This room is somewhat longer than the livingroom, being sixteen feet in length verses thirteen feet and eleven and one quarter inches for the living room. In almost all other-respects it is like the living room. There are two windows in the front wall which, like the living room, have deep recesses with slanted sides and deep wooden sills. There is a window in the rear wall, located in the same relative position as in the living room, and trimmed out in the identical fashion.

At the east end of the room there is a fireplace which is very similar to that in the living room. It, too, is centered in the end wall, is trimmed out in wood and has a wood mantelpiece. At the left side of the fireplace is a full height closet with four shelves.

It is closed by a four panel wood door. To the north of this closet, at the end of a short passageway, there is a doorway leading from the dining room to an addition which abuts the east wall of the original building.

At the south side of the fireplace instead of the storage cabinets or closets, as in the living room, there is a doorway set at the exterior face of the stone wall, which leads onto a porch at the south face of the building addition mentioned above.

As in the living room, all of the woodwork is painted white, as are the plastered wall surfaces.

The ceiling of the dining room has the same exposed beams as in the living room except that they are thinner but more regularly spaced. In the living room these beams are about four inches thick by eight inches deep, but irregular in spacing. In the dining room the beams vary in thickness from one and one half inches to three inches and are approximately twenty six inches on centers.

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Vreeland Homestead Essex NJ

Second floor.

The eighteen inch thick stone perimeter walls of the house are carried to a height about two feet above the second floor level. Along the top of these walls, at the outer edge there is placed and anchored a wood plate, approximately five inches square in section, upon which the roof rafters sit. The remainder of the top surface of these walls projects into the second floor rooms, forming a continuous horizontal ledge at the periphery of the building.

The roof is center-ridged extending the full length of the building. There is, however, no "ridge-pole". Each rafter of one sloped side of the roof is anchored to the wood plate and tilted upward to meet its counterpart of the other sloped side of the roof. These rafters are tied together at the ridge by mortise and tenon joints, with pegs driven through the tenons. The angle of each side of the roof is about forty-five degrees.

At a height to provide approximately six feet of head room, each rafter at one side of the roof is further connected to its counterpart on the other side of the roof by a horizontal tiebeam, thereby forming a truss or roof frame. At the three most central roof frames, horizontal tie-rods of iron or steel have been added, at some date later than the original construction. These metal rods are located just above the wood tie-beams.

The sloping undersides of the roof between the exposed rafters are covered with a type of wallboard and painted. It is not possible, then, to see whether or not purlins are used above the rafters or what the original roofing material might have been.

The flooring for the entire second floor is wood planking. The underside of this plank flooring forms the ceiling of the first story rooms. It is stained a dark brown throughout.

The second story of the building is sub-divided into four separate spaces. The stairway from the hall below terminates at the second floor in a center hall created by two transverse partitions. This center hall provides access to the other rooms. At the west end of the floor there is a bedroom which extends the full width of the house. The east end is divided into two rooms by a partition running east-west. One of these rooms is a bathroom, at the southeast corner. The other is a storage area at the north-east corner. The bathroom is both longer and wider than storage area.

Center Hall

In this space the roof frames, previously described, are exposed to view. The ceiling panels between them are part of the underside of the roof. All of these surfaces are painted.

The north and south walls are formed by that part of the stone exterior walls which projects above the second floor level.

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Vreeland Homestead Essex NJ

The stone is plastered over and painted.

The east and west walls of this space are partitions, made of wood planks set vertically. Through the partition at the west side there are two doors, also made of vertical planks, and constructed in a manner to form four panel flush doors. The doors are located symmetrically on each side of the center line of the house and are about twelve inches apart. It is very probable that these doors led, originally into separate rooms. At present only the door at the south side of center is in active use. It provides access to a single room at the west end of the second floor.

The east wall is also constructed of vertical wood planking. Beginning at the south wall of stone it extends to a point a foot or so past the center line of the building. At this point the wall makes a ninety degree turn to the east for a distance of twenty-eight and one-half inches, ending at a partition running in the north-south direction. At the juncture of these two partitions there is a door, in the north-south partition, which leads into a storage area at the northeast corner of the second floor.

In the part of the east wall first described there is a doorway which is located five feet from where this wall starts from the south wall. This door leads into the bathroom which occupies the southeast corner of the second floor.

West Bedroom

The room at the west end of the second floor extends the full width of the building in the north-south direction and from the partition, earlier described, to the exterior west wall of the building. In this room the roof rafters and the beams are not exposed, but covered over at the interior faces with a continuous finished surface of plaster on wood lath. This surfacing on the underside of the tie-beams produces a storage space above the beams. Access to this storage space is from the center hall via a small door in the partition which separates the two rooms.

At the west side of the room the raised ledges at the perimeter walls butt into the chimney from the fireplace below which projects into the room farther than the exterior stone wall. In this west wall there are two six-over-six windows, one at each side of the chimney. The sills of these windows are set just above the stone ledge.

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Mechanical and Electrical Services

For its present use as the Nutley Woman's Club the homestead has been provided with modern plumbing, heating and electricity.

Plumbing is confined to the bathroom at the southeast corner of the second floor and to a kitchen at the north end of the addition. The partition walls of the bathroom are placed so as to conceal vertical piping. A raised false floor, about seven inches higher than the second floor, has been added along the north side of the bathroom where the headroom is the highest. The bathtub and the toilet are located on this raised portion of the floor in order to allow drainage piping for these fixtures to be run horizontally to a vertical stack without appearing below the ceiling of the dining room at the first floor level. Both the bathroom and the kitchen are equipped and furnished to meet contemporary usage and standards of housekeeping.

Heating is provided for all the rooms above the basement, except for storage areas, by a one-pipe steam system with a boiler in the basement and cast-iron radiators in the room to be heated.

Electric service entry and main disconnect switch are in the basement. Because of the manner in which the homestead is constructed, without hollow walls or ceilings, the electrical wiring and wiring devices are carried in surface-mounted metal raceways and boxes.

All of the rooms are provided with lighting fixtures, switches and power receptacles.

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Vreeland Homestead Essex NJ

Section 8

The Vreeland homestead is an important example of the early stone houses built by the Dutch cultural group throughout the old Bergen County and adjacent areas into which they moved in the Eighteenth Century. Overlooked in the 1979 thematic nomination of Dutch stone houses because it stands in Essex, not Bergen County, the Vreeland homestead never-theless exhibits the characteristic masonry of the Bergen County Dutch and was historically associated with Dutch families with thick roots in Bergen County. Yet, befitting its location in a peripheral area of Dutch settlement, the homestead also embodies English influence in its facade masonry, which is very similar to the Plume House in Newark, and in its floor plan. Although its date of construction has not been firmly fixed, it is most likely a pre-Revolutionary house built for either the Van Giesens or the Vreelands, two of Nutley's early families who occupied this property from the first years of settlement at the end of the Seventeenth Century until the early years of the Twentieth. The house meets Criterion C for its significance to the vernacular architecture of Nutley and the surrounding area.

Since the title to the property occupied by the home can be traced back with certainty only until 1763, its earlier history can only be reasoned by references from secondary sources. To assist in a fuller understanding of this analysis the following historical background information is provided: After Robert Treat and his group of Connecticut Puritans disembarked at the mouth of the Passaic River in 1666, land purchases were made with the local Hackensack Indians which included land on which Nutley is situated. Newark's northern boundary (now Nutley's northern boundary) was the Third River or Yantecau River on which the Vreeland home is situated¹. About this same time the Dutch settled along the Passaic River just north of the Third River at Acquackanonck (now Passaic) and formed large land holdings. By moving south the Dutch became large landholders along the Passaic River in modern day Nutley, and early records show such prominent names as Van Riper, Van Winkle, Van Giesen, Vreeland, Speer and Joraleman². In 1811 the northeast section of Newark became a separate municipality, Bloomfield. In 1839 the eastern section (Second River) of Bloomfield separated to become Belleville and in 1874 an area known as North Belleville came into existence as a separate municipality, Franklin. In 1902 when a change In the form of government was made, Franklin incorporated as Nutley.

The earliest recorded presence of a Van Giesen in this area was documented in the minutes of the Newark town meeting held on March 5,1693-4 which admitted Bastian Van Giesen as a planter³. A patent dated 27 Jan 1695-96 to John Treat of Newark for 60 acres of land in that township described (1) a lot on Bareskin Brook on the north side of Third River and (2) a lot on the river bounded south by land of Bastien Van Giesen, west by unsurveyed land, north by the line of Acquackanonck Township, and east by Third River⁴.

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This reference is the earliest evidence found for possession of land on the west bank of the Third River in the Nutley area by Bastian Van Giesen. In addition, a deed dated Dec. 26,1698 by which a Thomas Stagg bought from Eliphelet Johnson of Newark, "a certain tract of upland lying within ye bounds of Newark on ye West side of ye third river beginning at Bastians (ie, Bastian Van Giesen) line and running up along ye side river bounded North by Bastian Van Giesen, East by ye third river South by Claese Hendrickson West by land unsurveyed" provides further evidence of land on the west bank of the Third River in the ownership of Bastian Van Giesen⁵.

Bastian Van Giesen was the son of Reynier Bastiansen Van Giesen, a "Court Attendant" and schoolmaster in Flatbush, L.I., who removed to Bergen, N.J. in 1664 and served as "Voorlezer" (parish clerk) until his death in 1707. Bastian was married June 25, 1688 at Bergen to Aeltje Hendrickse (Brinckerhoff), in the record of which he is described as living in Acquackanonck and she in Hackensack, but both from Midwout (Flatbush). Bastian was elected a deacon of the Ref. Dutch Church of Acquackanonck in 1694 and 1697 and an elder in 1700, 1706, 1712, 1719 and 1721⁶. The issue of Bastian and wife Aeltje were seven sons and two daughters. He died intestate and his estate was administered by his eldest son Hendrick who gave bond dated 22 July 1751⁷. Apparently Hendrick inherited the property on the west side of the Third River for a deed dated January 9, 1763 transfers the 80 acre property from Hendrick, son and heir of Bastian, to Cornelius, his brother, for 10 Shillings.⁸

This same property appears in mortgage dated March 6 1770⁹ and is described as a "Tract of land lying and being at the upper part of Second River, formerly by some called Agquackanong" In Essex County, in which mortgage the property lines are described as "beginning at the Third River at the mouth of a Brook called Bearskin Brook, running a Westerly course 21 chains to a white oak tree, thence north 45 chains to a stake with a small heap of stones round it, thence east to the Third river, thence along the Third River to the place where it began, containing 80 acres, which land and appurtenances is mortgaged by Cornelius Bastianse Van Giesen of Second River afore said unto Tunis Jeralemon of the same place" to secure the payment of 100 pounds with Interest on 24 February next". The mortgagor was that Cornelius Van Giesen who deceased intestate, and administration of his estate was granted to his brother Abraham B. Van Giesen who gave bond dated 6 April 1779¹⁰. This same property as described in the 1770 mortgage appears in the possession of Abraham B. Van Giesen when it is transferred by deed dated 1783¹¹.

Abraham B. Van Giesen was the youngest of the seven sons of Bastian R. Van Giesen. He was first married In 1737 to Jannetje Van Houten per record of The Reformed Dutch Church of Acquackanonck, in which both are described as born and living within that parish. Evidently she died before 9 April 1769, which is the date of the marriage of Abraham Van Giesen, widower from Acquackanonck and Tryntie Ryke, widow, as recorded by the Dutch Church of Second River. Her proper name was Tryntje (Catrina) Spier, who had married Jacob Ryker¹².

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By deed of 6 October 1783, Abraham B. Van Giesen and wife Catrina conveyed to Abraham Speer, all the parties being of Newark Township, for 482 pounds 10 shillings, a tract of 106 3/4 acres "on the west side of the Third River in Newark Township beginning at the mouth of Basken Brook where it runs Into the said Third River." The boundary lines are therein described as running thence north 49 degrees 45 minutes west 21 chains to a white oak on the division line between this tract and the land "now in possession of Gysbert Peck" thence northeast along that line and the lands of John Van Riper 45 chains to a stake, thence south 49 degrees 45 minutes 21 chains to the Third River, and thence up stream along that river to the first point. Together with all houses, out-houses, barns, stables, buildings, woods, etc¹³. Numerous published accounts¹⁴ describe confiscation of the estate of Abraham Van Giesen as a Tory, but there is no evidence of such confiscation¹⁵. To the contrary, the previously described deed indicates a direct sale between Abraham Van Giesen and Abraham Speer and not a sale of confiscated property between the State of New Jersey and Abraham Speer.

Abraham Spier was the son of Johannes Spier of Second River (Belleville) and "commanded a company of patriot soldiers in the Revolutionary War¹⁶. He was commissioned on May 28, 1777 and served in the Second Essex Regiment¹⁷. Abraham Spier owned the property for less than a year for in 1783 he sold it to his brother-in-law John Michielse Vreeland, husband of his sister Annatie Spier, by an unrecorded deed. According to E.S. Brown "John M. Vreeland who increased his inheritance by purchase in 1783...The Vreeland purchase from Capt Spier was on the north side of Chestnut Street and included the homestead. The deed is In the hands of a descendent who received this land from his father and still lives on it, Warren Vreeland^{*18}. In 1804 he increased his holdings by inheriting the adjacent land north of Van Giesen property from his father Michael D. Vreeland via a Will dated August 28, 1782 and witnessed by Abraham Van Giesen.¹⁹ This will, which is in the possession of the Nutley Historical Society, gives "to well beloved son John my dwelling house I now live in, with all the land, orchards, buildings, mills and everything there unto, and also the saw Mill." With this acquisition John M. Vreeland became one of the largest land owners in the area. The Vreeland family has been described as "one of the oldest and most honored families of New-Jersey. Ever since Colonial days their ancestors have been prominently connected with public affairs and with the business life of this community. The Vreelands, the Spiers and the Masons were all leading citizens, active in the development and up building of all the good interest of this section of the county, and their names are inseparably connected with the growth and progress of the town²⁰.

The entire tract of land was held by John M. Vreeland until his death in 1821 when the real property was divided among his four sons, and his personal property among his two daughters²¹. In the disposition, son Abraham acquired 8 acres containing one half of the barn and one half of the house. Disposition of the other half of the house and barn was not specified. However, by deed of Dec 26,1821 Abraham and his wife Elizabeth, and brother in-law and sister, Daniel Van Winkle and wife Ann, conveyed to their sister Magdalen

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Vreeland the 9.32 acres on the eastern part of the property containing one half of the house and barn with the deed specifically stating that the property being described "as that portion which was not divided by the last will and testament of John M. Vreeland"²².

Abraham Vreeland and wife Elizabeth conveyed the 0.28 acre western portion of the lot containing one half of the house and barn to Daniel Van Winkle, the husband of sister Ann on March $14,1830^{23}$.

On April 13, 1853 Daniel Van Winkle and wife Ann conveyed this same plot to John Oldham, husband of Magdalen Vreeland²⁴. By these transactions John Oldham and wife Magdalen became owners of the entire Vreeland Homestead. John Oldham survived his wife and died Feb.16, 1882 as the owner of the property as evidenced by the 1865 Farm Map of Bloomfield and Belleville and later by the 1881 map of Essex County²⁵. The executors of his estate conveyed the property to his nephew Warren Vreeland for the sum of \$2635 by deed dated May 31,1883²⁶. Warren Vreeland was the son of Abraham Vreeland and wife Elizabeth Mason. When Warren Vreeland died on April 20, 1909 the property was willed to his daughter Laura Tuers²⁷ who subsequently sold it in 1923 to the Woman's Club of Nutley who had been renting the property since 1911 and using it as a club house.

The Woman's Club of Nutley was formed in 1911 by a group of women who were originally members of the Nutley Improvement Association, the Public School Association, or the House Wife's League. They were all mutually concerned with the preservation of the Vreeland Homestead as a historic landmark, which after a couple of years of rental by transient tenants had fallen into a state of disrepair. The new organization incorporated on March 19, 1912 with their main objective being the restoration of the home. However, the three founding organizations became departments within the Club's organization and continued their involvement in civic concerns. This activity eventually resulted in the formation of such groups as the Nutley Family Service Bureau, Nutley chapter of the American Red Cross, the Parent-Teacher Association, Women's Campaign Committee, Nutley Civic Association, and the Nutley Girl Scout Council. Through these organizations and the standing committees of the Club, the Woman's Club of Nutley had a substantial impact on life In Nutley and to this day has been a leader in the betterment of community living standards. After eleven years of renting the Club purchased the home on Oct 19,1923²⁸. Since 1912, considerable time and money has been expended in the repair and maintenance of the structure while maintaining its historic and architectural integrity. A tabulation of these projects is included In the appendix of this nomination²⁹. A comparison of the recent photographs of the interior and exterior features of the building with those taken in 1935 by the HABS demonstrates the effort taken to prevent changes to the original architecture.

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Stones on either side of the front door are inscribed AVG 1702, IVL 1783, AVL 1821, WVL 1883, apparently to represent various owners. These can be interpreted as (1) Abraham Van Giessen the supposed owner in 1702 by tradition, (2) John M. Vreeland the owner in 1783, (3) Abraham Vreeland who inherited the home in 1821 upon the death of his father John M. Vreeland, and (4) Warren Vreeland the owner in 1883. Since it is the belief of the applicant of this nomination that the inscriptions were made by Warren Vreeland whose writings refer to a 1702 construction date³⁰, their value in dating the house can be dismissed. Further evidence of being "recent" engravings is a comparison with tablets found or recovered from Nutley homes bearing dates of 1702 and 1788, both of which show much more embellishment with lines and figures. Also, an 1838 home in Nutley once occupied by Warren Vreeland contains inscriptions on the doorstep of AVL 1838, the date when occupied by Abraham Vreeland, and WVL 1864, the date when Warren Vreeland returned from Wisconsin to occupy the house. The style of the letters and numbers are identical to those used on the Vreeland Homestead inscriptions.

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Section	n number <u>8</u> Page <u>23</u> Essex NJ NOTES
1.	Records Town of Newark 1666-1836, Collections of the New Jersey Historical Society, Vol VI, Newark, N.J.: New Jersey Historical Society, 1864
2.	Brown, page 20
3.	Records town of Newark, page 107
4.	Essex County Deeds, Book E, page 405. Abstract published in New Jersey Archives XXI, page 236
5.	Nelson, William, <u>History of City of Paterson and County of</u> Passaic, 1901, page 191
6.	Historic American Building Survey, HABS-NJ-6, pp 5-7
0. 7.	New Jersey Archives, <u>Abstracts of Wills</u> , Vol XXXII, New Jersey Historical Society,
<i>.</i>	Newark, N.J. 1924, page 335
8.	Essex County Deeds, Book A, page 26
9.	Essex County Mortgages, Book A, page 355
10.	New Jersey Archives, <u>Abstracts of Wills</u> , Vol XXXIV, New Jersey Historical
	Society, Newark, N.J. page 543
11.	Essex County Deeds, Book Z 3, page 326
12.	HABS-NJ-6, page 7
13.	Essex County Deeds, Book Z 3, page 326
14.	Brown, p. 24 & 29; Troy, Ann A. <u>Nutley Yesterday and Today</u> , Nutley, N.J., Nutley Historical Society, 1961, p.179, 17, & 28; Bailey, Rosalie Fellows, <u>Pre-Revolutionary</u> <u>Dutch Houses and Families</u> , New York, N.Y.: Dover Publications, New York 1968, page 518
15.	No published notice recorded in <u>Abstracts of Newspapers</u> , N.J. Archives, 2nd Series, Vol II and III, and no deed of sale from the Commissioners of Forfeited Estates was located per HABS-NJ-6.
16.	Nelson, page 191
17.	Shaw, William H., History of Essex and Hudson County, Everts and Peck, 1884
18.	Brown, page 21
19.	Last Will and Testament of Michael D. Vreeland, Miller, dated Aug 28, 1782. Original document is in the possession of the Nutley Historical Society, Nutley, N.J.
20.	Folson, page 80.
21.	Folson, page 80.
22.	Essex County Deeds, Book X 6, page 258
23.	Ibid., Book K 3, page 120
24.	Ibid., Book M 8, page 4
25.	Farm Map of Bloomfield and Belleville, 1865, James Hughes, Surveyor and Publisher; Map of Franklin Village, plate 155, Atlas of Essex Co., N.J., R.H. Pidgeon, 1881
26.	Essex County Deeds, Book Y 21, page 118
27.	Ibid., Book D 49, page 325
28.	Ibid., Book K 69, page 159
29.	Minutes, 1912-1992, Woman's Club of Nutley, Nutley, N.J.

30. Vreeland, Warren, unpublished writing dated 3 April 1905, entitled Early Settlers,

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Unpublished Material

Vreeland, Warren. "Early Settlers", unpublished writing dated 3 April 1905, possession of Nutley Historical Society, Nutley, N.J

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Essex County N. J., Hall of Records, Newark, N. J.; Essex County Mortgage Books

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Section 10.

Verbal Boundary Description

Located in Nutley, N.J. the nominated property is comprised of one lot (Block 258 Lot 5) on the north side of Chestnut St. It is bounded on the North and West by Township of Nutley property, on the East by the Township's Memorial Park and the Third River, and on the South by Chestnut Street. The boundary of the property is shown as the heavy line on the accompanying maps entitled "Vreeland Homestead Boundary Map ~ and "Site Plan - Vreeland Homestead"

Boundary Justification

The boundary of the nominated property consists of one parcel acquired by present owners from Laura Tuers a direct descendent of the Vreeland family which purchased the property from Abraham Speer in 1783. The much larger original tract of 1783 was purchased from the Van Giesen's, a Dutch planter of the early 17th century.

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Section number Photo Page 1 Vreeland Homestead Essex County NJ

Photograph Inventory

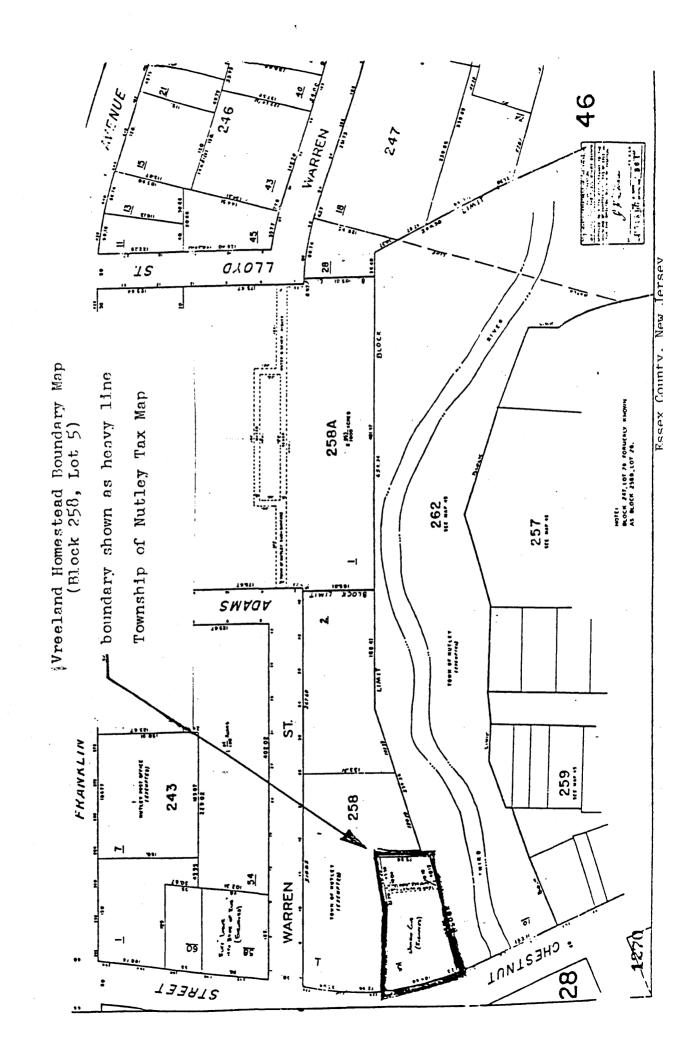
The following information is applicable to all photographs:

Photographer: Fred Van Steen

Date of Photographs: August 1993

Negative Repository: Nutley Historical Society 65 Church Street Nutley, NJ 07110

Photo #1: Front Elevation; View north Photo #2: Front & West Elevations and Environs; View northeast Photo #3: Front & West Elevations; View northeast Photo #4: West Elevation; View east Photo #5: West elevation showing details of ventilation holes in qable; View east Photo #6: Front Elevation; View north-northeast Photo #7: Front & East elevations showing 19th century addition; View north-northwest Photo #8: Rear Elevation, View south Photo #9: Rear door of stone house; View south Photo #10: Cabinet doors, first floor, west room Photo #11: Rear door showing sliding panels closed Photo #12: Rear door showing sliding panels open Photo #13: First floor, stairway to second floor Photo #14: First floor, west room, west wall Photo #15: First floor, east room, east wall



National Register Nomination

SITE PLAN

Vreeland Homestead 226 Chestnut St. Nutley, N.J.

Block 258, Lot 5

CHESTNUT 57.

