

BERGEN COUNTY STONE HOUSE SURVEY

INDIVIDUAL STRUCTURE SURVEY FORM

144

GENERAL

HISTORIC NAME: John Westervelt *1845 c.*

COMMON NAME: "The Nutshell"

LOCATION: 29 The Parkway

MUNICIPALITY: ~~(Block 1022, Lots 7 & 13)~~
Harrington Park

OWNERSHIP: Public Private

OWNER/ADDRESS: Constantine G. and
T. Vasiliadis
(same)

REFERENCE

MAP REFERENCES:

- Erskine (1778-80) No name
- Hopkins-Corey (1861) Wa. Kipp
- Walker's Atlas (1876) Geo. Ward
- Bromley (1912) Dr. J.N. Farrar
- Other

RECOGNITION:

- National Register BCHS Marker
- HABS Bailey
- Other

ENVIRONMENT

HOUSE ORIENTATION: S 85° E

IMPORTANT RELATED STRUCTURES:
Old frame garage

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:

CONDITION

CONDITION:

- Excellent Good
- Fair Deteriorated

STATUS:

- Occupied
- Unoccupied
- Work in Progress

ACCESSIBLE:

- Yes, Restricted
- Yes, Unrestricted
- No

This house has been substantially added to and the early feeling is almost obliterated. However, its features are fascinating. A storybook atmosphere was created by theater people such as the Jane Farrar family, P.T. Barnum, etc.

PHOTO



MAP

USGS QUAD: Yonkers



DESCRIPTION

CONSTRUCTION DATE/SOURCE:

Pre-Revolutionary/Howard I. Durie

NUMBER OF STORIES: 1-1/2

CELLAR: Yes
 No

BUILDER:

John Westervelt

FORM/PLAN TYPE:

Probably was "D", 4 bay, 2 rooms deep
(36'4" x 30'3")

CHIMNEY FOUNDATION:

Stone Arch
 Brick Arch, Stone Foundation (2)
 Other

FLOOR JOISTS:

7" x 9", 23-29" between

FIRST FLOOR CEILING HEIGHT:

8'7"

FIRST FLOOR WALL THICKNESS:

22"

GARRET FLOOR JOISTS:

GARRET:

Unfinished Space
 Finished Space

FRAMING SYSTEM:

Intermediate Summer Beam
 Intermediate Bearing Wall
 Clear Span
 Other

ROOF:

Gable
 Gambrel
 Curb
 Other Changed to mansard

EXTERIOR WALL FABRIC:

Flemish bond brick facade, random sandstone on north and west. South now brick, originally frame.

FENESTRATION:

Probably not original.

EAVE TREATMENT:

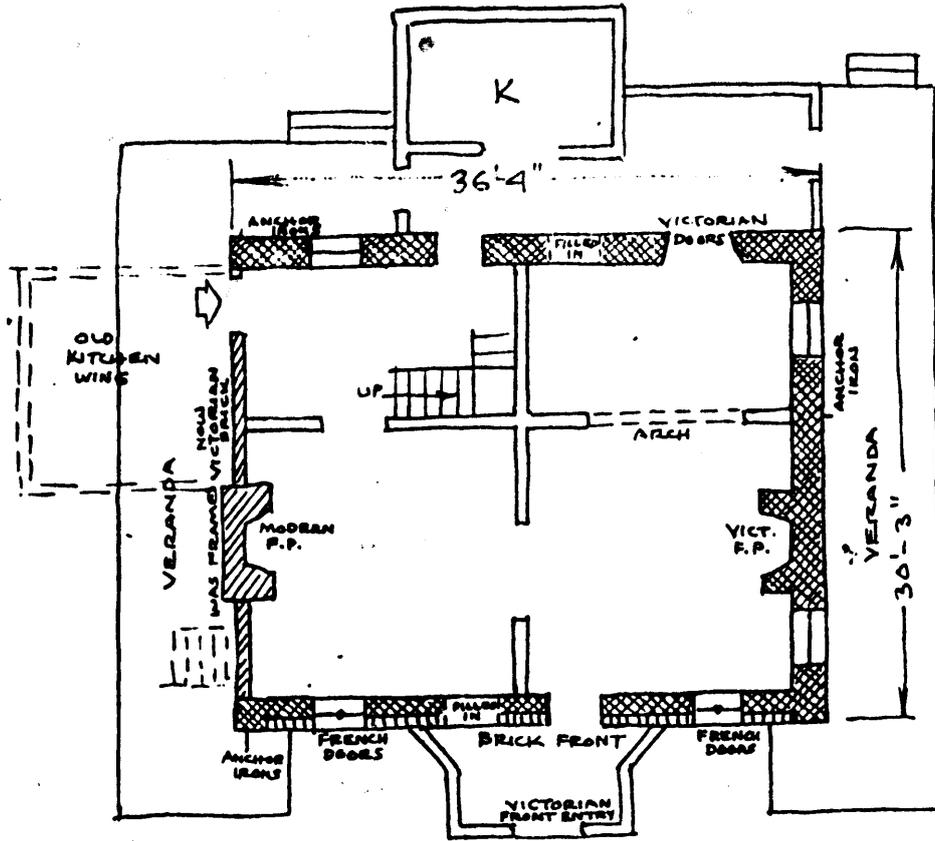
Sweeping Overhang
 Supported Overhang
 No Overhang
 Boxed Gutter
 Other

ENTRANCE LOCATION/TYPE:

Original east. Now southwest corner.
Probably was two door.

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.

63 FLOOR PLANS



BACKGROUND INFORMATION

In 1723 the land was owned by John Harmonson and in 1747 by Johannes Fendar. In 1779 John Westervelt was taxed for 240 acres of it and his house appeared here on the Erskine map. The land was bounded on the west by the Hackensack River, south by the Dwars Kill, east by the Tappan Run and north by the line which is now Harriot Avenue. John Westervelt died on December 24, 1786 and his widow Maria and Benjamin Blackledge were the administrators. On March 13, 1802 John Westervelt, Jr., Winetje, his wife, and Mary Westervelt, widow, conveyed the northerly 122 acres to neighbor Leonard Degraw for \$6,000 (Liber 0 - page 274). The latter died in 1814 and devised the farm to sons John and William after the death of their mother Elizabeth. The same year John turned over 106 acres and the house to brother William (FG-44). The latter died in 1852 and title is believed to have passed to grandson, William Kipp. By 1876 the property was owned by George Ward and is associated with P.T. Barnum and by 1913 by Dr. J.N. Farrar, father of Geraldine Farrar. In 1966 it was owned by a Smith family.

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:

Block 1022, Lots 7 and 13

less than 1 acre

U.T.M.

18 586 150 4537 550
Yonkers, New Jersey-New York