

BUILDING-STRUCTURE INVENTORY FORM

DIVISION FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION
NEW YORK STATE PARKS AND RECREATION
ALBANY, NEW YORK (518) 474-0479

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY
UNIQUE SITE NO. _____
QUAD _____
SERIES _____
NEG. NO. _____

YOUR NAME: Nancy Todd, Neil Larson DATE: September 1986

YOUR ADDRESS: E.S.P. Agency Bldg 1 TELEPHONE: 518-474-0479

ORGANIZATION (if any): Division for Historic Preservation

See cover sheet, item 11

IDENTIFICATION

- 1. BUILDING NAME(S): Fredenburg House (Individual Component #2)
- 2. COUNTY: Dutchess TOWN/CITY: Rhinebeck VILLAGE: NA; Rhinebeck vic.
- 3. STREET LOCATION: Old Post Road
- 4. OWNERSHIP: a. public b. private
- 5. PRESENT OWNER: Lee Eisenberg ADDRESS: 305 East 72nd St., NY, NY 10021
- 6. USE: Original: residence Present: residence
- 7. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: Exterior visible from public road: Yes No
Interior accessible: Explain no; private residence

DESCRIPTION

- 8. BUILDING MATERIAL: a. clapboard b. stone c. brick d. board and batten
e. cobblestone f. shingles g. stucco other: _____
- 9. STRUCTURAL SYSTEM: (if known) a. wood frame with interlocking joints
b. wood frame with light members
c. masonry load bearing walls
d. metal (explain) _____
e. other _____
- 10. CONDITION: a. excellent b. good c. fair d. deteriorated
- 11. INTEGRITY: a. original site b. moved if so, when? _____
c. list major alterations and dates (if known): _____

See item #18

12. PHOTO: N. Todd, 1986
Rhinebeck Historical Society, 1984

13. MAP: See continuation sheets
Acreage: 5.5



HP-1

1. East facade

14. THREATS TO BUILDING: a. none known b. zoning c. roads
d. developers e. deterioration
f. other: _____

15. RELATED OUTBUILDINGS AND PROPERTY:
a. barn b. carriage house c. garage
d. privy e. shed f. greenhouse NONE
g. shop h. gardens
i. landscape features: _____
j. other: _____

16. SURROUNDINGS OF THE BUILDING (check more than one if necessary):
a. open land b. woodland
c. scattered buildings
d. densely built-up e. commercial
f. industrial g. residential
h. other: _____

17. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS:
(Indicate if building or structure is in an historic district)

See continuation sheet

18. OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING AND SITE (including interior features if known):

See continuation sheet

SIGNIFICANCE

19. DATE OF INITIAL CONSTRUCTION: ca. 1716

ARCHITECT: unknown

BUILDER: unknown

20. HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE:

See continuation sheet

21. SOURCES:

See cover sheet, item #9

Rhinebeck Town Multiple Resource Area
Rhinebeck, Dutchess County, New York

#2. Fredenburg House
Old Post Road
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17. The Fredenburg House is located on the west side of Old Post Road, a one-half-mile section of the Old Post Road to Albany. Short sections of Old Post Road survive intact along Route 9, the modern highway which replaced the Old Post Road as the primary north-south thoroughfare through the town and village of Rhinebeck. In general, the new highway follows the course of the old road; the street on which the Fredenburg House is located is one of three sections of the old road that the new highway bypassed for a straighter, more direct route through town. With the exception of several mid-twentieth century ranch type dwellings at the south end of Old Post Road and one twentieth-century dwelling out of sight to the north of the nominated property, the Fredenburg House is the only building along the isolated and undeveloped rural road. Thickly wooded areas and extensive farmland surround the property to the north, south, east and west.

The house is sited on a gently rolling, 5.5-acre lot, most of which is covered with thick woods. The house sits fairly close to the road, surrounded by grassy lawns landscaped with a variety of wild flower gardens and flowering hedges. A short unpaved driveway provides parking space to the southeast of the house. There are no outbuildings on the nominated property. The heavy black outline on the attached county tax map identifies the boundary of the nominated parcel.

Contributing buildings: 1

18. The Fredenburg House (ca. 1716) is a rectangular, gable-roofed stone farmhouse in the regional vernacular building tradition. It is a two-room-plan building with its gable end (front facade) oriented eastward towards the street. Front and rear gable ends are sheathed with horizontal flushboard siding. A brick central chimney pierces the ridge of the gable roof marking the second stage of the building's evolution. (The rear block is believed to date from the mid- to late nineteenth century). Built into a slight hillside, the building is exposed one story on the north elevation and one and one-half stories on the south elevation. Fenestration is asymmetrical. Ground-story window openings contain twelve-over-eight, double-hung sash windows enframed by simple wooden trim. Front and rear gable-end windows contain six-over-six, double-hung sash windows with simple wooden trim.

The front (east) facade features an asymmetrically placed

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door and twelve-over-eight window. The side door is enframed by modest wooden trim and sheltered by a small, early twentieth century, shed-roofed porch supported by square columns.

The asymmetrical south (side) elevation features a basement-level service entrance, a secondary entrance at the main level and a twelve-over-eight, double-hung sash window which together mark the 1716 main block. The south elevation of the rear block features a single twelve-over-eight, double-hung sash window.

The north elevation of the building is blind. A twentieth-century, rusticated stone chimney is attached to the north elevation at approximately mid-point.

The rear (west) elevation of the stone building is spanned by a one-story, shed-roofed wing which was added during the early twentieth century. The clapboard-sided wing features groups of large, six-over-six, double-hung sash windows with simple wooden trim.

The interior of the Fredenburg House survives substantially intact with original room configurations and some simple, restrained woodwork. Exposed beams with chamfered edges are found in both the front and rear spaces and massive, hand-hewn support beams are found in the partial basement beneath the original, 1716 main block. The Fredenburg House, like the Steenburg Tavern (Individual Component #4), also retains its garret level meat-smoking chamber, a domed section of chimney.

There are no outbuildings on the nominated property.

20. The Fredenburg House (ca. 1716) is significant as a rare and distinctive example of Hudson River regional German vernacular architecture of the eighteenth century. It represents a distinctive regional house type and provides a basis for understanding the building and living patterns of ethnic groups not only in Rhinebeck but in the entire mid-Hudson Valley region as well.

Like a number of other examples of its type and period, including the Jacob Kip House and the Abraham Kip House in the Sixteen Mile Historic District, the Benner House, the Traver House, the Steenburg Tavern, Strawberry Hill and the Progue House (Individual Components 1, 3, 4, 5 and 6, respectively), the Fredenburg House displays a variety of traits that are typical among the regional Dutch, French and German stone houses of the period. Common features exhibited by the houses include un-

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coursed, locally quarried stone walls, a gable roof and a single-room-deep plan which usually evolved into a linear, multi-room plan over time. Although many of the builders, craftsmen and original occupants for each of the vernacular stone houses in Rhinebeck will probably never be documented, it is likely that most of these were built by or for the Palatines. Field observation, limited historical data and comparison with similar stone houses in the region has revealed distinctive features that appear in significant concentrations in Palatine settlements allowing for some preliminary findings about aspects of the German vernacular building tradition within the context of the late medieval, Northern European building tradition.

The German type appears to have generally originated in a squarish, one-room-plan house similar in construction to the Dutch with load bearing masonry walls and large wooden beams anchoring the side walls and supporting the garret floor. The gable roof with wide-spaced rafters and collar beams resting on plates embedded in the top of the side walls is also regionally consistent. However, in German houses, the apex of the gable end is often sheathed with clapboard rather than completed with masonry. The German types also appear to differ in their plan and orientation. While Dutch houses generally have entrances on side walls, the German houses most often have entrances on the gable end opposite the chimney end. Hillside sites are more prevalent for German houses. While the Dutch houses were sited on level ground and usually expanded into three-room, linear configurations, the Germans seem to have preferred a two-room plan. This relates to their evident affinity for internal chimneys with a fireplace opening in a hall-kitchen and a stove, with its firebox opening into the fireplace, heating the parlor space in the second room. Most documented eighteenth-century German houses in the Hudson Valley (as well as in the Schoharie and Mohawk Valleys) have two-room plans, often enlarged from older, one-room houses. It also appears that a trend away from central chimneys to gable chimneys occurred fairly early in the 1700s, probably as jambless fireplaces were replaced by enclosed hearths.

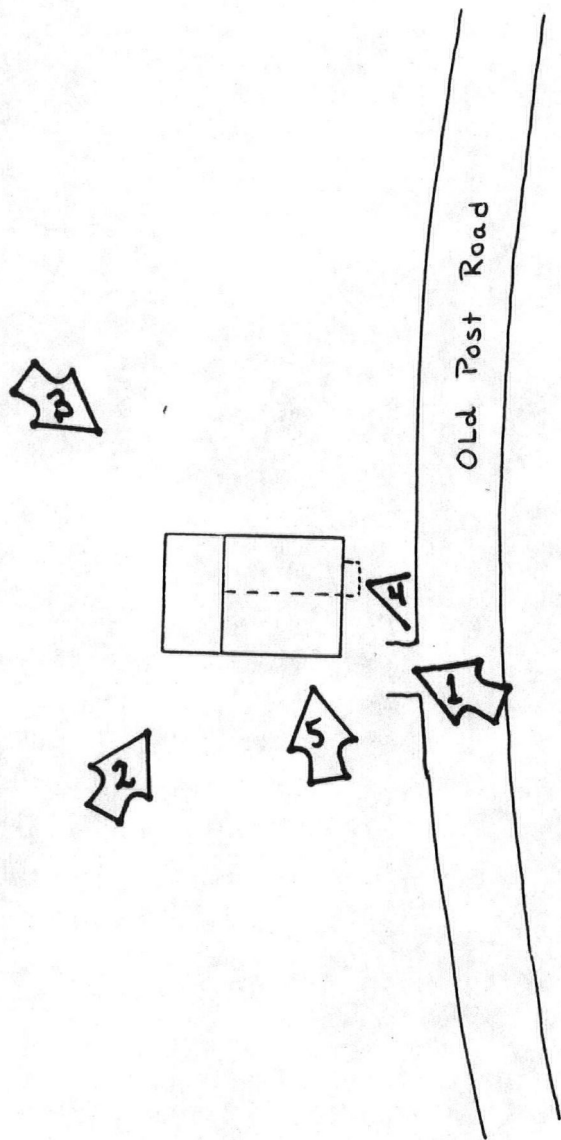
The Fredenburg House is an important illustration of the typical pattern of growth of the one-room plan into the two-room format. In this example, the chimney was centrally located, servicing both rooms. Like other German vernacular houses of the period, the Fredenburg House has clapboard siding in the gable ends, its primary entrance in the end rather than the side walls and a hillside siting. The Fredenburg House contains a rare surviving example of a smoking chamber in its garret level.

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Although no historic outbuildings survive intact, the rural, isolated 5.5-acre parcel, surrounded by woods and extensive, cultivated acreage, provides an intact, historic farm-like setting which enhances the significance of the nominated property.

The builder and/or first owner/occupants of the house are not known. Little is known about the eighteenth or early nineteenth century history of the building but, according to local tradition, the building's first known association is with the Fredenburg family. By the mid-nineteenth century, the farmhouse had been acquired by the Livingston family and served as a dependency of the extensive Grasmere Estate (Individual Component #29) to the northeast. It is not known exactly when the Fredenburg House ceased to be associated with the Grasmere estate; Grasmere, however, underwent a series of subdivisions during the twentieth century which resulted in the distribution of the manor house, tenant houses and barn complex into separate ownership. The Fredenburg House was also presumably sold off during the twentieth century.

The Fredenburg House remains an important example of an early to mid-eighteenth century stone house in the regional vernacular building tradition and can provide important information when a systematic study of Hudson Valley settlement period architecture is undertaken.



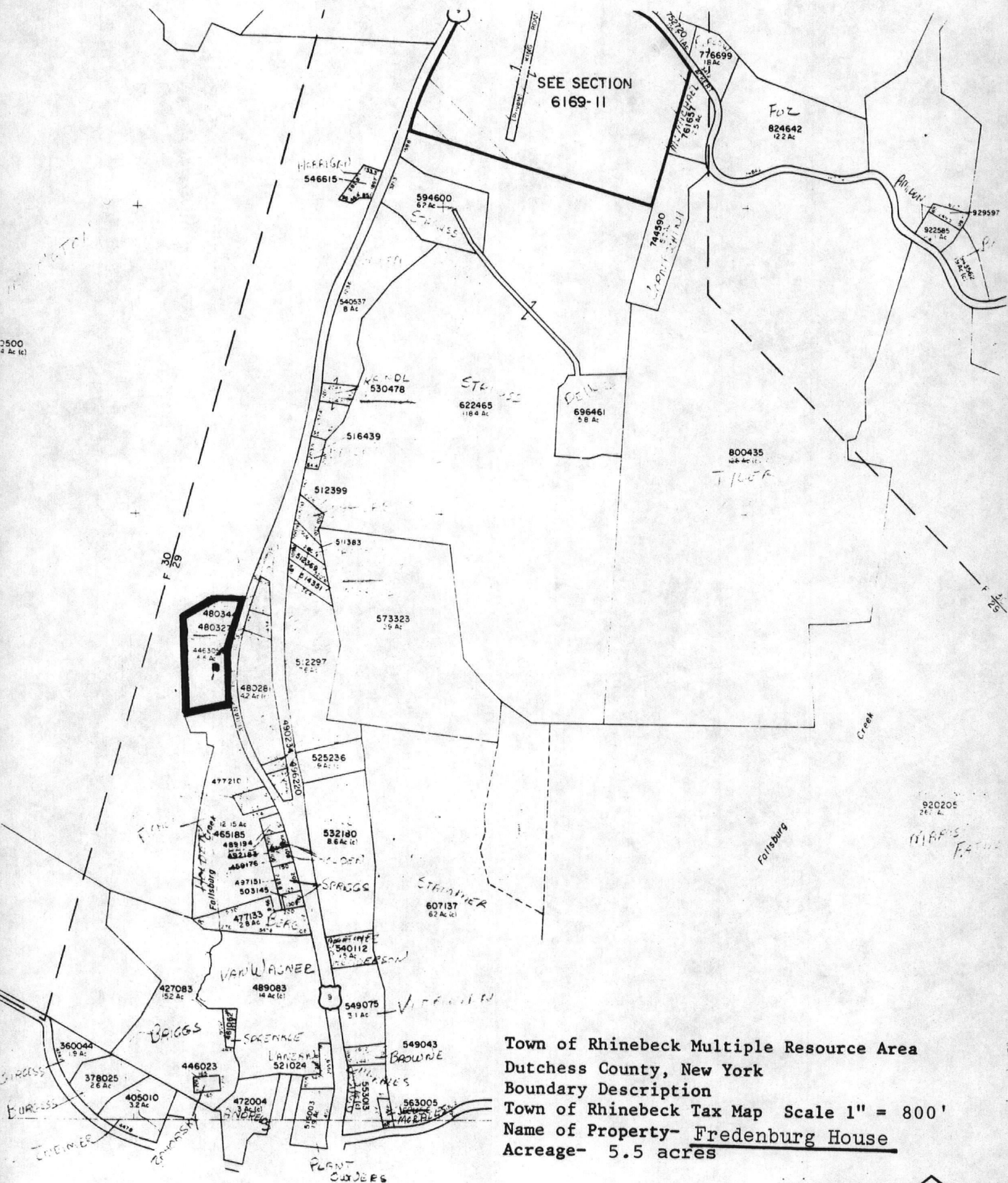
Rhinebeck Town Multiple Resource Area, Rhinebeck Dutchess County, NY

Photo key 5

Site map; not to scale - approximate orientation and location of components

Frederburg House
Individual Component #2





Town of Rhinebeck Multiple Resource Area
 Dutchess County, New York
 Boundary Description
 Town of Rhinebeck Tax Map Scale 1" = 800'
 Name of Property- Fredenburg House
 Acreage- 5.5 acres

Individual Component #2



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

MAY 26 1987

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

Multiple Resource Area
Thematic Group

Name Rhinebeck Town MRA
State NEW YORK

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

Cover

~~Entered in the National Register~~

Keeper

Patrick Andrews 7/9/87

1. Astor Home for Children

Entered in the National Register

Keeper

Delores Byers 7/9/87

Attest

2. Barringer Farmhouse

Entered in the National Register

Keeper

Delores Byers 7/9/87

Attest

3. Benner House

Entered in the National Register

Keeper

Delores Byers 7/9/87

Attest

4. Cox Farmhouse

Entered in the National Register

Keeper

Delores Byers 7/9/87

Attest

5. Evergreen Lands

Entered in the National Register

Keeper

Delores Byers 7/9/87

Attest

6. Fredenburg House

Entered in the National Register

Keeper

Delores Byers 7/9/87

Attest

7. Free Church Parsonage

Entered in the National Register

Keeper

Delores Byers 7/9/87

Attest

8. Grasmere

Entered in the National Register

Keeper

Delores Byers 7/9/87

Attest

9. Grove, The

Entered in the National Register

Keeper

Delores Byers 7/9/87

Attest

10. Heermance House and Law Office

Entered in the National Register

Keeper

Delores Byers 7/9/87

Attest

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Fredenburg House (Rhinebeck Town MRA)
Dutchess County
NEW YORK

Working No. MAY 26 1987

Fed. Reg. Date: 2/2/88

Date Due: 6/25/87 — 7/10/87

Action: ACCEPT 7-9-87

RETURN

REJECT

Federal Agency: _____

Entered in the
National Register

- resubmission
- nomination by person or local government
- owner objection
- appeal

Substantive Review: sample request appeal NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

Recom./Criteria _____
 Reviewer _____
 Discipline _____
 Date _____
 _____ see continuation sheet

Nomination returned for: _____ technical corrections cited below
_____ substantive reasons discussed below

1. Name

2. Location

3. Classification

| Category | Ownership Public Acquisition | Status Accessible | Present Use |
|----------|---------------------------------|----------------------|-------------|
|----------|---------------------------------|----------------------|-------------|

4. Owner of Property

5. Location of Legal Description

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Has this property been determined eligible? yes no

7. Description

Condition

| | | | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> excellent | <input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated | Check one | <input type="checkbox"/> original site |
| <input type="checkbox"/> good | <input type="checkbox"/> ruins | <input type="checkbox"/> unaltered | <input type="checkbox"/> moved |
| <input type="checkbox"/> fair | <input type="checkbox"/> unexposed | <input type="checkbox"/> altered | date _____ |

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

- summary paragraph
- completeness
- clarity
- alterations/integrity
- dates
- boundary selection

8. Significance

Period _____ Areas of Significance—Check and justify below _____

Specific dates _____ Builder/Architect _____

Statement of Significance (*in one paragraph*) _____

- summary paragraph
- completeness
- clarity
- applicable criteria
- justification of areas checked
- relating significance to the resource
- context
- relationship of integrity to significance
- justification of exception
- other

9. Major Bibliographical References

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

UTM References _____

Verbal boundary description and justification _____

11. Form Prepared By

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

_____ national _____ state _____ local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature _____

title _____ date _____

13. Other

- Maps
- Photographs
- Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to _____

Signed _____ Date _____ Phone: _____

CONTINUATION SHEET

RHINEBECK MULTIPLE RESOURCE AREA, DUTCHESS COUNTY, NEW YORK

BUILDING NAME: Fredenburg House, Individual Component #2



2. South and west elevations



3 North and west (rear) elevations

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Rhinebeck, Dutchess County, New York

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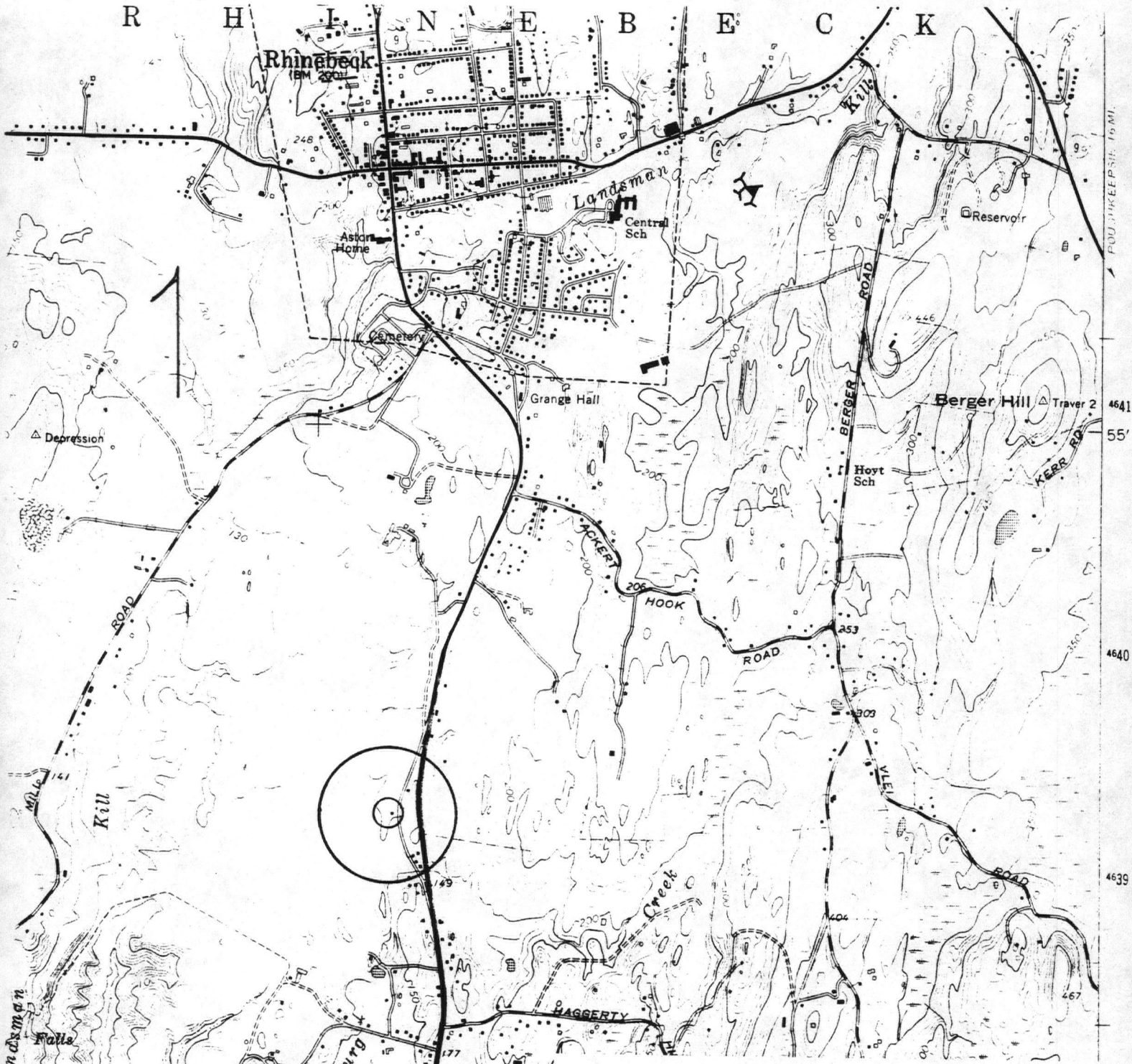


4 East (front) facade, door detail



5 South elevation, door and window details

R H I N E B E C K



Town of Rhinebeck Multiple Resource Area
 Dutchess County, New York
 UTM References, Kingston East Quad
 USGS Topographic Map Scale 1:24,000
 Name of Property- Fredenburg House
 UTM 18 590200 4639160

Individual Component #2

