

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): Traver House (Individual Component #3)
- 2. COUNTY: Dutchess TOWN/CITY: Rhinebeck VILLAGE: NA; Rhinebeck vic.
- 3. STREET LOCATION: Wynkoop Lane
- 4. OWNERSHIP: a. public b. private
- 5. PRESENT OWNER: G Balgerini & C Davis ADDRESS 29 East 37th Street, Apt 2A, NY NY
- 6. USE: Original: residence Present: residence 10016
- 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: a. wood frame with interlocking joints
(if known) 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; 13. MAP: See continuation sheets
Rhinebeck Historical Society, 1984 Acreage: 3.2



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 : non-contributing
d. privy e. shed f. greenhouse
g. shop h. gardens
i. landscape features: stone retaining wall: contributing
j. other: well/well house: contributing
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. 1730
ARCHITECT: unknown
BUILDER: unknown

20. HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE:

See continuation sheet

21. SOURCES:

See cover sheet, item #9

#3. Traver House
Wynkoop Lane

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17. The Traver House is located at the isolated, undeveloped north end of Wynkoop Lane, a quiet residential street which runs northward from Route 308 along the west border of the incorporated village of Rhinebeck. Within the village limits, Wynkoop Lane is characterized by mid- to late twentieth century suburban residential development. Beyond the village line to the north, along the section where the Traver House is located, Wynkoop Lane is an unpaved road through densely wooded, undeveloped land.

The Traver House occupies a 3.2-acre lot on the west side of Wynkoop Lane. A stone retaining wall (one contributing structure) runs along the roadside length of the property and the side of the driveway to the non-contributing garage. The house is sited on a slight rise overlooking the road and a small, open field and woods to the west. The house is surrounded by a grassy lawn covering the gently rolling topography. A well with well house (one contributing structure) is located on the front lawn to the southeast of the main house.

At the head of the dead end lane on the adjacent property to the north is an early nineteenth century frame farmhouse. According to currently available information, the house does not appear to meet the National Register criteria. There are no other buildings in the vicinity of the Traver House. The heavy black outline on the attached county tax map identifies the boundary of the nominated property.

Contributing buildings: 1
Contributing structures: 2
Non-contributing buildings: 1

18. The Traver House (ca. 1730; ca. 1790) is a rectangular stone and frame building in the regional vernacular building tradition. The house was built in two stages, with a frame enlargement added to the south gable end of the original stone main block. Built into a steep hillside, the east (road-side) elevation is exposed two full stories and the west elevation is exposed only one story. A slate-covered gable roof, pierced by brick interior end chimneys, surmounts the building. The primary entrance is currently located on the north gable end, oriented away from the street. Fenestration throughout the building is irregular. Deeply inset window openings generally contain twelve-over-eight or six-over-six, double-hung sash windows with simple wooden trim.

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Wynkoop Lane

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The asymmetrical, two-story, four-bay-wide front (east) facade features a combination of stone and wood construction materials and a variety of fenestration. The north, original block features a deeply recessed service entrance and small rectangular window at basement level. Two asymmetrically placed, twelve-over-six, double-hung sash windows with wooden trim are located at the main, upper story. The late eighteenth century south block features a stone basement story surmounted by a frame second story sheathed with flush board horizontal siding. The basement level features a service entrance and a six-over-six, double-hung sash window. Two irregularly placed six-over-six, double-hung sash windows light the upper story.

The primary entrance is located in the west (rear) bay on the north gable end. (The east and center bays at the main story are blind.) Two six-over-six, double-hung sash windows are asymmetrically placed in the clapboard-sided apex of the gable end.

The clapboard and stone south elevation features a secondary entrance and two irregularly placed windows in the apex of the gable end. A modern, glass-enclosed greenhouse is attached to the southwest corner of the building.

The rear (west) elevation of the Traver house features a projecting frame wing which spans the width of the 1790s stone and frame block. (The wing was added ca. 1959 and, although compatible in design and building materials, does not contribute to the significance of the building.)

Stone retaining walls (one contributing structure) run the length of the property along the side of the road and towards the garage. The garage (ca. 1930) is a one-story, two-stall stone and frame rectangular building surmounted by a gable roof. Although the garage is compatible with the farmhouse in design and materials it is not within the period of significance identified for the Traver House and thus is a non-contributing component of the nomination.

The well and well house (one contributing structure) are located southeast of the farmhouse. The deep, dry-laid eighteenth-century stone well is surmounted by a square, rusticated stone well house with a hipped roof with exposed rafters. The well house dates from the nineteenth century.

20. The Traver House (ca. 1730; ca. 1790) is architecturally significant as an important example of the regional vernacular

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stone building tradition in Rhinebeck during the eighteenth century. It exemplifies the distinctive regional house type favored by settlers of Northern European ethnic background and provides a basis for understanding the building practices and living patterns of ethnic groups not only in Rhinebeck but in the entire mid-Hudson Valley Region.

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 Fredenburg House, the Steenburg Tavern, Strawberry Hill and the Progue House (Individual Components 1, 2, 4, 5 and 6, respectively, the Traver 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 uncoarsed, 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

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Wynkoop Lane
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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 builder and/or first occupants of the Traver farmhouse are unknown. Deed and map research indicates that the property was owned by the Traver family during the mid- to late nineteenth century; thus, the nominated property takes its name. The patriarch of the Traver (Trever) family in Rhinebeck was Basteaan Trever whose name appears on a census of the county taken in 1740. The Travers proliferated in Rhinebeck throughout the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. It is not known with which particular member of the Traver family the nominated property was associated.

The significance of the property is enhanced by the survival of the eighteenth-century well, nineteenth-century well house and nineteenth-century stone retaining walls. Although the Traver House no longer retains its original, extensive acreage (the lot presently associated with the farmhouse is only 3.2 acres in extent), the historic, rural character of the property is preserved by the heavily wooded, undeveloped land (under separate ownership) surrounding the Traver property.

The Traver House remains an important example of a 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, New York

#3. Traver House :
Wynkoop Lane



2. North (side) and west (rear) elevations



3. West (rear) elevation

CONTINUATION SHEET

RHINEBECK MULTIPLE RESOURCE AREA, DUTCHESS COUNTY, NEW YORK

BUILDING NAME: Traver House (Wynkoop Lane) Individual Component #3



4. south and west elevations

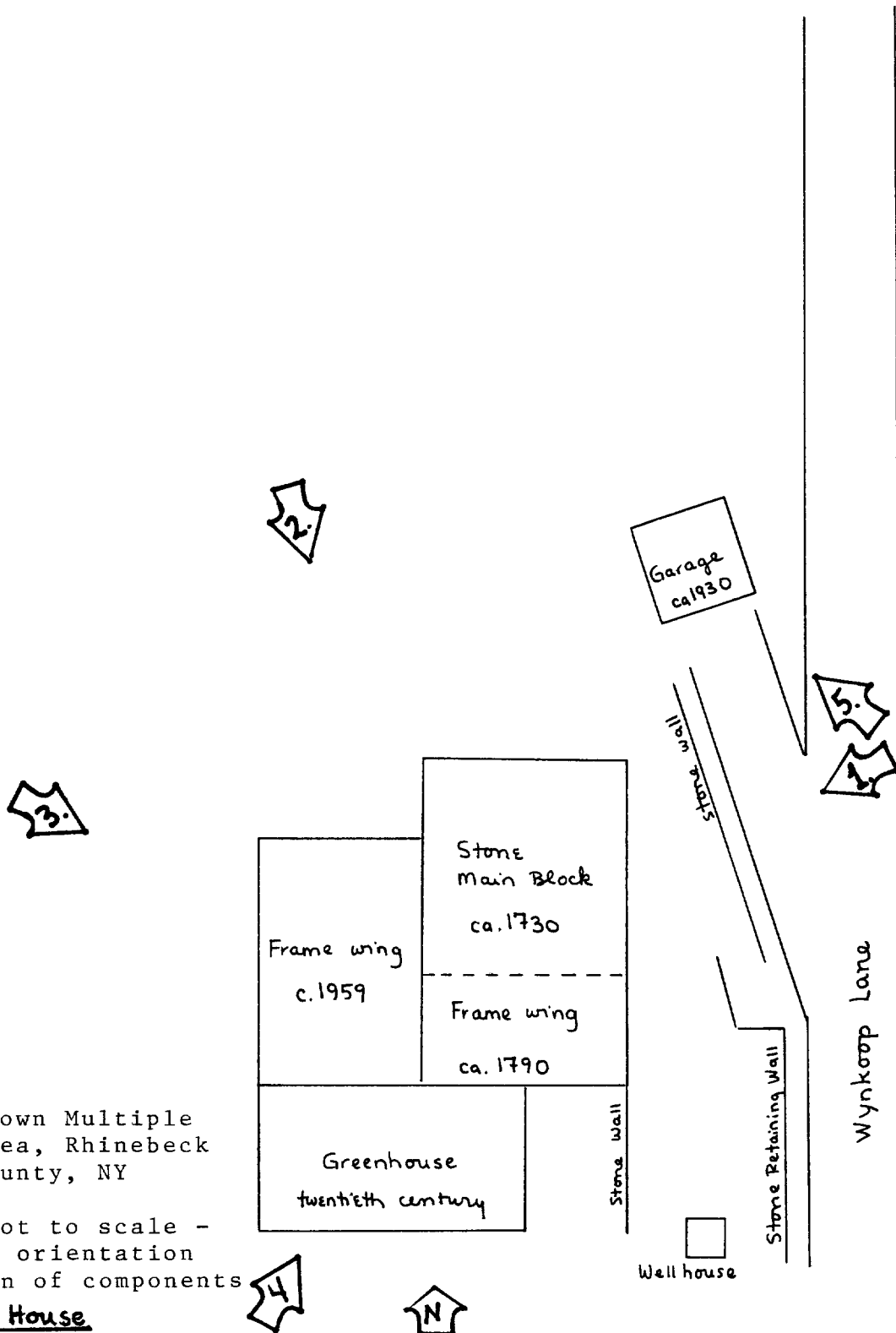


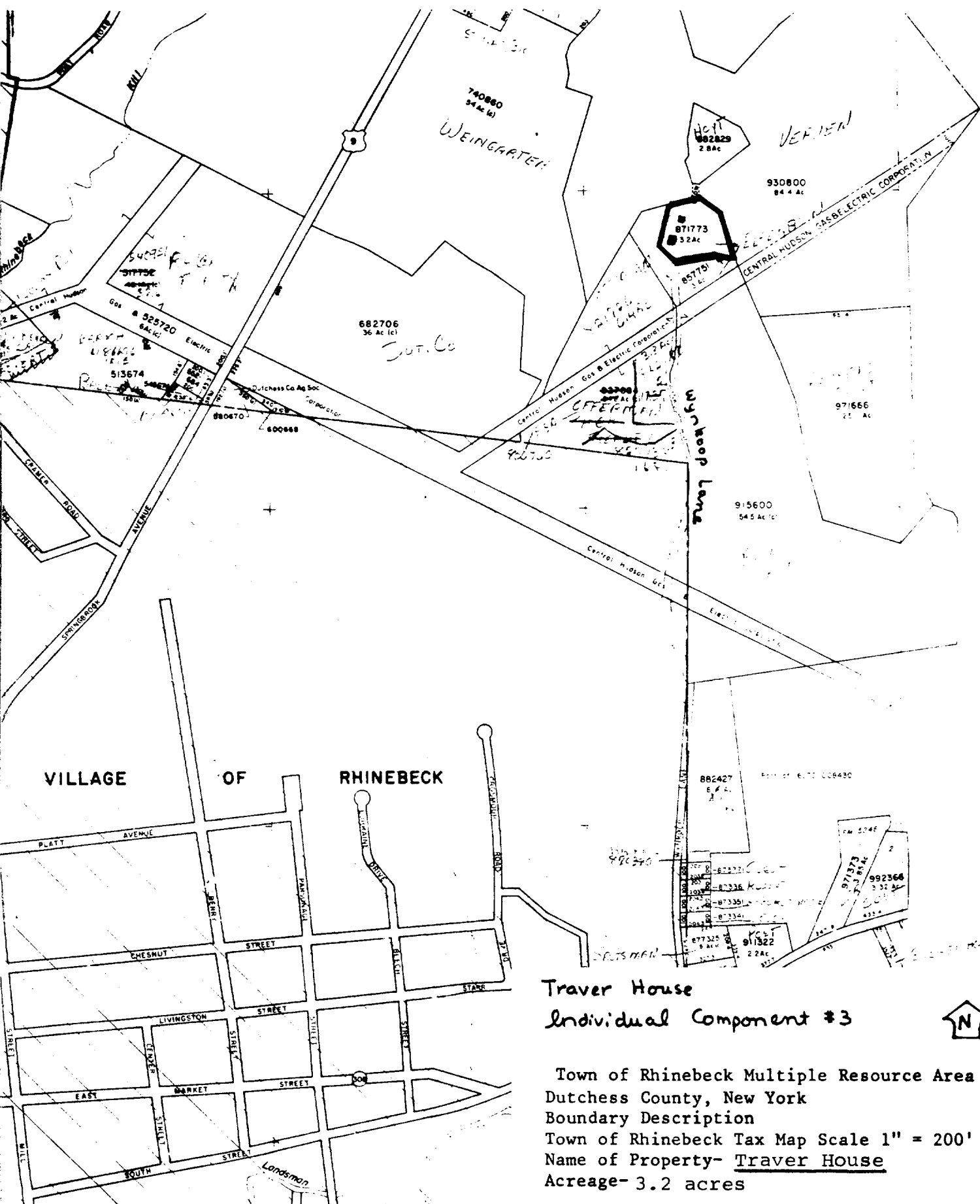
5. Garage, south and east elevations

Rhinebeck Town Multiple Resource Area, Rhinebeck Dutchess County, NY

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

Traver House
Individual Component #3

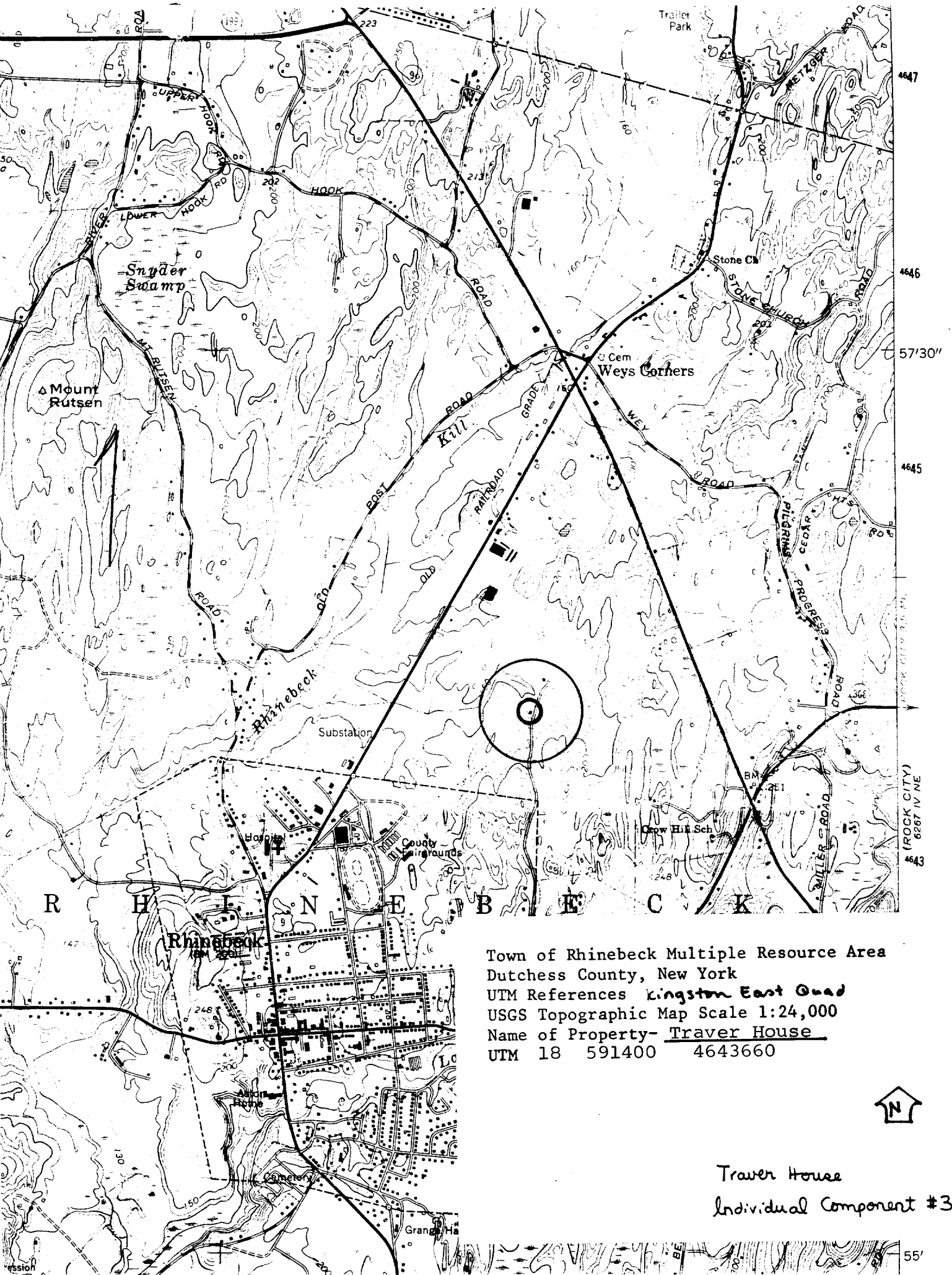




Traver House
 Individual Component #3



Town of Rhinebeck Multiple Resource Area
 Dutchess County, New York
 Boundary Description
 Town of Rhinebeck Tax Map Scale 1" = 200'
 Name of Property- Traver House
 Acreage- 3.2 acres



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- Traver House
 UTM 18 591400 4643660



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