

ADRIAN AND ANN WYCKOFF ONDERDONK HOUSE, 1820-1836 Flushing Avenue, Borough of Queens. Built c. third quarter eighteenth century; reconstructed 1980-82, firm of Giorgio Cavaglieri, architects.

Landmark Site: Borough of Queens Tax Map Block 3412, Lot 1.

On February 14, 1995, the Landmarks Preservation Commission held a public hearing on the proposed designation as a Landmark of the Adrian and Ann Wyckoff Onderdonk House and the proposed designation of the related Landmark Site (Item No. 1). The hearing had been duly advertised in accordance with the provisions of law. Sixteen witnesses spoke in favor of designation, including representatives of the Greater Ridgewood Historical Society (the owner), Borough President Claire Schulman, Queens Community Board 5, the Queens Historical Society, the Queensborough Preservation League, and the Professional Archaeologists of New York City. The Commission has received several letters and other statements in support of designation, including that of Councilman Thomas V. Ognibene.

DESCRIPTION AND ANALYSIS

Summary

The Onderdonk House, located on Flushing Avenue near the corner of Onderdonk Avenue in an industrial section of Ridgewood, is, in part, a rare surviving late-eighteenth-century Dutch-American farmhouse in the Borough of Queens, as well as one of the few houses of eighteenth-century stone construction in New York City. In particular, it is one of the city's very few eighteenth-century Dutch-American stone houses with a gambrel roof. It has associations with many early and interrelated families of settlers, mostly Dutch, of western Long Island. Nearly demolished in 1974, the one-and-a-half-story house suffered a major fire in 1975, which destroyed most of its wooden elements. Saved through the efforts of diligent local residents, the house was reconstructed for the Greater Ridgewood Historical Society by the firm of Giorgio Cavaglieri in 1980-82, based largely on the recording of the house by the Historic American Buildings Survey in 1936 and on surviving physical evidence after the fire. Despite the numerous alterations to the Onderdonk House over the last two hundred years, and its reconstruction in large part, it survives as a significant early remnant of Queens history, and a testament to the work of those neighborhood residents who recognized its worth. The Onderdonk House is one of the very few Dutch-American houses in New York City on its original site with a substantial parcel of land and with public accessibility. Additionally, the land around the house has yielded significant archaeological resources of both prehistoric and historic periods, which have aided in the interpretation and added to the understanding of the house and the site. The site has the potential to yield additional archaeological resources in the future.

History of the Property and the House in the Seventeenth and Eighteenth Centuries¹

During most of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, the property associated with the Onderdonk House was part of the large "disputed territory" between the Dutch-settled town of Boswijk (Bushwick) in Kings County and the English town of Middleburgh (later Newtown) in Queens County; this conflict stemmed from conflicting grants made to Dutch and English settlers. What is now Flushing Avenue, originally a trail used by Native Americans, was later the highway between the two towns, and this site was adjacent to the end of a branch of the English Kills section of Newtown Creek. The earliest report of habitation by a Dutch settler on the Onderdonk House tract was 1662 when Hendrick Barentse Smidt, a prosperous landowner and silversmith whose name appears in many records of New Netherland, is recorded as having a house on his property. The land changed hands several times prior to 1709, when one hundred acres were purchased by Paulus van Ende² and his wife, probably the former Jannetje Hendricks, daughter of Hendrick Ryker. Born c. 1679 in Utrecht, the Netherlands, van Ende was a descendant on his mother's side of the van Cortlandts, and was from Flatbush at the time of the purchase. The property was inherited in 1737 by his son Hendrick, and by the latter's widow Antie Calyer van Ende in 1750.

Based on existing evidence, the house dates from about the third quarter of the eighteenth century; reference is usually made to the survey in January of 1769 that established a boundary line between Kings and Queens Counties in the Bushwick-Newtown area (placing the house in Bushwick). The report of the survey commissioners notes the house of Joseph Woodward, located northeast of the Onderdonk House site. *The Annals of Newtown* by James Riker (1852), however, cites one of the reference points used by the surveyor Francis Marschalk as "the northerly corner of the house, formerly the house of Frederick Van Nanda [sic], and now in possession of Moses Beegel [sic]." The former was undoubtedly Hendrick van Ende, while the latter was Moses Beadel, husband of Jannetje (Jane) van Ende, Hendrick's daughter. Beadel is thought to have been of French Huguenot descent, probably born in 1725 in Hempstead, Long Island. Recent research on the development of the timber framing and floor plans of seventeenth- and eighteenth-century Dutch-American farmhouses indicates that the form of the house (prior to the fire and as reconstructed) would probably have

a date no earlier than mid-eighteenth century. Clifford W. Zink³ has analyzed the timber framing of Dutch-American houses and has categorized these houses into three periods of development and seven types of framing. Based on Zink's prototypes, the Onderdonk House, with its "hybrid gambrel frame" combining Dutch anchor-bent⁴ and English box-frame elements (with the anchor bents placed at the bay intervals on the second floor), would date from the last period -- the second half of the eighteenth century/first quarter of the nineteenth century. David Steven Cohen⁵ has also differentiated the four basic floor plans of the earlier Dutch period from the English Georgian-derived floor plan of a central hall flanked by two rooms on either side. This latter plan, dating from the second half of the eighteenth century, resulted in the creation of a distinctly new "Dutch-American" house type, which frequently had a symmetrical facade and gambrel roof. The floor plan of the Onderdonk House is of this later type. The six archaeological investigations of the site in the 1970s-80s have uncovered no historic artifacts or elements datable prior to the 1760s, with the possible exception of some chimney bricks.

There remains a possibility that parts of the foundation or stonework of the house exist from an earlier period of construction and that the house was enlarged, rebuilt, or remodeled. Several early scholars of eighteenth-century Dutch-American houses have made a correlation between the use of stone and presence of slave labor,⁶ and both van Endes are known to have been slave owners.⁷ (Kings County in the late-eighteenth century had the largest percentage of slaves outside of the South, with the Dutch, who were mostly farmers, being the main slave owners.)

After Moses Beadel's death in 1779 as a prisoner during the Revolutionary War, the Onderdonk House property passed to his son, also with the same name, and his wife, nee Jane Remsen. In 1786 nearly half (the western portion) of the 100 acre tract was sold to Johannis Covert. The remaining property passed out of the ownership of the Beadel family around 1805.

The Onderdonk House and Eighteenth-Century Dutch-American Houses⁸

In 1945 historian Maud Esther Dilliard noted in *Old Dutch Houses of Brooklyn* that the towns⁹ on the western end of Long Island which formed Kings County

*were settled principally by Dutch, Huguenot and Walloon colonists who brought with them the language, manners and customs of the Low Countries and planted them in the new world where they built houses that were, in most instances, copies of their former homes. It was not so long ago that many of their houses, and the houses of their children and grandchildren, were standing, but modern business is causing these old buildings fast to disappear. In order that their early owners, the founders of Kings County, may not be forgotten in the hurly-burly of twentieth-century Brooklyn, I have written the stories of all the ancient dwellings which are now in existence.*¹⁰

At that time she documented forty structures in Brooklyn, including the Onderdonk House (which, due to a boundary change, had been placed in Queens in 1937). Today the Onderdonk House is one of a small number of Dutch-American houses (sometimes called "Dutch Colonial," although the buildings post-date the Dutch colonial period and the building type reached its peak after the American Revolution) surviving in the boroughs of Brooklyn and Queens.¹¹ Within this group and within eighteenth-century buildings in the city at large, the Onderdonk House has a number of special distinctions, despite its numerous alterations and reconstruction. It is, in part, one of the few surviving eighteenth-century buildings in Queens, one of the relatively few houses of eighteenth-century stone construction in New York City, one of the few Dutch-American gambrel-roofed farmhouses, and, in particular, one of the very few eighteenth-century houses of stone construction with a gambrel roof. Moreover, it retains its original orientation on its original site facing Flushing Avenue, with sufficient surrounding property to give some sense of its original setting, one of the very few Dutch-American houses in New York City in such a situation, and it is operated as a house museum so that it is accessible to the public.

On western Long Island the eighteenth-century Dutch-American house developed as a readily recognizable subregional building type quite different from that of the middle and upper Hudson River valley or northern New Jersey, where masonry traditions prevailed. These characteristic early houses of western Long Island (now Brooklyn) were wood-framed, shingle-covered farmhouses with gable-ended roofs surmounted by end chimneys; the roofs came down in gracefully curved projecting eaves, often called spring eaves or overshot eaves,

which sheltered the entrances. The Dutch house in its early form may be seen in the Pieter Claesen Wyckoff House (c.1652 and later). By the third quarter of the eighteenth century, when the Dutch-American house type emerged, Brooklyn houses retained their traditional elements but became larger in scale, had a Georgian floor plan, and sometimes gained a porch formed by posts supporting the eaves. Cohen states, in addition, that "one distinctive feature in northern New Jersey and on western Long Island was the gambrel roof, which was itself English in origin. But Dutch-American architecture was distinctly different from English architecture in either New England or the South." In some houses, such as the Lott House (1720;1800), the transition was made to the new Dutch-American house form by incorporating an early eighteenth-century structure as one wing of a new house. Others, such as the Wyckoff-Bennett Homestead (1766), and the Lefferts Homestead (1777-83) with its gambrel roof, were originally built reflecting the changed building tradition. While Dutch houses other than the Onderdonk House are known to have been built of stone in Brooklyn as early as the seventeenth century, particularly in areas adjacent to ridges where stone was available, they were not as common as the wooden houses of the coastal plain and have not survived. Rosalie Fellows Bailey in 1936 counted the Cornell-Schenck House then extant in East New York, which she dated c. 1760, as the only late-eighteenth century stone house in Brooklyn (she presumed that the Onderdonk House was earlier). The traditional characteristics and elements of Dutch-American architecture continued to be employed for Brooklyn farmhouses at least into the fourth decade of the nineteenth century. As farmlands of Brooklyn were sold off for development in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, many of the Dutch-American farmhouses were demolished, while others survived only by being reoriented on their sites or being moved elsewhere to smaller lots.

As Queens County was first predominantly settled by the English, there are very few surviving eighteenth-century houses of the Dutch-American type (Bailey included only three).¹² Extant examples include a frame wing of the Cornelius Van Wyck House dating from c. 1735, and the Abraham Lent House (c. 1729 and late-18th century stone section; c. 1800 frame section), both with gable-ended roofs. Additionally, there are few extant intact eighteenth-century houses in Queens of traditional English frame construction such as the Rufus King House (1733-55)

and Kingsland Homestead (1785). While there are a number of houses of stone construction of the eighteenth century in the other boroughs, they are either of English tradition, such as the Frederick van Cortlandt House (1748-49) and Isaac Valentine House (1758) in the Bronx, or are gable-ended buildings or early sections of larger houses, such as the Tysen-Neville House (c. 1800) and Peter Housman House (c. 1730 stone section; c. 1760 frame addition) in Staten Island. The Onderdonk House is thus a very rare example in New York City of a Dutch-American gambrel-roofed farmhouse incorporating stone construction. Perhaps only the Dyckman House (c. 1785), Manhattan's sole Dutch-American house, is comparable, though it has a front facade of brick and has front and rear porches under the spring eaves.¹³ These two houses, substantial for the period, are nearly identical in size: the main block of the Dyckman House is roughly 44 by 30 feet, while the main block of the Onderdonk House is roughly 43 by 34 feet. It is interesting to note an apparent module for house forms in this period: the Nicholas Schenck House (c. 1771, demolished, with interiors installed at the Brooklyn Museum) in Flatlands, nearly identical in exterior form to the Onderdonk House though of frame construction, also measured roughly 42 by 33 feet.¹⁴ Bailey also made a comparison between the Onderdonk House and the eighteenth-century houses of Bergen County, New Jersey (part of the Dutch house type subregion which included northern New Jersey and Rockland County, N.Y.), where the gambrel-roofed stone house was more prevalent than on Long Island.

The Onderdonk Family¹⁵

After the Onderdonk House property passed from the Beadel family at the turn of the nineteenth century, it was owned for short periods by the van Nuys, Cozine, and Ryerson families, all descendants of early Brooklyn settlers. In 1821 it was purchased by Adrian Onderdonk shortly after his marriage to Ann Wyckoff in 1819. Born in 1795 in Cow Neck (Manhasset), Long Island, Onderdonk is thought to have been at least a fifth-generation descendant of an early Dutch family mostly associated with Long Island. The Wyckoffs, part of the prominent old Dutch Brooklyn family, owned several other farms and houses along Flushing Avenue adjacent to the Onderdonk House. The Adrian Onderdonks probably built the frame addition to their stone house, and made other changes as well, including interior decoration and fireplaces. Ann Wyckoff Onderdonk

continued to live here for years after her husband's early death in 1831, initially along with her daughters Dorothy Ann and Gertrude, and possibly until her own death in 1863. Gertrude Onderdonk Schoonmaker (1825-1915), widow in 1857 of Nicholas H. Schoonmaker (who owned the adjacent farm to the east), inherited the property and was the last Onderdonk descendant associated with the house.

Twentieth Century¹⁶

Gertrude Schoonmaker sold the house and a parcel of land immediately around it in 1912,¹⁷ after having sold earlier other parts of the property for development. In the midst of rapid change in the neighborhood to industry in the twentieth century, Louise Gmelin started a scrap glassworks here which continued until about 1924. By the early 1920s dormers were added to the roof of the house. The survival of a cluster of eighteenth-century farmhouses along Flushing Avenue, including the Onderdonk House, attracted attention in the 1930s-40s, particularly as the other houses (now all demolished)¹⁸ were still in use for "farms" amidst the industry. The Historic American Buildings Survey recorded the Onderdonk House in 1936 in photographs and drawings. The house was also included in Rosalie Fellows Bailey's standard survey *Pre-Revolutionary Dutch Houses and Families* (1936), the Federal Writers' Project *New York City Guide* published in 1939, and *Old Dutch Houses of Brooklyn* by Maud Esther Dilliard (1945). In 1937 a county boundary adjustment by the State of New York placed the Onderdonk House in Queens.¹⁹ The house became offices and a caretaker's residence for the American Moninger Greenhouse Manufacturing Corp., which in 1944 constructed a brick neo-Federal style addition (designed by engineer Saul Goldsmith) covering the front of the house, while demolishing the frame addition. The rest of the property contained a large factory building, lumber and steel storage sheds, and an open storage yard for lumber. (The extent of the property coincided with the current tax lot.) The property remained in industrial use, including the fabrication of spacecraft parts for the Suisse-O-Matic Co., until 1973, and the adjacent industrial buildings on the lot were demolished the following year. Local residents mounted a successful effort to prevent the demolition of the house, but it was severely damaged by fire in January of 1975. Placed on the National Register of Historic Places in January 1977, the property was deeded to the Greater Ridgewood Historical Society in December of that

year. The firm of Giorgio Cavaglieri prepared an Historic Structure Report on the house in March 1979, and performed the reconstruction in 1980-82 with funds provided by the city, state and federal governments, as well as through the fundraising of the Historical Society and local residents. The Onderdonk House is currently in operation as a house museum known as the "Vander Ende-Onderdonk House."

Archaeology at the Onderdonk House Site²⁰

The parcel of land around the Onderdonk House has yielded significant archaeological resources of both prehistoric and historic periods, which have aided in the interpretation and added to the understanding of the house and the site. Since 1975, six archaeological investigations have been conducted on the site.²¹ These excavations, on the footprint of the house as well as on the land immediately adjacent to it, focused upon domestic occupation of the site from the mid-eighteenth century until 1945 and attempted to correlate archaeological data with each previous excavation and with information obtained from historic documents. Dr. Ralph Solecki was directed to investigate areas of the house involved in the restoration/reconstruction. The excavations thus far have uncovered no historic resources datable prior to the 1760s, with the possible exception of some chimney bricks. In addition, historian Reginald P. Bolton in 1922 suggested that there was a village of the Rockaway tribe at this location. A grooved stone axe head, perhaps dating from 2500 years ago, was found near the southwestern boundary of the Onderdonk House property. This suggests that the grounds continue to have potential for recovery of resources from Native American occupation as well as resources from historic periods.

Description²²

The Onderdonk House, facing northwest along (and close to) Flushing Avenue, is located at the northern end of a large L-shaped lot (approximately 200 by 250 feet, with the southern tail of the "L" another 100 by 100 feet) which is enclosed by recent iron and chainlink fencing. The house consists of two sections: a one-and-a-half-story eastern section with first-story stone walls and a partial second story and attic under a gambrel roof, flanked on the southwest by a one-and-a-half-story frame wing with a gable-ended roof. The only surviving eighteenth-century material is much of the rough random ashlar stonework of the foundation and first story (now

coated with sealant). As reconstructed in 1980-82, based largely on the recording of the house by the Historic American Buildings Survey²³ in 1936 and on surviving physical evidence after the fire, the main section of the Onderdonk House has gable ends covered with wood shingles painted white (and windows: three on the second floor of the northern facade and one on the southern with six-over-six sash, and one small one on each attic level); a wood shingle gambrel roof with spring eaves; a symmetrical front facade and an asymmetrical rear facade, with double Dutch doors (with a transom on the front facade) which lead into the interior central hall, windows with nine-over-nine sash, and panelled exterior shutters; and three brick chimneys. There are rear cellar hatchways on both the main block and wing.

Many alterations have been made over the years to the Onderdonk House. The frame wing (with front and rear first-story windows and entrances, small second-story windows on three sides, an end chimney, and a wood shingle roof) is a replica of the addition constructed presumably in the early nineteenth century (and demolished post-1944), when it is thought that the two western chimneys were added to the main block (there were four chimneys prior to the 1920s, when the one on the southwest corner was removed; the house has been reconstructed with three -- minus the one on the northern corner). The basement had windows on the front and rear facades as well as entrances; these openings were filled in, and the base of the building appears shallower today due to changes in the grade of the land over time. A photograph taken in 1903 indicates that there had been a front wooden stoop, and that the ground level was lower then. The soffits of the spring eaves in the reconstruction were left mostly open, exposing the brackets. Two front dormers and one rear dormer were added to the roof between 1903 and 1922 (a center dormer was added to the front after 1936); none of these dormers were recreated during the reconstruction. Three post-1936 windows on the northern gable end facade were filled with stone during reconstruction, as were the areas below the two central windows on the front facade (which had been lowered into doorways in 1944 when a brick addition was constructed that covered the front of the house). During at least the twentieth century, the stonework of the front and northern gable end facades was smooth parged. Window sash, mostly multi-pane double-hung, changed several

times in the history of the house. A handicap access ramp was added to the rear of the wing.

The lot on which the house sits rises steeply toward the southeast; it is largely open and grassy, with a few large trees and other vegetation toward the southeast end, recalling the farm setting of the house. Other features on the property include a wood picket fence and brick walkways around the house; a pergola and garden terrace behind the house; picnic tables, an urn from the Latimer House,

and a monument commemorating the house's listing on the National Register of Historic Places (1977) northeast of the house; and a cistern partially located under the rear of the frame wing of the house, which was uncovered during an archaeological excavation. None of these features, except for the cistern, is historic.

Report prepared by

Jay Shockley
Deputy Director of Research

NOTES

1. This section is based on the following sources: Henry R. Stiles, ed., *History of Kings County 1683 to 1884*, vol. 1 (New York: W.W. Munsell & Co., 1884); Rosalie Fellows Bailey, *Pre-Revolutionary Dutch Houses and Families in Northern New Jersey and Southern New York* (New York: William Morrow & Co., 1936); Maud Esther Dilliard, *Old Dutch Houses of Brooklyn* (New York: Richard R. Smith, 1945); Office of Giorgio Cavaglieri, *The vander Ende-Onderdonk House: An Historic Structure Report* (March 1979), prepared for the Greater Ridgewood Historical Society; James Riker, Jr., *The Annals of Newtown, in Queens County, New York* (New York: D. Fanshaw, 1852); and Barbara W. Stankowski, "A Farm in the 'Disputed' Land" (1975), research paper for Queens College; Greater Ridgewood Historical Society, files.
2. This name is seen in various spellings, such as van Enden, van der Enden, vander Ende, van Nanda, and van Anda.
3. Clifford W. Zink, "Dutch Framed Houses in New York and New Jersey," *Winterthur Portfolio* 22 (Winter 1987), 265-294.
4. An anchor bent is an H-shaped frame consisting of two vertical posts connected by a large anchor beam, which is reinforced by diagonal corner braces and has mortise and tenon joints.
5. David Steven Cohen, *The Dutch-American Farm* (New York: New York University Press, 1992).
6. Bailey; and Clifford C. Wendehack, *An Architectural Monograph: Early Dutch Houses of New Jersey* (New York: White Pine Series, 1925).
7. Jannetje van Ende was listed in the 1738 census as owning three slaves. According to Stankowski, Hendrick van Ende also had three slaves.
8. This section is based on the following sources: LPC files; LPC, *Hendrik I. Lott House Designation Report* (LP-1705) (New York: City of New York, 1989), report prepared by Marjorie Pearson; Helen W. Reynolds, *Dutch Houses in the Hudson Valley before 1776* (New York: Dover Publications, 1965) reprint of 1929 edition; Bailey; Dilliard; Kevin L. Stayton, *Dutch By Design: Tradition and Change in Two Brooklyn Houses* (New York: The Brooklyn Museum, 1990).
9. The "five Dutch towns" settled on western Long Island were Breukelen (Brooklyn), Boswijk (Bushwick), 't Vlacke Bos (Flatbush), Nieuw Utrecht, and Nieuw Amersfoort (Flatlands).
10. Dilliard.
11. The following Brooklyn houses, listed in chronological order, are designated New York City Landmarks: Pieter Claesen Wyckoff House, Clarendon Road and Ralph Avenue, Flatlands (c.1652 and later, completely restored); Wyckoff-Bennett Homestead, 1669 East 22nd Street, Midwood (1766, reoriented on its site); Lefferts Homestead, Flatbush Avenue at Empire Boulevard, Prospect Park (1777-83, moved from its original site); Hendrick I. Lott House, 1940 East 36th Street, Flatlands (1800 with 1720 wing); Van Nuyse-Magaw House, 1041 East 22nd Street, Midwood (1803, moved from its original site); Van Nuyse (Coe) House, 1128 East 34th Street, Flatlands (1806, moved from its original site); Stoothoff-Baxter-Kouwenhoven House, 1640 East 48th Street, Flatlands (1811 with a 1747 wing, reoriented on its site); and Elias Hubbard Ryder House, 1926 East 28th Street, Gravesend (1834, moved from its original site).

12. The following properties mentioned in this paragraph are designated New York City Landmarks: Cornelius van Wyck House, 37-04 Douglaston Parkway, Douglaston; Abraham Lent House, 78-03 19th Road, Steinway; Rufus King House, 150th Street and Jamaica Avenue, Jamiaca; and Kingsland Homestead, 143-35 37th Avenue, Flushing, all in Queens; Frederick van Cortlandt House, Van Cortlandt Park, and Isaac Valentine House, 3266 Bainbridge Avenue, in the Bronx; Tysen-Neville House, 806 Richmond Terrace, and Peter Housman House, 308 St. John Avenue, in Staten Island; and Dyckman House, Broadway and West 204th Street, Manhattan.
13. The Dyckman House was restored in 1915-16 by architect Alexander M. Welch. The site is much more confined than that of the Onderdonk House.
14. Stayton.
15. This section is based on the following sources: Riker; Bailey; Dilliard; Cavaglieri; Greater Ridgewood Historical Society.
16. This section is based on the following sources: New York City, Department of Buildings, Queens, Plans, Permits and Dockets; Federal Writers' Project, *New York City Guide* (New York: Octagon Books, 1970), reprint of 1939 edition; "Old Queens House Gets Reprieve," *New York Times*, Mar. 2, 1975, p. 14 BQLI; "Pre-Revolution relic," *Long Island Press*, Mar. 2, 1975; "Historic Home Reprieved," *Tribune*, Mar. 7, 1975, p. 3; "Historic LI house gets lease on life," *LIP*, May 12, 1975; "Neighbors Rescue an Old House," *Sunday News*, Sept. 7, 1975, p. B2; "War with time: Onderdonk House threatened," *LIP*, Feb. 18, 1976, p. 16; "Long Island in danger of losing link to its past," *LIP*, July 25, 1976, p. 12; "Onderdonk House Included On National Register," *Queens Ledger*, Feb. 17, 1977; "Working Drawings of Onderdonk House Completed," *QL*, Aug. 9, 1979; "Some changes writ in stone...", *Daily News*, May 3, 1982, p. XQ3; "Historic House Facing a Short Future," *Newsday*, Aug. 27, 1985; Greater Ridgewood Historical Society.
17. Deed (June 12, 1912), Greater Ridgewood Historical Society files.
18. The other houses, all of frame construction, were the Wyckoff-Woodward-Schoonmaker House at No. 1306, the Schenck-Wyckoff House at No. 1325, the Covert-Wyckoff House at No. 1410, with gable-ended roofs, and the gambrel-roofed Woodward House at No. 1471. The Onderdonk House was No. 1416 at the time. See also: Raymond T.B. Hand, "4 Flushing Ave. Dutch Houses," *New York Sun*, Feb. 18, 1939, 42; Dilliard; Bailey; and New York Public Library, *Photographic Views of New York City, 1870s-1970s* (Ann Arbor: University Microfilms International, 1981).
19. Chapter 929, New York State Laws of 1937.
20. Reginald P. Bolton, "Indian Paths in the Great Metropolis," *Indian Notes and Monographs* (New York: Museum of the American Indian, 1922); Bert Salwen, Sarah T. Bridges, and Nan A. Rothschild, "The Utility of Small Samples from Historic Sites: Onderdonk, Clinton Avenue, and Van Campen," *Historical Archaeology* 15 (1981), 79-94; Nan A. Rothschild, *Report on Excavation at the van der Ende-Onderdonk Site, Queens, New York* (New York: Hunter College, May 1978); Ralph Solecki, *A Sketch of the Columbia University Archaeology Investigations at the Onderdonk House in Ridgewood, Queens* (New York: Columbia University, 1981), and "Archaeological Investigations at the van der Ende-Onderdonk House," *The Historical Archaeology of Long Island: Part 1 - The Sites* (Stony Brook, NY: Suffolk County Archaeological Assn., 1985), 68-104; William Macdonald, *Excavation at the vander Ende/Onderdonk House April 30, 1983-May 28, 1983* (New York: c. 1983), report prepared for the Greater Ridgewood Historical Society; Stephanie Rippel-Erikson, "The vander Ende Onderdonk Excavation 1985-1986," *Long Island Archaeological Project Newsletter* 3 (1986), 6.
21. These were: Sarah Bridges, for the New York State Office of Parks and Recreation, with volunteers from New York and Columbia Universities, in 1975; Nan Rothschild, then a professor at Hunter College, with students, in 1977; Dr. Ralph Solecki, of Columbia University, with students, in 1980 and 1981; Dr. William Macdonald, of Columbia University, with local high school students, in 1983; and Stephanie Rippel-Erikson, of the State University of New York at Stony Brook, with students, in 1985-86.
22. Photographs of the house, taken from 1903 to 1936, are in the collections of the New York Public Library, Brooklyn Public Library, and the Greater Ridgewood Historical Society. Photographs taken from 1974 to 1982, showing the fire damage and reconstruction, are in the collections of the LPC and GRHS, as well as in Cavaglieri.
23. The HABS photographs and measured drawings constituted the most substantial evidence of the earlier condition of the house.

FINDINGS AND DESIGNATION

On the basis of a careful consideration of the history, the architecture, and other features of this building, the Landmarks Preservation Commission finds that the Adrian and Ann Wyckoff Onderdonk House has a special character, special historical and aesthetic interest and value as part of the development, heritage and cultural characteristics of New York City.

The Commission further finds that, among its important qualities, the Adrian and Ann Wyckoff Onderdonk House is, in part, a rare surviving late-eighteenth-century Dutch-American farmhouse in the Borough of Queens, as well as one of the few houses of eighteenth-century stone construction in New York City, and that, in particular it is one of the city's very few eighteenth-century Dutch-American stone houses with a gambrel roof; that it has associations with many early and interrelated families of settlers, mostly Dutch, of western Long Island; that the one-and-a-half-story house, nearly demolished in 1974 and suffering a major fire in 1975 which destroyed most of its wooden elements, was saved through the efforts of diligent local residents; that the house was reconstructed for the Greater Ridgewood Historical Society by the firm of Giorgio Cavaglieri in 1980-82, based largely on the recording of the house by the Historic American Buildings Survey in 1936 and on surviving physical evidence after the fire; that despite the numerous alterations to the Onderdonk House over the last two hundred years, and its reconstruction in large part, it survives as a significant early remnant of Queens history, and a testament to the work of those neighborhood residents who recognized its worth; that the Onderdonk House is one of the very few Dutch-American houses in New York City on its original site with a substantial parcel of land and with public accessibility; and that the land around the house has yielded significant archaeological resources of both prehistoric and historic periods, which have aided in the interpretation and added to the understanding of the house and the site, and the site has the potential to yield additional archaeological resources in the future.

Accordingly, pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 74, Section 3020 of the Charter of the City of New York and Chapter 3 of Title 25 of the Administrative Code of the City of New York, the Landmarks Preservation Commission designates as a Landmark the Adrian and Ann Wyckoff Onderdonk House, 1820-1836 Flushing Avenue, Borough of Queens, and designates Queens Tax Map Block 3412, Lot 1, as its Landmark Site.



Onderdonk House
Photo credit: Greater Ridgewood Historical Society (1992)



Onderdonk House, 1820-1836 Flushing Avenue, Queens
Photo credit: Austin Collection (1903), Brooklyn Public Library



Onderdonk House, rear facade

Photo credit: Eugene L. Armbruster (1922), New York Public Library



Onderdonk House

Photo credit: Margaret de M. Brown (c. 1925?), *Bailey*

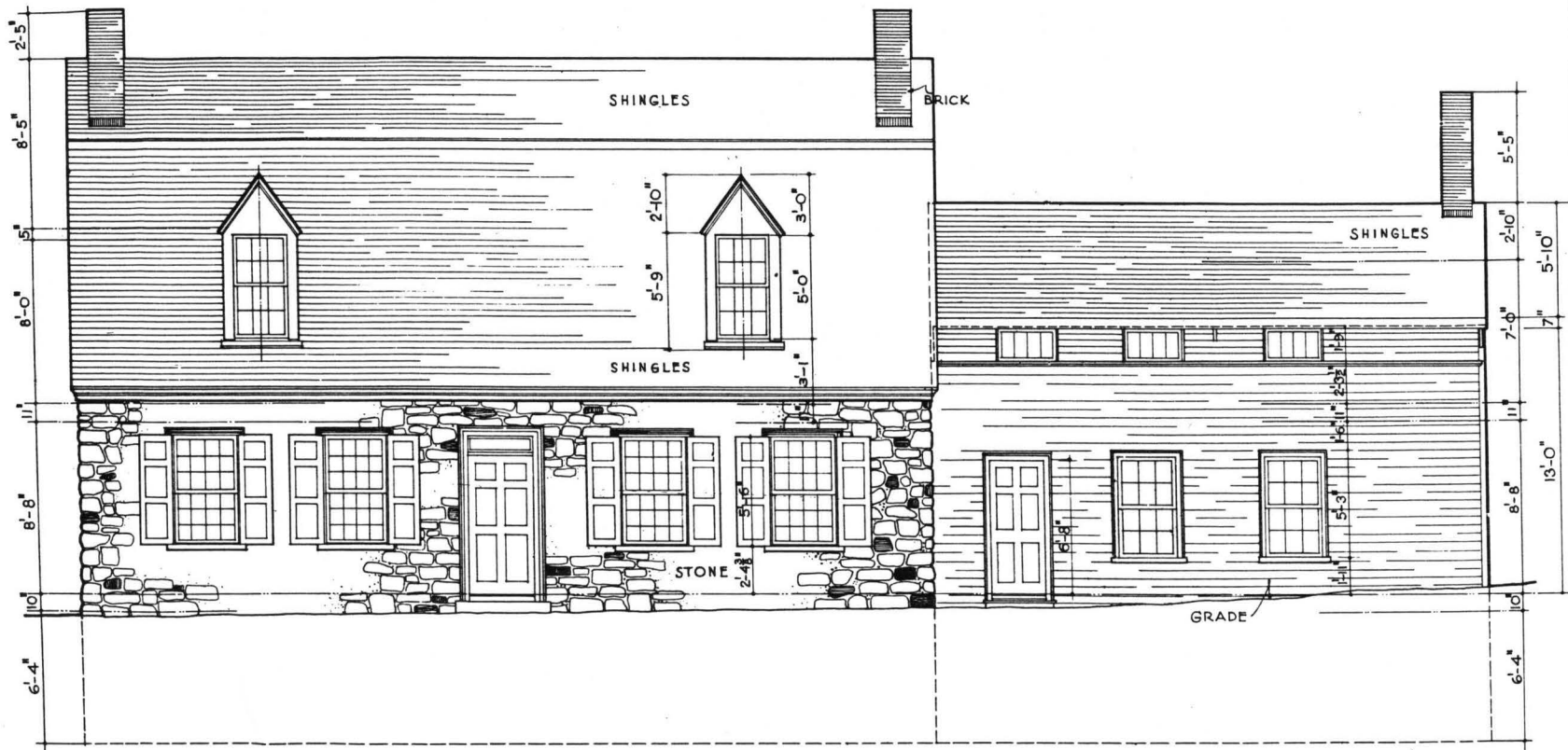
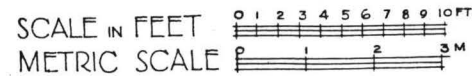


Fig.16 NORTH ELEVATION
SCALE $\frac{1}{4}$ "=1'-0"



BEN OSSA. DEL

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
OFFICIAL PROJECT NO. 265-6905
UNDER DIRECTION OF UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, BRANCH OF PLANS AND DESIGN

1416 FLUSHING AVE
RIDGWOOD

NAME OF STRUCTURE
VAN ANDA HOUSE

QUEENS
NEW YORK

SURVEY NO.
NY-524
DEC 1936

HISTORIC AMERICAN
BUILDINGS SURVEY
SHEET 3 OF 9 SHEETS

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS
BUNDLE NUMBER

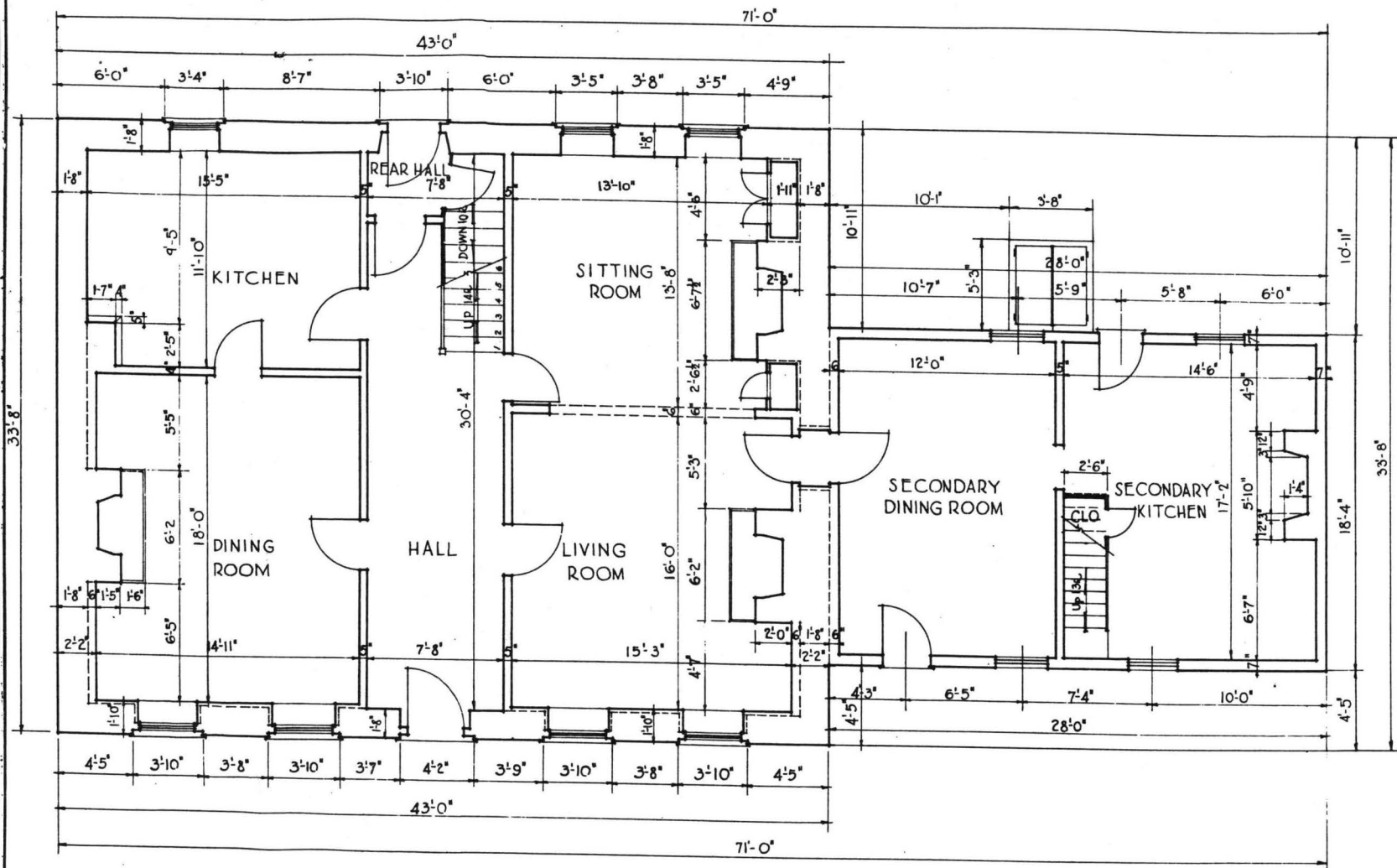


Fig.14 FIRST FLOOR PLAN
SCALE 1/4"=1'-0"

ROBERT G. KRON, DEL.



WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
OFFICIAL PROJECT NO.265-6905
UNDER DIRECTION OF UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, BRANCH OF PLANS AND DESIGN

1416 FLUSHING AVE
RIDGEWOOD

NAME OF STRUCTURE
VAN ANDA HOUSE

**QUEENS
NEW YORK**

SURVEY NO.
NY-524
DEC.1936

HISTORIC AMERICAN
BUILDINGS SURVEY
SHEET 1 OF 9 SHEETS

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS
DANCE NUMBER

Onderdonk House, first floor plan
Historic American Buildings Survey (1936)



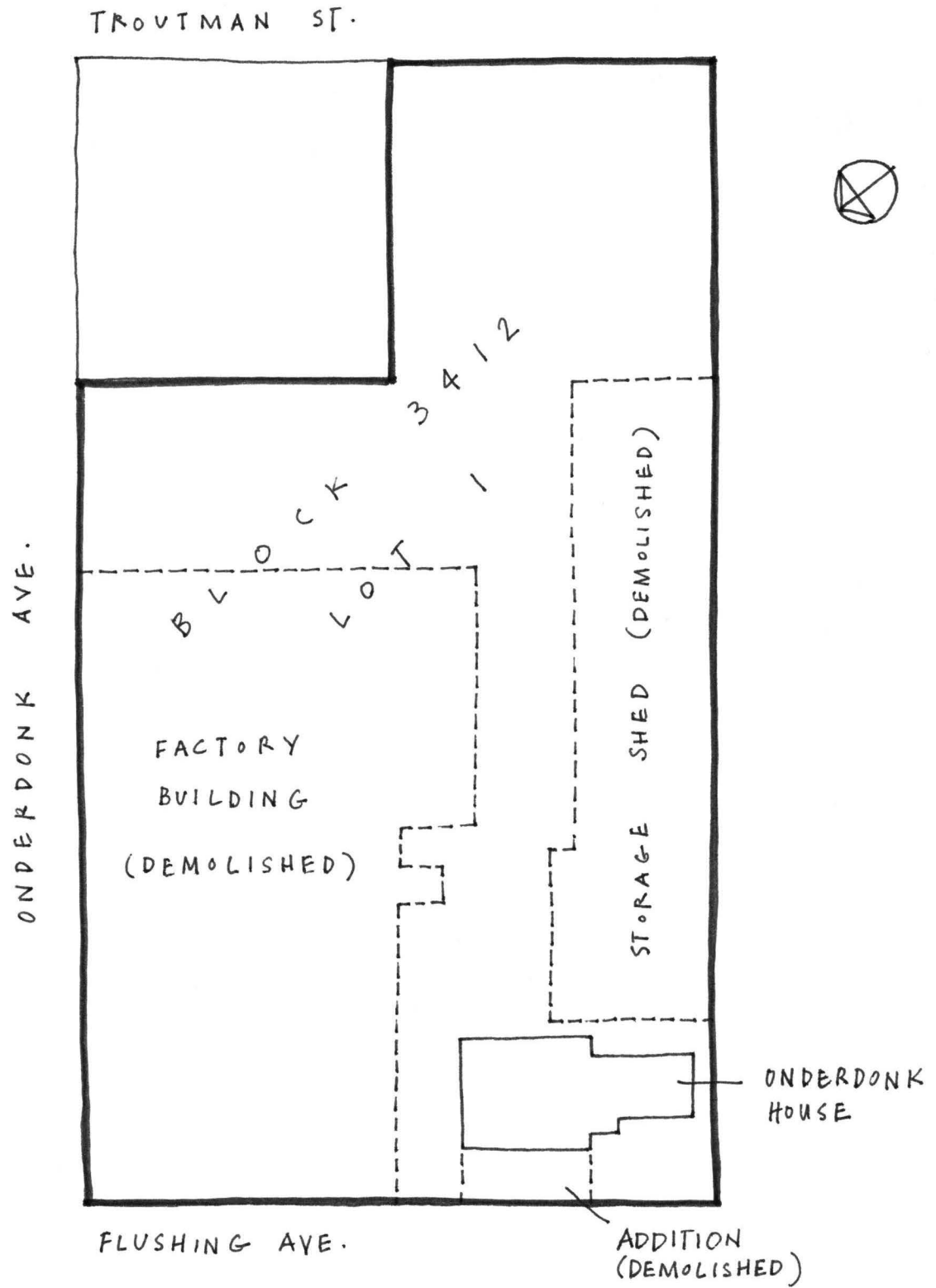
Onderdonk House, attic framing
Historic American Buildings Survey (1936)



Onderdonk House, rear facade
Historic American Buildings Survey (1936)



Onderdonk House, front addition (1944)
Photo credit: David Bishop (1975), Landmarks Preservation Commission



Site Plan of Onderdonk House Lot, showing location of factory buildings (c. 1944)
 Source: Dept. of Buildings, Queens



Onderdonk House, rear facade after the fire
Photo credit: David Bishop (1975), Landmarks Preservation Commission



Onderdonk House and site
Photo credit: Greater Ridgewood Historical Society (c. 1978)



Onderdonk House, stonework during house reconstruction
Photo credit: Greater Ridgewood Historical Society (1981)



Onderdonk House, during reconstruction
Photo credit: Greater Ridgewood Historical Society (c. 1982)