

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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DATE ENTERED

FILE COPY

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Jan van Hoesen House

AND/OR COMMON

van Hoesen house

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER State Route 66, near Claverack Creek

CITY, TOWN

Claverack

__ NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

29th

__ VICINITY OF

STATE

New York

CODE

36

COUNTY

Columbia

CODE

21

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

 DISTRICT BUILDING(S) STRUCTURE SITE OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

 PUBLIC PRIVATE BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

 IN PROCESS BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

 OCCUPIED UNOCCUPIED WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

 YES: RESTRICTED YES: UNRESTRICTED NO

PRESENT USE

 AGRICULTURE COMMERCIAL EDUCATIONAL ENTERTAINMENT GOVERNMENT INDUSTRIAL MILITARY MUSEUM PARK PRIVATE RESIDENCE RELIGIOUS SCIENTIFIC TRANSPORTATION OTHER: vacant**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME Z. Zalys

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

STATE

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Columbia County Courthouse, Clerk's Office

STREET & NUMBER

Courthouse Square

CITY, TOWN

Hudson

STATE

New York 12534

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

NYS Inventory of Historic Resources

DATE

January 1976

 FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR

SURVEY RECORDS

Division for Historic Preservation

CITY, TOWN

Albany

STATE

New York

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The van Hoesen house is located on the first elevation of land that rises approximately twenty feet above a principal flat on the east side of Claverack Creek on State Route 66. In early times, the approach to the house was from the southwest and northeast on a local road that led to nearby Claverack Landing (later city of Hudson) on the Hudson River. The present back-side of the house was once clearly intended as the facade. Five openings of equal width, height, and spacing are indicated on this facade. These openings are marked by gauged flat arches in the masonry. The flat arches are prominent and high and made unusually decorative through the use of red vertical stretchers alternating with blackened klinker headers. Documentary references to such patterned brickwork indicate that such design worked in colored brick was not unusual; however, these flat arches are a rare, if not unique, survivor of such decorative technique. All the openings are altered from their original form--the most obvious detail being that all have been made smaller or changed function.

The easterly gable presently contains five windows and a door. The main floor window and door are later additions. The second floor windows are alterations of windows in these positions and one shows evidence of the early window frame. The granary windows are original openings. The principal feature of this gable end are initials of the first occupants of the house worked in black klinker headers in the masonry. This is the only surviving example in the region of this type of monogramming in the masonry from the 1715-1750 period. Several examples from the 1760s are well known. The informative monogram provides the initials of Jan van Hoesen and his wife Tanneke, as well as helps establish an approximate construction date for the house.

The present front of the house is covered with stucco which hides details of seaming and the possible presence of gauged flat arches. Above the window to the immediate left of the center doorway, some of the stucco is detached and there is clear indication that no vertical brick pattern was used (or that the window may have been added). The original positioning of openings on this side of the house may be represented by the present four windows and door primarily because the height of them is the same and of a proportion appropriate to the placement of windows and doors in other Dutch houses. The presence of an original (or very early) crown molding over the center doorway probably represents the moving of a piece to this side of the house when the front and back were reversed. Two original cellar entries on this southeasterly side of the house indicate the functional nature of the cellar.

The southwesterly gable wall contains a most important surviving feature: the thin engaged chimney flue that enabled occupants of the house to benefit from fireplaces in the cellar and on the main floor. This is a rare intact example of such construction although from contracts, and from physical evidence in other dwellings, it is known to have been a common feature in houses of this type. The doorway at the corner which leads to the cellar kitchen is original as are the garret and granary window openings and frames. The sash are not original.

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Wrought-iron fleur-de-lis beam anchors on both gables and iron gutter hangers are distinctive surviving features. The tin roof is a later replacement for the likely shingled--or possibly tile--roof that was originally on the house.

Interior features of the house include a central hall or passageway with exits at each end that are not centered. Although unheated passageways or entry chambers (probably deriving from the Dutch urban voorhuis chambers) are common to Albany County houses, the centered position of this particular passageway is an unusual survivor and should not be construed as a center-hall arrangement. The enclosed panelled stairway in the hall is an excellent surviving example of the type originally built in these houses. It is an important model and document. Polychrome decorations painted on the door frame and frame to the northwest room off the hall survive and are another rare and significant document of Dutch colonial taste. The mantle piece on the first floor dates from the Federal period. The partitioning of the westerly room is not original and the partitioning of the garret (second floor) is a later addition. Originally the garret was reserved for open storage space.

The house's location on a high rise of land above broad fertile creek flats conforms to a pattern of siting houses in Albany County between 1715 and 1750. The house also conforms to another rural pattern by having its main entries in the side walls and its chimneys in the gables. In urban houses this arrangement was reversed.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES ca. 1720 BUILDER/ARCHITECT unknown

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Jan van Hoesen house is one of approximately seven brick dwellings that survive from the first half of the eighteenth century and that represent a colonial architectural style unique to the Dutch community of old Albany County during that period. The style originated in sixteenth and seventeenth century Netherlands and other northern European vernacular dwellings that were descendants of medieval longhouses. The form was introduced in the New Netherlands before the middle of the seventeenth century but did not gain prevalence in Albany County until ca. 1715-1740, a period free from military conflict and a time of economic prosperity. When the style is rendered in brick, it is most reminiscent of dwellings depicted in townscapes in Dutch seventeenth-century paintings, and is understood to be not a mere farmhouse but a substantial upper middle class residence expressing fashion and prosperity in a northern European manner.

Various evidence suggests that the Jan van Hoesen house was probably built by 1720--but it is not likely to have been built before ca. 1715, since freeholder houses of this style seem to date from the close of Queen Anne's war.

The van Hoesen house is characteristic of the steeply pitched roof, parapet gabled houses with abundant doorways and light-giving windows valued by Dutch and other northern European residents in the upper Hudson Valley. Usually built of brick over a timber frame, such residences varied in the arrangement of windows, doors, and rooms within the elongated rectangular form. The plans for such houses were determined by the person for whom they were being constructed and drawn up in contracts with carpenters and masons, who were obliged to follow the instructions enumerated in the contracts.

The house appears to be very similar to the Hendrik Bries house (now burned), illustrated in H. W. Reynolds' Dutch Houses of the Hudson Valley Before 1776. The Bries house staircase was removed before the fire and is installed in the Luykas van Alen house, Kinderhook. Its turnings are remarkably similar to the staircase in the van Hoesen house. A strong traditional date of 1722 is given for the Bries house. Another parallel feature are the tie irons which decorate the two houses. The similar room arrangement on either side of central passage also is significant. It is likely that the same craftsmen built most of these houses in the area along the east side of the Hudson River. While many of the more modest farmhouses of the period grew room by room and tended to develop an asymmetrical form, the more substantial brick and frame buildings such as the Jan van Hoesen house had symmetrical arrangements of doors and windows. The Luykas van Alen house (before its north addition), the Bries house, the Jan van Hoesen house, the stone van Hoesen house, the Jan van Loon house, the Gerret Vandenburg house, and the Douw house of 1724 are all rural examples of symmetrical houses.

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Although the steep roof, large windows and doors, and overall long, narrow appearance are characteristic of many surviving (in fact or in illustrations) Dutch houses of the first half of the eighteenth century, this general plan left room for considerable variation of floor plan. Room layout that was either symmetrical or asymmetrical could be arranged, and the choice probably reflected the taste preference of the original owner.

The van Hoesen house reflects significant aspects of the social and cultural history of the upper Hudson Valley. A history of the van Hoesen family and their community at Claverack affords a balancing view of Hudson Valley colonial history which usually emphasizes manor lords and tenants at the expense of successful freeholders who established themselves in prosperous agricultural and mercantile activities.

The first occupant and owner of the house is identified through the masonry monogram worked in the gable wall of the house: { T.
I V H
A thorough study of church records, the 1720 freeholders list for Albany County, and the van Hoesen genealogy leads to the conclusion that the only I(J) van Hoesen who married a "T" is Jan van Hoesen (1687-1745) who married in 1711 Tanneke Witbeck, a daughter of Hendrick Witbeck of Claverack.

This Jan is the grandson of Jan Franse van Hoesen (Husem, Husen), born in 1608/9 at Husum, now in Schleswig-Holstein, Germany. At the time of his 1639 marriage in the Dutch Reformed church at Amsterdam, he is described as a sailor. The couple came to New Amsterdam that same year. By 1652, they were at Albany and received a patent for a lot and garden there. In 1662 he purchased (confirmed by patent after his death; dated 11 May 1667) from Indians a tract of land at Claverack, which embraced land beginning at the third Claver south of Major Staats' Creek on the river to the land of Slichtenhorst (an agent for the van Rensselaer family who had also purchased this land in 1649) and easterly beyond the great (Claverack) creek. After Jan Franse's death in 1665, the estate was administered by his widow Volckje Juriaens and her second husband Gerrit Visbeeck. In 1703/4, the final division to the heirs of Jan Franse van Hoesen was recorded in Albany County Deeds 4: 278-282. To Johannes, the second surviving son of Jan Franse, went the broad flats on the east side of Claverack Creek. This Johannes (1655-after 1724) apparently transferred title of the land to his son Jan van Hoesen by 1720 when Jan is recorded as a freeholder at Claverack. The transaction was not recorded but may have occurred at the time of his marriage in 1711 to Tanneke Witbeck. A recorded deed of 1724 conveys lands around South Bay to Johannes' younger sons, Gerrit and Jacob (Albany County Deeds 5: 199-201). Although these two occupied the lands before they were deeded, they were not listed on the 1720 freeholders list--a fact that underscores the specific significance of the freeholders list for 1720.

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Jan van Hoesen and his wife had eleven children, of whom three sons appear to be at the locality of this house on the 1779 Claverack tax lists. Jan also appears to be the Jan or John who is mentioned in New-York Historical Society Collections, 1909: 189, where he is identified as a mariner in 1725. As a mariner, Jan had a significant occupation beyond that of farmer, following perhaps in the tradition of his grandfather, and opportunity to substantially increase his income. Such prosperity would be necessary for him to build such a substantial house reflecting northern European elegance.

Jan also served as a deacon in the Lutheran church at Lunenburg (present Athens, Greene County, New York) and was extremely active in church affairs, particularly connection with supervising the building of a home for Pastor Wilhelm Berkenmeyer. His wife Tanneke in 1745 made a contribution of ten pounds for some project--appreciably more than most parishioners made at this time.

The significance of the van Hoesen family is discovered in records of the Athens Lutheran church, Ecclesiastical Records of the State of New York, Court Minutes of Albany, Rensselaerwyck, and Fort Orange, The Albany Protocol, and by omission in the Claverack Reformed Dutch Church records and in van Rensselaer family genealogy.

Claverack in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries comprised the central third of present day Columbia County. According to authoritative records and traditional local history, Claverack was the sole property of the van Rensselaer family--with patroon Kiliaen giving the whole of Claverack to his younger brother Hendrick of Fort Crailo in 1704 (a detail undoubtedly linked to the recording of the division of the van Hoesen patent 1704). Along the eastern shore of the Hudson River, the central part of Claverack included a highly desirable promontory of land flanked by a north and south bay suitable for landing of sloops and sailing vessels. This land between the two bays was what Jan Franse van Hoesen purchased. It became Claverack Landing which served not only local farmers and residents, but also traffic which came from western New England to take advantage of the Hudson River to carry goods to market. From the time of Jan Franse van Hoesen's patent through the Revolution, van Rensselaer family members repeatedly attempted to wrest these lands from the van Hoesens. The van Rensselaers were ultimately foiled when the van Hoesen family members sold the promontory and the north and south bays to thirty-one New Englanders in 1784 who in turn established an ambitious and successful city based on mercantile pursuits. This successful city of Hudson and the subsequent creation of the town of Greenport obscured the colonial period history of the area. Furthermore, local histories are largely based on Dutch Reformed church records, which in turn are the basis for genealogical histories of families associated with the same area. The van Hoesen family is infrequently mentioned in the Dutch Reformed church records and members of the family did not frequently marry the "Claverack families."

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The van Hoesen history of Claverack reveals another aspect of the colonial period in the upper Hudson Valley. Many settlers who came to Albany and Rensselaerwyck in the seventeenth century were not Dutch, but Belgian, Norwegian, Swedish, Danish, German, Flemish, and French. Their religions were also varied and a sufficient number of them were at variance with Dutch Reformed doctrine to support the small Lutheran congregation which was established in the 1660s at Albany. This church made the Dutch Reformed authorities nervous and was disbanded --but by the end of the seventeenth century when pro-Leisler sentiment still lingered among some quarters of the area, the Lutheran-minded families moved about twenty-five miles south down river and formed a community that embraced both west and east shores at Lunenburg and Claverack Landing. The fact that Lutheran van Hoesens had already owned land in this area for nearly half a century may have governed their choice of settlement.

Baptism and marriage records for these families are found largely in the Zion Lutheran Church of Athens records and indicate that to a large extent the families tended to maintain social ties with each other to the exclusion of Dutch Reformed families. These people reacted with caution to the Palatine population that came into the area after 1710. Families with Lutheran affiliations also lived at Nutten Hook and Kinderhook. Lutheran families tended to be freeholders rather than tenants of van Rensselaer or residents of the city of Albany.

In this connection it is particularly significant that of the thirty-five freeholders listed in Claverack in 1720, at least twenty-one of them are associated with land ownership in the van Hoesen Patent. Furthermore, of the thirty-five freeholders, four were van Hoesens--Jacob, Kasper, Jan, and Johannis, and one Jurie Jan, probably the fifth van Hoesen. Another twelve of the freeholders were married to van Hoesen women or had daughters who were married to van Hoesens. Many of these twelve appear to have gained land through their van Hoesen relationships. All of the twenty-one freeholders have distinct and sometimes important associations with the Lutheran church congregation that by 1720 was establishing itself in the Lunenburg-Claverack area. The marriage in 1717 of Gerritje Herdyk (granddaughter of Jan Franse van Hoesen) to Pastor Justus Falckner, the first Lutheran minister ordained in America (Delaware, 1703), signals an intensification of Lutheran commitment in the community along the Hudson.

As the most intact remaining example of a type of non-British architecture of the colonial period which is unique to the Hudson Valley, the van Hoesen house is of state significance. It reflects the taste and life style of an important and frequently overlooked socio-economic category--the Hudson Valley freeholder. Its builders were important catalysts to regional development throughout the eighteenth century--development which had religious, social, economic, and artistic manifestations which are still evident in artifacts in the written record.

FHR-8-300A
(11/78)

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It is likely that significant historic period archeology relating to the van Hoesens exists on the area immediately surrounding the structure. However, no testing or research has as yet been undertaken.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

See continuation sheet

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY approx. 12

QUADRANGLE NAME Hudson North

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24,000

UTM REFERENCES

A 18 602760 4678900
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C

D

E

F

G

H

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

See continuation sheet

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
<u>none</u>			
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Ruth Piwonka
ORGANIZATION

Columbia County Historical Society
STREET & NUMBER

Broad Street
CITY OR TOWN

Kinderhook

edited by: L. Gobrecht
Historic Preservation Field
Services Bureau, Albany, New York

DATE
23 March 1979
TELEPHONE

STATE
New York 12106

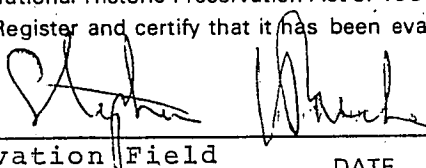
12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL STATE X LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE



TITLE Director, Historic Preservation Field
Services Bureau

DATE 6/6/79

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I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

TEST

DATE

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

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Major Bibliographical References

Maps

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Major Bibliographical References, continued

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4: 278-9;280-2;283-5 (1704/5). Liber 5: 199-201 (1724).
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and baptisms) for Dutch Reformed and Lutheran congregations at Claverack,
Lunenburg, Kinderhook, and Linlithgow.
_____. Research files
for van Hoesen family genealogy; for colonial Lutheranism; for van Alen house;
for Jan van Hoesen house.

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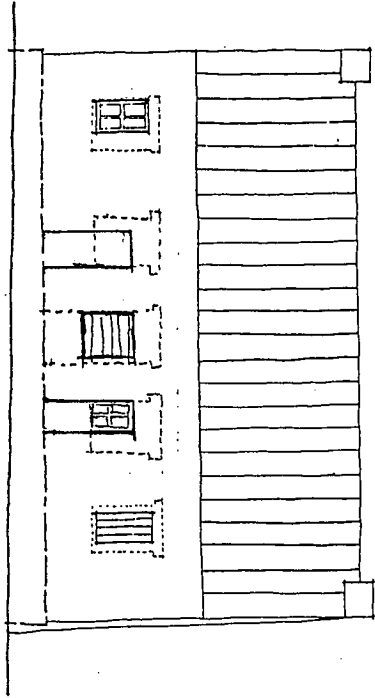
CONTINUATION SHEET

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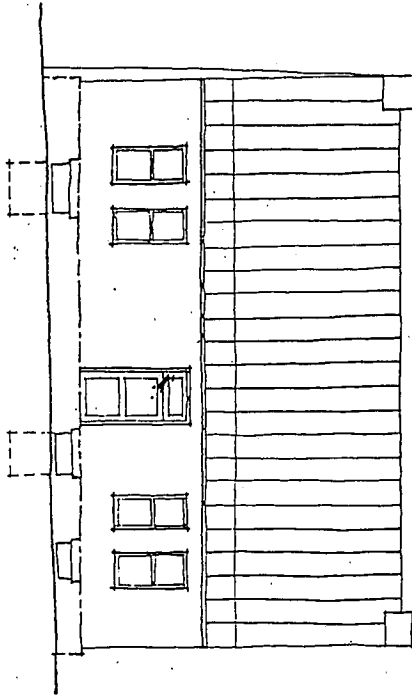
Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary of the nominated property is a quadrilateral starting at a point defined by the intersection of New York State Route 66 and the center line of the Claverack Creek (the town of Claverack's legal boundary) and runs NE along Route 66 for 300 meters, turns at a right angle and runs NW 140 meters, turns at a right angle and runs SW to an intersection with the center line of the Claverack Creek. The western boundary is the center line of the Claverack Creek.

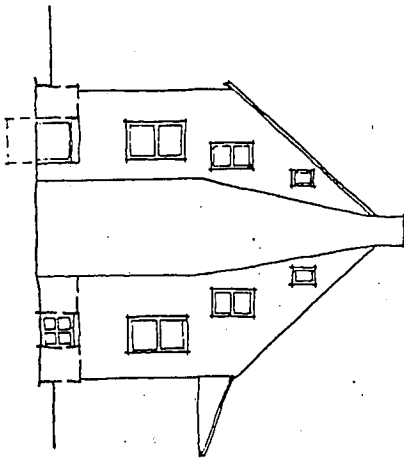
Northwesterly elevation



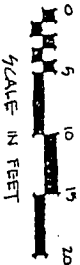
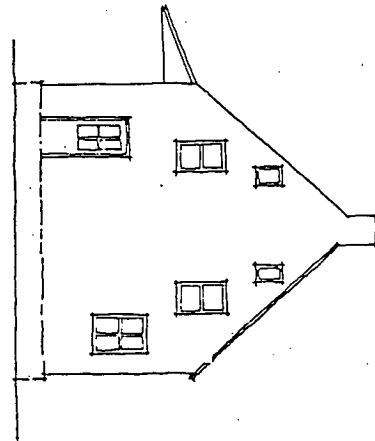
Southeasterly elevation



Westwesterly elevation



Eastnortherly elevation

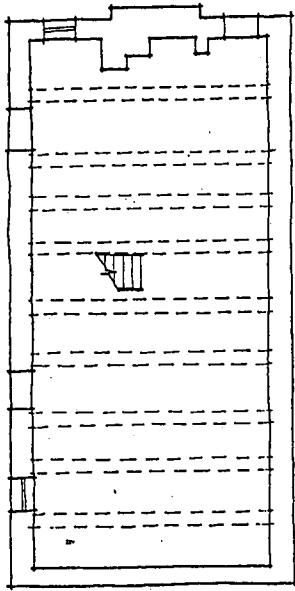


J. van hoesen house

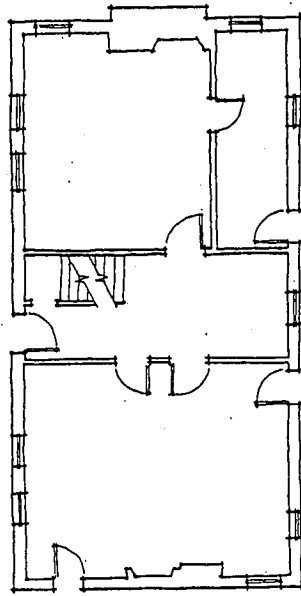
VIC. HUDSON

COLUMBIA CO.

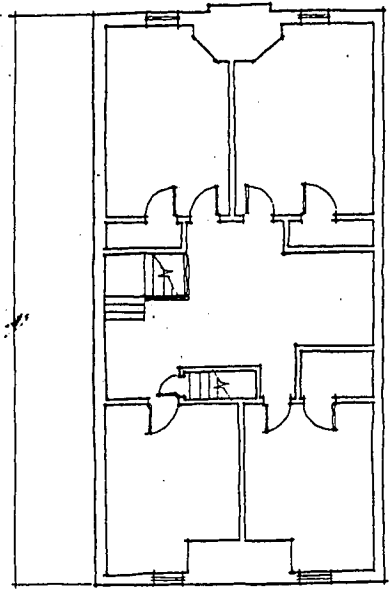
NEW YORK



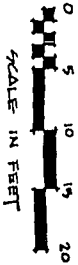
LOWER LEVEL



MAIN LEVEL



SECOND LEVEL

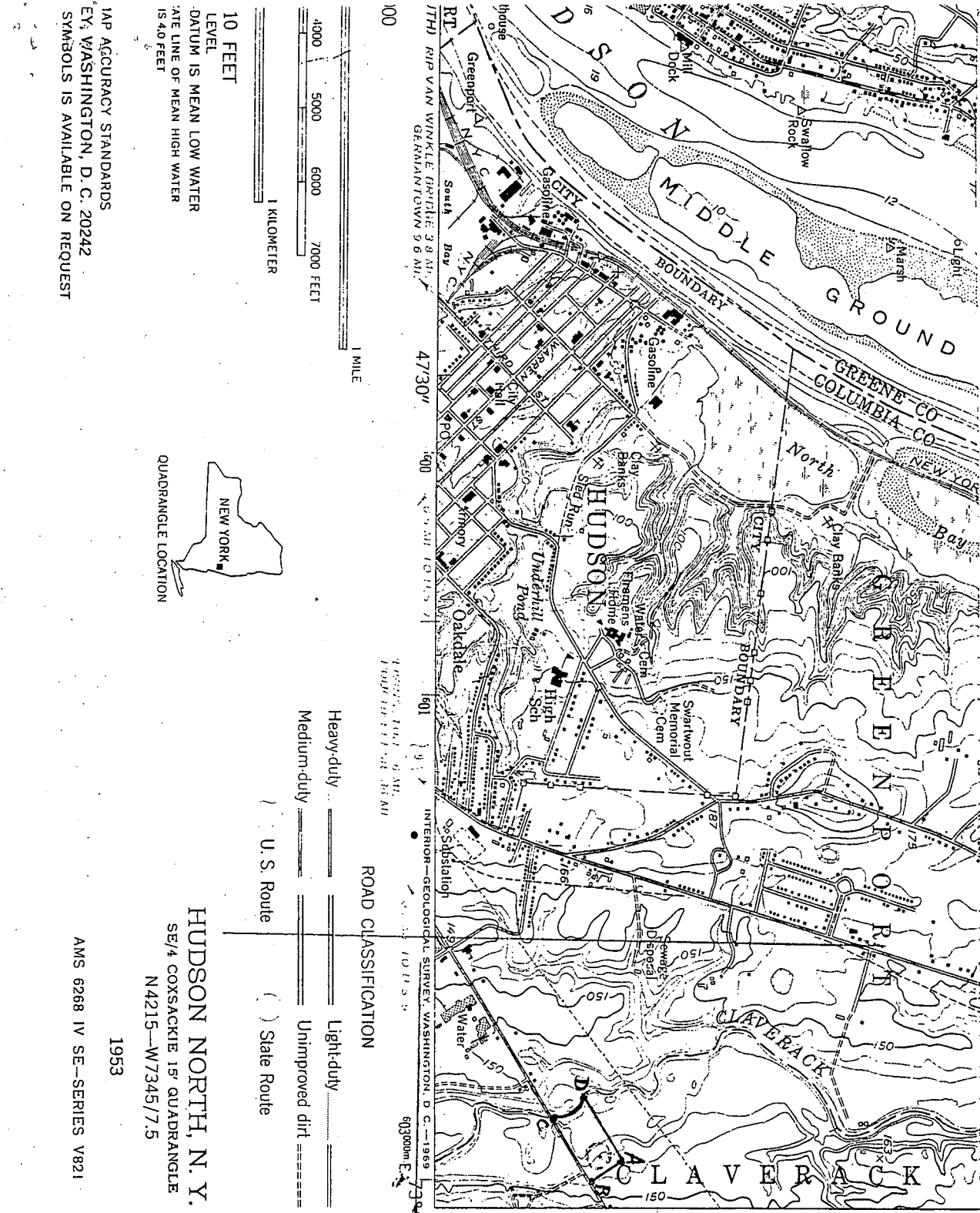


J. van hoesen house

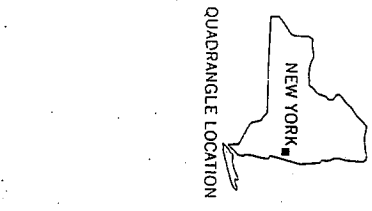
VIC. HUDSON

COLUMBIA CO.

NEW YORK



MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
 FEDERAL GEOGRAPHIC SURVEY, WASHINGTON, D. C. 20242
 SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST



10 FEET
 LEVEL
 DATUM IS MEAN LOW WATER
 DATE LINE OF MEAN HIGH WATER
 IS 4.0 FEET

1 KILOMETER
 1 MILE

4000 5000 6000 7000 FEET

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Heavy-duty
 Medium-duty
 U. S. Route
 Light-duty
 Unimproved dirt
 State Route

HUDSON NORTH, N. Y.
 SE/4 COXSACKIE 15' QUADRANGLE
 N4215-W7345/7.5
 1953

AMS 6268 IV SE-SERIES V821

Jan van Hoesen House
 Vicinity of Hudson
 Columbia County
 UTM Reference (zone 18)
 HUDSON NORTH QUAD
 Easting Northing
 A. 602760 4678900

(CLAVERRACK)
 6268 II NW