

HENRY SCHULZE HOUSE
(Charles Laubscher House)
Route 664, approx. 950 feet east of
Jay Street Bridge
Lockport Vicinity
Clinton County
Pennsylvania

HABS NO. PA-5532

HABS
PA
18-LOKPT.V,
6-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
Mid-Atlantic Region
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19106

HABS
PA
18-LOKPT.V,
6-

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

HENRY SCHULTZE HOUSE
(Charles Laubscher House)

HABS No. PA- 5532

Location: Route 664, approximately 950 feet east of the Jay Street Bridge, ~~Lower Lockport, Lock Haven~~ Vicinity, Clinton County, Pennsylvania

USGS Lock Haven Quadrangle, Universal Transverse Mercator
Coordinates: 18. 295365. 4556980

Present Owner
and Occupant:

Richard A. Laubach
R.D. #2, Box 82
Lock Haven , PA 17745

Present Use:

Residence.

Significance:

The Henry Schultze House is significant as an example of the nineteenth-century vernacular canal-era housing of Lower Lockport. As a collection, the canal-era houses of Lower Lockport exhibit simple design and minimal ornamental detailing. They also share similar two-story, side-gabled massing and a uniform setback from the road. The Henry Schultze House displays these characteristics and is one of the few surviving buildings from the first decade of the canal era. The original Greek Revival style building underwent extensive exterior alterations in the early twentieth century, including the addition of the front porch, but retains its circa 1840 form and massing.

Lower Lockport's development followed a local pattern of early nineteenth-century agricultural land use yielding to residential subdivision in the wake of the development of the West Branch of the Pennsylvania Canal in 1834 (see HAER No. PA-188). Lock No. 34 (see HAER No. PA-188-A) of the canal system was sited in Lower Lockport in 1834 and the canal remained in operation until 1889, at which time it was rendered useless by a damaging flood. The canal served as a major transportation route in the pre-railroad era. In conjunction with the canal, the lumber industry also played a major role in the development of Lower Lockport and was central to its economy. Lower Lockport served as the head market for the lumber rafting trade on the West Branch. Many of the extant dwellings in Lower Lockport housed merchants and skilled professionals--blacksmiths and carpenters--dependent upon the lumber trade. Other residents included relatively prosperous boatmen and laborers who worked on the canal. The original owner of the house, Henry Schultze, was a clerk, storekeeper, and justice of the peace. Charles Laubscher, a later owner of the house, performed extensive exterior renovations and is responsible for the present appearance of the house.

HENRY SCHULTZE HOUSE (Charles Laubscher House)
HABS No. PA- 5532 (Page 2)

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History:

1. Date of Erection: circa 1840.
2. Architect: Not known.
3. Original and subsequent owners: Legal description from the most recent deed: On the North by land now or formerly of Hanna Estate; on the East by Lot No. 12, as shown on said plan, now or formerly owned by Fred Blesh; on the South by the Public Road; and on the West by Lot No. 9, as shown on said plan, now or formerly of Thomas Aikey. Said parcel has a frontage of one hundred ten (110) feet, more or less, on the Public road, and extends in depth between parallel lines one hundred sixty-two (162) feet, more or less.

References are to deeds filed at the Clinton County Recorder of Deeds, Lock Haven, Pennsylvania.

- 1841 Deed, October 7, 1841, recorded in Book A, Page 349.
R.M. Hanna, et al. to Henry F. W. Schultze, et al.
- 1844 Deed, recorded in Sheriff's Book A, Page 28.
Henry Schultze to James Armstrong.
- 1855 Deed, June 13, 1855, recorded in Book G, Page 527.
James Armstrong to John S. Schultze.
- 1861 Deed, May 9, 1861, recorded in Book M, Page 188.
John S. Schultze to William R. Schultze.
- 1868 Deed, May 6, 1868, recorded in Book S, Page 135.
William R. Schultz to Sarah W. Schultz.
- 1914 Deed, February 14, 1914, recorded in Book 90, Page 449.
Malissa Jane Schultz, et al. to Charles E. Laubscher.
- 1955 Will, June 3, 1955, recorded in Book Q, Page 155.
Charles E. Laubscher to the Heirs of Charles E. Laubscher.
- 1965 Deed, January 23, 1965, recorded in Book 213, Page 538.
Melvin C. & Dorothy Laubscher to Richard and Vivian Laubach.

4. Builder, contractor, suppliers: Not known.
5. Original plans and construction: No plans were found of the original Henry Schultze House design. However, a circa 1914 photograph of Charles Laubscher performing exterior renovations provides some clues on the building's previous appearance. The original building was a two-story brick, side-gabled residence designed in the Greek Revival style. A rear two-story wing intersected the main

**HENRY SCHULTZE HOUSE (Charles Laubscher House)
HABS No. PA- 5532 (Page 3)**

section to form an "L" plan. Most likely, the Henry Schultze House consisted of five-bay fenestration on both the first and second floors of the front facade, and there were six-over-six windows throughout. There was a fireplace located in the west wall of the first floor. The rear porch appears to have been a later addition. On the north elevation of the rear wing is a small, square vertical-board section that consists of two six-over-six windows and a shed roof; it appears to be part of the original design.

6. **Alterations and additions:** The sequence and number of additions and alterations, particularly in the nineteenth century, is speculative, as there are no original plans of the Henry Schultze House. The earliest addition to the original building may have consisted of a rear two-story porch that was added in the mid-nineteenth century. The first story of this porch was eclipsed by a later, enclosed porch. The second story is still extant. The 1861 deed mentions a frame section attached to the brick house. This section is not mentioned in the 1844 deed and, therefore, cannot be considered part of the original building. According to the owner, the frame section was removed circa 1925.

When the building was purchased in 1914 by Charles Laubscher, a number of modifications and alterations were performed. Most noticeably, the front porch was added at this time. Laubscher also undertook an extensive brick restoration project. This included placing segmental arches above numerous openings, and fitting those windows with one-over-one double-hung sash. The five-bay fenestration of the front facade's first floor was replaced with three bays. The east facade also had some work performed on it. A former attic window under the gable was covered and concealed by a new chimney. Later alterations consist of a rear enclosed porch and an east-side stairway on the front porch.

B. Historical Context:

In 1841, R. M. Hanna sold the property upon which the house exists to Henry Schultze. Hanna was the son of Nathaniel Hanna, who originally subdivided and developed Lower Lockport. The deed mentions a brick dwelling house, which would indicate that components of the current building may pre-date 1841. The construction date distinguishes the Henry Schultze House as being one of the earliest developed lots in Lower Lockport. The building was probably built soon after the establishment of Lock No. 34 of the West Branch Division of the Pennsylvania Mainline Canal. This occurred in 1834 in Lower Lockport and ushered in the canal era to the Lock Haven region. R. M. Hanna eventually became proprietor of the Hanna Hotel in Lockport.

Henry Schultze's occupations included clerk, justice of the peace, and storekeeper in Lockport. The Henry Schultze House was sold in a Sheriff's sale in 1844 to James Armstrong, which would indicate Schultze had financial difficulties. There are indications that Schultze and his family continued to live in the house after the Sheriff's sale to James Armstrong, probably as tenants. In 1855, John Schultze, Henry's son, acquired the property from Armstrong. The elder Schultze was a Private in Company E of the 93rd Regiment in the Civil War. He entered November 1, 1861, and was discharged on a surgical certificate, February 23, 1863. The residence remained in the Schultze family until 1914, although for much of that time it was probably rented. Owners included Henry, his wife Sarah; their two sons, William and John; and William's wife, Malissa.

**HENRY SCHULTZE HOUSE (Charles Laubscher House)
HABS No. PA- 5532 (Page 4)**

In 1914, Malissa Schultze sold the property to Charles Laubscher, a blacksmith who had lived in the Long House down the street from the Henry Schultze House. The lot contained a two-story brick dwelling house, a frame stable, an ice-house, and some other outbuildings. Charles Laubscher moved into the Henry Schultze House and rented the Long House. Laubscher learned the blacksmith trade from his elder brother, Harvey Laubscher, who also lived and kept shop in Lower Lockport (see HABS No. PA-5528). Unlike his brother, Charles Laubscher kept shop in Lock Haven and was reportedly the last blacksmith in Lock Haven (he died in 1955). According to the present owner, Vivian Laubach, the daughter of Laubscher, her father did an extensive brick restoration project soon after he bought the property.

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement:

1. Architectural character: The Henry Schultze House was built in a vernacular Greek Revival style. The house was moderately altered in the 1910s and now has a Colonial Revival-style porch.
2. Condition of fabric: Fair condition.

B. Description of Exterior:

1. Overall dimensions: The Henry Schultze House is a 2 1/2-story, four-bay, L-shaped building with a basement. The two sides that form the "L" are the front, or south, facade, which measures approximately 42'2", and the side, or west, facade, which measures approximately 45'.
2. Foundations: Masonry foundation with a parget treatment.
3. Walls: Brick, common bond.
4. Structural systems, framing: Braced frame construction with brick cladding.
5. Porches, stoops, balconies, bulkheads: Full-width front facade porch was added circa 1914 and is supported by brick piers with lattice between the piers. The porch has wooden plank flooring, four Tuscan porch columns and two half-columns against the house, square balusters, and rounded newel posts. The porch has a shed roof with a small central gable with a decorative pattern, and asphalt shingle roofing. In the rear of the Henry Schultze House, there is an enclosed porch on the ground level and an open porch on the second story. The second story porch consists of wood plank flooring, turned post balusters, and bevelled posts. The porch originally had a first floor counterpart, which was replaced by the present enclosed porch. The enclosed porch has modern plywood siding and aluminum windows.
6. Chimneys: Exposed brick chimneys on both east and west gable walls. The east chimney was added circa 1914.

HENRY SCHULTZE HOUSE (Charles Laubscher House)
HABS No. PA- 5532 (Page 5)

7. Openings:

- a. Doorways and doors: The front doorway was rebuilt circa 1914 and consists of a segmental arch framing a single-leaf doorway with a single sidelight east of the doorway.
- b. Windows and shutters: The original windows of the Henry Schultze House were six-over-six, double-hung, wooden windows, which are extant in numerous openings. These windows have wooden frames with broad lintels and projecting sills. The wooden lintels on the front facade have circle-in-square corner blocks. The wooden lintels in the rear and side elevations are plain, without the circle-in-square elaboration. A number of window openings were altered circa 1914. The alteration consisted of removing the original windows, frames and lintels and replacing them with one-over-one double hung windows. The lintels were replaced with brick segmental arches. A historic photograph in the possession of the owner reveals that the front-facade second-story windows once had louvered shutters (circa 1920).

8. Roof:

- a. Shape, covering: The main section and intersecting rear wing are gable roofs with asphalt roll roofing. The porches have shed roofs with asphalt shingle roofing.
- b. Cornice, eaves: Projecting box cornice with frieze trim and returns on the gable walls.
- c. Dormers, cupolas, towers: None.

C. Description of Interior:

1. Floor plans: See accompanying sketch plans.
2. Stairways: The central wooden staircase dates from the circa 1914 restoration campaign and consists of turned post balusters, railing, skirting, and newel posts. The open staircase has a landing and a ninety-degree turn, and the second floor hallway overlooks the stairway. At the top of the steps, the balustrade continues along the hallway. The first floor newel post is bevelled and decorated with garlands and festoons. At the landing and top of the steps are bevelled newel posts with fluting.
3. Flooring: The flooring is concealed by wall-to-wall carpeting throughout most of the house. Wide-width hardwood flooring is evident in one room on the second floor.
4. Wall and ceiling finishes: When the Laubachs purchased the property in 1965, they remodelled the interior. This is most evident in the wood panelling found on all of the walls, and the acoustical tile drop ceilings that were installed throughout the house.

HENRY SCHULTZE HOUSE (Charles Laubscher House)
HABS No. PA- 5532 (Page 6)

5. Openings:

- a. Doorways and doors: The doorway surrounds of the Henry Schultze House have entablatures with a wide frieze and pilasters. The majority of doors found throughout the house are early-twentieth-century, single-leaf, five-panel solid designs. In a few instances, there are modern flush doors.
- b. Windows: Six-over-six and one-over-one double hung wooden windows.

6. Decorative features and trim: When the Laubach's purchased the property in 1965, they remodelled the interior, and whatever interior trim remained at that point was removed or concealed under the panelling. The decorative features that remain are the doorway surrounds and the staircase newel posts.

7. Hardware: No historic hardware was noted.

8. Mechanical Equipment:

- a. Heating, air conditioning, ventilation: The present heating system is an oil furnace with radiators. The west wall of the first floor was the location of the original fireplace. This has been replaced by a stove.
- b. Lighting: No historic lighting was noted.
- c. Plumbing: No historic plumbing was noted.

9. Original furnishings: There are no original furnishings extant in the Henry Schultze House.

D. Site:

1. General setting and orientation: The house is aligned on a north-south axis with the front facade facing south, towards the north bank of the West Branch of the Susquehanna River. Route 664 separates the Henry Schultze House from the river.
2. Historic landscape design: Residential design consisting of front and rear yards. Historically, the rear yard had numerous outbuildings, including animal pens, a stable, and a barn. A historic photograph in possession of the owner reveals a wooden plank sidewalk in front of the house, circa 1925.
3. Outbuildings: Existing outbuildings presently consist of a modern aluminum shed and a smokehouse. The rubble foundation of the barn, demolished circa 1968, is extant. The current owner has some childhood pictures which show the two-story barn consisting of board and batten siding with six-over-six windows and a solid six-panel door. The smokehouse is constructed of vertical board siding with a tin gable roof.

According to the 1844 deed, outbuildings included a frame stable and wagon shed. The 1861 deed notes the presence of the brick house with an attached frame house and kitchen, frame stable, and wagon shed. In 1914, outbuildings noted on the deed include a frame stable and ice house. According to the current owner, the

HENRY SCHULTZE HOUSE (Charles Laubscher House)
HABS No. PA- 5532 (Page 7)

Laubscher family lived in a two-story frame section that was attached to the rear of the house while Charles Laubscher remodeled the brick section. This attached section is probably the same one mentioned in the 1861 deed and was demolished circa 1925. Also, a privy and springhouse were demolished when the property was bought by Laubscher in 1914. The current owner mentioned that there was a pig pen and a chicken coop in the rear yard as late as the 1950s.

PART III. SOURCES OF INFORMATION

- A. Architectural drawings: None.
- B. Historic views: Private collection of Mrs. Vivian Laubach: The current owner, Mrs. Vivian Laubach, grew up in the Henry Schultze House and has a number of childhood photographs (circa 1920) that have various outbuildings or the main house in the background. Mrs. Laubach also owns a photograph that reveals masons performing the brick restoration job undertaken by her father, circa 1914.
- C. Interviews: Mrs. Vivian Laubach, October, 1991.
- D. Bibliography:

1. Primary and unpublished sources:

Clinton County Legal Records. Located at the Clinton County Courthouse, Lock Haven, PA.

Dashiell, David A. III. *Laubach House*. Pennsylvania Historic Resource Survey Form 035-WW-021. Harrisburg, PA: Bureau of Historic Preservation, January, 1985.

Hannegan, Susan. *General History and Description of Clinton County, Preliminary Research Report, Clinton County Historic Sites Survey, 1985-86*. Harrisburg, PA: Bureau of Historic Preservation, 1986.

Vento, Frank J., Philip T. Fitzgibbons, Scott D. Heberling, and James Herbstritt. *Phase I Inventory Investigations of Potentially Significant Prehistoric and Historic Period Cultural Resources for the Lock Haven Flood Protection Project, Clinton County, Pennsylvania*. Prepared for the Baltimore District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers by Vendel Enviro-Industrial Consultants, 1989.

2. Secondary and published sources:

Linn, John Blair. *History of Centre and Clinton Counties*. Philadelphia: J.B. Lippincott, 1883.

Maynard, D.G. *Historical View of Clinton County*. Lock Haven, PA: The Enterprising Printing House, 1875.

Richie and Stranahan. *Map of Lock Haven, Flemington, and Lockport*. Philadelphia: Richie and Stranahan, 1869.

HENRY SCHULTZE HOUSE (Charles Laubscher House)
HABS No. PA- 5532 (Page 8)

Walling, H.F. *Map of Clinton County, PA.* New York: Way, Palmer, and Company, 1862.

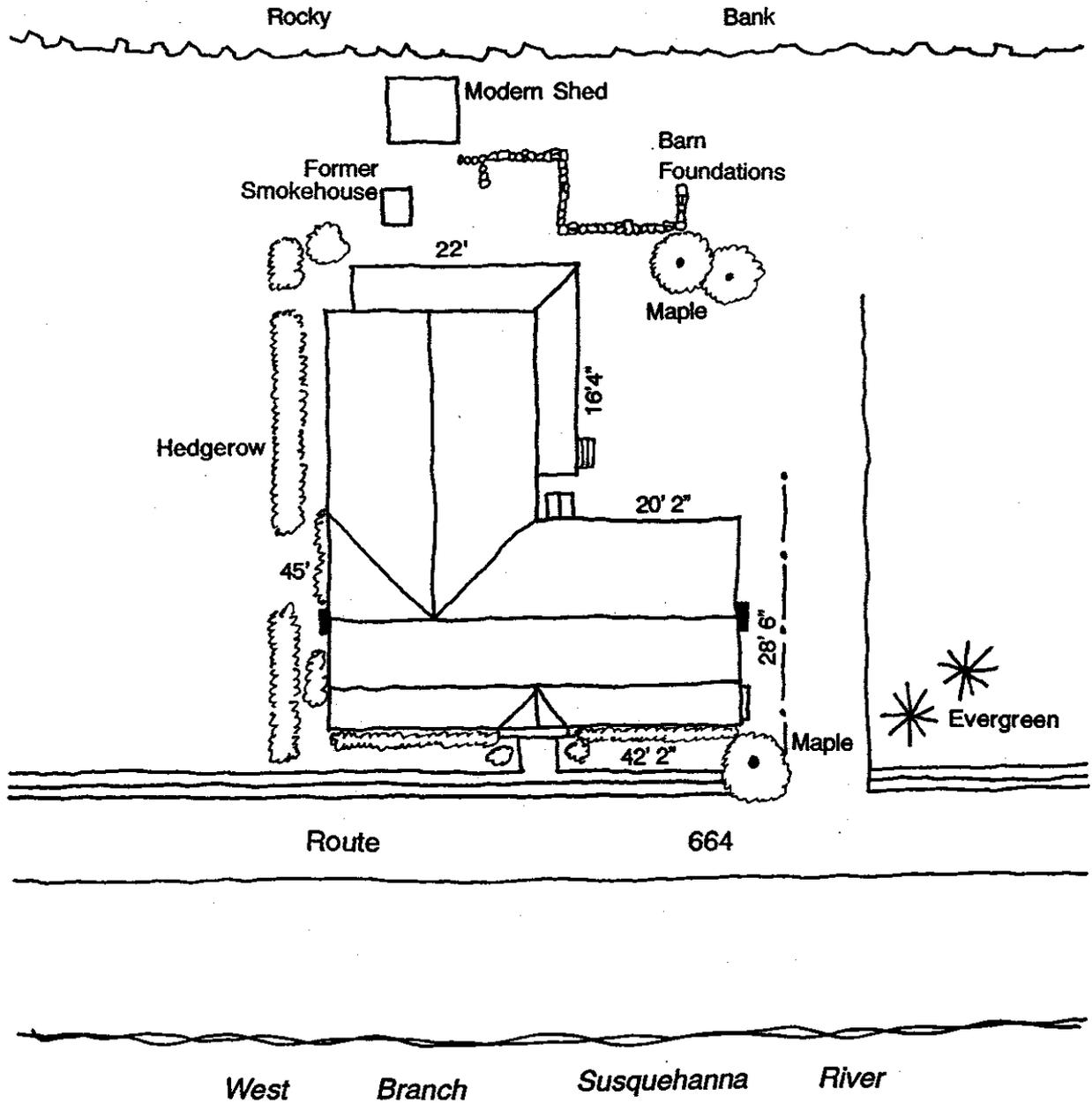
PART IV. PROJECT INFORMATION

Documentation was undertaken in October and November 1991 in accordance with a Memorandum of Agreement between the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, and the Lock Haven Area Flood Protection Authority. The documentation serves as a mitigative measure for the treatment of historic properties that were identified and evaluated in a series of studies and that would be affected by the proposed Lock Haven flood protection project. The Henry Schultze House is slated for removal to accommodate an induced flooding zone. The house will be marketed for sale in an attempt to have it removed from the property. If the house cannot be sold, it will be marketed for architectural salvage. The last recourse for the house is demolition. Documentation was prepared for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District, by the Historic Preservation Group of Kise Franks & Straw, Inc., Philadelphia, Pennsylvania: M. Todd Cleveland, project manager; Susan C. Nabors, historian; Martin B. Abbot, historian; and Jill Cremer, graphics. Robert Tucher provided the documentary photographs.

HENRY SCHULTZE HOUSE (Charles Laubscher House)
HABS No. PA-5532 (Page 9)



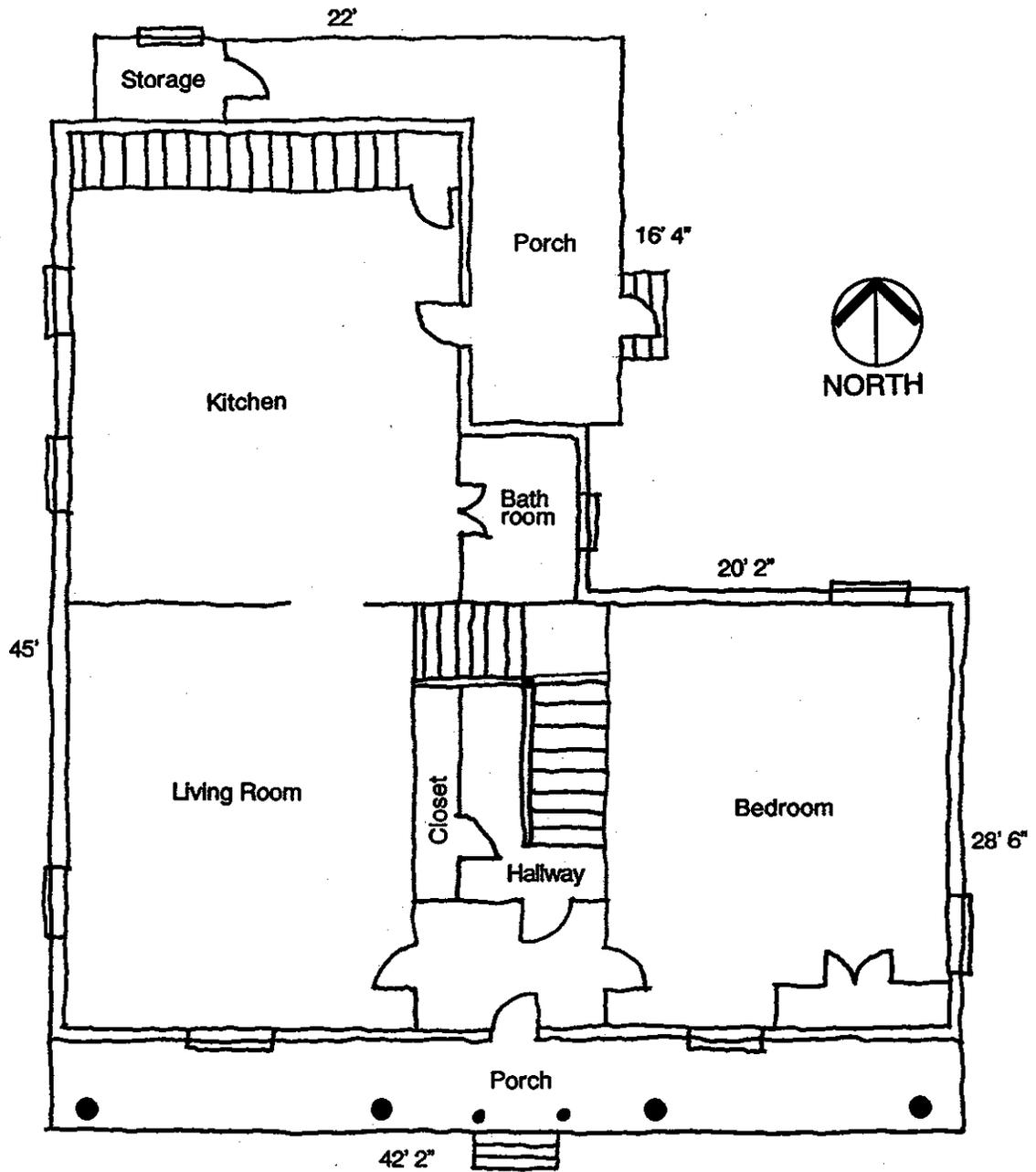
NORTH



Site Plan
(Not to Scale)

Date Drawn: 1992
Prepared By: Jill Cremer

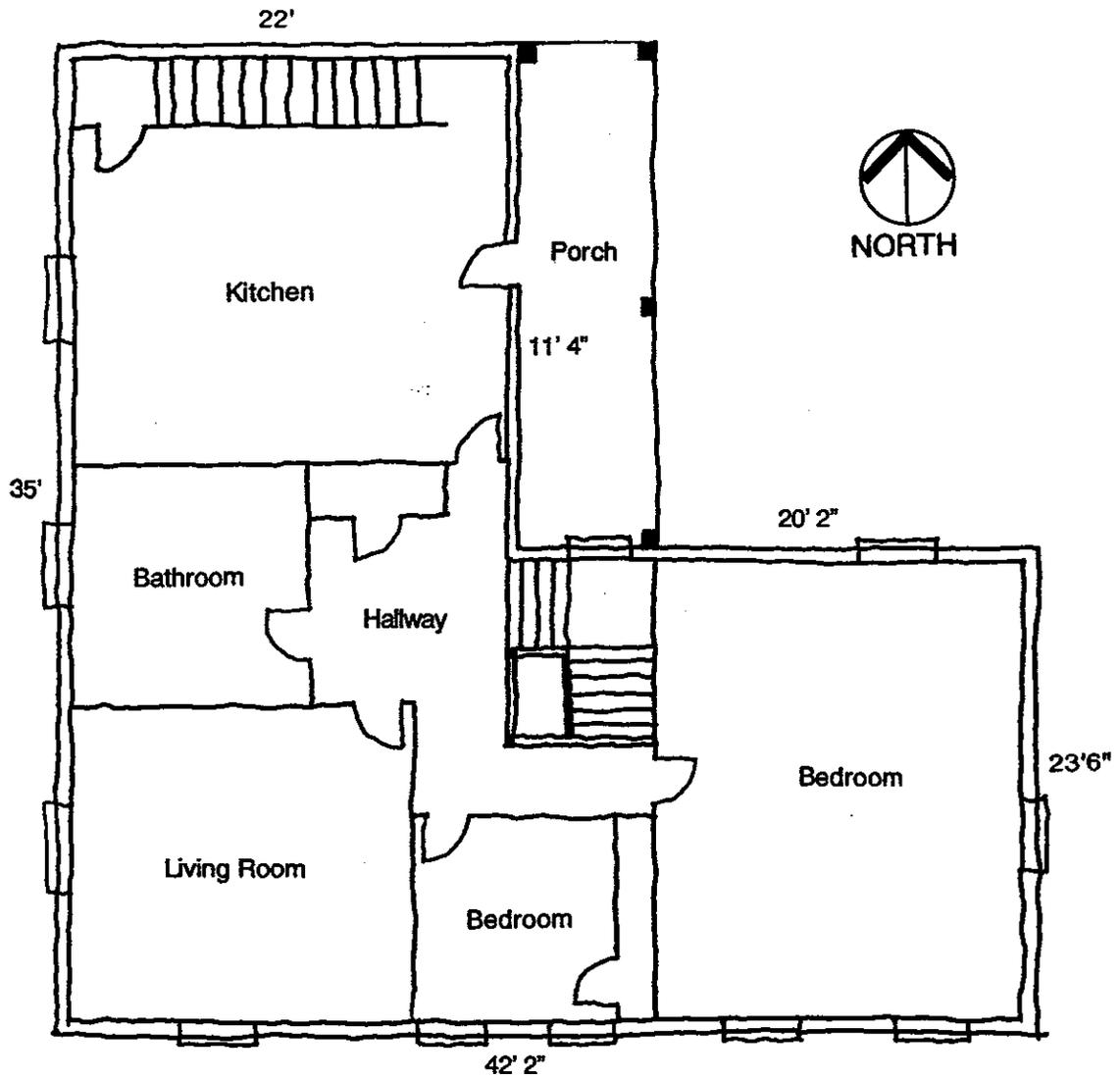
HENRY SCHULTZE HOUSE (Charles Laubscher House)
HABS No. PA-5532 (Page 10)



First Floor Plan
(Not to Scale)

Date Drawn: 1992
Prepared By: Jill Cremer

HENRY SCHULTZE HOUSE (Charles Laubscher House)
HABS No. PA-5532 (Page 11)



Second Floor Plan
(Not to Scale)

Date Drawn: 1992
Prepared By: Jill Cremer