

Abraham Glen House
(now Scotia Public Library)
Scotia, Schenectady County
New York

HABS No. NY-338

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HABS
NY,
47-SCOT,
2-

PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA
District of New York-3

Historic American Buildings Survey
Prepared at Headquarters Office for
Albany, New York, District

HABS
NY,
47-Scot,

ABRAHAM GLEN HOUSE
(now Scotia Public Library)
Scotia, Schenectady County, New York

Owner: The village of Scotia

Date of Erection: 1730

Architect:

Builder: Abraham Glen.

Present Condition: The exterior appearance is much changed from original by later clapboarding, installation of a later cornice, addition of an extensive wing, 19th century porches, window sash, etc. The original steeply pitched lines of the roof seem to have been preserved. Modern flooring replacements have been made. The mantels appear to be of the early 19th century. The early structural elements - posts, beams and knee braces - are preserved and visible inside the house. It is used as a public library and kept in good repair.

Number of Stories: One and one-half and attic.

Materials of Construction: Judging from the interior, the construction is heavy timber framing. The walls are reported to be of brick (hidden by the clapboards) and this may signify that brick fill or nogging was used between the framing members. The chimneys are brick and the roofing is wood shingles and slate.

Other Existing Records: Photographs in the two books listed below.

Additional Data: The original floor plan, now changed, apparently consisted of two rooms, a narrow hall (along the side of one room) and between the two rooms a space, taken up partly by a steep stairway and partly by a bed recess. According to tradition a stone house first stood on this site, and this was later demolished and replaced by the original element of the present structure.

References: Helen Wilkinson Reynolds, "Dutch Houses in the Hudson Valley", pp. 81 and 141. Greene, "The Old Mohawk Turnpike", pp. 72 and 74.

(note: This report is based upon notes submitted by W. E. Smith and other employees of the Survey in the Albany district in 1936).

Author: (Sawyer)

Approved: John P. Daniel, 4/4/39.

ADDENDUM TO:
ABRAHAM GLEN HOUSE
(Scotia Branch Library)
14 Mohawk Avenue
Scotia
Schenectady County
New York

HABS NY-338
HABS NY,47-SCOT,2-

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

REDUCED COPIES OF MEASURED DRAWINGS

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street NW
Washington, DC 20240-0001

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

Addendum to:
ABRAHAM GLEN HOUSE
(Scotia Branch Library)

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This page is an addendum to a two-page historical report that was transmitted to the Library of Congress in 1939.

Location: 14 Mohawk Avenue, Scotia, Schenectady County, New York
The house is located at latitude: 42.824225, longitude: -73.959599. The coordinate was obtained using Google Earth on 20 December 2013. The coordinate's datum is WGS84. There are no restrictions on its release to the public.

Project Information:

This project was an early survey begun by the Historic American Buildings Survey during the 1930s. The project was never completed. In 2013, HABS made the decision to transmit the unfinished materials from the 1930s to the Library of Congress due to the information potential of the documentation, and the fact that many of the unfinished drawings from this period document important historic properties, many of which are no longer extant. The Abraham Glen House, built in 1730 is now used as the Scotia Branch Library of the Schenectady County public library system. In 2004 it was listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

Due to the incomplete nature of the documentation and the lack of field measurements to verify the drawings, the drawings may not meet HABS standards and have been marked as such. Most of these drawings are still in pencil, that combined with the age of the drawings, presented challenges when digitizing them, so the scanned images are not as clear as most of the drawings within the HABS collection.