**United States Department of the Interior** National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*Type all entries—complete applicable sections

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the matter facilities of the state of	eceiveu Mari	aa	SPECIFICAL PROPERTY.
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1. Nam	ne			
historic Sto	oothoff-Baxter-Kouw	enhoven House		N <sub>c</sub>
and/or common				
2. Loca	ation			
street & number	. 1640 East 48th S	treet	_	not for publication
city, town Bro	ooklyn	vicinity of	Congressional district	
state New	York coc	de 036 county	Kings	code <sup>047</sup>
3. Clas	sification			
Category  district building(s) structure site object	Ownership public private both Public Acquisition N/A in process being considered	Status  X 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:
4. Owr	er of Prope	rty		
name Antho	ny and Mary Ann Cuc	cchiara		
	1640 East 48th Sti			
city, town Broo	klyn	vicinity of	state N	lew York 11234
5. Loca	ation of Leg	al Descripti	on	
courthouse, regi	stry of deeds, etc. Kings	s County Register's	Office	
street & number	Brooklyn Municipal	Building, 210 Jora	lemon Street	
Br	ooklyn		state	New York 11201
	resentation	in Existing		
	Preservation Commi	ssion	operty been determined el	igible?yes X no
date March	23, 1976		federal stat	te county <u>X</u> loca
depository for s	urvey records Landmark	s Preservation Comm	ission, 20 Vesey St	reet
city town New	York,		- • •	New York 10007

<b>7.</b>	D	es	cr	ip	tic	on
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Condition  X excellent deteriorated  good ruins fair unexposed	Check one unaltered _x_ altered	Check one original site moved date 1811 and 1900	
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Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Stoothoff-Baxter-Kouwenhoven House was built in sections like many Dutch colonial houses; the smaller wing was built about 1747 and the larger main portion dates from 1811. The building is located on a residential block consisting of one and two-family homes built in the twentieth century. Originally, the small wing stood alone, north of Mill Lane, facing south. This section was moved south of Mill Lane in 1811 when the main portion was constructed. The house was shifted to its present position facing East 48th Street in about 1900 at the time the street was cut through the adjacent family farmland.

The house is one and one-half stories high and has a picturesque profile with steeply pitched, gabled roofs, curved projecting eaves, and end chimneys. The older, low portion contrasts with the greater height of the later main portion. The house is shingled with over fourteen inches of each course exposed. The windows in the front have twelve-over-twelve sash and paneled shutters. Those at the rear have six-over-six sash. At the upper floor of the newer portion two small windows are set directly under the curved projecting eave, while those at the rear are cut into the soffits of the eave. There are three end chimneys. The front door is of Dutch design, with the upper half hinged independently from the lower half. The rear roof slope of the main portion has a curved projecting eave; the roof slope of the lower wing has a straight eave and two gabled dormers. A rear door in this wing opens onto the large ear yard with garden. Attached to the wing is a small one-story kitchen wing of 1880 with sloping shed roof, narrow clapboard siding, and doors opening onto both the front and rear yards. On the interior, the main section contains the living room, and the older wing contains the dining room. Off the living room, the staircase with railing with slender balusters leads to the bedrooms at the upper floor.

<sup>1.</sup> The text of this report was taken almost in its entirety from the New York Landmarks Preservation Commission designation report, Stoothoff-Baxter-Kouwenhoven House (LP-0919), March 23, 1976, by Alan Burnham and Betty Ezequelle.

### 8. Significance

Period prehistoric 1400–1499 1500–1599 1600–1699 1700–1799 1800–1899 1900–	Areas of Significance—C  archeology-prehistoric archeology-historic agriculture architecture art commerce communications	heck and justify below community planning conservation economics education engineering exploration/settlement industry invention	politics/government	e religion science sculpture social/ humanitarian theater transportation other (specify)
Specific dates	c.1747, 1811, 1880	Builder/Architect unkn	own	

#### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Stoothoff-Baxter-Kouwenhoven House, a rare survivor from the colonial period, is a fine example of the type of farmhouse constructed in this country by Flemish farmers who came to New York in the 1700s. The name of the house is a reflection of the succession of related Brooklyn families that occupied it during a century and a half. Today this small house serves as an important reminder of New York's early architectural heritage.

Flatlands, the area in which this Dutch colonial house is located, was the first in Kings County to be occupied by settlers of European origin. It was purchased from the Indians by Andries Hudden and Wolpert G. van Couwenhoven in 1636, just ten years after Peter Minuit bought Manhattan Island from the Indians. Its Indian name, Keskachogue or Keskateuw, was changed to Nieuw Amersfoort in honor of Couwenhoven's home in the Netherlands. By 1654 it had received a town charter and by 1657 seventeen families had settled there. The English changed the name to Flatlands in 1665, one year after they took over the colony from the Dutch.

The original house (the smaller wing) is believed to have been built about 1747 by Wilhelmus Stoothoff, the father of Garret Stoothoff. Garret Stoothoff's daughter, Altje, married John Baxter, a native of Ireland, who had come to this country in 1784 and who was teaching school in Flatlands by 1790. The diary which he kept has proved most valuable as a source of local history. After his marriage to Altje in 1791, they went to live in the house of her father, who died sometime before 1796.

In 1811 Baxter decided to move the house south of Mill Lane and, in traditional Dutch manner, he oriented it facing south. On March 29, 1811, he wrote: "Today I had ten wagons to cart the Frame for my new house." In May he raised the new portion of the house, attaching it to the smaller old portion with the assistance of about sixty of his neighbors. The house was occupied by members of the family until the 1920s.

The present kitchen wing was added in 1880, replacing an earlier oven shed. In about 1900 the house was shifted to its present position, and the surrounding family farmland was sold at auction by the Germania Improvement Company.

Stylistically the house relates to the distinctive frame houses of Long Island which are readily recognizable building types, quite different from those of Manhattan and the Hudson River valley. On Long Island, the early houses were generally farmhouses. They had gabled roofs with gracefully curved projecting eaves or gambrel roofs which are believed to be Flemish in origin. The house displays the characteristic sweeping type of Flemish eave design and other details of craftsmanship and design typical of eighteenth and early nineteenth century vernacular farmhouses in New Netherland. The Stoothoff-Baxter-Kouwenhoven House is a rare surviving example of its type.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheet

10. Geographical	Data		
Acreage of nominated property $\frac{1ess}{n}$ Quadrangle name $\frac{Coney}{n}$ Island, N. UMT References	than one acr	e	Quadrangle scale 1:24.000
A 1 8 5 9 0 5 9 0 4 4 9 K Zone Easting Northing	6910	B Zone	Easting Northing
C		D	
Verbal boundary description and ju	stification		
The nominated property occurred which is approximately 80	cupies Borou ' x 100 <sup>ts</sup> and	gh of Brookly d is outlined	on Tax Map Block 7872, Lot 54, 1 on the attached map.
List all states and counties for pro $_{\rm N}/_{\rm A}$	perties overla	pping state or c	ounty boundaries
state <sup>N/A</sup>	code	county	code
state	code	county	code
11. Form Prepare	ed By		v. ₩
organization Historic Preservations of the street & number Agency Building I	,	•	late September 1982 elephone(518) 474-0479
city or town Albany		. s	state New York 12238
12. State Historic	c Prese	rvation	Officer Certification
The evaluated significance of this prope national	-	ate is: local	
665), I hereby nominate this property for according to the criteria and procedures	r inclusion in the s set forth by the	National Register	
State Historic Preservation Officer signa	ature	un M	un /
title Commissioner			date 9/29/82
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Keeper of the National Register			
Chief of Registration	64 - 27 TO 18 PARTY STATE	an anger son says.	The state of the s

United States Department of the Interior Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

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Continuation sheet | Stoothoff-Baxter-Kouwenhoven | House , Kings County , N.Y. | Item numberg

Abstract, Brooklyn Properties, Block 7872. Long Island Historical Society.

Dilliard, Maud Esther. Old Dutch Houses of Brooklyn. New York: Richard R. Smith, 1945.

Landmarks Preservation Commission, <u>Stoothoff-Baxter-Kouwenhoven House Designation</u> Report (LP-0919), by Alan Burnham and Betty Ezequelle. New York: City of New York, 1976.

Morrison, Hugh. Early American Architecture. New York: Oxford University Press, 1952.

Reynolds, Helen Wilkinson. <u>Dutch Houses in the Hudson Valley before 1776.</u> New York: Payou & Clarke, 1929.

Bailey, Rosalie Fellows. <u>Pre-Revolutionary Dutch Houses and Families in Northern New Jersey and Southern N.Y.</u> New York: William Morrow & Co., 1936.

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Stoothoff-Baxter-Kouwenhoven Item number Continuation sheet House, Kings County, N.Y.

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Form prepared by:

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