



NYC
**Landmarks Preservation
Commission**

Backlog Initiative: Addressing 95 Properties
Staten Island Group 3 Items

6136 Amboy Road House
6136 Amboy Road, Staten Island
Staten Island Block: 06805; Lot: 0137

Staten Island Community Board 3
Public Hearing Date(s): 04/10/2007



Photos: (left) 2007 (right) undated

Special Public Hearings

The Landmarks Preservation Commission will hold a public hearing on the backlog of buildings in the Borough of Staten Island on **October 22, 2015** and encourages interested parties to submit written testimony in advance of that hearing. Each speaker will be given three minutes total to speak, and in that time may address all of the items within Staten Island Group 3, just particular items, or add comments to support written testimony. In order to conduct efficient hearings, we ask speakers to register in advance, and submit their written statements and materials that will be read at the hearing by **October 15, 2015** to backlog95@lpc.nyc.gov.

If you have questions about this property or the hearing process please contact backlog95@lpc.nyc.gov or call (212) 669-7817. If you would like more information about this property, please see the research file summary (over) and go to our website (<http://www.nyc.gov/html/lpc/html/backlog95>) and click on the link for this building's research file.



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6136 Amboy Road House Description

Landmark Type: Individual

Built: c. 1850-55

Architect: Joseph H. Sprague

Style: Greek Revival and Gothic Revival elements

Research Staff Hearing Statement (2007)

6136 Amboy Road House

Located on Amboy Road near Woodvale Avenue, this two-story frame house, constructed c. 1850-55 by boatman Joseph H. Sprague and his wife Rebecca, is a rare transitional mid-nineteenth vernacular design combining traditional spring-eave construction with Greek Revival and Gothic Revival elements. The French-derived flared projecting spring or bell-case eave was widely used on Staten Island from the late seventeenth century on. It became so firmly established in Staten Island building tradition that when the Greek Revival came into vogue the form was carried over and incorporated into buildings in the new style. Here the spring eave is articulated by a classical cornice carried on giant columns forming an imposing Greek Revival style portico. The influence of the Gothic Revival style, just coming into fashion on Staten Island in the early 1850s, is evident in the employment of curvilinear jigsaw bargeboards on the sloping eaves of the side gables of the main house and rear wings. The house also features a handsome entry with wide pilasters flanking narrow sidelights and a paneled door. The delicate broken pediments above the entry and two first-story facade windows are probably Colonial Revival style alterations as is the large round attic window which originally contained delicately leaded stained glass. Although the house retains its historic form and molded ornamentation it was recently resided. The distinctive historic wrought iron railings are not original to this property.

In the summer of 1855 this house was purchased by boatman Henry Johnson, who like Joseph Sprague, was involved in the oyster trade. Johnson died a few years after acquiring the house. His widow Phebe Johnson occupied the house until 1863. In the 1870s, it was occupied by the family of oysterman Joseph Jacklin. This continuous use by oystermen speaks to the importance of the oyster trade in the historical development of this area of Staten Island. A later owner, Hervey Allen (resided in the house c. 1900-1920s), was a machinist and later a foreman at the nearby S.S. White dental works, one Staten Island's largest employers.