

Vanderbilt
HISTORIC STRUCTURES REPORT

VAMA.023 c.2
CRBIB # 000479
382/135849

PART I

MAIN GATE HOUSE
(Building No. 6)

VANDERBILT MANSION NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE

Historic Structures Report

VANDERBILT MANSION

Area

<u>I</u>	<u>Main Gate House (Bldg. No. 6)</u>	<u>B-5-6</u>
Part	Structure	No.-Class

Project: _____
 Nature of, funds & f.y. programmed

Sections:

Admin.

Called for _____
 Rec'd. 9/23/60

His.

Called for _____
 Rec'd. 9/23/60

Architecture

Called for _____
 Rec'd. _____

Called for _____
 Rec'd. _____

Called for _____
 Rec'd. _____

Review:

distributed Park
 " EODC 1/19/62
 " WASO
 " Region 1/19/62

Approved:

Park 9/23/60
 EODC
 WASO
 Region

(Note: Cross-line accomplished items, with dates when done, received, etc. Crossline whole sheet, when report is over.)

Region Five
143 South Third Street
Philadelphia 5, Pa.

H30
D22

May 4, 1962

Chris
5/4/62

Bunny
5/4

Bochenky
5/4

Memorandum

To: Chief, EODC
From: ^{Acting} Regional Director

Subject: Addition to Main Gate House, Vanderbilt Mansion

This will refer to our previous correspondence on the Historic Structures Report, Part I, covering the Main Gate House. In your memorandum of January 25 you stated you were withholding your recommendation pending further information on how the room will be added to the existing structure.

We would appreciate having your comments on the preliminary drawing covering this proposed work as promptly as possible.

This project will be financed from the Quarters Account and we would like to get it underway.

(Sgd) J. Carlisle Crouch

^{Acting} Regional Director

In duplicate:

Copy to: Supt., Roosevelt-Vanderbilt

General
Daily
Area
Programs

CHRISTENSON:cmh

Note: Apparently, in absence of comments requested from EODC, preliminary drawing was OK'd by me, & work completed on plan Pt III.



UNITED STATES
 DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
 ROOSEVELT-VANDERBILT NATIONAL HISTORIC SITES
 HYDE PARK, N.Y.

REGION FIVE		INITIAL AND DATE
APR 25 1962		
REG. DIRECTOR		
ASST. REG. DIR.		
OPERATIONS		
INTERPRETATION		
ADM.		
REC. MGMT. PLAN		
RANGE ACT'S		

IN REPLY REFER TO:

~~2315~~
 (XF7423)

April 24, 1962

Memorandum

To: Regional Director, Region Five

From: Superintendent, Roosevelt-Vanderbilt

Subject: Addition to Main Gate House - Vanderbilt Mansion NHS

More than a year ago, I proposed that an addition be made to the main gate house to provide bathroom facilities on the second floor. The proposal was supported with a historic structures report.

While I was in the Regional Office in January-February, I discussed this with several and I learned that it was considered in plan review after I left. I hope that the proposal has been approved and that we will be able to contract the work before the end of this fiscal year. If there is something that I can do to expedite the plans for this work, please let me know.

Robert H. Atkinson
 Robert H. Atkinson
 Superintendent

In duplicate

OPERATIONS	
✓	Ass't. Chief
✓	Chief of Maint.
	Lands
✓	Programs
	Architect
	Engineer
	Land. Archt.

Chris 4/27
Rto

HISTORIC STRUCTURES REPORT, PART I

MAIN GATE HOUSE (BLDG. #6), VANDERBILT MANSION NHS

INTERPRETATION

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	History
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Nat. His
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Archaeo
<input type="checkbox"/>	Publ.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Museum
<input type="checkbox"/>	Sec'y.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	DR. NELLIGAN (LAST -- AFTER OPERATIONS DIV.)

B. Latok
J.C. 1/23

OPERATIONS

W 1/25/62

Comment: Reg. staff agrees, except me - Gate House is part of the estate & unless addition could be seen from gate & down, it should not be altered or altered. MHL

Recommended: ...?

OPERATIONS

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ass't. Chief
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Chief of Maint.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Lands
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Programs
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Engineering
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Land. Admin.

Chris 1/29
J.C. 1/30
B. Latok 2/1
J.C. 1/30

JCC
[Handwritten signature]

The preliminary drawings for the addition are in EODC. I am presuming that George Palmer asked Bur to check the proposal with Bob Smith. ~~→~~ We do need a memorandum from them to support their recommendation of the Hist. Struc. Report, as the Director must approve. This was to be an project since no construction funds are programmed.

Quarters @ Hunts.

Chris

Chris

How about writing EODC for what
we need?

[Handwritten signature]
5/3/6



~~Mr. Conyell~~
A30

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Dr. Nelligan

DATE: 3/1/62

FROM : F. Barnes

SUBJECT: Historic Structures Report, Part I - Main Gate House, Vanderbilt Mansion

Mr. Coryell is to make additional studies, particularly cost of adding bedroom. Mr. Lee wants to be sure that any such addition as now contemplated will satisfy our foreseeable building needs -- for the next 20 years. Also is concerned how well done the job ~~is~~ will be.

Copy to: Mr. Coryell

Al:

Please hold over for R.F. He

to record.

✓

Chas: ^{hold for} ~~Plan review~~
plan review.

GAP

Relative to Gate House - Vanderbilt. You will recall Mr. Lee that it desirable that we get EODC's views on the addition of a bedroom and bath, and suggested that we call them. Do you want to call Bob or shall I?

Chris says
let's see how
better & then call
me I can
Bob Smith
help

Chris
3/5/62



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Eastern Office
Division of Design and Construction
Philadelphia 6, Pa.

January 25, 1962

IN REPLY REFER TO:
H30-H

REGION FIVE		INITIAL AND DATE
JAN 26 1962		
<input type="checkbox"/>	REG. DIRECTOR	
<input type="checkbox"/>	ASST. REG. DIR.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	OPERATIONS	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	INTERPRETATION	
<input type="checkbox"/>	ADM.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	REC. RES. PLAN	
<input type="checkbox"/>	RANGER ACCT'S.	
<i>Noted 1/26</i>		<i>cl</i>

Memorandum

To: Regional Director, Region Five

From: Chief, EODC

Subject: Historic Structures Report, Part I, Main Gate House,
Vanderbilt Mansion

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	History
<input type="checkbox"/>	Nat. His.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Azores
<input type="checkbox"/>	Pub
<input type="checkbox"/>	MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	

We have reviewed the subject report and withhold our recommendation pending further information on how the room would be added to the existing structure. In general we do not like modern additions made to an existing Historic Structure particularly if other means might be found to provide room for this added bathroom.

This building is not the principal structure within that Park; however, it is a part of the Vanderbilt complex and the first building to be seen by the visiting public.

Robert G. Hall
Robert G. Hall
Chief

Copy to: Assistant Director, Design and Construction (2)
Supt., Roosevelt-Vanderbilt

Passarelli
1/19

Region Five
143 South Third Street
Philadelphia 6, Pa.

H30

January 19, 1962

[Handwritten signature]
1/19
[Handwritten signature]
1/19

Memorandum

To: Chief, EODC
From: Regional Director
Subject: Historic Structures Report, Part I, Main Gate House,
Vanderbilt Mansion NHS

Attached for your review and comment is a copy of the subject report.

(Sgd.) Ronald E. Lee
Regional Director

In duplicate

Attachment

Copy to: Supt., Roosevelt-Vanderbilt

cp

General
Daily
Area
Programs
Mr. Barnes



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

ROOSEVELT-VANDERBILT NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE
HYDE PARK, N.Y.

September 23, 1960

IN REPLY REFER TO:

E-7423

(X- H-30)

REGION FIVE		INITIAL AND DATE
SEP 23 1960		
REG. DIRECTOR		
ASST. REG. DIR.		
OPERATIONS		
INTERPRETATION		
ADM.		
REC. RES. PLAN.		
RANGER ACTS		

B-5-6

Memorandum

To: Regional Director, Region Five

From: Superintendent, Roosevelt-Vanderbilt

Subject: Alterations and Additions to Building No. 6, Vanderbilt Mansion

I thank you for your memorandum of September 2 on this subject in which you stated that we can expect \$1500 from the Regional Quarters Operating Fund to be used to provide a second floor bathroom for Building No. 6, Main Gate House.

In compliance with your memorandum, I am submitting Part I of the Historic Structures Survey Report for this building.

Robert H. Atkinson
Robert H. Atkinson
Superintendent

In duplicate

Attachments
5- sets

Info	OPERATIONS	Act	Initial and Date
	Lands		
	Archaeology		
	Architect		
	Land Archt Programs		

History	
Nat. His.	
Archeo.	
Publ.	
Museum	
Sec'y.	

APPROVAL SHEET

RECOMMENDED

Robert H. Atkinson (by memo) _____ Date 9/23/60
Superintendent

_____ Date _____
Regional Director

_____ Date _____
Chief, EODC

APPROVED

_____ Date _____
Director

HISTORIC STRUCTURES SURVEY REPORT

PART I

for

MAIN GATE HOUSE

(Building No. 6)

VANDERBILT MANSION NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE

Hyde Park, New York

A. Historic Structures Report - Part I

5. Administrative Data

a. Name and Number of Building

This building is known as the Main Gate House and is located at Coordinates F-5 on Drawing No. NHS-VM-2004 Revised (1957), Historical Base Map, Part of Master Plan of Vanderbilt Mansion National Historic Site.

b. Proposed Use of Structure and Justification for Use as Shown in MISSION 66 or the Master Plan Development Outline.

This building is now used as employee quarters and under MISSION 66 and the Master Plan Development Outline it is expected to be continued as quarters. The action requested is the addition of bathroom facilities on the second floor which will necessitate an exterior change by adding a small room over the kitchen portion of the building.

c. Provision for Operating the Structure.

Operated as quarters, the income from rental will provide for its maintenance.

d. Preliminary Estimate of Cost of Rehabilitating
the Structure.

The preliminary estimate of the cost of the addition is \$2,000. Fifteen hundred dollars will be provided from Regional Quarters Operating Fund and \$500. from Area Quarters Operation.

A DOCUMENTARY HISTORY OF THE MAIN (WEST) GATE HOUSE

AT

VANDERBILT MANSION NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE

HYDE PARK, NEW YORK

Prepared by:

Edwin C. Dinneen, Historian
September, 1960

A DOCUMENTARY HISTORY OF THE MAIN (WEST) GATE HOUSE

On March 27, 1898 the newspapers announced that "Norcross Brothers have contracted for the erection of three stone cottages on the Vanderbilt Estate. Work will be started at once. One of these structures (at the Post Road Entrance) is the subject of this report.

An item in Braman's Scrap Book dated June 25, 1898 states "The old undertaker house has been torn down and the cottage at the entrance of Mr. Vanderbilt's estate where Mr. Monahan lived will be moved to the grounds where the undertaking building stood". The area cleared by this process is the site of the Main Gate House.

On July 31, 1898 the papers stated "The gate houses were designed by McKim, Meade & White, and the work performed by the contractors, Norcross Brothers." This probably included the work on the gate houses.

In an interview with Construction Superintendent John B. Clermont by Historian Charles W. Snell on October 13, 1954, Mr. Clermont stated that "By contract, Norcross Brothers completed all of the mansion except some of the interior decoration in that building. All the other buildings constructed by Norcross were finished to the last detail and ready for habitation."

On December 4, 1898 the papers stated that "Norcross Brothers⁵ have completed their part of the work at Vanderbilt Mansion."

This building is a two-story house constructed of Indiana limestone with a copper roof. There are five rooms and one bath. In 1940, the building was heated by an open type, gravity circulation, hand fired, coal burning, cast iron boiler located in the basement. Domestic hot water was supplied by a water-back in the coal fired kitchen range and in the summer by an oil-fired heater located near the range. The electrical wiring in the structure dated from 1898. There was no telephone in the house. Water for domestic and protection purposes was supplied to the gate house by the estate water system. Drinking water was obtained from a well located by the building. Sewage from the house was disposed of in a⁶ nearby cesspool.

After the acquisition of the estate in 1940 by the Government as a National Historic Site, a P.W.A. grant of \$9,550.00, enabled the Park Service to modernize the heating, plumbing and electrical systems, make roof repairs and adapt this building for employee living quarters. These alterations were completed by the end⁷ of 1941.

REFERENCES:

1. Poughkeepsie Star Courier, March 27, 1898. Page 7
2. Braman's Scrap Book, Volume 5, Page 64.
3. Poughkeepsie Star Courier, July 31, 1898
4. Snell Interview with Construction Superintendent
John B. Clermont, at Ruby, New York, on October 13, 1954.
5. Poughkeepsie Star Courier, December 4, 1898.
6. Snell's Master Plan Development Outline, Page 14.
7. Final Report on alterations and additions to West Gate
House, Main Gate House --- and Gardener's Cottage,
Vanderbilt Mansion NHS, dated November 20, 1942.