



**Date:** 07/03/2020

**Staff:** Linda Mackey

**USN Number:** 10355.000020

**Name:** WILLIAM TOOKER HOUSE

**Location:** 49 Sheep Pasture Rd, Port Jefferson NY

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**Resource Status:**

- 1. Determination:** Determined SR/NR eligible by the Commissioner of the Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation on the date noted above.
- 2. Contributing:**

**Criteria for Inclusion in the National Register:**

- Associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns in our history.
- Associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- Embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period or method of construction; or represents the work of a master; or possesses high artistic values; or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction.
- Have yielded, or may be likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.



**Summary Statement:**



Based on additional information, it is the opinion of the State Historic Preservation Office that the William Tooker House at 49 Sheep Pasture Road in the Village of Port Jefferson is significant under Criterion C in the area of architecture at the local level as a rare surviving example of an mid-eighteenth-century English Cape Cod-type dwelling located in its original location in Suffolk County, Long Island. The house is situated on the north side of Sheep Pasture Road and faces south. It is located just west of Main Street and the village center. The period of significance for the property is ca. 1750, the approximate date of construction.

The Tooker House is a one-story, four-bay gabled-roof dwelling on a fieldstone foundation. The building is clad with wood shingles, composition roof shingles, and features a central brick chimney. A porch has been added to the façade and two large attic dormers were built on the front and rear roof slopes. The doors and window openings are secured with plywood. While applied architectural trim features have been removed on the interior, photographs from recent site visits indicate the building retains much of the eighteenth-century frame, central brick chimney with brick kitchen firebox and oven. The structural frame is partially exposed on the first floor and appears to be largely intact; attic floor joists are visible overhead, corner braces (or mortise evidence), pegged wall studs, and at least one post are also visible, all preserving the characteristics of eighteenth-century hewn oak timber frame construction. Examination of the roof rafters from the second floor suggests that some of them survive, at least in part, above the ceilings of the attic dormers, in addition to those that correspond to each of the end walls. Inspection of the partial cellar revealed a fieldstone foundation and the tier of hewn oak beams – flattened logs – that support the first floor. The stone foundation and oak framing elements confirm that the house is of pre-Revolutionary construction and that it survives on its original site. Despite later alterations, the Tooker House retains the significant eighteenth-century architectural features that represent historic vernacular forms, materials, and construction practices that were typical of the region. The property also features a shed, enclosed gazebo structure, and a likely early twentieth century barn/garage; all three resources are non-contributing.