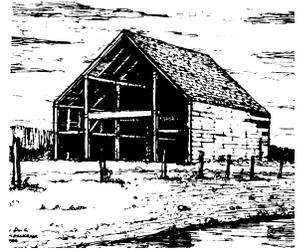


# DUTCH BARN PRESERVATION SOCIETY NEWSLETTER



FALL 2008

VOL. 21, ISSUE 2

## The Shultes-Malcolm Barn, Route 443, Town of Knox, Albany County, New York

by Ned Pratt

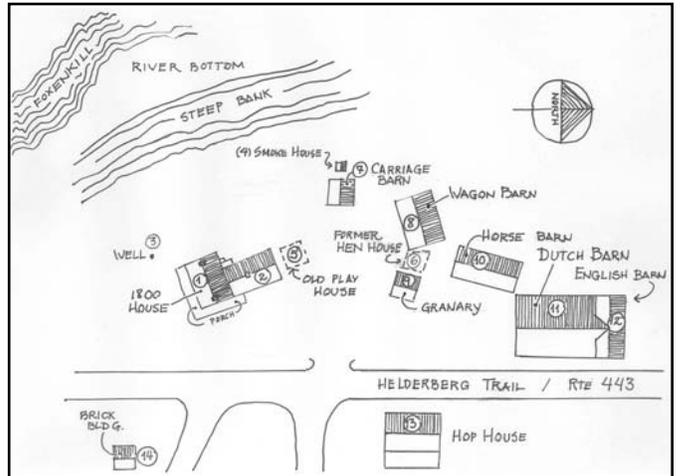


Photo 1. Aerial view of the Malcolm farm (Courtesy of Kenneth and Pamela Malcolm).

The Shultes-Malcolm farm is a remarkably intact early 19th-century farmstead located in western Albany County. The house on the property dates to 1800. All the surviving barns and outbuildings are of hand-hewn timber frame construction and probably

date to the first third of the 19th century except for an English barn added to the back of a New World Dutch barn c.1880 (Photo 1).

Nine of the 14 structures known to have survived on the property into the 1970s remain today. As can be seen in the sketch map (Map 1), the buildings are arranged mainly north-south, forming a gentle arc to the west, creating a dooryard-barnyard protected from the prevailing northwest winter winds. Just to the west of the complex the land slopes down sharply to the Fox Kill (or Foxenkill), a tributary of the Schoharie River.



Map 1. Site plan of the Malcolm farm (Ned Pratt).



Photo 2. View southwest of the English barn attached to the earlier New World Dutch barn at the Malcolm farm (Ned Pratt).

The Malcolms purchased the farm in 1978. The property is technically in the Town of Knox, but is essentially located in the hamlet of West Berne. In the 18th and early 19th century, Knox was a part of Berne. As originally constructed the Dutch barn measured 45' x 60'. Another barn has been added at one end, at a right angle, so the overall length is presently 82 feet. This added barn is much later, perhaps dating to 1860-1880, and is more of an English style barn (Photo 2).

(continued on page 2)

## Shultes-Malcolm Barn (continued from page 1)

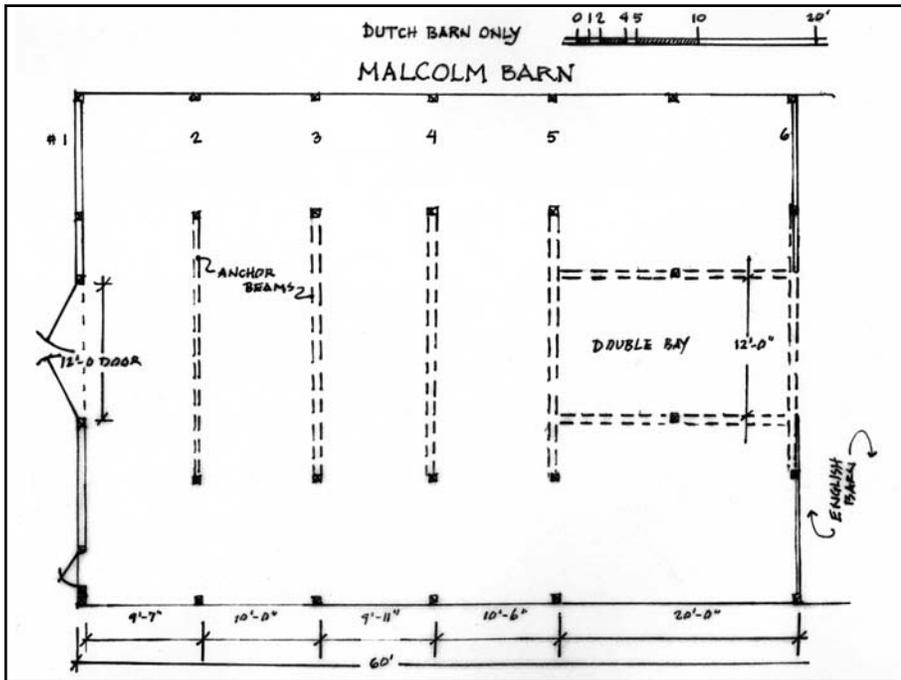


Figure 1. Plan of the Malcolm barn (Ned Pratt).

The 60 foot length of the Dutch barn suggests a post-1800 date. Most barns of this type constructed before the first decade of the 19th century are nearly square in plan. Barns of longer length are typically of a later date or have had a bay or two added in response to increased need for hay storage as dairy farming became the standard in the region during the first half of the 19th century (Photo 3).

The purlins and side plates of the Malcolm barn are each of one piece (60 feet in length), so it is clear that the length of the barn is original. The structure consists of five bays; the first four (including five bents) create a 25'-0" wide center aisle; the fifth bay measures 20' wide and has a center aisle measuring only 12'-0" wide (Figures 1 and 2; Photo 4). Anchor beams in bents 2, 3 and 4 measure approximately 21" x 10 1/2" or 11"; those in the end walls (bents 1 and 6) and bent #5, measure 15 1/2" x 10 1/2". Bent 5 is the location of the beginning of the double bay; that its anchor beam is of the same dimensions as that of the original exterior bents further supports the interpretation that the barn was planned this way from the beginning.

The barn is a square rule barn; there are no marriage marks. The anchor beam tenons barely project

from the outside face of the posts. They protrude 2 1/2" to 3", and the ends are chamfered slightly. The anchor beams are pegged, but there are no wedges; the faint marks seen in this photo do not include marriage marks (Photo 5). There is no ridgepole; the rafters are half-lapped and pinned.

The openings for the double doors at the gable ends measure 12'-0" wide; the original doors do not survive. As you enter the barn, on the left [west side aisle] are a series of holes in the beams extending across the first two bays which indicate that there was originally a manger in that location (Photo 6). Directly across from this, on the east side, the second and third bays have early wooden cow stanchions, and the third bay contains a horse stall (Photo 7).

### Other, Similar Barns

The 45' x 60' size of the barn is a bit unusual, yet there are three more within a few miles of similar dimension. Two also have a larger end bay, like the Malcolm Barn. In two of these cases the extra bay turned out to be a later addition, but on one, the Jacob Post Barn on Bradt Hollow Road, the original dimensions and plan are identical to the Malcolm Barn, suggesting they were made by the same builder.

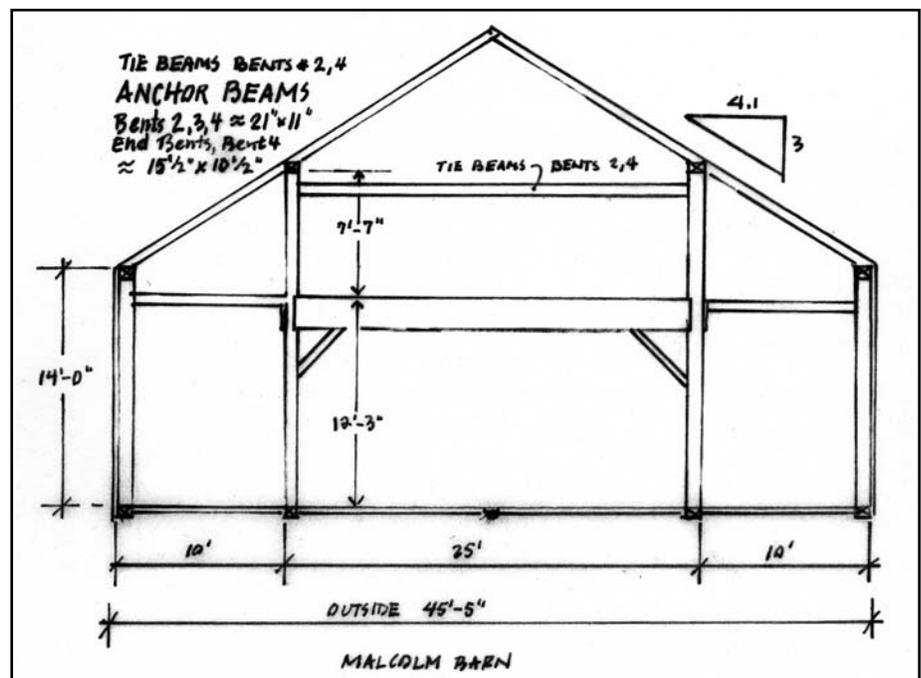


Figure 2. Section of the Malcolm barn (Ned Pratt).



Photo 3. View north of the Malcolm barn during the Society's visit there on 25 October 2008 (Walter R. Wheeler).

### Jacob Post Barn [Walls Barn] on Bradt Hollow Road

The Jacob Post Barn, 1401 Bradt Hollow Road, is about one-half mile from the Malcolm Barn. I was able to talk to the current owners, Carl and Kathy Walls, and Millard Shultes, who grew up on the farm, on a tour in 2005, and Allan Dietz has spoken to them on several occasions, most recently when completing survey forms for the property. The Walls have the original indenture for the property from the Van Rensselaers, dated 1788.

Their farmhouse is to the right of the barns in this picture (Photo 8); there was an earlier Dutch barn near where the cow barn is at present, which was torn down in the 1920s. The barn's roof was raised eight feet in 1928 by extending the posts, according to Mr. Shultes, who indicated that this was done for extra hay storage, and the cupola was added at that time (Photo 9). The barn has been put on concrete foundation posts sometime recently, perhaps within the last 10 years; the original posts and sills are mostly intact, though the original floor is not.



Photo 4. View south-southeast in the Malcolm barn, showing the narrow northern bay (Ned Pratt).

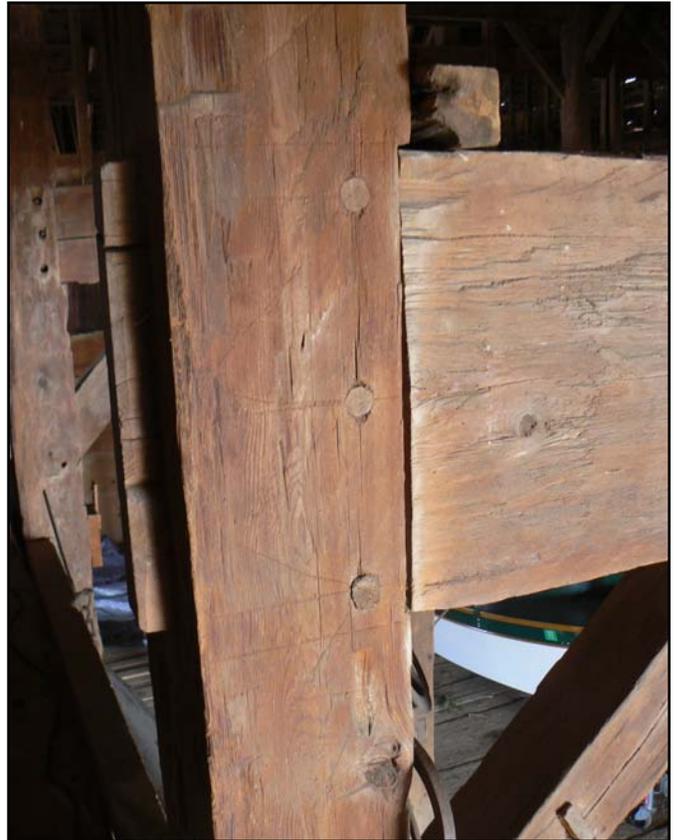


Photo 5. Detail of one of the anchor beam ends, showing scribe marks and small tenon projection (Ned Pratt).

The Malcolm farm, according to the first deed of 1842, had an indenture dated 24 February 1792 between Stephen Van Rensselaer and William Shuldish. All land in the Van Rensselaer Manor was originally leased, not sold. Two copies of each lease were made, one for the farmer and one for Van Rensselaer's files. Neither seems to survive for the Shuldish/Malcolm property, but there is an entry in Van Rensselaer's Lease book, which says, "No. 662,



Photo 6. View showing former manger location in the Malcolm barn (Ned Pratt).

*(continued on page 4)*

## Shultes-Malcolm Barn (continued from page 3)



Photo 7. Early stanchions in the Malcolm barn (Ned Pratt).

Cont [?] 190 A. / William Shultes Lease [handwritten, it could be spelled Shuldís] da: 23rd Feb [?] 1792 / Rent 21 Bu wheat + 1st pay due 2nd Jan 1793."<sup>2</sup>

As originally constructed the Jacob Post barn was a near duplicate of the Malcolm barn. Its exterior dimensions, 45'-3" x 60'-4" are virtually identical to those of the Malcolm barn. The Malcolm barn is 45' x 60', outside of post to outside of post, and 45'-5" wide outside of wall; The Post barn has four traditional bays and a double bay at one end which has a narrower center aisle, and a 12' wide double door opening at each end.

The double bay measures 20'-0", identical to that of the Malcolm barn. The width of the center aisle of the Post barn, at 25'-0<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>" is one quarter inch wider than that of the Malcolm barn. The anchor beams measured 21" x 10<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>", identical to most of the examples at the Malcolm barn. The smaller anchor beams at the wider bay are 15<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>" x 10<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>", again, the same as those in the Malcolm barn. The anchor beam tenons are square, extending out 2" or 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>", and are slightly chamfered. The height of the anchor beam measured to its upper face is about 12'-6"; that at the Malcolm



Photo 8. The Jacob Post New World Dutch barn on Bradt Hollow Road (Ned Pratt).



Photo 9. Interior of the Jacob Post barn, showing bents with later vertical extensions (Ned Pratt).

barn is 12'-3". A floor has been added on top of the anchor beams, probably when the roof was raised. The original purlin plates of both barns are continuous, measuring 60' long. There is also a surviving granary on the left side of the barn as you enter, in the second bay. A surviving finely crafted wall in the Malcolm barn may have been a part of a granary, but there is no complete granary which survives. As at the Malcolm barn, early (but not original) stanchions and portions of a manger survive at the Post barn.

It is likely that these two barns were made by the same builder. Alan Dietz reports that this barn was built by Jacob Post, who was of Dutch Heritage, and his sister Catherine married William Shultes, who built the Malcolm Barn, so there is a close family connection. They are quite close—approximately one half mile apart.

### When were the barns built?

The large size, 45' x 60', suggests a post-Revolutionary War date, probably after 1800. We see a change from multipurpose barns toward more specific use barns, and a focus on cattle after perhaps 1810. The Dutch barn is sometimes modified to provide greater hay storage to accommodate this change, as here in the Malcolm barn, where the extra bay and the wide side aisles likely were planned to facilitate more hay storage. In the long run, this emphasis on milk production is one cause of a general shift from the Dutch barn to the English three-bay threshing barn, a changeover nearly complete by 1850.

Other factors point toward the period 1820-1840. The Malcolm

(continued on page 5)

barn is square rule, and the anchor beam tenons barely protrude, only 2" or 3", both suggesting this period. The distance from the top of the anchor beam to the purlin is 7'-7", which is not conclusive either way. The sway braces are pretty short, hitting the posts about 1'-10" or 1'-11" below the purlin. To me, this suggests a date closer to 1830. On earlier barns, 1780's and earlier, the sway braces often come down below the anchor beam. The roof pitch is a bit hard to determine accurately, but in my sketch I get a pitch of about 3 in 4, for an angle of 35 degrees. Closer to 40 or 45 degrees would suggest an earlier date, possibly before 1780.

If we look at what the Shultes family was doing in this period, those details do not necessarily help our analysis. William and Catherine were presumably

still living at their earlier farm until Catherine's death in 1798. If William got his lease on the current farm in 1792, he might have started by building a barn, but it seems more likely that his first big project was the house he built for his new wife in 1800. William himself died in 1808, so if the barn was constructed sometime between 1810 and 1840 it was constructed either for John Champenois, or for William's sons, who took over the farm in about 1830.

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<sup>1</sup> Measured from outside of post to outside of post.

<sup>2</sup> Van Rensselaer Manor Lease books, SC7079, box 11, New York State Library, Manuscripts and Special Collections, Albany, NY. The Van Rensselaer Papers include two handwritten books of the Berne area, one giving the survey data ("Beginning at a stake and stones...") for lots 373-877; a second gives particulars of the leases.

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## The Malcolm New World Dutch Barn A History of the William Shultus Farm at West Berne, N.Y.

by Allan F. Deitz

William Schultus (Shultes) was born on 19 December 1762 on his parents' farm two miles south of the hamlet of West Berne which was then the area known as Beaverdam. William's father, Mathais Schultus (1740-1812), married Anna Eve Engel in 1760 and homesteaded a farm near the bottom of the north side of West Mountain on Canaday Hill Road in the Town of Berne.<sup>1</sup> William served in the Revolutionary War as

did his father, Mathias, and two brothers, Johan Jacob and Mathias II, according to the muster role of 1782.<sup>2</sup>

Following the end of the Revolutionary War, William married neighbor Catherina Post in 1784 at the St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church at Schoharie, New York. Catherina was a sister of Jacob Post, and a daughter of John Post and Vrena Meyer. The Post farm is a mile south of West

Berne on Bradt Hollow Road.<sup>3</sup> This Dutch family changed their name to Post before they emigrated from Europe. Jan Barentsen (1620-1669) married Nietlje Von Brenckelen (1620-1665) in the Netherlands. Their only child was named Jan Jansen Post. A grandson was baptized at Kingston in 1702 with the name Jan Janse Post. Jacob Post later built and operated a grist mill on the Foxen Kill while running the Post farm, which is now owned by Carl and Catherine Walls.

William and Catherina (Post) Schultus established a farmstead near the farm of his father, and they gave birth to five children. They were Mathias W. Schultus (1785-1812) who married Dorothy Dietz in 1808; Anna (1785-1813); Mary Catherine (1788-?) who married Jacob Weidman after his first wife Elizabeth Dietz died; Elizabeth (1790-?); and John William (1794-after 1850).<sup>4</sup> William's first wife died of unknown causes in 1798.

In 1800, William married second wife Catherine Sternberger

*(continued on page 6)*



Photo 1. A view dating to the late 19th century of the house. From Willard Ousterhout, ed. *Life Along the Way* (2007). Used with permission.

## Malcolm New World Dutch Barn

(continued from page 5)

(1779-1852), daughter of Philip Sternberger and Anna Maria Haverly. That same year, he built for her the large Schultus farmhouse next to the Foxen Kill on present day Route 443 in West Berne, Town of Knox (Photo 1). It is the oldest residence in the hamlet of West Berne.<sup>5</sup> William and Catherine (Sternberger) Schultus had two children; Peter William (1801-1852) who married Magdalene West before 1824, and Abraham (1803-?).<sup>6</sup> Also, about 1800-1810, the William Schultus New World Dutch barn and several outbuildings were built which remain today. William died in Beaverdam in 1808, aged 45. The farm stayed in the Schultus family through William's son, Peter William, who became the owner by 1830, probably after his mother Catherine remarried c.1815 to neighbor John Champenois who ran the farm until 1830. Peter's half brother, John William, and Peter's sons, Abram (1827-?) and Isaac (1829-1921), took over from 1852 until 1867. This is found in the 1855 Knox census. J. Shultes is named on this site on the 1866 Beers map of the Town of Knox.<sup>7</sup> Deeds show that the farm was pur-



Photo 3. William J. and Carrie Naughtright Haverly. From Ousterhout, ed., *The Journey Continues*...Used with permission.

chased from Abram and Isaac in 1867 by John D. Haverly, the great-great-grandson of the original Haverly settler, Christian John Hofelich (Haverly) (Photo 2). Christian John Haverly (1711-1769) came from Wurtemberg, Germany about 1750, and settled near the 1740 original settler families of Ball, Deitz, Ecker, Hochstrasser, Shultis and Zeh in the Beaverdam area.<sup>8</sup>

John D. Haverly's parents were John I. Haverly and Marella (Deitz) Haverly. John D. was born in 1827, and baptized in August 1828 at Beaverdam Reformed Church. He married in 1848 Sophia Esther Schultus, daughter

of Adam and Maria E. (Hochstrasser) Schultus. (Adam was the younger brother of William Schultus; founder of the Schultus/Haverly/Malcolm farm). They had four children; William J., Isadora, Rena, and Nina Haverly.<sup>9</sup>

Amasa J. Parker recorded a brief biography of John D. Haverly:

John D. Haverly...was born in Knox, January 7, 1827, and attended the common district school. When a boy he worked on a farm by the day or month; subsequently he worked at carpentry with his father, and also learned the shoemaker's trade, which he plied winters. When about thirty years old he engaged in buying and butchering cattle and selling meat; this he followed seven years, when he bought and conducted a hotel in the village of Berne, which, two years later he traded for a farm, upon which the house had been destroyed by fire; he rebuilt the house, built new barns, wagon house and other outbuildings. In 1867 he disposed of the farm and purchased his present [1897] farm of 170 acres in West Berne, where he has ever since resided.<sup>10</sup>

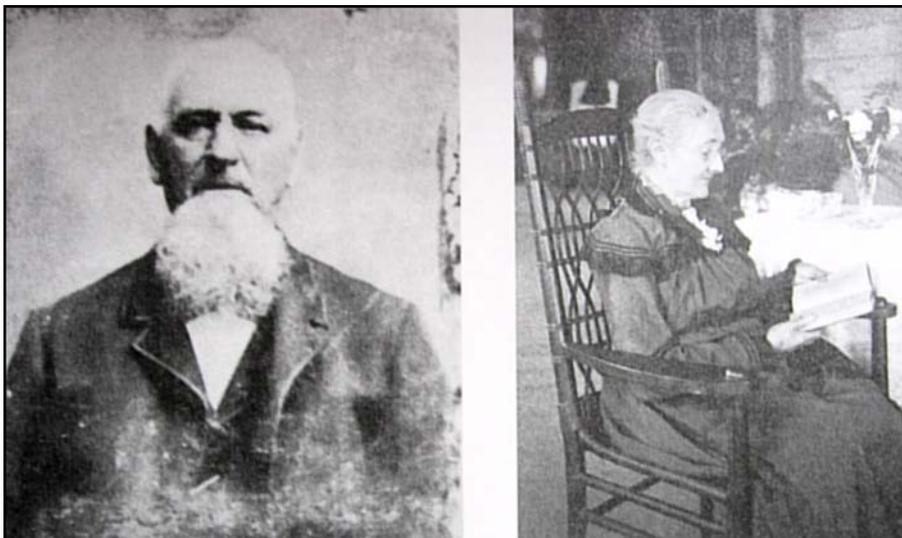


Photo 2. John D. and Sophia Haverly. From Ousterhout, ed., *The Journey Continues*...Used with permission.

When John D. Haverly died in 1900, the farm was inherited by his son, William J. Haverly (1849-1930). In 1882, William J. Haverly married Carrie E. Naughtright (1860-1930), daughter of Theodore and Nancy (Crouse) Naughtright (Photo 3). In *Haverlys of the Helderburgs*, Ramona Tryon wrote:

Both are buried in the Woodlawn Cem[etery]. William spent most of his life on the farm. He engaged for many years with his father in breeding of trotting and road horses, registered stock, and were the owners of the well known stallion "Victor Mohawk". He attended common schools and two terms at Knox Academy, taught school at the age of seventeen, and then attended Albany Normal School, graduated in June 1869. He was then engaged in the grocery business for two years in Albany. He returned to his father's farm, in which he took an interest and followed teaching during the winters. He was a dealer in farm machinery and fertilizers. He then followed his teaching career, becoming Superintendent of schools in the second district of Albany County. He also represented his town as



Photo 4. Lewis Haverly. From Ousterhout, ed., *The Journey Continues...* Used with permission.

tax collector, and several terms as Supervisor. He was a member of the Berne Masonic Lodge and Odd Fellows. The first telephone switchboard exchange operated out of his home in West Berne. Carrie was a devoted wife mother, and member of the West Berne Ref[ormed] Ch[urch], serving as Sunday School teacher for many years.<sup>11</sup>

William J.'s son, Lewis E. Haverly (1900-1991), was next to inherit and operate the farm, in 1930 (Photo 4). He married Betty Smith in 1935. Betty (1905-1985) was born in Riga, Latvia, and moved with her family to New York City in 1907. Lewis and Betty had three children; Ronald, Marilyn, and her twin brother, Mitchell. Lewis built and operated a lumber mill on the Foxen Kill that runs just south of the house, barn and outbuildings. After several years running the mill, Lewis built a new house across the road. Robert Loden purchased the farm from Lewis in 1964 on speculation, sold off some land, and sold the remaining farm with the buildings to Peter Plastow and family in 1967. Kenneth and Pamela Malcolm bought the now eighty-eight acre farm in 1978 (Photo 5). The Malcolms have lived there over thirty years and maintain the house and New World Dutch barn in excellent condition.<sup>12</sup>

### THE MALCOLM NEW WORLD DUTCH BARN — Farm Production

During the early years of the Shultes farm, crops of wheat and oats were of primary importance. The traditional Dutch style grain barn has evidence of a granary room, the original threshing floor has been preserved, and the second anchorbeam has a center hole for a pole to guide horses around to separate shaft from grain. An



Photo 5. Kenneth and Pamela Malcolm. Photo by Ned Pratt.

added advantage for this grain operation was the Jacob Post grist mill adjoining the farm to the south on the Foxen Kill. Hops were also grown on the farm, and the hop barn stands today across the road from the barn. No large dairy herd was part of the early business, but by the time the Haverlys bought the farm, a large addition for hay storage had been added to the Dutch style barn on its north end. Hay was stored and sold.

John D. Haverly was a gentleman farmer and raised registered trotting and road horses. His son, William Haverly joined him in this enterprise. William also combined his educational pursuits with selling Johnson farm equipment as evidenced by an old sign found on the farm. Later, Lewis Haverly pursued lumber as a cash crop, and operated a saw mill on the Foxen Kill at the north end of the farm. Lewis also raised and sold Herford beef cattle. A smoke house built with cinder blocks is located behind the horse barn.

A large apple orchard at the north part of the farm had a cider mill to which the public could bring apples for converting into cider. For the last thirty years, the Malcolms have used the farm buildings as storage for boats, cars, and housing for a large work shop

(continued on page 8)

## Malcolm New World Dutch Barn

(continued from page 7)

to maintain the farm buildings in museum like condition.

### The Early Haverly Family

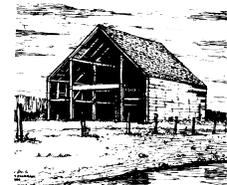
Christian John Hofelich, sometimes spelled Haverleigh, arrived in the Beaverdam area from Wurttemberg, Germany about 1750, ten years after the first Beaverdam settlers arrived in the 1740s. He was the earliest Haverly known to have arrived in the new land from Europe. A son, Carel Hoefflich, married Anna Maria Baseler in 1768 at the Schoharie Reformed Church, according to church records. Carel or Karl Haverleigh leased Lot #677 according to the 1787 Van Rensselaer lease map.<sup>13</sup> Lot #677 is in the Beaverdam area

formerly in the Town of Watervliet, Town of Rensselaerville in 1790, Town of Berne in 1795, and Town of Knox in 1822. John D. Haverly was a descendent of these first Haverly emigrants. (The name, Haverly, was spelled in many ways as was the case with many early emigrants). About 1816, Christian John Haverly left Albany County for Schoharie County which it would appear was to free him from paying rent to the Van Rensselaer family.

- <sup>1</sup> Information from Terrell Shoultes of Jupiter, Florida, Shultes family historian.
- <sup>2</sup> William E. Roscoe. *History of Schoharie County, N.Y.* (Syracuse, NY: D. Mason & Co, 1882), 35.
- <sup>3</sup> Information from Terrell Shoultes.
- <sup>4</sup> The Berne Historical Project Web Site - Bernehistory.org. Director, Harold Miller.

- <sup>5</sup> Amasa J. Parker, ed. *Landmarks of Albany County, New York* (Syracuse, NY: D. Mason & Co., 1897), III:260.
- <sup>6</sup> Information from Terrell Shoultes.
- <sup>7</sup> S. N. & D. G. Beers and Assistants. *A New Topographical Atlas of the Counties of Albany and Schenectady, New York.* (Philadelphia, PA: Stone & Stewart, 1866).
- <sup>8</sup> The Berne Historical Project Web Site - Bernehistory.org. Director, Harold Miller.
- <sup>9</sup> "Our Heritage", published in 1977 by the Berne Historical Society.
- <sup>10</sup> Amasa J. Parker, ed. *Landmarks of Albany County, New York* (Syracuse, NY: D. Mason & Co., 1897), III:204.
- <sup>11</sup> Ramona Manchester Tryon. *Haverlys of the Helderburgs.* Gallupville, NY: Privately published).
- <sup>12</sup> Family oral history and *Index of Grantors and Grantees for Albany County.*
- <sup>13</sup> Van Rensselaer Manor Lease Books, SC7079, New York State Library, Manuscripts and Special Collections, Albany, New York.

## DUTCH BARN PRESERVATION SOCIETY NEWSLETTER



This newsletter is printed by the Dutch Barn Preservation Society, a non-profit organization incorporated by the Regents of the State of New York.

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