



The Society for the Preservation of Hudson Valley Vernacular Architecture

January – March 2011

Newsletter

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The Society for the Preservation of
**Hudson Valley
Vernacular Architecture**

is a not-for-profit corporation formed
to study and preserve vernacular
architecture and material culture.

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From the Editor:

As HVVA moves into the second decade of the 21st Century, we find ourselves straddling the past and the future to a greater degree than ever before. In obvious ways the past becomes more distant; intentional and unintentional destruction of the structures we wish to preserve increases the longer they are exposed to both natural and human elements. This being said, the advances in science have proved helpful in understanding the past by revealing lost information via new means. Only a few years ago *dendrochronology* was a rather foreign word to HVVA members. Now, at just about every HVVA gathering, we discuss the need for funding such research in order to ascribe dates to many historic buildings. Much of what we find in the dating of core samples, which are compared to a known database of yearly tree growth, conflicts with the oral (and in many cases even the historical) records of the actual buildings. We are only now beginning to rely on science to inform us about our past. When we take the time to look closely at structures, much can be learned. It is on that precedent HVVA has built its "house." The second part of our objective is to share those observations with a wide audience. No one should light a candle and hide it under a bushel basket! In an attempt to bridge the gap between past and present, HVVA has posted dendrochronology reports to our website. These reports can be found by clicking on a tab, which reads "Research and Reports." These reports will be continually updated as new reports are produced and permission to post existing reports is granted to our organization. The posting of these documents has been made possible through the aid of our newly elected President, Walter Wheeler. Also on the "Research and Reports" page of the website you'll continue to find the "Mapping History" project. This mapping project was once considered only a dream for HVVA. Although we saw the value of grouping and listing known resources, we lacked the funds and technologies to make it reality. Now once more we see how living in the modern age brings many benefits to our passion for the past. "Mapping History" places both pictures and references together on Google maps, making use of free mapping technology available with a link from our website – a dream come true for history lovers. All the work and most of the photographs in "Mapping History" comes from

HVVA's newly elected Vice President, Ken Walton. Let us encourage our leadership to continue to make use of 21st century advancements, aiding us all as we travel back into the past.

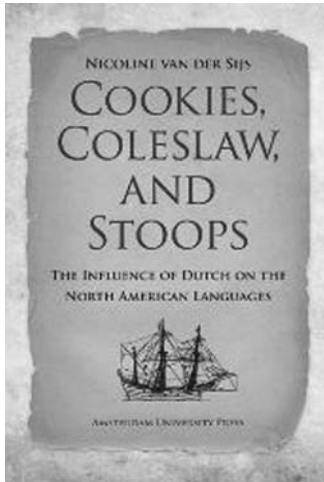
On a similar note, the HVVA's office equipment is very quickly becoming historic itself! We are asking our membership to contribute to our "office equipment fund," which will allow us to make available on-line many publications and documents now available only to a limited audience in the HVVA office. Placing our considerable collection of reports on-line enables, improves and advances our mission to make known the findings of our research and documentation as set out in our charter from the New York State Education Department. The needed upgrades are a scanner which is capable of scanning double sided documents, a laptop computer and the latest version of Adobe Acrobat Professional. These items will ensure we keep up with the times while protecting the past by placing the data we have collected on-line. This project will take some time to complete and so it should commence as soon as possible. We hope our membership will consider the volunteers, who donate their time to HVVA, by providing the funds so that we may meet our technological requirements and also be able to do it in an efficient manner. Your membership and donations are the only financial support we receive! So please check your mailing label for your membership expiration date, and if you are past due, please renew your membership. Due to increased printing and mailing costs, we will be cutting back on mailings to those who are not current members. For the dues to remain at \$20 per year, we need to encourage all the membership to stay current. Any dues or additional gifts to further the technical advancement of HVVA may be sent to:

HVVA
PO BOX 202
West Hurley, NY 12491

Together we hope to bring the past to the present and continue opening the doors to history into the future.

Rob Sweeney – HVVA's sheepdog

Books



Cookies, Coleslaw, And Stoops – The Influence of Dutch on the North American Languages

– authored by Nicoline van der Sijs, a linguist and a coeditor of the multi-volume *Dutch Etymological Dictionary* – is a new book that should be of some interest to HVVA members. Lively and accessible, the information presented in this volume charts the journey of these words into the American territory and languages, from more obscure uses which may have survived in only regional dialects to such ubiquitous contributions to our language like Yankee, cookie, and dope. Each entry marks the original arrival of the term into American English and adds up-to-date information on its evolving meaning, etymology, and regional spread. Not to be missed by anyone with a passion for the history behind our everyday expressions, this charming volume is the perfect gift for the linguistic adventurer in us all.

From Santa Claus (after the Dutch folklore character *Sinterklaas*) and his sleigh (the pronunciation of the Dutch *slee* is almost identical) to a dumbhead talking poppycock, the contributions of the Dutch language to American English are indelibly embedded to some of our most vernacular terms and expressions. In *Cookies, Coleslaw and Stoops*, the renowned linguist Nicoline van der Sijs glosses over 300 Dutch loan words like these that travelled to the New World on board the Henry Hudson's ship the *Halve Maan*, which dropped anchor in Manhattan more than 400 years ago.

"As a kid in New York's Mohawk Valley I played along the laag kill, called out Kip, Kip, Kip! to our chickens at feeding time, talked to friends on their stoeps after school, and got winklehawks in my blue jeans from scrambling through barbed wire fences. It wasn't until years later that I realized how many Dutch expressions survived in my dialect. This book is a linguistic treasure chest for anyone who grew up in the area covered by the Dutch colony of New Netherland."

– Charles Gehring, *New York State Library*

Ask for a copy at your local bookseller. Priced at about \$25.

From the President...

Those of you who attended the annual meeting on 15 January at the Elmendorf Inn in Red Hook participated in much discussion on the need to share our collective knowledge more widely, and proposals on just how to do that. Chief among these is the project to scan and digitally archive our research files, including materials relating to specific sites, field notes, and photographs. The intention is not merely to archive these materials, but to post the majority of them on our website. The impetus of this work comes from our bylaws, which include as part of the statement of purpose of our organization the intent "to survey, record, research and preserve the traditional, rural and vernacular architecture of the Hudson Valley ...[and to]...study, develop a public archive of and promote information.....related to the region's pre-history and historic material cultures."

Other forms of research not widely available elsewhere will be published on the web during the course of the present year. Among these are "grey literature" reports. Published in limited numbers, frequently in photocopied form, these include historic structure reports, tour booklets, and archeological reports. We have already uploaded a number of dendrochronology reports detailing the findings of wood sampling undertaken at several sites in the region. The digital archives and these reports will be posted to a new section on the website entitled "Research & Resources."

I will be editing a bibliography of built culture for the Hudson Valley, to be posted on the website. In this task in particular, I will need assistance from the collective knowledge of the HVVA membership. By the time you read this, a first draft of the bibliography will be posted on the website, also in the "Research & Resources" department. Please email me at wwheeler@hartgen.com with information regarding resources that I failed to include. I will periodically update the bibliography to incorporate corrections and additions. The bibliography will be focused on the built and material culture of the region, including all periods of occupation. Thus general histories, or books which are chiefly photographic in nature, will not be included unless they contain substantive text which specifically deals with our focus.

We established an exciting lineup of tours and programming for the upcoming year at our January meeting. Please consult the calendar at the back of this newsletter for information on upcoming events. Updates and additional information on these and other events are regularly posted to our website – www.hvva.org.

I'm looking forward to seeing you all in the field.

Regards,

Walter Richard Wheeler

Christian and Marytje Deyo house

374 Springtown Road, New Paltz, Ulster Co., New Yor

By John R. Stevens

With an HVVA group, I visited and measured this fairly typical-looking Ulster County stone house on two occasions in May and June 2009. It was for sale and the realtors give us access to it.

Subsequently it was purchased by Messrs. William Charnock and Daniel Flebus, who, after partially stripping the interior gave us another opportunity to study the house as many of its 'secrets' had been revealed. The new owners believe the house was built in 1740, and its moderately pitched roof certainly suggests that it was built around the middle of the 18th century.

The west side of the house used to be the back, but the house was re-oriented to Springtown Road and it is now the front. The original front, the east side, overlooks a pond. The south part of the house is the original construction. It measures 35 ft. 8 inches across and is 25 ft. 2 inches deep. At an unknown but apparently early date, a room was added on the north end, 16 ft. 10 inches across the front and the same depth as the older part. There is a basement only under the original part, with access from a bulkhead on the original front at the north side. The height from the first floor to the underside of the second is 7 ft. 8 inches. There was a granary door at the south end on the second floor, located near the east side of the house.

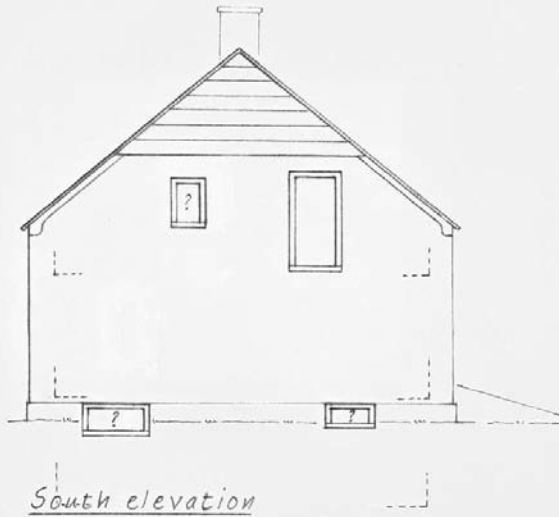
The original part of the house was divided into two rooms, each with an entrance door in the east wall lo-



Above: Located at 374 Springtown Road. Christopher Deyo and his wife, Deborah Van Vliet, are the first known occupants of the house. Christopher was born in Kingston, NY. This view shows the north gable end (addition) and the west façade. Photo courtesy of www.hrvh.org/exhibit/ermadewitt/
Below: The Deyo House showing the south gable and the east facing façade. The 1790 federal census list two males, one female and four enslaved Africans living at the residence. After the death of Christopher, David Deyo occupied the house. According to the 1798 Tax Map of New Paltz, David Deyo, was taxed for three female and two male slaves. The house was valued at \$425.00.



Deyo house, Springtown Road, New Paltz, Ulster Co., N.Y. 1.



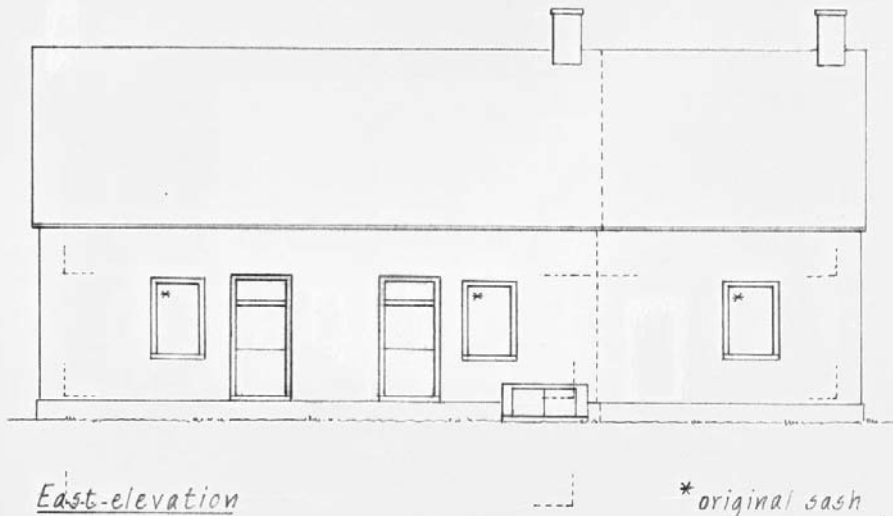
5 10 15 20 25 ft. $\frac{1}{8}'' = 1'-0''$ J.R.S. '09

cated towards the middle (similar to the Luykas van Alen house at Kinderhook). The north room had a jambless fireplace but there was no fireplace in the south room. The addition was built with a jambless fireplace.

While a number of second floor beams have been compromised by late 'improvements' such as the installation of ceilings, the rafters are almost the best I have ever seen. They are fairly closely, and regularly, spaced and are of substantial section. The rafter pairs have collar ties joined with lapped, half-dovetails.

An early change to the house had the jambless fireplace in the north room replaced with a jambed one having a bake oven on its west side. This fireplace and most of the bake oven was removed at some point, leaving only the end of the oven dome. Each room has been divided in two. The jambless fireplace in the original north room was removed. The stair was moved from between the original entrance doors to a position adjacent to the west door. The south room was divided into a larger west room and a smaller east room and corner fireplaces were constructed against the partition and the south wall.

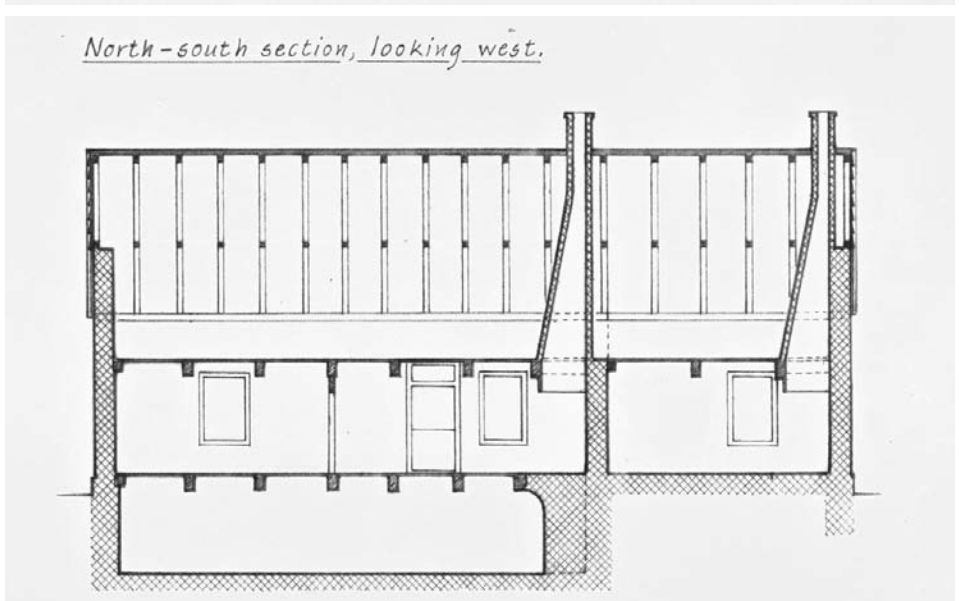
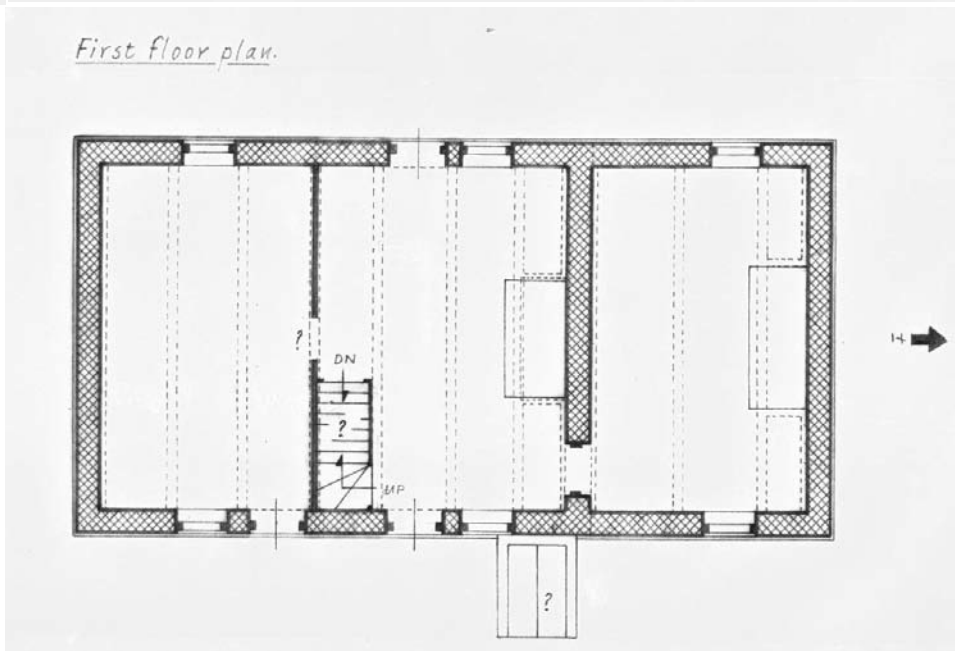
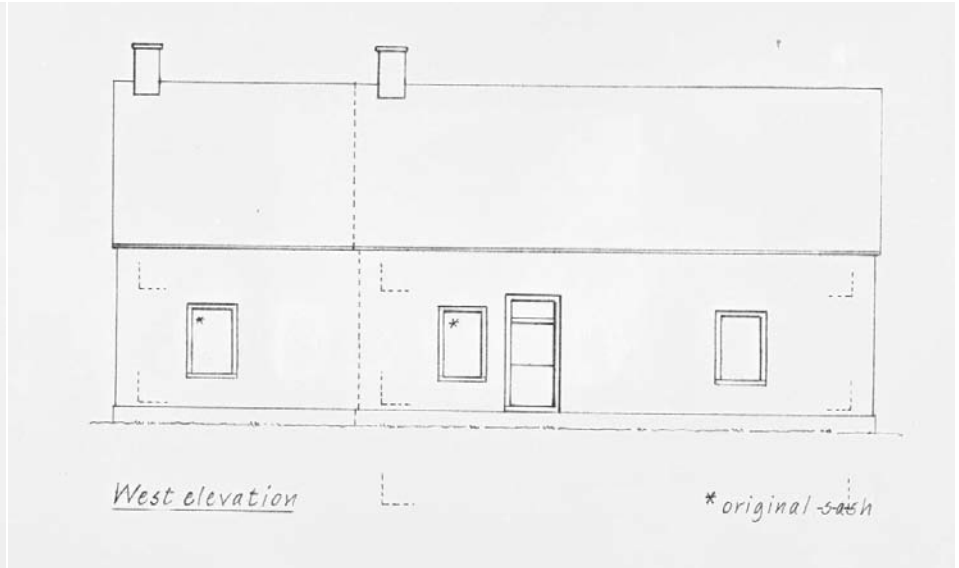
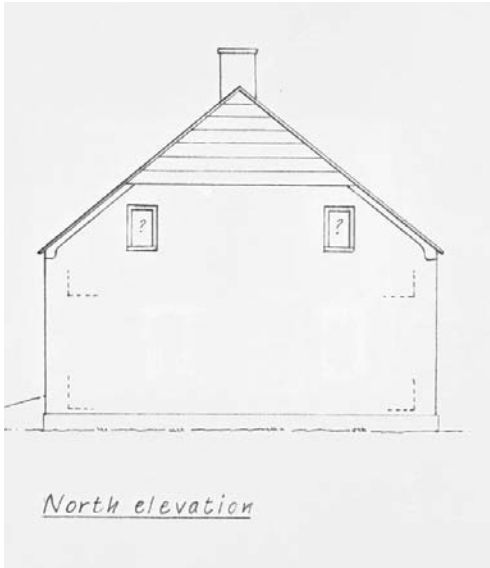
Deyo house, Springtown Road, New Paltz, Ulster Co., N.Y. 2.



5 10 15 20 25 ft. $\frac{1}{8}'' = 1'-0''$ J.R.S. '09

The twin front doors were filled in, leaving only the door to the addition on the east side. The west doorway, which became the front door, remains in near original condition and retains its original transom. The granary door opening in the south wall was partially filled in, and a window installed.

Exceptional features of the house, apart from its spectacular roof structure, are the original window



frames with 12 over 12 sash having 7" x 9" glass. These are indicated on the elevation drawings. A question I have, is the rationale for the original south room – a major space in the house – not having a fireplace? A stone house at Old Tappan, Bergen County, New Jersey – the Gerrit Haring house of c. 1750 – retains a similar plan (see *Dutch Vernacular Architecture in North America, 1640 – 1830*, Plate 21B).

Around the Neighborhood

By Ken Walton (photos by author unless otherwise noted)

In response to last month's issue, a member informed me that one of the Philip Hasbrouck houses I mentioned in the *Nosy Neighbor* is now owned by the well known actor, Robert DeNiro and to the location of the other Philip Hasbrouck house, though I have yet to seek it out myself. Carol Johnson, the Coordinator of the Haviland-Heidgerd Historical Collection at the Elting Memorial Library in New Paltz, also informed me, they have the Hasbrouck Genealogy as well as have which Hasbrouck built what house documented (sheesh, that could have saved me a lot of work!). I would like to add they have a wonderful reference collection listing every structure in the Town of New Paltz, which has been quite helpful to me.

A pleasant surprise also relating to the Hasbrouck article occurred during HVVA's December house tour, when we "found" at 10 Crown Street there is another Hasbrouck house being disguised by local historical lore as the Cornelius (or Christopher) Tappan house. As the story goes, Gysbert Vanderburgh built the original house on this site between 1705 and 1752. The cellar of the current structure is all that exists of the original structure but there is enough evidence to conclude Vanderburgh's house was at least a one and a half story, gable fronted, one room house facing west with a jambless fireplace on the back (east) wall. Abraham Hasbrouck, Junior purchased this house in 1752 and it lasted until the British burned it in 1777. Evidently considering the damage to great, Abraham went with erecting the current stone, two story, 3 bay, side hall Federal style house on top of the cellar of the old

Sitting behind St. John's is a Myron S. Teller recreation of an unidentified house – turning back the hands of time from a Victorian 2 story mansion to a version closer to its 1776 origins.



For many years known as the Cornelius or Christopher Tappan house, the cellar is of the Gysbert Vanderburgh house on which Abraham Hasbrouck, Jr. erected the current structure after the British burned the original house in 1777.

one. Cornelius Tappan did not acquire the house until 1807, thereby, the house as now configured should be attributed to Abraham Hasbrouck, Junior as its builder. There is still a lot of mystery surrounding this house. It appears not long after the house was built, the rear section was added. As this section is only partially of stone, that being the south wall and approximately only three-quarters of the east wall starting from the south. The north wall and the remainder of the east wall is wood framed. It is in this partially wood framed room that the brick kitchen hearth and bake oven also doubles as an interior wall at the south side. I find it puzzling that the kitchen was placed in this portion of the house.

In the Neighborhood

While taking HVVA's December tour, a fellow member gave me a tip on another stone house in the city of Kingston which I knew nothing about (as I sputtered out a befuddled reply, "you mean there are still more hidden around here"). After the tour was over I beeline it straight to this house. It sits behind St. John's Episcopal Church

at 209 Albany Street which is also considered Route 32 through the city. The 1½ story, 5-bay, center hall with five gable dormers is now the rectory. Shortly after I arrived, a woman pulled into the driveway with an arm full of groceries. After a quick greeting, she ducked into the house and popped back out with a pamphlet the church printed with a brief history. They state it was built in 1776 (however, I would be inclined to believe it was after the burning of the city by the British.) by an un-

Rear and side view of the unidentified house at 130 Esopus Ave. Note how the windows are inset to the interior side of the stone walls.



known builder. In the 1920's, Myron S. Teller renovated the house for Harriet Carter. Unfortunately, that was all the content that was printed about the house. The lady did add that it was once part of the Chamber's estate nearby. Another HVVA member informed me that the house was much larger before the Teller renovation. In fact it was two stories tall and had a stone addition to the rear that about double the depth. Teller returned it to proportions closer to its origins. Other than a passing statement that it may be the early Chamber Manor house, I have had no luck so far in turning up any more information about this house and would also like to know more about the Chamber's estate. When looking at the HVVA map of Kingston, this house is the first of a cluster of farms that follows a nearly straight line due north to Lake Katrine.

But the house next in line is one that can be easily missed. At 130 Esopus Avenue, where there is a ninety degree bend in the road to head due west to the creek, is a house that when viewed by the front cannot be determined to be an old stone house with its concrete base enclosed porch that spans its entire width hiding the front elevation. But drive around the bend and the original limestone gabled side and rear walls come into view. A unique feature of this house is when the windows were replaced, the new ones were positioned to the interior side of the stone walls rather than being flush with the exterior, so now one can look upon the house and see how thick the walls are. I have no background at all about this place.

A part stone / part wood frame house tucked behind the former and formable IBM complex, now called Tech City, is known as the Boice House, reached by going down the length of the dead end Boices Lane. The 1½ story five-bay with the usual center hall also has eyebrow windows in the frieze of the upper floor of a later 1830-40's renovation. The two windows on the left side of the entrance are in the (I'm assuming) one room stone house possibly of early 18th century origin. The entry and windows on the right are part of a later wood frame addition that sits on a fieldstone foundation high enough to place 12 pane windows in it for the cellar. A curious feature is the chimney over the stone section is not at either end, but is positioned in between the two windows. The end chimney for the wooden portion is a modern external one.



Above: Does the undisclosed story of this house on Boice Lane actually follow the exterior clues – a one room stone house with a latter center hall and parlor wooden addition? Note the interesting position of the chimney over the stone section. **Below:** The Osterhoudt house. One of the oldest houses in the Kingston area, this one is in Helen Reynolds' book.



Above: Known as the Mula house, a short walking distance north on the same road as the Osterhoudt place, little else is known about it. **Below:** Known locally as the Lem Boice house, he purchased the house about 1905. A date stone documents the house belonging to a Meyer family in 1808. Features in the house date back nearly a hundred years earlier than the date stone.



The next two houses in the cluster have been well documented by our group, the Ousterhoudt and Lem Boice houses. The former is also mentioned in the Helen Reynolds' book, Dutch Houses in the Hudson Valley before 1776. It is now tucked in on the dead ended section of Neighborhood Road at street number 35. This use to be a through road until the four lane Route 209 highway was constructed. The Ousterhoudts were early settlers in Esopus and a section of their stone house could possibly date back to the 1690's. The house is marked with one of the earliest date stones in the region with the year 1740! (Does anyone know of an earlier date stone?) Before going onto the Lem Boice house, lets take a short detour a little further north on Neighborhood Road at 847 where there is another whitewashed stone house known as the Mula house with little else known about the place. The owners have been steadily working on fixing up the place for the last year or so.

OK, now to reach the Lem Boice house in the old days we would have to back track a little ways between the last two houses mentioned to a spot where the Esopus Creek could be forded which can be located by taking Forging Place Road. Today, just take Route 209 west to the next exit for Sawkill Road. Practically across the road is the entrance to Lem Boice Lane. This road will lead to a stone house set up on a ridge on the right side of the road. Actually, Lem Boice is the name of the current owner's grandfather, who purchased the farm about 1905. Before that, it belong to a Meyer family and there is a family date stone with the year 1808 on it, but there are traits to the house that can date it back nearly a hundred years earlier. To read further about the place, check out the September, 2006 newsletter. Again, all the newsletters are available on-line at the HVVA website.

Now heading north on the west side of the Esopus Creek along Sawkill Ruby Road, at 2103 is the typical Ulster County center hall, five bay house, with the mid 19th century center gable added to the front, however this one appears to have an above ground cellar, making the house seem to have an extra story. Next at 101 Bogerts Lane, the end of a dead end farm road, is another unidentified 2 story house with one end of three bay stone construction and the other end a one bay wood addition with the front entry. The odd roof line is no doubt an adaptation made when the wood

addition was added. Now called Foxmor Farm, the lane's name of Bogert gives us a clue to perhaps one of the farmstead's earlier owners and possibly is still in the hands of one of their descendents.

The next two houses are very familiar with many HVVA members and are associated with families that have ties to many of the other extant old houses in the area so that one could almost trace the genealogy by the houses. Just east of the Old Kings Highway at 4 Jeanette Lane, is the Philip Felton house of 1798 with an elaborate date stone on the rear wall (was this perhaps the front of the house at one time?). This house is mentioned in the September, 2004 issue of the newsletter. Continuing up the Old Kings Highway until you reach the Plattekill Creek, but before you cross it, on a ridge to the east overlooking the creek is street number 310 – the Johannes Snyder house. This house is marked with a date stone of 1804, but HVVA studies have found features within that date the house to an earlier time. You can find more about it in the October, 2005 issue.

From here, back track a little bit between the last two houses to find a road that cross over to the west side of the Thruway (I-87). This is Sheehan Lane and immediately after crossing the overpass to the north as if the property fronts the highway and practically sitting on the Ulster / Saugerties town line is another typical five bay center hall stone house. This one has brick in the gable, a trait seen in most of the stone house across the river in Dutchess County. This farm is placed on HVVA's Saugerties Township map due to the mailing address. The last house on this tour is in an area that once was called the

Bogarts Lane was once nothing more than a farmer's road from his homestead to the Old Kings Highway. This homestead is another example of a stone house extended with a wood frame addition.



Seen on Sawkill Ruby Road, this unidentified house is a typical Ulster Co. stone house except for the ground level cellar.



There is definitely a pattern developing within this cluster of stone houses where they were extended with a wood frame addition. The Philip Felton house has a remarkably elaborate date stone of 1798.



This unidentified house on Sheehan Lane narrowly escaped the whims of the surveyors selecting the path for the NY Thruway.

Johannes Snyder house on the Plattekill Creek.



An unidentified stone house in Ruby – a community once called Dutch Settlement.



Dutch Settlement and now is considered Ruby. At 36 Parkside Drive, is a stone house with a mid 19th century center gable and a early wood ell addition in the rear as it now sits on a corner lot. As far as I know, it's the only Dutch house remaining in Ruby.

The Nosy Neighbor

If one continues north on the east side of the creek from Lake Katrine before reaching the Town of Ulster line, there is a settled area called Glenerie. In this residential area, there is a road that will lead you across the railroad tracks and on this narrow strip of land between the tracks and the creek is a road, named Glererie Boulevard that will take you north to the headwaters of the Glenerie Falls. About midway up, on the creek side of the road is a limestone house, again mostly hidden by a "modern" stone addition on the front that may had once started off as an enclosed porch. A wooden shed addition is in the rear, so the only visible stone walls are the gabled side walls.

As I was nearing completion of this article, I realized, while it includes a fair amount of existing old houses, there is still very little content known about many of them and are listed on the map as unidentified. Nearly half could actually fall under this section where I do my poking about seeking more information about these places. There's still a lot of work to be done in documenting this heritage in the hopes of not losing anymore background on these historic places. So I will just make a general request here; if you have any additional information about any of the houses mentioned here, please help our cause by passing it on. Thank you.

For more information about most of these houses, go to www.HVVA.org and click on the "Mapping History" tab. Anyone that can add more information to any of the houses mentioned there, or has any other comments they wish to send, please drop me a line by email at kaw9862@optonline.net or by snail mail:

*Ken Walton
12 Orchard Drive, 2nd Fl.
Gardiner, NY 12525*

On the subject line of the email, please include 'HVVA,' so I can expedite a response. Until next time... happy hunting!

Out and About

Candid shots at the Annual Meeting

January 15, 2011



Vernacular Documents III

Contract for the Construction of a House for Sally van Alen, Kinderhook, Columbia County, in 1844

By *Walter Richard Wheeler*



60 Broad Street, Kinderhook. Photo by Bill Krattinger, October 2010

Contracts and specifications provide interesting insights into the mechanisms – legal, social, professional, and technological – by which buildings were, and are, constructed. A substantial body of these documents survives for buildings constructed in New Netherland up to the time the colony was transferred to the English, but very few of these documents survive for structures constructed in New York Colony or State for the era between c.1675 and 1785. This is largely due to differences in the types of legal instruments typically filed under the administration of the Dutch and English. The disruption caused by the Revolutionary War accounts for the small amount of building – and thus documentation associated with construction campaigns – undertaken during the war years. Thereafter, public records and those of religious organizations frequently preserve construction documents as part of their legal series, as they record important

agreements and financial arrangements. Similarly, these types of instruments survive not infrequently in family papers, particularly in estate papers. Such is the case with a contract entered into between Sally van Alen and carpenters David and William Vallet, all of Kinderhook, in 1844.

Several blanks were left in this copy of the contract. In particular, those indicating the specific date of the instrument, the agreed upon date of completion, and specifications regarding the size of glass to be used were left blank. The notes which follow the draft contract appear to reflect a conversation between the parties involved. Most, but not all, of the details recorded in these notes were incorporated into the finished contract.

Both William and David Vallet would have been of advanced age – 64 and 61, respectively – at the time of the

drawing up of this contract. The 1850 Federal Census lists both William (aged 70) and David Vallet (aged 67) as carpenters living in Kinderhook. They shared a household with Freelove, who may have been their sister. All had been born in Rhode Island. They lived in close proximity to a number of Van Alen families, including next-door neighbors Elizabeth and Peter van Alen and their family, likely candidates for the clients wishing to have the house that this contract describes built.¹ William Vallet is known to have died sometime before July 1857, and was described at that time as “late of the town of Kinderhook.”² Two Davids are noticed in the advertisement of the probating of his will, neither of whom were living in Kinderhook at that time.

The contract describes a wood framed house of modest size. It was to be constructed on Broad Street, and was one-and-a-half stories in front, with

gable end to the street. The description of it being constructed “by the modern style of architecture” is likely a reference to the plain type of neo-classical style popular just before the bold forms of the Greek Revival became popular. Ruth Piwonka has done some sleuthing with respect to the location of this house, and believes that it is that which today stands at 60 Broad Street.³

As is typical of these documents, local examples substantially representing the intention of the client are referred to within the text. Thus “Mrs. Barthrop’s” fence is described as the model from which the Van Alen fence should be copied.

It is clear that the house was to have been principally heated with stoves. In addition, a “fire place & oven” were to be included on the first floor. The latter was no doubt located in the kitchen, which was probably in the leanto, a one story shed-roofed extension across the back of the house. This portion of the house is not directly noticed in the drafted contract, but is referred to as the “Leanter” in the notes which follow it. The chimney was located in the middle of the “Rear” gable, the wall bordering between the “main Building” and the “Leanter,” thus allowing it to vent stoves in both portions of the house.

The terminology used does not facilitate identification of the framing system employed in the construction of the Van Alen house. The Rhode Island origin of its builders renders it probable that it was built with a braced box frame. The following transcription preserves effaced passages as strike-throughs; interpolations and clarifications are presented in brackets.

¹ US Federal Census 1850, Kinderhook, Columbia County, New York, Roll: M432_492; Page: 374A; Image: 269, accessed online at Ancestry.com on 2 February 2011.

² Probate notice, *Albany Evening Journal*, 28 July 1857, p. 3.

³ Email communication with Ruth Piwonka, 28 September 2010.

⁴ Sally Van Alen Estate Papers VA7, Columbia County Historical Society, Kinderhook, NY.

June [space left blank] 1844

It is agreed this [space left blank] day of June 1844 Between David Vallet and William Vallet of the first part and Sally Van Alen of the Second part as follows

First Said parties of the first part in consideration of the Sum of money hereinafter mentioned to be paid by said Sally agrees with said Sally that they shall and will by the day of [space left blank] next in a good and workmanlike manner with good and Suitable materials to be provided and furnished by them at Kinderhook in the County of Columbia on the Lot of Said Sally near the house of John Van Dyck will and Substantially erect build and finish by the modern style of architecture a frame dwelling house of the Size and dimensions of thirty one feet by twenty three feet and fourteen or fifteen feet posts, first storey to be nine feet in the Clear between the timbers and Second Story to be Seven feet in the clear between the timbers – There shall be window blinds to all the windows of the first and Second Storys & Shutters to the Cellar windows. The first Storey to be divided into Rooms and apartments according to the plan hereto annexed marked “first Storey” There is to be one chimney in the house in the Rear gable of the house with a fire place & oven in the first Storey & a thimble to receive the Stove pipe leading into the Chimney in first storey. A thimble also in the Chimney in the Second Storey to receive a Stove pipe – The Second Storey is to be divided according to the plan annexed marked “2^d Storey.” Windows in the first & Second Storys as marked in Said plan in the first Story windows to be [space left blank] by [space left blank] glass & Second Story [space left blank] by [space left blank] glass – a cellar under the whole of the main Building six and a half feet Deep with Stone walls to be [pointed] inside underground & outside above ground. The gable end of Said house to front on the Road a Street called Broad street

Second Said parties of the first part will also by the time aforesaid dig & stone up with good stone a well near Said house ~~with the~~ and build on the Same a Suitable curb & fit and finish the same and provide a bucket to draw water thereout with a weight and furnish all the materials for said well & finishing it off as aforesaid – and will also by the time aforesaid with the materials to be provided by them – build and finish off a necessary or back house (framed) to correspond with the Style of Said House five by Seven feet.

Third. Said parties of the first part also will build along said Street and in front of Said lot and also the one half of the lines in the Sides and rear of Said lot a post and Board fence of the Same Style and finish as the fence in front of Mrs Barthrops House. There is to be one Small gate & one large gate on the front line & five of the posts to be cased viz one at each corner two for the small gate & one for the large gate.

November 1

Main Building 23 x 31 feet posts 14 or 15 f

Leanter 9 by 23 whole width 7 foot post.

Cellar under Main building – 6 ½ deep. To be pointed above ground & inside below ground –

1st storey 9 feet ~~between~~ clear between timber

2^d “ 7 “ “

Green window blinds –

Shutters to cellar

~~Dig & stone a well & fit it for drawing water with bucket & weights~~

~~Back House 5 x 7~~

Fences her proportion like Mrs Barthrops in front

2 1 large 1 small gate – 5 posts to be cased.

Paint whole 2 coats with white lead

To be finished by 1 Nov.

Papering Rooms

4 windows in cellar

Shingles [1-hinlles?—lntles?]⁴

Out and About

During our Annual Holiday House Tour Study members of HVVA got a special treat. Found in the collections of the DAR headquarters in Kingston, was a right side panel of a five-plate stove

Below is the plate discovered in the Wiltwyck Charter of the DAR located in Kingston. The initials MDS could represent an owner, carver, or iron foundry. A loose translation of the text at the bottom, DAS O(H)L IM KRUG SICH REICHICH MEHRT "the oil in the jar richly increases".



The image depicted, is that of the Old Testament story of "The Widow's Oil" found in 2 Kings, chapter 4. The story follows:

1 The wife of a man from the company of the prophets cried out to Elisha, "Your servant my husband is dead, and you know that he

revered the LORD. But now his creditor is coming to take my two boys as his slaves."

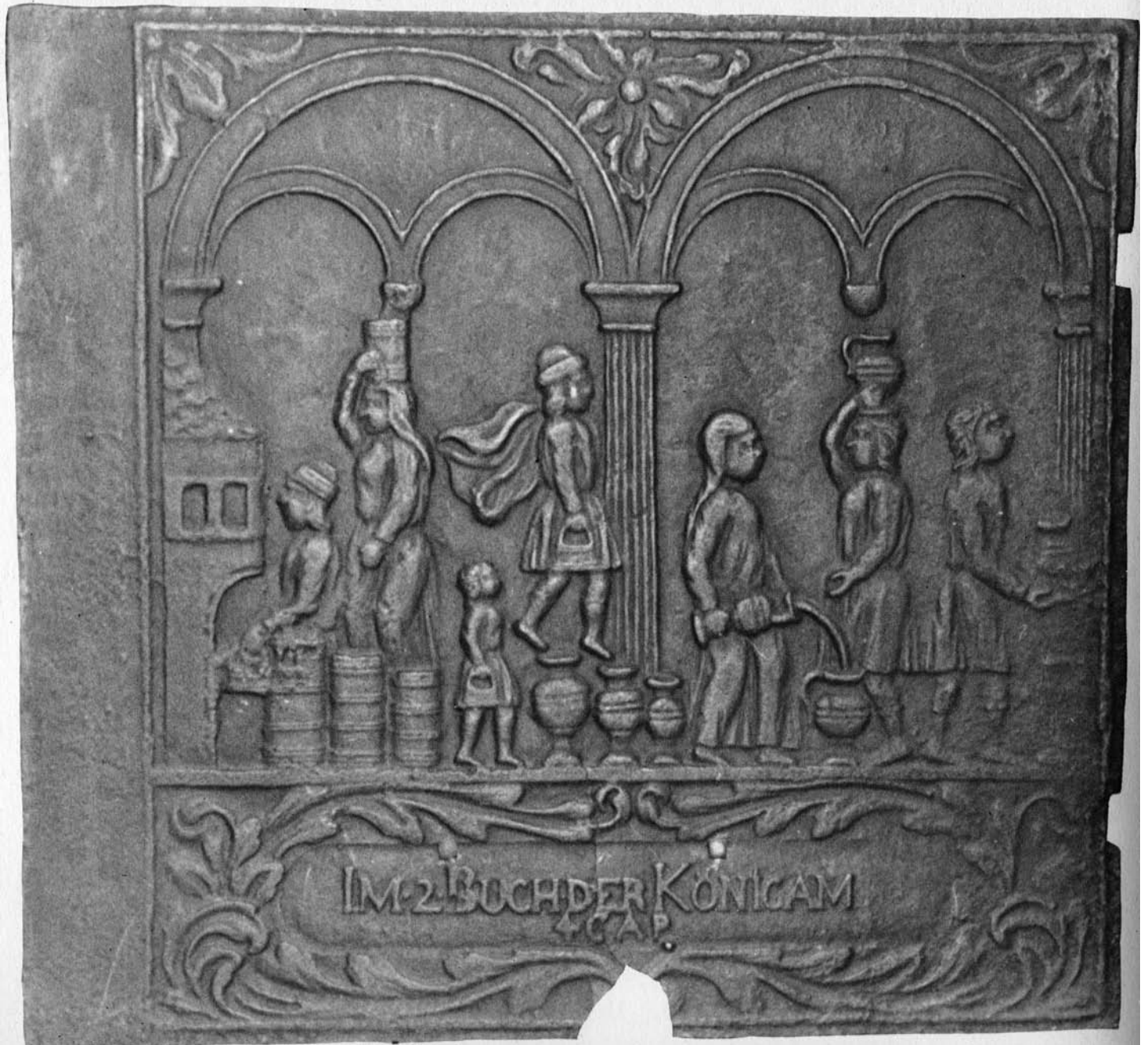
2 Elisha replied to her, "How can I help you? Tell me, what do you have in your house?" "Your servant has nothing there at all," she said, "except a small jar of olive oil."

3 Elisha said, "Go around and ask all your neighbors for empty jars. Don't ask for just a few.

4 Then go inside and shut the door behind you and your sons. Pour oil into all the jars, and as each is filled, put it to one side."

This stove plate is in the collection of the Senate House Museum, Kingston. The bottom panel translates to: "the oil in the jar richly increases – the son from death turns to life – in which God's bounty proves itself. – With little bread many men eat. – 2 Kings in 4, Anno 1713"





A similar stove plate having come from Kingston depicts yet another version of "The Widow's Oil"

5 She left him and shut the door behind her and her sons. They brought the jars to her and she kept pouring.

6 When all the jars were full, she said to her son, "Bring me another one." But he replied, "There is not a jar left." Then the oil stopped flowing.

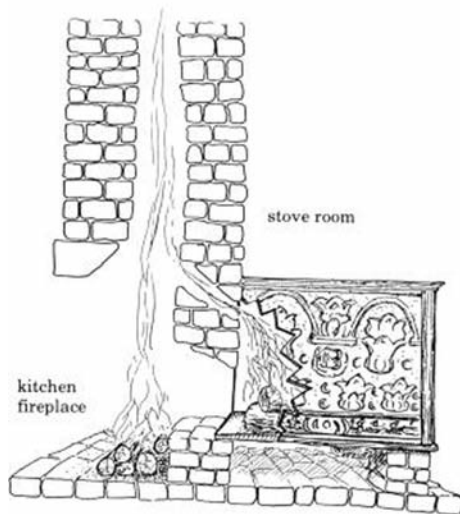
7 She went and told the man of God, and he said, "Go, sell the oil and pay your debts. You and your sons can live on what is left."

As we see in this parable the oil flowed, while there was a vessel to fill, there was oil sufficient; and it only ceased to flow when there was no vessel to receive it. In this

story the oil is the grace of God. While there is an empty, longing heart, there is a continual overflowing fountain of salvation. If we find in any place or at any time that the oil ceases to flow, it is because there are no empty vessels there, no souls hungering and thirsting for righteousness. We find fault with the dispensations of God's mercy,

and ask, why were the former days better than these? Were we as much in earnest for our salvation as our forefathers were for theirs, we should have equal supplies, and as much reason to sing aloud of Divine mercy.

Remembering the hardships of the early settlers in New Netherland and New York it should not seem unusual at all that this is one on the most common themes found on early stoves. There are at least three depictions of "the Widow's Oil" known to exist in Kingston alone. It only goes to prove that as long as HVVA members keep looking – History will keep revealing itself!



Drawing by Peter Sinclair showing how plate stoves were typically installed.



BICENTENNIAL HOUSE TOUR: A View of Saugerties in 1811

This is the 200th anniversary of the incorporation of the Town of Saugerties. On May 21, 2011, to celebrate that milestone, the Town of Saugerties Historic Preservation Commission will hold its third Historic House Tour focusing, this year, on the structures that were standing in 1811 at the time of incorporation.

The identities of most of these structures will be kept under wraps until May 21, but we promise that you will be surprised by the diversity of the buildings. Several of the houses will also have interiors available for viewing.

The tour begins at the Information Booth at McDonald's on Rt. 212 in Saugerties and follows two routes. On one route, the first house to be visited will be the Wynkoop House. Located at the intersection of Rt. 32 North and Rt. 212, it was the first structure designated as a Town Historic landmark on May 14, 2004 under the new Historic Landmarks Ordinance. Besides that distinction, it is also on the State and National Register of Historic Places and is one of Saugerties oldest properties with a construction date (circa

1740. The interior of the Wynkoop house has basically been stripped down to its original interior to make it ready for restoration. The house is currently unoccupied and viewing the interior space, unobstructed by furniture placement, can give a sense of the interior's proportions.

The historic house tour is another fine example of cooperation between a town and its residents. The tour's sponsor, the Town of Saugerties Historic Preservation Commission, purpose is the protection, enhancement and promotion of landmark structures. It's because these properties have distinctive architectural, archaeological and cultural heritage, that they foster civic pride for the citizens of Saugerties. The preservation and protection of these properties enhances the attractiveness of the Town to residents and visitors, thus supporting and providing stimulus to the local economy. For the historic house owners who have graciously consented to allow visitors on their properties, the benefit is that more people will see and appreciate the beauty and historical value of these local treasures.

TOUR INFORMATION

Date: Saturday, May 21st, 2011 from 11-5 (torrential rain date: May 22)

Tickets: \$20.00

Advance Sale: April 27th to May 17th

at Smith's Hardware and Inquiring Mind (both in the Village of Saugerties)

By Mail: Stone House Tour, Saugerties Town Hall, 4 High Street, Saugerties, NY 12477 (check payable to Town of Saugerties HPC)

On Day of Tour: \$25.00 tickets are sold from 11-2 at the Visitor Information Booth, Route 212 McDonalds

For more information, please call 845-246-2800 ext. 470

Sponsored by the Historic Preservation Commission, Town of Saugerties

Membership info

If you have been receiving this newsletter, but your membership is not current and you wish to continue to receive the HVVA newsletter and participate in the many house-study tours offered each year, **please send in your dues.**

Membership currently pays all the HVVA bills and to keep us operating in the black. **Each of us must contribute a little.**

Membership dues remains at a low \$20 per year (\$15 for Students). So if you haven't sent in your dues or given a tax deductible donation to the HVVA mission, **please consider doing so now.**



Yes, I would like to renew my membership in the amount of \$.....

Yes, I would like to make a tax deductible contribution to help the effort of preserving the Hudson Valley's Architectural Heritage. Enclosed please find my donation in the amount of \$.....

Name

Address

.....

City.....

State Zip

Phone

E-mail

Please mail checks to:

HVVA
P.O. Box 202, West Hurley, NY 12491

A look back



We have recently lost another historic home in our region. The William Hollister House built 1791 sat in the northeast corner of the intersection of North Road and Route 9W, north of the hamlet of Milton near the Lloyd / Marlborough town line. According to Warren G. Sherwood's **History of the Town of Lloyd (1953)**, Hollister was a gunsmith and an innkeeper. It is said he made most of the flintlocks used by the local militia during the Revolutionary War. The house sat vacant and for sale for many years. Sometime between March and October of 2010, it was demolished.

Calendar

Shawangunk Show-up!

Saturday, February 19, 2011 – 11:00 AM
Meeting spot: John G. Borden Middle School (parking lot in front of school) 109 Bona Ventura Ave. (Rt. 208), Wallkill, NY 12589. Houses on tour: Jacob T. Walden House (18th c., stone); 34 North Montgomery St., Walden 12586; Isaac Terwilliger House (mentioned in Helen Reynolds' book), 16 Meyer Rd, Wallkill 12589; Reformed Church of Shawangunk & possibly the parsonage, 1166 Hoagerburgh Rd, Wallkill 12589; Audrey's Farmhouse B&B (c.1740 wood frame), 2188 Bruynswick Rd, Wallkill 12589; Decker, Garet & William / Sangiovese @ Colonial Inn, 2629 New Prospect Rd, Pine Bush, 12566 (mentioned in Helen Reynolds' book). Eat a hearty breakfast or bring snacks as there will be no lunch break, but an early dinner at, Sangiovese around 5:00 pm. Contact: Ken Walton at 845-532-6438 for directions, if needed. Disclaimer: Houses' list is subject to change without notice.

Up and Over

Saturday, March 19, 2011 -10:00 AM
HVVA visits and re-visits structures in Columbia County. Starting point to be announced.

Please contact John Stevens for more information or visit HVVA.org as the tour date nears.

Clinton Caravan

Saturday, April 16, 2011 – 10:00 AM
A mixed tour of barns and houses in the Town of Clinton, Dutchess County, Tour leader Bob Hedges. Meeting place to be announced, check the website or call Bob at 518-398-7773 for more information.

Marathon March to Middle Jersey

Saturday, May 21, 2011 – 11:00 AM
Full details will be published at HVVA.org. This tour is really shaping up and promises to be even better than last year's stellar tour to New Jersey! We might only hit Jersey once a year, but we make it well worth the trip. This is the official HVVA sponsored study tour for May.

Join us South of the border!

Saugerties Celebrates 200 years!

Saturday, May 21, 2011
This annual House tour will visit a diversity of built culture within the town of Saugerties. Details inside this newsletter. Those who opt to stay in the Hudson Valley on the 21st, are encouraged to attend!