

## HVVA Study Tour, 19 November 2016

### 18<sup>th</sup> Century German Houses in Clinton and Rhinebeck, Dutchess County

#### ITINERARY

- 9:00-9:30 Meet at Creek Friends Meetinghouse, 2433 Salt Point Turnpike, Clinton Corners  
Carpooling & lunch reservations; come early to see the meetinghouse
- 10:00-11:00 Hauver-Sleight House, 320 Schoolhouse Rd., Clinton Hollow
- 11:30-1:00 Crapser House & Dutch Barn, 68 Naylor Rd., Clinton
- 1:30-3:00 Lunch, CJ's Pizzeria & Italian Restaurant, 353 Old Post Rd. & Rt.9G, Rhinebeck
- 3:30- Steenburgh Tavern, 6114 Rt. 9, Rhinebeck

#### Hauver-Sleight House, 320 Schoolhouse Rd.



The Hauver-Sleight House contains compelling evidence of a traditional two-room-plan dwelling in its central, two-story section that may have been occupied by an early tenant. Wings were added; the one on the left joined in a perplexing manner. Hendrick Sleight was a Kingston native and likely chose to settle in Clinton when he became married Mary Van Vliet of Pleasant Plains in 1792.

#### Directions from Creek Meetinghouse:

- Turn right on Salt Point Turnpike and follow for 1.2 miles
- Turn right onto Hollow Road (CR14) and follow for 3.3 miles
- Turn right onto Schoolhouse Road and follow for 1.5 miles
- Turn right into driveway for 320 Schoolhouse Road

## Crapser House & Dutch Barn, 68 Naylor Rd



The stone house probably was built for John Crapser soon after he purchased the 160-acre hillside farm bordering on the Crum Elbow from Martin Schryver in 1759. In an odd instance, a two-story side-hall house was added to the stone house in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century presenting a dramatic juxtaposition of old and new. (This was not a unique occurrence, however; a similar addition was constructed on one end of Gulian Verplanck's 18<sup>th</sup>-century stone house in Fishkill.) An 18<sup>th</sup>-century Dutch barn is extant on the property.

Directions from 320 Schoolhouse Rd.

- From driveway, turn right on Schoolhouse Rd. and follow for 0.7 miles
- Turn left onto Fiddlers Bridge Rd. and then immediately right onto Schultz Hill Rd. and follow for 2.5 miles (Schultz Hill Rd. changes name to Primrose Hill Rd. after crossing into Town of Rhinebeck)
- Turn left onto Rt. 9G and follow for 0.9 miles
- Turn left onto Naylor Rd. and follow for 0.2 mi.

Lunch: CJ's Pizzeria & Italian Restaurant, 353 Old Post Rd. & Rt.9G, Rhinebeck

Directions from 68 Naylor Rd.

- From driveway, turn right onto Rt.9G and follow for 6.1 miles
- Turn left onto Old Post Rd.



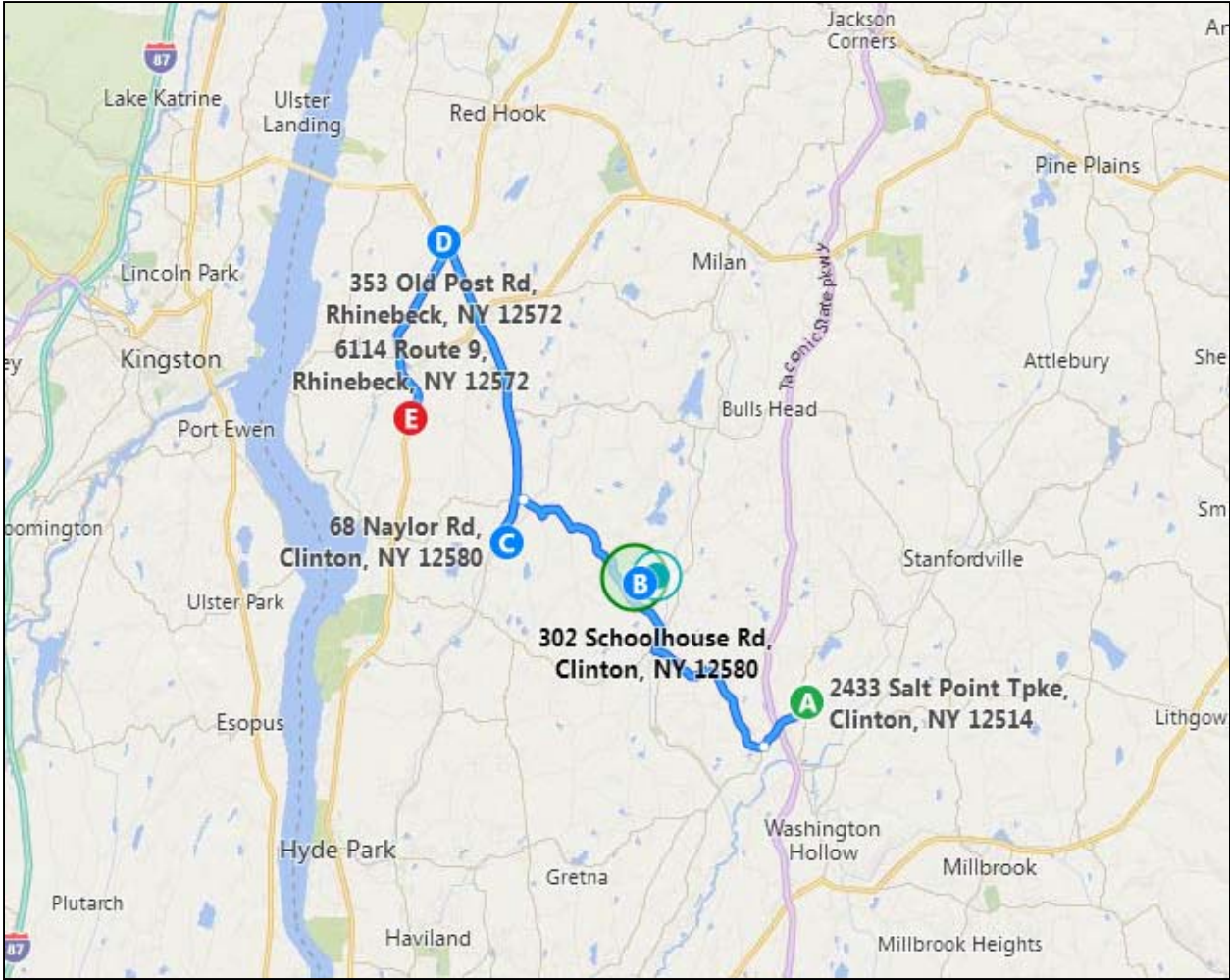
Steenburgh's Tavern, 6114 Rt. 9, Rhinebeck



Pictured in Helen Reynold's *Dutch Houses in the Hudson Valley Before 1776* as one of two anonymous stone farmhouses on the King's Highway, this house is locally known as Steenburgh's Tavern. Originating as a typical two-room-plan German house with its basement kitchen at grade on the north end, it experienced significant changes when it was incorporated as a tenant house on the Grasmere country estate. This year a burst water pipe flooded the interior that resulted in damaged layers of walling and ceilings being removed, which exposed original features and finishes covered over for nearly a century.

Directions from CJ's Pizzeria

- Turn right onto Rt. 9G from Old Post Rd and follow for 0.1 mile
- Turn right onto Rt. 9 South and follow for 3.7 miles
- Turn right into driveway for 6114 Rt. 9 just past house.



# Johannes (Hans) (John) Kroepser von Rotenfluh

Property known locally as The Naylor Farm or Old Stone Farm

Hans Kroepser von Rotenflu (sp?) emigrated to the United States in 1743 with two brothers, Ulrich and Rudolph. Their father was H. (maybe Heinrich) Jacob Krebsler of Rothenfluh, Switzerland, and their mother was Verena Cappeler, who is noted to have paid their passage to America. Hans (John) first appears on the Rhinebeck tax rolls in 1745/46.

Hans, known locally as John Sr., married Catherina Schreiber (Schryver) in 1748 and purchased (or received?) 460 acres of land from Martin Schryver on June 21, 1759. This land was later divided by three of John Sr.'s sons: John Jr., Sebastian, and Albertus in 1804.

It is believed that John Jr. stayed on to farm the land after his father's death. He married Gertraud (Charity) Ostrum and they had 14 children, 7 boys and 7 girls. And thereafter began a western migration of what would become the Crapser family name.

On the date stone of the family home, you can still see: *HK R 1768*, which we believe represents that Hans Kroepser von Rotenflu built the home in 1768. It is believed that the barn predates the house, but nothing to substantiate that has yet been found.

A very special thank you to Jim and Bonnie Crapser of Racine, Wisconsin for their generous sharing of information gleaned from their genealogical research into their family's past. A trip that led them here to the ancestral American home of their family's first emigrant to America.

More information can be found in the following sources:

"Clinton, Dutchess County, NY: A History of a Town"  
Edited by William P. McDermott

"Roosevelt, Franklin D. Collection of Hudson River Valley and Dutchess County NY Manuscripts" Box 9 - Folder/File: Frost, Alvah, genealogical notebooks Volume VIIa: Burger Family, Cookingham Family, Crapser Family, Nichol Family, Wallace Family