



HVVA is a not-for-profit corporation formed to study and preserve the vernacular architecture and material culture of the Hudson Valley

**Peter Sinclair**

*Founder, Trustee Emeritus*  
West Hurley, Ulster County, NY

**Walter Wheeler** – *President*  
Troy, Rensselaer County, NY  
wtheb@aol.com

**John Ham** – *Vice-President*  
Troy, Rensselaer County, NY  
mahaj30@gmail.com

**Karen Markisenis**  
*Corresponding Secretary & Treasurer*  
Kingston, Ulster County, NY  
kmarkisenis@hvc.rr.com

**Michele VanHoesen**  
*Recording Secretary*  
Highland, Ulster County, NY  
michelevh8@yahoo.com

**Robert Sweeney** – *Past President*  
Kingston, Ulster County, NY  
gallusguy@msn.com

**Neil Larson** – *Newsletter Editor*  
Woodstock, Ulster County, NY  
nlarson@hvc.rr.com

**John Stevens** – *Trustee*  
Senior Architectural Historian  
Hurley, Ulster County, NY  
jstevens10@hvc.rr.com

**Elliott Bristol** – *Trustee*  
Tivoli, Dutchess County, NY  
seaccount@yahoo.com

**Jim Decker** – *Trustee*  
Hurley, Ulster County, NY  
jdeck8@verizon.net

**Conrad Fingado** – *Trustee*  
Pleasant Valley, Dutchess County, NY  
m\_nordenholt@yahoo.com

**Don Hanzl** – *Trustee*  
West Camp, Ulster County, NY

**Bob Hedges** – *Trustee*  
Pine Plains, Dutchess County, NY  
rm.hedgesbarn@yahoo.com

**Ken Krabbenhoft** – *Trustee*  
Stone Ridge, Ulster County, NY  
kenkrabbenhoft@gmail.com

**William McMillen** – *Trustee*  
Glenmont, Albany County, NY  
judytb@aol.com

**Liza Sunderlin** – *Trustee*  
Kingston, Ulster County, NY  
dyberry@outlook.com

**Ken Walton** – *Trustee*  
Gardiner, Ulster County, NY  
kaw569@yahoo.com

# The Society for the Preservation of Hudson Valley Vernacular Architecture

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## Newsletter

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Hardenbergh-Jenkins Farm Barn, ca. 1820, Gardiner, Ulster County.  
Photo by Jose Moreno-Lacalle.

## Dutch barn saved!

Last year, after completing an extensive restoration on their historic house in Gardiner, Vals Osborne and Jose Moreno-Lacalle decided to take on the challenge to save the old Dutch barn on the property. The roof was holding and the frame (a late Dutch structure expanded and adapted) was stable but the exterior was decaying and the interior filled with old hay and animal debris.

They employed three teams of craftsmen who they cannot praise enough. John Conlon, Housewrights Timberframing, Inc. of Chichester, New York oversaw the project. He made needed repairs to the sills, posts and beams. Enough old siding was salvaged to cover the south gable end of the barn. New siding was produced in the same dimensions as the old, and it was nailed on by a second team led by Peter Carpenick, who also installed a new standing-seam metal roof. Jamie Schoettle, a master painter and plaster, and Lee Gordon did all the staining, as well as the restoration of windows, doors and shutters.

Our congratulations and gratitude to the effort and expense dedicated to this project. It received modest but welcome support from the New York State Barn Restoration and Preservation Program.

## Making your mark in Wiltwyck

*By Ken Krabbenhoff*

On March 31, 1664, fourteen men assembled in the back of the two-room town hall of Wiltwyck, which at other times housed the school and, occasionally, goats. They had been chosen to determine whether Thomas Chambers and Gysbert van Imbroch should be sent as delegates to a landdag: a meeting of representatives of local courts to be held in Manhattan. They listened as Court Secretary Matthys Capito read out the results of the vote, knowing that the next step was for them to put their names to the document.

These fourteen men came from a variety of backgrounds. Most if not all of them were farmers who did other work as well. They included a miller, a tailor, a tapster who was also a gunner in the militia, a carpenter, and a merchant. One of the them would later be appointed a magistrate of the Court. Most if not all of them had emigrated from the Netherlands and would die in the New World; one is known to have lived for another thirty years, while another was killed three months later at Hurley by the Esopus Indians. They were more actively involved in the financial affairs of Wiltwyck than most of its inhabitants, which explains their frequent appearance before the Court as both plaintiffs and defendants in suits over non-payment of debt. Otherwise they mostly stayed out of trouble, though some of them drank too much, one became an infamous thorn in the side of the Court, and another was a protagonist in one of the most famous paternity cases in colonial New Netherland.

These are stories to be told some other time. The ones that interest us here have to do with nine of the fourteen men, who despite their different temperaments and activities had one very significant thing in common, something they had in common with the great majority of people in New Netherland, including their Indian neighbors: when it came to putting their names

to documents, they used symbols rather than letters, because their ability to read and write was negligible to nonexistent.

To better understand the personal and social importance of this fact – to put it in a richer personal context – one man has been singled out for a closer look. His name is Aert Martensen Doorn. It's also the story of his wife Geertruyt Andriessen. Together they illustrate how materially successful it was possible to be in colonial America without benefitting from a skill that almost all adult human beings on our planet possess in 2017.<sup>1</sup>

Doorn was born in the Boomelerwaard district of Gelderland, the largest province in the Netherlands. He was a tailor, farmer, and landlord. We don't have much information about his work as a farmer or tailor: no doubt he grew the same crops, kept the same animals, and made the same kind of clothes as other farmers and tailors in New Netherland. On the other hand, we do know a fair amount about his dealings in real estate, because they needed approval from the Wiltwyck Court, which oversaw the steady growth of the town from 1661 until the reorganization of local government under English law in 1675. Doorn saw that he could take advantage of this chronic shortage of housing as a way of supporting himself and his family by acquiring, mortgaging, and renting properties of all kinds. The chronicle of his activities gives us insight into life within the crowded confines of Wiltwyck's few city blocks, where as many as 200 people lived in some three dozen one- and two-room clapboard houses, around which gathered a cluttered mass of outbuildings, livestock, farming implements, and building materials.

On December 18, 1661, Doorn married Geertruyt Andriessen, a widow from Doesburgh in Aert's native Gelderland. She lived in Wiltwyck with

"Making Your Mark in Wiltwyck"

Ken Krabbenhoft

September 2017

*Some People and their Marks from Wiltwyck/Kingston, 1664-1675:*

Femmetje Alberts, widow of Henderick Jansen Westercamp: +

Geertruyd Andriesen, wife of Aert Martensen Doorn: ⚡

Antony Coeck, English soldier: ⚡

Pieter Cornelissen, miller and horse examiner: ▽

Hendrick Cornelissen, ropemaker: 444

Michiel De Mot, manservant: ⊕

Jan Jacobs De Vries, resident of Manhattan: ⊕

Jacob Elbertsen, farmer: ⊗

Ariaen Gerretsen, cultivator of Governor Stuyvesant's land: □

Pieter Gillessen, cowherd: ⊕

Cornelis Teunissen Hoogeboom, brickmaker and schoolmaster [!]: |||

Teunis Jacobsen, dung carter: ♂

Dominikus Manuel, aka "Mingus the Negro", free black laborer: X

Henderick Martensen, corporal in the militia: ⚡

Aert Otterspoor, wolf hunter: ⚡

Andries Petersen van Leeuwen, farmer and brewer in Hurley: ⚡

Jan Pound, mason's assistant: ⚡

her three children: a girl and a boy by her first husband, Hendrick Albertssen, an English baker she had met and married in Holland in 1642, and a younger boy by Jacob Jansen Stol (or Stoll), whom she married in Rensselaerswyck in 1648 or 1649, shortly after her first husband's death. Stol, who was born in Amsterdam, was skipper of a yacht that brought dry goods like clothing and shoes upriver from New Amsterdam. He was infamous in the colony for his drinking and his extreme violence, both physical and verbal. Nicknamed "Hap" ("mouthful"), he was arrested more than a dozen times, culminating in February of 1657 when he beat Geertruyd bloody and threw burning brands at her. She refused to give testimony against him, so he got off with a fine, but it's no coincidence that they left Rensselaerswyck for Wiltwyck the same year. The move coincided with the events that led up to the First Esopus War, including the crime that precipitated it: the murder of an Esopus brave in September 1659, instigated by none other than Jacob Jansen Stol. He was taken prisoner by the outraged Indians along with some fifteen others and with a handful of them seems to have been singled out for revenge by the Indians. According to a witness these men "were compelled to run the gauntlet, after which they were tied to the stake, where they were beaten and cut barbarously. Then they were burned alive."

Whatever the state of her marriage may have been at the time, Geertruyd's living standards didn't suffer from Stol's demise, as in accordance with Dutch law and custom he had left her all of his property, and she knew how to manage it to her advantage. She rented the farmland to two neighbors, 36 morgens (about 11 acres) to one and 43 (about 13 and a half acres) to the other. To judge from the land tax she paid, this was one of the largest properties in Wiltwyck. She was successful in pursuing her financial interests in Court, in raising her three children, educating them, and fostering their spiritual well-being.

Geertruyd and Aert Doorn's union was a financial boon to both of them. Developments over the first five years of their marriage suggest that they

consolidated their wealth in order to invest in more real estate. In September 1663 Doorn sold a farm to Rynier van Coelen, and in 1664 he mortgaged a house and barn to Willem Beeqman, the sheriff (schout) of Wiltwyck. In April 1665 Doorn sold a parcel on the far side of the Esopus Creek to Gommert Paulusen, and in March 1666 he sold a parcel of land called the "Weyland" ("Meadow") that Christoffel Davids had conveyed to Jacob Jansen Stol in 1656. In May 1666, Geertruyd and Aert asked the Court to appoint guardians for Geertruyd's youngest child, Jan Jacobsen Slicoten (his last name came from his father's father). Along with the guardianship, the Court approved Gertruyd and Aert's plan for buying the farm the three children had inherited from Stol through their mother by conveying to them another farm, which Doorn rented to the same Reynier van Coelen mentioned above. Aert and Geertruyd would manage the income from this farm for the two older children in tandem with Jan Jacobsen's guardians. A month later, in June 1666, Geertruyd and Aert sold a lot in the middle of town – possibly lot 31 – to their former tenant, the sheriff Willem Beeqman. It measured six rods wide, Rhineland measure, in the front and the back (i.e. 72 feet), and twenty rods and ten feet long (250 feet) – perfect for a house and outbuildings for livestock.

By the end of 1666, Geertruyd and Aert's provisions for their family were fully realized. In June their daughter Engeltjen Hendricks married Frederick Pietersen. Now that Engeltjen was provided for, and she and her brother Jan Hendricks were adults, they were competent to care for their 8-year old half-brother Jan Jacobsen in case anything happened to their parents. After selling more land on the Esopus flats that summer, Geertruyd and Aert consequently conveyed two properties to the three children, Jan Jacobsen's portion to be administered by the same two guardians as before, Willem Beeqman and Roelof Swartwout, the current and former sheriffs of Wiltwyck. The properties included a farm, livestock, feed and seeds, ½ of a garden just outside the palisade, and a house with barn and hay rick in town. The children would

reimburse their parents 2,300 guilders in three equal yearly payments, ending in 1669.

More years go by. A reminder that landlord-tenant relations aren't always easy came in January 1669, when Doorn sued Reynier van Coelen for non-payment of rent. Happily, they sorted things out, because Doorn sold some land to van Coelen in March 1671, and in September 1673 conveyed to him the farm he had been renting. In May 1670 Doorn sold a house and lot in Kingston (no longer Wiltwyck) to Mrs. Anna Brodhead, aka Ann Tye. The entry specified that it was surrounded by a fence – possibly the same place that sheriff Beeqman had rented from 1664 to 1666. The last two recorded transactions took place in January 1671, when Doorn sold land and three cows who were identified by name, and two years later in April, when he mortgaged a farm in Marbletown in order to pay off a debt owed to Matthys Blanshan.

Without detracting from Geertruyd and Aert's success, it's only fair to point out that there was a downside for a number of Wiltwyckians who had lent Doorn money in this period. The fact is that Doorn was taken to Court more than two dozen times for non-payment of outstanding debts, including wages owed to people he had hired, the cost of goods delivered to him (mostly grain), and money due on loans and mortgages. By contrast, Doorn took others to court only a half-dozen times – for late payment from the Court, which had rented a room from him, for return of objects he had loaned to others at no cost, and for delivery of a pig he had already paid for.

It's easy to imagine the amount of paper work involved in all of this, a chore that fell to Court Secretary Capito. In addition to keeping the minutes of all cases as they were brought before

the Court, the Secretary also composed and recorded the texts of the mortgages known as "schepens (magistrates) knowledge," not to mention all of the Court's official correspondence with the West India Company and, later, the English colonial government. He was called when guardians had to be named and wills drawn up and "proved;" he was also the town notary and public scribe for hire.

When it came to signing this mountain of documents, the Wiltwyck magistrates could be counted on to spell out their names, with the exception of Jan Willem Hoochteylingh, whose mark was an upside-down V over an inverted triangle (see list of marks below). There's no way to know the exact percentage of literate residents in the town; probably between 10 and 20%. Everyone else used their personal mark, including Geertruyd (see the list) and Aert. But in the same way that Hoochteylingh was an exception among the magistrates, Aert and a few other semi-literates marked documents with their initials instead of abstract figures. It is also curious that Aert's "AMD" disappeared from Court records beginning in 1666. His name appeared among those that Secretary Capito witnessed as having signed their name. Aert Doorn must have been working on his spelling.

The point is that in the social and political context of colonial Wiltwyck and colonial Kingston, a person could handle all of the transactions necessary to survive, even thrive, in the demanding circumstances of frontier life without knowing how to read or write. Book knowledge and what we call a liberal education were not synonymous with social position, financial clout, practical savvy or creative talent – proof of the resilience of popular culture, and a foretaste of that culture's importance today.

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#### ENDNOTE

<sup>1</sup> In 2014, UNESCO estimated worldwide adult literacy at 83% ("Statistics on Literacy," <http://uis.unesco.org/literacy>). All other data referenced here comes from Peter R. Christoph et alia, *New York Historical Manuscripts: Dutch. Kingston Papers* (Baltimore, MD: Clearfield, 1976); Roswell Randall Hoes, *Baptismal and Marriage Registers of the Old Dutch Church of Kingston* (New York, 1891); and studies by Marc Fried, Jaap Jacobs, and Fred Sisser, III.

## Around the Neighborhood

By Ken Walton (photos by author unless otherwise noted)

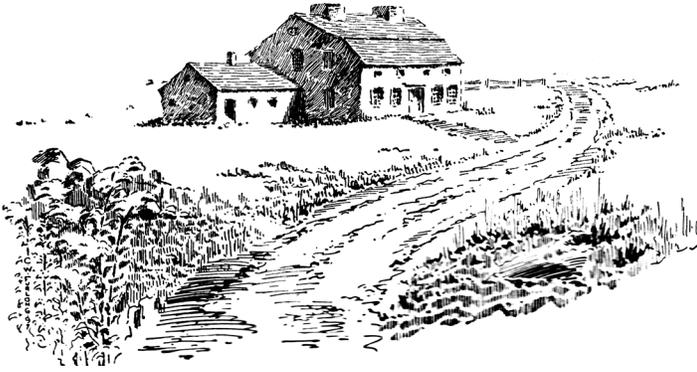


The Wallkill Valley Land Trust on their 7th Annual Historic House Tour, continued their level of excellence. This year's tour, held in the township of New Paltz on June 3rd (again the first Saturday in June), followed the theme "*The First Highway; Huguenot Homesteads from New Paltz to Bontecoe.*" It did not take long after the settlement of the Duzine (the twelve original patentees) on what we today call Huguenot Street in the oldest section of the village along the Wallkill River for the expansion of the community beyond that street to occur. In fact it only took the next generation to start spreading out and certain families decided to follow the river north. Four miles north of the village, the river creates a series of oxbows before coming to the waterfalls of the area we now call Dashville.

The Deyos, Freers and LeFevres called these fertile lands within the oxbows "Bontecoe" meaning "*great necks of land*" and they called it home for several generations afterward.

### In the Neighborhood

The starting point for the tour was right on Huguenot Street at the fourth rendition of the Dutch Reformed Church built in 1839 out of brick. Modeled after the one in New Hackensack, Dutchess County. While not on the tour, the guidebook makes mention of the three houses that served as the manse for the church's ministers when they were first built. The first manse stands at 164 Huguenot Street and is formally known as the Goetschius-Eltinge house.



Reverend Stephanus Goetschius, who served since 1775, decided to build his own house of stone (Fig. 1). Unlike the stone houses that were built prior to his, the stone on the front elevation was dressed. Brick trim on the entrance and windows was an expression of elite European taste unusual in the county. A date-stone above the front door is inscribed “1791”. He did not remain there long as the last year of his ministry was in 1796, however the 1798 tax list still showed the house belonging to him. By 1800, Roelof Eltinge purchased the place and it remained in the family until 1961. So it was them that made the mid-nineteenth century modifications, such as raising the roof line and adding the classic Hudson Valley Bracketed central gable. In 1848 the second manse was built by Tobias Eltinge at 153 Huguenot Street, it is a Greek Revival five-bay clapboard structure with a center hall and end-to-end chimneys characteristic of the period. An 1863 addition on the north side was intended as a study for the pastor. It was replaced by a manse at 97 Huguenot Street built by carpenters John H. and

Fig. 1 – Goetschius-Eltinge House, 164 Huguenot St., the oldest surviving manse of the Dutch Reformed Church in New Paltz. It has a date stone inscribed 1791.



Henry Hasbrouck in 1908 reflecting Shingle Style coming into vogue in the 1880s. All of the parsonages were outstanding designs for their times.

The first house on the tour was the Abraham Hasbrouck House (now known to have built for his son Daniel) at 94 Huguenot Street (Fig. 2). Owned and officially part of *Historic Huguenot Street*, currently it is not routinely opened to the public.

Fig. 2 – Abraham/Daniel Hasbrouck House, 94 Huguenot St. View from northwest showing brick chimney built through stone wall for basement fireplace.



An interior restoration completed in 2011 closely interprets the household of Daniel’s widow Wyntje (1708–1787) in the 1760s. Dendrochronological analysis indicates the stone house was built in three phases beginning with the 21’ wide by 24’ deep center portion constructed in c.1721 by Daniel, as Abraham died in 1717. This stone section may have been attached to a timber-frame house, no longer existing, which was probably built by Abraham and may have lasted until somewhere between c.1729, after the northern section was built and 1741 when an addition was built on the south end. The center room featured a door with a transom and leaded-glass *cruiscoszyn* of a four part casement window. (The door has been restored by the window awaits.) The room is dominated by four exposed massive red pine beams running front-to-back and a jambless fireplace reconstructed in the 1960s. Although it couldn’t be exactly documented (or not), a box bed added to the room in the 1960s restoration was retained to provide a representation of this iconic feature. The northern addition, built after 1728, features a cellar kitchen and an *opkamer*

(up-room) above it, representing a distinctive component of stone house architecture in the New Paltz area and one only needs to head down the street to the Bevier–Elting House (c.1700/c.1735) to see it again. The south room was added between 1734 and 1741 to serve as the formal parlor and a bedroom for the head of the household.

Isaac LeFevre (1683-1752), son of the Patentee Simon, was the first of that family to establish his homestead at the first set of oxbows on the Wallkill River about four miles north of the village. In 1718 he built a stone house at the east end of the first neck of land jutting north into the first oxbow and sited his house near the bottom of the U-shaped



Fig. 3 – Daniel LeFevre House, Bontecoe. Built c.1751, the last survivor of a cluster of four LeFevre stone houses in Bontecoe. Ralph LeFevre spent his childhood years growing up here.

bend in the river that turned back to a northern direction again and on the east shore where the road from New Paltz Landing arrived at the Wallkill for a fording.<sup>1</sup> Here Isaac operated a scow to ferry people to the other side. Just ten years later, a severe fire had destroyed his place, but fortunately all family members had escaped. Isaac wasted no time in erecting a second home on the site.<sup>2</sup> Isaac had three sons. The oldest, Petrus (1720-1806), stayed with his father and eventually inherited the homestead. Most likely as a wedding gift, Isaac built a stone house, c.1748, for his son, Johannes (1722–1771), 150 yards west of his own along the bend of the river. Isaac did the same for his youngest son, Daniel (1725–1800). This time building a stone house, c.1751, 150 yards to the north along

the bank of the river.<sup>3</sup> An interesting tidbit, at the age of 80, in 1801, Petrus had a will drawn-up that survives to this day. In it he mentions he was in the process of building a new house after living all those years in his father's house. *"Nevertheless it is my will that my loving wife Elisabeth shall have the use of one third part of the house which I am now about building near the Old house during her natural life time..."*<sup>4</sup> This was another 1½ story stone house in the vicinity of his father's place and was inherited by his son Isaac five years later. So it goes to prove, stone houses were not built just at times of marriage. Unfortunately, this house was torn down sometime around the 1930's, but a photograph of it was taken in 1909. In fact, of this cluster of stone houses, the only one to exist and was part of the house tour is Daniel's house at 110 White Duck Road (Fig. 3). It was also the childhood home of Ralph LeFevre, the author of the authoritative *History of New Paltz* written at the beginning of the 20th century. In it he describes fondly about the place; of the low cellar with its immense beams, and the old loft, and the curious little closets and carved chimney front, where the Franklin used to stand. "...but the most interesting of all, there still remains the "Slawbonk" – the square bunk, let down from the chimney side in the living room..., open in the evening and closed up in the daytime. Here, when the writer was a little fellow, three brothers lay side by side. Here, father tells us, when he was a boy also three little children lay side by side."

Despite his expressed desires to keep this house in the family, in 1924, Ralph LeFevre sold it to Margret Jamison, heiress to the Arbuckle family's large estates on both sides of the Wallkill. Miss Jamison hired Myron Teller to "restore" the place to look more like from the colonial period. Teller's hardware is seen all throughout the house with excellent examples on the doors. He also added dormers to admit daylight the upper loft, but with the gable pitched roofs. During the 1960s, these were replaced with the present shed roof version. Today, the downstairs contains of two rooms in the footprint that originally consisted of three. The southern two of the original rooms are from when the house was first erected and the northernmost room was added later by Daniel. The southernmost room is now being used as a living room and has



Fig. 4 – Jacob J. Hasbrouck House, Bontecoe. View the house & surroundings. The house is photogenically sited on a knoll near the center of one of the river's oxbows.



Fig. 5 – Jacob J. Hasbrouck House, Bontecoe, c. 1825.

the original entrance. Now hosting a newer English style fireplace than the jambless that was first there, over on the left side is where Ralph LeFevre described the “Slawbonk” had been. The center section and northernmost addition, which has its own entrance, are now one open dining/kitchen area. The cast iron fireback in the kitchen fireplace is the remnant of a five-plate stove that may have been positioned behind the jambless fireplace originally heating the center room.

In 1823, when Mary LeFevre died while residing in her father-in-law, Johannes's, homestead mentioned earlier, her children scattered. With no Lefevre left to run the farm, it ended up in Jacob J. Hasbrouck's hands. (He lived in a stone house at the north end of Huguenot Street.) Jacob immediately moved into the venerable stone house and started building a 1½ story five-bay house on a knoll nearly in the center of the oxbow in brick laid in a Flemish bond, two rooms deep with a center hall (Figs. 4 & 5). The house has an attached kitchen wing on the west side with a brick exterior but the interior looks to be constructed with materials about a century older. It is documented the original Isaac LeFevre house rebuilt in 1728 after a fire was torn down c. 1825.<sup>5</sup> It may be Jacob used the brick and rebuilt the fireplace with its older style bake oven from the old stone LeFevre house for his kitchen wing as well as using the stone for the foundation and old massive beams within. Soon after Jacob

moved into his new home, it is said the Johannes Lefevre stone house was torn down c. 1830.<sup>6</sup> The current owner discovered purlins running underneath the eyebrow windows of the second story suggesting the original roof was lower and was raised at a later date to add the windows and create living upstairs. During the same renovation, a queen post truss was added with mortise and tenon joints that are wood pegged and exposed within the interior of the second story and running right up to the inside face of the chimneys at either end. Nearly twenty years ago, the current owner of 250 Duck Pond Road, took the structure from a nearly ruinous state and restored it with sensitivity to its original construction with the public getting the opportunity to appreciate his efforts on the day of the tour.

The last property on the tour, at which the end-of-the-day reception was held, holds a special place in WVLT backstory, as it was their first land easement. On Keller Lane off of Old Route 32, overlooking the Wallkill River from the east bank and at the northernmost reach of the Bontecoe, sits a two room, 1½ story half-wood, half-stone house (Fig. 6). New owners have just started a major renovation of the interior that stripped it back to the “skeleton” of the place. It was a great discovery to learn not only is this one of the first houses built outside the village boundaries of New Paltz, but that the timber-framed section on the north end was built first as a



Fig. 6 – Benjamin Freer House, Bontecoe. An early timber-framed one room house c.1715 with a stone addition c.1730.

one-room house. There is evidence of a jambless fireplace on the south wall that possibly was constructed all of stone on a base that remains in the cellar. Where the owner had opened up the wall at the southwest corner, one could see the row of holes on the inside faces of posts to hold the sticking (saplings) wedged between the posts to brace the frame and hold the mud that had been packed within the walls but, as in so many other cases, is now missing. At a later date, the one room stone section was constructed by adding just three stone walls to the south side of the wood-frame house. Interestingly, by the current configuration of the beams that supported the chimney, the jambless fireplace was shifted into the north end of the stone section so that it faced the new room and, by consequence, enlarged the room the timber section by its absence. According to Ralph LeFevre, the house was inherited by Benjamin Freer (b.1735), the youngest of the ten children of Hugo Freer, Jr. (actually the 3rd). It is not clear if he came into its possession through his father or one of his uncles, however, all who had moved to Bontecoe by 1705. A more than fair guess would date the timber frame house to 1706–1716, a time-period the massive cellar beams seem to fit right into. The construction date of the stone addition is much harder to pin down, but was probably erected in either the 1720s or 1730s. This house is a good candidate for dendro-dating.

Each year for the past seven years, Wallkill Valley Land Trust has done an outstanding job selecting

and researching historically significant houses to give the general public the rare opportunity to visit private homes and learn about the historic architecture within the eight townships in which the Trust operates. (These are Esopus, Gardiner, Lloyd, Marboro, New Paltz, Palttekill, Rosendale and Shawanagunk.) Hope to see you at next year's event. The information provided in the article came from the tour's guidebook unless otherwise noted, much of it was sourced from the Haviland-Heidgerd Historical Collection of the Elting Memorial Library in New Paltz.

## The Nosy Neighbor

While they were not on the tour, I would be remiss not to mention a couple of other historic houses that still exist in the Bontecoe region but are both endangered. The first is a stone's throw away from the last house mentioned and also was owned in the Freer family. Located at 623 Old Route 32, the old stone house overlooks the Wallkill River and belonged to Benjamin's older brother, Johannes (1726–1797), the 6th of Hugo's 10 children. Johannes married Agetta Deyo, who is listed as the owner of the house on the 1798 tax list. Last October, I discovered the north wall closest to the river collapsed (*Figs. 7 & 8*). This gable end had the fireplace and chimney, and if I had to guess, the hearth support must have failed causing the chimney to collapse taking the entire wall with it. In addition,





Fig. 7 – Johannes Freer House, Bontecoe, c.1750. Photo taken 2009.



Fig. 8 – Johannes Freer House, Bontecoe, c.1750. Photo taken 2016

about 25% of that end of the house collapsed with it including a window on the south elevation. It appears the owner is attempting to save it, storing the beams and other materials on the side, but the reconstruction will not be a restoration as the rebuilt hearth support is now made out of cinderblock. However, upon a few follow up visits this year, it does not look like any further progress has been made.

In the middle of Bontecoe, between the LeFevres to the south and the Freers to the north, is where the Deyos had settled, the first being Hendricus (b.1690), and erected an early stone house. It is not certain if the house that survives at the end

of Saddlebred Lane was built by Hendricus or his son Benjamin, or both. Since this is a typical Dutch linear stone house obviously built in phases, a plausible theory is that the father built the oldest section and the son the rest. Members of HVVA toured this house several years ago, when the owner was just starting renovations. Unfortunately, after that visit, the house has sat idle and now neglected. The metal roof is starting to peel off and I'm afraid it will only be a short matter of time before it becomes a ruin or worse someone decides to tear it down.

*For more information about these houses and more, go to [www.HVVA.org](http://www.HVVA.org) and click on the "Mapping History" link under the "Research & Resources" heading. Please send any comments you have to [kaw569@yahoo.com](mailto:kaw569@yahoo.com) or by mail to 12 Orchard Dr., 2nd Floor, Gardiner, NY 12525. If "HVVA" is included at the beginning on the subject line of the email, it will help me expedite a response.*

Fig. 9 – Benjamin Deyo House, Bontecoe, 1720s/40s.



#### ENDNOTES

- <sup>1</sup> New Paltz, NY, Elting Memorial Library, Haviland-Heidgerd Historical Collection, Map of New Paltz, 1798.
- <sup>2</sup> Ralph LeFevre. *History of New Paltz NY & Its Old Families* (1909), pg. 433-34.
- <sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*, pg. 435.
- <sup>4</sup> Petrus LeFevre and Elizabeth Vernoooy website hosted by rootsweb, an Ancestry Community, [http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~mlbgen/LeFevre\\_Petrus.html](http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~mlbgen/LeFevre_Petrus.html).
- <sup>5</sup> LeFevre, *History of New Paltz*, pg. 432.
- <sup>6</sup> *Ibid.*, pg. 441.

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### Upcoming Events

- October 7** Bus trip to Old Bethpage Village, Long Island
- November 18** Marbletown and more by Ken Krabbenhoft
- December 9** Kingston House Tour by Rob Sweeney / Holiday Luncheon, Ulster Co.

**For more information, please check [www.HVVA.org](http://www.HVVA.org)**