

The Yelverton Inn, Store, and Barn are located at 100-104 Main Street, Chester, NY, and are on the National Register of Historic Places (**NRHP reference No.80002733**).

These buildings have been silent witnesses to significant events that shaped the nation. When you walk through their doors, you step back in time. The Inn has undergone little alteration from its beginnings, and maintaining these architectural gems with their notable histories is of the utmost importance in the story of not just Chester, Orange County, or New York, but of America.

The Yelverton Inn was constructed by **John Yelverton in 1765**, with an addition added in 1775, and has remained largely unchanged throughout its history. This remarkable building has hosted significant moments in American history.

Notably, on September 3, 1774, local voters convened at the Inn to elect **Henry Wisner** of Goshen, NY, as their delegate to the First Continental Congress—a key event leading up to the American Revolution.

(<https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/8/8b/>

[A second memorial of Henry Wisner \(IA secondmemorialof00burd\).pdf](#) Page 15)

During the Revolutionary War, **Colonel Alexander Hamilton**, General George Washington's aide-de-camp, and **Captain Caleb Gibbs**, commander of General George Washington's guards, stopped at the Yelverton on November 1, 1777 on their way from Philadelphia to Albany and on November 14, 1777 on their return trip. This is a documented expense (noted as Chester) held by the Library of Congress, adding an irreplaceable element of history.

(https://www.loc.gov/resource/mgw5.117_0549_0925/?sp=215&st=text)

As Paymaster to the Quartermaster General Department, Peter Anspach's Records of Disbursements show a payment made to Timothy Pickering, Quartermaster General of the Army, in February of 1781 in the Amount of 500 and for

A. Yelverton's Receipt (Abijah Yelverton).

(<https://catalog.archives.gov/id/607130?objectPage=22>)

Robert Erskine was a significant figure in the American Revolutionary War, serving as a mapmaker for General George Washington. He was appointed Geographer and Surveyor General on July 27, 1777, and during his tenure, his mapping agency created over 200 precise and detailed maps for the Continental Army. In 1782, he created a map that included an important stop for General George Washington and his army, the Yelverton in Chester.

(<https://digitalcollections.nyhistory.org/items/136908-roads-new-windsor-goshen-florida-chester-c-no-128-2nd-robert-erskine-frs-geogr-us-and>)

George Washington himself was entertained at the Inn on July 27, 1782, during his travels between Philadelphia and Newburgh. His visit is documented in his expense report¹ and Major Walker's expense report² both held by the Library of Congress, adding a layer of historical significance to this cherished site.

1. (https://www.loc.gov/resource/mgw5.116_1803_1894/?sp=43&st=text)

2. (https://www.loc.gov/resource/mgw5.117_0001_0222/?sp=117)

Before the Wawayanda v. Cheesecock trial, in which the patentees disputed the boundaries of these land patents, renowned attorneys, **Alexander Hamilton and Aaron Burr**, were staying at the Yelverton in March 1785. During this stay, probably in preparation for the trial, Aaron Burr informed Alexander Hamilton that the house Hamilton and his wife were renting was for sale. Hamilton then wrote a letter to his wife, dated March 17, 1785, from the Yelverton Inn, asking her to buy it. The Library of Congress holds this letter.

(https://www.loc.gov/resource/mss24612.002_0352_0458/?sp=17&st=image).

Then, from May to October of 1785, the Yelverton barn became a courtroom for the Wawayanda v. Cheesecock Patents Trial. **Alexander Hamilton and Aaron Burr** were representing the Wawayanda Patentees, marking a notable chapter in legal history. Hamilton's financial records¹, held by the Library of Congress, reflect his stay at the Yelverton Inn during this time, as do his legal notes² that he penned during the trial — another piece of history that makes this location invaluable.

1. (https://www.loc.gov/resource/mss24612.029_0403_0454/?sp=22&r=0.48,-0.026,0.47,0.235,0)

2. (https://www.loc.gov/resource/mss24612.028_0346_0384/?sp=1&st=slideshow#slide-2)

On November 17, 1797, Innkeeper **Abijah Yelverton**, John Yelverton's grandson and second generation to own the Inn, was appointed librarian after a public library was established at the inn with 100 titles to lend.

Meanwhile, the Store, built in 1841, showcases Greek Revival architecture and remains one of the few examples of commercial buildings from that era still standing today.