

Tarrytown June 15th. 1884.
Mrs. Van Cortlandt,

Madam:—

I received your last note in due time. I desire to say that when I wrote to you my first note in answer to yours, as you will see, that I was not positive about Mr. Hanes land, it being so far down the River, On a more careful examination, I find that tradition seems to point to the grooves in the rock on Brandeths beach as the "mouth of Croton River".

But in the 'Royal Patent' to Philips (see Boulton's History ^{1st Edition} 1848) pages 523 and 525) which is there described, as being bounded by the land of Stevanus Van Cortlandt, "and so eastward into the woods along "the said creek or river two English miles, "and from thence upon a direct east line &c."

Now it has been satisfactorily ascertained, that the Southern line of the 'Van Cortlandt Manor' comes into a tree on the South easterly side of the Croton River, opposite Deer Island. Now measuring 2 English miles from said tree (and which is marked) along the southerly, or south easterly side, of the Croton,

it comes to that part of 'Crawbuckey point', where it leaves the sedge, in other words becomes a true point that is at low water. The terminus is about 1200 feet, northerly from Haines north line.

The 'Royal Charter' of Frederick Philip in which the line between the manor of Van Cortlandt and Philip's manor, is described, and which was copied from the records in the office of the Secretary of State at Albany, and found in Vol. II of Boudton's History of Westchester 1st edition 1848, p. 423.

As I said above tradition seems to point to a line farther down the river:—

see Boudton Vol. I p. 503. "On the margin"
"of the river" are two deep groves, apparently "
"chiselled in a hard gneiss rock. "
"These marks indicate the commencement"
"of a two mile line of the manor of "
"Philipburg, which according to the "
"royal patent (see vol II p. 423) extended "
"2 miles north from the mouth of the river,"
"until it struck the southern line of "
"Cortlandt manor. ~~See an old map~~"

In an old "map of the township of "
" Bedford, Stamford, Greenwich, the "
" North River, and Neigh-towank "
" or Croton's River, by a survey, April "
" the 6th ye., 1763. by Charles Webb, "
" Surveyor", two spots are marked. "
" First, "the station fixed by Cortlandt "
" at the sand beach to measure up the "
" river." This lies nearly midway "
" between the Sing Sing brook, and the "
" next stream to the north.
" Secondly, a "rock four chains and "
" sixty links north of the brook", (the first "
" above the Sing Sing brook) "fixed by "
" Bedford committee to begin to meas- "
" up the River; (from the original map "
" in the possession of the Hon. Williams "
" Jay, Bedford."

It would appear from the
above, that, none but the people, who
have acquired a right to the beach, by
long usage for fishing purposes,
can object to the Application.

That, above the two mile point,
the fee simple is in the Van Cortlandt
Estate.

Yours very truly,

Ward Carpenter.

