HISTORIC RED HOOK



7675
Albany Post Road
Town of Red Hook, NY
ABrief History

Prepared for: Jane Ferguson July, 2024

Prepared by: Historic Red Hook 7562 N. Broadway PO Box 397 Red Hook, NY 12571

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<u>Dillman</u>

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Mancari

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Researched and written by Historic Red Hook volunteers. All photographs courtesy Historic Red Hook.

The House

The two-story frame house on one acre at 7675 Albany Post Road owned by Jane Ferguson stands out as the only 19th century house along a stretch of one-story homes from the 1940s to the 1970s. A 1987 inventory of historic houses estimated it was built about 1860 (Figure 1). Research has since confirmed it was built in 1878.

The Ferguson house typifies Italianate architecture in fashion from the 1840s through the 1880s, featuring a hipped roof, ornamented and bracketed cornice, and two-over-two windows. The L-shaped form is asymmetrical, with a wing set back off the south side of the house. The porch, also with bracketed cornice, runs along the front and wraps along the south wing of the house (Figure 2).

The rear additions were later: one of two stories, with a large kitchen downstairs and bedrooms upstairs, and another, the one-story sunroom. Both have expansive views of the farmland and large elms behind the house (Figures 3, 3a). Stately Norway spruces, typically planted in the 19th century as windbreaks, protect the northern exposure. (Figure 4).

Interior alterations have been made over the years, such as the division of the large room north of the entry hall into a living room and adjoining library, as evidenced by awkward adjustments to the ceiling molding (Figure 5).

The basement does not show any evidence of construction earlier than 1878. The beams and posts are rough-sawn, not hand-hewn (Figure 6). There is a barn on the property that appears to be as old or older than the house (Figure 7).

Early History

The house sits on what was once part of a large farm along the busy road connecting New York City to Albany. Early in the 18th century the road was named the Queen's Highway in honor of England's newly crowned Queen Anne. With the later accession to the throne of King George I, it became the King's Highway. However, well before the Revolution, it was commonly known as the 'post' road for the runners who delivered the mail. By the end of the 18th century, there was daily stagecoach service along the Post Road. The circa 1760 Elmendorph Inn was an important way stop, anchoring the small settlement that had grown up around it, now the Village of Red Hook.

In 1751, second-generation German Palatine settler and farmer Hendrick Martin leased from Henry Beekman a plot of land strategically located on the Post Road between the Elmendorph Inn and a grist mill on the Saw Kill. His stone house stands at the end of what is now Willowbrook Lane. Martin later divided the farm between his sons, David and Gottlieb. Gottlieb built his own stone house on the southern part of the farm bordering the Post Road. For generations this house has been known as the Martin-Cookingham house or, simply, the Cookingham house, for the family who succeeded the Martins.

In 1863, John R. Faure is recorded as having sold to David P. Lord (acting on behalf of his younger brother, John H. Lord, a minor) 131 acres of the Martin farm, including the original Hendrick Martin house, ² and John H. Lord's name appears on the 1867 Beers map next to the house, then called "Brookside" (Figure 8). Lord then sold the property to Edgar L. Traver for \$14,000 in 1871.³ Both the 1876 Gray map (Figure 9) and James H. Smith's *History of Duchess County* ⁴ cite Traver as resident in the Hendrick Martin House.

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BUILDING-STRUCTURE INVENTORY FORM



NYS OFFICE OF PARKS, RECREATION & HISTORIC PRESERVATION DIVISION FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION

5 NEW YORK STATE 5 (518) 474-0479

| FOR OFFICE USE ONLY |
|---------------------|
| UNIQUE SITE NO |
| SERIES |
| NEG. NO. |

| YOUR NAME: Diane Levitt DATE: 6/15/87 |
|--|
| 15 Conklin Street |
| YOUR ADDRESS: New Hamburg, NY 12560 TELEPHONE: (914) 297-3142 |
| |
| ORGANIZATION (if any): <u>Dutchess County Historical Society</u> |
| |
| * |
| IDENTIFICATION |
| 1. BUILDING NAME(S): |
| 2. COUNTY: Dutchess TOWN/CITY: Red Hook VILLAGE: Red Hook |
| 3. STREET LOCATION: North Broadway |
| 4. OWNERSHIP: a. public b. private 3 |
| 5. PRESENT OWNER:ADDRESS: |
| 6. OSE: Original: Residence Present: Residence |
| 7. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: Exterior visible from public road: Yes 🗆 x No 🗆 |
| Interior accessible: Explain |
| DESCRIPTION |
| 8. BUILDING a. clapboard $\square x$ b. stone \square c. brick \square d. board and batten \square |
| MATERIAL: e. cobblestone f. shingles g. stucco other: |
| |
| 9. STRUCTURAL a. wood frame with interlocking joints |
| SYSTEM: b. wood frame with light members 🔯 |
| (if known) c. masonry load bearing walls |
| d. metal (explain) |
| e. other |
| o. Condition. a. excelent $\subseteq \mathbf{x}$ b. good \subseteq c. fair \subseteq d. deteriorated \subseteq |
| INTEGRITY: a. original site □x b. moved □ if so, when? |
| c. list major alterations and dates (if known): |

12. PHOTO:

13. MAP:



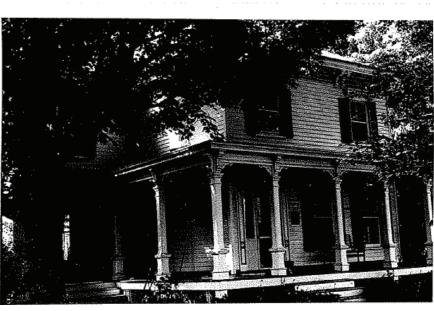


Figure 1 - 1987 NYS Building Structure Inventory Form, page 1

| 14 | d. developers c. roads c. roads c. deterioration c. roads | |
|------------|--|---|
| 15 | f. other: | |
| | a. barn b. carriage house c. garage | |
| | d. privy e. shed f. greenhouse g. shop h. gardens | |
| | i. landscape features: | |
| | j. other: | - |
| 16 | SURROUNDINGS OF THE BUILDING (check more than one if necessary): | |
| | a. open land x b. woodland C c. scattered buildings C | |
| | d. densely built-up e. commercial | |
| | f. industrial 🔲 g. residential 🔀 | |
| | h. other: | _ |
| 17 | INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS: (Indicate if building or structure is in an historic district) | |
| - | Structure lies among contemporary homes at the north end of | |
| | the main thoroughfare in the village of Red Hook. | |
| 18. | OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING AND SITE (including interior features if known): | |
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Figure 2 - Exterior view, southeast elevation



Figure 3 - Exterior view, west elevation and close-up of additions



Figure 3a - Exterior view, west elevation and close-up of additions



Figure 4 - Exterior view, north elevation

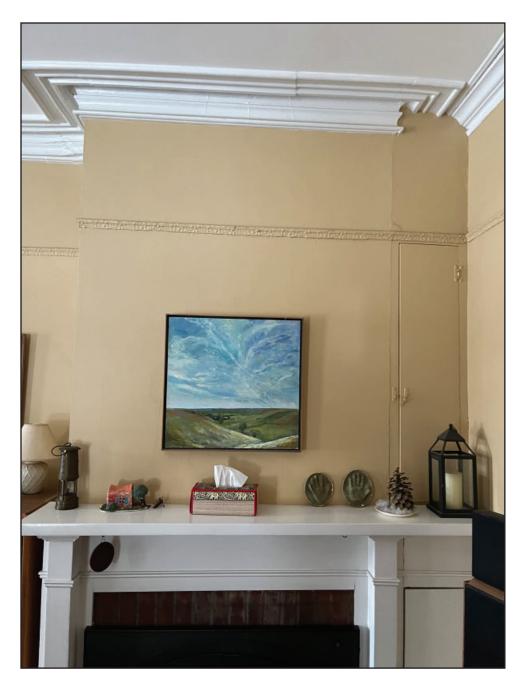


Figure 5 - Interior, front living room

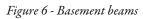






Figure 7 - Barn west of the house

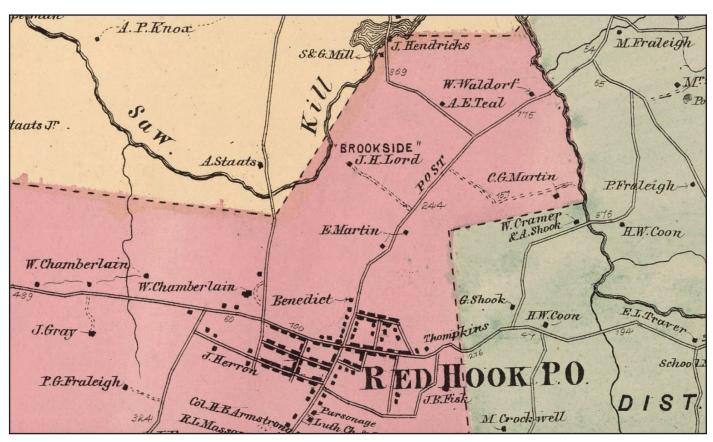


Figure 8 - 1867 detail of Frederick W. Beers map of Dutchess County

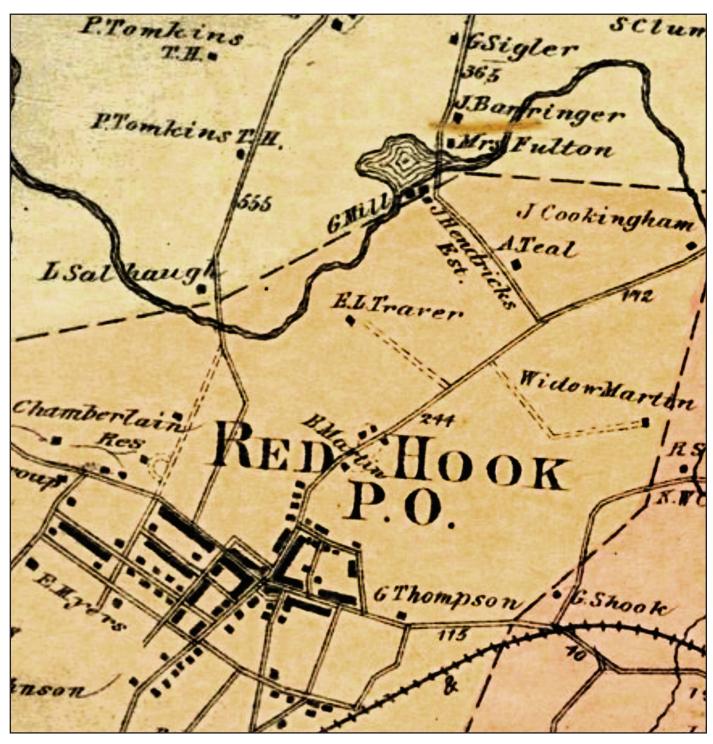


Figure 9 - 1876 detail of O. W. Gray map of Dutchess County

Edgar Lewis Traver (1829-1905) Owner 1871-1878



Figure 10 - Evert Traver, father of Edgar Traver

Edgar Traver was born to Evert Traver and Helen Shook Traver in 1829 (Figures 10 & 11). A prosperous farmer and landowner, he eventually owned several other parcels in the area.

The farm he purchased from Lord is listed in the 1875 New York State agricultural census with a value of \$14,000, including \$3,000 in farm buildings, \$1,500 in livestock, and \$1,600 of gross sales (Figure 12).



Figure 11 - Helen Traver, mother of Edgar Traver

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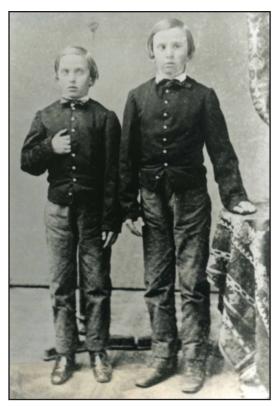


Figure 13 - Arthur and Ranson, sons of Edgar and Anna Margaret Traver

FOUND MEAD IN MED

Death Comes to Captain Westfall at Eed Book-A Well Rnown River Man.

Captain Lyman Weetfall, for nearly a generation one of the best known steambost men on the river, running with the Citizens' line of Troy, was found dead in his bed at his home, a short distance north of the village of Red Hook, on Sunday morning. For thirty years he was captain of one of the hig steamers of that line and came to be very well known all along the river. Fifteen years ago he retired from the river and lived quietly in Red Hook, where he had a comfortable home and the happiness of a large circle of friends who respected him.

Captain Westfall was 88 years of age, and it was known that in the natural order of things his life's end must be very near, but it was not expected that the end would come as it did. He leaves a widow. The funeral will take place on Wednesday, and the interment will be at Nassau, N. Y.

Poughkeepsie News-Press, May 5, 1902

Figure 15 - Poughkeepsie News-Press, May 5, 1902, Lyman Westfall obituary

Traver was married three times – first to Anna Margaret, who bore their two sons, Seth Arthur and Ranson (Figure 13) and died in 1865. In 1866, he wed Catharine E. Benedict, who passed in 1895. Lastly, he married Mary Piester in 1897. He died on July 16, 1905 and is buried in St. Paul's Lutheran cemetery in the Village of Red Hook.⁵

Lyman Westfall (1815-1902) and Catharine (Hoyt) Westfall (1822-1903) Owners 1878-1899

The first deed to the one-acre Ferguson lot records the sale by Edgar and Catharine Traver to Catharine Westfall (wife of Lyman Westfall) in 1878.⁶ The transaction was noted in the *Red Hook Journal* (Figure 14). Although not documented, we surmise the Travers and the Westfalls were related, hence the transaction.⁷ According to his obituary, Lyman, a riverboat captain, was "one of the best known steamboat men on the river" (Figure 15).

Born in Rensselaer County, Catharine and Lyman were married in Brooklyn in 1844 and raised two children there, Alice August and Samuel DeWitt. The *Red Hook Journal* reported that the Westfalls broke ground for their new house in June 1878 (Figure 16). They first appear living in Red Hook in the 1880 Federal Census (Figure 17). The 1892 New York State Census lists the Westfalls and Theodore and Anna Cookingham as neighbors (Figure 18). (Cookingham descendants recently sold the Martin/Cookingham farm to the Town of Red Hook).

The Red Hook Journal.

FRIDAY, APRIL 26, 1878.

We learn that Mr. E. L. Traver bas sold an acre of land from his farm just north of this village to Mr. L. Westfall who will erect a fine house thereon during the summer.

Figure 14 - Red Hook Journal, April 26, 1878

Ground was broken for the new house of Mr. L. Westfall, on Monday, on the lot recently purched of Mr. E. L. Traver.

Figure 16 - Red Hook Journal, June 21, 1878

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Figure 17 - 1880 U.S. Federal Census, Catharine and Lyman Westfall

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Figure 18 - 1892 U.S. Federal Census, Catharine and Lyman Westfall

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Figure 19 - August 5, 1897 Boston marriage registry, No. 57, William K. & Marietta Niver

The Westfalls sold their house to William K. Niver of Syracuse in 1899.8 The 1900 Federal Census still lists Lyman, age 84 and Catharine, age 76, at the property, so perhaps the new owners leased it back to them. Upon Lyman's death at 88 in 1902, Catharine returned to her Rensselaer County hometown of Nassau. They are buried together in the Nassau-Schodack cemetery.9

William Kingman Niver (1835-1907) and Marietta Squire (1835-1905) Owners 1899-1902

Kinderhook native William Niver was a prominent Syracuse businessman with substantial holdings in railroads and coal. He and Marietta, his second wife, were married in Boston in 1897, two years before he bought the house in Red Hook, when he was 61 and she 57 (Figure 19). There is no evidence that they ever lived in the house before selling it less than three years later. After a series of financial reverses and a debilitating illness, Niver was

The Post-Standard (Syracuse, New York) · 20 Feb 1907, Wed · Page 11

IN PURSUANCE OF AN ORDER OF the Special Term of the Onondaga County Court, duly granted on the 8th day of February, 1907, I, the undersigned committee of the reson and estate of William K. Niver. a limatic, will sell at public auction to the highest bidder at the front door of the new Court House in the City of Syracuse. Onondaga County. New York, on the 18th day of February, 1967, at ten o'clock in the forenoon of that day, all of the stocks, bonds, notes and accounts receivable, and other personal property belonging to haid lunatic, new in my hands, consisting of stock and bonds in the Onondaga Vitrified Brick Company; International Contracting Company; Skineateles Railroad Company; Greenlawn Cemetery Association: Syracuse Shoe Manufacturing Company; Phoenix Hardware Manufacturing Company; Syracuse Cigar and Tobacco Company and miscollancous notes and accounts to-ceivable.

A schedula showing the pumber of ccivable.

A schedule showing the number of shares of stock and the amount of bonds in each of the glorementlened companies. and the notes and accounts, together with the terms upon which said sale will be made, will remain on file in my office, No. 24 Syracuse Sovings Bank Building, Syracuse, N. Y., where it can be seen and examined up to the time of sale.

Dated Syracuse, N. Y., February 16:11,

Figure 21 - The Post Standard (Syracuse, New York), Feb 20, 1906

declared a 'lunatic' by the Onondaga County Court and his possessions sold at auction. He died in 1907 and is interred under a large monument in Oakwood Cemetery, Syracuse¹⁰ (Figures 20-23).

WILLIAM K. NIVER IS DECLARED INCOMPETENT

William K. Niver, a prominent business man of Syracuse, formerly superintendent of the Binghamton & Syracuse railroad and well known in this city, has been declared incompetent. He has suffered financial reverses lately and his health has been poor. The estate is valued at \$144,000.

Figure 20 - Press and Sun Bulletin (Binghamton, New York), Feb 16, 1906

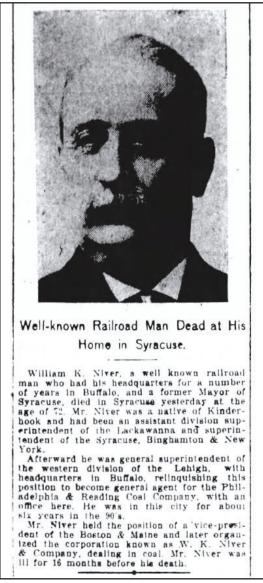


Figure 22 - The Buffalo News, April 1, 1907, William K. Niver obituary

Buffalo Courier (Buffalo, New York) 1 Apr 1907, Mon · Page 1

EX-MAYOR AND CAPITALIST DEAD

William K. Niver of Syracuse Passes Away After Illness Lasting More Than a Year — Lost \$500,000 on a Trolley Deal.

CONNECTED WITH MANY RAILROADS

(By Associated Press.)

Syracuse, March 31.—William K. Niver, former mayor, died today aged 72 years. Mr. Niver was born in Kinderhook and for twelve years was manager of a transportation company with headquarters in New York. He was later an assistant superintendent of a division of the D., L. & W. Railroad, and superintendent of the Syracuse, Binghamton & New York. Afterward he was general superintendent of the western division of the Lehigh Valley and also general agent for the Reading Coal Company. For a time he was vice president of the Boston & Maine Railroad and upon leaving this office organized the corporation of W. K. Niver & Company handling coal with offices in Boston, Baltimore, Syracuse and Oswego.

Mr. Niver had been ill for sixteen months, his mind having weakened after he had backed a local trolley enterprise for \$500,000 and which proved a failure.

Figure 23 - The Buffalo Courier April 1, 1907, William K. Niver obituary

Nathaniel L. Morehouse (1852-1914) and Henrietta Rowe Morehouse (1856-1921) Owners 1902-1921

The next owner, Milan farmer Nathaniel Morehouse married Henrietta Rowe in 1893 (Figure 24) and bought the property in 1902. ¹¹ (Figure 25). The Morehouses were active in Red Hook social circles (Figures 26 & 27) and Nathaniel was a director of the Rhinebeck Bank. A 1905 *Red Hook Journal* article recounts an amusing incident near the house reflecting the early days of automobiles on the Post Road (Figure 28).



Figure 24 - Red Hook Journal, November 24, 1893

The place of the late Lyman Westfall, north of this village, has been purchased by Mr. Nathaniel Morehouse, of Milan, for \$1,500.

Figure 25 - Red Hook Journal, May 23, 1902

The Thimble Society were entertained by Mrs. Nathaniel Morehouse Tuesday. The next meeting will be at Mrs. E C. Perrine's house.

Figure 26 - Red Hook Journal, November 4, 1904

Mrs. Theodore F. Cookingham and Mrs. Nathaniel Morehouse visited New York this week.

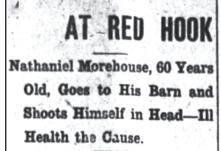
Figure 27 - Red Hook Journal, November 25, 1904

Cited by the 1910 Federal Census as retired ("depends on his own income"), he grew despondent after a long illness and committed suicide in 1914 (Figures 29 & 30). Nathaniel had bequeathed the house to Henrietta and when she died in 1921, the property went to her sisters, Mary S. Rowe and Julia C. Rowe.

While Mrs. James Tiffany was driving accompanied by Mrs. Calvin Hapeman, on the old post road near Red Hook Saturday, they met an automobile occupied by four people. The driver disregarding Mrs. Tiffany's signals to stop his machine came right on at rapid speed. The horse was frightened and jumped over a fence. The horse, wagon, harness and occupants of the wapon were injured. The auto had not the number in sight as the law requires and when Nathaniel Morehouse demanded to see it the driver of the auto reluctantly showed It to him. The woman giggled and acted as if she was witnessing a huge joke. The guilty party should be made to pay full damages. Such conduct makes automobiles unpopular and should be punished.

Figure 28 - Red Hook Journal, June 6, 1905

Poughkeepsie Eagle-News 23 Oct 1914, Fri · Page 5



TAKES LIFE

WAS WELL KNOWN

The lifeless body of Nathaniel Morehouse, a director of the Rhinebeck Bank, was found with a bullet wound in the head in the barn at the rear of his residence, a mile north of the village of Red Hook at five o'clock Thursday evening by his wife. Continued ill health it is supposed led Mr. Morehouse, who was sixty years old to shoot himself Coroner Harry J. Selfridge of this city returned from the scene late Thursday night and pronounced the death a suicide.

Mr. Morehouse retired from active business several years ago and lived with his wife on a small place a half mile beyond the Hoffman Inn on the left hand side of the road. The couple keep no servants and it has been the habit of Mr. Norehouse to attend to the duties at the barn while his wife did the housekeeping.

Worried over his continued absence, Thursday afternoon, Mrs. Morehouse, went out to the barn and there found the body of her husband, dead upon the floor. Nearby lay the revolver with which he shot himself.

She later declared that she had heard no sound from the barn during the afternoon:

About three years ago Mr. and Mrs. Morehouse moved to Red Hook from Milan. Up until within the last few months Mr. Morehouse has been in good health but of late has appeared low spirited and melancholy. Dr. H. L. Cookingham has been attending Mr. Morehouse and he was called by Mrs. Morehouse immediately following the discovery of the body. When he arrived, however, it was found that Mr. Morehouse had died instantly and Coroner Selfridge was notified.

Mr. Morehouse is survived by his widow, a step brother, Ezra L. Morehouse of Milan. a political figure who is well known all over Dutchess County and a brother Rush, who resides at Rock City.

Arrangements for the funeral and for the burial will be announced later.

Mr. Morehouse came down to the village of Red Hook Wednesday and in conversation with John Troy. brother of Peter H. Troy of this city, said that he had not been feeling well of late. He appeared somewhat depressed but gave no hint of any intention to end his life. He was also down to the village again Thursday morning.

Figure 30 - Poughkeepsie Eagle-News, October 23, 1914, Nathaniel Morehouse Obituary

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Annie Elisabeth (Sheehan) Cotter, (1857-1930) Owner 1923-1930

In quick turn, the Rowe sisters sold the house two years later to Annie Cotter ¹² (Figure 31), widow of Rock City farmer Lawrence Cotter (1843-1907). They had four children: George P., Lawrence E., Margret M., and Alise A. In the 1925 NYS Census, Annie is listed as head of household, age 67, living with her 25-year-old daughter Alice (Alise), whose occupation is listed as 'bookkeeper' (Figure 32).

Second son Lawrence Edward went to medical school, endearing himself over the ensuing decades to Red Hook as, simply,



Above, Figure 31 - Annie Cotter

Doctor Cotter. In her own right, Alise became locally famous as the longtime editor and general manager of the *Red Hook Advertiser*, serving from 1926 to 1966. As reported by her paper, she married Donald ("Don") Norton in 1929, celebrating their wedding reception in the house (Figure 33). The 1930 Federal Census lists Annie living with Alise and Don, values the property at \$12,000, and also notes that they have a 'radio set' (Figure 34).

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Figure 32 - 1925 New York State census, Annie Cotter

Popular Couple Wed At Red Hook Last Saturday

Miss A. Alise Cotter Became Bride of Donald E. Norton in Impressive Ceremony Held at Church of St. Christopher.

A very pretty wedding service was solemnized at St. Christopher's church of Red Hook when at 6 o'clock last Saturday afternoon, Miss A. Alise Cotter, daughter of Mrs Annie E. Cotter of Red Hook became the bride of Donald E. Norton, son of Mr and Mrs Edward F. Norton, also of Red Hook, at a ceremony at which the Rev. Cornelius Fitzsimmons, rector of the church, assisted by the Rev. William E. Gill, rector of the Church of Good Shepherd of Rhinebeck, officiated.

The bride was attended by her sister, Mrs Malcolm R. Grahame of Poughkeepsie, Mr Grahame acting as best man. John H. Cotter and Edward Norton, both of New York city,

acted as ushers.

The bride was attractively attired in a bouffant gown of imported white Gwiss lace over white satin with hat to match, and carried a bouquet of Easter lillies and lillies of the valley. Her attendant wore orient chiffon with picture hat to match and car-

ried rose gladiolas.

Percy Barnes, organist of St. Paul's Lutheran church, rendered the incidental music and played Lohengrin's wedding march when the bridal party entered the church, the bride appearing on the arm of her eldest brother, George P. Cotter, who gave her in marriage. Prior to the ceremony, Mrs Lawrence E. Cotter rendered the vocal solo, "I Love You Truly," following it with "O, Promise Me," as the ceremony itself took place. Mrs Cotter is possessed of a voice of wonderful purity and richness and to which her selections proved admirably adapted.



Following the ceremony a reception, together with a catered luncheon, were held on the lawn of the Cotter home, about forty guests attending. At the conclusion of the reception the happy couple left for a motor trip through northern New York and Canada.

The groom's gift to the bride was a white gold bracelet set with saphires.

The bride's gift to her bridesmaid was a pearl and crystal necklace. The groom's gift to the best man was a wallet and to the ushers, cigarette cases.

This ceremony, the second of its kind to be held in the auditorium of St. Christopher's, was perhaps one of the most impressive as well as one of the most beautiful that the vast throng which packed the interior of the church has ever witnessed, the quietly impressive ceremony and the beautiful floral decorations of gladioli and potted ferns all combining to give the occasion an air of dignity and impart to it an impressiveness that one would find hard to equal.

The following were present at the reception and luncheon: Mr and Mrs



Donald E. Norton, Mrs Annie E. Cotter of Red Hook, Dr. and Mrs John H. Cotter of Poughkeepsie, John H. Cotter of Red Hook, Dr. and Mrs Lawrence Cotter and son of Brooklyn, Mr and Mrs Malcolm R. Grahame of Poughkeepsie, Dr. and Mrs George Shelham of Brooklyn, Mr and Mrs Jas. Shehan of Brooklyn, Mrs Norah and Miss Mae O'Neill of Rhinebeck, Miss Charlotte Dolger of Rhinebeck, Mrs John Kerley of Cleveland, Mr and Mrs Edward Norton of Red Hook, Mr and Mrs William Norton of Red Hook, Mr and Mrs George Norton and Mr and Mrs John Norton of New York city, Mr and Mrs Robert Ivers of Red Hook, Miss Anna Baxter of New York city, Mrs James Baxter of Red Hook. Mr and Mrs William Houghton of Red Hook, and the Rev. Cornelius Fitzsimmons of Barrytown.

Figure 33 - Red Hook Advertiser, August 15, 1929 Wedding Reception

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Figure 34 - 1930 U.S. Federal Census, Annie Cotter, Alise and Don Norton

Poughkeepsie Eagle-News 17 lun 1930, Tue

MRS. E. A. COTTER DIES AT RED HOOK

Pneumonia Attack Proves Fatal To Stanfordville Native; Funeral Thursday

(Special to The Easte-News)
Red Hook, June 16—Mrs. Annie
E. Cotter, 73, died today at her
hmoe in Red Hook after an illness
with lobar pneumonia.

Mrs. Cotter, who had been a resident of this village for approximately seven years, was the widow of Lawrence Cotter. She is survived by three sons, George P. Cotter,

of Lawrence Cotter. She is survived by three sons, George P. Cotter, Red Hook; Dr. Lowrence E. Cotter and John H. Cotter, Brooklyn; two daughters, Mrs. Malcolm hame, Poughkeepsie and Mrs. Don-Hook: ald E. Norton, Red grandchildren. Margaret Grahame, Poughkeepsle and Lawrence E. Cotter, 3rd, Brooklyn; two nephews, Dr. George A. Sheeham and James E. Sheehan, Brooklyn,

Born in Stanfordville, July 24, 1856, a daughter of James and Bridget Sheehan, Mrs. Cotter spent most of her life in Milan. The funeral will be held at 9:80 o'clock Thursday morning from her home and at 10 o'clock from St. Christopher's Roman Catholic Church, Red Hook, where a mass of requiem will be celebrated by the Rev. Cornelius Fitzsimmons, Interment will be at St. Peter's Cemetery in charge of Carroll & Son, Rhinebeck.

Figure 35 - Red Hook Advertiser, June 19, 1930, Annie Cotter obituary

After Annie's death in 1930 (Figure 35), her son George, as executor, sold the house to Louis William Dillman. 13 Of interest here is Dutchess County's 1936 aerial photo of Red Hook, showing the house, alone, surrounded by the expansive Cookingham farmland. (Figure 36).

Right: Figure 36 - 1936 aerial map showing farmland around property



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Figure 37 - 1940 U.S. Federal Census, Louis W., Lillian, and Louis G. Dillman

Louis William Dillman (1886-1961) and Lillian (Vogel) Dillman (1891-1962) Owners 1936-1959

Brooklyn firefighter Louis Dillman, age 26, married Lillian Vogel, age 21, in 1912 in Brooklyn. Leaving the New York City Fire Department in 1932, he and Lillian moved to Red Hook, most likely at the urging of her step-brother, Henry Vogel, who lived on Yantz Road. The 1940 Federal Census lists Louis, age 54, and his wife, age 49, living with their son, Louis G., age 25 (Figure 37). Louis and Lillian died in 1961 and 1962, respectively (Figures 38 & 39).

Fondly to generations of Red Hookers, their son was "Dr. Dillman," *the* dentist in town. He exemplified the "Greatest Generation," to wit: a "Screaming Eagle" of the 101st Airborne Division who parachuted into Normandy on D-day; director, First National Bank of Red Hook; president, Red Hook Central School Board of Education, and with his, wife, Kay, life members of the Egbert Benson Historical Society of Red Hook, precursor to Historic Red Hook. They had two sons, Barry and Randy.

Frank Anthony Mancari, Jr. (1916-2006) and Alice (Murray) Mancari (1919-1987) Owners 1959-1979

The senior Dillmans sold the house to Frank and Alice Mancari in 1959.¹⁴ Frank, of Cold Spring, had married Alice in 1945 in Philipstown. He was Superintendent of Highways for Dutchess County and died in 2006 (Figure 40). Their daughter Alice was married to Dr. Dillman's son, Randy, so again we see family connections in the house's provenance.

Poughkeepsie Journal 5 Sep 1961, Tue · Page 24

Louis Dillman, 75, Red Hook Resident

Louis W. Dillman, 75, a retired New York City fireman, died Saturday night at the Northern Dutchess Health center, Rhinebeck, where he had been a patient for two weeks. His late residence was 44 North Broadway, Red Hook.

Born April 25, 1886, in Brooklyn, he was the son of the late John G. and Mary Schramm Dillman. He married the former Miss Lillian Vogel in New York. After Mr. Dillman's retirement from the New York City Fire department, in 1932, the couple moved to Red Hook.

He was a member of St. Paul's Lutheran church, Red Hook, and of Hillside lodge, Free and Accepted Masons. Brooklyn.

SURVIVORS, in addition to his wife, include a son, Dr. Louis G. Dillman, of Red Hook; two grandsons, Randall and Barry Dillman, Red Hook; and several nephews.

Funeral services for Mr. Dillman were conducted at 2 p.m. today at the Burnett and Rockefeller Funeral home, Red Hook. The Rev. Paul E. Henry officiated. Burial was in St. Paul's Lutheran cemetery.

The Hendrick Hudson lodge, and AM, acting on behalf of he Hillside lodge, Brooklyn, conducted memorial services at he funeral home at 8 o'clock ast night.

Figure 38 - Poughkeepsie Journal, Sept 5, 1961, Louis Dillman obituary

Poughkeepsie Journal 17 Dec 1962, Mon · Page 18

Rites Tomorrow For Mrs. Dillman

Funeral services for Mrs. Louis W. Dillman, 71, of 44 North Broadway, Red Hook, who died Saturday at Vassar hospital after a brief illness, will be conducted tomorrow at 1 p.m. at the Burnett and Rockefeller Funeral home, Red Hook, by the Rev. Paul E. Henry, pastor of St. Paul's Lutheran church, Red Hook.

Born in Brooklyn, Mrs. Dillman was the former Lillian Vogel, daughter of John G. and Mary Sick Vogel. She was the mother of Dr. Louis G. Dillman, a dentist in Red Hook, and the wife of Louis W. Dillman who died in 1961. Mrs. Dillman was a member of St. Paul's Lutheran church. Red Hook, the United Lutheran Church Women Group II of the church, a charter member of the Red Hook American Legion auxiliary, and a member of the Red Hook Garden club, the Red Hook Grange, and the Hendrick Hudson chapter, Order of the Eastern

Surviving, in addition to her son, are two grandchildren, Randall and Barry Dillman, Red Hook, and several nephews.

Interment will be in St. Paul's Lutheran cemetery, Red Hook. Friends may call at the funeral home tonight from 7 to 9 o'clock. The Red Hook American Legion auxiliary will meet at the funeral home tonight at 7:30 o'clock and the Order of the Eastern Star will conduct services at 8 o'clock.

Poughkeepsie Journal 2 Mar 2006, Thu · Page 4B

Frank A. Mancari

RED HOOK - Frank A. Mancari, age 90, a long time resident of Red Hook, NY, formerly of Cold Spring, NY died on Tuesday, February 28, 2006 in Coventry, RI.

Born in Cold Spring on February 20, 1916, he was the son of the late Frank and Elizabeth J. (McIlravy) Mancari.

Mr. Mancari was a retired Superintendent of Highways for the State of New York in Dutchess County. A U.S. Army Veteran serving from 1941-46 attaining the rank of Captain. He had been a resident of Red Hook since 1960, coming from Cold Spring, a Parishioner of St. Christopher's Church in Red Hook, a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and Elks Lodge in Red Hook and the Red Hook Golf Club.

He was predeceased by his wife Alice (Murray) Mancari, she died March 30, 1987. He is survived by two daughters, Alice Dillman of Niskayuna, NY and Jane M. Knowles of Warwick, RI. Five grandchildren also survive. In addition to his wife, he was predeceased by four brothers, Edward W., Charles P., Marcellus B. and Joseph A. Mancari, and by four sisters, Eleanor Zeliph, Rosalie Harvey, Elizabeth Mancari, and Louise Mancari.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be held on Saturday, March 4, 2006 at 11 am at Our Lady of Loretto Church, Fair St., Cold Spring, interment will follow in Cold Spring Cemetery. Family and friends are invited to

Family and friends are invited to call at the Clinton Funeral Home, Corner of Parrott and Pine St₆ (21 Parrott St.) Cold Spring on Saturday morning from 9-11 am prior to the Mass.

Figure 40 - Poughkeepsie Journal, March 2, 2006, Frank Mancari obituary

Jane (Hough) Ferguson Owner 1979-present

Dr. Jane Hough, a pediatrician, and husband John B. Ferguson, Bard College Professor of Biology, together bought the property from the Mancaris in 1979. When the Fergusons divorced in 1987, Jane became sole owner. Thanks to more than forty years of her careful, discerning stewardship, the house continues to reflect the deep connections of time, place, and family that make Red Hook, "our" town.

Endnotes

- 1 National Register of Historic Places documentation, 2007
- 2 1863 Deed 122:672
- 3 1871 Deed 161:539
- 4 James H. Smith, History of Duchess County, 1683-1882, p. 186, published 1882.
- 5 findagrave.com/memorial/119745494/edgar-lewis-traver
- 6 1879 Deed 195:528
- 7 Edgar Traver's oldest son, Seth Arthur (1851-1925) married Martha H. Westfall (1865-1937) in 1882. findagrave.com/memorial/102950679/martha-a-traver
- 8 1899 Deed 308:80
- 9 findagrave.com/memorial/95936246/lyman-westfall
- 10 findagrave.com/memorial/83953493/william-kingman-niver
- 11 1902 Deed 320:378
- 12 1923 Deed 510:210
- 13 1936 Deed 553:322
- 14 1959 Deed 999:451
- 15 1979 Deed 1507:253

| 3/23/1987 3/23/1987 One acre 1507:253 Frank Mancari, his wife John B. Ferguson & Jane H. Ferguso | Year | Sale date | Recorded | Acres | Liber/Page | Grantor | Grantee | Notes |
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| 5/1/1979 5/1/1979 one acre 1507:253 Frank Mancari, & Alice John B. Ferguson 6/26/1959 6/26/1959 one acre 999:451 Louis W. Dillman & Alice M. Mancari, his wife Alice M. Mancari, his wife 7/20/1936 7/27/1936 one acre 553:322 George Cotter etc. Louis Dillman tc. 1/24/1923 one acre 510:210 Many S. Rowe & Julia C. Amie E. Cotter of Red Mancari, his wife 5/24/1902 one acre 510:210 Rowe of Bridgeport, Com Amie E. Cotter of Red Malliam tc. 6/14/1899 one acre 320:378 William K. Niver and Mathaniel L. Morehouse of Rock City 6/15/1878 3/26/1879 one acre 195:528 Catharine Westfall of Red Syracuse of Lyman Westfall, late of Lord (trustee for brother John H. Lord David P. Lord (trustee for brother John H. Lord | 1987 | | 3/23/1987 | one acre | 1750:0148 | John B. Ferguson & Jane H. Ferguson | Jane H. Ferguson | |
| 6/26/1959 6/26/1959 one acre 999:451 Louis W. Dillman & Louis W. Dillman & Alice M. Mancari, his wife Frank A. Mancari & Mancari, his wife 1/20/1936 7/27/1936 one acre 553:322 George Cotter etc. Louis Dillman tc. 1/24/1923 7/27/1936 one acre 510:210 Mary S. Rowe & Julia C. Annie E. Cotter of Red Hook 5/24/1902 5/29/1902 one acre 320:378 William K. Niver and Syracuse Anthaniel L. Morehouse of Rock City 6/14/1899 one acre 308:80 Catharine Westfall of Red William K. Niver of Syracuse Catharine Westfall (wife of Lyman Westfall (wife of Lyman Westfall) [wife of Lyman Westfall (wife of Lyman Westfall)] 6/15/1873 131 acres 161:539 John H. Lord Edgar L. Traver of the Town of Milan) 2/2/1863 2/3/1863 131 acres 122:672 John R. Faure Lord thustee | 1979 | 5/1/1979 | 5/1/1979 | one acre | 1507:253 | Frank Mancari & Alice Mancari, his wife | John B. Ferguson & Jane H. Ferguson | |
| 7/27/1936 one acre 553:322 George Cotter etc. Louis Dillman tc. Mary S. Rowe & Julia C. Annie E. Cotter of Red Rowe of Bridgeport, Conn Hook Syracuse 3/26/1879 one acre 308:80 Catharine Westfall of Red Syracuse 6/15/1871 131 acres 105:528 Catharine E. Traver of the Town of Milan) 6/15/1871 131 acres 122:672 John H. Lord Edgar L. Traver for brother John H. Lord a minor) Lord a minor) | 1959 | 6/26/1959 | 6/26/1959 | one acre | 999:451 | Louis W. Dillman & Lillian Dillman, his wife | Frank A. Mancari & Alice M. Mancari, his wife | Mentions Annie E. Cotter died intestate on June 16, 1930 and left as her only heirs and next of kin George P. Cotter, Dr. Edward Cotter, John H. Cotter, Margaret Grahame, and Alise Cotter Norton. Being the same premises conveyed by George P. Cotter and Sadie Cotter, his wife, Dr. Edward Cotter and Marguerite Cotter, his wife, and Alise Cotter Norton and John H. Cotter and Margaret Grahame to Louis V. Dillman and Lillian Dillman, his wife |
| 1/24/1923 one acre 510:210 Mary S. Rowe & Julia C. Rowe of Bridgeport, Conn Rowe of Bridgeport, Conn Hook Annie E. Cotter of Red Hook 5/24/1902 5/29/1902 one acre 320:378 William K. Niver and Syracuse of Rock City Syracuse William K. Niver of Syracuse of Rock City Byracuse 6/14/1899 3/26/1879 one acre 195:528 Edgar L. Traver Rock City Syracuse Catharine Westfall (wife Catharine Westfall (wife Syracuse Catharine E. Traver Of Lyman Westfall, late of the Town of Milan) 3/8/1871 6/15/1871 131 acres 161:539 John H. Lord Edgar L. Traver Of Hown Of Milan) 2/2/1863 2/3/1863 131 acres 122:672 John R. Faure for brother John H. Lord a minor) | 1936 | 7/20/1936 | 7/27/1936 | one acre | 553:322 | George Cotter etc. | Louis Dillman tc. | |
| 5/24/1902 5/29/1902 one acre 320:378 William K. Niver and Syracuse Nathaniel L. Morehouse of Rock City 6/14/1899 one acre 308:80 Catharine Westfall of Red Hook Hook Syracuse William K. Niver of Syracuse 6/15/1878 3/26/1879 one acre 195:528 Edgar L. Traver & Catharine Westfall (wife Of Lyman Westfall, late of Lyman Westfall, late of Lyman Westfall, late of the Town of Milan) 3/8/1871 6/15/1871 131 acres 161:539 John H. Lord Edgar L. Traver of the Town of Milan) 2/2/1863 2/2/1863 2/3/1863 131 acres 122:672 John R. Faure for brother John H. Lord a minor) | 1923 | 1/24/1923 | | one acre | 510:210 | Mary S. Rowe & Julia C. Rowe of Bridgeport, Conn | Annie E. Cotter of Red Hook | Annie E. Cotter of Red via will of Morehouse to his wife, Henrietta Rome. Hook |
| 5/24/1902 5/29/1902 one acre 320:378 William K. Niver and Syracuse Nathaniel L. Morehouse of Rock City 6/14/1899 one acre 308:80 Catharine Westfall of Red Hook City William K. Niver of Hook City 6/15/1878 3/26/1879 one acre 195:528 Edgar L. Traver & Catharine Westfall (wife Of Lyman Westfall, late of Lyman Westfall, late of the Town of Milan) 3/8/1871 6/15/1871 131 acres 161:539 John H. Lord Edgar L. Traver of the Town of Milan) 2/2/1863 2/3/1863 131 acres 122:672 John R. Faure for brother John H. Lord a minor) | | | | | | | | |
| 6/14/1899 one acre 308:80 Catharine Westfall of Red Hook Hook William K. Niver of Syracuse Catharine Westfall (wife Catharine Westfall, late Of Lyman Westfall | 1902 | 5/24/1902 | 5/29/1902 | one acre | 320:378 | William K. Niver and Marietta Niver of Syracuse | Nathaniel L. Morehouse of Rock City | |
| 6/14/1899 one acre 308:80 Catharine Westfall of Red Hook Hook William K. Niver of Syracuse 6/15/1878 3/26/1879 one acre 195:528 Edgar L. Traver & Catharine Westfall, late of Lyman Westfall, late of the Town of Milan) 3/8/1871 6/15/1871 131 acres 161:539 John H. Lord Edgar L. Traver of the Town of Milan) 2/2/1863 2/3/1863 131 acres 122:672 John R. Faure for brother John H. Lord aminor) | | | | | | | | |
| 6/15/1878 3/26/1879 one acre 195:528 Edgar L. Traver & Catharine Westfall (wife of Lyman Westfall, late of Lyman Westfall, late of L5/1871 131 acres 161:539 John H. Lord Edgar L. Traver Edgar L. Traver of the Town of Milan) 2/2/1863 2/3/1863 131 acres 122:672 John R. Faure for brother John H. Lord aminor) | 6681 | 6/14/1899 | | one acre | 308:80 | Catharine Westfall of Red Hook | William K. Niver of Syracuse | |
| 3/8/1871 6/15/1871 131 acres 161:539 John H. Lord Edgar L. Traver 2/2/1863 2/3/1863 131 acres 122:672 John R. Faure for brother John H. Lord a minor) | 1878 | 6/15/1878 | 3/26/1879 | one acre | 195:528 | Edgar L. Traver & Catharine E. Traver | Catharine Westfall (wife of Lyman Westfall, late of the Town of Milan) | |
| 2/2/1863 2/3/1863 131 acres 122:672 John R. Faure | 1871 | 3/8/1871 | 6/15/1871 | 131 acres | 161:539 | John H. Lord | Edgar L. Traver | \$14,000 parcel and farm bounded on north by J. Hendricks (owns grist and flour mill) to Post Rd. south by Edward Martin, west by Sawkill. Being the same farm & premises which John R. Faure conveyed to David P. Lord, Trustee. And lands along Sawkill as described in deed Hendricks to Faure L105:619 Faure to Hendricks L105:677 and Hendricks to Faure L112:138. |
| | 1863 | 2/2/1863 | 2/3/1863 | 131 acres | 122:672 | John R. Faure | David P. Lord (trustee for brother John H. Lord a minor) | |