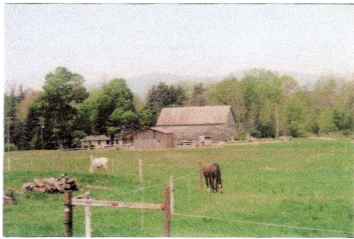


## Brief History of Restoring the Hendrick Martin House:

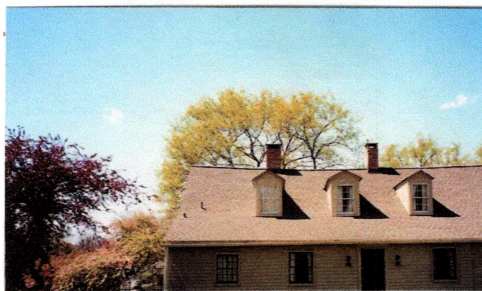
### View from the lane



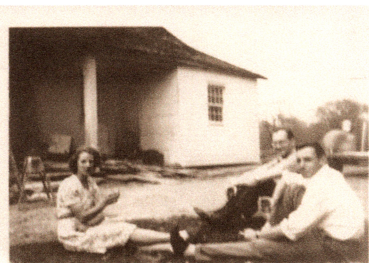
Before 2000:  
front is  
aluminum.



After  
2000: front is  
wood and  
mostly  
original. Third  
dormer  
added.  
Concrete



Windows unchanged today.



Originally an open stoep (see sloping floor). Windows at extreme ends are older than other two. They two extreme rooms were enclosed early on (hand planed partition wall at left of porch). Photos circa 1943 courtesy of Dutchess County Historical Society

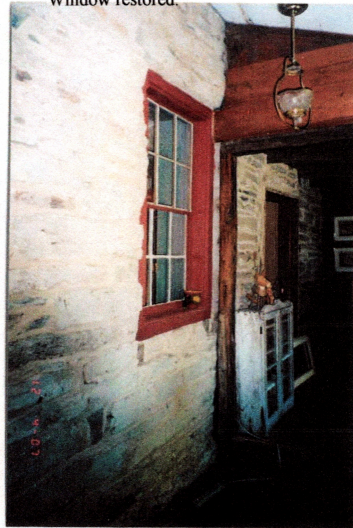


## **Entry level:**

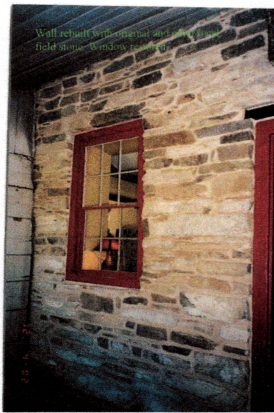
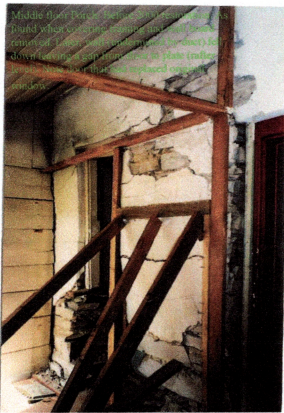
Before 2000: Dado and stucco cover stone. Window filled in by cupboard.



After 2000: Stone revealed and re-pointed. Window restored.



The original entry doorway is to the right. Low, wide, pegged frame, original moldings. Original pegged window frame to right was discovered behind a built-in cabinet.



Wall to left collapsed (due to 1943 duct work) and was rebuilt with original stones and some replacements.

Window to left was restored after finding remnants of the original frame.

A room to the left was restored to the porch space by removing modern partition wall.

## ***Hall***



Stone wall on right bounds the earliest house. Original plaster  
Lathe and plaster ceiling collapsed and was then removed to expose original ceiling.



## ***Living Room***

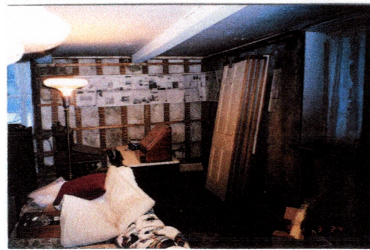
Beams are original pine and oak

Floor is wide board original yellow pine. Had been painted black with multicolored speckles throughout house: since removed using hand tools.

Living room before 2000 restoration. Note wall panels of Sear's doors and black painted floor. Note that panels narrow the window. Beams are covered with layers of paint.



During 2000 restoration. False panels removed. Heavy framing revealed. Original plastered stone seen between studs.



Porch side wall has original plaster

Modern panels and very heavy framing were removed as well as Victorian lathe and plaster walls. The two external original walls were left intact and an interior shell was built of light framing, wire mesh, solid insulation and layered plaster.

Fragments of wall paper were found applied to the original plaster (under the modern panels and behind the lather and plaster walls). These were removed and saved.

Fireplace is probably an early rebuilding of the original jambless style. See lagged bricks, (as in sitting room fireplace). Similar lagging has been found in other houses of this period.

Mantel is hand planed.

Paneled wall behind bookcase shelves is of uncertain origin: possibly the back of a sleeping alcove.



## ***Sitting Room***

See lagged bricks in fireplace

Window to garden: at one time a doorway (see external view)

Early beams and floor boards



Restoration of window, and of fallen stone.



Cupboard is original: Very wide board, trim and remains of HL hinges  
Original trim around doorways. Low and wide doorway.  
Warming cupboard built into chimney.



## ***Bedroom***



Stone stairs to garden

Beamed ceiling

Deep small and tapered window

Small paned French doors

All wall board walls were removed, insulated and rebuilt with plaster.

Brick back of fireplace uncovered.

## ***Bathroom***



See 'nogging' brick infill between joists.

Half-timbering, uses timbers with pegged joints with panels filled by non-loadbearing material or "nogging" of brick, clay or plaster.



## **Top Floor:**

### ***Stairwell to Top Floor:***

18C middle hall door  
leading to curved  
ascending stairs to upper  
(third) storey.



Bottom of early 18C enclosed stairs leading to upper storey. Note molding intended for decorative effect.

Early doors to both stair wells.

Early decorative molding underneath stairs.

Original newel post on left: see large spike in wood

See 2" thick ends of floor boards

### ***Top Landing:***

Floor has a break in levels at junction of the two original houses

Outline of cuts in floor boards indicates earlier jambless fireplace below

### ***Top Floor Bedrooms:***

Originally this space was used for storage. Division into separate rooms came later.

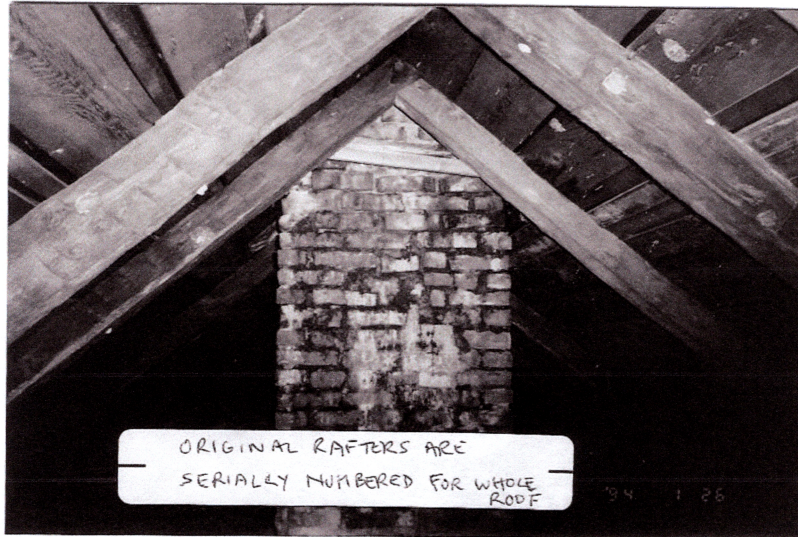
North room has evidence of a steep staircase from the living room below.

Square frame in ceiling on landing is reputed to have allowed egress for coffins. More likely for bringing in supplies to store in garret.



## *Attic*

Rafters unchanged

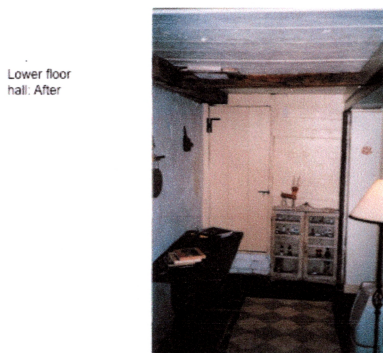


Attic rafters are serially numbered from one end to the other indicating that the roof was built as a whole. To cope with variable sizes and shapes of hewn (by [adze](#) or [axe](#)) and sawn timbers, sockets are "tailor-made" to fit their corresponding timbers; thus each timber piece must be numbered (or "scribed").

Roof sheathing indicates use of wooden shingles.

## **Garden floor**

### ***Lower Floor Hall:***



Ceiling is bottom of middle floor hall floorboards  
Covered gap in ceiling was for a stovepipe  
See original wideboard wall at inner end of hall  
Floor was dug down about 5 inches in middle of last century  
See thickness of stone walls

## ***Lower Floor Dining room:***



Bake Oven (Bee Hive) in lower study (beamed) opposite kitchen and adjacent to the fourth fireplace. Protrudes into basement.



Beehive oven (rounded back protrudes in to basement)

See bracket or corbel carved into one beam

Firedogs and crane; and tools (probably for baking), are original

Beyond fireplace, see original wooden wall with butterfly hinges

Plastered chimney breast has window to original plaster

(Dado/wainscoting is mahogany and not original)

## ***Kitchen:***

Entrance passage used to be walled in as part of fire back. See previous entrance outlines in stone wall to left of fireplace.

Kitchen before 2000 restoration.



Kitchen during 2000 restoration. Plaster removed to allow stone wall to be re-pointed and stabilized. Original framing of window exposed and left intact.



Fireplace was previously jambless: See notches and structure of beams to hold smoke curtain around fireplace.

See patch of old plaster to left of fireplace as you face it



Massive beams: Beam nearest fireplace was charred from an accidental hearth fire above and was then scraped away.

Doorway at rear is the original pegged frame. The door is replaced from the same period. The original spiked hinges are on the threshold of the fireplace. Notches in rear beam were probably for a store room wall

Window frames are original.

## **Outside views:**

See:

Joint between houses at rear

Gables are stone to the north and brick to the south..

Asphalt tiles removed and original sheathing (spaced for wooden shingles) left intact. Interleaved overhang trimmed back to original proportions of eaves. Architectural tiles and ridge vent added.

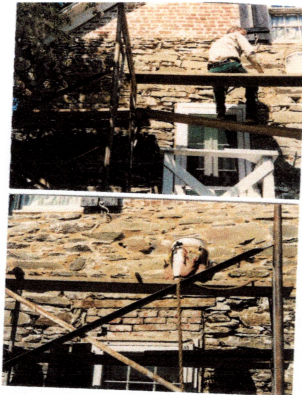


Short eaves either gable end



1940 North gable side. Note original and replaced clapboards. Eave overhangs.

Forcing (tamping) the new (soft) mortar deep between the stones. Repeated from inside where possible. Note brick infill and wooden lintel.



Restored 'soft' mortar south, west and east walls.

Stone walls of garden designed by landscape architect for original Taconic scenic highway.

Sawkill river at bottom of garden



A set back within a year of moving in.

Close up: 2000  
restoration:  
Replacement of  
stained concrete  
chimneys, third  
dormer added, and  
change from flat tiles  
to contoured  
architectural tiles.







1940s: Beginning of Coffyn restoration. All apertures are unchanged today (2006). Note that stone garden wall is rudimentary.

During 2000 restoration. Note demarcation between earliest 18C house on left and later 18C addition on right.



Demarcation shown. West wall entirely re-pointed (from outside and inside) with soft mortar. Canopy, deck and balustrade added.



All black and white photos by courtesy of the Northern Dutchess Historical Society: Circa 1940 after restoration. Apertures and chimney positions are unchanged today.