

# elmendorph echoes

FRIENDS of ELMENDORPH, inc.

P.O. Box 1776

Red Hook, N.Y. 12571

volume 2

number 4

November 1978



Dear Friends,

On September 20, 1978, Congressman Hamilton Fish, Jr.'s office called from Washington, D.C. to inform us that as of that date, WE HAD BEEN PLACED ON THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES. We are most grateful to Dutchess County Landmarks and Congressman Fish for their help in getting the designation through so quickly after it had been nominated by the State. This designation represents the hard work of many people who did research, photography, architectural drawings and prepared the nomination forms.

It also represents the dreams of so many of you who have had faith in the project from the start and always believed in the importance of this building.

We are reproducing the certificate and some newspaper articles for you so you can share in our joy.

The Building Committee reports that the center section of the roof between the two front porches has been removed. It was badly deteriorated and a late (1940's) addition. This was agreed upon by the Friends and Mr. Frank Sanchis, architectural consultant. The two front porches have been stabilized and restored, and have a new coat of paint. Temporary shoring has been installed in the cellar. The cellar has been dried out thoroughly with a dehumidifier.

For the winter, we will lay building paper along the outside of some of the foundation walls. The grass has been mowed all summer and the brush and debris have been cleared away from the rear of the building, which looks neat for the first time.

(continued on back page)

ELMENDORPH, ETC. IS A BIG WINNER

Our shop, which opened in late June to help raise money for the restoration, has done tremendously well. In four months, the shop has raised \$2763. This does not include the receipts from Hardscrabble Day (June 17), but with that day included, we have raised \$3860 just on items that all of you have donated! What a great group you are.

We have closed the shop for the season and will reopen in the Spring, but we can still pick up any items you may have. Be sure to call Helen after 11 AM (758-6925) or Herman (758-9192). If you know of anyone who is moving or having a garage sale and has leftovers, be sure to mention us.

NOW -- what can we do to match the shop earnings?

SPECIAL CONTRIBUTIONS

We would like to recognize the following who, within the past two months, have given special donations:

The Red Hook Chamber of Commerce, the Junior Women's Club of Red Hook, Mrs. Virginia Apsey and Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Wilken.

Also, Evalena Hanlon has sent us some old photos of the back of our building with its garden and sheds.

The Little Village Shop in Tivoli has caned a chair (ca. 1840) that Helen Garlinghouse had refinished. This will be kept for the building.

Our good friend, the Rev. James Elliott Lindsley, has donated an old Tivoli ledger.

Let's also welcome James Elar -- a new member from Red Hook.

BRONZE PLAQUE

It is possible to purchase a bronze plaque to show that we are on the National Register of Historic Places. This will cost \$85.00. If you would like to see this in the building, we might suggest that 85 members contribute \$1.00, unless there is someone who would like to donate the entire cost for this recognition.

BITS AND PIECES

Be sure to check your address on the mailing label. We expect this to be the last time we will be mailing First Class, as we plan to get our own mailing permit by the first of the year. If your address is not correct, the mail will not be forwarded in the future.

If you know of anyone who needs a tax deduction before the end of the year, don't forget that the Federal Government has determined that donations to us are tax deductible.

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE COMING UP

Last January, Lottie Kittner launched a mass membership drive that was very successful. Now that we know how to do it, we are planning another drive in January. Many of you gave Lottie a helping hand and she will be needing help again for the new mailing. If you can help by typing, sorting, stapling, etc., call Lottie at 758-2491.

A PAT ON THE BACK

We are reproducing two newspaper articles that relate to the National Register listing. We thought that you would like to see what Commissioner Orin Lehmann had to say about us.

## Elmendorph Inn on historic list

RED HOOK - New York State Commissioner of Parks and Recreation Orin Lehman today announced that the Elmendorph Inn, a Dutchess County Landmark dating to 1750 and the oldest surviving building in the Village of Red Hook, has been listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Commissioner Lehman is the State Historic Preservation Officer and is responsible for New York's efforts on behalf of the federal program to recognize and preserve historic resources.

"It is unusual to have such a building, located along a major highway, survive so well intact.

It is a significant building to the community, having served for many years in the early nineteenth century as the meeting place for town government.

"Recently it was purchased by a specially-formed preservation group, The Friends of Elmendorph Inn, and we hope that this listing will aid the organization to meet its objectives," Commissioner Lehman said.

National Register listing not only recognizes the historic and architectural significance of the tavern, it also makes projects aimed at reserving these values eligible for federal funding. In addition, the listing provides a measure of protection. A project that may have a negative effect on the building must be carefully reviewed and justified before it can be funded or licensed by any federal agency. (asg)

## Red Hook Inn placed on list of historic places

RED HOOK — The Elmendorph Inn, a Dutchess County landmark here dating to 1750, has been listed on the National Register of Historic Places, Orin Lehman, state commissioner of parks and recreation, said today.

"It is unusual to have such a building, located along a major highway, survive so well intact," he said. "It is a significant building to the community, having served for many years in the early 19th century as the meeting place for town government."

The inn is located on Route 9 in the village.

The National Register listing recognizes the historic and architectural significance of the tavern and makes projects aimed at preserving the inn eligible for federal funding, Lehman said.

Since about 1750, the Elmendorph building has been used as an inn, the town board's meeting place, as well as a general store, private home, apartment building and school house.

Between 1900 and 1950, the old inn was a private residence. In 1966, the property was sold and the inn remained vacant until recently when it was purchased by the Friends of Elmendorph, Inc.

Poughkeepsie Journal—17

Wednesday, October 18, 1978

The Register-Star Hudson, N.Y. Wednesday, October 18, 1978 A-5

MORE PATS

The following are quotes from Stephanie Mauri (Chairman, Dutchess County Landmarks Association, Inc.) in her letter to Congressman Fish regarding our National Register application:

"LANDMARKS enthusiastically endorses and supports the nomination of the ELMENDORPH INN, Red Hook to the National Register of Historic Places by the New York State Department of Parks and Recreation, Division of Historic Preservation. This historic structure has been both saved from demolition and neglect through the devoted efforts of a local preservation group, 'The Friends of Elmendorph'. They also researched, documented, and proposed the nomination to the New York State Preservation officer, who encouraged, supported, and also marveled at their heroic achievements.

This nomination is now in Washington, at the office of the Keeper of the National Register; it is our understanding that the ELMENDORPH INN could be signed onto the National Register very soon. LANDMARKS requests that your office support its nomination and urge that it be signed onto the Register this week . . . . . This structure represents the hopes and hard work of a very special group, one of the most effective and resourceful in Dutchess County, and from the comments of preservation staff in Albany, one of the outstanding small groups in all of New York State."

Now, doesn't that make you proud of yourselves?

SWING YOUR PARTNER

We are having a fun (and fund raising) night to help celebrate our National Register status. Gladys Fell (chairman) and Mayor Harold Fell, are working very hard on a Round and Square Dance to be held at the Elks Club, Route 9, Red Hook on December 2, 1978 from 8 to 11:30 PM. Tickets are \$2.50 per person. There will be a drawing for a door prize for those present and a raffle will be held for numerous prizes.

Music will be by Murray Van Ness, Jim Hogan and Dick Totman. Earl Duntz will be the caller. Refreshments will be available.

Lots of the Friends are helping -- Blanche Traudt is Chairman of Decorations; Bob Bielenberg and Helen Garlinghouse are working on posters; Josephine Waryas is helping with Publicity and raffle tickets. Also involved in the preparations are Elvira Nuccio, Thelma Rennie, Herman & Lillian Gorgens, Joe & Margaret O'Brien, Joe & Ardith St. John, Manny Mangione, Dave Fell, Paul Fredricks, Dick Barrett and many more.

For further information and tickets, call 758-2433.

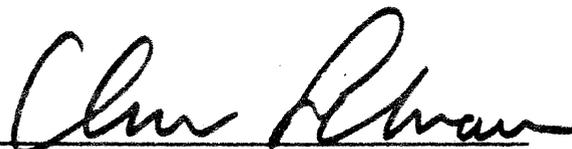
All proceeds will go to the Elmendorph restoration project. See you there!



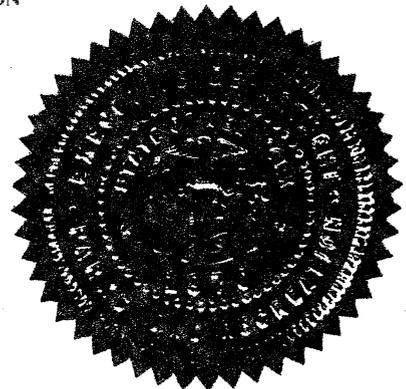
NEW YORK STATE PARKS AND RECREATION  
DIVISION FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION

*This is to certify that*  
**Elmendorph Inn**  
**Red Hook, Dutchess County**  
*in recognition of its*  
**Historical and Architectural**  
*significance and to encourage its preservation*

*was listed on the*  
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
*by the*  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
*upon nomination by the State Historic Preservation Officer*  
*under provisions of the National Historic Preservation*  
*Act of 1966.*

  
COMMISSIONER, NEW YORK STATE PARKS AND RECREATION  
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER

20 September 1978



(continued from front page)

We are awaiting word from the State on a grant-in-aid application submitted in July. If approved, we will be in full swing in the Spring with the Historic Structures Report, foundation and sill work.

Our shop, ("Elmendorph Etc.") building has been expanded inside and now the total floor area is in use. We all feel that the shop was an outstanding success and will be even better next year.

**FRIENDS of ELMENDORPH inc**  
**P.O. Box 1776**  
**Red Hook, NY 12571**