## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

(A not-for-profit corporation - dues and donations tax deductible)

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Herman Gorgens
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Treasurer
Lillian Gorgens
Directors
Helen Garlinghouse
Richard Barrett
Robert Bielenberg

WANTED

LOVE and ATTENTION
-with-

CARING and SHARING

After a two year struggle, the Friends of Elmendorph saved the Elmendorph Inn!

Some of you may ask WHY?....(Love)......

Just think! They once wanted to tear down Independence Hall.

The Elmendorph was to be additional parking space.

The Red Hook Hotel is now a gas station.

We should begin to realize that we cannot build a future by destroying the past which once destroyed....is gone forever.

It is well accepted that preservation of our heritage is important and we have that chance right here in RED HOOK.

WHAT did we do - WHAT do we want to do?....(Attention).....

We acquired a building in sad appearance but one with much history. We acquired a building that needs restoration: time, planning, money, materials, people.

We acquired a project that could unify the community in a common effort. (Working side by side towards making the building attractive to be used by the community and  $\alpha ll$  its members.)

Our GOAL!....(Caring).....

To have the interest and support of each and everyone of you. That every individual, family, business and organization be represented in the Elmendorph Inn which will become the storer and preserver of our past (often lost or hidden in attics) and a place to meet your neighbor in the present.

## CONSIDER the words of Edward Everette Hale:

I am only one But still I am one I cannot do everything But still I can do something; And because I cannot do everything

	I wil	l not refuse <u>to do something</u> t	hat <u>I can do</u> .
	DO that somethi Become	ng. Become a FRIEND! e a part of the Inn and a	part of its histor.
	HOW?(Sharing).		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
		s little as you like in an to fulfill and you will not b	
	we will be grat We need a li We need a li give an hour		membership, research,etc. s: supply refreshments, m projects. ring down, putting up,
	Our NEEDS!(You	ι)	And And the second second
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		l the MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION b ming a member. Members receiv of what is going on.	
CM RM NM Name		MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION Phone #	Date
	• ***	Thorac w	
Address			Zip
Family Studen	dual       \$ 3          5         t (under 18)       1         ss/Organizations       10		//
I would lik	e to join a committee.	Please call on me to help	I have knowledge, back-
My interest	•	when I can - to:	ground, experience in:
Fund Raisin		bake cookiessew	plumbing carpentry
Restoration		telephone type clean up give time	masonryelectrical painting
Hospitality Other	Clean-up	clean up give time Other	Other

P.O. Box 1776

Red Hook, N.Y. 12571

Other\_

FRIENDS OF ELMENDORPH, INC.

## THE STORY OF THE ELMENDORPH AND ITS FRIENDS

## Prior Owners of the Inn

1750 <b>'</b> s	Feroe	$\it Eckert$	1827
1760's & 1780's	Jacobs	Wager	1835
1770 <b>'</b> s & 1790 <b>'</b> s	Sharp	Martin	1854
1796	Elmendorph	Pulver	1933
1802	Loop	Miller	1966
1820	Ring	Wood	1974
1826	Bonesteel	Grand Union	1974
1826	DeReimer	Friends	1977

No more than five to sleep in one bed. No boots to be worn in bed. No gaming or playing with cards or dice. No billiard table, Shuffle board, etc. shall be allowed within this tavern.

Such a tavern was the Elmendorph Inn, built ca. 1750 on the important Albany Post Road. Travelers were met by Innkeepers with the names of Philip Jacobs, George Sharp, John Elmendorph and Josiah Loop, and fresh horses were supplied to the Stagecoach Lines.

All meetings, not church-related, were held in these early inns. They were the community centers of their day. The Elmendorph is the oldest building in the Village of Red Hook and may have been its first building. Courts of law convened here and members of Horse Thieves Societies met within its walls.

George Sharp was very much involved in supporting the colonists in their quest for independence, and history tells us that Sharp and others met secretly to advance the cause of the colonists.

Cornelius C. Elmendorph, the first hotel keeper of the Stissing House in Pine Plains, moved to Red Hook, built the Red Hook Hotel in 1799 and advertised the Elmendorph "for lett" at the same time. John Elmendorph was the Innkeeper, hence the name, "Elmendorph inn."

When the Town of Red Hook incorporated in 1812, most of the Annual Town Meetings were held in the Elmendorph Inn for the next thirty years.

In 1845, David Wager gave the land on the east end of the property to the Methodist Episcopal Society for a cemetery.

About 1890, Edward Martin, a philanthropist who owned the building, established a free kindergarten in the building for the community's children, the first in Red Hook. He had inherited the property from his father Augustus Martin, State Assemblyman and Town Supervisor.

The Pulver family owned the building from 1933 until 1966 and ran a small country store at the site.

The only gambrel-roofed structure remaining in the Village with its enormous beams, wide floor boards and elaborately carved mantles, was threatened with demolition after 1966.

"Let us while waiting for new monuments preserve the ancient monuments." (Victor Hugo)

Private effort by John Delafield delayed the demolition and "Hudson River Heritage" was organized to save the Elmendorph.

By 1974 the Grand Union Company owned the property and it was put on the real estate market for sale. Commercial threats seemed imminent when the Red Hook/Tivoli Bicentennial Committee was organized early in 1975. Cornell University had recently completed a survey, calling attention to the building as "the most architecturally distinguished early 18th century building in the Village of Red Hook."

A FRIENDS OF ELMENDORPH sub-committee was formed as a Bicentennial project and then incorporated as a not-for-profit organization. Area businesspeople, at a Chamber of Commerce dinner, donated \$300 which was matched by an anonymous donor, and the project was underway.

Cub Scouts offered help. Letters poured into the Grand Union Company from Public officials (local, county, state and federal). A snow-mobile club, Elks Club, Rotary, Brownies, Jaycees, Jr. Womens Club, Lions Club and many other groups, as well as individuals, poured out their hopes for salvage of this building to the company that owned it.

A public meeting was held late in 1975 to a standing room crowd for the purpose of learning more about this important building. Artifacts from the building were given to the group. Fourth and sixth grade students wrote pleading letters. Things looked hopeful as 1976 began, and then suddenly negotiations became difficult. Much credit should be given to those faithful friends who were not discouraged by all of the circumstances that went against their goal — to purchase and restore the Inn for future generations. By November, 1976, the building was taken off the real estate market and everyone held their breath, wondering what horrible thing would happen next. Community Development Funds were sought, but this, too, was unsuccessful.

In the midst of much gloom, the Rev. James Elliot Lindsley met with the President of the Grand Union Company (James Wood) and came to terms for the Friends. After years of ups and downs, the building was purchased in June, 1977 with a 30-year low interest mortgage from the Grand Union.

"It is chiefly through private effort, not by public effort that your city must be adorned." (John Ruskin)

The Friends received their Federal Income Tax Exemption status and the windows were unboarded for the first time in many years. Robert T. McCarthy volunteered his electrical know-how and lights were turned on in the building once again. Volunteers dismantled a dilapidated shed, cleaned the building out of about fourteen truckloads of materials, removed partitions and assisted at fund raising events. BOCES students put a new roof on the garage with the help of Mayor Harold Fell, and termite treatment of the soil was completed. Stabilization and restoration have begun.

We have saved a part of America. Now join with us, so that your name will be included in this history for future generations to see.

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Red Hook	
Bad Wook	Marie W. Fletcher
Red HOOK	Tohn Fish
	and Mrs. Robert F
Red Hook	& Mrs. Harold T.
Red Hook	b Elsemore
Red Hook	ď
Annandale-on-Hudson	Mr. & Mrs. Terence Dewsnap
Red Hook	*Howard S. Delanoy
New York City	*Major & Mrs. John White Delafield
Red Hook	*Mr. & Mrs. Richard Coons
	*Leslie E. Coons
Red Hook	*Mr. & Mrs. John E. Coons
Red Hook	*Mr. & Mrs. Ainslie Coons
Red Hook	*Mr.& Mrs. Webster Coon
Clermont, N.Y.	*Georgia Coon
Red Hook	*Esther Rider Coon
Red Hook	Mr.& Mrs. Robert G. Cole
Red Hook	Katharine Roy Clark
Red Hook	Mr.& Mrs. John Cioffi
	*Mrs. C. D. Champlin
	ie Ellen Burger
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Vonkers N.V	Mrs Harold H
Red HOOK	Mrs. Robert I
	Mary Boehme
Claverack	_
Red Hook	*Mr.& Mrs. Robert Bielenberg
W.Hampstead, L.I.	Benjane Arts
	Michael D. Bathrick
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Danbury, N.H.	Mr.& Mrs. Merton Austin
	Florence M. Arnold
Red Hook	S. Catherine i
Red Hook	
Barrytown	•
Wappinger Falls	82
Red Hook	*Mr.& Mrs. Russell Adamian

,	Karl & Rosa Sandfort Philip & Evangeline Seymour	*Joseph & Ardith St. John	Dr. & Mrs. Jack Rublin	Jane Rubinowitz	*Barbara J. Roberts	arc		lvester	*Raymond & Rose M. Pulver		R٦	*Joseph & Margaret O'Brien	*Frank & Elvira Nuccio	₹	*Edward & Margery McNally	Robert T. McCarthy & Sons, Inc.	*Miss Charity R. Myers	Freda Mundhausen		Stephanie W. Mauri	Larry & Deena Martin	1 ]		Robert A. & Kathryn Mahon Lowe	*John and Clara Losee	Lloyd Loop, Sr.		the Rev. & Mrs. James Elliott Lindsley	*Althea Lawrence	a.	*Walter C. & Edith Kennedy	Mary F. Kelly & Family	Junior Womens Club of Red Hook	& Joan Jones		*Evalina J. Hanlon	Billy Harrison	*Charles Hanlon, Jr.	Katherine Ham	Barbara	*Herman & Lillian Gorgens		& Cheryl o	Helen and Marie Gergel
	Red Hook Red Hook		<i>Elizaville</i>	W.Hempstead, L.I.	Red Hook	Red Hook	Red Hook	Danbury, N.H.	Newington, Conn.	Jacksonville, Fla.	Medford, Oregon	Red Hook	Red Hook	Tivoli	Red Hook	Clermont, N.Y.	Red Hook	Barrytown	Red Hook	Hyde Park	Baldwin, L.I.	Red Hook	Red Hook	Elizaville	Red Hook	Red Hook	Saugerties	y Germantown	Rhinebeck	Red Hook	Red Hook	Red Hook	Red Hook	Red Hook	Red Hook	Red Hook	Red Hook	Red Hook	Red Hook	Red Hook	Red Hook	Red Hook		Red Hook

\*cha: member

Permit No. 140 Poughkeepsie, N.Y.

**GIA9** 

U.S. Postage Non Profit Org.

1978 MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Hook Hook Red Red

Hook Red

Hook Hook Red Red

Hook Red

Red Hook

Livingston, N.Y. Red Hook

Brenda & Ronald Unson (Handy Shop)

Harry Van Dyke

\*Mr. & Mrs. Miner Treat \*Doug & Blanche Traudt

Rhinebeck, N.Y. Red Hook

Fresh Meadows, L.I. Red Hook Red Hook

> \*Mr. & Mrs. William J. Walsh \*Mr. & Mrs. S. S. Warwick

Arthur & Shirley Wagner

\*Mary & Paul Vorwerk Craig & Patsy Vogel

\*John & Josephine Waryas

\*Bernard H. Weaver Dr. Claire Weigt

Karl Weyermann

Mary Weiser

Elizaville Red Hook

Red Hook

Baldwin, L.I.

Red Hook

Spring House, Pa. James Wood, President Grand Union Company

Red Hook

Dr. & Mrs. Frederick S. Zipser Stephen G. Young

\*Charter Members now deceased:

Ruth (Mrs. Lloyd H.) Rockefeller Sylvester C. Pulver

Danbury, N.H.

Red Hook

Mr. & Mrs. John A. Smithers

\*Richard & Barbara Streib Dr. & Mrs. Carl Stelman

Mrs. Charlotte Thomson

Herbert & Gloria Simmons

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