

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
INVENTORY

1. STATE New York COUNTY Dutchess TOWN Red Hook MAIZEFIELD STREET NO. 75 West Market Street	2. NAME MAIZEFIELD DATE OR PERIOD 1795 - 1797 STYLE Federal ARCHITECT unknown BUILDER unknown
ORIGINAL OWNER Gen'l. David Van Ness ORIGINAL USE private home PRESENT OWNER Mr & Mrs Charles Eggert PRESENT USE private home WALL CONSTRUCTION Brick in Flemish bond NO. OF STORIES three (orig. two)	3. FOR LIBRARY OF CONGRESS USE

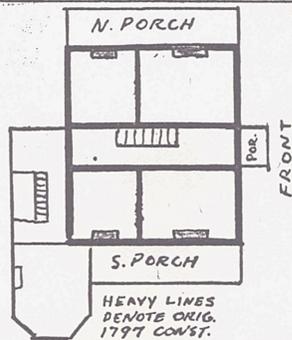
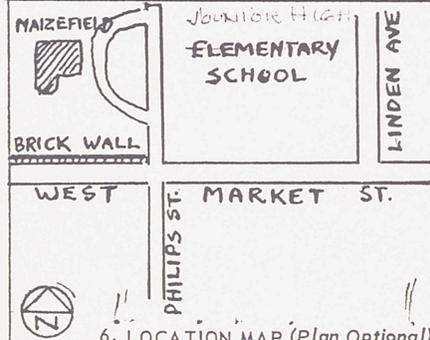
4. NOTABLE FEATURES, HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND DESCRIPTION OPEN TO PUBLIC No

Architecturally one of most significant houses of Mid-Hudson Valley & only one still maintaining integrity as of Federal Period, giving vivid evidence of the cultural, social & economic progress of the area in the Post-Revolutionary period. Aaron Burr was close friend of Van Ness family, and as the latter were strong Anti-Federalists, much political talk must have taken place in this house. David Van Ness' son, Jacob, carried Burr's challenge to Hamilton and Miller, in A Group of Great Lawyers of Columbia County, N. Y., De Vinne Press, 1904, writes that following the duel "Col. Burr was compelled to flee. He went to Red Hook and was for some time concealed in the house of Gen'l. David Van Ness." Another source states it was Burr's second, Wm. P. Van Ness, (David's nephew), who went into hiding at "Maizefield."

In 1775, David Van Ness "repudiated the British Gov't. and placed himself under the power of new men and measures" by signing a pledge to that effect. He was Captain in Continental lines 1776 - 1778; in 1778 was Major in Dutchess County militia. From 1793 to 1801 held commission as Gen'l. of brigade; was N. Y. State Assemblyman in 1790, Presidential Elector in 1792 & 1812; in 1800 & 1802 was member of Senate of N. Y. He was several times Supervisor of Town of Rhinebeck. As first postmaster, he changed village name from "Hardscrabble" to Red Hook.

Basic floor plan of house is four rooms separated by large center hall. Over-all measurements approx. 54' x 40' with ceilings 10'6". Third floor, south wing & porches added late 19th cen.(?). First floor interior trim perhaps embellished 1830's(?); two mantles are of 1790's, two of about 1830 (?). Second floor woodwork, mouldings & mantles of 1790's. Additions harmonious with older section.

5. PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE Endangered No Interior Good Exterior Good



6. LOCATION MAP (Plan Optional)

8. PUBLISHED SOURCES (Author, Title, Pages)
INTERVIEWS, RECORDS, PHOTOS, ETC.
H. W. Reynolds: Dutchess Co. Doorways
W. F. Payson, N. Y. 1931 - pp 245-251 with
2 photos. Eberlein-Hubbard: Historic
Houses of Hudson Valley; 1942, p93, p185.
also HARS photo, Lib. of Congress.

9. NAME, ADDRESS AND TITLE OF RECORDER
Charles Eggert (owner) MRS. BITTY BWA
"Maizefield"
75 West Market Street
Red Hook, N. Y. 12571
DATE OF RECORD 7-13-66

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION AND PHOTOGRAPHS MAY BE ADDED ON SHEET OF SAME SIZE