

## HISTORICAL DATA

### A. History of the Site

Sometime before 1688, Colonel Pieter Schuyler, first Mayor of Albany, acquired from the Indians most of what we know as the Town of Red Hook, and in that year, the Colonial Governor confirmed "Schuyler's Patent" and his ownership of the land. Schuyler did not live here himself and there was little settlement or clearing of the land by the Dutch, English or French Huguenots of Ulster County. By 1725, Schuyler's Tract was owned jointly by Col. Henry Beekman, Jr. (the son of the founder of Rhinebeck), Barent van Benthuyzen, Barent Staats and Nicholas Hoffman. Palatine German families moving down from East Camp (Germantown) had started to take leaseholds and develop an agricultural economy.

The property in and around the Village of Red Hook was leased for several generations by Col. Henry Beekman and his heirs. It is in the 1750s that we find the surrounding properties, as well as the Elmendorph land itself, leased by Col. Beekman. In 1757, Col. Beekman leased to David Feroe, 86 acres bordering on the Post Road and <sup>1.</sup> the north side of the Road to Salisbury (Conn.) Christian Feroe has <sup>2.</sup> his "bounds" there in 1752 according to a neighboring farm map. In 1751, Beekman also leases to Christian Becker on the south side of <sup>3.</sup> the "Road to Salisbury", and across the Post Road to the west, he leased to Hendrick Moore in 1751, who had to pay the heirs of Beekman, <sup>4.</sup> John and Alida Armstrong, rent of  $2\frac{1}{2}$  bushels of wheat every year.

Leases were made for a term of years or for a life or lives and were subject to renewal. The lescholder kept the land as long as he paid the rent and upon failure to pay, he might be evicted. The

lease system was abolished by law early in the 19th century.

B. Architectural Influences

According to Helen Wilkinson Reynolds in Dutch Houses in the Hudson Valley Before 1776, unlike Albany or Ulster Counties, Dutchess and Westchester County house construction reveal a free use of wood. The method of construction followed in the earliest frame house was to make a literal framework of lath of the height desired and a depth of perhaps 12 or 18", and to fill the interstices of the frame with the same mixture of mud or clay, held together by chopped straw or horsehair, that was put in the wall of stone house.

The gambrel roof was later than the roof of single slant, but it was found throughout a large territory. The gambrel was popular in the Hudson Valley between about 1725 to 1775.

Red Hook was a neighborhood where a German majority and a Dutch minority overlapped and intermingled, and the houses that were built reflect this cultural interchange.

C. An Elegant House/Early American Inn, 1769 - 1796

The location of the Elmendorph property at the corner of the Albany Post Road (Kings Highway) and the road to Connecticut is significant. This was the original "corners" of the tiny hamlet once known as "Hardscrabble" and now known as the Village of Red Hook. By the 1770s, "Upper" Red Hook was the center of the community. There was no church built in the area around the Elmendorph until about 1800. Churches had been built near Tivoli and in Upper Red Hook.

In 1769 a road was laid out with six swinging gates from ..

Christopher Snyders to the Kings Road, a distance of about four  
6. miles. This connected with the road to Salisbury (Conn.). A path- 7.  
master was assigned to attend the road and the Rhinebeck Town records  
(of which Red Hook was part of until 1812) tell us that in 1769, the  
road ran from "Cristuffal Snidor to the Kings Road by Johannis Smith." In 1770 the road again goes to Johannis Smith and in 1771, it goes to the Kings Road by William Clums, as it does in 1772. If indeed Johannis Smith and William Clum were at the Elmendorph, we cannot say for certain. However, maps made in the 1770s to 1785 reveal only two houses in what we know as the northern part of the Village -- one is the Elmendorph, and the other is on the west side of the Post 8.  
Road about one-fourth mile south, and is the house of William Siemon. So it appears likely that Johannis Smith and William Clum are at the proper location. Johannis Smith is on the Rhinebeck Precinct Tax List from 1761 to 1772. William Clum is on the Tax List from 1766 to 1778.

In 1773 the road records tell us that the road ran from Cristuffal Snidors to George "Sharph". While the road records do not tell us who is there in 1775 and 1776, George Sharp is again named in 1774, 1777 and 1778. George is the son of Jacob Sharp, a Palatine leader 9. in the East Camp, or Germantown, as it is known today. He is the second child of Jacob, and although his family for the most part remains in Germantown and settles it, George is found in the Rhinebeck Tax Lists in 1768 until 1778. He was born April 24, 1748 and married Rebecca Teator in 1771. This couple had eight children. In 1775 and 1776, Sharp purchased wheat and corn from Chancellor Robert K. 10.  
Livingston's mill. He served as 2nd Lieutenant in Captain Herman Hoffman's Company, Colonel John Van Ness' Regiment, the Minute Men

of Dutchess County (Oct. 17, 1775). He is also 2nd Lt. in Captain Andries Heermance's Company and Colonel Moris Graham's Regiment of Foot in the service of the United States, under command of Brigadier General Clinton, Sept. 10, 1776.

In 1779, the road records reveal that Philip Jacobs is at the site. Jacobs is on the Rhinebeck Precinct Tax List from Feb., 1762 to June 1768. Sharp is on the list from June 1768 to 1778, and then Jacobs is back on the tax list. From 1789 until 1796, George Sharp is back at the Elmendorph.

Philip Jacobs is a wealthy merchant and important man, for we find three map makers who say either "JACOB", "PHIL. JACOBS" or "PH. JACOBS." However, while these maps indicate only Taverns, Churches, Mills and occasionally a wealthy landholder by name, Philip Jacobs is never specifically shown as a tavern. Colles places a sign next to all of the taverns on his maps, but he lists JACOB without such a code. It is significant that on Feb. 3, 1779, Philip Jacobs advertised in the New York Journal and General Advertiser that "All persons that have any demands on the subscriber, by bond, note or book debt, are desired to bring in their accounts by the first of April. Likewise, they that are indebted, are desired to make payment by that time, or they may expect to be sued, as I am going to remove." (Rynebeck. Feb. 6, 1779. Philip Jacobs). 1779 is the first year that we find Jacobs at the site according to the road records.

There are many documents that show Jacobs to have actions against people to recover money owed him between 1762 and 1785, including the claim for one-half of a sloop taken by Gilbert Livingston for Tory prisoners in 1777. In 1769 Jacobs is a "believer who was christened" at the Reformed Church of Germantown (Columbia County) and during the years 1779 to 1782 we find that he and his wife,

Anna Maria Sophia Weyman (Whiteman) as sponsors at several baptisms in the area.

We cannot find any deeds or leases for Philip Jacobs, but in 1783, he places an ad in the New York Packet in which he describes the house FOR SALE as "an ELEGANT HOUSE either for a store-keeper or tavern on the public road leading to Albany, and on the road from the Nine Partners and a direct road to General Tenbrook's, about two miles from the Landing; with three commodious rooms below stairs, a large entry through the house, a large Room above stairs with a large Garrett; the said house has got three Fire Places, a good kitchen, a good stable and barrack, a well of very good water in the yard, with about two acres and a half of very good land joining the said house, in exceeding good fence, with about seventy or eighty very good Apple trees, the half bearing this year, and some very good Plumb trees; about two acres of good land half a mile from the house, which may be converted into good meadow land. Any gentleman that may chose to purchase the same, may apply to the Subscriber, living on the premises, or to G. Martin living near the same, as the proprietor means to make the payment to the purchaser as easy as possible. Signed PHILIP JACOBS, Red-Hook, Rhinebeck precinct, July 21, 1783."

This is a most important piece of historical evidence for it tells us (1) that there was no addition on the building in 1783 (2) it describes the outbuildings and fruit trees. The three fireplaces described would be in Rooms 102, 107 and 204. The third commodious room below stairs must have been Room 108.

In 1787 we find that the road runs to Ebenezer Adams. Adams was born in 1751 and died on January 31, 1846 at the age of 94.

He married Elizabeth Martin and was an elder in the Reformed Church of Upper Red Hook where there is a stained glass window in his memory. Army records show that he was a Corporal in Ct. and NY, but why he appears to be at the Elmendorph for only one year is a mystery to us.

An Administration Bond posted in 1788 mentions Philip Jacobs,  
<sup>14.</sup> of New York City, merchant and the 1790 census shows a Philip Jacobs in the West Ward of New York City with three females next to Henry Whiteman. This may be our Jacobs, as it appears that his wife was a Whiteman.

Smith's History of Rhinebeck, tells us that "Jacob Whiteman was regarded as a great rebel by the Tories of the Revolution, and with Gottlob Martin, George Sharp and others, held frequent private  
<sup>15.</sup> counsel to advance the cause of the Revolutionary army." Perhaps some of these meetings were held at George Sharp's house, inasmuch as his next neighbor to the north was Gottlob Martin. George Sharp's daughter, Rebecca, married Henry Whiteman of Rhinebeck.

In 1789, George Sharp is back at the building according to the road records. Sharp may have been a merchant just prior to this period, for we find that in 1784 and 1785, he buys large amounts of wheat and flour from Chancellor Robert R. Livingston (100 bushels of wheat, 224 bushel, 13 barrels of flour, 119 barrels of flour). These were paid for by cash, as well as "freight" and "trimming hoofing" and  
<sup>16.</sup> "24 rope for sawmill." In 1782, George Sharp purchased, in addition to horses and pistols, feather beds, pewter plates and many household  
<sup>17.</sup> items. The year 1782 also reveals that Sharp was the pathmaster on the Albany Post Road from Red Hook to Rhinebeck. According to the 1790 census, George Sharp owns no slaves.

A 1795 map of the eastern portion of the Village of Red Hook shows George Sharp at the location. The Surrogates Office shows that George Sharp, INNKEEPER, died in 1796. This is our first indication that the Elmendorph is being used as an Inn. Dutchess County has more than 100,000 documents still to be researched and indexed, and we look forward to the day when we will learn when a tavern was first licensed at the site, as we understand that many tavern licenses are included in these documents.

The road records do not tell us who was there between 1797 - 1799, but a 1797 map shows that the property is <sup>20.</sup> ELMENDORPH'S INN.

#### D. Community Center, 1796 - 1854

"Capt" Cornelius C. Elmendorph was the first hotel keeper on the Stissing corner in Pine Plains. After fifteen years, he and <sup>21.</sup> his family moved to Rhinebeck. It is significant that he moved in 1796, the same year that George Sharp died, for this was the time when stages were making daily trips to Albany.

After the Revolutionary War, the Post Road became a busy thoroughfare. In 1785 the legislature passed an act giving exclusive rights to Isaac Van Wyck of Fishkill, Telmage Hall of Albany and John Kelley of New York to carry on a stage route on the east side of the Hudson River between New York and Albany, at least once a week. Prior to this time, attempts had been made to carry passengers by crude vehicles and also Conestoga wagons. In 1796 stages began a daily trip, except for Sundays. In 1797 Albany stages left New York everyday at 10 in the morning and arrived in Albany the fourth day at nine in the morning. By 1803, they were making Albany in <sup>22.</sup> three days.

A tavern keeper licensed in Dutchess County had to post a bond

of 50 pounds and agree that he "shall not during the time that he shall keep a public tavern, keep a disorderly tavern or permit cock fighting, gaming or playing with cards or dice, or keep any Billiard Table or other gaming Table, or Shuffle Board within his said Tavern or within any Outhouse, yead, or garden thereunto belonging."<sup>23.</sup>

Cornelius C. Elmendorph built the Red Hook Hotel in 1799 about one fourth mile south of the Elmendorph, and advertised it for sale in that year.<sup>25.</sup> This building no longer exists.

Our road records tell us that his brother, John Elmendorph is at the Elmendorph location from 1799 to 1803. John has already arrived there in 1796, for John Elmendorph's Tavern is one of the very few places mentioned as a place to go to pay duty for a carriage or to get a license to sell wines and foreign distilled spirits. The other places were in Amenia, Pawling, Franklin,<sup>26.</sup> Carmel (now Putnam County) and Poughkeepsie.

According to the 1790 census, John Elmendorph owns no slaves, although most of the other Elmendorphs have several slaves. John is a charter member of the Red Hook Society for the Apprehension of Horse Thieves in 1796.<sup>27.</sup>

It may be significant that both the 1795 map previously mentioned and the 1797/98 map show the building as having two chimneys. This may again indicate that no addition has been put on the building yet. It should be mentioned that in 1979, an archaeologist found a coin dated 1785 in the area of the wooden steps that led to the outdoors from the cellar before the south addition was put on. This, of course, would indicate that there was no south addition before

1785.

In 1799 Cornelius C. Elmendorph advertised a two life lease of a farm containing 118 acres with a small house and orchard of about 80 large grafted apple trees within a half mile of his new building (Red Hook Hotel), and John Elmendorph who lived "near the premises" was the person named to inquire about particulars. At the same time, he advertises TO LET for one year a house, garden and lott in glowing terms which he recently moved from. He may be referring to the Elmendorph, and, if he is, this would indicate that a one year lease was in effect.

Josiah Loop is on the Clermont (Columbia County) census in 1790. He is visted by Dr. Wilson at Clermont until 1793, but in 28. 1796, the doctor visits him in Red Hook. It is also in 1796 that he married his second wife, Catherine Osterhoudt. Loop's daughter Maria is married to Jacob S. Elmendorph, and Garetyia married Jacob C. Elmendorph. The 1800 census shows Josiah Loop listed next to Cornelius I. Elmendorph. In 1804 the road records show that Josiah Loop is at the location and his will in 1807 shows him to be an INNKEEPER. In his will, he gives his son, John, the house 29. clock. It should be mentioned that Cornelius I. Elmendorph married Catherine Loop (the widow) in 1816.

The road records reveal that in 1807 Widow Loop lives there and Jacob Loop (son of Josiah) is the pathmaster. Loop's will had mentioned that if the estate is not large enough to pay expenses, then the Executors are to sell the whole of real estate as necessary. An 1811 legal notice mentions LOOP'S HOTEL is the place to go for creditors to make claims against an insolvent debtor from the Town 30. of Stanford.

In 1812, Red Hook became a separate township, and the Red Hook town records reveal that the road runs from Jacob Loop's. In 1814, Jacob Loop and Catherine Loop (widow of Josiah) paid a \$1. mortgage to David Van Ness.

records Early 19th century reveal that the building and property was an important public meeting place. The first Town of Red Hook map, dated 1815, shows LOOP'S INN very clearly, and the first deed found to the property is in 1819 to Jacob Loop for \$3,000 which describes the property as having 12 $\frac{1}{2}$  acres. This description continued until 1933 when the property was subdivided. On April 4, 1815, the Annual Town Board Meeting is held at the home of Jacob Loop. This is the first of many Town Board Meetings to be held in the building.

The first Agricultural Society mentioned in Columbia County records was the "Agricultural Association of Dutchess and Columbia Counties, of which General Jacob Rutsen Van Rensselaer was the secretary in 1817. In that year, the association held a fair and cattle show 'at Loop's in Red Hook' at which the premiums offered amounted to \$200, being in part as follows:

For the best five acres Winter Wheat, to be harvested in 1818	= \$25.
For the best acre of Potatoes, 1817	\$15.
For the best five acres of Indian corn	\$25.
For the best five acres of Barley	\$20.
For the best pair of pigs, four to nine mos. old	\$15.

According to Helen Wilkinson Reynolds, about 1790 to 1810 many repairs were made to old houses in Dutchess County, in the course of which original woodwork was torn out, Adam mantles were put in, new doors and shutters were installed. Improvements were made to old houses after the war and new houses built between 1800-1830 attest to the prosperity of the farmers of Dutchess at the time.

In Fishkill (the southern end of the county), she tells us that there is a house built soon after 1800 in which there are mantels and door casings elaborately carved, and the tradition there is that the carving was done by a traveling carpenter, who charged a dollar a day and his board for the work.<sup>35.</sup>

Inasmuch as there is so much activity in the early 19th century at the site, it is possible that more room was needed then, and that the building was added onto in this period.

In 1817 the road records continue to mention LOOP'S TAVERN, so we know the use of the building up to that point. Jacob Loop died at the age of 33 in 1819.<sup>36.</sup>

Our town records tell us that in 1820 George Ring is at the location and town meetings continue to be held there. In 1820 George I. Ring and Margaret of Red Hook paid a mortgage to Zillah Knox in the amount of \$1,000.<sup>37.</sup> The description of the property is the same as for Jacob Loop. RING'S STORE is there in 1825. George Ring must have been an unlucky storekeeper, for in 1825, the Sheriff sells the goods and property of George Ring at public sale for \$450 to Philip Bonesteel, a prominent merchant and postmaster, who sold it that same day to Peter de Reimer. De Reimer sold it in 1827 to Jacobus Eckert for \$1500. Town Board meetings continue at the site. In 1835 Jacobus Eckert sold the property to David Wager, who apparently had lived at the house for quite awhile before he took title to it.

The Independent Horse Thieves Society of the Lower Village was formed at David Wager's house on November 15, 1827 with Gottlop Martin as Chairman and A.G. Benedict as Secretary (neighbors to the north and east).<sup>38.</sup> In 1828 David is the pathmaster on the road starting from the house and going east, and the road records tell us that the road

ran from David Wager's house even before he took title.

On October 28, 1810, David Wager married Catherine Vreedenburgh (or Fredenburg) and they had three children, Catherine (1814), Lewis (1820) and Barbara Caroline (1823).

The 1850 census shows that Wager is a FARMER, and that there are two families residing in this house. In addition to Wager, his wife and daughter Catherine Beam, there is also the family of John and Caroline Butts (Wager's daughter) and four small children.

In 1845, Wager gave land on the east end of the property to the Methodist Episcopal Society for a cemetery. <sup>39.</sup>

E. The Martin Family, 1854 - 1933

David Wager died April 1, 1854 (age 67), but just before his death, he sold the property on March 22 to Augustus Martin, State <sup>40.</sup> Assemblyman and Town Supervisor. The Martin family owned the property to the north, including a stone house built in 1776, and kept their farm in the family for over 150 years. Augustus Martin was born December 13, 1808 and died January 14, 1875. He married in 1832 Lydia Marie Benner and in 1873, Margaret Benner.

It seems unlikely that Martin lived at the property himself, because an 1865 census shows him to be a lumber dealer living in Barrytown, a hamlet in the Town of Red Hook along the river. He was at that location with two Irish servants and two daughters.

Martin may have converted the house into a two family rental property, because there are other houses east of the Elmendorph on Cherry Street that were built about this time, owned by Martin and rented out. Tradition tells us that Martin changed the roof line, but this seems unlikely. It is felt by some architectural consultants that the roof line was changed earlier in the century.

After Augustus Martin died in 1886, his heirs sold the property to his brother, Edward Martin for \$4,000. Edward Martin was born February 18, 1811. He went west and made good as a surveyor in undeveloped country. He bought land near Chicago which the city later purchased for \$1,000,000. He came back to Red Hook and spent the rest of his life tending the family farm and being the local philanthropist in a quiet way. He was very benevolent to the churches. <sup>41.</sup>

Burton Barker Coon, at age 55 in 1924 wrote, "about the year 1890, Miss Susie Fulton taught a Kindergarten class that was supported by Edward Martin in the large double house at the upper end of North Broadway." <sup>42.</sup>

The Red Hook Journal of April 29, 1887 tells us that "we learn that Mr. Edward Martin of this village proposes to start a kindergarten school in this village. Miss Emily M. Cole, of the American Kindergarten Society, New York, will speak on the subject in the Lutheran Chapel on Wed. evening next."

May 6, 1887 -- "Through the generosity of Mr. Edw. Martin, a kindergarten school has been opened in this village, which promises to be a success. School was opened on Wed. with 14 scholars. Miss Emily M. Cole will leave Miss Harned, one of her teachers, in charge of the school"

May 20, 1887 -- "Kindergarten school recently started in this village has been well patronized and, we learn, is already filled to its fullest capacity."

August 29, 1890 -- "Kindergarten will open in village Sept. 1 under tuition of Miss Martha S. McCraven of Lawrence, Mass."

December 12, 1890 --"The singing class recently organized by Miss Estelle G. Platt, increased so rapidly that it became necessary to secure a larger room for their accomodation, and the Lutheran chapel has been engaged. The class numbers about forty members. At the last meeting a vote of thanks was extended to Mr. Edw. Martin for free use of the Kindergarten rooms."

September 11, 1891 --"We learn that Miss Susie Fulton of Milan will open a select in the Martin building."

Edward Martin died on December 3, 1893, and on February 2, 1894, we read, "We learn the Kindergarten school has closed indefinitely." <sup>43.</sup>

Edmund Bassett began his Reminiscences of Red Hook in 1926 at about the age of 61. He wrote, "The old Inn, on the corner of Broadway and Cherry Sts., has been changed to dwelling apartments. In the early days of the Stagecoach line, this was one of the Inns and a regular stop to change horses. The barn stood north of the Inn and was used by Philip Van Steenburgh, the teamster. He was known as 'Old Daddy' not in derision, but in affection, for he was <sup>44.</sup> a kindly old soul."

Philip Van Steenburgh did not live at the Elmendorph according to the census, but he lived right around the corner on Cherry St. On the 1865 and 1875 census, he is shown as a teamster. He died in 1887 at age 76.

The barn referred to is mentioned in the January 15, 1894 Red Hook Journal. "The tearing down of the old barn on the Martin property at the corner of Main and Cherry Sts., removes an old landmark, but will improve the looks of the property." The late Sylvester Pulver of Danbury, New Hampshire, who co-owned the building from 1933 to 1966, wrote a letter to his sister on August 24, 1975. In

it he states, "I do know that the house was the Stage Coach Inn. Ed Martin (nephew of the previously mentioned Edward Martin), told me that just a little north from the house was a large barn where they stabled and exchanged the Stage Coach horses. The next stop going north was Blue Stores. The first stop going south was Rhinebeck . . . . Ed also told me that when he first came east from Chicago, that the first job that his old maid aunts gave him <sup>45.</sup> to do, was to tear down the Old Stage Coach barn."

The late William Pulver, father of Sylvester, in an interview in February, 1975, told us that the barn stood where the concrete garage is now. A well for watering the horses was under the barn. Pulver also told us that the Martins made it into a two apartment dwelling, however, he seemed to indicate that this was done after the Kindergarten. He also said that the Martins had the dormers removed.

It is unclear then, when the house was converted to two family, whether before or after the Kindergarten. However, it seems unlikely that anyone rented the house while it was a Kindergarten.

A 1915 Village of Red Hook Enumeration tells us that two families are in the building. One is Lansing Jewell (54), painter; Elizabeth Jewell, his mother (82); Elsie Jewell (26) his daughter who was a school teacher, and Elliott Jewell (17), nephew. Eli Jewell, father of Lansing, died April 7, 1907. He was a carriage painter, as was Lansing's trade, and numerous pieces of correspondence relating to Eli's occupation have been found in the attic of the building. Some date to 1871, but most are dated 1896 and 1897. <sup>46.</sup> Eli was born in Montgomery, (Orange County) and his obituary tells us that he was a resident in Red Hook for 33 years.

In 1875, he lived in a Frame House with a value of \$600, so it is unlikely that he was at the Elmendorph at that time. He married Elizabeth Schaife Betterton in 1853. She was born in England and died in 1922 at age 88. This is important, because an undated early 20th century photograph shows a very elderly Elizabeth Jewell, sitting on the north porch of the front of the house, and the photo reveals a shutter, door knocker and a wooden porch floor. The Jewells lived on the north side of the house. Lansing M. Jewell died at his home in 1923 (age 63). 47.

The family on the south side of the house was the Charles Pulver family in 1915. The 1898 Village of Red Hook "Enumeration" does not show Charles or William Pulver at all, nor does it mention them in 1902. The aforementioned Jewells are listed as residents, however. The 1915 Enumeration shows that Charles E. Pulver (47) is a janitor (he worked at the High School), his wife Susan (43), and son, Stanley (8). His other son, William (25) lived on Cherry St. and is a chauffeur for the Martin family who owned the Elmendorph property.

A photograph taken early in the 20th century of Charles and Susan Pulver, shows them standing in front of the east side of the building by the cellar entrance. Again, this photo is most helpful as it shows us the shutters, as well as the cellar entrance before changes were made to it later. 48.

According to Sylvester Pulver, in a tape-recorded interview on October 7, 1975, he was the butler for Edward Martin (nephew of the 19th century owner). The Martin family suffered financial losses in 1930, and when the cattle were being auctioned and the estate properties were being sold, Edward Martin was moved to the Elmendorph where Sylvester took care of him. Electricity was put in for him

at that time, as well as some of the plumbing. He died on February 17, 1932 with Sylvester in attendance. His bedroom was #204. <sup>49.</sup>

According to an interview with the late Louise Pulver Smith in 1975, sister of William Pulver, the tin roof was put on in the mid 1920s by John Curtis, who owned the local hardware store.

F. Country Store, 1933 - 1966

In 1933, after the settling of the Martin estate, William and his son Sylvester Pulver, became the owners of the house and lot as we know it today.

A great many changes to the building occurred after this period which can be documented. A new floor was laid on top of the old flooring on the first floor in 1933, and when some of this flooring was removed in 1977, the 1933 newspapers were revealed.

Photographs of the building in the 1930s show tall pine trees <sup>50.</sup> on the west side by the road. These were probably taken down by the State when the direction of Route 9 was changed from the house going north. William Pulver cut a door in the center of the west exterior about 1943, and opened a small country grocery store and <sup>51.</sup> Amoco gasoline station. He removed some of the wall from Room #108 and made a new wall for the back of Room #111, for a bathroom which he installed. Asphalt shingles were put over the clapboard in the 1950s, and the cellar entrance was changed. The stone steps were <sup>52.</sup> curved to connect with a small shed leading out of Room #110.

Evalena Pulver Hanlon (daughter of William) and her husband, Charles, lived on the south side of the building, and they made many changes to Rooms 109 and 110. Wallboard was inserted on the east and south walls of Room #110, and the plaster and lath were removed

in that area. A partition between Rooms 109 and 110 was opened up from the ceiling to counter height. A Dutch door between Rooms 109 and 110 was removed. We cannot understand why a Dutch door was in this location, but Louise Pulver Smith also told us of this Dutch door.

Mrs. Hanlon also tells us that there was a complete hallway leading from the south door on the west side back to the kitchen (Room #110). The Hanlons opened this up to counter height and installed a door to a pantry under stairs (109A) that had previously been accessible through the north wall of Room #111.

It is not clear when the "bar" or partition in Room #102 was removed, but a photograph taken of the Pulvers about 1958 when they celebrated their 49th wedding anniversary, shows this partition, but later photos reveal that it is gone. Two chestnut turnposts from this partition remain in the building.

The Pulver family continued to live at the site until 1966 when Harold Miller, a real estate developer, purchased the building with the intent of tearing it down for additional parking space for the Grand Union Store next to the property. Fortunately, the Grand Union Company decided to build a new store inbetween Red Hook and Rhinebeck, and took title to the building when they moved out of their Red Hook Store. The building was vacant after 1966, except for summer rental as an antique shop. In 1974, it was put on the real estate market for sale.

#### G. The Elmendorph Restoration Project

In 1969, John W. Delafield heard about the possible destruction of the tavern and asked Mr. Clifford M. Buck of Salt Point, N.Y. to

research the property. He mentioned in a letter to Mr. Buck on November 18, 1969 that "Hudson Heritage, Inc. is about to acquire the Tavern to protect it from destruction by the current owner, and plans to use it for historic and other (I hope) valuable charitable purposes." 53.

Hudson River Heritage was apparently formed to save the Elmendorph, but just what happened to them between 1969 and 1974 is not clear.

About 1973 - 1974, some young men from the vicinity of Rensselaer, came into the building and lived there for a few months, even using the fireplaces. They tried to contact the Grand Union Company about moving the building near Albany. They also removed large amounts of plaster on the first floor, opened up some of the bricked-up chimneys, removed partitions on the second floor in an attempt to ready the building for "moving." This attempt was aborted by the Grand Union Company and the property was then put on the market for sale.

In 1974, Bruce Sherwood and Richard Cloues of the Cornell University College of Architecture, did a study of the function, appearance and historical importance of the commercial areas of the incorporated Village of Red Hook. Their study brought to public attention the age of the Elmendorph and their recommendation that it be carefully restored, made a new group of people take an interest.

The Friends of Elmendorph, Inc. incorporated in December, 1975 to purchase and restore the building. After a long public battle, the building was purchased by the Friends in June, 1977 from the Grand Union Company for \$30,000 with a \$28,000 low interest mortgage.

At once, the windows, which had been covered with plywood for several years, were uncovered. About fifteen truck loads of plaster

and debris were removed from the cellar, as well as other areas of the building. This material was left from the young men who were there in 1973/74. The collapsed garage on the northeast lawn was removed and a dilapidated shed addition on the east side (north end) was dismantled. Extensive extermination of the building for termites took place in 1977. Some 1933 flooring was removed on the first floor in that year, as well.

In 1978, the Elmendorph was listed on the National Register of Historic Places, and in 1981, stabilization began on the north two-thirds of the building. New building sills were put in place, the foundation walls were rebuilt, cellar walls were repointed and new framing, necessary because of rot, was installed on the first floor where it was needed. Unfortunately, some loss of mud and straw insulation, as well as plaster walls occurred, but the building still retains much of this material on the interior walls, as well as on the second floor.

In 1979, the concrete garage was rehabilitated and made into an income producing Thrift Shop for the Friends, known as "Elmendorph Etc." The Friends of Elmendorph, Inc. have more than 600 members, and is entirely a volunteer-based organization.

FOOTNOTES

1. (a) Deed 86:244, March 6, 1943 in Dutchess County Clerk's Office. Christian Allendorf to Abijah Benedict, includes a map of early lease.
- (b) Van Steenburgh survey for Armstrong. File 89. "A Map of a Farm in possession of Christian Allendorph". Dutchess County Clerk's Office (See Appendix A)
2. 1752 map and property description of adjacent Hendrick Martin land (See Appendix B)
3. 1751 land leased by Henry Beekman to Christian Becker, part of which was divided into lots, a new street made (E. Market St.) as surveyed by John Cox, Jr., March 4, 1795. Lease in possession of Egbert Benson Historical Society of Red Hook.
4. Deed 42:240 October 15, 1922. Gottlop Martin and Anna Catherine to Henry G. Martin -- mentions leases. Dutchess County Clerk's Office.
5. Reynolds, Helen Wilkinson, "Dutch Houses in the Hudson Valley Before 1776," 1929, pg. 22, 23, 321.
6. Book of Roads 1756 to 1788 on microfilm (page 86) at Adriance Library, Poughkeepsie. Road from Christopher Snyders to the Kings Road (1769).
7. Road Records on file at Rhinebeck Town Hall (Book 1748 to 1849)
8. Lease May 5, 1775. Hendrick Marte(n) to William Siemon. Copy in files of Egbert Benson Historical Society of Red Hook.
9. (a) Miller, Walter V. "A History of 18th Century Germantown" Collected and Arranged by Charles E. Ramsey. Printed by Ideal Printing Co., Hudson, N.Y. 1976.  
(b) Smith, Edward M., "Documentary History of Rhinebeck in Dutchess County, N.Y., embracing Biographical Sketches and Genealogical Records of our First Families and First Settlers, with a History of its Churches and other Public Institutions" 1881. The Sharp Family, page 211, 212 and 213.
10. Microfilm Reel 53, Vol 1 & 6. Livingston Manor Rent Ledger 1767-1784 and Clermont Account and Day Book Rent Accounts 1761-1787. At Clermont State Historic Site.
11. Year Book of the Sons of the Revolution in the State of New York. 1925. p. 557.
12. (a) Erskine-DeWitt Map 930 between Albany and Fishkill thru the Red Hook (1778-1780)?? Original in New-York Historical Society. Map says PHIL. JACOBS.  
(b) New York State Library Map #349 says PH. JACOBS (date unknown) (See Appendix C)

12. (c) "A Survey of the Roads of the United States of America" by Christopher Colles. Published in 1789. Map 22 (from Poughkeepsie to Albany) indicates "JACOB" between mile 103 and 104. (See Appendix D)
13. "Committee for Conspiracies", page 235 (See Appendix E)
14. Genealogical Data from New York Administration Bonds 1753-1799. Collection of the N.Y. Genealogical and Biographical Society, Volume K (1969), page 79.
15. Smith, Edward M. "Documentary History of Rhinebeck . . ." 1801, page 209.
16. Microfilm Reel 15, Vol. 28, Clermont Account Book, 1772-1809 at Clermont State Historic Site.
17. Bill of Sale, June 10, 1782 from Daniel Ayres to George Sharp. Ancient Documents, Dutchess County Clerk's Office.
18. Survey Map, 4th March, 1795. In Files of Egbert Benson Historical Society of Red Hook. (See Appendix G)
19. Dutchess County Surrogate Court Records, January 23, 1796 re Estate of George Sharp.
20. A Map of the Town of Rhinebeck, Surveyed on December & January 1797 & 1798 by Alexander Thompson. (See Appendix H)
21. Huntting, Isaac, "History of Little Nine Partners of North West Precinct and Pine Plains, N.Y., Dutchess County", Pine Plains, N.Y. " Vol. I. published Amenia, N.Y. 1897, page 330.
22. Morse, Howard H. "Historic Old Rhinebeck" 1906. Pocantico Printing, Chapter XIII, pgs. 317 to 324.
23. MacCracken, Henry Noble, "Old Dutchess Forever!" Hastings House 1956. Chapter IV, page 155.
24. American Farmer published at Poughkeepsie from February 1799 to the latter part of May, 1799. Newspaper at Adriance Library, Poughkeepsie.
25. Ibid.
26. American Farmer September 21, 1796 at Adriance Library, Poughkeepsie. Also similar notice in American Farmer, August 12, 1798.
27. Records are at Red Hook Public Library.
28. "Settlers and Residents", Vol. 2, Part 1, Clermont - Town of Clermont 1756-1899. Compiled by Arthur C.M. Kelly. Sept. 1, 1975 (about 40 references to Lupe (Loop)).

29. Surrogates Office, Dutchess County, Book C, page 58.

30. Republican Herald, Poughkeepsie, August 23, 1811. Legal notice "by order of Jacob Van Ness, Esq., Commissioner, . . . Notice is hereby given to all the creditors of Samuel Saguez, of the Town of Stanford, in the County of Dutchess, an insolvent Debtor, to shew cause, if any they have, before the said Commissioner, at Locc's Hotel in the town of Rhinebeck in said county on . . . . " News-paper at Adriance Library, Poughkeepsie.

31. Mortgage 23: 564, July 16, 1814. Dutchess County Clerk's Office.

32. A Map of the Town of Red Hook, 1815 (See Appendix I)

33. Deed 27:245, February 6, 1819. Dutchess County Clerk's Office

34. Ellis, "History of Columbia County," 1878, page 139.

35. Reynolds, Helen Wilkinson, Dutch Houses in the Hudson Valley Before 1776, 1929, pgs. 25, 323, 324.

36. Dutchess County Surrogates Office, Book E, page 470.

37. Mortgage 26:546, May 5, 1820, Dutchess County Clerk's Office

38. Records at Red Hook Library.

39. Deed 85:54, October 1, 1845, Dutchess County Clerk's Office.

40. "Commemorative Biographical Record of Dutchess County, New York", Chicago, H.H. Beers & Co. 1897, page 390

41. Ibid., page 391

42. Coon, Burton Barker, "Recollections of Red Hook" Published in Red Hook Advertiser issues from March 20 to June 19, 1924. Reprinted by Red Hook/Tivoli Bicentennial Committee, June, 1977.

43. Red Hook Journal newspapers. Original copies and microfilm at Red Hook Public Library.

44. Bassett, Edmund, "Reminiscences of Red Hook (A Story of the Village)" Reprinted June, 1976 by Red Hook/Tivoli Bicentennial Committee, page 12.

45. Pulver, Sylvester. Letter to his sister, Louise (Pulver) Breazzano, August 24, 1975. Letter in files of Friends of Elmendorph.

46. Eli Jewell's correspondence in files of Friends of Elmendorph

47. See Illustration #1

48. See Illustration #2

49. Tape Recording of Sylvester C. Pulver of Danbury, New Hampshire as he walked through the building in October, 1975. Tape in files of Friends of Elmendorph.

50. Photographs in files of Friends of Elmendorph.

51. See Illustration #6

52. Pulver family member interviews over a period of years.

53. Delafield, John W., Letter to Clifford M. Buck, November 15, 1969. Letter in files of Friends of Elmendorph.