

Maizeland (Maizefield) & the Red Hook Brick Wall (Use 2012 Photo)



RHWG: In the National Historic Register. David Van Ness, a general in the militia during the Revolutionary War, State Senator, early Red Hook postmaster, merchant and the town's first supervisor, built Maizeland sometime around 1795, when he moved with his large family from Upped Red Hook to the village. The move brought the official Red Hook post office address to the lower village, and probably ensured its increasingly central role beginning in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Built in the Georgian-Federal manner, the house was originally a rectangular two-story structure.

With its distinctive Palladian window and geometric motif between the first and second floors, Maizeland is considered among the finest post-Revolutionary houses in Dutchess County. The divided Dutch door is a reminder of the time and place of its construction. The name was changed to Maizefield in the 1960's.

The red brick wall was built c. 1903 by Lawrence Timpson and his wife, owners of Maizeland at the turn of the century. William Chamberlain owned and operated the estate and its once extensive farming operation during the last half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

RHHG: Although the structure has been remodeled and enlarged, including the addition of a third floor, the design elements have been so well integrated that the character of Maizefield is still distinctly Federal style. Important architectural features are the Palladian windows and geometric motifs between first and second floors and the six panel divided door at the main entrance. In 1849, a later owner, William Chamberlain commissioned architect Alexander Jackson Davis to design the "Shepherd's Cottage" which still stands on what was originally Maizefield property. The present Junior and Senior High Schools are the housing development on Trow Boulevard are only a few of the structures which occupy property once belonging to Maizefield. Original 364 acres.