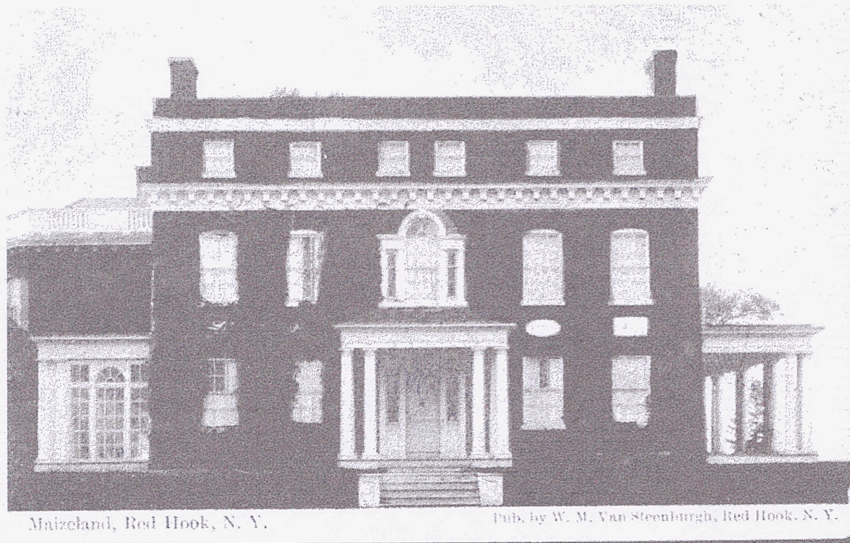


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## MAIZELAND

### Brief History of the Grounds

The grounds on which the (Linden Avenue) school is now located were originally owned by General David Van Ness of Revolutionary fame. The house known as the Brock House was built in 1797. A portion of this house is still standing. It was named Maizefield and later changed to Maizeland.

In 1815 it was sold to Stephen Brinkerhoff of Fishkill. Arthur Smith of New York City bought the property in 1825 and conveyed it to Tobias Teller of Clinton, NY, in 1841.

The property was then purchased by William Chamberlin of New York City and, after his death, the estate was divided by his executors who sold the house and 130 of the original acres to Mr. Theodore Timpson in 1882. In 1900 Mrs. Timpson deeded the place to her son, Lawrence.

Mr. Leon Shelley acquired the property from Lawrence Timpson on August 1, 1927, and in June 1935 a portion was sold to Victor Gangwish. The Trustees of the Red Hook Central School obtained sixteen and one-half acres from Mrs. Shelley on December 1, 1937 and the balance of the acreage was bought from Victor Gangwish.

■ [Page 29, of the booklet: Red Hook Central School Dedication Exercises, September 6, 1939. Published by The Livingston Press, Livingston, NY]

#### MEH Note 7/19/97:

The New Historical Atlas of Dutchess County, NY, Illustrated, offers a map of Dutchess County, dated 1876. This map indicates that the lands of William Chamberlain extended westward along what is now route 199, almost as far as the present Route 9G.

There has been some confusion between the names, Maizefield and Maizeland. Various writers referred to the property as Maizefield, but Edmund Bassett, in his "Reminiscences of Red Hook (A Story of the Village)", calls it Maiseland.

Bound in the center of Bassett's publication, is an 1867 map of The Town of Red Hook. In the upper left hand corner of this map it clearly states "Maizeland, Res. Of W. Chamberlain".

An old postcard, published by W.M. Van Steenburgh, Red Hook, NY, pictures William Chamberlain's mansion. The caption is "Maizeland, Red Hook, NY."

We do not know who wrote the "History of the Grounds" article, but the information seems to coincide with Bassett's memories which were published almost a decade earlier in the Red Hook Advertiser.

According to Bassett, "On the death of his father, William Chamberlain, Jr., inherited the place, but he died suddenly a few years later and the place was divided

into three parts and sold. ... Theodore Timpson, a friend of Mr. Chamberlin, bought the big house which is called Maiseland."

It was my own Great-grandfather, John Heyne, and his brother, Carl Heyne, who were the shepherds for William Chamberlain for about 25 years. In my memory of family traditions the correct name for that place is Maizeland. William Chamberlain actually imported the Heynes along with their possessions, the Merino sheep, which it was at that time illegal to export from Europe. My grandmother Bertha (Mrs. T.K.) Smith came from Germany at age four with her mother and half sister Pauline Trinks on a sailing ship. Her father, John Heyne, followed in another ship bearing their sheep.

They were settled in a house on the Chamberlain farm on the north side of Route 199, in a house later owned by William Trow and presently by the Unification Church.

Carl and Mary Ann Heyne lived in the shepherds cottage at the end of the brick wall along West Market street in Red Hook village. After William Chamberlain died, Carl bought the old stone house that is now owned by Hardeman. It sets back off Route 199 diagonally opposite the first mentioned house. He died after only two years and his house and farm went to his brother, John Heyne. John's daughter, my grandmother, Bertha, was married there in 1883.