

HISTORIC
RED HOOK



49 Old
Post Road
North

Red Hook, NY

A Brief History

Prepared For:
John and Susan Pelosi

HISTORIC RED HOOK
7562 N. Broadway
Red Hook, NY 12571

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Researched and written by Historic Red Hook volunteers.
All photographs courtesy Historic Red Hook.

History of 48 Old Post Road North

The house at 48 Old Post Road North in Upper Red Hook has been a tavern and hotel for most of its history. Its strategic location at the junction of two historically important roads put it at the center of the earliest development of the hamlet then known as Red Hook (Figures 1-3). It served a bustling community in the late 1800s and into the early 1900s. By the 1930s, when the hamlet was bypassed by the new Route 9 and its post office and school closed, the center of activity in the Town of Red Hook had shifted to “Lower” Red Hook.



Figure 1: View of the Green with the Mooney House, center left, and a corner of Lasher's Hotel, far left, c. 1902.



Figure 2: View looking south at Lasher's Hotel, c.1900, Photograph by William Seward Teator.



Figure 3: View looking north at Lasher's Hotel, c. 1900, Photograph by William Seward Teator.

Jacob Thomas Farm

The triangular parcel of land on which the house stands was once part of Jacob Thomas's 82-acre farm. Thomas was a farmer, horse merchant, first Lieutenant in the Revolutionary War, and roadmaster of the Kings Highway (Post Road) from 1767-1784. On his property sat the brick tavern (now known as the Thomas House) used as General Putnam's temporary headquarters while the British were burning Kingston on the east side of the Hudson in late October 1777.¹ Jacob Heermance bought the 82-acre farm property from Jacob Thomas's son Henry in 1782 and it was later owned by John Radcliff and then by Isaac Sebring of Fishkill. An 1818 indenture has Sebring being released of a \$390 mortgage on the property.²

In 1821 Sebring sold most of the farm to Nicholas Allendorph, but separated out a small $\frac{3}{4}$ acre parcel and sold that to John Elting Jr. in a separate transaction; this lot is consistently described in deeds as a triangular lot, "commonly known as the Green." The 1821 deed locates it at the "junction of the Post Road (the north-south road linking New York City to Albany) and the one leading from Mount Ross to Upper Red Hook landing," (the east-west road linking Connecticut to the Hudson River), and describes the parcel as "part of the farm originally belonging to Jacob Thomas deceased" and the Green as the place "he had his barn and horse shed."

[See Chain of Title on Page 38]

Gottlob Haas (owner 1836-57), Hotel Builder

In 1836, John Elting Jr. sold the parcel to German immigrant and merchant Gottlob (Gotlop/Gotlieb) Haas (Hass/Haass) (1806-1865). The earliest source we could find that dates the house, James H. Smith's *History of Dutchess County*, cites 1838 as the year Haas built on the property, a date repeated in several later sources.³ The property was valued at \$2,500 in the 1850 census, where Haas, age 44, is listed as a hotel keeper (Figure 4).⁴ Haas is cited by William P. McDermott in *Dutchess County's Plain Folks* as an example of a successful foreign-born entrepreneur who owned a hotel in Red Hook and later, in 1859-60 when Haas was operating a dry goods and grocery store in Upper Red Hook, a *Red Hook Weekly Journal* reporter writes that the "evidences of enterprise are perceptible in the increase in business and the cheerful countenance of business men....Haas is a pleasant and

¹ James H. Smith, *History of Dutchess County*, pub. 1882, p. 131.

² Indenture Sept 15, 1818 between Loan officers of the County of Dutchess and Isaac Sebring.

³ James H. Smith, *History of Dutchess County*, pub. 1882, p. 183.

⁴ 1850 United States Federal Census.

intelligent man”(Figures 9-10).⁵ Haas died in 1865 and he and his wife Catherine Allendorph Tremper are buried in St. Paul’s Lutheran Church cemetery, Village of Red Hook.⁶

Edward Hermance (owner 1857-1868) and the Eureka Hotel

In 1857, Haas sold the parcel for \$2,000 to Edward Hermance (1820-1872), listed as a saddle and harness maker in the 1850 census (Figure 5).⁷ An 1858 map shows “E. Hermance” at the road juncture and “E. Hermance Hotel” appears on an 1867 map (Figures 6, 8). Hermance was a member of the Upper Red Hook Horse Thieves Society as well as Town Clerk and his house served as a center of activity for both positions.⁸ The 1860 census lists him as a hotelkeeper and 1859 *The Red Hook Weekly Journal* describes Hermance as the “gentlemanly proprietor” of the Eureka Hotel (Figures 7, 9-10).⁹ Hermance died at age 53 in 1872.

At the end of 1868, before his death, Edward Hermance and his wife Lucinda had sold the Eureka Hotel for \$3,500 to Alexander Boice of Clermont and his wife Christina (Figure 11).¹⁰ Boice continued to operate it as a hotel, and notices in an 1871 issue of the *Red Hook Journal* report that Boice held a social ball there but also that he was selling the hotel to Martin Lasher for \$4,000.¹¹

⁵ William P. McDermott, *Dutchess County Plain Folks*, pub 2004, p. 176. *Red Hook Weekly Journal*, May 27, 1859, p. 2.

⁶ <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/119787698/gottlob-haas>.

⁷ 1850 United States Federal Census.

⁸ Roger M. Leonard, *Upper Red Hook: An American Crossroad*, p 240. *Red Hook Journal* Mar 6, 1862 p. 2.

⁹ 1860 Federal Census. *Red Hook Weekly Journal*, Jan 27, 1860, p. 3. *Red Hook Weekly Journal*, May 27, 1859, p. 2.

¹⁰ *Red Hook Journal*, Dec 18, 1868, p. 2.

¹¹ *Red Hook Journal* Feb 10, 1871, p. 2.

SCHEDULE I.—Free Inhabitants in Ed. Cook in the County of Dutcher State
of New York enumerated by me, on the 22nd day of July, 1850. John H. Miller Ass't Marshal.

Dwelling-house number order of valuation.	Family number order of valuation.	The Name of every Person whose usual place of abode on the first day of June, 1850, was in this family.	DESCRIPTION.			Profession, Occupation, or Trade of each Male Person over 15 years of age.	Value of Real Estate owned.	Place of Birth. Naming the State, Territory, or Country.	Married within the year. A. B. C. D. E. F. G. H. I. J. K. L. M. N. O. P. Q. R. S. T. U. V. W. X. Y. Z.	Whether deaf and dumb, blind, insane, idiotic, pauper, or convict.
			Age.	Sex.	Color.					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
21	21	William Titman	43	M		Carpenter		N. Y.		
		Laura Titman	47	F				N. Y.		
		Anna M. Titman	15	F				N. Y.		
		Mary E. Titman	10	F				N. Y.		
		Emma C. Titman	8	F				N. Y.		
		Clarence Lofgren	29	M		Physician		N. Y.		
22	22	Leila Lofgren	77	F			2000	N. Y.		
		Anna M. Bennett	40	F				N. Y.		
		Calladine Shock	36	F				N. Y.		
		Phoebe Ann Bushard	10	F				Conn.		
23	23	Alva Roe	25	M		Lawyer		N. Y.		
		Marion H. Roe	23	F				N. Y.		
24	24	Edward Therman	31	M		Wholesale Merchant	700	N. Y.		
		Aminda Therman	24	F				N. Y.		
		Marilla Therman	6	F				N. Y.		
		Shedden Therman	4	M				N. Y.		
		Clarence W. Therman	2	M				N. Y.		
		Charles Schreyer	18	M		Saddles & Harness		N. Y.		
25	25	Louis B. Wager	29	M		none	700	N. Y.		
		Ellen Wager	25	F				N. Y.		
		Ellen Wager	0	F				N. Y.		
		Catharine A. Wager	5	F				N. Y.		
		Louis Edgar Wager	3	M				N. Y.		
		William B. Wager	2	M				N. Y.		
		Mary B. Wager	1	F				N. Y.		
		Richard Hoffmann	64	M		none		N. Y.		
26	26	Gottlob Haas	44	M		Hotel Keeper	2500	Germany		
		Catharine Haas	38	F				N. Y.		
		Rosanna Haas	19	F				N. Y.		
		John Haas	13	M				N. Y.		
		William Haas	9	M				N. Y.		
		Charles F. Haas	1 1/2	M				N. Y.		
		Ezra M. Hildner	28	M		Physician		N. Y.		
27	27	David Hoffmann	45	M		Labourer		N. Y.		
		Maria Hoffmann	43	F			600	N. Y.		
		Mary Jane Hoffmann	26	F				N. Y.		
		Charles R. Hoffmann	2	M				N. Y.		
28	28	Isaac H. Kutton	35	M		none		N. Y.		
		Lydia C. Kutton	31	F				N. Y.		
		William B. Kutton	18	M				N. Y.		
		Nicholas R. Kutton	4	M				N. Y.		

26	26	Gottlob Haas	44	M		Hotel Keeper	2500	German		
		Catharine Haas	38	F				N. Y.		
		Rosanna Haas	19	F				N. Y.		
		John Haas	13	M				N. Y.		
		William Haas	9	M				N. Y.		
		Charles F. Haas	1 1/2	M				N. Y.		

Figure 4: Gottlob Haas: 1850 United States Federal Census

24	24	Edward Hermance	24	M	Saddles Creek	100	H. H.	2
		Amelia Hermance	24	F			H. H.	
		Marietta Hermance	6	F			H. H.	
		Theodore Hermance	4	M			H. H.	
		Clarence W. Hermance	2	M			H. H.	
		Charles Schaeffer	18	M	Saddles Creek		H. H.	

Figure 5: Edward Hermance: 1850 United States Federal Census

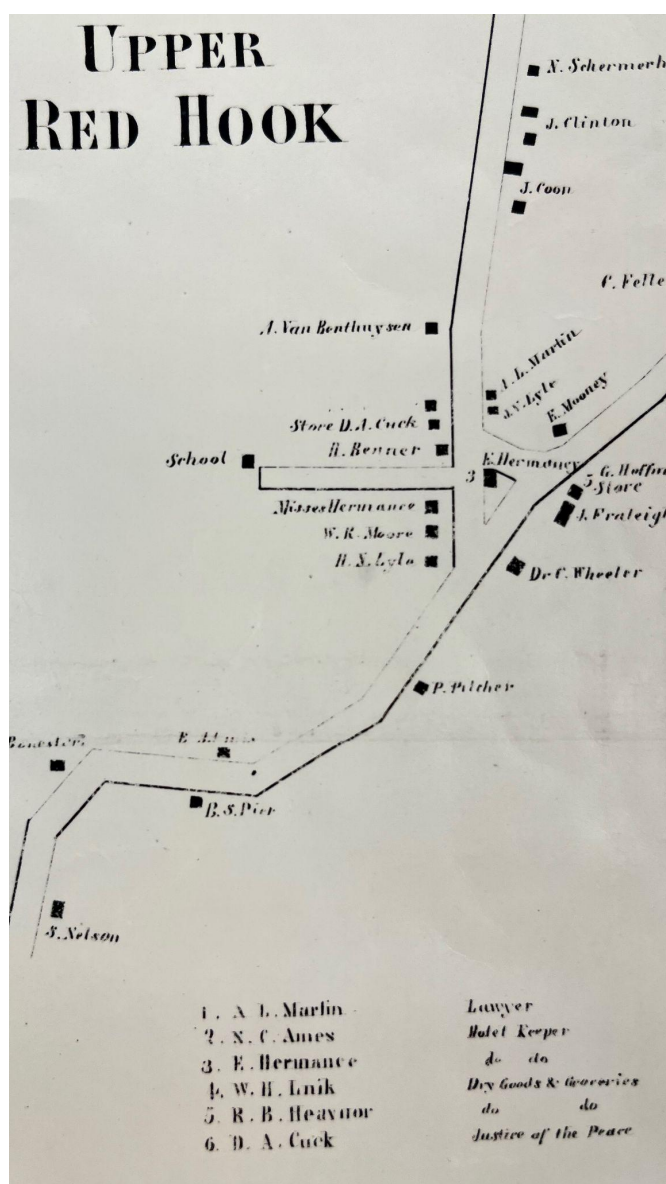


Figure 6: 1858 Map by John E. Gillette

958 Page No. 32
 SCHEDULE 1—Free Inhabitants in PLANTY in the County of Lucas State
 of Ohio enumerated by me, on the 30 day of July 1860. P. H. Lasher Asst. Marshal
 Post Office Lucas, Lucas Co. Ohio

Dwelling-house No.	Family No.	Name of head of family	Sex and Age		Color	Profession, Occupation, or Trade of each person, male and female, over 15 years of age.	Value of Estate Owned		Place of Birth, Naming the State, Territory, or Country.	Married within year	Whether deaf and dumb, blind, insane, idiotic, pauper, or convict.
			M	F			Real Estate	Personal Estate			
1	246	J. M. Murre	42	M					Ohio		
2	197 247	Wm. F. Sippel	53	M		Labourer					
3		C	53	F							
4	248	J. F. Sippel	27	M		Labourer		200			
5		G.	17	F							
6		J. C.	2	F							
7		Anna Korte	20	F		Teacher					
8	198 249	Conrad Korte	52	M		Farmer	11500	3200			
9		A. M.	57	F							
10		M. J.	17	F							
11		Sarah W. Korte	15	F		Spinster					
12	199 250	Abraham Korte	52	M		Farmer	13500	1000			
13		G. J.	52	F							
14		H.	25	F							
15		R.	24	F							
16		C. J.	22	F							
17		J. M.	18	M							
18		J. M.	12	F							
19		J. S.	9	M							
20	200 251	Amos K. Korte	46	M		Farmer	2500	2500			
21		M. A.	46	F							
22		L.	15	F							
23		M.	12	F							
24		A.	10	M							
25		J.	8	F							
26		H.	5	M							
27		John M. Korte	50	M		Labourer					
28		M. O. Korte	25	F		Spinster					
29	201 252	John Korte	64	M			2000	300			
30		J.	55	F							
31		A. M. Korte	19	F							
32	202 253	Simon Korte	65	M		Labourer	1000				
33		H.	65	F							
34	203 254	Edward Hermance	41	M		Hotel/Coach	2000	600			
35		J.	35	F							
36		M.	10	F							
37		H.	14	F							
38		G.	6	M							
39		R. L.	1	M							
40		M.	4	M							

40

34	203	254	Edward Hermance	41	M		Hotel/Coach	2000	600		
35			J.	35	F						
36			M.	10	F						
37			H.	14	F						
38			G.	6	M						
39			R. L.	1	M						
40			M.	4	M						

Figure 7: Edward Hermance: 1860 United States Federal Census

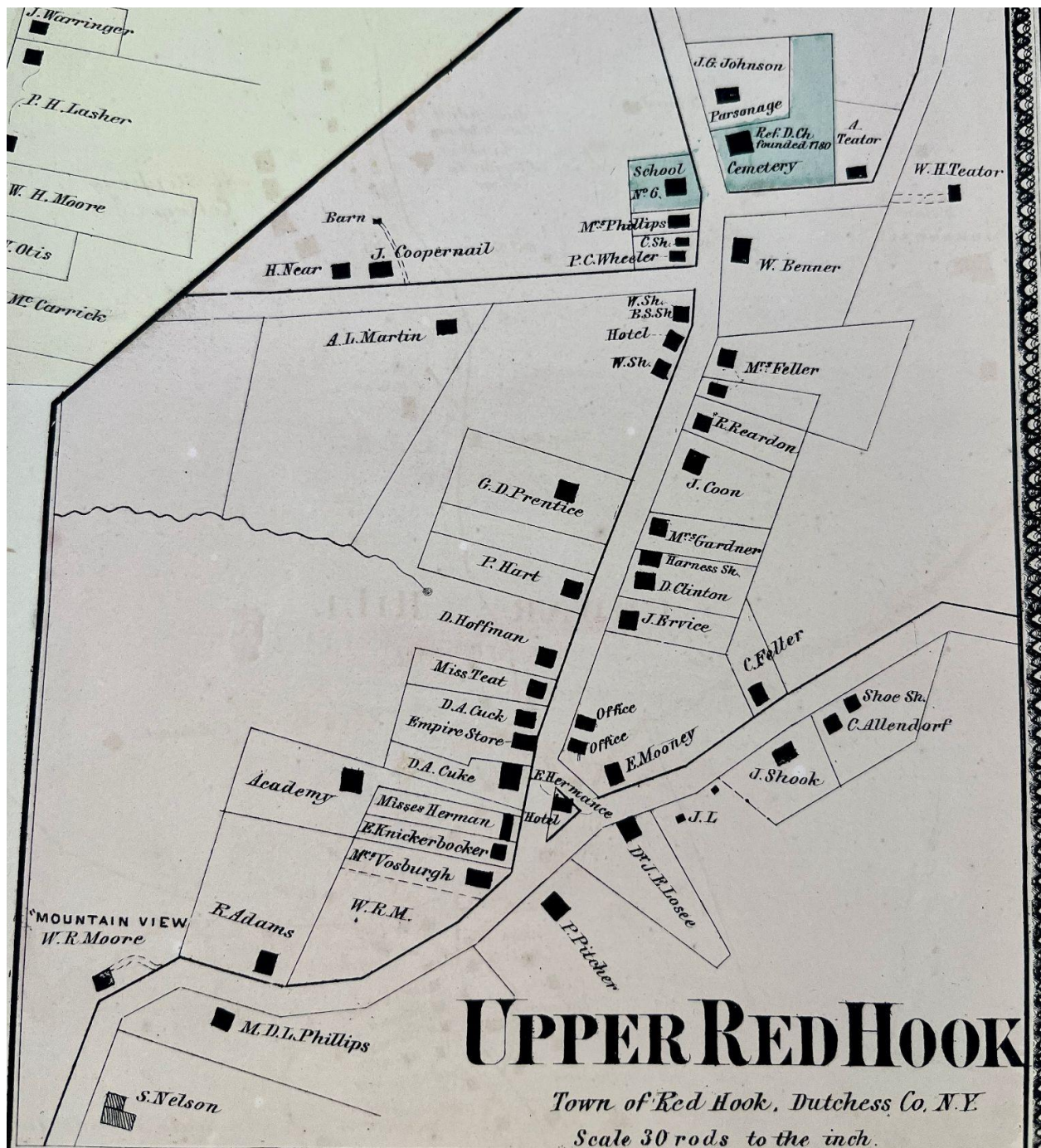


Figure 8: 1867 Map by Frederick W. Beers

NEIGHBORING TOWNS.

We made a hasty trip on Monday and Tuesday last, touching at various points on the route, and returned home well pleased with the manner in which our time had been spent. Our first call was at Upper Red Hook where the evidences of enterprise are perceptible in the increase of business and the cheerful countenances of business men. Mr. Cuck, evidently a thorough business man, speaks for himself in another column. Mr. Haas is a pleasant and intelligent man. Mr. Robinson we did not have the pleasure of seeing, being out of town. And Mr. E. Hermance (to use the old expression, "in such cases made and provided") is the "Gentlemanly Proprietor" of the Eureka Hotel.

Figure 9: Haas and Hermance: *Red Hook Weekly Journal*, Jan 27, 1860 p. 3.

BUSINESS OF UPPER RED HOOK.

A friend has kindly furnished us with the following summary of the Business and other matters of interest in Upper Red Hook. He says the places of Business are named as they occur to him, without regard to any particular order.

The large Dry Goods and Grocery Store of D. A. Cuck.

The Dry Goods and Grocery Store of G. Haas.

The Eureka Hotel kept by E. Hermance, who is always in his place; in connection with which is the Upper Red Hook Post Office.

Figure 10: Haas and Hermance: *Red Hook Weekly Journal*, May 27, 1859, p. 2.

SOLD OUT.—We learn that Mr. Edw. Hermance has sold his hotel property at Upper Red Hook, to a Mr. Boice, for the sum of \$3,500.

Figure 11: Hermance to Boice: *Red Hook Weekly Journal*, Dec 18, 1868, p. 2.

Martin Lasher (owner 1871-1905) and the Park Hotel

Martin Lasher (1822-1905), a Palatine descendant, had relevant experience in the hospitality business. An 1859 *Red Hook Journal* article mentions Lasher as an employee of the Red Hook Hotel, on the southwest corner of crossroads in the Village of Red Hook (Figure 12).¹² A Civil War register from 1863 refers to him as a bartender.¹³ By 1875 he is listed in the State Census (Figure 13) as hotelkeeper and at some point he renamed the house the Park Hotel, though it continued to be referred to, including on an 1876 map, as the Lasher Hotel (Figure 14).¹⁴ He was an active Horse Thieves member who held meetings at his house (Figure 15).¹⁵ We know he made some renovations to the house, putting a new floor in his dining room in 1890 (Figure 16).¹⁶

Whatever the condition of the house, the state of the Green was another matter. In an indication of how important the Green was to the neighborhood, an October 1893 agreement was signed by Lasher and his neighbors in which Lasher pledged, for \$500, to remove the “obnoxious” and “objectionable” barn and sheds, return the “Green” to its former condition, and maintain it into the future.¹⁷ In November 1893, the *Red Hook Journal* reported that the “hotel property has been improved by the removal of the barn and sheds connected with the hotel” (Figure 17).¹⁸ Lasher

¹² *Red Hook Journal* Dec 16, 1859, p. 3.

¹³ Ancestry.com, Civil War register, July 1, 1863.

¹⁴ 1875 New York State Census.

¹⁵ *Red Hook Journal*, Oct 3, 1884, p. 3.

¹⁶ *Red Hook Journal*, Oct 10, 1890, p. 3.

¹⁷ Indenture & Defeasance, Oct 23, 1893 L271 P 303 between Martin Lasher and Mary his wife and John E. Losee, Edgar C. Perrine, Ella Mooney, George S. William E. and Helen S. Knickerbocker heirs at law... “Barn shed and outside structures are deemed by all parties hereto to have been inadvisedly there located and the use of same to be obnoxious and also to be objectionable to the view of the parties of the second part and from their several proximate residences and all the parties hereto deeming as they do that a removal of said Barn shed and outside structures would be generally regarded as a public improvement...so thatthe part ...may be restored to its former condition as a “Green” as in said Deed called...to be so kept and maintained for all future time.”

¹⁸ *Red Hook Journal*, Nov 10, 1893, p. 3.

operated the Park Hotel until his death in 1905 and is buried in St. Paul's Lutheran Cemetery (Figures 18-20).¹⁹


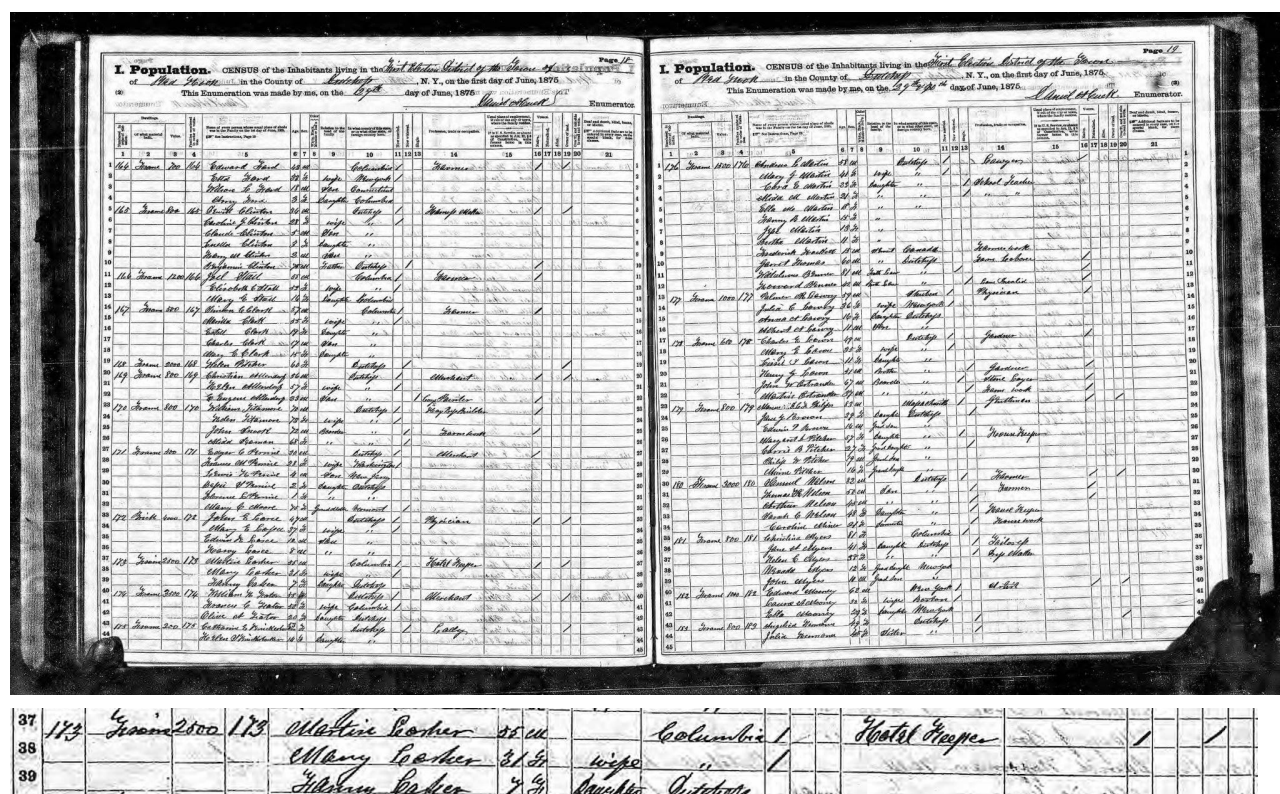
 We are glad to see that Martin Lasher, who was for some time confined to the House by a severe attack of Quinsy is so far recovered as to be able to resume his duties at the Red Hook Hotel.

Figure 12: Martin Lasher: *Red Hook Weekly Journal*, Dec 16, 1859, p. 3.



No.	Name	Age	Sex	Color	Mar.	Prof.	Value	Real Estate	Personal	Value	Real Estate	Personal
37	173	Green	2000	173	Martin Lasher	48	M	Columbia	Hotel Keeper			
38					Mary Lasher	31	F	Wife				
39					Edw. Lasher	7	M	Boys				

Figure 13: Martin Lasher: 1875 New York State Census

¹⁹ *Red Hook Journal*, Mar 24, 1905, p. 3; <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/87967629/martin-lasher>.



Figure 14: 1876 Map by O.W. Gray & Son

NOTICE.—The annual meeting of the Red Hook Society for the detection of Horse Thieves, will be held at the hotel of Martin Lasher, Upper Red Hook, on Tuesday evening, Oct. 7th, at 7 o'clock. A full attendance is requested, as business of importance is to be brought before the meeting. **A. NELSON, Sec'y.**

Figure 15: Horse Thieves: *Red Hook Journal*, Oct 3, 1884, p. 3.

Barrytown....Martin Lasher is having a new floor put in his dining room....Douglas Teats and Joan

Figure 16: New floor: *Red Hook Journal*, Oct 10, 1890, p. 3.

The hotel property at Upper Red Hook, as well as the adjoining residences, has been improved by the removal of the barn and sheds connected with the hotel to a point on Academy lane a short distance west of its former location.

Figure 17: Barn removal: *Red Hook Journal*, Nov 10, 1893, p. 3.



Figure 18: Lasher family at Upper Red Hook Hotel, 1901. L-R: George Clum and Fannie with little Ruth, Grace Brenzel, Margaret, Martin (proprietor) and Mary Lasher.



Figure 19: Martin and Mary Lasher, 1901.

The death of Martin Lasher, formerly of this village and one of the oldest residents of the town, and proprietor of the Park Hotel at Upper Red Hook, occurred on Sunday last. His remains were interred in the Lutheran cemetery on Tuesday. He was 82 years of age.

Figure 20: Lasher Death: *Red Hook Journal*, Mar 24, 1905, p. 3.

James and Emma Ryer (owners 1905-06) and the Dutchess Hotel

In March 1905 Reuben W. Loft (1868-1945) apparently bought the hotel and then in April sold it to Mr. and Mrs. James E. Ryer (Figures 21-22).²⁰ An April 1, 1905 deed has Mary Lasher transferring three lots to Emma K. Ryer, one of which is the “hotel premises.” The Ryers ran it for only about a year as **The Dutchess Hotel**, advertising it as “an Up-to-Date Gentlemens and Ladies Country Hostelry”(Figure 23).²¹

²⁰ *Red Hook Journal*, Mar 3, 1905, p.3.

²¹ *Red Hook Journal*, Dec 29, 1905, p 3.

Reuben W. Loft, bought and sold the Hotel of Martin Lasher at Upper Red Hook, and has purchased the Hotel at Rock City.

Figure 21: Loft: *Red Hook Journal*, Mar 3, 1905, p. 3.

Mr. and Mrs. James E. Ryer were in town Wednesday. They will take possession of the Hotel of Martin Lasher, at Upper Red Hook, which they have recently purchased, April 1st.

Figure 22: Ryer: *Red Hook Journal*, Mar 10, 1905, p.3.



Figure 23: Dutchess Hotel: *Red Hook Journal*, 1905, Dec 29, p.3.

Lewis Wasner (owner 1906-22) and Wasner's Hotel

In 1906 Lewis (Louis) Wasner (1859-1923), a German immigrant, bought the property for \$3,800 from James' wife, Emma K. Ryer (Figures 24-25), and became the new proprietor.²² It became known as Lewis Wasner's Hotel (Figure 26) (we haven't found a new name for the hotel).²³ He was the target of thieves as reported in an 1909 *Poughkeepsie Eagle News* article (Figure 27).²⁴ A 1984 New York State historic structure survey form says he added a porch about 1910 and a one-room extension about 1920. We suspect the east porch was removed and put on the west side. The north gable end porch was perhaps added at the same time. (Figures 28-30). By 1922 Wasner was in ill health and had advertised the hotel for sale (Figure 31).²⁵

²² *Red Hook Journal*, Aug 10, 1906, p 3; Lewis Wasner, 1910 United States Federal Census.

²³ *Red Hook Journal*, Jan 19, 1912, p. 2.

²⁴ *Poughkeepsie Eagle News*, Jan 8, 1915, p. 5.

²⁵ *Poughkeepsie Eagle News*, Mar 1, 1922, p. 8.

The hotel property at Upper Red Hook, for many years conducted by Martin Lasher, and afterward by James E. Ryer, has been sold to Mr. Lewis Washner for \$3,800.

Figure 24: Wasner: Red Hook Journal, Aug 10, 1906, p. 3.

STATE New York COUNTY Dutchess TOWNSHIP OR OTHER DIVISION OF COUNTY Red Hook NAME OF INSTITUTION Red Hook Journal NAME OF INCORPORATED PLACE Red Hook ENUMERATED BY M. L. Washner DAY OF May 1910

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR-BUREAU OF THE CENSUS
THIRTEENTH CENSUS OF THE UNITED STATES: 1910-POPULATION

214 SUPERVISOR'S DISTRICT No. 5 SHEET No. 16 A
WARD OR CENSUS DISTRICT No. 3 1910
Charles B. Peltor ENUMERATOR

LINE	NAME	RELATION	PERSONAL DESCRIPTION	NATIVITY			RACE	SEX	AGE	MARRIAGE	EDUCATION	INDUSTRY	SOURCES	REMARKS
				Place of Birth	Place of Birth of Father	Place of Birth of Mother								
1	340351 Minnie Louise	Wife	W	New York	New York	New York	English	F	20	Married	High School	Domestic	20	
2	340352 Minnie Louise	Wife	W	New York	New York	New York	English	F	20	Married	High School	Domestic	20	
3	340353 Minnie Louise	Wife	W	New York	New York	New York	English	F	20	Married	High School	Domestic	20	
4	340354 Minnie Louise	Wife	W	New York	New York	New York	English	F	20	Married	High School	Domestic	20	
5	340355 Minnie Louise	Wife	W	New York	New York	New York	English	F	20	Married	High School	Domestic	20	
6	340356 Minnie Louise	Wife	W	New York	New York	New York	English	F	20	Married	High School	Domestic	20	
7	340357 Minnie Louise	Wife	W	New York	New York	New York	English	F	20	Married	High School	Domestic	20	
8	340358 Minnie Louise	Wife	W	New York	New York	New York	English	F	20	Married	High School	Domestic	20	
9	340359 Minnie Louise	Wife	W	New York	New York	New York	English	F	20	Married	High School	Domestic	20	
10	340360 Minnie Louise	Wife	W	New York	New York	New York	English	F	20	Married	High School	Domestic	20	
11	340361 Minnie Louise	Wife	W	New York	New York	New York	English	F	20	Married	High School	Domestic	20	
12	340362 Minnie Louise	Wife	W	New York	New York	New York	English	F	20	Married	High School	Domestic	20	
13	340363 Minnie Louise	Wife	W	New York	New York	New York	English	F	20	Married	High School	Domestic	20	
14	340364 Minnie Louise	Wife	W	New York	New York	New York	English	F	20	Married	High School	Domestic	20	
15	340365 Minnie Louise	Wife	W	New York	New York	New York	English	F	20	Married	High School	Domestic	20	
16	340366 Minnie Louise	Wife	W	New York	New York	New York	English	F	20	Married	High School	Domestic	20	
17	340367 Minnie Louise	Wife	W	New York	New York	New York	English	F	20	Married	High School	Domestic	20	
18	340368 Minnie Louise	Wife	W	New York	New York	New York	English	F	20	Married	High School	Domestic	20	
19	340369 Minnie Louise	Wife	W	New York	New York	New York	English	F	20	Married	High School	Domestic	20	
20	340370 Minnie Louise	Wife	W	New York	New York	New York	English	F	20	Married	High School	Domestic	20	
21	340371 Minnie Louise	Wife	W	New York	New York	New York	English	F	20	Married	High School	Domestic	20	
22	340372 Minnie Louise	Wife	W	New York	New York	New York	English	F	20	Married	High School	Domestic	20	
23	340373 Minnie Louise	Wife	W	New York	New York	New York	English	F	20	Married	High School	Domestic	20	
24	340374 Minnie Louise	Wife	W	New York	New York	New York	English	F	20	Married	High School	Domestic	20	

340358	Winnie Louise	Wife	W	New York	New York	New York	English	F	20	Married	High School	Domestic	20	
340359	Winnie Louise	Wife	W	New York	New York	New York	English	F	20	Married	High School	Domestic	20	
340360	Winnie Louise	Wife	W	New York	New York	New York	English	F	20	Married	High School	Domestic	20	

Figure 25: Lewis Wasner: 1910 United States Federal Census



Figure 26: Postcard of hotel with sign identifying Wasner as proprietor.

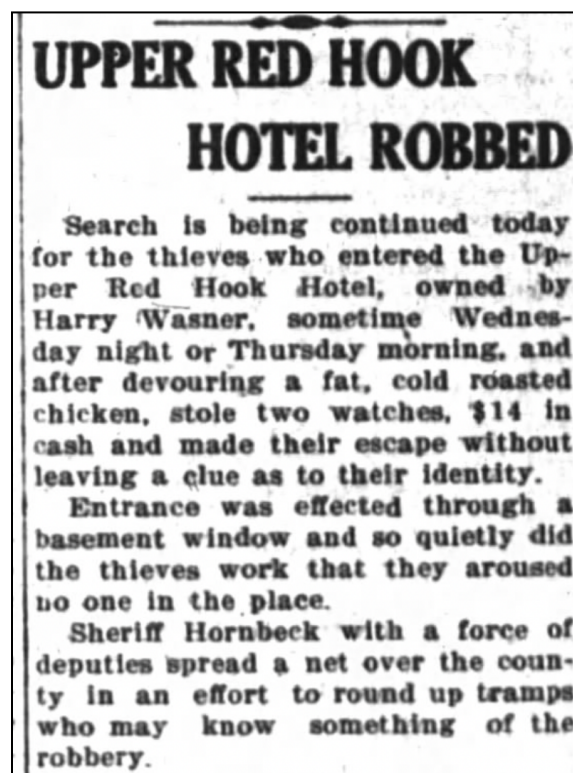
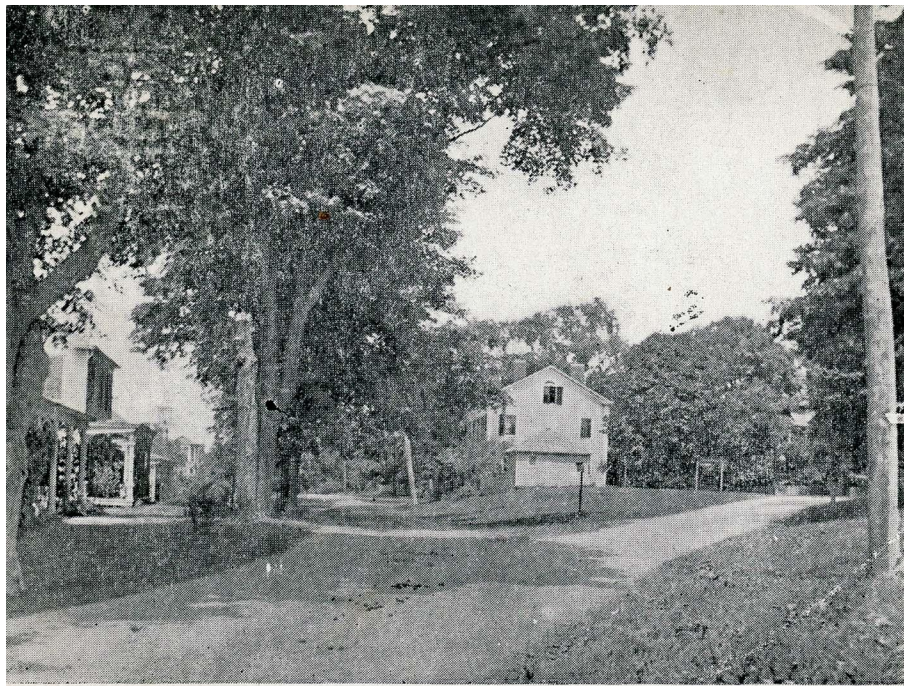


Figure 27: Thieves: *Poughkeepsie Eagle News*, Jan 8, 1915, p.5.



OLD POST ROAD, LOOKING NORTH, UPPER RED HOOK, N. Y.

Figure 28: Postcard with view looking north at hotel, c. 1910.



Figure 29: Hotel showing porch on west side, 1933.

BUILDING-STRUCTURE INVENTORY FORM

DIVISION FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION
NEW YORK STATE PARKS AND RECREATION
ALBANY, NEW YORK (518) 474-0479

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

UNIQUE SITE NO. _____
QUAD _____
SERIES _____
NEG. NO. _____

rec'd
4/1
25

YOUR NAME: Wm WALTER DATE: MAR 27, 1984

YOUR ADDRESS: RD 1 Box 3 TELEPHONE: 758-8422

ORGANIZATION (if any): RM 1251

IDENTIFICATION

1. BUILDING NAME(S): "SAGE HOUSE"
2. COUNTY: DUTCHESS TOWN/CITY: RPD HOR VILLAGE: VRM
3. STREET LOCATION: 48 Old Post Road
4. OWNERSHIP: a. public ☐ b. private ☒
5. PRESENT OWNER: WALTER ADDRESS: SHUTE
6. USE: Original: RESIDENCE Present: RESIDENCE / ANTIQUE SHOP
7. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: Exterior visible from public road: Yes ☒ No ☐
Interior accessible: Explain PRIVATE

DESCRIPTION

8. BUILDING MATERIAL: a. clapboard ☒ b. stone ☐ c. brick ☐ d. board and batten ☐
e. cobblestone ☐ f. shingles ☐ g. stucco ☐ other: _____
9. STRUCTURAL SYSTEM: a. wood frame with interlocking joints ☒ } mixed
b. wood frame with light members ☒
c. masonry load bearing walls ☐
d. metal (explain) _____
e. other _____

10. CONDITION: a. excellent ☐ b. good ☒ c. fair ☐ d. deteriorated ☐
11. INTEGRITY: a. original site ☒ b. moved ☐ if so, when? _____
c. list major alterations and dates (if known):

14 # C 1st floor interior partition in good
added. one room removed. Tin ceiling added. Porch

12. PHOTO: _____ 13. MAP: _____

#256-825
2/1/84

Check MAPS
RECORDS/LOGS
(see over)

Figure 30: 1984 Survey Form, p. 1.

14 THREATS TO BUILDING a. none known ☒ b. zoning ☐ c. roads ☐
d. developers ☐ e. deterioration ☐
f. other _____

5 RELATED OUTBUILDINGS AND PROPERTY
a. barn ☐ b. carriage house ☐ c. garage ☒ (c. 1965) rear
d. privy ☐ e. shed ☐ f. greenhouse ☐
g. shop ☒ h. gardens ☐
i. landscape features tight triangular lot, roses on all
j. other summer pool 3 sides,

16 SURROUNDINGS OF THE BUILDING (check more than one if necessary)
a. open land ☐ b. woodland ☐
c. scattered buildings ☐ d. densely built-up ☐ e. commercial ☐
f. industrial ☐ g. residential ☒
h. other _____

17 INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS
(Indicate if building or structure is in an historic district)
Property in triangle formed by intersection of Sq. St. Rd. and Old Mt. Rd. --- was obviously ideal site for original hostelry.

18 OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING AND SITE (including interior features if known).
2 1/2 story, basement alone ground in front. Wood 6/6 windows, w neo-classical trim. Opposite sides of house identical.

SIGNIFICANCE

19 DATE OF INITIAL CONSTRUCTION 1839 1851 to 1857
ARCHITECT N/A
BUILDER N/A GOTTLIEB HAASS

20 HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE
Operated originally as "PARK HOTEL". Next owned (1857-69) by HERMAN LASHER, as "SAGE HOUSE"; then for 1 year (1870-1) by BOICE, as "THE GREEN", converted to private residence c. after which LASHER bought & renamed it "SAGE HOUSE".
1870 - W. WALKER
1870 - P. EWING Jr. Augustus KELCH - 1839/96
68 - J. PERSNEY - 1855/98

21 SOURCES
1873 - J. S. LORCE to M. LASHER - 271/305
1871 - J. BOICE "The Green" (\$4,000) - c. 3/4 acre
1869 - "HERMAN" - 150/48 (2,500)
1857 - "G. HAAS" - 109/69 (2,000)
1839 - J. ELTING - 67/153

22 THEME
orig. part of Jacob THOMAS farm
operated as tavern
also "Store" on opp. lot

also lot across street!
N - Proutie
S - Hart
W - Tread

Figure 30: 1984 Survey Form, p. 2.



Figure 31: Wasner sale: *Poughkeepsie Eagle News*, Mar 1, 1922, p. 8.

Charles Pearson (owner 1925-34) and his Misfortune

The hotel was sold to Samuel and Catherine Nugent of New York City in 1922 (Figure 32). Samuel, who ran a construction business in the city, didn't hold the property for long. He and his wife sold it to Charles F. Pearson, of Flushing, Long Island (Queens) and James Crosby, of Great Neck, N.Y. in 1925.²⁶ Pearson, born in Sweden, had been a hotel proprietor and he continued to run the Upper Red Hook property as a tavern (Figures 33-34).²⁷ He ran into financial problems (likely due to the Depression and to the fact that in 1928 the Old Post Road was bypassed in favor of a straighter new Route 9) because as of 1934 the foreclosed property was being auctioned off and the Wasner estate, who apparently held the mortgage, was suing Pearson.²⁸ The property was eventually taken back by the trustees of the Wasner estate in 1938 (Figure 35).²⁹

²⁶ *Poughkeepsie Eagle-News*, July 9, 1925, p. 7.

²⁷ 1920 United States Federal Census.

²⁸ *Poughkeepsie Eagle-News*, Nov 23, 1934, p. 18.

²⁹ *Poughkeepsie Eagle-News*, Oct 12, 1938, p. 8.

Upper Red Hook, July 8.—Samuel Nugent has sold the Upper Red Hook Hotel to Charles Pearson of Long Island. Mr. and Mrs. Nugent and son will go back to New York City where Mr. Nugent has a contracting business.

[illegible]

Figure 33: Charles Pearson: 1920 United States Federal Census



Figure 34: Charles "Pop" Pearson behind the bar, 1926.

NOTICE OF SALE
STATE OF NEW YORK,
SUPREME COURT
COUNTY OF DUTCHESS.

Rachel Wasner and Edward Wasner, as Executors under the Last Will and Testament of Lewis Wasner, deceased, Plaintiffs, against Charles F. Pearson and Alma Pearson, his wife, Joseph M. Hogg, Abraham Zenick and Joseph Wishengrad, Defendants.

In pursuance of a judgment of foreclosure and sale duly made and entered in the above entitled action and bearing date the 27th day of July, 1938, and entered in the Dutchess County Clerk's Office on the 28th day of July, 1938, I, the undersigned, the Referee in said judgment named, will sell at public auction in the main corridor of the Dutchess County Court House, in the City of Poughkeepsie, Dutchess County, New York, on the 19th day of September, 1938, at 12 o'clock noon, daylight saving time, on that day the premises directed by said judgment to be sold and therein described as follows:

ALL those tracts and parcels of land situated in the Village of Upper Red Hook, in the Town of Red Hook, County of Dutchess, aforesaid.

The first lot is that known as the "Upper Red Hook Hotel Premises," which is of a triangular shape and formerly or commonly called "The Green," and is bounded on all sides by highways, containing about three quarters of an acre of land, more or less, with the said hotel edifice thereon.

Figure 35: Foreclosed property sale: *Red Hook Advertiser*, Sept 15, 1938, p.2.

Verner Clum (owner 1941-45) and the Fan Museum

The Wasner estate then sold the hotel to Verner E. Clum of Chatham, New Jersey in 1941.³⁰ Verner and his wife operated an antiques center called the **Fan Museum** out of the house and Mrs. Clum was president of the NYS Button Society (Figure 36).³¹ The Clums auctioned off the contents of their Fan Museum in August of 1945 (Figure 37).³²

The Clums sold to James and Hazel Prett of Long Island in 1945 and a 1947 newspaper article refers to the property as **Pretts Park Rest** (Figure 38) but the Pretts didn't own it for long either.³³

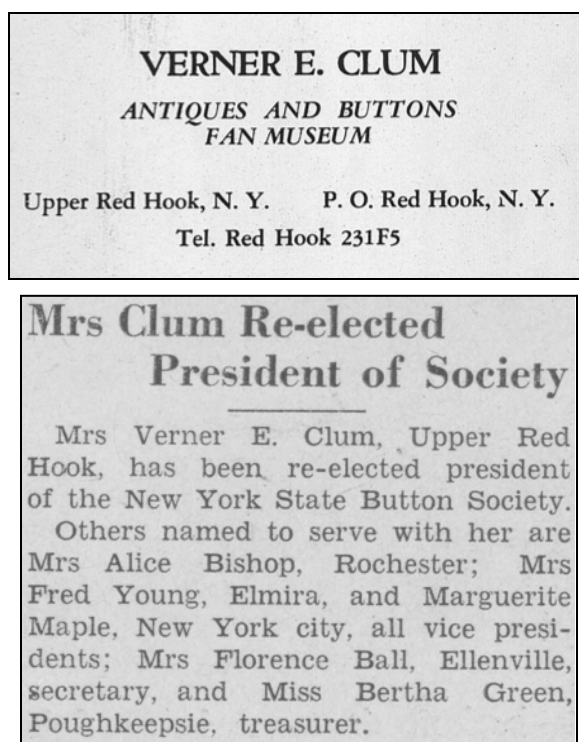


Figure 36: Ad for Clum Fan Museum: *Bronxville Review Press*, May 20, 1943, p.2. and Button Society: *Red Hook Advertiser*, June 28, 1945, p. 1.

³⁰ *Red Hook Advertiser*, Oct 9, 1941, p. 6.

³¹ *Bronxville Review Press*, May 20, 1943, p.2. *Red Hook Advertiser*, Jun 28, 1945, p. 1.

³² *Red Hook Advertiser*, Aug 30, 1945, p. 3.

³³ *Red Hook Advertiser*, Jan 9, 1947, p. 1.



B.E. Rhynders - AUCTIONEER

Rhinebeck, N. Y.

Tel.: Red Hook 73-F6

As I have sold my property and am going out of business, I will
sell at Public Auction at The Fan Museum, Upper Red Hook, N. Y., on

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 1st

beginning promptly at 9:30, a collection of antique glass, china and
furniture as well as modern household furnishings and other items.

Six barrel-back Empire chairs; gate-leg walnut table; M. T. wal-
nut stand; walnut hall rack; iron urns; street light of about 1820
from the Bowery; large quantity of buttons; Chelsea Wedding Band
complete tea set; goblets, tumblers, cake plates, fruit dishes in variety
of styles and patterns; some cut glassware; 6 French Empire chairs;
14 cane-seated chairs—various styles, two-part cherry table; large
number and variety of lamps and bases; set of 1-arm chair, 1 side
chair and table of carved Jasaranda; number of castor sets; Vic-
torian side chair; 6 Rhine wine glasses; old-fashioned baby carriage;
a three-arm oil light fixture; table linen; bed linen; bedspreads;
towels; set dinner dishes; O. G. mirror; large Santa Domingo ma-
hogany sideboard; hall hanging lamp; lady's oak desk; large black
walnut chest of drawers; Burl Walnut bedroom suite consisting of
bed with box springs and inner spring mattress, vanity and bench,
chest of drawers and night table; runners and odd rugs; bevel glass
mirror; fireplace set of andirons, tools and artificial fire logs; Ingrain
carpet; large dresser and vanity; twin metal beds, complete; single
metal bed, complete; wash stand; toilet set; trunkful of odd laces;
books; 3-burner oil stove; vases; jardineres; Victorian needlepoint
table; Staffordshire plates; flowing blue teapot and platter; several
pieces plated silver and some plated table silver; large antique ma-
hogany chest; old black marble clock with figure; wooden curtain
cornices; Bennington pitcher; Gothic clock; steins; copper jardineres;
Dutchess County Kaas; large old fruit cupboard; set of green Stangel
pottery, incomplete; kitchen utensils, pots, pans, etc., in large va-
riety; garden tools; large number and variety of carpenter's tools—
saws, hammers, drills, chisels, planes and many others. A great
many items not listed. This will be one of the outstanding sales
of the season.

TERMS—CASH ON DAY OF SALE. Lunch served.

VERNER E. CLUM

Figure 37: Auction ad for Fan Museum: *Red Hook Advertiser*, Aug 30, 1945, p. 3.

Mr and Mrs Michael Prett and son, James, St. Albans, L. I., and Mrs Ada Schultz, Hollis, L. I., and Harold P. Younghanse spent the Christmas and New Year holidays with Mr and Mrs James Prett, Prett's Park Rest, Upper Red Hook.

Figure 38: Prett's Park Rest: *Red Hook Advertiser*, Jan 9, 1947, p. 1.

John Heagney (owner 1949-68) and the Sage House

In 1949 the property was purchased by John G. Heagney (1925-1982) of Long Island, whose mother, Marie G. Heagney and stepfather George Saggese operated the hotel as the **Sage House**. Ads list the manager as George Sage (presumably Saggese Americanized his name to Sage) (Figures 39-41).³⁴ John, a teacher and a lawyer, and his wife continued to live in Tarrytown while George and Marie ran the Sage House for almost another 20 years. Ads appear regularly advertising “all you can eat” home cooked meals. According to the 1984 survey sheet, the garage was added in 1965 (Figure 30). George Saggese appears to have run into financial difficulty as a notice appears in a *Red Hook Advertiser* in 1966 noting that the Sage House would not be responsible for George Saggese’s debts (Figure 42).³⁵

³⁴ *Red Hook Advertiser*, July 21, 1949, p. 2.

³⁵ *Red Hook Advertiser*, Oct 20, 1966, p. 7.

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that License No. SL 1520 has been issued to the undersigned to sell Beer, Wine and Liquor under Alcoholic Beverage Control Law on the Old Post Road, Red Hook, Dutchess County, New York for on-premises consumption.

John G. Heagney,
Marie H. Saggese,
THE SAGE HOUSE,
Old Post Road,
R.D. 1, Red Hook, New York.

Figure 39: Liquor License, *Red Hook Advertiser*, July 14, 1949, p.2

THE SAGE HOUSE

LOCATED ON
OLD POST ROAD and JUNCTION OF SPRING LAKE ROAD

OPEN FOR BUSINESS

Home Cooked Meals
BEER • WINE • LIQUORS
Spaghetti a Specialty

GEORGIE SAGE - Prop.
PHONE 4313

Figure 40: Open for Business, *Red Hook Advertiser*, July 21, 1949, p.2.



..... I'm here to wish all
Patrons and Friends a Merry
Christmas and a Happy New
Year

FROM

The Sage House Hotel

Upper Red Hook

George Sage, Mgr. Phone 4313

*INN OF DISTINCTION FOR
MORE THAN 150 YEARS*

. . . And I'm here to tell you the SAGE
HOUSE will be closed for the Christmas
Holidays — will RE-OPEN SUNDAY,
December 26th. — HAPPY HOLIDAYS!



Figure 41: Holiday ad, *Red Hook Advertiser*, Dec 23, 1954, p. 6.

NOTICE

The Sage House will not be
responsible for George Sag-
gese's bills.

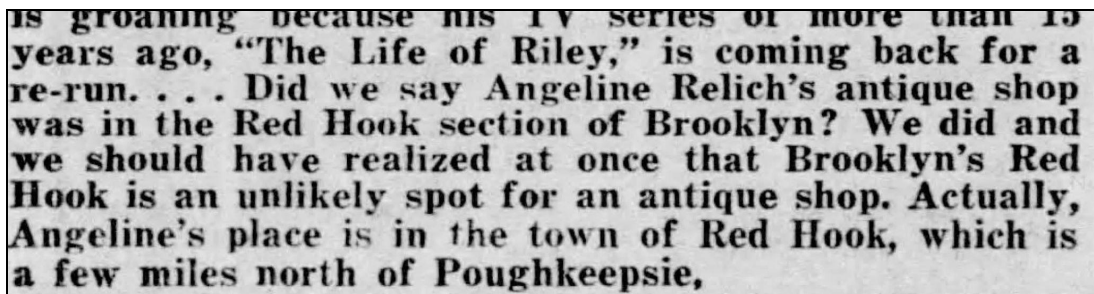
Signed: Mrs. Marie Saggese

Figure 42: Notice, *Red Hook Advertiser*, Oct 20, 1966. p.7.

Antiques, Academics and finally just a Lovely Private Home

In 1968, John Heagney sold the property to Angeline Relich, a former librarian from Buffalo who had studied sociology and anthropology, and Miss Thurley Randolph, a Bard assistant professor in sociology and anthropology.³⁶ They formed a partnership, opening a Book and Antique Store (Figure 42).³⁷

In 1972, a Bard assistant professor of English, William C. Walter (1925-1996) and Patrick H. Ewing, a musician from London, bought the property together (Figure 43).³⁸ After Walter's death, his estate was sold to William A. Lashley Jr. in 1997, who in turn sold it to John and Susan Pelosi in 2003. Sometime between 1972 and 1997, the property was reduced from $\frac{3}{4}$ acre to .32 acre. The reason for this would require further research but could have been related to road widening and re-surveying.



is groaning because his TV series of more than 15 years ago, "The Life of Riley," is coming back for a re-run. . . . Did we say Angeline Relich's antique shop was in the Red Hook section of Brooklyn? We did and we should have realized at once that Brooklyn's Red Hook is an unlikely spot for an antique shop. Actually, Angeline's place is in the town of Red Hook, which is a few miles north of Poughkeepsie,

Figure 43: Angeline Relich's antique shop - *The Daily News*, Oct 26, 1970, p. 247.

³⁶ *Barrytown Explorer*, Oct 1, 1974, p. 11; *Red Hook Advertiser*, Sept 17, 1964, p. 9.

³⁷ *The Daily News*, Oct 26, 1970, p. 247.

³⁸ *Barrytown Explorer*, Nov 1, 1975, p. 11.

Harrovian Gent

Go to Sage House on Old Post Road in Upper Red Hook. There you can see authentic antiques and meet Pat Ewing, a London-born Canadian. Read a bit, just to whet your curiosity: he was educated in England at Harrow, where he excelled in English syntax. He spent holidays with his mother, a singer, and her accompanist. He grew to love the standard concert repertoire. "At school," he said, "you would think music was only folk songs and hymns." Later, his mother moved to London where she appeared in several motion pictures. This inspired Pat to compose "haunting melodies" that would help her attain stardom—but neither her acting nor the music succeeded.

He enrolled in the Royal College of Music where he studied composition with Herbert Howells and John Ireland. The war interrupted his studies. He was in the Royal Navy for six years on a mine-sweeping trawler. He got on the trawler because he had been a lobster fisherman in Cornwall for a season. During his six years in the navy one ship was shot out from under him.

After the war he completed his schooling and worked as a music critic in Montreal for two years. He now enjoys composing for singers. A couple of his songs are in the

repertoire of Maureen Forester, the Canadian contralto.

When you meet Pat Ewing, you will meet a Victorian gentleman. When Pat speaks, a sensitive, intelligent, friendly person is with you. He is hep.

—j/t/f

Their 5th Year At the Grill



Louise and Lou Rynders are ready for hungry hunters at Central House in Clermont.

Figure 44: Patrick Ewing: *Barrytown Explorer* Nov 1, 1975, p.11.

Though the house is now a private residence, it is clear that for most of its history 48 Old Post Road North served as a vibrant center of social activity for the Upper Red Hook community. The 1954 advertisement in the *Red Hook Advertiser* may have exaggerated when it called it an "inn of distinction for more than 150 years" (it was then closer to 116 years), but it was certainly a significant establishment that for many years played an important role in the story of Red Hook's development.

Architectural Observations

Though the house has been modified since it was built in the 1830s, it retains many features that reflect its earliest construction and subsequent evolution. The main floor was originally a classic center hall with two rooms on either side. The W.S. Teator photos from 1900 show four chimneys, meaning that each room had its own fireplace. Both sides were converted into large single rooms, perhaps during the Wasner era. By the time of the 1915 photograph, the taproom entrance on the west side is visible, which would have meant the removal of one fireplace, and the partition wall. The one room addition, now kitchen, circa 1920, would have meant the removal of another chimney. The large south room shows evidence of having been two rooms of unequal status. One half has plain door and window casings, while the other has more ornamented casings that match those of the 1830s section of the Fulton homestead, up on Turkey Hill. The stair banister and newel posts have been altered, but the newel post in the basement likely dates to the original construction. It is a locally rare style that also appears in a couple of circa 1835 houses in Hudson. The massive rim lock hardware on the main floor doors is almost certainly original to the two-panel doors. These locks are “Carpenter Locks” made by James Carpenter in England beginning in the mid-1830s. Many of the changes to the house can be linked and dated to changes in ownership, as new proprietors kept up with the times. The tin ceilings for example, were probably added around 1890 early in Martin Lasher’s tenure. The house at 48 Old Post Road has a classic late Federal/early Greek Revival core, with evidence of alterations all throughout the heyday of the hamlet of Upper Red Hook.



Figure 45: 48 Old Post Road North, c.1975.



Figure 46: 48 Old Post Road North, May 25, 1982.



Figure 47: 48 Old Post Road North, c.1984.



Figure 48: 48 Old Post Road North, undated.

Chain of Title

Year	Sale date	Recorded	Acres	Liber/Page	Grantor	Grantee
2003		6/24/2003	.32 acre	22003:5291	William A. Lashley Jr.	John Pelosi & Susan H. Pelosi
1997	12/18/1997	12/19/1997	0.32 acre	2003:355	Robert E. Carpenter, Alice Reid, Tom Gilling and Peter Geertz, Trustees of William C. Walter Trust (formerly known as The Walter Trust)	William A. Lashley Jr.
1988	4/20/1988	5/5/1988	0.32 acre	1796:175	William C. Walter	William C. Walter Trustee
1972	9/1/1972		3/4 acre	1339:965	Angeline Relich & Thurley Randolph	William C. Walter & Patrick Hamilton Ewing
1968	11/25/1968		3/4 acre	1255:948	John G. Heagney	Angeline Relich & Thurley Randolph
1949	4/30/1949	5/2/1949	3/4 acre	715:629	James & Hazel Prett	John G. Heagney
1945	8/25/1945	8/27/1945	3/4 acre	629:354	Verner E. Clum	James Prett & wf
1941	9/5/1941		3/4 acre	594:393	Edward and Rachel Wasner, trustees Lewis Wasner estate	Verner E. Clum
1938	9/19/1938	9/19/1938	Lot 1 of 2 is 3/4 acre	569:444	Joseph Acker referee for Charles F. Pearson etc. ..Samuel & Catherine Nugent	Rachel & Edward Wesner, exec for Lewis Wasner
1925	7/14/1925	7/20/1938	Lot 1 of 2 is 3/4 acre	455:109	Samuel & Catherine Nugent	Charles F. Pearson & James Crosby
1922	12/5/1922	12/9/1922	Lot 1 of 2 is 3/4 acre	429:126	Louis & Rachel Wasner	Samuel & Catherine Nugent
1906	8/23/1906	4/5/1915	Lot 1 of 3 is 3/4 acres	388:339-340	Emma K. Ryer	Lewis Wasner
1905	4/1/1905	5/4/1905	Lot 1 of 3 is 3/4 acres	341:37	Mary Lasher	Emma K. Ryer
1893	12/29/1893	3/4/1905	Lot 1 of 2 is 3/4 acre		Martin Lasher	Mary Lasher

1893	10/23/1893	10/31/1893	3/4 acre	271:303	Martin Lasher & Mary his wife	John E. Losee, Edgar L. Perrine, Ella Mooney, George S. William and Helen S. Knickerbocker heirs of Catharine E. Knickerbocker
1871	4/1/1871	10/31/1893	3/4 acre	271:301	Alexander Boice & Christina his wife	Martin Lasher
1869	4/1/1869	5/10/1869	3/4 acre	150:482	Edward Hermance & Lucinda his wife	Alexander Boice
1857	8/22/1857	8/25/1857	3/4 acre	109:699	Gotlob Haas & Catharine his wife	Edward Hermance
1836	4/6/1836	6/13/1839	3/4 acre	67:153	J. Elting Jr.	Gottlob Haas
1821	12/28/1821	1/11822	3/4 acre	28:395	Isaac Seebring & Catherine his wife	John Elting Junr
1818	9/15/1818		82 acres	30:198	"new loan officers of the County of Dutchess"	Isaac Sebring