

My ancestry is connected to Maizeland in a rather unusual way:

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 on a sailing ship at age four with her mother and half-sister Pauline Trinks. Her father, John Heyne, followed in another ship carrying 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. *They bought a house on Fraleigh St.*

Carl and Mary Ann Heyne lived in the shepherd's 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 Thelma 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.

Carl Heyne's obituary tells of his journey's across the US by train, where he traveled for William Chamberlain, selling and trading in Merino sheep. He was obviously a very knowledgeable sheep breeder. I have a copy of a letter dated December 10, 1855, to William Eno, Esq., a Pine Plains lawyer, from William Chamberlain. It requests that he take his sheep home as Carl Heyne said the breeding was complete and they were getting a little wild.

On my maternal grandfather's side, I have traced the ancestry back to the Palatines in this area, placing them 3 miles north of the village of Rhinebeck. Prior to the Revolutionary War the name was Schmidt. Johannes Schmidt and his brother Wilhelmus were in the Ulster County Militia and the Albany County Militia. After the war they changed the name to Smith.

I was born in Annandale, in a little house across from Ward Manor. My grandparents lived next door. Grandfather, T.K. Smith, was the gardener at Montgomery Place for 50 years. I have copies of correspondence between General Delafield and him. The General; would not speak to his servants. Everything had to be done in writing.

When I was about two years old my father built a new house on the corner of Route 9 and Rokeby Road, about a mile south of here. I attended Sunday School at The Old Stone Church and went to the little old school that sits next to it. For some reason our house was in the Rhinebeck school district for elementary school, but in Red Hook Central School District for high school students.

My most vivid memory of the village is when Red Hook Central School opened in September of 1939. There was a parade and many of us students marched in that. It might have been at the time of dedication. I entered 9th grade then, in the class of 1943. It was the first graduating class to have spent the full four years in the new school. Twenty-four students graduated.

We dedicated our yearbook, Hardscrabble, to all the men who were serving in WW II who ever attended Red Hook schools.

I came from a one room country school, so the new Central school seemed so huge at the time, I sometimes lost my way in the halls! Even so, it was too small the day it opened. Some of the students from grade 9 were placed in the 10th grade home

room, and some from the 10th grade were in with the 11th graders. Only 12th grade was small enough to have a room all to itself.

G. LaVerne Carr was the Principal, that Fall and he was killed the following year when his car hit a deer one night while traveling on Route 9.

Marion (Mrs. Dawes) Champlin taught French, Latin and Spanish. She later became assistant principal. Michael Griffin taught of all the business courses, and I was a student in his typing class. But for that I would never have become a writer. Mike Griffen later became Superintendent of The Arlington School district, where we now live.

I remember Olive Forbes Laib, who is still living in Red Hook at the age of 90-something. She was a very good teacher, as I recall. My husband Win also had her for a teacher in 7th and 8th grade. She started teaching in Red Hook Highschool in 1922.