

NYSHIP
DEC 5 1973
New York

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

NEW YORK

STATE

Date Entered NOV 26 1973

Name

Location

Maizefield

Red Hook
Dutchess County

OFFICE COPY

COPY OF CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION

Also Notified

Hon. Jacob K. Javits
Hon. James L. Buckley
Hon. Hamilton Fish, Jr.



NEW YORK STATE PARKS & RECREATION South Swan Street Bldg. South Mall Albany, New York 12243 Information 518 474 0456
Alexander Aldrich, Commissioner

August 7, 1973

Dr. William Murtagh
Keeper of the National Register
National Park Service
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Dr. Murtagh:

As the State Historic Preservation Officer, I am forwarding the enclosed nomination to the National Register of Historic Places:

"Maizefield", Red Hook, New York, Dutchess County

The above nomination has been reviewed and approved by the Committee on the Registers in accordance with the criteria outlined in Section 2.2 of the Grants Guide.

The staff of the New York State Division for Historic Preservation, the officially designated Preservation Agency, would welcome the opportunity to discuss this submission with your office.

Sincerely,

ALEXANDER ALDRICH
State Historic Preservation
Officer

By:

F. L. RATH, JR.
Deputy Commissioner

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: New York	
COUNTY: Dutchess	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

1. NAME

COMMON:
"Maizefield"

AND/OR HISTORIC:

OFFICE COPY

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
75 West Market Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Red Hook

STATE:
New York

CODE: 36

COUNTY:
Dutchess

CODE: 027

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
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4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
B. Blair Eggert

STREET AND NUMBER:
75 West Market Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Red Hook

STATE:
New York

CODE: 36

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Dutchess County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
Poughkeepsie

STATE:
New York

CODE: 36

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
New York State Historic Trust Survey of Historic Resources

DATE OF SURVEY: 1968

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
New York State Division for Historic Preservation

STREET AND NUMBER:
South Swan Street Building

CITY OR TOWN:
Albany

STATE:
New York

CODE: 36

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: New York
COUNTY: Dutchess

FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY NUMBER
DATE

See continuation sheet
Representative: Hamilton Fish, Jr. 25th Congressional District

7. DESCRIPTION				
CONDITION	(Check One)			
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated
	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins <input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed			
	(Check One)		(Check One)	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site
DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE				
<p>From the center of the crossroads village of Red Hook a road, known in the late 18th century as "the road to John R. Livingston's landing," runs westward to the Hudson River. On the north side of that road, partially concealed by a high brick wall, stands "Maizefield," flanked by towering trees, in the midst of high table-land, from which the full range of the Catskills can be seen at the northwest.</p> <p>Despite later alterations to the structure, it is clear that General Van Ness occupied a rectangular (approximately 55' x 40'), two-story dwelling with front and side walls of brick and rear wall of stone. An undated water color depicts the structure with a gable roof, cornice carried across the sides to form pediments wherein are set pairs of semi-lunette windows flanking single rectangular windows, and a covered piazza added subsequent to the original construction and defined by a longitudinal range of columns.</p> <p>Three stories in height, five bays long, and four bays deep, the primarily brick main block was erected, and later altered, according to an axial scheme. The general composition of the east (front) facade depends upon the repetition of simply-enframed windows--square-headed on the first story and segmentally arched on the second--flanking an elaborately enframed door on the first story and a Palladian window on the second story. The plain brick wall surface is enriched by the repetition of rectangular and elliptical panels opposite the intervening floor between first and second stories. A heavy cornice, embellished by block modillions, divides the original two-story wall from the later third story, suggestive of a series of blocking courses. A range of six simple square windows, simply-enframed, and a belt course ornament the third-story extension.</p> <p>The main entrance on the east (front) elevation is composed of a six-panel, divided door and flanking sidelights treated as a single feature within an enframing of pilasters, a frieze of triglyphs and metopes, and a cornice with dentilled border. This feature is itself framed by a one-story portico comprised of coupled columns and a full entablature. The portico, like the four-bay, one-story veranda along the north elevation, the matching two-bay veranda on the south side, and wings on the south and west sides of the main block were added later. The brick, two-story, semi-octagonal wing adjoining the south side was built in the same style as the main block and bears a similar cornice accented by block modillions. The west wing was demolished in the 1930's.</p> <p>Served by four interior end chimneys, the interior was originally designed around a central hall which now stops short of the west exterior wall. The doors, doorframes, and fireplace trim of the second floor appear to be original. On the first floor, doors, doorframes, elaborate cornices, and plaster decorations on the ceilings date from the mid-nineteenth century. An original mantelpiece en-</p>				

SEE
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See continuation sheet

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

STATE New York	
COUNTY Dutchess	
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7. Description (Continuation Sheet)

(Number all entries)

riched by garlands and baskets of fruit remains in the northeast parlor. Throughout the main structure the windows can still be closed by folding paneled shutters. Presumably the windows along both north and south elevations at the first-floor level were enlarged as French windows when the verandas were constructed.

The undated water color mentioned above indicates the presence of approximately half a dozen dependencies including a structure which may have been a Dutch Barn. Not included in the view depicted by the water color, the only extant dependency is a two-story, hip-roofed, board-and-batten cottage, encircled by a one-story veranda and dominated by a two-story pedimented portico in the central bay of the south (front) elevation. Recent research has indicated that the cottage was designed by Alexander J. Davis.¹

¹Cottage was designed in 1849 for William L. Chamberlain. A.J. Davis, Day Book, Vol. I, pp. 391, 401 (New York Public Library, Mss. Division). A.J. Davis, Journal, pp. 113 (Metropolitan Museum of Art). Documentation courtesy of Jane Davies, New York, New York.

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

☐ Pre-Columbian☐ 16th Century☒ 18th Century☐ 20th Century☐ 15th Century☐ 17th Century☒ 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

☐ Aboriginal☐ Education☐ Political☐ Urban Planning☐ Prehistoric☐ Engineering☐ Religion/Phi-☐ Other (Specify)☐ Historic☐ Industry

losophy

☐ Agriculture☐ Invention☐ Science☒ Architecture☐ Landscape☐ Sculpture☐ Art

Architecture

☐ Social/Human-☐ Commerce☐ Literature

itarian

☐ Communications☐ Military☐ Theater☐ Conservation☐ Music☐ Transportation

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Once occupied by General David Van Ness, a prominent figure in New York during and after the Revolution, "Maizefield" is considered among the finest of the more spacious post-Revolutionary neo-classical residences erected in Dutchess County. Nineteenth century alterations have been skillfully carried out so as to produce a coherent design still strikingly expressive of the Federal style.

Throughout his career, David Van Ness (1745-1818) displayed a predilection and a talent for public service first in a military and later in a political capacity. A captain in the Continental Army from 1776 to 1778 David Van Ness was subsequently (1778) promoted to the rank of Major in the Dutchess County Militia. In 1790 he was elected to the New York State Assembly, and two years later served as a Presidential Elector, a post he would fill again in 1812. In 1793 Van Ness was promoted to the rank of General of Brigade and remained active in this capacity until 1801. From 1800 until 1802 he again participated in state government, this time in the role of Senator. Throughout his career Van Ness remained a prominent figure in the affairs of his own community, acting several times as Supervisor of the Town of Rhinebeck, and once as post master of Red Hook.

A native of Columbia County, Van Ness had moved to northern Dutchess before the Revolution and settled near a crossroads around which later grew the village of Upper Red Hook. There, in addition to a dwelling, Van Ness is presumed to have operated a store for he is mentioned in early deeds as a "merchant." A comparison of early maps indicates that between 1789 and 1797 Van Ness moved two or three miles southward where he acquired 364 acres. To date, it has not been determined whether Van Ness built "Maizefield" after purchasing the property or whether he acquired house and land together.

A plain brick structure erected in the period of the Early Republic, "Maizefield" is embellished with neo-classical motifs ranging from subtle facade variations to the strong statements of porches and cornice. The design of the symmetrical south (front) elevation is centralized by the presence of the well-proportioned Palladian window and ornamentally-framed main entrance. Although

See continuation sheet

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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8. Significance (Continuation Sheet)

(Number all entries)

the structure was enlarged during the 19th century, the alterations--including the resolution of the third-story addition--were so carefully integrated that all elements have crystallized into the present, thoroughly coherent design. The character of Maizefield is still distinctly Federal and the architectural effect is one of grace, restraint, and sophistication.

Since General Van Ness sold the property in 1815, "Maizefield" has been used continuously as a dwelling and has been associated with several old families of the Hudson Valley.

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Reynolds, Helen Wilkinson. Dutchess County Doorways, 1730-1830. New York: William Farquhar Payson, 1931.

Davis, Alexander J. Day Book. Vol. I., pp. 391, 393, 401. Mss. Division, N.Y. Public Library.

Davis, Alexander J. Journal. Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, NY.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	41° 59' 57" 1/2	73° 52' 55"		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 5 acres

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:

Lynn Beebe Weaver, Research Assistant

ORGANIZATION

New York State Division for Historic Preservation July 1973

STREET AND NUMBER:

South Swan Street Building

CITY OR TOWN:

Albany

STATE

New York

CODE

36

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National ☐ State ☐ Local ☒

Name

State Historic
Preservation Officer

Title

Date

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM WHEN THE PROPERTY IS RESUBMITTED.

DATE:

9/19/72

NAME OF PROPERTY

"Mayfield", N.Y.

The attached National Register Inventory-Nomination form is being returned to your office for clarification of the information indicated below.

NASDHP
SEP 24 1973
REC'D N12024

1. Name. _____
2. Location. _____
3. Classification. _____
4. Owner of Property. _____
5. Location of Legal Description. _____
6. Representation in Existing Surveys. _____
7. Description. _____
8. Statement of Significance. _____
9. Bibliography. _____
- ☒ 10. Geographical Data.
 - a. Longitude and Latitude Coordinates. Longitude (or Latitude) appears to be off by about 40000. Please check.
 - b. Acreage. _____
11. Form Prepared By. _____
12. Certification. _____
- Photographic Coverage. _____
- Map Coverage. _____
- Other. _____

Clarification or correction of the above items must be made prior to the initiation of our professional review. Correction of these technical errors does not necessarily insure that the nomination will then satisfy the National Register criteria in full.

Thank you for your attention to the above items checked.

SIGNED:

[Signature]

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Reynolds, Helen Wilkinson. Dutchess County Doorways, 1730-1830.
New York: William Farquhar Payson, 1931.

Davis, Alexander J. Day Book. Vol. I., pp. 391, 393, 401. Mss.
Division, N.Y. Public Library.

Davis, Alexander J. Journal. Metropolitan Museum of Art, New
York, NY.

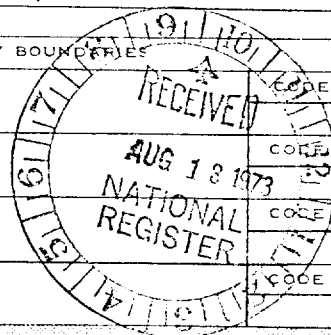
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LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	LATITUDE		LONGITUDE
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	41° 59' 53"	73° 52' 55"			
NE					
SE					
SW					

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 5 acres

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:



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NAME AND TITLE:

Lynn Beebe Weaver, Research Assistant

ORGANIZATION

New York State Division for Historic Preservation July 1973

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State Historic
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Date

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Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date

SEE INSTRUCTIONS