

The Society for the Preservation of Hudson Valley Vernacular Architecture is a not-for-profit corporation formed to study and preserve vernacular architecture and material culture.

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### The Society for the Preservation of Hudson Valley Vernacular Architecture

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### Newsletter

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# From the Editor

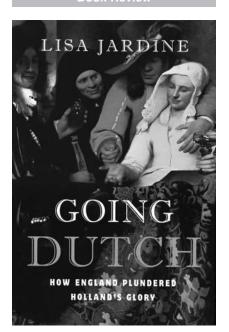
There is no better time of the year to gather round the hearth than winter. So in partaking of this ancient ritual, let us think not only of the past or of ourselves, but instead let us think upon the future. As the New Year begins might we turn our attention to how we might do some good in the preservation world in 2009. We, lovers of the old, are generally misunderstood. It is thought we live our lives in the past and that we despise any idea of change. But this could not be further from the truth. It is our love for the future and our devotion for improvement that keeps us turning back. The information we collect from the past is used to guide us in the choices we make in the present. Albeit, each generation makes its mistakes, if our goal is perfection, a study of our history will only benefit us in wise decision making. So where am I going with all this? Well, back to the Hudson Quadricentennial celebration, of course. In 2009, we New Yorkers will fete our past and show what our contributions to the history books should really look like! Truly the Dutch play a larger role than they are given credit for in the development of New York. We who dwell on the Banks of the majestic Hudson see each day many reminders of Dutch culture in our "native" architecture. This architecture is truly American, though its cultural lineage is clearly derived from the low

countries of Europe, it is without any doubt, of and from this Valley. Certainly this connection to the past is worth celebrating. HVVA will continue to focus on educating the public about our worthy architecture throughout 2009. HVVA has just reached an agreement with "Hudson River Heritage" to join with them for a two-day tour featuring houses that reflect the Dutch influence. The tour will be in early October of 2009, and will cover parts of Ulster and Columbia Counties. Part of promoting HVVA's educational mission will be the use of a new motto: **Opening the Door to History**.

This motto truly sums up our goals and in a very literal way focuses on the how we get our work done. To that end we must truly thank the hundreds of property owners who have opened their doors to us, that we might share what we find with others. Our work could never have gone as far as it has without your help. Now I guess it's time to pull out the pin and draw back the lock and welcome everybody in! So if you hear a knock at the door, will you open it for history's sake? You can count on HVVA members to be doing the right thing for the future.

reen

Rob Sweeney – HVVA's sheepdog



In the great book of history, the British Empire typically merits a fat chapter, while the Dutch Enlightenment gets a passing mention. The problem with this, argues Lisa Jardine in her groundbreaking work *Going Dutch: How England Plundered Holland's Glory*, is that Britain's rise was built on – not to say swiped from – the intellectual achievements of its neighbor and competitor.

From painting techniques to new business practices to its passion for cleanliness and proclivity for tolerance, the Dutch Republic infected England in the 17th century. Its way of doing things became part of the English way.

In her rich new book, bristling with examples and exuding the colors and textures of the time, Jardine – professor of Renaissance Studies at Queen Mary, University of London – brings home the truth that we at HVVA already knew!

### Two small three-aisle Dutch barns

by John R. Stevens

These two barns are presented as representing the smallest size possibilities of the traditional Dutch barn. The one at Jericho, Nassau County, Long Island is on the grounds of the Hicksite Quaker Meetinghouse which was built in 1789. I suspect that the date of the barn is close to this. This barn has all the traditional elements with one exception: it does not have extended anchor beam tenons.

Elias Hicks (1748-1830) had a revisionist vision of Quakerism. He was an early abolitionist and advocated a boycott of slavery-produced goods in a book he wrote that was published in 1811. His grave site is not far from the barn, which is now the groundskeeper's shed. Elias Hicks' late 18th century house is located a short distance from the meetinghouse. It has been owned by the County of Nassau for some years, and has been studied by the writer.

In 1990, there were seven Dutch barns remaining on Long Island, all in Nassau County, including the Quackenbush (?) barn from Schoharie County that was moved to Old Bethpage Village Restoration in 1969 [1]. In 1977, the Sands barn from Sands Point [2] was moved to the grounds of the Willets house, home of the Cow Neck Peninsular Historical Society, where it was re-erected without the restoration of its missing side aisles. In 1991 the fine van Nostrand barn at Elmont [3] was demolished. More recently, the Dutch barn on the Coffin Farm on Hageman's Lane in Old Brookville was demolished to make way for an upscale housing development. Unfortunately, the writer never got to it to measure it, but at least has a photographic record of it. This now leaves three Long Island Dutch barns on their original sites: the Peterson barn on Cedar Swamp Road in Old Brookville [4]: the 'Duck Pond barn' in Glen Cove which was converted into a house many years ago [5]; and the

small Dutch barn at Jericho which is the subject of this article. A Dutch barn may be added to the Long Island roster in the not distant future, as it is planned to erect the Wyckoff-Durling barn from Somerset County, New Jersey adjacent to the Pieter Wyckoff house in Brooklyn [6].

I have known the Jericho Dutch barn for many years, and it has long been on my list of buildings to be measured but for one reason or another, I did not get around to doing this until March 11 of this year.

The other barn illustrated is the van Deusen barn at Claverack. It is located on the west side of van Wyck Lane, just south of highway 23 east of Claverack village. Just to the west of the barn site, on the north side of the highway, is located what has been identified as "the manor-house of the lower van Rensselaer manor" [7]. Incidentally, in the late 1960's there still existed behind this house a late square-rule Dutch barn which I photographed. The van Deusen barn is an accessory to a story-and-a-half, gambrel-roofed house at the southwest corner of Highway 23 and Van Wyck Lane. This house has not been examined yet. It is believed to date to the later 18th century and it is possible that the barn also fits into this time frame.

#### Notes:

- 1. See John R. Stevens, Dutch Vernacular Architecture in North America, 1640-1830, HVVA, 2005, Plate 114.
- 2. Ibid. Plate 108.
- 3. Ibid. Plate 112.
- 4. Ibid. Plate 113.
- 5. Measured in 2006 by John R. Stevens.
- 6. Dutch Vernacular Architecture...Plate 14.
- 7. Helen Wilkinson Reynolds, Dutch Houses in the Hudson Valley Before 1776, Holland Society, 1929; Dover reprint, 1965. Page 115, Plate 48.



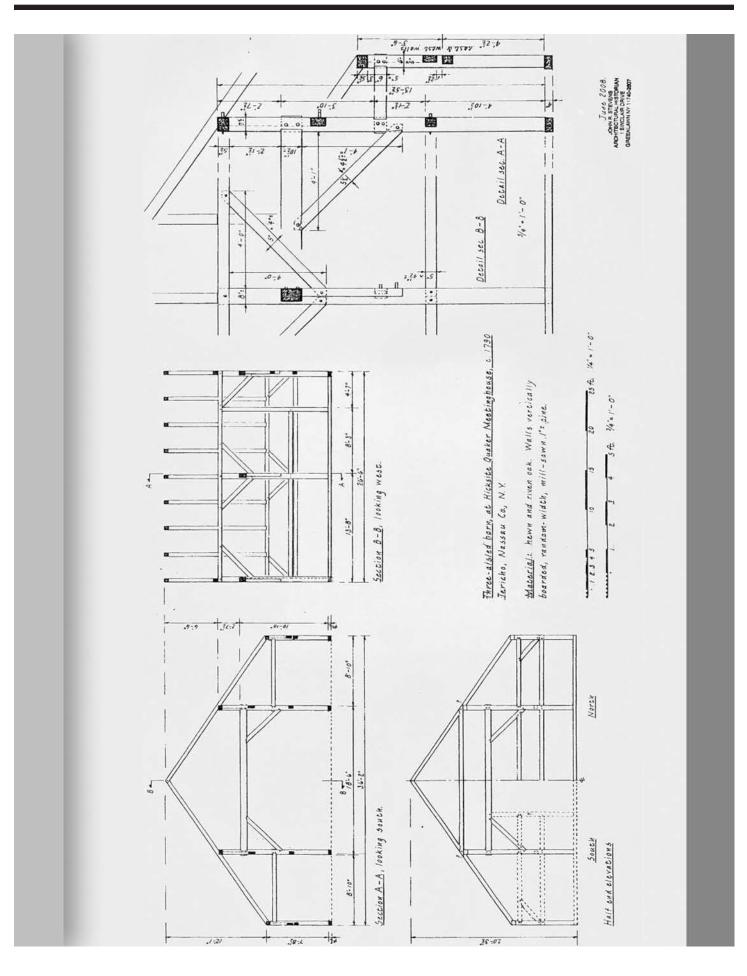


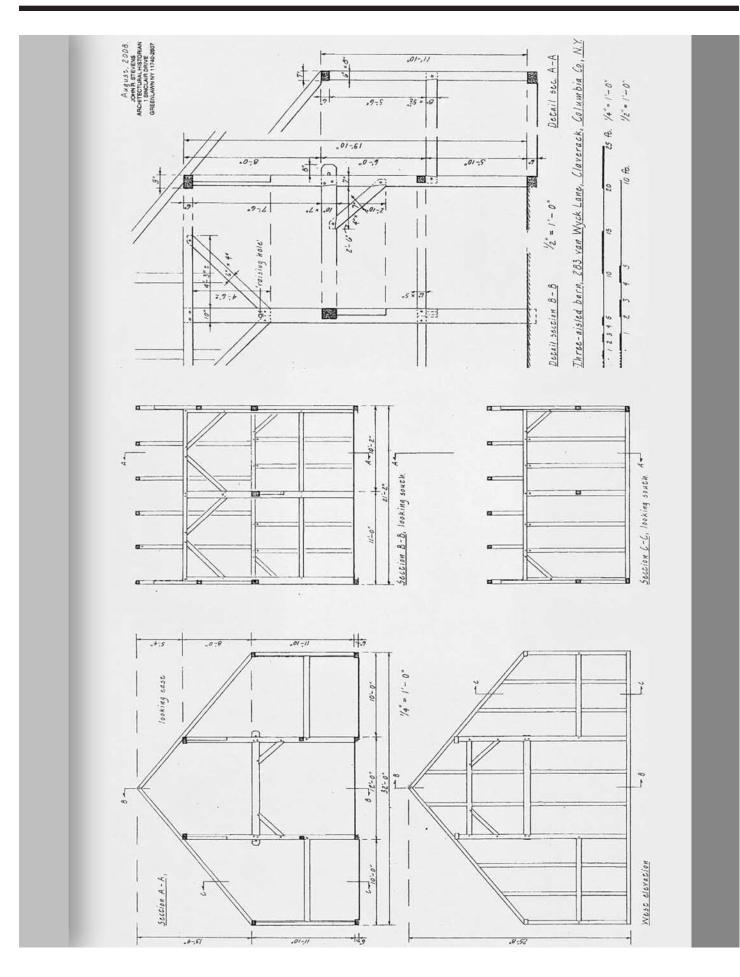
Van Deusen Barn, North gable end.

Post and anchor beam inside the Jericho Barn.

Post and anchor beam inside the Van Deusen Barn.







#### From the Post Bag

### News from the Dutch Barn Committee of the Saugerties Historical Society (Kiersted House)

Progress continues on the Dutch Barn Restoration Project. Some essential steps have been resolved, without which further progress would have been impossible. Timber repairs and archaeology have been accomplished, allowing us to move forward in obtaining site plan approval from the Village Planning Board, as well as other needed permits.

Archaeological studies, required by the state, were done at the proposed barn site in the backyard of the Kiersted House. Phases 1a, 1b and 2 archaeological studies were completed in the spring and fall of 2007 by Dr. Christopher Lindner. As a result of the report generated by these studies, along with a requested mitigation plan authored by the Barn Committee, a declaration of "no adverse impact" was issued by the NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation in July of 2008.

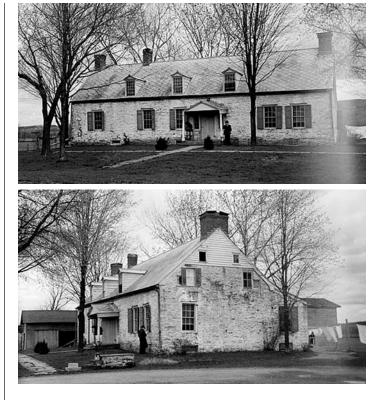
Another important milestone was achieved last week. An impressive stack of repaired timbers were delivered to the Kiersted House property. Repairs by Jim Kricker of Rondout Woodworking have been completed with the return of the center structural posts and horizontal purlins, now in beautiful condition and structurally sound. These timbers represent the core of the building. In a Dutch Barn, unlike later barn types, these timbers support and brace the entire structure. The exterior walls and rafters rest on and against this core.

Most repairs were to mortises and tenons, a kind of tab and slot arrangement that is the method used to connect timbers and posts. Other repairs include refastening splits and repairing weaknesses where strength is needed. All repairs are done in sawn oak. This allows easy identification of original parts after we reassemble the barn since the existing timbers are all hand hewn. Hewing is very rough and is a method of shaping logs that leaves a very distinctive pattern of cutting marks, while the modern sawing is smooth without the distinctive marks. The repairs of these timbers represent a large step forward in the process of reassembling this historic Dutch Barn.

The milestones described above were made financially possible by donations, the proceeds of the Little Dutch Barn Auction, and member initiatives from NYS Senator John Bonacic and Congressman Maurice Hinchey. Meanwhile, more grants are being sought and events planned to continue to provide the financial support necessary for the Kiersted Dutch Barn raising.

#### **Events Planned by Barn Committee this Fall**

- The chartered bus trip to the Mabee Farm Historic Site with their restored Dutch Barn has been tentatively rescheduled for late spring 2009.
- Application for a Commemorative Grant is being submitted to help complete the restoration of the Dutch Barn to coincide with the Henry Hudson Quadricentennial Celebration in 2009.
- Bill Reinhart's detailed scale model of the Dutch Barn will go on eBay auction in November.
- Pickets and various size horse shoes will be erected on the fence surrounding the barn site in honor of donors to the Dutch Barn Restoration Project.



#### Homestead of Jacobus Bruyn

#### TOP:

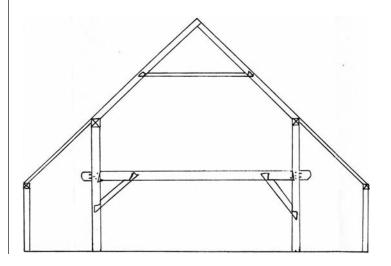
The Bruyn (Bruin) House as recorded in HABS file from 1933.

#### ABOVE:

Gable end view of the Bruyn House in Wawarsing, New York (1933).

#### BELOW:

Here is a representative transverse section of the five-bay Bruyn-Mahoney Dutch barn with H-frame and superb roof line. Note the collar beam high in the roof where collars appear at every other rafter pair. All non-gable wall collars are actually now gone. Both collars and H-frame braces have had lapped half-dovetailed joinery. Note different sized rafters – large rafters above single purlin plate per roof slope and small rafters below the plates. Nave is 30 feet wide and each side aisle is 10 feet wide. Verdiepingh is only six feet.



### Homestead of Jacobus Bruyn Pre-Revolutionary War era house and barn by Gregory D. Huber

Midway between Wawarsing and Kerhonkson - in the Township of Wawarsing - on the south side of Route 209 in Ulster County, stands an enigmatic homestead that principally consists of a charming stone house and an even more visually delightful classic Dutch-American barn. Mystery enshrouds the place as the homestead buildings may be even more engaging than they would normally be to the imaginations of observers due to the fact that they have not been examined or documented to any real extent. This is particularly true of the house. The barn has only ever twice been entered upon by this writer - once in November 1980 and once in September 1998. Mr. Mahoney, the father of the present day owner, was less than enthusiastic in obliging visitors in admitting them into the barn. Peter Sinclair briefly visited the barn a few years ago but no close examination was done. Despite its lack of direct contact with almost all historians and interested parties, the house and especially the barn are in rather conspicuous view of Route 209. Until now, in terms of discussion of aspects of construction. both the house and barn have been almost totally neglected by architectural historians.

#### **Bruyn Houses in Ulster County**

From information taken from Helen Reynolds book, Dutch Houses in the Hudson Valley before 1776, it is known that the Bruyn family of supposed Norwegian origin had settled in Ulster County before 1700. A family member named Jacobus Bruyn had established a homestead and built a house on the Shawangunk Kill at the eastern range of hills of the same place name. Certain of his progeny migrated across these hills in the Valley of the Rondout. At that place another pioneer with the same name was living at the Bruvn homestead in question at the start of the 1780's. In that era of generally un-restful times, the house was ransacked by Native Americans. Two other houses that are shown in Reynolds' treatise were

occupied by Bruyn family members – one on Crown Street in Kingston, the Jacobus S. Bruyn house of rare twostory construction – and the very rare frame homestead house located in Wallkill that was the supposed home of Severyn Bruyn. An iron fire-back in the house is marked "S B 1766."

#### **Jacobus Bruyn House**

The Bruyn stone house in Wawarsing is of rather long rambling type and of typical Ulster County one and one-half story construction. What is nearly unique is the rear curved aspect of the roof line of the rear stone house section. Reynolds was quite specific in her critique of the roof line: "The curved roofline is individual and illustrates the way in which untrained local workmen sometimes showed instinctive feeling for line and proportion." It seems apparent that Reynolds was a considerably better genealogist than she was at making assessments of the level of skill of early Ulster County craftsmen. No matter, she was basically aware of the architectural merit and early age of the Bruyn house. Very few (or none) details of the interior of the house are actually known as access has not been possible. This unfortunate circumstance will hopefully change in due time.

# Barns Similar to the Jacobus Bruyn Barn

The Bruyn barn that stands west of the house is of outstanding and early proportions. With a steep roof-line and its low slung aspect that almost hugs the ground upon which it stands, the barn harkens back to times of the pre-Revolutionary War era. The roof pitch and broad based floor plan is in distinct contrast to barns built after about 1790 in either New York or New Jersey. Because of this rare dual condition, a comparison with other existing and certain non-existing barns might be considered appropriate. Perhaps only one half dozen extant barns that appear in New Jersey and New York have as distinctive roof-lines and wide end walls as that seen in the Bruyn barn.

Three of these special barns appear in New Jersey. They include the dendro-dated 1760 Wortendyke classic three-bay barn in Park Ridge and the four-bay Paramus Golf Course barn in Paramus – both in Bergen County – and the remarkable classic four-bay Couvenhoven-Conover barn in Middletown in Monmouth County. At least two barns in the greater New York City – northern New Jersey area now destroyed compare to them. In Brooklyn, the Couvenhoven homestead was the site of a truly remarkably proportioned classic barn that was dismantled about 1925. At the Dev Mansion in Preakness, Passaic County, New Jersey was a quite similarly appearing barn with a very rare cantilevered end wall that came down circa 1940.

In New York State, included in the rare group was the circa 1760 Jonas Skinkle homestead five-bay barn in Ghent, Columbia County that was dismantled as recently as 1994. An extant barn is the excellent circa 1760 (?) rare six-bay Van Alstyne barn (Fitchen barn number 11) northwest of Kinderhook also in Columbia County. On the west side of the Hudson River near Schenectady is the magnificent circa 1760 four-bay Wemple barn.

Another barn that had proportions and interior details extremely similar to the Wemple barn that was removed (slated for later re-erection) in 1990 was the Bradt-Mabie barn (Fitchen barn number 60). The circa 1770 Solite three-bay barn south of Saugerties discovered by this writer in April 1994, removed for later re-erection at the historic Kierstede house in Saugerties, had particularly outstanding proportions.

When I showed the barn to Peter Sinclair in 1998 he immediately likened the roof line to the incomparable Teller-Schermerhorn barn that was dismantled near Schenectady in 1947-1948 by Vincent Schaeffer. In addition, several barns removed many decades ago whose record of appearance survives in either sketches or photographs attests to similar proportions to the Bruyn barn. It will be noted that all of these preceding barns date to before the Revolutionary War era.



View of front gable wall of pre-Revolutionary War era five-bay Bruyn-Mahoney barn, with classic roof proportions (on Rt. 209 near Wawarsing, in Ulster County). The barn has new metal roof and sill system. Cladding is not original. Exterior dimensions are 50' at each gable wall and 60' at each side wall.

### The Bruyn Barn

#### **Exterior Aspects**

The Bruyn barn that is very likely on its original site, is a very large five-bay classic three-aisle barn that is just over 60' long and about 50' wide. Very few classic barns have over 3,000 sq. ft. in their floor plan. Its side walls are only about nine feet high. Its roof peak rises to a great height and all of these dimensions contribute to the very substantial size of the barn. No original exterior cladding remains. A new metal roof was installed in the late 1990's thus insuring its longevity. An extreme rarity survives in the barn in that the pentice toward the east - at the house side is, except for the roof covering, fully original. The pentice extends across the full width of the nave and the seven original horizontal pentice arms project beyond the gable end wall by 61". The arms actually extend from the first inner anchor-beam over to and above the end wall anchorbeam and then exit the end wall itself. Only one arm is not original at its interior length. The rafters of the pentice are also original. Of the few hundred threeaisle barns examined, only three or four have original pentices or pentice remnants including the excellent circa 1790 Bogart barn in Marbletown.

#### Interior Aspects

As spectacular as the exterior is, the interior is nearly as intriguing.

Unfortunately, very recent access to the interior of the barn was not possible for purposes of illustrating certain construction aspects. Most of the construction that includes rafters, six H-frames, purlin plates and braces and side and end wall framing elements is original. The original sill system was mostly replaced with new timbers when the new metal roof was incorporated into the barn a number of years ago.

#### **Unique Rafter System**

The rafter system is unique among all Dutch barns that have been examined in the last thirty-five years. Its rarity even surpasses the rare and unusual construction format of the major-minor rafter systems seen in the barns built in the now thoroughly identified pre-Revolutionary War era tradition. It appears quite likely that the craftsmen who constructed the Bruyn barn were greatly influenced by builders of the early pre-war barns. First we will look at the Bruyn barn and then make a comparison with the early style barns.

The Bruyn barn has an unprecedented rafter system. A normal number of rafter pairs appear but the remarkable condition seen is that the rafters above the single purlin plate per roof slope are each considerably larger in cross section (close to 50 per cent bigger) than the rafters seen below the purlin plates. In most other barns in the Dutch realm, rafters appear as single pieces of timbers from the roof ridge (peak) to the side wall plates. However in the Bruyn barn, the upper rafters (above the purlin plate) extend from the roof peak to the purlin plate where they terminate. The lower rafters extend from the purlin plate to the wall plate. The larger upper rafters and the smaller lower rafters are all hewn. The uppers are all spliced onto the lower rafters via lapped joints. The visual experience of such distinctly different sized rafters is striking indeed. A few lower or minor sized rafters were replaced.

In major-minor rafter barns, rafter dispositions are considerably more complex than that seen in rafters in the Bruyn barn. Major rafters – perhaps seven by seven inches in cross section are always positioned in line with the H-frames. They extend from a four-sided ridge beam "set on the diamond" at the peak and then over the upper purlin plates (at each roof slope) and terminate at the lower purlins. Then a minor rafter joins at the bottom of the major rafter and ends at the side wall plate. Between the major rafters are either one or two minor rafter pairs, depending on the barn, that extend from the peak to the wall plate. The upper plates are held in place by collar beams.

From the above information it is realized that the Bruyn barn is different than barns with major-minor rafter systems in the following two ways: it has no ridge beam and there are no upper purlin plates. Barns with major-minor rafters often employed the use of cup marks formed by round chisels that functioned as marriage marks at timber unions. Only regular marriage marks (formed by straight chisels) are seen in the H-frames (and only at one side) in the Bruyn barn. The Bruyn barn extensively used lapped half dove-tailed joinery in its H-frame braces and purlin braces and in collar beams at every other rafter pair. Such joinery was often used in major-minor rafter barns. Short verdiepingen (H-frame post extensions, from top of anchor-beam to soffit of purlin plate) are almost always a feature found in pre-War era barns. The post extension in the Bruyn barn is a short 72 inches. All barns with major-minor rafters have upper post extensions

invariably 5½ feet or less in length that is consistent with many or most early barns found anywhere where Dutch-American barns appear.

#### **Features of H-frames**

Six H-frames define the principal transverse structural timbering of the Bruyn barn. All H-frame members are, as most or all other barn timbers, made of oak (Quercus spp.). The nave or middle aisle is a little over 30 feet in width. Thus, the anchor-beams with their tenons that extend 12 to 14 inches at each end are each about 32 feet long. The top of each anchor-beam to the threshing floor is 12 1/2 feet and this distance is within the normal range of measurement in the great majority of barns. Inner anchor-beams are about 15-17 inches in height – about normal for barns in the mid-Hudson River Valley. Two-foot scribe marks do not appear (see Fitchen second edition.) As expected, the anchor-beam to post iunctures are seen with diminished haunched connections. Each union is set with three narrow diameter pegs which is also often the norm for a pre-War era barn. The extended tenons of the anchor-beams are basically squarelike but the upper and lower corners are somewhat rounded. Tenons are each double wedged. As stated above, the upper post extension is 6 feet - thus the full length of each H-frame post is 181/2 feet. Widths of H-frame posts at breast height are about 15 to 16 inches (side parallel to the side wall). H-frame braces are hewn but are not particularly large.

A good deal of the threshing floor could not be observed but much of it is likely original and there may be an exposed median longitudinal floor sill which is quite common in the Schoharie and Mohawk River Valleys. It is extremely rare or almost non-existent in the mid-Hudson area.

At the time of the examination of the barn in September 1998, sapling poles, possibly original, appeared over all the anchor-beams in all the bays except partly in the last or far bay in the middle area.

#### **Purlin Braces**

The purlin brace disposition is of a quite odd arrangement. Single braces in the



Close-up view of original pentice at front gable wall of the five-bay Bruyn-Mahoney barn in Ulster County. Note seven original hewn pentice arms that extend beyond wall by just over 5'. Pentice arms originate from first interior anchorbeam and stretch over the gable wall anchorbeam to the exterior.

first, second, fourth and fifth bays at each barn side attach to the H-frame posts below the anchor-beams. In the middle bay, two braces per barn side appear and they attach above the tops of the anchor-beams.

#### Side Aisles

Each side aisle is about ten feet wide which is very much in the normal range of widths.

Side wall studs are 61 inches on centers. Recall that this measurement is the same that is seen in the exterior extension of the pentice arms. It is also the same separation of the arms - one to the other. It is extremely likely that the incidence of just over five foot intervals between and among the various beams is more than mere coincidence. The craftsmen who fashioned the timbers in the Bruyn barn had strict standards or rules in which they applied certain consistent spacings. In addition, it is likely that the spacings of studs that appear above the anchor-beams at the gable end walls are very likely the same 61 inches.

#### Summary

Unfortunately, little can be said at this point about the stone house on the Bruyn property. Thus it is not known how original the various features are that remain in the house. The basic proportions of the house follow the Ulster County tradition of a story-and-one-half construction.

The barn, however, is a very different situation in that the great majority of its original timbering remains intact. All of the above cited features point to a date of construction before the Revolutionary War. They are consistent with the features in many other barns of estimated pre-War status.

Of course, the single most interesting feature is the remarkable and unique rafter system. With so many of the attendant features seen in the major-minor rafter barns it may be said with guite a high degree of certainty that the Bruyn barn was constructed with a variant major-minor rafter system. What this really means is that the builders of the barn were very likely directly influenced by the builders who were responsible for constructing the barns in the pre-War era tradition that apparently always included the major-minor rafter barns. The reason for the inclusion of large rafters above the purlins and distinctly smaller rafters below the purlins is lost to obscurity. It is possible that such variant rafter systems existed in other barns now long lost on the Dutch-American landscape and with it a reduced opportunity to obtain a greater awareness of the manner in which Dutch barn artisans plied their craft more than 230 years ago.

### History in the making



The Elmendorf House in Hurley becomes the executive mansion for HVVA's President Jim Decker.



The Van Keuren House, St. James Street, Kingston, now belongs to Liza Sunderlin.



ABOVE: A tree falls at the Felton house and the venerable smokehouse heard it! BELOW: Felton smokehouse restored. Thanks to Karen and Ron Markisenis for choosing to preserve our history!





**ABOVE:** The Cantine House in Stone Ridge will now be inhabited by McCauley Sexton, we hope to visit soon!

**RIGHT:** The Van Hoesen House still is searching for salvation. Will it be found in time?

**BELOW:** The old Clearwater house, in Hurley, is now owned by Sam and Nadia Scoggins. A Bed & Breakfast is in its future.

Sweeney's Ten Broeck House has a new door.







Conrad Elmendorf house, Kingston, is now owned by John McKinney.

Conrad Fingado stands by his work, a new oven at the Palatine Farmstead.



Panels of Myron Teller's Hardware come to light, 53 panels to be exact! We hope to find some way to bring them back home from the mid-west.



ABOVE: Jean Hasbrouck house in New Paltz gets a facade lift, designed by John Stevens. BELOW: The Masten House – on Wall Street in Kingston – has taken to its new owner, Eric Winchell.

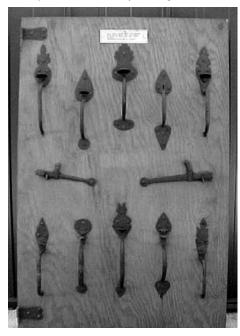


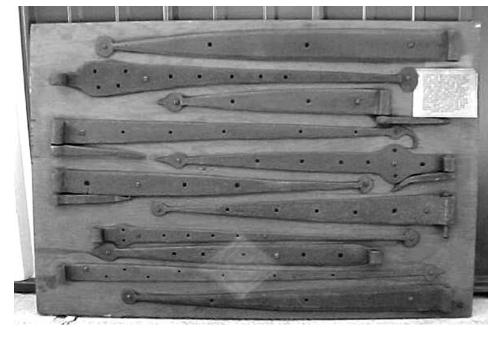
One of our favorites in Hurley has found a new owner.



**ABOVE:** Glen and Jane Vinning put a fine new roof on the Osterhoudt House in Ulster. **BELOW:** The Mula house, Ulster, is much improved with the removal of a large enclosed porch from its facade.







### Membership info

If you have been receiving this newsletter, but your membership is not current and you wish to continue to receive the HVVA newsletter and participate in the many house-study tours offered each year, **please send in your dues**.

Membership currently pays all the HVVA bills and to keep us operating in the black. **Each of us must contribute a little.** 

Membership dues remains at a low \$20 per year (\$15 for Students). So if you haven't sent in your dues or given a tax deductible donation to the HVVA mission, **please consider doing so now.** 



☐ Yes, I would like to renew my membership in the amount of \$.....

□ Yes, I would like to make a tax deductible contribution to help the effort of preserving the Hudson Valley's Architectural Heritage. Enclosed please find my donation

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# A look back



**Yet another Elmendorf House**, this one located on Green Street, Kingston. (circa 1920)

## Calendar

### Holiday tour!

Sat., December 13, 2008 – 10:00 AM

We'll gather in the parking lot behind the Kingston School district administrative offices on Green St. *(Green St. is the first right off North Front Street if you are coming via Washington Ave.)* This event is by far the most fun tour of the year. Here we visit houses, have a great lunch and off to visit more houses! Cost of the tour is \$20, which covers the cost of lunch. RSVP is a must to attend this outing! Contact Rob at (845) 336-0232 or send an e-mail to: gallusguy@msn.com

### **HVVA Annual Meeting**

Sat., January 17, 2009 - 10:00 AM

Our annual meeting will be held in the Marbletown Fire House, located on Route 209, north of Stone Ridge. Election of officers and planning for 2009 will be the topic of the day. A Power Point presentation will showcase where we have visited in the past year. All members are welcome, lunch to follow. Bring something to "show and tell," it's a tradition! Coffee and doughnuts will be provided...

# Celebrate Washington's Birthday

Sat., February 21, 2009 –10:30 AM

Join in with his Excellency in celebrating his birthday in a place he actually did sleep!



It is said Washington has preserved more historic structures in the US than any other man and he did this simply be sleeping in them! Lynn Eberle, Historic Preservation Officer for the City of Newburgh, will lead us on a tour of Washington's Headquarters and a few other sites in her district. Meet at the Washington's Headquarters State Historic Site, on the Corner of Liberty and Washington Street, Newburgh, NY.