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Newsletter

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Interior of Baird's Mill (1789) on the Waywanda Creek near Warwick, New York. Photo by W. Wheeler.

From the President

I trust you all had a great summer. HVVA members enjoyed interesting tours, including visits to Albany, Coxsackie and Athens, in Greene County, Warwick, in Orange County, and Historic New Bridge Landing at River Edge, Bergen County, NJ. Upcoming fall tours include a tour of more houses in Marbletown, Ulster County, NY (16 November), hosted by Neil Larson & Ken Krabbenhoft. Our annual Holiday Lunch is in the planning stages; you'll receive a mailchimp notice once details have been finalized.

Just a quick update re: the HVVA/DBPS merger progress. Representatives from both groups have continued to meet through the summer as a committee, and have put the final touches on drafts of bylaws, a merger petition (to be submitted to the State), and revised certificate of incorporation, and they have fielded suggestions for the new name of the organization.

I'm calling for a brief meeting to occur during the November tour in Marbletown; DBPS members will be invited to join us as we together select a name from among those submitted (it's not too late—you can send suggestions, attention to Rob Sweeney, at info@hvva.org). The following weekend, on 23 November, board members from the HVVA and the DBPS will meet at the Greene County Historical Society to ratify the merger documents.

I hope to see you all at one or more of this autumn's events!

Wally

WARWICK STUDY TOUR, 21 September 2019



Fig.1: View of Baird's Mill from north. The stone platform on the left covers the head race for the turbines. It is believed a saw mill was located in this space. All photos by W. Wheeler unless otherwise indicated.

The weather was perfect for an autumn visit to the village of Warwick in southern Orange County. The tour was coordinated by Ken Krabbenhoft with the local assistance of Sue Gardner and HVVA member and Warwick resident Steve Placido.

After assembling in town, the group caravanned to the outskirts of the village to Baird's Mill. Situated on the Waywanda Creek, the small mill enjoys a picturesque setting in the midst of a farm the Baird family has owned for many generations, complete with a two-story Orange County stone house, barns, fields and meadows, and grazing cattle. Built in ca. 1789 by William E. Baird, the small wood frame building is sandwiched between the road and the creek where one bridges over the other (Fig.1 & cover photo). Primarily a grist mill, it also once

had an exterior sawmill linked to it as many early mills did. There is a low stone dam that originally directed water to a breast-shot wheel that powered one or two sets of stones inside. There definitely were two sets of stones operating when the wheel was replaced by two turbines under the building. One turbine and one set of stones remain in place and were operated by current members of the Baird family for public demonstrations until flooding from Superstorm Sandy undermined the foundations of the building.

Jim Baird kindly opened the building for the group and explained its functions (Fig.2). Changes in its technology and functions over the past two centuries, as well as repairs to the building have obscured much of that evidence. (A full-scale documentation and assessment of existing conditions is clearly warranted in this case.) Nevertheless, the building



Fig.2: View of interior, second floor. Photo by N. Larson.

is a significant example of how early mills were adapted and renovated as they continued to function through the 19th and into the 20th centuries. The small scale of Baird's Mill is a significant aspect of this rare and remarkable relic of rural industry.

We returned to the village, and while waiting for the appointed hour for our lunch reservation, spread out for self-guided walking tours of the historic district in the village, which contains some distinctive early houses and as Old School Baptist Church built in 1810, as well as an urban main street with ornamented brick commercial buildings from the turn-of-the-century when Warwick became a railroad center and elite summer tourism destination. Our small cadre blended right in with scores of other visitors swarming into the town for an apple festival.

After lunch, we devoted our attention to Warwick's oldest house, known locally as the Shingle House, reputedly built in 1764 for Daniel Burt Jr., son of one of the town's proprietors; the town was settled by families from Ridgefield, Connecticut a decade or two before. It has been owned by the Warwick Historical Society since 1916, and members of that organization provided us with the long story of the house as well as recent restoration efforts and archeology investigations. As it exists, the story-and-a-half house has a traditional New England center-chimney plan, which would be expected from Connecticut settlers (Figs.3-5). The stone center chimney and wall and roof framing appear to be intact, but interior finishes have changed over time with plaster walls and ceilings, along with doors, windows and trim, reflecting turn-of-the-20th-century renovations, some possibly as



Fig.3: View of Shingle House (Burt House), ca. 1764, from southwest. The iconic saltbox profile was altered with the addition of a second story in the late 1800s.

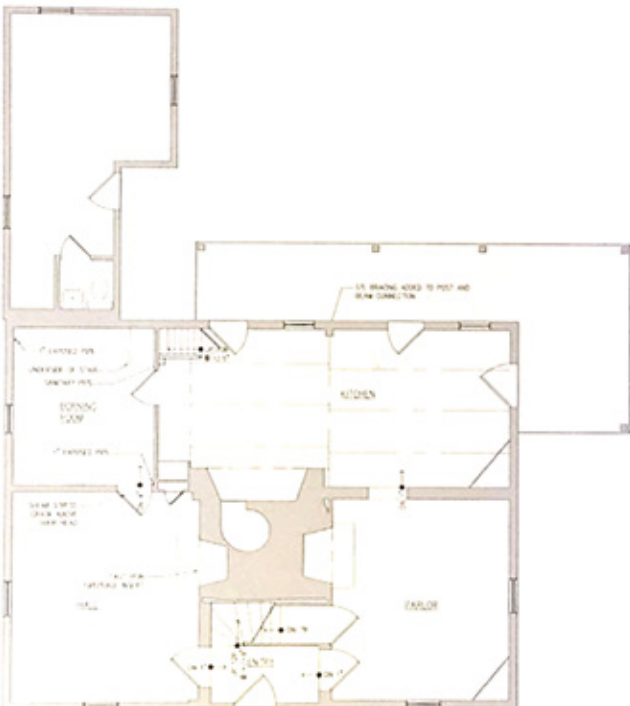


Fig.4: Shingle House, first floor plan. Drawing by Ford 3 Architects, LLC, 2006. Poor field iPhone photo by N. Larson.

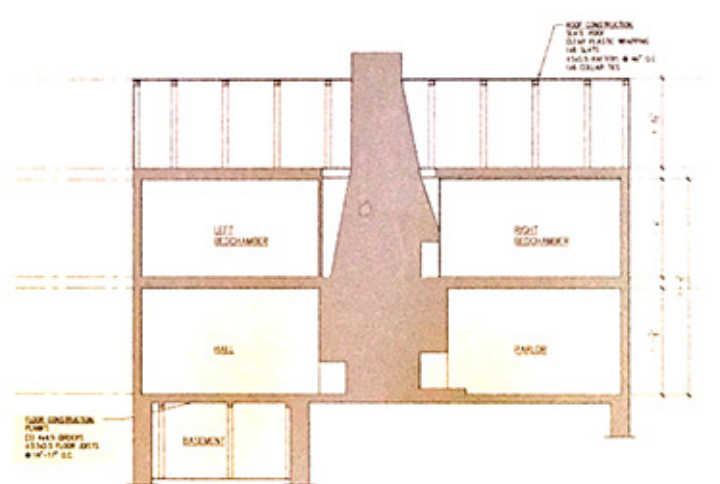


Fig.5: Shingle House, section. Drawing by Ford 3 Architects, LLC, 2006. Poor field iPhone photo by N. Larson.



Fig.6: Interior view looking east along front of house showing central lobby and stairs and parlor beyond.



Fig.7: View of mud-packed wall, second floor, from chimney space.

late as 1916 when the historical society adopted the building (Fig.6). One curious survival is a mud-packed partition on the second story walling in the stone chimney (Fig.7).

Only one-third of the house is built over a basement, and recent archeological testing under the other two-thirds has found artifacts dating to the late 1800s. It was speculated to us that the house could have been built in stages, but what's visible of the framing and stone masonry chimney clearly remain from the 18th century. Compounding the matter is the story that the road to which the house faces had been excavated to level it with the spoils spread on the knoll on which the house is sited. Perhaps the house was raised up on a new foundation and partial basement; however, the stone chimney, constructed with mud mortar, does not appear altered. This is the conundrum now facing local historians. As with Baird's Mill, and many of the historic buildings that interest HVVA, a more intensive study of the Shingle House's construction history is needed.

Vanished Vernacular IV: Whitehall, the Bradstreet-Gansevoort-Ten Eyck house, Town of Bethlehem (now in the City of Albany), Albany County, New York

By Walter Richard Wheeler

“...we...at length reach the Whitehall Road, now Third avenue. At the extremity of this road is the old White farmhouse, from which it took the name.”

Context and Ownership History

References to the house known from the late-18th century until its destruction a century later as “Whitehall” can be found in many historical accounts, but few provide any details, and many offer contradictory narratives with respect to its ownership, date of construction and even its original purpose. Dates ranging from the 1710s to the 1760s are suggested by various sources. The building appears as a house on the 1767 Bleecker map of the Rensselaer Manor, which identified it as owned by John Bradstreet (Fig.1). Some sources, however, indicate that the building was initially constructed as a military barracks during the French & Indian War and that Bradstreet altered it into a house. Similar stories are associated with other houses in the region, including the Van Zandt house, also in Bethlehem; yet, the veracity of all of these stories remains in doubt. Other accounts suggest that the house was a Tory stronghold. This last assertion may be a mis-recollection based upon its association with Bradstreet, a General in the British army, or with one of his tenants. Stories of the house as “the headquarters of the Tories during the Revolution” are in no way true as it had, by that time, passed into the Schuyler family. It may be, however, that, as an officer of the British Army, Bradstreet entertained “Tories” there in the years previous to the conflict.

In any case, John Bradstreet (1711-1774) is documented as having owned the property from at least the early 1760s until his death. Bradstreet was born in England but spent most of his life in North America. In 1746 he was appointed Lieutenant Governor of Newfoundland, serving until his return to England in 1751. He arrived in New York in 1755 and was appointed commissary at Oswego. By the following year he was stationed at Albany, the guest of Philip Schuyler. It is not clear if Bradstreet ever occupied the house in Bethlehem; contemporary accounts record him as living with the Schuyler family, and when he died it was occupied by a tenant farmer.



Fig.1: Portrait of General John Bradstreet by Thomas McIlworth, ca. 1764 (NPG.2007.5, National Portrait Gallery, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D. C.)

Bradstreet had oversight of the reconstruction of Fort Frederick in Albany, and construction of the hospital, barracks, improvements to the stockade and other military facilities in the Albany area at that time (1756-58), and the King’s Artificers—carpenters and builders who were brought from Boston and Philadelphia—were engaged in private work as well. The economic climate created as a result of the French and Indian War, in which a number of well-placed citizens of Albany profited from provisioning and quartering troops, and the waning of hostilities during the course of the 1760s, provided fertile soil for the construction of houses of size and finish not previously built in the region. As the French and Indian War came to a close, these builders, who included Thomas Smith Diamond and Samuel Fuller among them, lingered in the area and



Fig.2: The Pastures, the Philip J. and Catherine van Rensselaer Schuyler house, in Albany. The projecting vestibule was added to the house in the early 19th century (photo by author, May 2019).

constructed houses for the Van Rensselaer family (the manor house, in Albany, 1763-69) and Sir William Johnson (in Johnstown, 1763), as well as the Pastures for Philip Schuyler (1761-63), the last superintended by Bradstreet while Schuyler was in England, and still standing in Albany (Fig.2). A number of other dwellings of large size were constructed in the region during this same period, including a house for the Cuyler family (1766-67) and additions to Crailo for Hendrick van Rensselaer (1762, Fig.3), both in what is today the City of Rensselaer. Contemporary documents connect Bradstreet to the renovation work done at Crailo, as well. All of these “mansions,” including Whitehall, were brick masonry construction and had symmetrical plans in common.

Given Bradstreet’s oversight of a skilled group of carpenters and builders, it is probable that they were engaged to construct his house in Bethlehem as well. That house—



Fig.3. Crailo, ca. 1905, showing alterations which transformed it into a symmetrical center passage dwelling (Bryant Union Publishing, NY, NY, author’s collection).

unlikely to have been a barracks, given its location, which was remote from any defended areas or military sites—was constructed during this same period; historical records and Bradstreet's presence in Albany indicate a date between 1756 and 1767, with a date later in that period being most plausible. Smaller in size than any of the other dwellings in the group discussed above, it may have initially been constructed as a tenant house.

Site Description and 18th Tenants During Bradstreet and Schuyler Ownership, to 1789

The land in the vicinity of Whitehall was described by Scottish visitor Patrick McRobert in 1774 as

very indifferent...being nothing but a cold spungy clay or sand, covered with pine trees; but even upon this soil they have exceeding good crops when they are at any pains to manure their land, as Mr. Tuniclif a Derbyshireman has shown [sic], who settled here about five years ago on one of the worst spots in this country, and by his management had this year the best crops I have seen. His stock is also of a superior kind to any in the country. He got the breed of his sheep from Derbyshire....The woods abound with huckle-berries, goose-berries, straw-berries, black-berries, cran-berries, & c. and apples, and wild grapes.

"Mr. Tuniclif" was John Tunnicliff (ca. 1725-1800), who, according to the will of John Bradstreet—drafted in the same year that McRobert visited (1774)—was Bradstreet's tenant on the Whitehall farm at that time. Tunnicliff had arrived in the Albany area between 1763 and 1768, and the above account suggests that he settled on the Bradstreet property ca. 1769. Tunnicliff was a watch and clock maker, and by 1788 had a shop on State Street in Albany. He also had a substantial farm on Otsego Lake, which he offered for sale in 1790. His descendants settled in the vicinity of Cooperstown.

The will of Bradstreet, who died in that same year (1774), devised the house and farm to John Bradstreet Schuyler (1765-1795), his namesake and child of Bradstreet's rumored mistress Catherine van Rensselaer Schuyler and Philip J. Schuyler. Similarities in the appearance of Bradstreet and his namesake kept gossip active for some time. A minor at the time of Bradstreet's death, John Bradstreet Schuyler was in possession of the house by 1786, when he renewed the lease on the property, then 1090 acres in extent, from the patroon, Stephen van Rensselaer.



Fig.4 Leonard Gansevoort, from a ca. 1800 portrait attributed to Ezra Ames (Collection of Peter G. Ten Eyck II; this image reproduced from the *Knickerbocker Press*, 18 April 1926).



Fig.5. *White Hall farm, the property of L. Gansevoort agreeable to a Survey made 3rd Jan.^y 1790 by James Winne* (Collection of Peter G. Ten Eyck II).

Schuyler never lived in the house; rather, he resided on the family's farm in Schuylerville. It is probable that his father managed the property from Albany, and that he had done so since Bradstreet's demise in 1774. By 1786 the

farm was leased to the family of Joseph Johnson. A fire in January 1787 resulted in “the consumption of the dwelling house and stables of Mr. Joseph Johnson...by fire, through the means of which melancholy accident Mr. Johnson, and two of his children, unfortunately perished in the flames, as did also two horses and a cow.” This fire may have entirely destroyed the house.

By 1789 John Buswell was Schuyler’s tenant on the farm; the buildings had either been repaired or were entirely rebuilt in the intervening years. Later that year, Buswell advertised that he was “going soon to England.” Buswell auctioned “a number of fine milch cows..., horses, a wagon, plows and all other Kinds of Farming Utensils; Likewise, The Furniture of the House” and “Some very good Oats” by the bushel. John Bradstreet Schuyler offered the farm “late in the possession of John Boswell, known by the name of White-Hall or Tunnicliff’s Farm” for lease on 12 October 1789. The property was described at that time as containing “1090 acres—about 300 of which are in fence, and under good cultivation.” Schuyler advertised the farm as late as November 1789.

The house and the title to the lease of land (it remained the property of the patroon) was purchased by Leendert (Leonard) Gansevoort (1751-1810, Fig.4) not long afterward for \$688. Gansevoort had James Winne survey the property on 3 January 1790 (Fig.5).

No documents directly connected to the initial construction in the 1760s or the expansion of Whitehall by Gansevoort are known to survive. One possible exception is a bill for eight tons of white lead from Pierre De Peyster of New York, who billed Leonard Gansevoort & Co. on 6 March 1793, reminding Gansevoort at the time that it was a “cash article” and could not be credited to his account. It’s presently impossible to know whether this purchase was for Gansevoort’s own private use at Whitehall, or for resale. It seems probable that the work of expanding the house was completed previous to ca. 1795; a drawing for an outbuilding believed to have been designed for the property but not built, by Philip Hooker, bears a watermark of 1796. From 1790 until the destruction of the house in 1883, Whitehall remained in the hands of the allied Gansevoort-Ten Eyck families. An abstract of title, going back only as far as 1800, was undertaken in 1866 and was revised in 1877. That document records the transference, via the will of Leonard Gansevoort dated 11 August 1800 and filed 27 December 1810, of the property to his two surviving

daughters, to occur after the death of his widow, Hester Cuyler Gansevoort (1748-1826). Gansevoort died in August 1810, and his funeral was held at “his seat at Whitehall” on 31 August. The property was subsequently subdivided in 1819 and 1825. Whitehall descended to Leonard’s daughter Magdalena Gansevoort (1773-1863) and her husband Jacob Ten Eyck (1772-1862), a representative of Albany County in the New York State Assembly at the beginning of the 19th century, and who was appointed a county judge in 1807, serving in that position for five years. Upon the death of Magdalena in 1863, the property was further subdivided, and the house was inherited by Leonard Gansevoort Ten Eyck (1801-1881), son of Magdalena and Jacob. A portion of the lands associated with the house, consisting of 65 acres of “good farming land...lying beyond the mansion” was offered for sale in 1865.

The name “Whitehall” was given to the house, whether in recollection of Peter Stuyvesant’s house in New York (as renamed by the British when used as a governor’s mansion) or of the royal palace in Westminster, London, the original source for the name is not recorded. In any case, documents quoted above indicate that the name predated the Gansevoort’s purchase of the property.

Leonard Gansevoort had a house in downtown Albany, but the ownership of a country house was an important signifier of wealth among the merchant elite of the day. Leonard’s brother was General Peter Gansevoort (1749-1812), who distinguished himself at Fort Stanwix in the Revolutionary War. Through marriage and ancestry, both were related to the Van Rensselaer and Cuyler families, among others. Members of this extended family and social group, which also included the Lansings, Douws, Pruyns and Ten Broecks, among others, had already established country estates or tenanted farms, where they lived during the summer months. In establishing his own estate, Gansevoort had the house, initially a brick dwelling 50 feet wide and either 30 or 50 feet deep (depending on whether later measurements that attribute a 50-foot depth to the building included the stacked porches or not), expanded significantly by the addition of two wings, resulting in an H-shaped plan measuring 100 or more feet in width.

Houses of H-plan form are not commonly encountered in the Hudson Valley. Arryl House, built for Chancellor Robert Livingston at Clermont in 1793, is a close contemporary of the renovated Whitehall (Fig.6). Arryl House had similar decorative details, including rooftop balustrades, but its

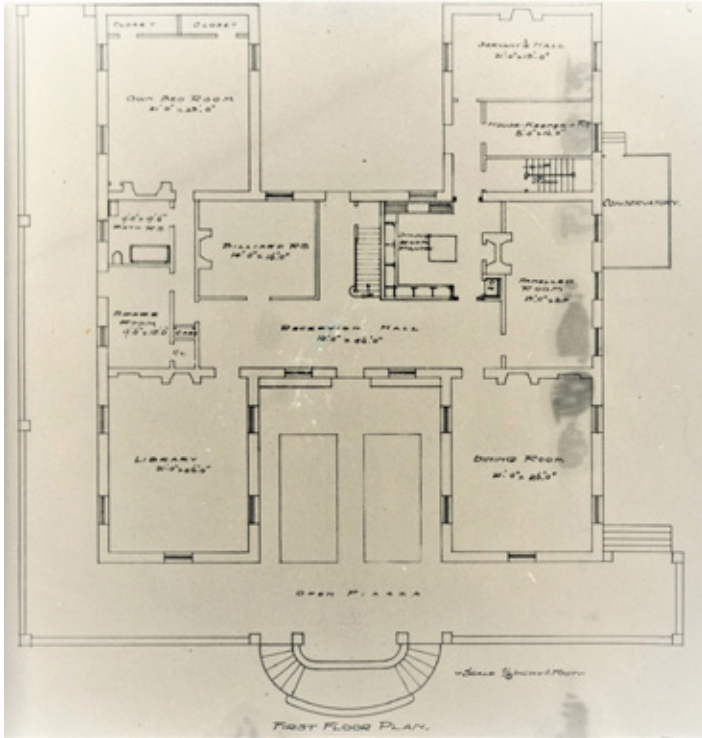


Fig.6. First floor plan of Arryl house, showing mid-19th century alterations (<http://clermontstatehistoricsite.blogspot.com/2013/10/imagining-arry-house-piecing-together.html>, accessed on 15 September 2019). Arryl house had a central hall measuring 46 feet wide.

overall form, which unlike Whitehall achieved its H-shaped plan during its initial building campaign, differed in other ways, in particular by having end pavilions of only one story in height (Fig.7). Houses with H-plans were never common, but examples are known in England and in Virginia, and have construction dates typically ranging from the 17th to the early 18th century. One of the most famous examples was William Penn's "Slate Roof House," built ca. 1687 and razed in 1867, which was named after what was originally considered to be its most remarkable feature. Stratford Hall, in Stratford, Virginia, begun in the late 1730s, is one of the larger remaining examples of this type. (On the other hand, Arryl House was built much later and designed by a French émigré architect.) Gansevoort's additions to Whitehall resulted in the creation of one of the largest houses, if not the largest, in the Hudson Valley during the 18th century. When the Gansevoort family home in Albany was destroyed in a major fire in 1793, Leonard Gansevoort made Whitehall his primary residence.



Fig.7. View looking northeast of Arryl house, taken in the late 19th century (<http://clermontstatehistoricsite.blogspot.com/2013/10/imagining-arry-house-piecing-together.html>, accessed on 15 September 2019).

Descriptions and Images of the House

The principal sources of our knowledge of the appearance of the house and its plan come from two images and a written description, authored by one of the last occupants as a recollection, in 1902. Two copies of the description of the house are preserved. One is in the Albany Institute, the other in the Gansevoort-Lansing Papers at the New York Public Library. Although containing a number of mis-statements and exaggerations, as a document it provides an unusually detailed picture of the house and grounds as they stood in the late 19th century, and so is transcribed here in its entirety. It was written by Margaret Matilda Ten Eyck, who grew up in the house:

The colonial mansion of Colonel Leonard Gansevoort was about one and one half miles from the capitol at Albany, New York, on the old Delaware Turnpike (now Delaware Avenue). It formerly stood in the centre of a farm consisting of about two thousand acres of land. The name of the mansion was taken from Whitehall Palace in England and it was built somewhat on the same plan, being approached by a long driveway, shaded on either side by immense horse chestnut trees, with a court-yard in front of the house, and a lawn in front of the court-yard. In the court-yard were situated the largest chestnut trees in the State, some of which are still standing.

Whitehall was owned and occupied by the British Governor before the Revolutionary War and was the resort of the Tories of the neighborhood, and from thence the expedition set out to capture General Schuyler. After the war Leonard Gansevoort became the owner, enlarging it with two wings, one on each side, making the house one hundred and ten feet front by seventy feet deep.

You entered the house through the old fashioned double doors into a hall forty feet wide, running through the centre of the house, and thence by a corridor leading into each wing. At one end you entered the grand dining room, thirty by sixty feet, with its high ceilings of fourteen feet, four large windows with Venetian blinds, and open fireplace six feet wide edged with tile, and carved mantel of exquisite work, mahogany wainscot panels and frieze of two feet, an old fashioned sideboard, upon which was set the silver at the banquets, also big dining chairs, and four large tables, which could be put together as one.

At the other end of the corridor you entered another dining room, thirty by thirty feet, with seven doors

and a recess, in which was a sideboard with knife boxes containing two dozen two tine forks and knives with turned blades and handle [sic], two silver tankards, a large silver salver and beneath was a cellarette, with many other old fashioned pieces. This sideboard is illustrated in volume seven, or eight, page 355, of "Our Forefather's Furniture" as being the property of Leonard Ten Eyck, of Albany, N.Y. This is in error, it belonging to Jacob L. Ten Eyck, the present owner of Whitehall. Above was hung a three-quarter life size portrait of Governor Jay, painted by Gilbert Stuart, and presented to Leonard Gansevoort by Governor Jay. This portrait was bought by Mrs. Abraham Lansing, of Albany, N.Y., the great grand daughter of his brother, Gen. Peter Gansevoort. The ceilings were of the same height [sic] and the fireplace [sic] of the same dimensions, with its beautiful carved mantel inlaid with tile, and the mahogany wainscoting was the same as in the other room. One of the seven doors entered into a silver closet, built in the chimney of another room, which contained the family silver [sic], consisting of tea sets, tankards, christening bowls, coasters, candle sticks, gravy boats, coffee and tea pots of unique design, sugar [sic] bowls, also memory cups and spoons (it being the custom in olden times to give pieces of silver, or jewelry, as mementoes of relatives or friends).

Another door entered the china closet, with its china and cut glass, the glass having the initials [sic] engraved. Most of the decanters, all the wine glasses and large tumblers had L.H.G. engraved, meaning Leonard and Hester Gansevoort, his wife. On each side of the fireplace stood two tin warmers, with brass handles, for warming plates, pies and oley-koeckje. Between two of the other doors hung a large mirror, nearly to the floor, with a view of Mount Vernon on top. The three other doors entered into adjoining rooms, another to the corridor and another to the stair-case leading to the kitchen below.

On the same floor were five other large rooms, one of which was a library, and another a "dood-Kamer" or dead room, with its high post bedstead, old fashioned mahogany bureau, where linen sheets, ruffled shirts and all the paraphernalia for the dead were kept for the ready use of the departed, much to the terror of the younger generation.

There were twelve of these large fireplaces throughout the mansion, each of which had its full set of solid brass andirons, shovel, tongs and other necessary equipment. The fireplace in the drawing room was

the most remarkable in its design. The two in the lower portion of the house, one in the kitchen and the other in the wash-room had immense big kettles, which hung on a crane, where the water was all heated, each kettle holding at least two barrels.

It was a two story house, with a large garret over the entire house, and a cellar and kitchen under the entire building. The foundation walls were three feet thick. In the cellar was a secret cell, which had no entrance except by a secret passage from the floor above. This cell was used by the Tories as a place of retreat in case they were attacked by the Indians, and during the war by the Americans. This secret passage was not discovered until the place had been owned by Leonard Gansevoort for several years. The discovery of the secret passage was made through an old colored slave being found drunk in the cellar one day, and when afterwards asked how he got there, told the secret of the passage.

There were four large verandas running the entire length of the house, an upper and lower, both in the front and rear. Also four double outside doors, and two small ones.

On the first floor were three separate staircases, and there were fifty-nine windows in the whole house. On the second story was a drawing room and ball room, thirty by sixty feet, the size of the grand dining room beneath. This ball room opened on the upper verandas, and at balls these verandas were used as promenades and there were many other large rooms on the second floor, most of which were used as bed rooms.

The centre portion of the house was built in the reign of King George III, and was built of brick. It is said the old barn, which was over one hundred and twenty feet in length, had stalls for one hundred and thirty mules besides stalls for horses and cows. The immense timbers in the barn were all hewn out by hand, and both the house and barn were built with handmade nails, spikes, and the small shingle nails. The barn has been shortened, but still stands.

The mansion was destroyed by fire in 1883, and was rebuilt on part of the old foundation in the same year by Leonad [sic] Gansevoort's great Grandson, Abraham Cuyler Ten Eyck, and is now owned by his great great grandson, Jacob Lansing Ten Eyck.

There was a large cider press on the place, which was free to the neighbors of the surrounding country, and they made good use of it, for it was used constantly during the cider season, and in fact after,

there being a great rivalry among the neighbors as to who should have the next chance.

In taking out the bebris [sic] after the fire there was found a slab, or plaque, of iron in memory of Major-General James Wolf, who was slain in the battle of Quebec in 1759, with his medallion head and inscription embossed on it.

In the days of Washington, this house was known as a home of luxury and hospitality. It was furnished throughout with mahogany. There were some pieces of French and Dutch design, also many of English. There were four large sideboards, with their knife and fork boxes. There were large mahogany extension tables, consisting respectively of three and four parts, each part being a table in itself, but so arranged that they could be joined together and fastened for large dinners. In addition to these there were carved mahogany tables, stands, bureaus, and bedsteads, and high post beds, etc.

Over a century ago the Legislature and Governor were given a ball or banquet each week, and the leading men of the times were frequent guests,--such men as Washington, Schuyler, LaFayette, Hamilton, Jay, Van Rensselaer, Livingston, Burr and many others were entertained by him. His feasts were the traditions of the town for over half a century. There are numerous letters in the family to him from his brother, General Peter Gansevoort, the hero of Fort Stanwix, from General Schuyler, General Stephen Van Rensselaer, Jay, Livingston and Burr. They were all on the most intimate terms as these letters indicate.

Many interesting papers are still in the family. One document is a license to practice as an attorney-at-law to Leonard Gansevoort by the Right Honorable John Earl of Denmore at Fort George in the City of New York, 1771 in the eleventh year of his Majesty's reign. Also another of the same kind to him by the Honorable William Tryon, 1773. One of Governor Clinton appointing him first judge of Albany County, with seal attached. During the years 1775-1779 Leonard Gansevoort was a member of the Provincial Congress, and in 1777 he was president pro tem of that body. He was also delegate to the Continental Congress in 1778, and in 1775 Member of Assembly, in 1780 he was county treasurer, in 1786 he was recorder of the city of Albany, and also appointed a commissioner to the Commercial Convention held at Annapolis. He was a state senator in 1791-1793 and 1797-1803. In 1794 he was appointed Colonel of Light Cavalry by Governor Clinton.

He was on friendly terms with the Indians, Whitehall being their rendezvous when they came to the city from the surrounding country, they being allowed to camp there and spend their evenings. The writer has often been told by the old housekeeper of Leonard Gansevoort [Esther Main], who remembers him, and also by his grandchildren of the amusements they had in watching the Indians play their games.

Leonard Gansevoort's father was Harme Gansevoort, and his mother was Magdalena Douw. He married Hester Cuyler, and had two children, Magdalena and Catherine Cuyler. Magdalena married Judge Jacob Ten Eyck, Judge of Albany County, and Catherine Cuyler married Teunis Van Vechten, Mayor of Albany. Leonard Gansevoort died at his residence, Whitehall, in 1810.

When the house burned down it was discovered that it was built of three different kinds of brick, the original part of the house having been built from brick imported from Holland and England, and the two wings being built with brick manufactured on the premises at the time for that express purpose.

The old housekeeper spoken of above was born at Whitehall, her father being the overseer of the slaves. She said that they had between forty and fifty slaves when Mr. Gansevoort, of his own volition] liberated them all, but several refused to leave the old homestead, and stayed there until they died. Two of these slaves spoken of were Bet and Dean, who, with another named Pomp, were charged with having set fire to the stables belonging to Leonard Gansevoort which caused the great fire in Albany in 1793. All three were tried and found guilty. The two girls were hung March 14, and Pomp April 11th.

As a little girl, the old housekeeper was employed by Mrs. Gansevoort as her waiting maid, and after the death of Mrs. Gansevoort she had charge and supervision of the spinning and weaving of all the bed linen and blankets, as well as other duties. When the first housekeeper became too old to perform her duties, she took her place and continued in that position until a few years before her death, which was about 1885. She lived to be over ninety years old, having attended six generations of the family.

Written as a little remembrance of our old home by your Mother. Signed—M. Matilda Ten Eyck [1902]

With respect to the number of enslaved people held on the property by the Gansevoort family, the estimate of between 40 and 50 is an exaggeration. The census of 1800 iden-

tified 13 slaves on the property, and it is unlikely that that number grew significantly before emancipation. The above description, if substantively correct, indicates that the alterations undertaken by Gansevoort in the late 18th century included the removal of most of the interior partitions in the 1760s portion of the house, since a "hall" measuring 40 feet in width would have occupied almost all of the original dwelling's footprint, said to have been 50 feet wide.

An interview with Mrs. Margaret Matilda Ten Eyck in later years (1926) provided additional details of the construction of the house and its occupation. The "hidden cell" was then described by her as "in the cellar underneath the grand dining room...entrance was had by a secret passageway from the floor above. This cell was used by the Gansevoorts as a place of refuge in case of Indian attacks." Other details include a recollection that the "entrance doors [were] of heavy oak", and that the "grand dining room" was at the "end of the corridor" that consisted of the 40-foot-wide entrance hall. Ten Eyck recalled the family servant Esther Main, who was long in the employ of the family. Main told Ten Eyck of the "great banquets" held at the house, and that she would "peep through the long Venetian windows that opened onto the garden and gaze open-mouthed at the lovely ladies in gowns of sweeping brocade and their escorts in freshly-powdered wigs and smart belted uniforms." Main attributed this "lavish hospitality" to the Gansevoorts, claiming that "Washington, Lafayette, Jay, Hamilton, Burr and many others" were entertained at Whitehall, and that "[e]very two weeks he [that is, Leonard Gansevoort] invited the members of the state legislature to his home for dinner or a ball. Once a year he gave a mammoth ball for all members of the legislature and state departments and their families."

Further details were recorded as part of the reportage of the fire that destroyed the house:

The mansion which for a century and one-half has stood on the Whitehall farm, at the western terminus of Second avenue [sic], immediately within the corporate limits, was leveled by fire this morning. Mr. Cuyler Ten Eyck moved into the historic homestead about the first of April last [1882]. This morning about 8:30 o'clock, while the family were at breakfast, a child named Henry Walley running in the dining room told Mr. Ten Eyck that the house was on fire. About the same time a neighbor, who had also seen the smoke, arrived, and he with Mr. Ten Eyck rushed to the attic.

That apartment was filled with smoke and the fire was under such headway that no attempt was made to stay its progress. The work of removing the household effect to a safe place was begun instead. The flames forced their way so rapidly that not more than half the furniture...was saved. As near as could be ascertained the fire caught from the chimney between the original building and the south wing, although there was no fire in the fireplace of that flue. By noon nothing but portions of the walls, and the north chimney of the north wing and a part of the south chimney of the main building remained. The wood work burned entirely and left but comparatively little ashes... All the barns, which consisted of a cluster of half a dozen buildings, escaped without damage. The news of the burning building attracted crowds to the spot, and those who arrived first assisted in the removal of household goods.

The burned building was an old-fashioned mansion 100 feet long by 50 feet wide, standing north-east and southwest. The main part, a section 50 feet square, was constructed more than 150 years ago, of brick made on the place. The foundation was of brick, while that of the wings on either side, built about a century ago, was of stone. The main part of the house was built by Gen. Bradstreet, and during the Revolutionary war [was] the headquarters of the Tories.

Twentieth century historians repeated a number of errors presented by these sources and others, embroidering the building's history further with details that appear to have had legend as their only source. Cuyler Reynolds, in 1911, attributed the construction date of the house to "about 1750" on a property "some two thousand acres" in extent, and that "it was remodeled and enlarged in 1776 or 1780, becoming a mansion, one hundred and ten feet in front and seventy-five feet deep." Alice P. Kenney, in her otherwise excellent *The Gansevoorts of Albany* (1969), repeated the implausible story of the house as having been "used as a Tory hideout during the Revolution" and described it as presenting "a frontage of 110 feet and...a depth of 70 feet."

Images

The two extant images of Whitehall consist of a drawing from 1790 and a ca. 1810 mourning embroidery. The earlier of the two, on a map by James Winne dated 3 January 1790 and discussed earlier in this article, shows a three-bay wide brick masonry center-passage house of two stories with end chimneys and an associated brick-faced clapboarded one-story structure (an outkitchen?) at the rear



Fig.8. "White Hall," Detail from *White Hall farm, the property of L. Gansevoort agreeable to a Survey made 3rd Jan.^y 1790* by James Winne (Collection of Peter G. Ten Eyck II).

(Fig.8). While this image may be somewhat idealized, what we know about the house in its later years makes it clear that previous to remodeling it was a side-gable house with center passage, and of two stories with end chimneys, and so the image may be substantially accurate. Typical idealizations of dwellings used similar graphic standards, but the presence of the outbuilding supports the view that this is a depiction of the actual house. If it was constructed or rebuilt in this form after the fire of 1787, the house would have been following a typology common in 17th and 18th century England and its colonies, sometimes called a "yeoman's cottage." Examples of this type of dwelling were less common than other house forms built in rural New York during that period, but include the contemporary Johannes Becker house in Schoharie (of stone, Fig.9), the Jonathan Whiteside house on Center Cambridge Road in Washington County (1791-92, Fig.10), and the Peter McCutcheon house (brick, and only one story), formerly in the Town of Bethlehem, Albany County.

The house was significantly altered by Leonard Gansevoort after his purchase of the property in 1790. The extent of these alterations is described in the texts transcribed above, and are illustrated by a ca. 1810 embroidered picture, created to commemorate the death of Leonard Gansevoort (Fig.11). The addition of two wings and stacked porches spanning the width of the original house on both its east and west faces substantially changed the appearance of the structure, altering it into a dwelling of H-form plan. "Venetian blinds" can be seen in this view, partially enclosing the porches, and a single 12-over-12 double-hung window can be seen to the right of the



Fig.9. The Major Johannes Becker house, Schoharie, Schoharie County, still extant on Route 43, seen in an engraving by A. V. Lesley. From Jephtha R. Simms, *History of Schoharie County and Border Wars of New York* (Albany: Munsell & Tanner, 1845), 509.



Fig.10. The Jonathan Whiteside house, Cambridge, Washington County, NY, 1791-92 (photo by Bill Krattinger, April 2012).

transomed front door. An early 20th century painting by Lithgow used this image as a source, and added details, such as additional outbuildings and landscape elements which may have been based on additional recollections of Margaret Matilda Ten Eyck, who was alive at the time the painting was executed (Fig.12).

Outbuildings

The memorial needlepoint and associated painting depict a small wood-framed front-gable carriage barn to the right



Fig.11. Hester Gansevoort Ten Eyck. *Sacred to the Memory of Leonard Gansevoort*, c. 1810 (Collection of a descendant).



Fig.12. Painting of Whitehall by David Cunningham Lithgow, executed previous to 1926 (Collection of John Ten Eyck).

(north) of the house (Figs.11 & 12). Little is known of this structure, although its design suggests a construction date in the late 18th or early 19th century. Additional information on the property's outbuildings is recorded descriptions of the property generated within a generation after the fire that destroyed the house in 1883. These included outbuildings used to house slaves, and a large barn.

The old brick houses in which the slaves lived are still standing, some of them unoccupied and others being used for granaries and carriage houses.

Near the house stands the old barn that was erected 160 years ago. Tally marks are still plainly seen on the boards on the inside, which showed the contests between the negro slaves and the Indians at husking matches 100

years ago. The barn was formerly used as a stable for the valuable horses owned by the wealthy old Dutchman. In one of these stalls the boards are blackened by fire.

The above-quoted article continued by mistakenly associating the fire indicated by the blackened boards with the conflagration which was set in an outbuilding of Leonard Gansevoort's downtown Albany home in 1793, and for which three enslaved people were tried—guilty or not—and hung. Additional information on the barn is contained in the Margaret Matilda Ten Eyck description of 1902, transcribed above, and repeated here:

It is said the old barn, which was over one hundred and twenty feet in length, had stalls for one hundred and thirty mules besides stalls for horses and cows. The immense timbers in the barn were all hewn out by hand, and both the house and barn were built with handmade nails, spikes, and the small shingle nails. The barn has been shortened, but still stands.

It seems unlikely that the barn had 130 stalls for mules, and if it was more than 120 feet in length it would have been one of the largest recorded 18th century barns in the region.

A private burial ground “near White hall” was actively used from about 1815 until at least 1834. It was associated with the Hun family; its exact whereabouts are unknown, and no disposition of the burials, of which several are identified, is recorded.

Fragments Surviving From the Original House

Several fragments of the original Whitehall house survive. Among them is a brick, believed to have been taken from the house after its destruction and subsequently painted with an image of the building (Fig.13). The brick measures 7” x 3.5” x 2.5” and is in the collection of the Albany Institute of History and Art. The image on this brick was copied from that on the ca. 1810 mourning picture (Fig.11).

Several pieces of hardware, salvaged from the house, were mounted on a wood plaque (Fig.14). These artifacts continue to be curated by Ten Eyck descendants. Perhaps the largest fragment remaining of the house is the foundation. An exterior examination of the foundation shows it to be brick; however, without access to the interior—not presently available—it is not possible to determine which portion of the building it was associated with. If we examine

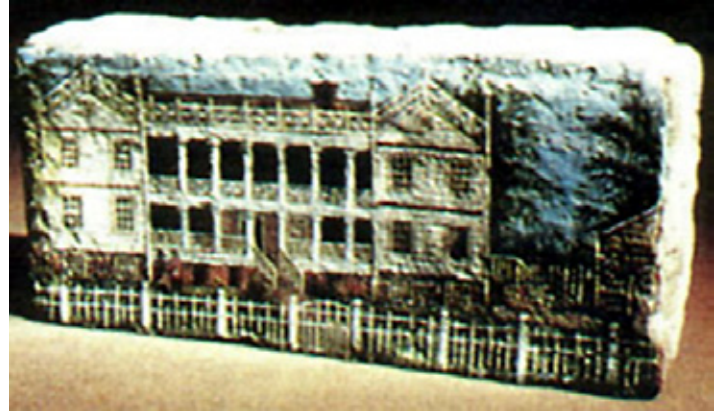


Fig.13. Brick salvaged from Whitehall, later used as a support for a painting depicting the house (Collection of the Albany Institute of History and Art, Albany, NY).



Fig.14 Plaque with hardware salvaged from Whitehall (Collection of Peter G. Ten Eyck III).

the alignment of the present house with the approach road, now Whitehall Road, it does appear that the present house may cover (or incorporate) portions of the foundation for the earliest part of the house, together with that of the south pavilion (Figs.15 & 16).

An additional artifact from the house was extant as late as 1926:

When Whitehall was burned in 1883 a slab of iron, inscribed in memory of Major General [James] Wolfe, slain in the battle of Quebec in 1759, was taken out of the debris. Mrs. Ten Eyck believes Colonel Gansevoort hid this tablet in the walls of Whitehall when he built the addition; because, as a staunch supporter of the new Republic, he disliked all things connected with the British army. The slab is [in 1926] in possession of Peter G. Ten Eyck.

The present whereabouts of this iron slab—possibly a fire-back—are unknown.



Fig.15 Aerial view of the approach road to Whitehall, looking northwest, with the late-19th century house that occupies the site of the original indicated by the white oval at the top of the image. The portion of the road perpendicular to the house was originally lined with chestnut trees (online aerial imagery, modified by author). Today the portion of the road east of its intersection with Delaware Avenue is known as Second Avenue.



Fig.16 Aerial view of the house, looking west (online aerial imagery).

A New House on the Same Site, 1883-present

A visitor to the new house constructed on a part of the site of the earlier house and still extant today described the new house—named “White Hall”, as “a modern country house... erected on the site of the old Whitehall mansion... owned and occupied by Conrad Ten Eyck, a direct descendant of one of the oldest Holland families.

The property gained the name “Ten Eyck Park” by 1909 when it was subdivided on a map by Howard Batchelder. Street names within the subdivision were family names: Kate and Matilda streets, and Cuyler and Ten Eyck avenues. In that year (1909) the undeveloped portion of the property served as a landing area for a dirigible race from New York to Albany, staged as part of the Hudson-Fulton Celebration, and featuring a \$10,000 prize.

In that same year (1909) a 200-foot steel tower, constructed to support experiments into wireless transmission of sound, was built on the property by Lee De Forest, radio pioneer. After his departure from Albany, the tower was dismantled, and its parts sold in lieu of back taxes. The property, which had been donated for the purpose by the Ten Eycks, then reverted back to the family.

In 1910 the property was investigated by Glenn Curtiss, early aeronautical pioneer, as a landing site for a demonstration flight. By 1912 “a large number of lots at Ten Eyck Park” were being developed by Cameron & Hawn, Albany builders. With the annexation by the City of Albany of a part of the Town of Bethlehem in 1870, a portion of the



Fig.17. View of the replacement “White Hall” house, looking west (photo by Marcela DiVirgilio, September 2019).

property came to be located within the city. The site of the house, however, appears to have remained in Bethlehem until further annexations were made in 1916. This action placed the house and subdivision within the corporate bounds of Albany.

The house was subsequently known as the Washington Inn. In 1929 “Frank Braun bought the house and converted it into a two-family dwelling, switching its frontage around to Whitehall Road.” It was probably at that time that the house acquired some of its colonial revival features (Figs. 17 & 18). Braun’s daughter, Mrs. Isadore Nathan, lived there in 1971. Today the building contains apartments and bears the street address of 73 Whitehall Road.

ENDNOTES

- ¹ The author interviewed Peter G. Ten Eyck II, descendant of the last owner of the house, on 9 March 2019. That interview provided many research leads and greatly facilitated the completion of this article. Mr. Ten Eyck and other family members graciously shared images of items in their collections that pertain to the house, several of which have been used as illustrations here. Bill Krattinger provided information on the Johnathan Whiteside house. Matthew J. Kirk shared research on the tenant occupants of the house previous to its acquisition by Leonard Gansevoort.
- ² M [Joel Munsell?]. “Old Houses in Albany and its Vicinity,” *The Daily Albany Argus*, 24 June 1876, 3.
- ³ “A Noted Mansion Burned,” *The Evening Gazette* (Port Jervis, NY), 16 May 1883 gives 1713; “Another Old Landmark Gone,” *The Republican* (Homer, NY), 24 May 1883 gives 1733; C. R. Roseberry, “Forgotten Manse of the Hudson: Whitehall Area Was British Army Headquarters,” *The Pictorial Review* [Times-Union], 29 April 1951, 1, gives 1747; Cuyler Reynolds, comp., *Hudson-Mohawk Genealogical and Family Memoirs*, vol. 1 (1911), 131, gives “about 1750”, etc.
- ⁴ “The Venerable Ten Eyck Mansion Destroyed by Fire,” *Albany Morning Express*, 16 May 1883.
- ⁵ “A Revolutionary Mansion Gone,” *Truth* (New York), 16 May 1883, 2; “Losses at Various Places,” *New York Herald-Tribune*, 17 May 1883, 2.
- ⁶ Stefan Bielinski, “John Bradstreet” at <https://exhibitions.nysm.nysed.gov/albany/bios/b/jobradstreet.html> accessed on 11 March 2019.
- ⁷ “Minutes & Observations, Relatif [sic] to the Estate of the Late Genl. John Bradstreet, 1783-1786,” MssCol 18815, folder 1, New York Public Library, New York, NY.



Fig.18. A second view of the late 19th century “White Hall” house, looking northeast (photo by Marcela DiVirgilio, September 2019).

⁸ See my “Getting the Job Done: Construction, Builders, and Materials in the Upper Hudson and Mohawk Valleys, 1755-1765,” in *Proceedings of the Western Frontier Symposium* (Waterford, NY: New York State Bureau of Historic Sites, 2005).

⁹ Patrick McRobert, *A Tour Through Part of the North Provinces of America* (Philadelphia: The Historical Society of Pennsylvania, 1935), 8. Reprinted from the Edinburgh edition of 1776.

¹⁰ Stefan Bielinski, “John Tunncliff,” <https://exhibitions.nysm.nysed.gov/albany/bios/t/jotunn1683.html>, accessed 25 March 2019; “Will of John Bradstreet” transcribed online at <https://exhibitions.nysm.nysed.gov/albany/wills/willjobradstreet.html>, accessed 27 March 2019.

¹¹ “8f6 per Ounce...,” *Albany Gazette*, 12 June 1788, 4, in an advertisement dated 8 May; “John Tunncliff...,” *Albany Gazette*, 7 February 1791, 4, in an advertisement dated 13 December 1790.

¹² A late-18th century dossier, compiled by Charles John Evans, refers to “the notorious fact of the illicit intercourse between the late Genl. John Bradstreet & the wife of Genl. Philip Schuyler.” See “Minutes & Observations, Relatif [sic] to the Estate of the Late Genl. John Bradstreet, 1783-1786” MssCol 18815, folder 1, New York Public Library, New York, NY.

¹³ “Postscript,” *New-York Journal and Patriotic Register*, 11 January 1787, 3.

¹⁴ “On Wednesday, The 30th of September...,” *Albany Gazette*, 28 September 1789, 1.

¹⁵ “To Be let...,” *Albany Gazette*, 15 October 1789, 1. The ad ran until at least 23 November.

¹⁶ “The Venerable Ten Eyck Mansion Destroyed by Fire,” *Albany Morning Express*, 16 May 1883.

¹⁷ Ten Eyck Family Papers MG2, Box 3, folder 5. McKinney Library, Albany Institute of History and Art, Albany, NY.

¹⁸ Leonard Gansevoort Papers MG1. McKinney Library, Albany Institute of History and Art, Albany, NY.

¹⁹ “A Mansion in Ruins,” newspaper clipping dated 1883, from an unidentified newspaper, in the vertical files of the Albany Institute of History and Art, Albany, NY. The family genealogy is readily available through on-line resources.

²⁰ Ten Eyck Family Papers MG2, Box 3, folder 6. McKinney Library, Albany Institute of History and Art, Albany, NY.

²¹ “Died,” *Public Advertiser* (New York), 31 August 1818, 3.

²² Several alternative dates have been given for the birth years of both Magdalena Gansevoort and her husband Jacob Ten Eyck. “Another Old Landmark Gone,” *The Republican* (Homer, NY), 24 May 1883; “The Venerable Ten Eyck Mansion Destroyed by Fire,” *Albany Morning Express*, 16 May 1883.

²³ *Daily Albany Argus*, 13 September 1865, 4. The sale of a “farm in Bethlehem, to Michael Schumacher, for \$3,015” may represent an additional partition of the property. “Transfers of Real Estate,” *Daily Albany Argus*, 21 December 1875, 4.

²⁴ MssCol 1109, Gansevoort-Lansing collection, 1650-1919, New York Public Library, NY, NY; MG 1 Gansevoort/Ten Eyck Family Papers, Box 3, Folder 130, AIHA, McKinney Library. Additional copies likely survive in the collections of descendants.

²⁵ The citation is erroneous. See Esther Singleton, *The Furniture of Our Forefathers* (1916), 534-35. See also pp. 248-49 and 269 for other furnishings from and references to Whitehall.

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- ²⁶ Stefan Bielinski, "Leonard Gansevoort," <http://exhibitions.nysm.nysed.gov/albany/bios/g/leogans4666.html#portrait> accessed 13 September 2019.
- ²⁷ "Early Days of 'Whitehall' Recalled: Mrs. Margaret Matilda Ten Eyck, Describes Childhood Passed in Gansevoort Mansion House," *The Knickerbocker Press Sunday Magazine* (Albany), 18 April 1926, 3.
- ²⁸ "A Mansion in Ruins," newspaper clipping dated 1883, from an unidentified newspaper, in the vertical files of the Albany Institute of History and Art, Albany, NY. Much of the text of this article, in slightly different form, was printed as "The Venerable Ten Eyck Mansion Destroyed by Fire" in the *Albany Morning Express* of 16 May 1883.
- ²⁹ Cuyler Reynolds, comp., *Hudson-Mohawk Genealogical and Family Memoirs*, vol. 1 (New York: Lewis Historical Publishing Company, 1911), 131.
- ³⁰ Alice P. Kenney, *The Gansevoorts of Albany: Dutch Patricians in the Upper Hudson Valley* (Syracuse: Syracuse University Press, 1969), 136-137.
- ³¹ This map was first published in a newspaper article on the house. See C. R. Roseberry, "Forgotten Manse of the Hudson: Whitehall Area Was British Army Headquarters," *The Pictorial Review* [Times-Union] (Albany) 29 April 1951, 1.
- ³² This mourning picture was first published in 1914. See Elizabeth L. Gebhard, "A Group of Needlework Pictures," *The House Beautiful* 35: 5 (April 1914), 139.
- ³³ Unidentified newspaper clipping, c. 1890, in the vertical files of the Albany Institute of History and Art, Albany, NY. The article is signed "N", and originally appeared in the *Buffalo News*.
- ³⁴ MssCol 1109, Gansevoort-Lansing collection, 1650-1919, New York Public Library, NY, NY; MG 1 Gansevoort/Ten Eyck Family Papers, Box 3, Folder 130, AIHA, McKinney Library.
- ³⁵ The barn at the Schuyler Flatts in the Town of Colonie was reported to have been "at least" 100 feet long by 60 feet wide. See Anne Grant, *Memoirs of An American Lady* (1846), 87-89.
- ³⁶ Hun Family Papers, BK 345, McKinney Library, Albany Institute of History and Art, Albany, NY.
- ³⁷ "Early Days of 'Whitehall' Recalled: Mrs. Margaret Matilda Ten Eyck, Describes Childhood Passed in Gansevoort Mansion House," *The Knickerbocker Press Sunday Magazine* (Albany), 18 April 1926, 3.
- ³⁸ Unidentified newspaper clipping, c. 1890, in the vertical files of the Albany Institute of History and Art, Albany, NY. The article is signed "N", and originally appeared in the *Buffalo News*.
- ³⁹ "Legal Notice," *Times-Union* (Albany), 5 October 1938, 19.
- ⁴⁰ Irene Kenney, "Whitehall—House that History Forgot," *The Knickerbocker News/Union-Star* (Albany), 12 July 1971, 1-B and 2-B.
- ⁴¹ "Ten Eyck Park As a Landing Spot," *Albany Evening Journal*, 9 August 1909, 2; "Baldwin Falls in River and Is Out of Race," *Albany Evening Journal*, 29 September 1909, 1.
- ⁴² "Takes a 'Dare' and Falls to His Death," *The Daily Saratogian*, 22 September 1909, 8. \Some sources give the tower height as 300 feet.
- ⁴³ "Recalling: With Edgar S. Van Olinda," *Times-Union* (Albany), 17 April 1938, D-5.
- ⁴⁴ "Weather Prevents Curtiss' Flight," *The Saratogian*, 26 May 1910, 3.
- ⁴⁵ "For Sale," *Albany Evening Journal*, 25 May 1912, 10.
- ⁴⁶ By act of the NYS Legislature on 6 April 1870. Linda Stanley and Ellen Manning. *Inside/Outside: Finding a Sense of Place* (Albany: Albany County Hall of Records, 4th edition, 1996), 51.
- ⁴⁷ Irene Kenney, "Whitehall—House that History Forgot," *The Knickerbocker News/Union-Star* (Albany), 12 July 1971, 1-B and 2-B.

Upcoming Events

November 16 Study Tour: More Marbletown Houses
 Leader: Neil Larson
 Stone Ridge, Ulster County, New York

December 14 Holiday Luncheon & Kingston sights
 Leader: Rob Sweeney



Peter Sinclair's drawing of Baird Tavern, 1766, Warwick, New York.