



# Hudson-Mohawk Vernacular Architecture

Oct – Dec 2025

## Newsletter

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### Kingston: Then and Now

Walter Richard Wheeler

In 2014 a series of photographs were separately listed on an online auction website. These appear to have all been taken by one photographer, who likely lived in Kingston, probably ca. 1895-1905. The unidentified photographer documented houses in Kingston, Hurley and elsewhere in Ulster County. She or he also executed copy photographs of some historic images, including paintings, that were available at that time, but which are now, in some cases, lost.

I was able to purchase a number of these photographs and downloaded copies of those which I was not able to secure. In August and September just past I took digital images attempting to recreate the Kingston photographs. Although many of these structures survive, several have been replaced. I took modern photos of some of these sites if sufficient context remained to convey the former location of the building. For a few, no nearby landmarks survive; these are presented without modern comparisons as images 14 thru 19. Photo locations have been keyed to a detail from the 1875 Beers *Atlas* map, at the end of this article.

The photographs are mounted on thick black paper, indicating that they have been cut out of a photo album. Many of them feature typed paper labels on the back sides of their mounts. Where the photographer's original caption survives, it has been used here as the caption for the photograph and is indicated in *italic* type.



*Photo 1a. 147 Green St. House south west corner of Green St. and Lucas Ave. Man in front is Chas. Cooper, 84 years of age.*



*Photo 1b. 147 Green Street today (2025).*



**Photo 2a.** 95 John Street. Frame house, built prior to 1820, standing on the north east corner of Green and John Sts.



**Photo 2b.** 95 John Street today (2025).



**Photo 3a.** Christopher Tappen House, south west corner Wall and North Front Sts. This was known as the Executive Mansion at the time Clinton was Governor. Geo. Clinton was married in this house.



**Photo 3b.** Site of the Christopher Tappen house, replaced by a late-19th century building (2025).



**Photo 4a.** View south on Wall Street, near its intersection with John Street, 1832. A postcard of this painting (reproduced here, as it provides a better copy than the photo) was published by Herman Gould Smith in 1903. It is possible that Smith was the photographer of all the views presented here. The original painting was formerly in the collection of David Wheatcroft Antiques of Westborough, MA, and has a broad black border on the bottom, which includes the title "Wall-Street, Kingston" and the signature "Stone, PT" which Wheatcroft tentatively attributed to Nirem Stone.



**Photo 4b.** View south on Wall Street at John Street, today (2025).



**Photo 5a.** Old Webster Hotel, south west corner of John and Wall Sts., where the Crosby Building now stands and where Wood's store is.



**Photo 5b.** The Crosby Building, 295-99 Wall Street (photo taken in 2023).



**Photo 6a.** 63 Main St. Suydam house, on the north west corner of Main and Wall Sts. Built prior to 1829.



**Photo 6b.** 63 Main Street today (2025).



**Photo 7a.** 63 Main St. Suydam house, on the north west corner of Main and Wall Sts. Built prior to 1829.



**Photo 7b.** 251 Wall Street today (2025).



Photo 8a. 7 Green Street. Mrs. Reels house, Kingston.



Photo 8b. 7 Green Street. The Cornelius van Buren house today (2025).



Photo 9a. 84 St. James Street.



Photo 9b. 84 St. James Street today (2025).



Photo 10a. 88 Maiden Lane. Conrads Elmendorf Tavern, south east corner Maiden Lane and Fair Sts. Committee of Safety met in this house.



Photo 10b. Conrads Elmendorf Tavern today (2025).



**Photo 11a.** 67 Maiden Lane. *Old Jackson House on Maiden Lane, where Rodney Osterhoudt's house now stands.*



**Photo 11b.** Site of 67 Maiden Lane. The sidewalk appears to be unchanged from the earlier view (2025).



**Photo 12a.** *Old Fair St. Reformed Parsonage, southwest corner Pearl and Fair Sts.*



**Photo 12b.** Southwest corner of Fair and Pearl streets today (2025). Parsonage at the corner has been removed.



**Photo 13a.** Senate house, Clinton Ave., south of Front Street.



**Photo 13b.** Senate house today (photo taken in 2023; the house is currently under scaffolding).



**Photo 14.** *Bogardus House, on the corner of Washington Ave. and North Front St., on the west side of Washington Ave. Razed.*



**Photo 15.** *Old house on the north side of North Front St., between Crown and Green Sts. Razed.*



**Photo 16.** *House on west side of Clinton Ave., just south of the Senate House. Razed.*



**Photo 17.** *Frame house, not Revolutionary, that stood on the north east corner of Clinton Ave. and Pearl Sts., where Arthur Carr's establishment is now. Razed.*



**Photo 18.** Old stone house that stood on the south east corner of Clinton Ave. and Maiden Lane and occupied by the Presbyterians as their parsonage when the old Presbyterian Church was on Clinton Ave. This house stood where Dr. Bett's house now stands. Razed.



**Photo 19.** [47?] St. James Street. Razed.



**Photo 20.** Detail from the Kingston page of *County Atlas of Ulster, New York* (New York: Walker & Jewett, 1875) by F. W. Beers. Approximate locations of the structures shown in the photographs are indicated on this map.

## Membership info

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

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

Membership dues remains at a low \$25 per year (\$15 for Students). So if you haven't sent in your dues or given a tax deductible donation to the HMVA mission, **please consider doing so now.**

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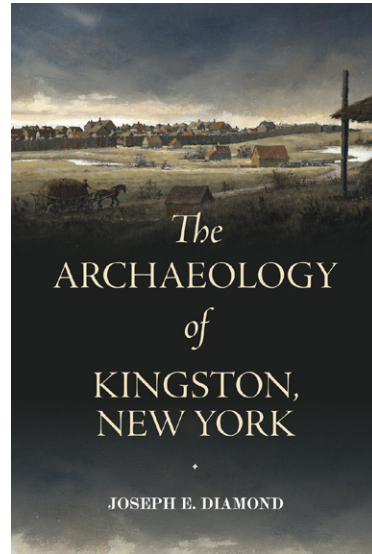
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## Review: *The Archaeology of Kingston, New York* by Joseph E. Diamond

Robert D. Sweeney



Joseph E. Diamond, Associate Professor of Anthropology at SUNY New Paltz and Vice President of the New York Archaeological Council, has recently published his comprehensive book, *The Archaeology of Kingston, New York*. This book presents an in-depth analysis of eighty-eight archaeological sites located within and surrounding the City of Kingston. *The Archaeology of Kingston, New York* spans the Paleo-Indian era to the present day, encompassing 12,000 years of Native American occupations. The book delves into the archaeology of the Dutch and British colonial periods, as well as numerous sites from the 19th century. It brings together new information on eighty-two

archaeological sites and six related sites situated just outside the corporate boundaries of Kingston. These include precontact and Native American sites such as Sailor's Cove and Cantine's Island, the early colonial establishment of Wiltwyck, key sites within the Stockade District, the Matthew Persen House, maritime archaeological sites, significant cemeteries, and noteworthy sites associated with African Americans in the region.

In addition to the archaeological analysis and comprehensive glossary of terms, the book provides insights into local lithic geology, glacial geology, and the flora and fauna that constituted essential dietary components for precontact Native Americans. *The Archaeology of Kingston, New York* serves as an extensive introduction to the region for individuals interested in New York history and its study and preservation.

HMVA members will find plenty of interest in this book which invites the reader to go "deeper" into many familiar sites. Much of the information though site specific offers a broader window into the larger culture in the geographically area. The book is easy to read and offers a gateway to the past for even the general reader. Each chapter is broken down to bite sized portions as each site is explored, although sometimes the earlier chapters go a bit deep into the weeds the author gives a refreshing summary at the end of each chapter. This review of archeological sites will be found invaluable over the years to students of archaeology, historians and hopefully local planning officials. Although Diamond offers some social context for the finds, still more can be explored and know. As a collection of sites and report findings, this book serves as a great stepping off point and a worthy reference book for HMVA members' bookcase.

The book is available from your bookseller, or directly from the publisher, the State University of New York Press for \$29.95.

**14 FEBRUARY 2026 - Annual Meeting, Elmendorph Inn, Red Hook**