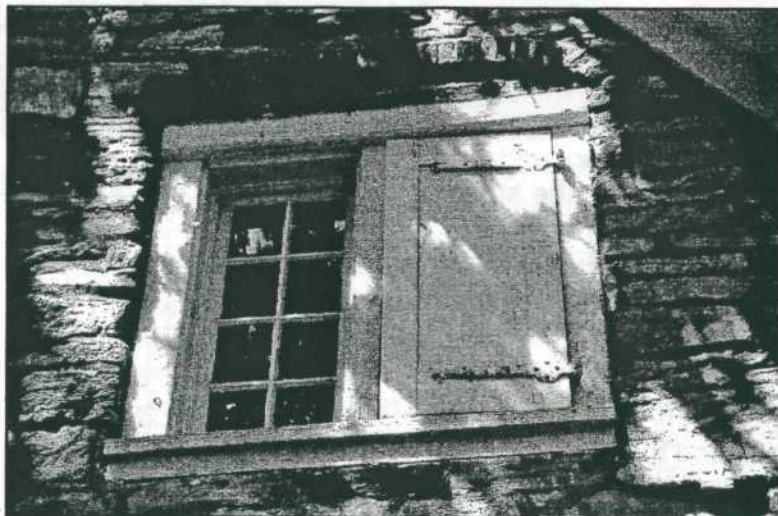


settlements of the Hudson Valley. In The Netherlands it went out of style by 1680 or before.

The interior of the window frames are covered and the evidence on the very weathered exterior surfaces shows many changes but does not give a good clear picture of its original form. The only way that these frames could be interpreted is if they were removed and restored and the house dendro-dated. This would benefit our knowledge of Hudson Valley historic windows, as well as compensate the present modest owner for her years of caring stewardship.

(*) see also January 2006, Volume 8, Number 1, Evidence of Cross Windows in Dutch-American Houses, by John R. Stevens



Loft Casement Window
Pieter Bronck House, 17th century
West Coxsackie, Greene County, NY
photograph by Jim Decker

(left) This window frame (*bolkozijn*) is divided with a center vertical muntin. Originally the left side had a fixed sheet of leaded glass and the shutter opening had no window.



(right) John Stevens takes measurements.

Friday, August 18 I drove with John and Marion Stevens north into Greene County to visit the Bronck House Museum in Coxsackie, home of the Greene County Historical Society. We met up with Jim Decker and Shelby Mattice, the museum manager, who gave us a tour of the two houses. The one-room stone house is thought to be one of the earliest in the Hudson Valley, dating to the 17th century. It was extended later with a second room and a center hall and the entrance was moved from the gable end to the side wall. It is yet to be dendro-dated and so its 1660 date is based on the records rather than the material evidence. The house built beside it is a classic Dutch two-room frame house of the upper-Hudson Valley, a wood frame with a thin brick veneer, a building that is close in style to its Old World roots. It has a 1734 date stone.

Both houses have undergone changes like the removal of bed-boxes and the conversion of the fireplaces from jambless to jambed. Changes were made to the windows in both houses but the windows in the lofts seem to have the remains of the original *bolkozijn* window frames like those being restored on the 1721 Jean Hasbrouck House in New Paltz. John, who has finished 5-sheets of working drawings for the restoration of the Hasbrouck windows, thought that by looking again and documenting these rare early window frames it would help clarify our understanding. It seems also to have raised some questions about the evidence Jim found in the window frames of the stone house and how to interpret it.

There are gains, notches, in which one could attach thin horizontal wood bars. Their spacing corresponds with the 5-inch height of the glass. One guess was that they were another way to save iron by supporting the sheet of leaded glass not on the outside with a metal bar but inside with a wood bar, something like the English did it.

(next page)

(From *The Journal*, continued)

The Bronck House and the few other buildings that retain early window evidence should be a focus of a study that would include dendro-dating as well as the restoration of the old frames, a process that would include removal of later parts and a careful scientific study of the evidence. These are important historic artifacts and should be treated as such.

The group drove north to Albany County to visit Brian Parker at his workshop in the 1724 Winne/Creble House, a Dutch building he is restoring in Bethlehem. Brian is making the New Paltz window frames and has a pile of parts already shaped and planed, ready to join. He has used all the white-oak in his stash but has more on order. He is starting with the two cross casement windows (*kruiskoziijn*) for the main floor and will be in a race with the masons who are reconstructing the stone wall from the bottom up. In these Dutch Stone houses the window and door frames are built into the wall and support the stone work. The frames that Brian is making measures 4'3"-wide by 5'8"-high. They have 5" by 8" jambs and will weigh 800-pounds each.

Saturday, August 19 Twenty members of HVVA attended a meeting at the Bevier House in Marletown and then drove to the Town of Wawarsing to visit and document two early stone houses there. The first house has been owned by Rosemarie McBride since 1969. We registered it:

Two-room stone house with stone extension
DePuy/DeWitt/McBride (NY/Uls/War/09)
Wawarsing, Ulster County, NY
N41'45.840 W074'20.537 422-foot elevation

Evidence in the beam size and distribution indicate the house originally had Dutch jambless fireplaces on the end walls, dating it before 1760. The 3-bay stone extension shows no hearth evidence. One raised panel interior door with local hardware survives. The large chimney of the left end fireplace is built of stone before it exits the roof where it is finished with brick. This seems to indicate that the original smoke hood was built of the same small stones. The nearby two-room Bevier/Newkerk stone house (War-4), that was destroyed recently, had such a unique surviving stone smoke hood and these might be attributed to a lack of good local clay or availability of bricks in this frontier community.

HABS NY,56-WAWAR,1-2

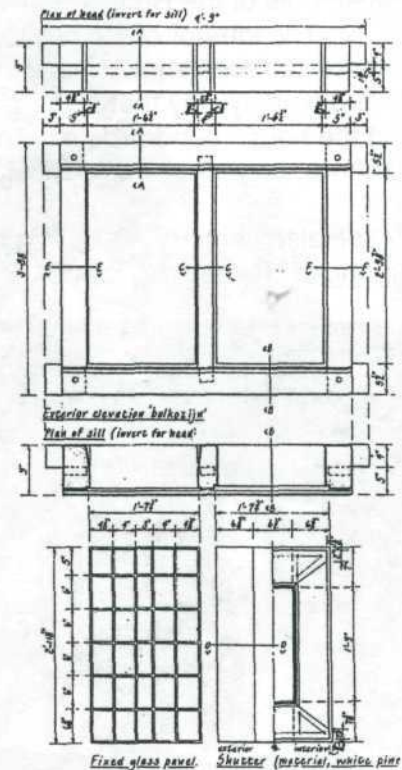


Larger reference image (JPEG - 103K bytes)
Highest resolution image (TIFF - 16725K bytes)



DePuy/DeWitt/McBride House (War/09)
Wawarsing, Ulster County, NY

(left) HABS photo 1930's. (right) photograph by Jim Decker, 2006



**Bolkoziijn for the
Jean Hasbrouck House
New Paltz, Ulster Co.**
part of the working drawings
by John Stevens