

old King's Highway, is said to have been operated as a tavern by Johannes Tack (pronounced and sometimes spelled "Tock") and then in 1790 by his wife Sally. In 1782 George Washington visited the Wynkoop house directly across the highway, and tradition has it that Washington's officers were entertained then at Tack's inn. In the 1910s, Miss Sarah Lounsbury, whose family had long owned the Wynkoop house, ran a tea room, called Sally Tock's Inn, for refined patrons (including Myron Teller and his wife Jane) in what had been the Colonial tavern.

About 1917, Emily Crane Chadbourne took ownership of the inn as her summer home. Chadbourne, a wealthy and cosmopolitan heir of the Crane plumbing fortune, was a notable philanthropist and collector of art and antiques. She shared her home with her companion, Ellen Newbold LaMotte, a member of the Huguenot Society of America, a Johns Hopkins-trained nurse on World War I battlefields, and later an author who attacked the opium trade. In June 1919 Teller acquired photos of the building before drafting plans for its alteration and enlargement in July. Teller added a substantial stone wing to the rear of the old building. A cross-section of the wing reveals a complex composition of spaces including a large third-floor bedroom and ground-floor kitchen, fireplaces on three levels, as well as "hewn rafters," and "old oak beams." The house expanded for a Crane was anything but primitive in its up-to-date heating, plumbing, and electric service.

11

Carleton House

*Restoration/alteration c. 1932
attributed to Teller.
Cottekill Rd., Stone Ridge.*

Myron Teller's hardware adorns this fine c. 1800 and 1860s house which Teller apparently altered about 1932



for Dr. Sanger S. Carleton, a Manhattan dentist, and his wife Harriet Hasbrouck Carleton. In 1941 *The New York Times* reported that Mrs. Sanger Carleton was assisting Frances Leggett with a country dance at Ridgely Manor in Stone Ridge to benefit the British-American Ambulance Corps. The Carletons' barn was fitted with a dance floor and minstrel gallery, while the attached shed housed a long bar, and behind the barn was a stone terrace and fireplace – all, it seems, to meet the partying needs of the Callabar Club, a group of Stone Ridge friends.

12

Bevier House

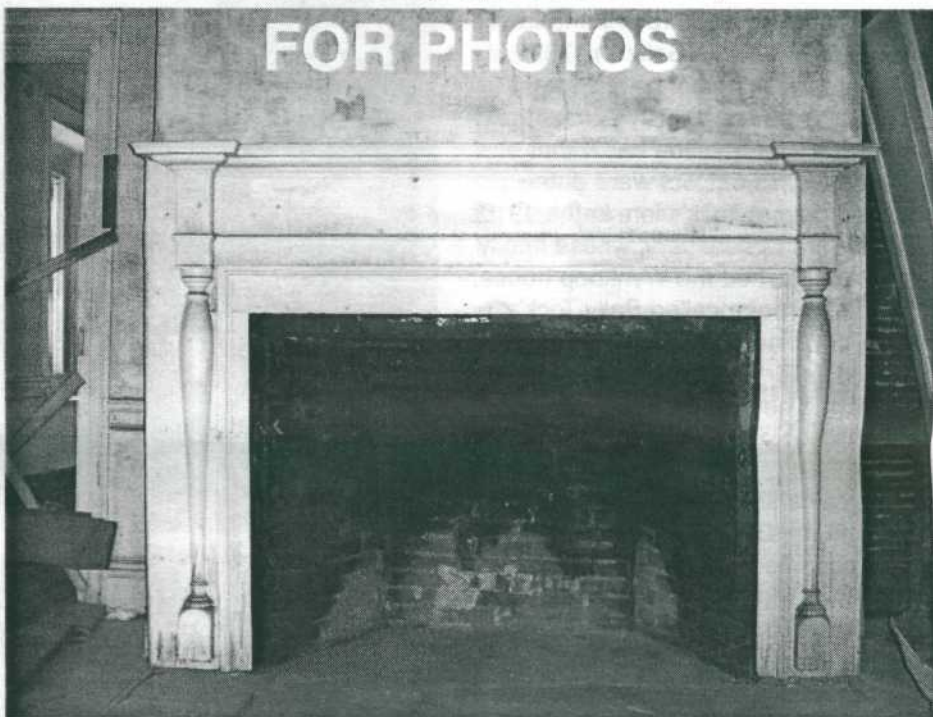
*(Ulster County Historical Society)
1953 survey and report, 1954
restoration of c. 1690 doorway
by Teller. Route 209, Marbletown.*

The complex history of this important house, given to the Ulster County Historical Society by members of the Bevier family in 1938, has yet to be clarified. However, in 1953 Myron Teller (a member of the society at least since 1930 and in 1934 a speaker on houses in Kingston, Hurley, and New Paltz) made a detailed survey of the house, including a six-page report, plans, and photos with notes focusing on five early doors and their hardware – his special interest.

At that time, Teller also made a drawing reconstructing the appearance of the story-and-a-half house in 1800. He believed that the west-facing kitchen door and window belonged to the earliest section of the house. In 1954 he was responsible for the restoration of the door's hardware using two pairs of old strap hinges removed from cellar doors, as well as new hand-forged pieces.

A photo of an old door in the Bevier house illustrates his booklet, *The Early Stone Houses of Ulster County*, published by the Historical Society in 1959.

REQUEST FOR PHOTOS



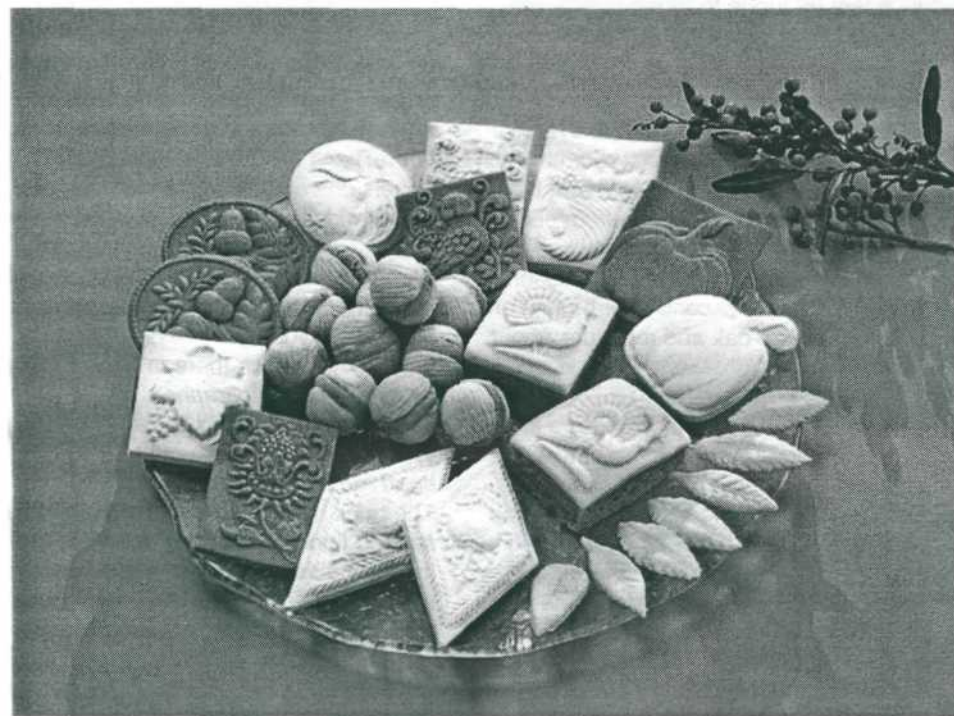
This circa 1810 mantle piece is from the Judge Hasbrouck House on Elwin Drive, Woodstock, New York.

We all know how important participation is in the life of our organization. Many challenges face us while we try to fit all our activities into our busy lives. So here is an easy way to help out: We are currently planning a photo essay for the February/March issue of the Newsletter. The subject of the essay will be "the Hearth." **What we need from our readers are photographs of 18th and 19th Century Hearths.** The photographs do not need to be of your own hearth, it could be from one of our study tours, or a visit to a historic site. The pictures should be a straight on shot of the mantle piece. *Please include the name of the house, its address and its approximate date of construction.* Some tips if you are photographing your own hearth: clear all collections away, the less objects in the photos the better. A stark shot show off the architecture to it's best advantage. If your fireplace is a working one, fire makes the best accessory and will also add some life and light to the composition. If you don't want to build a full fledged fire, lighting a few sheets of crumpled newspaper works great, just be ready to take the picture quickly. We'll need these photos submitted by January 15.

*Please email the photos to
Gallusguy@msn.com
or mail them to the*

HVVA P.O. Box 202, West Hurley, NY 12491

From the hearth: A brief history of Christmas cookies



A vernacular treat!

Since medieval times, Christmas cookies have been a cherished tradition in northern and central Europe, particularly Holland, Germany and Scandinavia. These three nations also contributed greatly to our vernacular values in New Netherland, so why not explore their food ways for the holiday season? After all, the word "cookie" comes from an Anglicization of the Dutch word *Koekje*, meaning small cakes. These cookies were often formed by using carved wooden molds to stamp out fruits, animals, human figures. German *Lebkuchen*, honey spice cookies that are the ancestor of the gingerbread, are typically made in the shape of hearts or of St. Nicholas. We find a small nod to this custom in early New York in the form of a small bill paid by Maria Van Rensselaer for St. Nicholas cookies to the village baker in Albany in 1675. These forms of cookies are still sold today in German villages at street fairs and in big city markets from the beginning of Advent until Christmas. Germany's anise-scented Springerle date back Julfest, a midwinter festival

at which animals were sacrificed. Springerle means "vaulting horse" recalling the living horse which would have been sacrificed to Wotan, the chief German god, during these festivals. Centuries later, instead of live animals, people offered their gods small cakes of grain in the shapes animals. The poor often could not afford to sacrifice their livestock, so these baked tokens became a welcome substitute. In Holland, the early molds for *speculaas*, a spice cookie, depicted holiday scenes or events. These popular cookies were also favored as a way of delivering announcements or messages, by stamping words into the cookie before they were slipped into the oven. Town bakers were frequently responsible for commissioning the beautiful molds that are now commonly seen in museums. The shop with the prettiest cookies was likely to capture the biggest holiday trade. Until the Middle Ages, adding spices to cookie dough was uncommon. Spices were rare and costly, affordable only by the wealthy, a situation that prompted bakers to

use ginger and pepper interchangeably. This fact explains why so many Christmas-time and year round cookies have a prefix, even though they lack that spice as an ingredient. Swedish *Pepparkakor* and German *Pfeffernusse* are examples. Some version of peppernuts, spicy morsels the size of a nut can be found in a handful of European countries. In Holland they are *Pepernoten*, in Denmark *Pebernodder* and in Germany *Pfeffernusse*. Creating them was often a community affair: the dough was mixed and left to mellow in crocks for months, then rolled out assembly line fashion, baked and stored in jars until Christmas, when they would be eaten. For centuries, spritz cookies, beloved in Sweden and Denmark, have been extruded from cookie presses into rounds, wreathes, and "S"s. Emigrants from these countries quickly popularized the buttery cookie when they settled in new homes in America. Today during the holiday season families in many cultures bake and pass along their treasured family Christmas cookies, looking upon them as cherished heirlooms from past generations. This practice of sharing festive sweets made from traditional recipes is a wonderful way to renew old friendships and launch new ones. Truly the famed bard, Shakespeare, best summed it all up, "Hath not custom made this life more sweet?"



Hartshorne House

by John Stevens

On July 10, this writer visited Middletown, Monmouth County, New Jersey to examine the Richard Hartshorne house. This was at the instigation of West Coast architect Daniel Liebermann who gave me an introduction to Mrs. Bettie Rogers, the owner of the house.

Some of Mr. Liebermann's ancestors had come from the Middletown area of Monmouth County, and he is producing a book about early family homes in that area. He was anxious for me to look at, and give him my opinion about the Hartshorne house as it is his belief that it dates from the early years of the 18th Century.

The house presently sits on a large corner lot in Middletown and is set back a considerable distance from the main road, King's Highway. It faces south. It is one story, 5-bay wide, 2-room deep. It is 38 feet 5 inches across the front and 33 feet deep. It is divided longitudinally

so that the front rooms are 17 feet 5 inches wide and the rear rooms, 13 feet 8 inches. There is a transverse partition separating the east rooms which are 21 feet 4 inches east-west and the west rooms 15 feet. The first floor ceiling height is about 8 feet 10 inches from the first floor to the underside of the second floor boards. The second floor beams are exposed, are of oak and measure about 6 by 10 inches.

All exterior cladding, trim, windows and doors are modern. Within the house, the second floor beams as mentioned are exposed, but nothing can be seen of the wall construction, except in the kitchen and within the cellar stairs where portions of the longitudinal and transverse partitions are exposed. These are nogged with brick between the studs. It might be assumed that there is an H-bent frame infilled with brick. The interior faces of the wall posts may originally have been exposed. Several first

floor door openings remain in essentially original condition, but the doors were replaced and are now on the second floor. These are 6-panel with fielded panels one side, with the small panels in the middle.

The front door opens into the south east room, which retains its original jambless fireplace including a heavily molded mantel over which there is panelling (*see section and photographs*). This fireplace is built into the corner between the longitudinal partition and the east wall. The hood measures about 10 feet in width. The brick hood is largely exposed in the second floor room above. It is plumb on its north side and sloped on the west and south sides. The north east room does not have a fireplace. The west rooms each have a corner fireplace, built into the corners between the longitudinal partition and the west wall. While a number of brick hoods for jambless fireplaces survive in the Hudson Valley (and until



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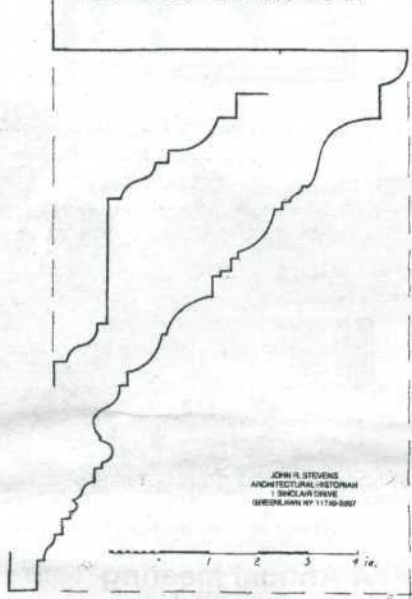
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Hartshorne house.



recently a stone one), there are only two examples of mantel moldings *in situ* (although detached moldings have been found at several sites): in the de Clark-de Wint house of 1700 at Tappan in Rockland County and the Jean/Daniel Hasbrouck house, c.1720, at New Paltz. The Hartshorne mantel is the most elaborate that has been seen and is in an excellent state of preservation. The accompanying photograph shows the jambed fireplace which was inserted under the hood at an apparently early date.

The basement of the house survives in very nearly original condition. There is a girder under the longitudinal partition that breaks the span of the first floor joists. This is supported by sturdy posts set on a sill. At the east end is the massive stone base for the hearth of the jambless fireplace. It measures 11 feet 4 inches in width and about 5 feet in depth. It contains a brick-lined barrel vault 7 feet 8 inches wide. The bases of each of the corner fireplaces also have barrel vaults. The roof has a pitch of about 34 degrees. The rafter spacing is variable, running about 3 feet; 3 feet 3 inches on centers. The roof framing has been much worked over with later sawn rafters inserted between the hewn ones, and straightening pieces added to the old rafters, many of which are considerably deflected. The roof had been shingled on lath.

A late 19th century painting of the house shows it with a kitchen wing that was probably flush with the north side of the

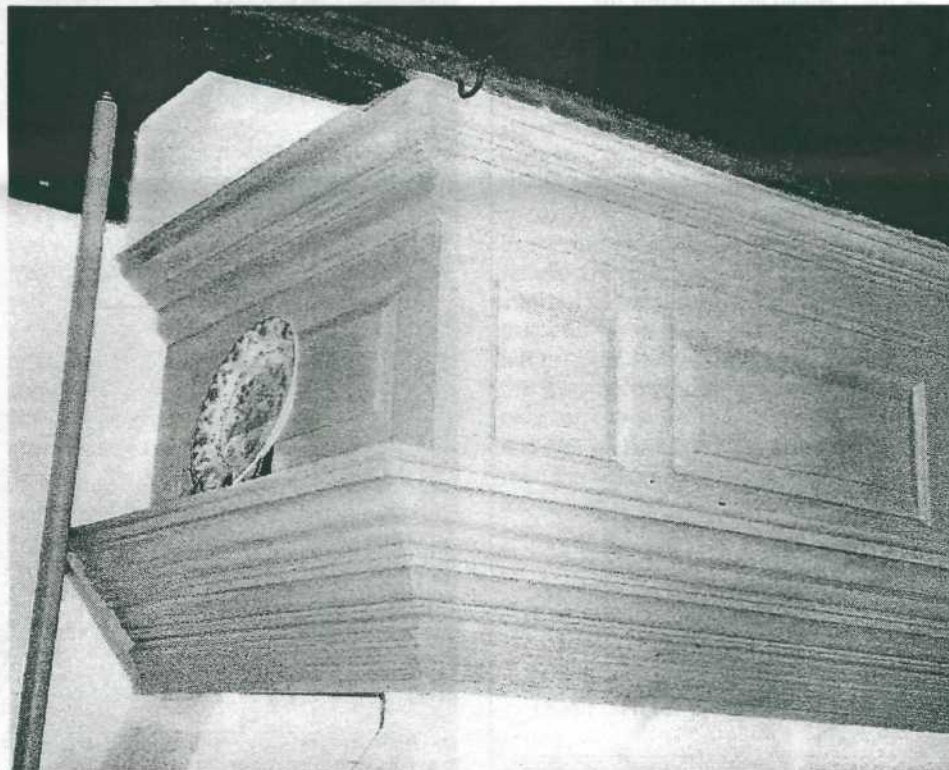
house, and the south wall of the wing probably was set back about 6 feet 6 inches from that of the house, giving the wing a depth of about 26 feet 6 inches. The writer estimates the east-west measurement of the wing to have been about 21 feet. The roof of the wing would appear to have had the same pitch as the main roof and had at the front (possibly also the rear) a bellcast overhang approximately 5 feet wide. There had been a more-or-less centered doorway with a window on each side of 8 over 8 configuration.

There were several early photographic views of the house available to the writer, taken after the removal of the wing. The best of these shows the house directly from the south. It had 12 over 12 windows, apparently with the original wide-muntin sash and probably 7 by 9-inch glass. The two west windows are shown with panelled shutters; 3 fielded panels each, with a square panel in the middle. A transom over the door is shown. The door itself is horizontally divided with 4 fielded panels on each section. The shingles have square butts and I estimate had an exposure of about 15 inches. There was probably a sloped watertable to cover the top of the slightly projecting foundation similar to that on the Minne Schenck house at Old Bethpage Village Restoration.

The supreme feature of the Hartshorne house is the jambless fireplace mantel molding. That this fireplace was built into the corner of a room varies from our understanding of jambless fireplaces, and may represent a usage particular to New Jersey. This writer suspects that the study of Dutch-American houses in New Jersey is not very advanced, and this is an area open to enterprising researchers. Dating this house accurately has to be done with dendrochronology, but the 1740-1750 period. Some of the early settlers came to Monmouth County from Long Island, suggesting affinities with Long Island houses like the Minne Schenck house from Manhasset and now at Old Bethpage Village Restoration.

Comparisons have to be limited because so few early houses, Dutch or English, survive in the western part of Long Island. The Hartshorne house has parallels with the Hendrick Hendrickson house located at Holmdel, in Monmouth County in its general proportions, room divisions, etc.

(See *Dutch Vernacular Architecture in North America, 1640-1830*, Plates 27, 28 for drawings of the Schenck and Hendrickson houses, and the *HVVA Newsletter*, January/February 2002 for a comparison of the Schenck house with the van Wickle house in Franklin Township, Somerset County, New Jersey).



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 \$.....

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Calendar



Benjamin Ten Broeck House, Kingston

Tour of "Brook in Waterland"

December 8, 2007 - 11:00 am

"Brook in Waterland" - a recreated 18th century Dutch house - is located in Clinton Corners, on Bentley Lane, just off County Route 19 (Bulls Head Road) about 300 ft. east of the Taconic Parkway. Lunch will be in Rhinebeck, at a place to be announced. Please join us for this special holiday tour. For more info call Rob Sweeney (845) 336-0232.



HVVA Annual Meeting

January 21, 2008 - 10:00 am

The Annual Meeting will be held at the Benjamin Ten Broeck House, 1019 Flatbush Road, Kingston. Election of officers, planning for 2008, and the dedication of our new office building are a few topics on the agenda. Luncheon to follow. HVVA faced a very challenging year and proved that it could not only survive but grow as well. All members are welcome and encouraged to attend. Bring a bottle to celebrate! RSVP Rob Sweeney (845) 336-0232.



HVVA Meeting

February 16, 2008 - 10:00 am

The monthly meeting will be held at the North Marbletown Firehouse, just south of the Bevier House on Rt. 209. This will be a "show & tell" meeting, so please bring objects or photos to share with the group. This is a good time to get some expert advise on a project or a problem. For further directions contact Jim Decker (845) 527-1710.