



**J. Skinkle House, timber frame with brick veneer**  
Route 9-H Kinderhook, Columbia County, NY

**Tuesday, April 11** Met with Johnathan Hallam, Todd Scheff, Steve Anderson and Ed Klingler to see the J. Skinkle house. Many of us remember the Skinkle Dutch barn that was standing till maybe 20-years ago, located across the road. It seemed to be an early barn and should have been saved. Ed recalls its sad history into oblivion. It is #10 in the Fitchen-Huber book, The New World Dutch Barn.

Two-room frame house with brick veneer  
J. Skinkle (NY/Col/Kin/01)  
Route 9-H Kinderhook, Columbia County, NY  
N42°18.414 – W073°42.259 – 194-foot elev.

This rare house and its outbuildings are in neglected condition with piles of discarded artifacts, perfect for the above-ground archaeologist. It needs an owner looking for an adventure into the invisible past, and one who can wait to move in. It needs some local restoration craftsmen with knowledge and respect for local houses and for the evidence they uncover. During the process, it should be open to the interested public and to their opinions. Like what is being planned for the Van Huesen house.

The Skinkle house shows various stages in its development. It may have begun as a classic Dutch urban-style one-room frame house, with an end entrance facing the road and a jambless fireplace on the back wall. This was rebuilt perhaps in 1760 as a two-room side-entrance house with no cellar under the addition but one finished loft room. At this time, end wall fireplaces were installed, a jambed fireplace in the original room and perhaps a jambless in the new room. The beams are incased and can not be examined. We suspect they were later hacked for a plaster ceiling.

There were many changes in the 19<sup>th</sup> century that obscured much of the original house but in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, during the Colonial Revival, there was an interest in restoring the house and some well done paneling and corner cupboards were installed. We plan to stay in touch with the fate of this house which is just coming on the market. There was talk of removing the 19<sup>th</sup> century frame addition but it could also be moved away and reused, perhaps as the place of modern amenities and comforts.

One of the great mysteries of the house is its date (17 1 JS) set in black brick on the front end of the house. The missing number appears to have been there from the start. Did they not know what year it was or did they just run out of black bricks?



**Second or Henry Brink  
Stone House 1743-1800  
Saugerties, Ulster County, NY**

When Helen Wilkinson Reynolds, author of Dutch Houses of the Hudson Valley before 1776, Holland Society, 1929, visited the Brink house, the date stone above the door read, "HB 1743". The date has since delaminated.

**Wednesday, April 19** I went with Jim Decker to visit the Henry Brink House in Saugerties and met up with Jean Goldberg. This stone house was first visited and documented in February 1997 with Don McTernan and Roger Sheff. It was registered:

Two-room stone house with stone addition  
Henry Brink House 1743-1800  
Brink/Finger/Boice (NY/Uls/Sau-18)  
Saugerties, Ulster County, NY

It was visited again in July 1997 with John Stevens, Shirley Dunn, Roger Scheff and Pam Herrick. John discovered part of a door frame re-used as a nailer in the masonry of a jambed fireplace. It had been part of a transom window above a door and showed evidence of the house originally having leaded glass windows.

Very little has changed on the inside of the abandoned house since we saw it 9-years ago. A metal roof has saved much of its wooden parts. Except for the end-wall, the 26-foot long stone addition has collapsed into the cellar hole. In the main house the loft flooring is missing as well as the doors, fireplace mantel and paneling. These were already gone 9-years ago. Some of these parts are known to have been moved and re-used in other houses. What is left are 90-percent of the roof and seven 24-foot long beams in good condition. The two hood-beams measure 11x17-inches, some of the largest in Ulster County. There have been many plans over the years for saving this Dutch stone house but none of them ever worked out and the owner now wants to remove the building because it presents a danger in its present condition.

The sea-born son of Lambert Huybertse, the Gelderlander who bought his Hurley farm in 1662, was named Cornelis Lambertsen (Brink). In 1685 he married Marijken Meynderse and in 1688 bought a farm where the Plattakill enters the Esopus Creek. Thus aside from "the sawyer", became the first permanent resident of the Town of Saugerties. There is a small stone house at the Cornelis Brink site. It has not been well studied. The Peter Brink house is known as the second Brink house in Saugerties.

In measuring the front-side wall and taking note of earlier openings, it seemed the two-room house originally had two front doors and possibly cross-casement windows to the sides. Bymoving this building it would be possible to reconstruct, in a museum setting or as a private home, these 1743 and 1800 interiors. A similar stone house was recently moved on Staten Island and reconstructed at Richmond Town Restoration. Their experience would be helpful,