



From the Editor...The two-day Barn Repair Workshop at the Palatine Farmstead in Rhinebeck (Rhi-was a success. We finished the wagon doors, the back sill-plate and set a Saturday and Sunday date of October 7 and 8 for the next workshop. We have since been given two large bundles of 25-foot long metal roofing by Williams Lumber of Rhinebeck. Thank you. They are putting roofs on their storage buildings and we plan to cover the barn with this good condition used roofing, that has a few bad spots, that we can eliminated easily. We are now looking for about 400-square board-feet of 4" to 6" wide skip-sheathing, new or used, these boards to be attached to the roof and the metal atop them. *(photographs next page)*

Our next HVVA 3rd Saturday, 10AM meeting will be hosted by Bob Hedges in Eastern Dutchess County at Pine Plains. He will be giving us a tour of the restoration work underway at the Brush House where we will meet in the heart of town. It is a late 18h century log cabin that was probably the first and maybe the only one in town. He has some other nearby sites in mind.

Preparations are underway for the Saturday, September 23, barn tour of Red Hook and Rhinebeck, sponsored by the Winnakee Land Trust and assisted by HVVA. We are putting together a three panel display of drawings and photographs and Bob is planning a tool display.

In the afternoon we will be documenting the Fraleigh/Shutz/Gonzales barn (RH-12) in Red Hook. It is an English three bay plan with a very Dutch roof system.

We will be taking the panel display to Millbrook Village, in New Jersey, October 7 and the Mabee Farm, in Schenectady County, October 21 for the Barn Coalition meeting.



**Palatine Farmstead, Rhinebeck (Rhi-20)
HVVA Barn Restoration Workshop**
left to right: Jonathan Nedbor, Peter Sinclair, Roberta Jeracka, Bob Hedges, Conrad Fingado and Devin Schatzel.

Peter Sinclair, Editor
West Hurley, Ulster County, NY

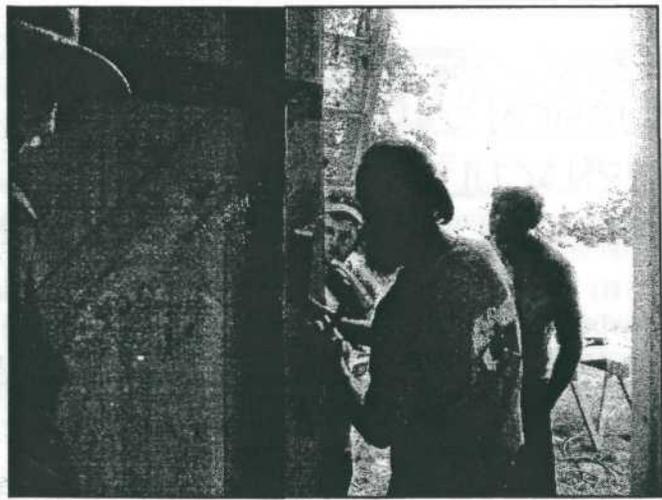
FROM THE JOURNAL ===== 

Friday, August 11 I met with Rob Sweeney and Jim Decker at the Lem Boice House (Uls/08) in the Town of Ulster, Ulster County. It was first reported on in the December 2005 HVVA Newsletter, Volume 7, Number 11. (*) Its present owner, Ann Forster, hosted our visit and documentation. Her grandfather, Lem Boice, acquired the farm from the Meyer family in 1905(?). The Meyer date-stone of 1808 may date a marriage in that family and the conversion of the first room from a Dutch jambless fireplace to a jambed. From details that remain the house appears to date from the early 18th century.

It began as a small one-room stone house. It was extended with a second stone room soon after and lastly extended with a room with a very Dutch frame and exposed anchorbeams. There had been a Dutch 3-aisle barn with an added wing behind the house. This was struck by lightning in the 1940's and burned. No early photographs of the barn or house survive. A smaller barn replaced it and a few cows were kept and pastured into the 1960's. In this area of northern Ulster County there are still a number of working Boice family farms.

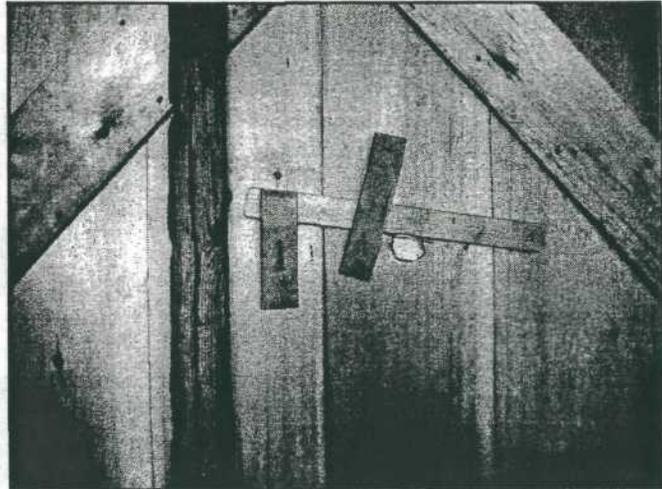
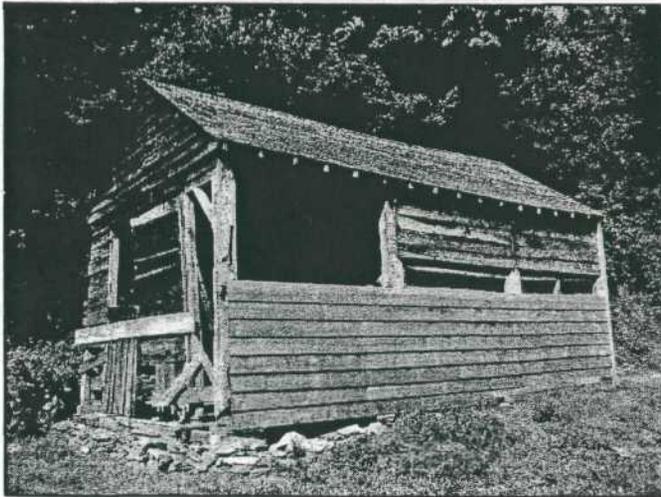
A small hay field remains behind the house but the surrounding landscape that was once open is now crowded with forest and the house is invisible during the summer. The trees hide its strategic position, backed up against the Catskill Mountains, high on a steep bluff overlooking

(continued next page)



1.

2.



3.

4.

**Palatine Farmstead, Rhinebeck (Rhi-20)
HVVA Barn Restoration Workshop and making the
Internal Latch for the Two-Part Harr-Hung Wagon Doors.**

photographs by Roberta Jeracka

1. & 2. Work on the latch.

3. The back of the barn. These three-part wagon doors will be rebuilt with surviving parts. They have key-hinges and open out.

4. The dark vertical pole is an early removable center-pole or "middle man" that survived. It is made of chestnut. Normally wooden hinged doors open into the barn like harr-hung, so that the center pole is on the outside. The evidence on this barn suggested that the center pole was on the inside and originally offset. It held only one door shut. The other was held to it with a latch that we designed after one on the Ken Snyder Dutch barn in Saugerties, Ulster County. One or two fingers are inserted through the hole to lift the latch. No key is necessary.

(From the Journal, continued)

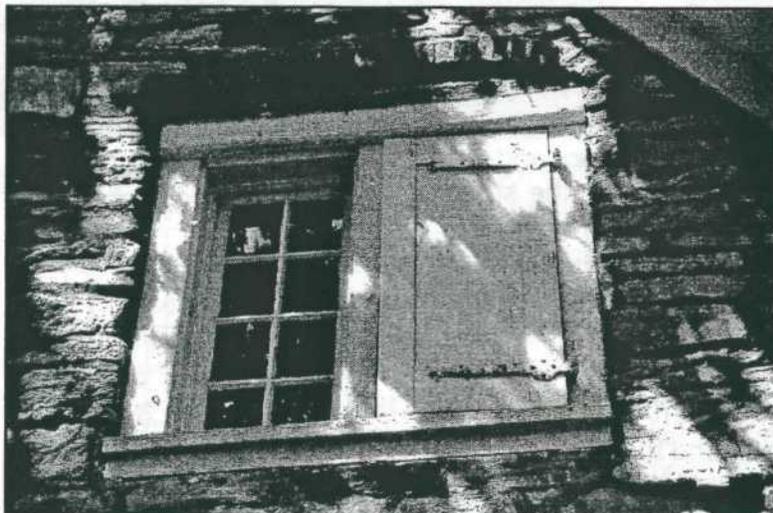
the rich flatlands of the Esopus Valley. Little is known yet of the history of the house but it would have been an early settlement in this area of the Esopus Valley and its placement seems almost for protection from attack. It was an area were threats of attack and instances of such were present throughout much of the 18th century. But, the position of the house and barns also makes it convenient for the use of the high pasture land below the mountain.

There is evidence in two of the re worked window frames of the stone section of the Lem Boise house that they were originally cross-casement (*Kruiskozijn*) windows with fixed leaded lights in the two upper openings. These sheets of leaded glass were inserted into a groove in the underside of the header. This window treatment seems to predate 1730 in isolated

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.

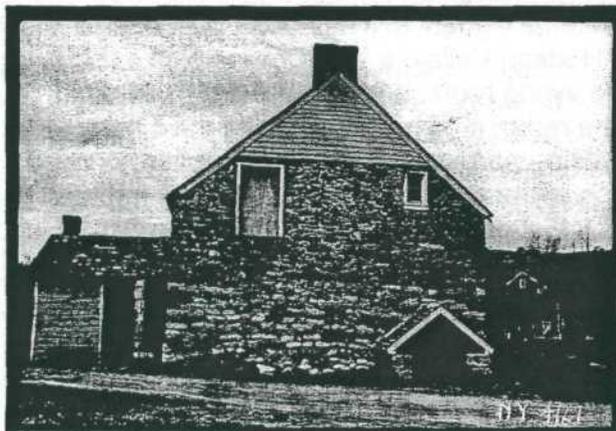
The group drove north to Albany County to visit Brian Parker at his workshop in the 1724 Winne/Creble House, a Dutch building he is restoring in Bethlehem. Brian is making the New Paltz window frames and has a pile of parts already shaped and planed, ready to join. He has used all the white-oak in his stash but has more on order. He is starting with the two cross casement windows (*kruiskoosijn*) 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

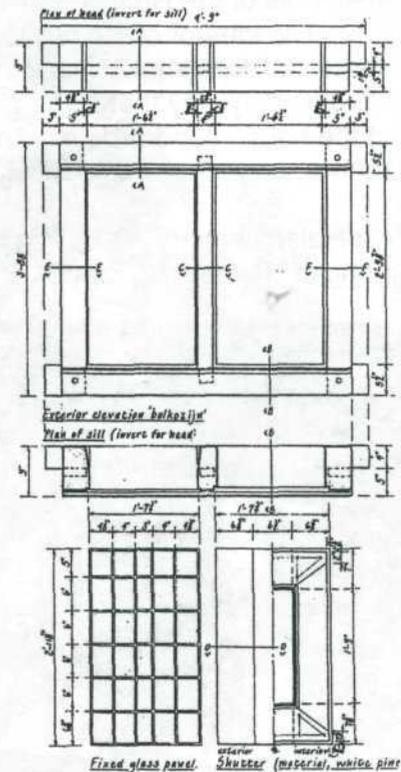


Larger reference image (JPEG - 103K bytes)
 Highest resolution image (TIFF - 16725K bytes)



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

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



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



Larger reference image (JPEG - 181K bytes)
Highest resolution image (TIFF - 17482K bytes)

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

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

Rosemarie, the present owner, inherited a few artifacts associated with the house from the previous owners who asked that she pass them on to the future owners. These objects include early deeds and a traditional six-board chest painted with the initials of Rachiel DeWitt. Rosemarie feels strongly that these are part of the historic value of the house. She also has a collection of early photographs that along with other information she recently organized into ring binders for HVVA's visit. She says that finally putting the scattered material all together has given her a great sense of relief.

Thursday, August 24 Tom Colluci called me that he was working on a house in Stone Ridge, known as the 1830 Cantine House, so I went to see it, met the owner David Warren, and registered it:

Two-and-a-half story center-hall stone-house with
back frame addition and stone summer kitchen
1830 Cantine/Warren House (Mar-31)
Stone Ridge, Town of Marbletown, Ulster County, NY

There is said to have been an earlier frame house on this site that burned and the stone summer-kitchen behind the house could well be earlier. It has a miniature jambless fireplace and its smoke hood is built of stone. It has an iron trammel bar but its hood beam is rotten at one end and has fallen at an angle. It has allowed some of the hood to fall.



**Stone Summer Kitchen behind the
1830 Cantine/Warren House (Mar-31)**
Stone Ridge, Town of Marbletown
Ulster County, NY

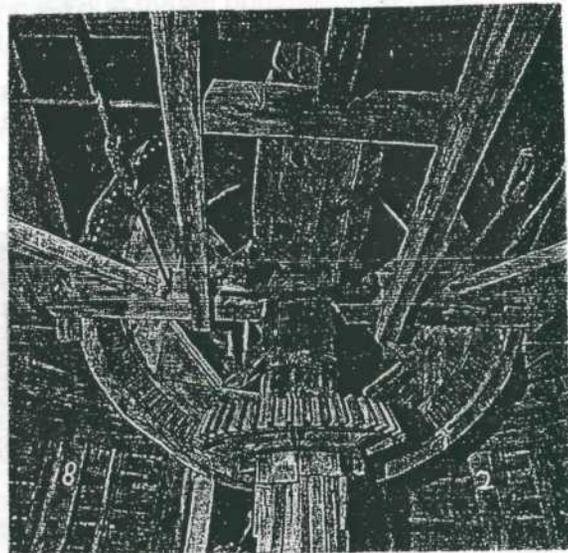
The white roughly-cut limestone wall that faces the road shows the Cantine family's identity with their neighbors' old limestone walls but a need for two full stories, a center hall and lots of rooms, but no closets. It shows pride in their success but done with an inherited simplicity and "conformity" as Hellen Reynolds put it. The stone house maintains many original features like doors, local hardware and window frames. Other later additions like paneled and beamed ceilings are 20th century additions and will be removed. The chimneys seem to be buried in the wall and emerge only in the loft. I had never seen this before. The original fireplaces may hide behind layers. More is to be discovered. We will try and stay in touch with the project.

REPORT: John and Marion Stevens went to the **SPOOM** (Society for the Preservation of Old Mills) tour on Eastern Long Island. This started on Friday evening, August 18, at the Marriot Hotel at Islandia, with the host, Jerry Leeds, giving a slide show on Long Island mills. Jerry with another person put together one of the 'Arcadia Press' publications on Long Island Wind and Water Mills a few years ago. On Saturday morning, a bus was at the hotel to take the group to East Hampton, where three windmills were inspected. Then it was back to Water Mill where we had box lunches in the water mill that was supposed to have been built in the 1640's. Not very likely! And then we visited the windmill on the Green in Water Mill. This was entirely disassembled and rebuilt with much new timber, by Jim Kricker in 1988. He did a fine piece of work on it. The four mills seen were all built in the period 1800 - 1806. One of them, the Hook Mill in East Hampton, had built into it the central post of the previous mill that had been built in 1736- a post mill. Three of the windmills had the millstones driven from above- the more usual way. One had them driven from below, like a water mill. Several had internal capstans for rotating the cap to keep the sails trimmed into the wind. The windmill at Water Mill has a tail pole with a wheel. Back at the hotel at night, one of the mill people gave a talk on 'ghosts in mills' which Marion found very interesting. The tour on Sunday was to Roslyn and Great Neck to see the Gothick mill on William Cullen Bryant's property, Cedarmere, the Roslyn Grist Mill, and lastly the Saddle Rock Mill. The last two of these are in *Dutch Vernacular Architecture*. We did not go on this tour as John has had more than enough experience with these buildings when he worked for Nassau County.



**Hook Windmill,
East Hampton, Long Island, NY**
Built 1806 to replace post-mill built in 1738. Central post of earlier mill re-used.

photograph by John Stevens



**Corwith Windmill, Water Mill,
Long Island, NY**

photograph by Chester Hartwell

The meeting was held at the Bevier House in Marbletown and was opened at 10:20 AM by our President Jim Decker.

Present were Peter Sinclair, Roberta Jeracka, Betty Mosny, Bob Hedges, Kathleen Hangl, Dennis Tierney, Donald Hangl, Conrad Fingado, Joe Lubozynski, Paula Cereghino, Karen Margulia, Fred Smith, Robert C. Eurich, Marion Stevens, John Stevens, Barry Benepe, Rob Sweney, Jim Decker, Rosemary McBride and Maggie MacDowell. If names are misspelled please let Maggie know the proper way.

OLD BUSINESS Peter Sinclair gave the Treas. Report. We have \$1,200 in the bank and \$1,258 committed to the workshop. This includes the \$1,000 grant from the DBPS. The Farmstead has \$300.00 remaining from our \$3,300 matching grant.

MINUTES Maggie read the minutes from the May meeting. There were no minutes for the June meeting.

A large HVVA poster was passed around for approval and will be used at events. New brochures were passed out to members present.

BOOK SALES Over \$20,000 to date. There are only 200 hard cover books left. We are still in the red and need to promote the book. The Dutch took 5. Hurley Stone House Day was a success gaining a few more members.

JOHN at NEW PALTZ. Sometime in November, John will give a talk at the University campus. He has been doing lectures gratis and would like some compensation from here on in. It is too expensive to travel and it is time consuming.

JEAN HASBROUCK HOUSE. Linda Pate located parts of early windows. Will be replicated. John did plans for the windows, each weighing about 800 pounds. The gable end of the JH house has been removed in preparation for rebuilding.

NEW BUSINESS Jim would like to plan to purchase a new computer and a new digital projector. This would be up to \$2000.00 total and there were no objections. We need to digitize images and John wishes to include maps on the discs. Conrad suggested we take money from our book fund for these items.

Jim says we need an accountant, help with the newsletter and editing and also someone to help who has computer skills. Karen Margulia, back from the hospital, offered to help Peter with the newsletter.

DENNIS' BOOK. Dennis brought to us the original hand-written copy of Bill McMillan's captions for the 70-photographs in the Staten Island vernacular houses book that we will publish next.

NEXT MONTH Bob Hedges will host his Graham-Brush House restoration in Pine Plains. This is where we will meet on the third Saturday of September. The meeting was adjourned at 11:15 and members visited Rosemary McBride's home which is the Depuy/Dewitt house on 209 in Warwarsing. The group will also investigate the Bevier House, also on 209 in Warwarsing.

Respectfully submitted,
Maggie MacDowell, Secretary

President's Message

To all of our valued members of HVVA. In the past few years, our organization has grown considerably. Currently with over 250 members, we only see a few members at our meetings and documenting tours. I would like to encourage all of our members to please come out to our meetings and get involved. As in most organizations, we only have a few members carrying us in our preservation efforts. Everyone can help us in some way and keep our organization growing. We all have something to bring to this group even if it is just holding the end of the tape measure. We could use help with computer skills, proof reading the newsletter, record keeping, book sales, even writing articles for our newsletter etc. We need to keep HVVA alive and our monthly meetings are a good place to start. We are finding new exiting things on our tours, so come out and help us interpret and document our findings. The more eyes we have, the more we end up seeing. At this time I would like to thank the heart of HVVA, Peter Sinclair for his efforts putting our wonderful newsletter together and keeping our organization alive. WHERE WOULD WE BE WITH OUT PETER? So I'm asking all of our members to please come out and get involved and help Peter and HVVA in our continued goals of preserving the rich vernacular history of the Hudson Valley. It's a great way of seeing some wonderful buildings and discover some new old things!

Also I would like to Thank our senior Architectural Historian John Stevens for all of his documenting efforts and allowing HVVA to publish his extensive study on Dutch American buildings.

James Decker
President HVVA

HUDSON VALLEY

VERNACULAR ARCHITECTURE

Is a not-for-profit corporation formed to study and preserve vernacular architecture and material culture. The following people are the trustees and officers of the society.
.....

Jim Decker, President

Wallkill, Ulster County, NY

(845) 895-3272 <jdeck@frontiernet.net>

Robert Sweeney, Vice President

Town of Ulster, Ulster County, NY

(845) 336-0232 <gallusguy@msn.com>

Peter Sinclair, Treasurer, Editor & Past Pres.

West Hurley, Ulster County, NY

(845) 338-0257 <hvvernar@netstep.net>

Paul Spencer, Past President and trustee.

Ancramdale, Columbia County, NY

(518) 329-2616 <spencer212@aol.com>

John Stevens, Senior Architectural Historian

Huntington, Long Island, NY

(631) 239-5044 <dutchjam@optonline.net>

Maggie MacDowell, Secretary

Gardiner, Ulster Co., NY;

(845) 255-2282 <mamacdowell@hvc.rr.com>

Joyce Berry, HVVA.ORG Webmaster

St. Johnsville, Montgomery Co., NY

<ajberry29@hotmail.com>

Todd Scheff trustee

Germantown, Columbia County, NY

(518) 537-6993, <ctscheff@valstar.net>

Bob Hedges trustee

Pine Plains, Dutchess County, NY

(518) 398-7773 <rmhedges@taconic.net>

Conrad Fingado trustee

Pleasant Valley, Dutchess County, NY

(845) 635-2714 <cfrestoration@hvc.rr.com>

Mike Barberi trustee

Germantown, Columbia County, NY

(518) 537-6435 <universal12526@yahoo.com>

Dennis Tierney trustee

Wappingers Falls, Dutchess County, NY

(914) 489-5262

Alvin Sheffer, Past President and Historian

Germantown, Columbia County, NY

(518) 828-5482 <awsheffer@aol.com>

Hudson Valley
Vernacular Architecture
Newsletter

is available with a

\$20 membership.

\$15 for students and the poor

Mail to: **HVVA**

P.O. Box 202,

West Hurley,

NY 12491

(845) 338-0257

<hvvernar@netstep.net>

<http://www.hvva.org>

COMING EVENTS 2006=====

Saturday, September 16, 10AM Third Saturday **Meeting of HVVA** will be hosted by Bob Hedges in Eastern Dutchess County at Pine Plains. He will be giving us a tour of the restoration work underway at the Brush House in the heart of town, where we will meet. It is a late 18th century log cabin. Other treats are planned.

For information call: **Robert Hedges (518) 398-7773**

Saturday, September 23, 10AM at the Sepaskot Farm, 781 Route 308, corner of Cedar Heights Road, Rhinebeck, Dutchess County, NY. **Winakee Land Trust Barn Tour** This will include barns in Red Hook and Rhinebeck.

For information call: **Winakee Land Trust (845) 876-4213**

Saturday-Sunday, October 7-8, 10AM at Millbrook Village **Millbrook Days** tour the 19th century restored village of Millbrook and see historic craft demonstrations. Between Matamoras, Pennsylvania and Belvidere, New Jersey. *If you want a nice map go to their web-site <www.millbrooknj.com>, or give Mrs. Robert Demarest a call at (570) 629-0456.*

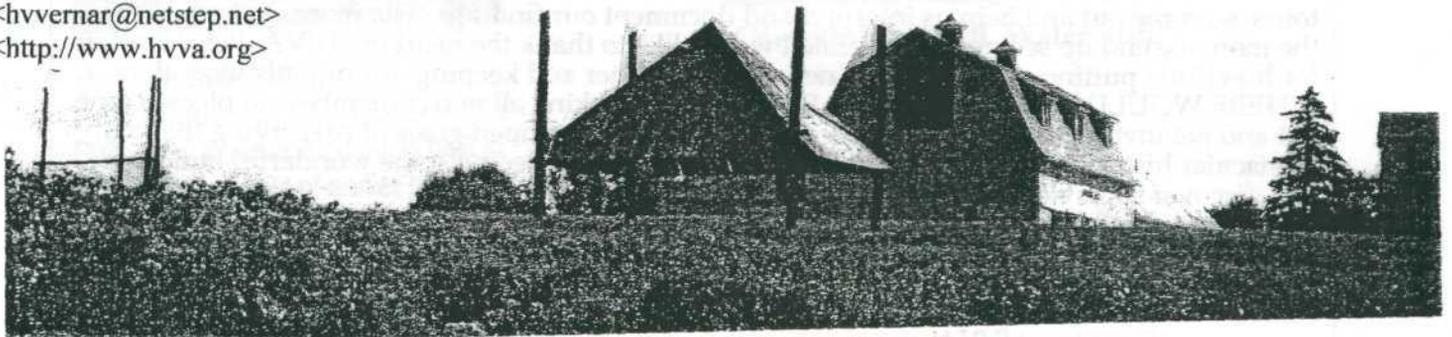
Saturday, October 14 at the Bevier House Museum, Route 209, Marletown, Ulster County. for an observance of **The Burning of Kingston** - After the burning of Kingston by the British in 1777 the population fled and many camped at the Bevier farm. The Ulster County Historical Society, with re-enactors including members of Revolutionary-era militias and British military units as well as civilians who escaped The Burning.

Contact: **Phil Ryan, (845) 339-7858**

Saturday, October 21 at the Mabee Farm Museum, Rotterdam Junction, Schenectady County **NYS Barn Coalition Annual Meeting** HVVA will be setting a table and providing speakers. There will be a reception Friday night and a barn tour Sunday.

For information call, **Keith Cramer (518) 438-8352**

Sometime in November someplace in a wet swamp. Some people, with permission of the owner, will **cut reed** for their roof. *Please call Rob Sweeney (845) 336-0232*



Hay Barrack in use, Prince Edward Island, Canada, photograph 2006, by Tom LeClaire