

**Based on Helen Wilkinson Reynolds' book
"Dutch Houses in the Hudson Valley Before 1776"**

Part 1 of Print Copy

John Gavin

November 2010, Updated 2025

Outline

- **Introduction: Local History and Helen Wilkinson Reynolds**
- **Initial Goal (Find them ALL) → Revised Goal (Find the Best)**
- **My Top 15+ Houses in Dutchess County**
- **Review: what to see and visit first!**
 - ✓ **Houses with Tours**
 - ✓ **Houses you could see today**
 - ✓ **Plus Ulster County Gems (New Paltz and Hurley)**
- **Misc other topics, if there is time**

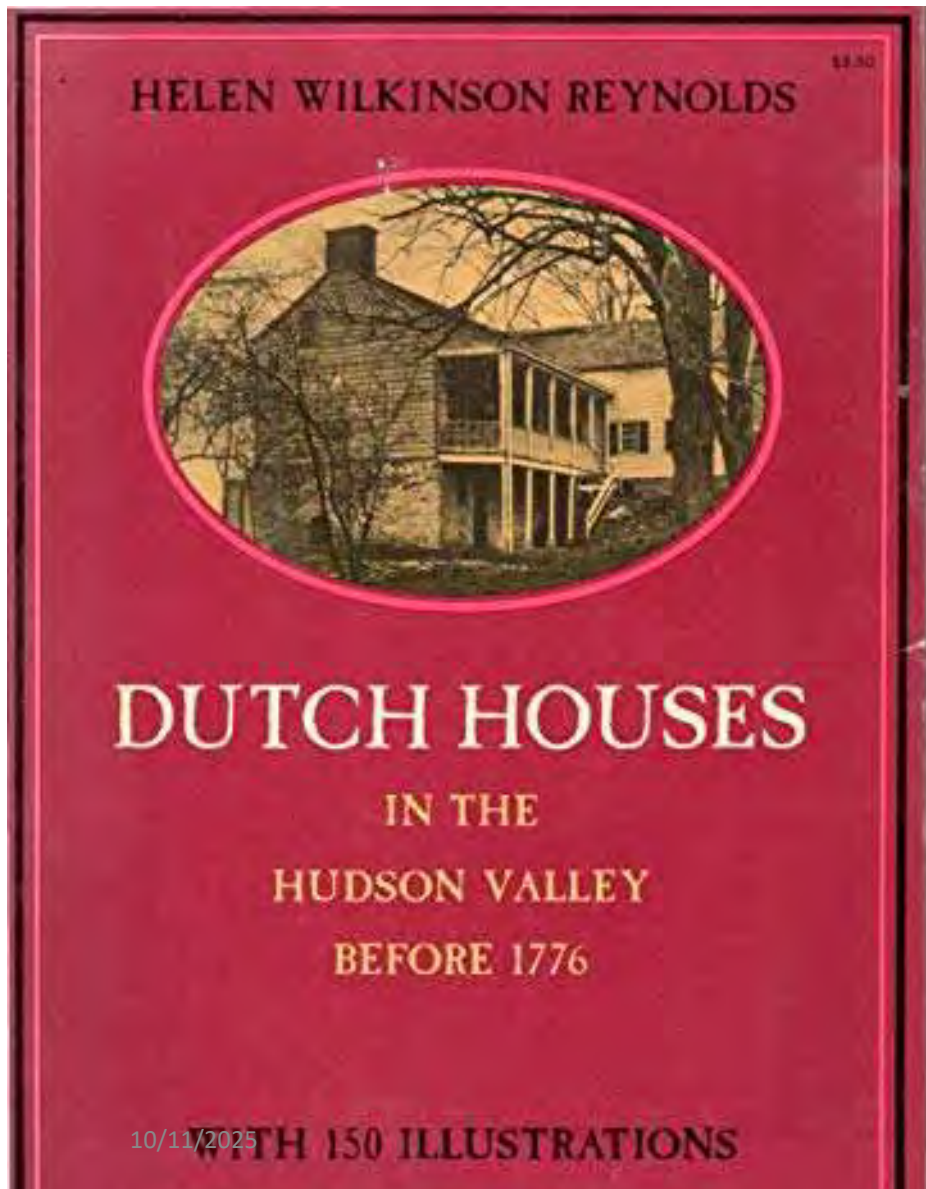
There are many ways to approach this subject

- **Architecture:** how were the houses built and expanded
- **Personal History:** who lived in the houses and their daily life
- **National History:** “George Washington slept here”
- **Local History:** document the historic homes in our area

Finding historic homes, hiding in plain sight, makes me smile.

How I got interested in Local History

- Was a member of the Bronx County Historical Society for years.
 - ✓ Been in Dutchess County for 47 years.
- Lived on **Beach Avenue** which ended at Long Island Sound. I looked for the beach, but found that **Doctor Wooster Beach** owned a big piece of property in the East Bronx.
- I would take the bus to **Westchester Square**. I later learned that “the Square” was the county seat of Westchester County until 1757.
- I also learned that where I grew up (the East Bronx) was part of **Westchester County** until 1895?



Then I bought a book at the Three Arts Bookstore.

This book which was written in **1925** and published in 1929.

It is now **100** years later.

How many of the houses in her book have survived the **additional 100 years?**

Helen Wilkinson Reynolds



- **Born at 341 Mill Street in Poughkeepsie which was torn down.**
 - ✓ **1875 – 1943**
- **She was a friend of FDR who wrote the Introduction.**
- **Her book was sponsored by the Holland Society**
- **She depended on friends for photography and automobile rides.**

Ms. Reynolds' book includes more than Dutchess County

- Albany County: 46 homes
- Ulster County: 48 homes
- Westchester County: 5 homes
- **Dutchess County: 40 homes**

Dutchess County Homes

- She documents **40** homes in detail with photos
 - ✓ Pages 317 to 444
 - ✓ Pictures (Plates) Numbered 111 to 150
 - ✓ **7** of the houses no longer existed in 1929.
 - ❖ Pictures: 125, 128, 132, 142, 143, 144, 145
- Note: **only homes are included.**
 - ✓ No churches, public buildings, bridges, factories, barns, outhouses or **fancy mansions.**

My Goal

- **My original goal:** find how many of her **33** highlighted houses have survived for the additional 100 years (1925 - 2025).
 - ✓ **This is a collector's goal (find a complete set of stamps or books)**
- **But not all the 1925-survivors are very interesting**
 - ✓ some no longer exist
 - ✓ a few have been changed so much that they are just “old homes’
 - ✓ a few are located in dangerous heavy traffic areas
- **My updated goal:** highlight my “Top 15 Historic Homes” and note where tours are available. Tours allow you to see the inside and have an expert explain what you are seeing.

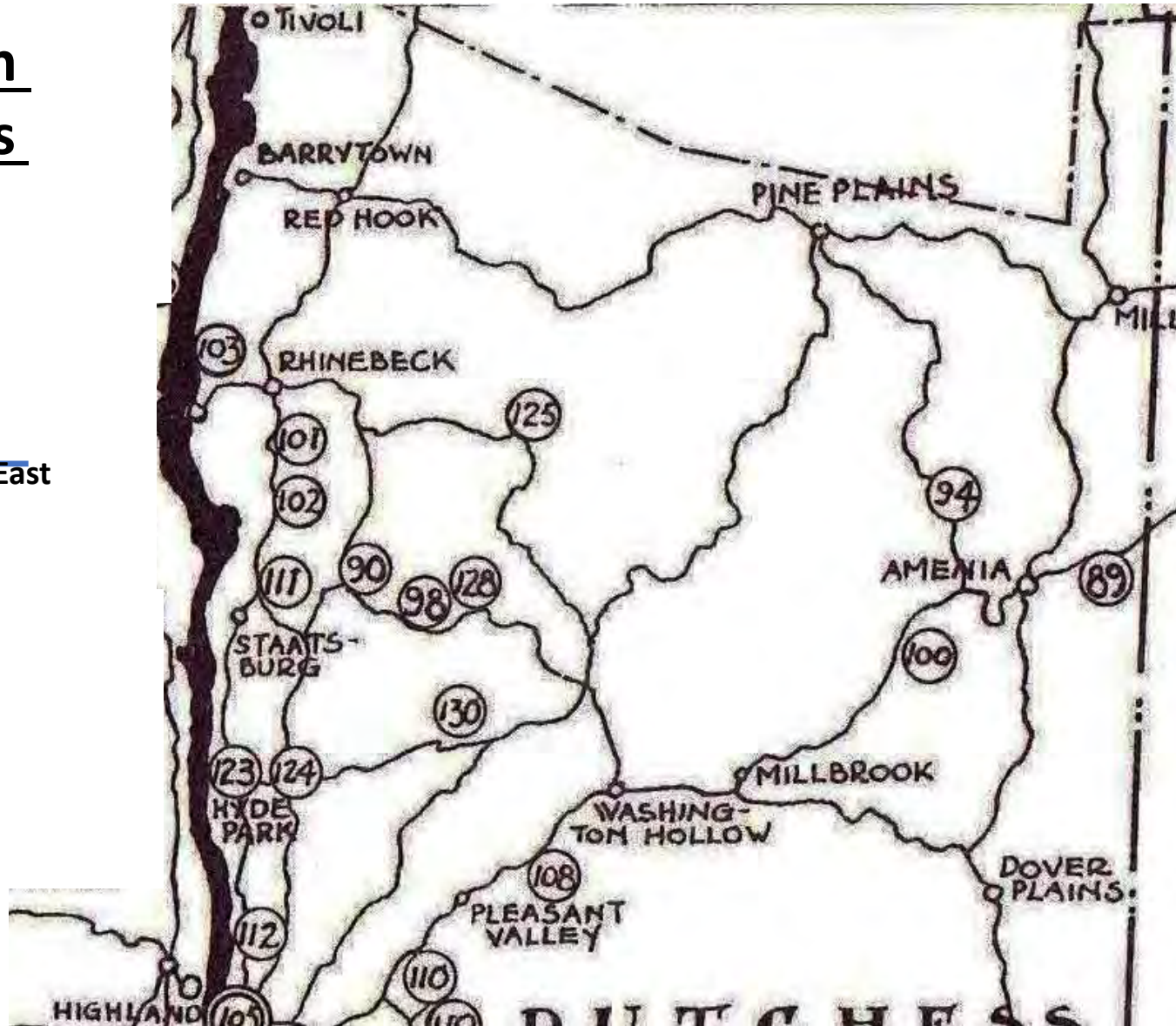
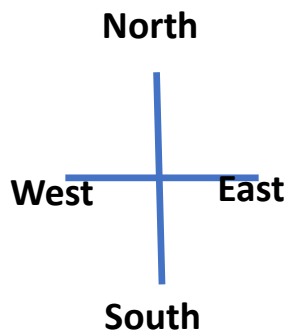
Most of the historic homes started small and were expanded and updated many times

- Large additions were often added to the original simple structure**
- Attics were expanded and dormers added**
- Front Porches**
- Back Porches**
- But a few are rather basic**

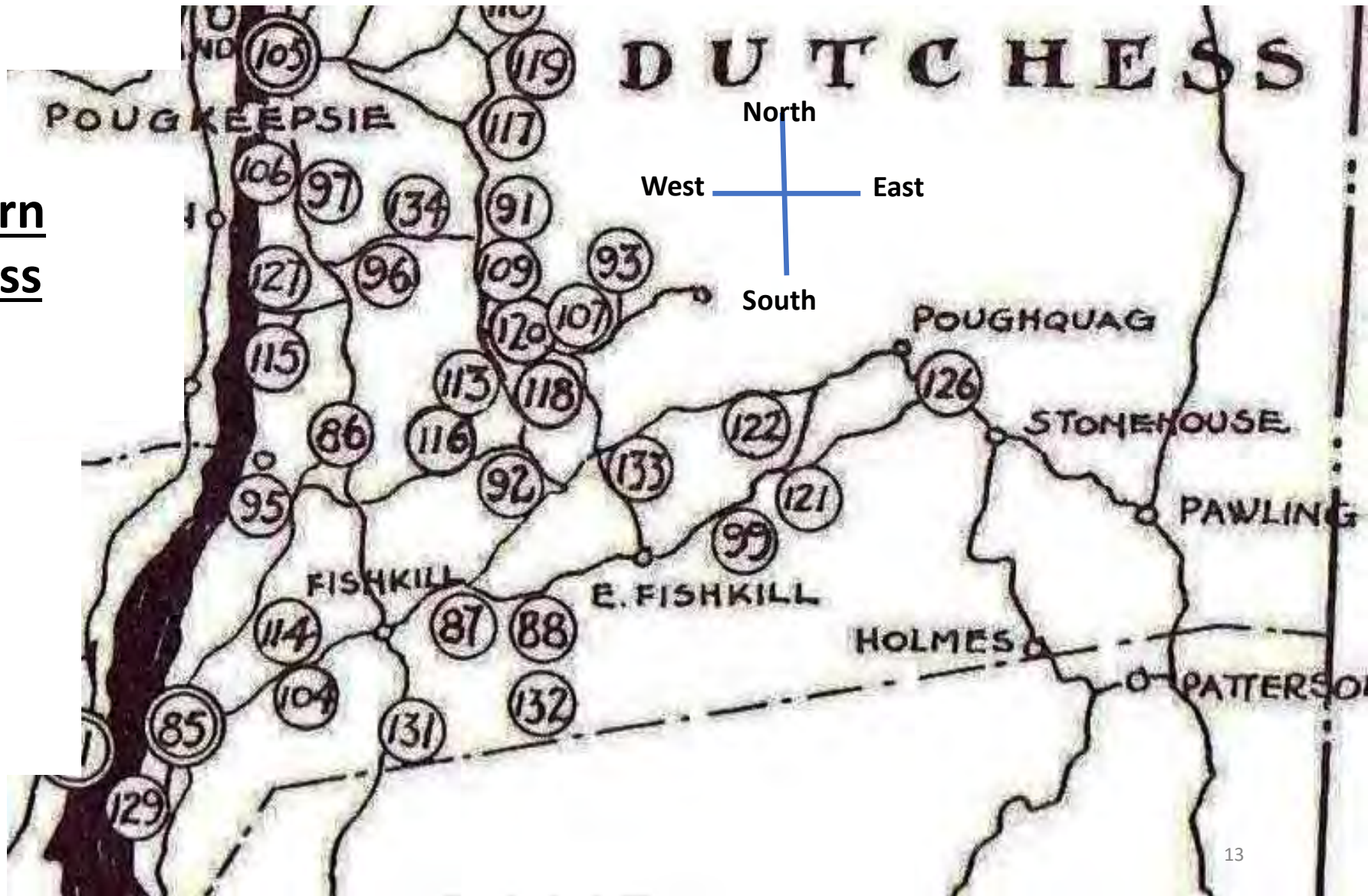
Early Homes were Hudson River Centric

- **Earliest settlers stayed close to the Hudson River in Western Dutchess County**
- **Central and Eastern Dutchess County are more closely related to Connecticut.**
- **Highlights: settlements were often at mouth of creeks which could be used for water power**
 - ✓ **Fall Kill Creek: City Poughkeepsie**
 - ✓ **Wappingers Creek: New Hamburg**
 - ✓ **Fishkill Creek: Fishkill / Beacon**

Northern Dutchess County



Southern
Dutchess
County



Dutchess County: early days

- In 1790 there were approximately **1,856 slaves** in Dutchess County
 - **4.1% of the total population of 45,276**
- There was a small group of “wealthy” families who built many of the houses that survive. These families intermarried very frequently.
- In 1700 most people lived near the Hudson River
 - Transportation of farm goods to NYC, coal from PA, bricks
 - Landings in Fishkill, Farmers Landing, Poughkeepsie, Rhinecliff
 - Canals: Erie Canal (1825), Delaware and Hudson Canal (1928).
Museum and canal locks at High Falls in Ulster County
- **Progress killed the local river traffic**
 - Hudson River Railroad (East Shore 1851, West Shore 1883)
 - Poughkeepsie RR Bridge (1889), Mid-Hudson Bridge (1930), Kingston-Rhinecliff Bridge (1957) and Newburgh-Beacon Spans (1963, 1997),

Many of the houses are difficult to find

- **US, State and County Road numbers were not used (1925)**
- **Many roads did not exist in 1925**
 - **Taconic Parkway and Interstate 84**
 - **North/South & East/West Highways in POK**
 - **Mid Hudson (1930), Kingston-Rhinecliff (1957) and Newburgh-Beacon (1963) Bridges and approaches.**
- **River Traffic and Railroads**
 - **River Landings have been abandoned**
 - **Many rail lines were abandoned or have been reused as roads or rail trails**

Many of the houses are difficult to find

Development Examples

- IBM Poughkeepsie / Fishkill and the Tilcon Quarry
 - Rudco, Barnegat, Camelot and Van Keurens gone
- Some other hamlets no longer exist or less important
 - ✓ **Swartwoutville**: Rte 82 and All Angels Hill Rd
 - ✓ **Brinkerhoff**: the NE corner of the town of Fishkill
 - ✓ **Wiccopee**: along East Fishkill's western border
 - ✓ **Lomala**: located on the south side of Route 82 between Hopewell Junction and Fishkill, was a Finnish community in 1926
 - ✓ **Brockway**: brick yards on Hudson south of Celsea
 - ✓ **Many others**

Other Important Resources

- there are many more historic places -

Search: “National Register of Historic Places: Dutchess County”

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/National_Register_of_Historic_Places_listings_in_Dutchess_County,_New_York

Search: “National Register of Historic Places: Ulster County”

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/National_Register_of_Historic_Places_listings_in_Ulster_County,_New_York

My Top 15+ Houses

numbers before the house names refer to the photos in Ms. Reynolds' book

126: Abraham Kip: Rhinebeck by Hudson: Long Dock Road, [Top 15-1](#)

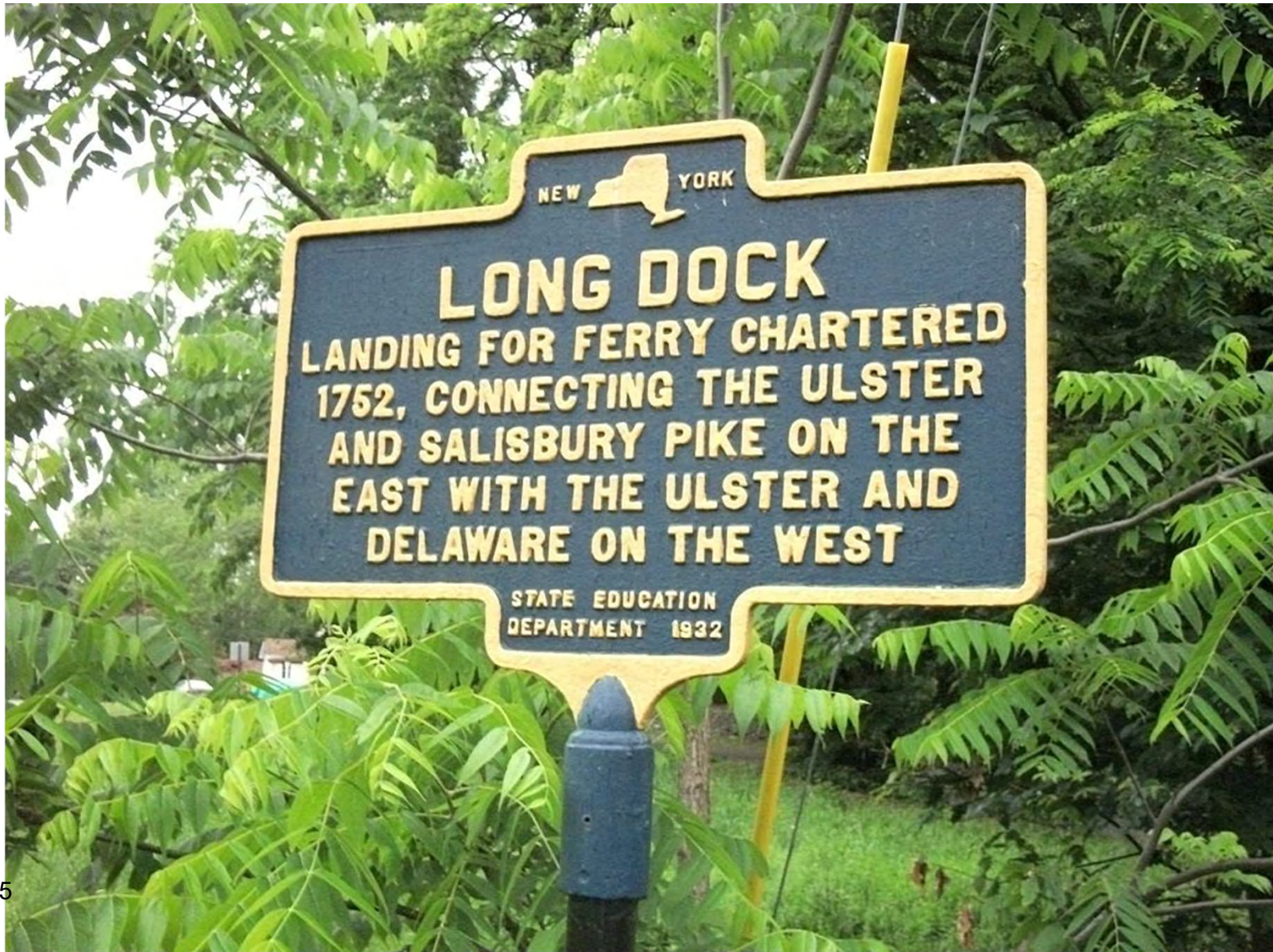


10/11/2025

19

**126: Abraham Kip: Rhinebeck by Hudson, Long Dock Road,
Town of Rhinebeck. [Top 15-1](#)**





10/11/2025

21

Sepasco Trail

- **Rhinebeck, New York, in Dutchess County, was home to the Sepasco Native Americans, a tribe of the Mahican nation. They established a trail known as the Sepasco Trail. This trail extended eastward from the Hudson River through what is now Rhinebeck (then called Sepasco or Sepascoot) to a natural sheet of water still referred to as "Sepasco," likely Lake Sepasco. The trail followed roughly the path of modern-day NY 308 and its side roads.**
- **In 1802, the Ulster and Delaware Turnpike, also known as the Salisbury Turnpike, was chartered over the Sepasco Trail and extended eastward to Salisbury, Connecticut.**
- **NY 308**
- **Dock with ferry to Kingson**

126: Abraham Kip

- Hendrick Kip's son John built a stone house across from his father's residence along the old Native American **Sepascot Trail**; today named Long Dock Road. Originally a modest one-room structure with the front door located on its west side, the house would go through a considerable enlargement in later years.
- Hendrick Kip's brother Jacob married Rachel **Swartwout** and the couple had nine children. He built a stone house in 1708 adjacent to the river. John Kip eventually relocated to Fishkill and in 1715 Jacob acquired the Long Dock Road dwelling

136: William Stoutenburgh, West Side Route 9G, Just south of East Park. Top 15-2



10/11/2025

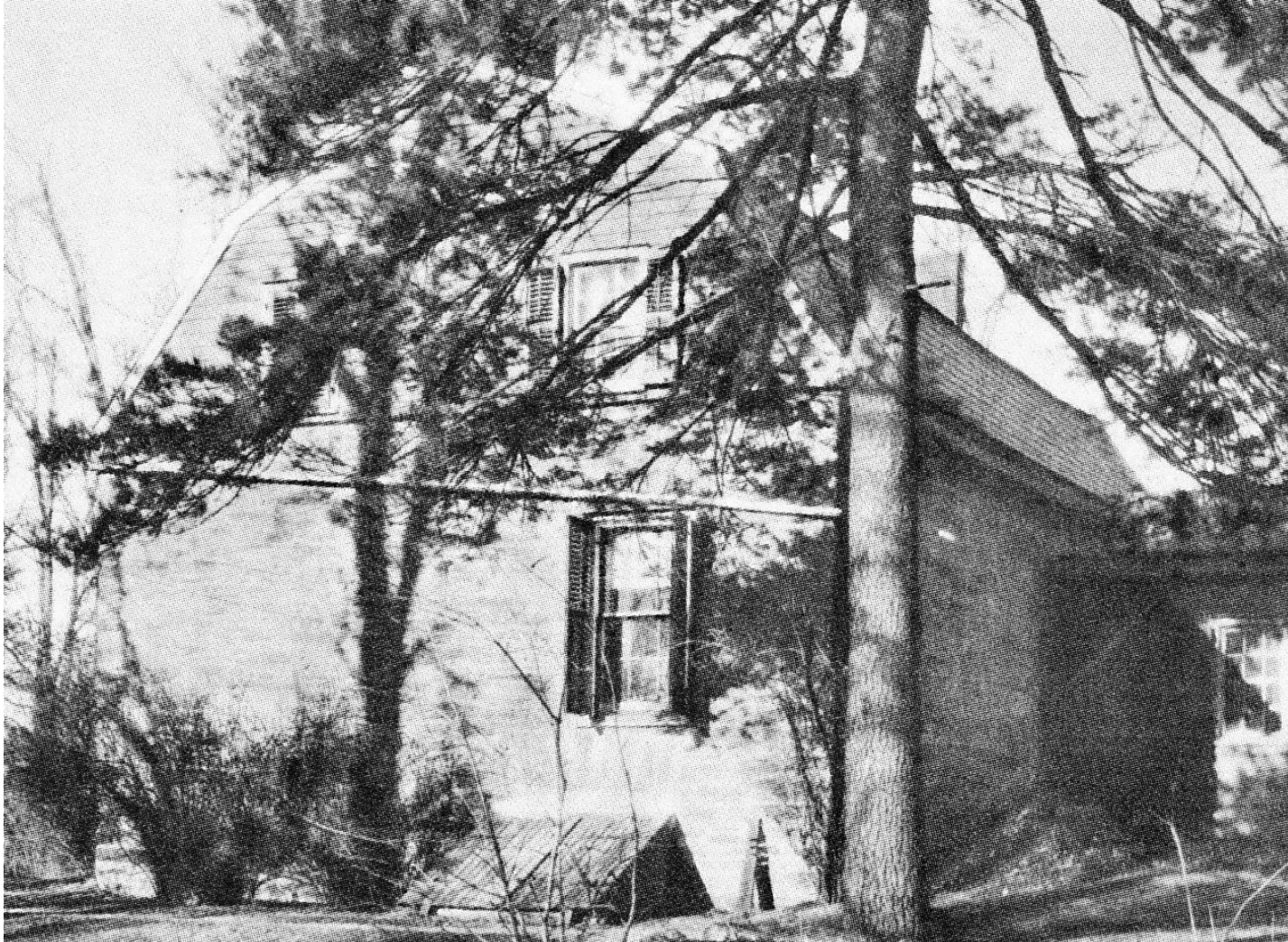
136: William Stoutenburgh: West Side of Route 9G, Just south of East Park, Town of Hyde Park. [Top 15-2](#)



10/11/2025

25

137 Bergh Stoutenburgh Teller: East Side of Route 9, just before McDonalds. Was Edo Sushi. Village of Hyde Park. Top 15-3



10/11/2025

26

137 Bergh Stoutenburgh Teller East Side of Route 9, Right at CVS traffic signal Was Edo Sushi, Village of Hyde Park. [Top 15-3](#)



10/11/2025

RANCE

140: Frear House: Wilbur Blvd. Across from St John's Lutheran Church parking lot. City of Poughkeepsie. [Top 15-4](#)



10/11/2025



140: Frear House
Wilbur Blvd
Across from St John's
Lutheran Church.
South exit of parking lot.
City of Poughkeepsie

Top 15-4

10/11/2025

29

**150: Westervelt House: South side of Spackenkill Road at Twin Hills Road
By Mormon Church (SE corner). Town of Poughkeepsie. [Top 15-5](#)**



10/11/2025

30

150: Westervelt House: South side of Spackenkill Road, At Twin Hills Road
Mormon Church (SE corner), Town of Poughkeepsie. [Top 15-5](#)



10/11/2025

31

129: Newcomb House Route 44 and Brown Road, Town of [Pleasant Valley](#). Top 15-6



10/11/2025

32

129: Newcomb House: Route 44 and Brown Road, Town of **Pleasant Valley**



10/11/2025

33

129: Newcomb House: Route 44 and Brown Road, Town of Pleasant Valley. Bricks were made from local clay. Easy to find. Safe. [Top 15-6](#)



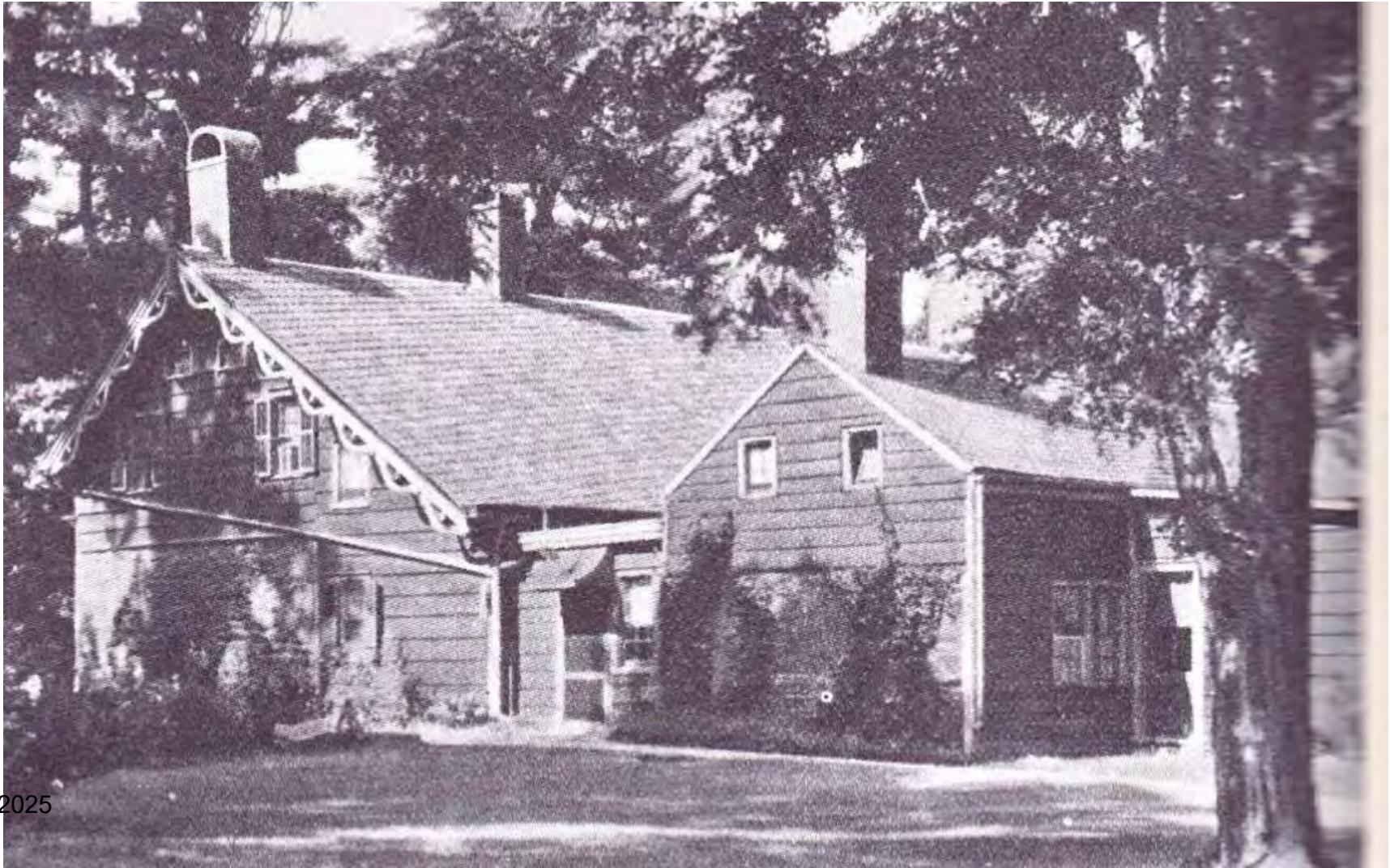
10/11/2025

34

129: Newcomb House

- **Zaccheus Newcomb, born in Lebanon, Connecticut, in the mid-1720s, came west with his father Thomas to what is now Pleasant Valley in 1746**
- **His father purchased the 3,000-acre Great Lot 8 of the Great Nine Partners Patent. Five years later, Thomas deeded the 200 acres around the current parcel to Zaccheus.**
- **He remained a farmer but was also politically active. During the Revolutionary War he served in the Continental Army and was later a judge.**

112 Brewer-Meiser: Village of Wappingers Falls. Easy to find. Tours. [Top 15-7.](#)



10/11/2025

36

112 Brewer-Meiser: Village of Wappingers Falls. Home of Wappingers Historic Society. Tours. [Top 15-7.](#)



10/11/2025

37

112 – Brewer-Meiser Homestead

<https://www.wappingershistoricalsociety.org/>

2 Spring Street

Wappinger's Falls, NY 12590

(845) 632-1281

Open: Sunday 1:00pm-4:00pm/Check website for special events

Fee: Adult \$10.00 / Seniors \$7.00 / Children 7-18 \$5.00 / Members Free

117: Farmers' Landing: Troy Rd, Town of Wappinger. Top 15-8

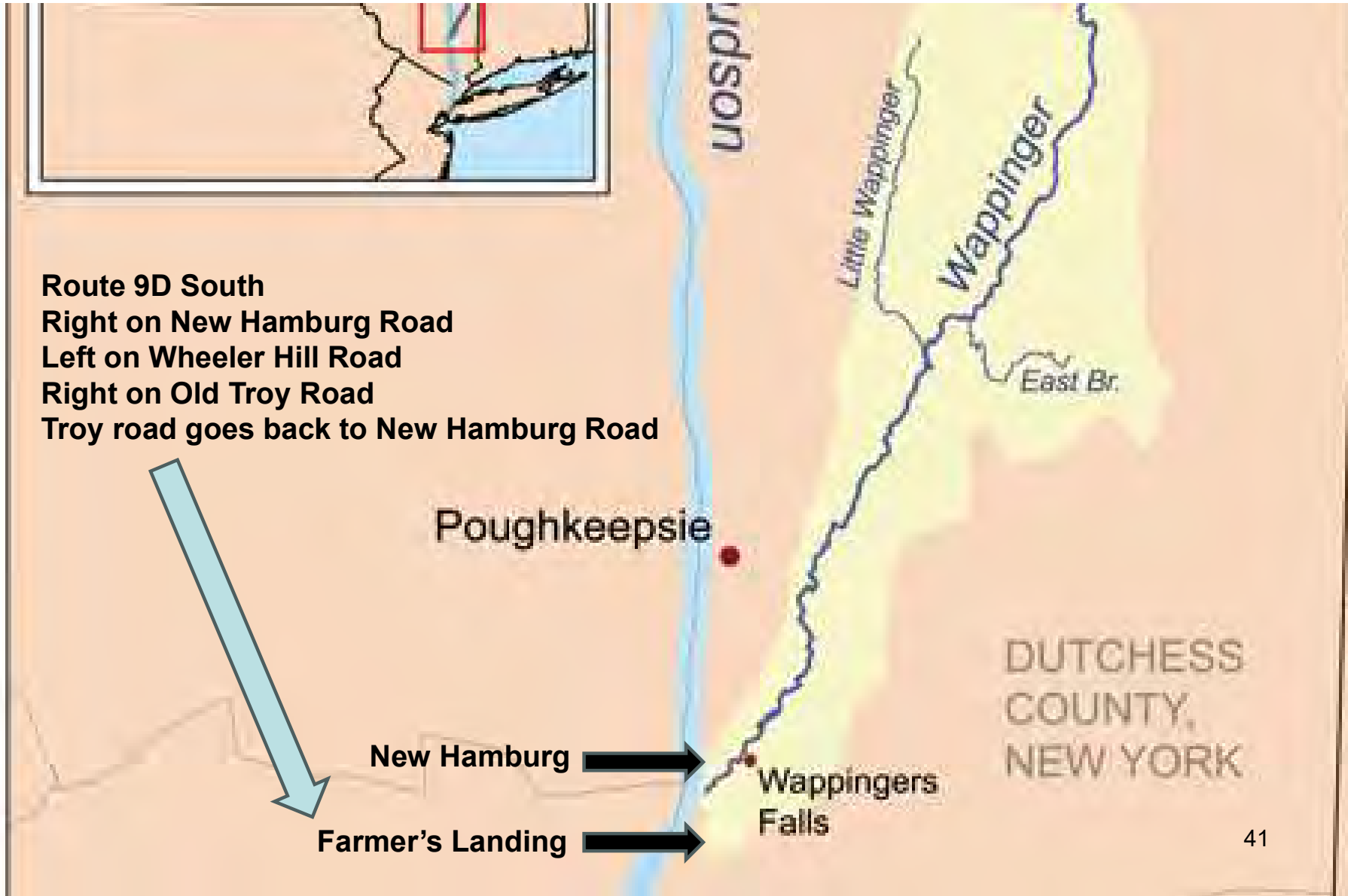


10/11/2025

39

117: Farmers' Landing, Troy Rd, Town of Wappinger. Top 15-8
My favorite house! Landing on Hudson River for farmers.





**Route 9D South
Right on New Hamburg Road
Left on Wheeler Hill Road
Right on Old Troy Road
Troy road goes back to New Hamburg Road**

Poughkeepsie

New Hamburg

Farmer's Landing

Wappingers Falls

DUTCHESS COUNTY, NEW YORK

117: Farmers' Landing

- **During the 18th century, a thriving wharf complex named Farmers' Landing existed along the east bank of the Hudson River just south of Wappinger Creek and New Hamburg.**
- **Farmers in the region transported their flour and produce there and loaded it onto sloops destined for New York City.**
- **The docks at Farmers' Landing handled a variety of sloops, many weighing 70 tons or more, which enabled large quantities of local produce to be shipped out. The area featured two storehouses, a dry goods shop — known as the Lent and Waldron Store — and two dwellings.**

138: Second House of Jacobus Swartwout, East Side of All Angels Hill Road, North from Route 82, Town of Wappinger. [Top 15-9](#)

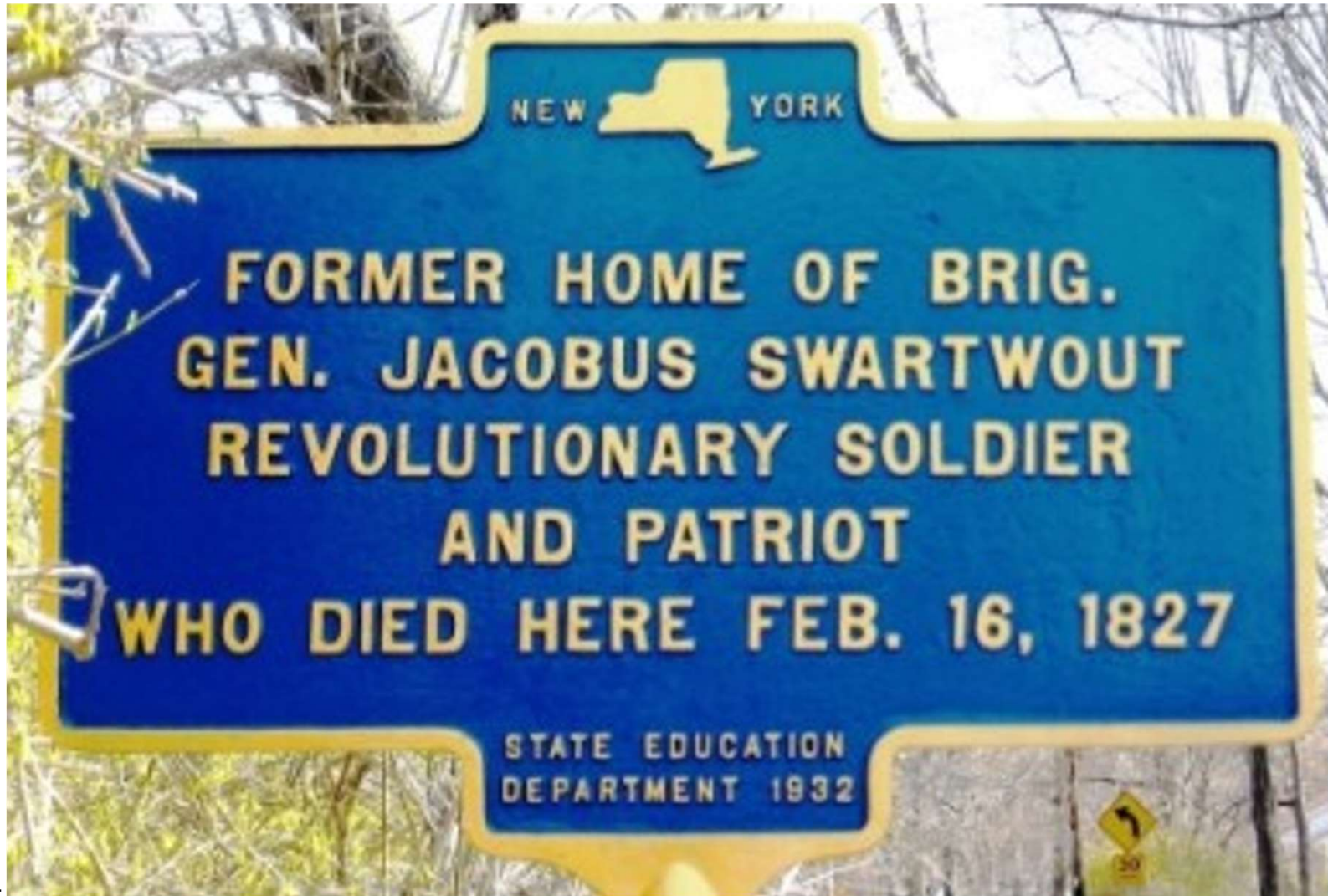


10/11/2025

43

138: Second House of Jacobus Swartwout: East Side of All Angels Hill Road, North from Route 82, Town of Wappinger. Great House. Busy road. [Top 15-9](#)





114 John Brinkerhoff, Route 82 North, Right turn Lomala Rd
Town of Fishkill. Top 15-10



10/11/2025

46

114 John Brinkerhoff: Route 82 North, Right turn Lomala Rd. Town of Fishkill. Great house. Safe. [Top 15-10](#)



10/11/2025

47



114 John Brinkerhoff

- **The 1.5-story Dutch Colonial brick and fieldstone house that sits on the east side of Lomala Road, south of today's Route 82 in Fishkill,**
- **was built in 1738 by John Brinckerhoff, son of Derick Brinckerhoff, who relocated to the region from Long Island in 1707.**
- **In June 1926, the house and property was purchased by the Lomala Civic Association, a Finnish community.**

134: Brick House: Built by John Storm, Beekman Road East then immediately after Taconic, left on Philips Road South, Left side of road Town of East Fishkill. [Top15-11](#)



10/11/2025

50

134: Brick House: Built by John Storm. Beekman Road East then immediately after Taconic left on Philips Road South, left side of road Town of East Fishkill. [Top15-11](#)



10/11/2025

51

134: Brick House: Built by John Storm

- **The two-story, brick house located at 112 Phillips Road, one mile south of Beekman Road in Hopewell Junction, Town of East Fishkill, was built circa 1802 by John Storm**
- **a member of the family that the town's Hamlet of Stormville is named after.**
- **An earlier 1½-story wing that is attached to the dwelling on its west side was the pre-Revolutionary War home of Garret Storm, John's father.**

135: Storm, Adriance Brinkerhoff House: NE Corner Beekman Rd
and Sylvan Lake Rd, just past the Taconic, Town of East Fishkill. [Top 15-12](#)



10/11/2025

53

**135: Storm, Adriance Brinkerhoff House: NE Corner Beekman Rd
and Sylvan Lake Rd just past the Taconic, Town of East Fishkill. TOP 15-12**



10/11/2025



10/11/2025

55

135: Storm, Adriance Brinkerhoff House

- **The Storm–Adriance–Brinckerhoff House is located on Beekman Road (Dutchess County Route 9) in East Fishkill**
- **In 1778, George Washington, who had the location of the house marked on one of his pocket maps, spent a night.**

111 Madame Brett: City of Beacon. [Top 15-13](#)



10/11/2025

57

111 Madame Brett: City of Beacon (Dutch Style)
Easy to find. Safe. Tours. [Top 15-13](#)





10/11/2025

111 – Madame Brett Homestead

<https://www.melzingahnsdar.org/madam-brett-homestead>

50 Van Nydeck Avenue, Beacon, NY

(845) 831-6533

Tours every 2nd Saturday May thru December

1:00-4:00 pm. \$10 adults, \$5 children.

About 1708, the Rombout Patent was partitioned:

- Van Cortlandt family was allotted the land lying along Wappinger Creek;
- the middle portion fell to the heirs of Gulian Verplanck
- the lower part along Fishkill Creek, fell to the Bretts. Catheryna inherited around 28,000 acres

146 Van Wyck House: Cornelius Van Wyck (1694-1761), East side of Route 9, Just south of I-84, Town of Fishkill. [Top 15-14](#)



10/11/2025

61

146 Van Wyck House: Cornelius Van Wyck (1694-1761).
East side of Route 9 Just south of I-84, Town of Fishkill.
Top 15-14



10/11/2025

62

146 Van Wyck House

- The Van Wyck Homestead Museum was built in 1732 by Cornelius and Hanna Van Wyck
- The Continental Army used the house during the Revolutionary War as the Officers' Headquarters for the **Fishkill Supply Depot**.
- The **Fishkill Historical Society** was founded in 1962 by local residents to save the abandoned Homestead from demolition from the construction of a planned cloverleaf exit ramp for Interstate 84 at Route 9.

146 Van Wyck House

- **Volunteer docents welcome visitors to the Van Wyck Homestead Museum on Saturdays and Sundays from 1:00 to 4:00, June through October**
- **<https://fishkillhistoricalsociety.org/>**
- **(845) 896-9560**
- **504 Route 9, [just south of I-84]**
- **Fishkill, NY 12524**

148 Mount Gulian, Gulian Verplanck, West of 9D. Just north of Newburgh Beacon Bridge, City of Beacon. Rebuilt after fire. [Top 15-15](#)



10/11/2025

65

148 Mount Gulian: Gulian Verplanck. West of 9D. Just north of Newburgh Beacon Bridge. City of Beacon (rebuilt after fire). [Top 15-15](#)



10/11/2025

66

End Part 1 of 2