

NORTH CASTLE HISTORY



Collections of The North Castle Historical Society

WILLIAM BOWRON HOUSE

GEORGE LEISURE HOUSE, 1976 Photograph

THE NORTH CASTLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Volume 36 — 2009



Smith's Tavern
Society Headquarters
Listed in The New York State
and National Register of Historic Places

The North Castle Historical Society

440 BEDFORD ROAD ARMONK, NEW YORK 10504

February 2010

Dear Members of the North Castle Historical Society,

As always, thank you for your membership. Whether you are renewing or have just joined for the first time, we are forever grateful. Membership dues are the life-line of our organization. And although the life of this organization itself is relatively young, the life of our buildings began not last century, but two centuries back. That is an amazing realization ... and what is even more amazing is that the buildings still serve a purpose and have meaning in our lives.

Many wonderful activities occur in our old buildings. Colonial Crafts Days for area fourth grade students are highlights of the year. Meetings and events are held by other organizations in our buildings. Programs, such as a reunion for students of the East Middle Patent One-Room School (how old are they?) led by Tony Godino, and an exhibit of quilts coordinated by Carolyn Salon of the Northern Star Quilters Guild, were exciting and educational events in the buildings.

Some events occur outside our buildings. One Sunday afternoon we joined with the North Castle Library in Armonk for a presentation about quilts and their possible use for secret code messages during the era of slavery. One evening in the late fall many of us enjoyed a Progressive Dinner and visited with each other in several host homes.

Please continue your participation and support of The North Castle Historical Society. Your contributions are specific to our educational complex and support historic preservation and education in our community. If you would like to become more involved in the preservation efforts of our buildings and the educational efforts of The Society, please reach out to any one of our trustees. You are vital to the growth and life of the organization.

Sincerely,

Joan Krantz, President

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**GREEN ACRES GARDEN CLUB
CELEBRATING 70 YEARS**

by Judy C. Early

Green Acres Garden Club celebrated its 70th anniversary on Saturday, October 10, 2009 at the North Castle Public Library in Armonk with a standard flower show entitled, "As Time Goes By".

Founded in 1939

In 1939 fifteen North Castle women with an interest in gardening and conservation formed a garden club. At the June 12, 1939 meeting the constitution and by-laws of the organization were adopted. Charter members were Mrs. Joseph Alexander, Mrs. Karl DuPont, Mrs. Joseph Garland, Mrs. Warren J. Hall, Mrs. Richard Koenig, Sr., Mrs. Paul C. Lehr, Miss Louise Spector, Mrs. William C. Whipple, Mrs. Elliott Bliss, Mrs. Morton Engelman, Mrs. Carolyn Greenacre, Mrs. Karl Koenig, Mrs. Lester Lear, Mrs. Cyrus Stow and Mrs. C. Edward Waterbury. Mrs. Cyrus Stow served as the first president, 1939-41.



Collections of The Green Acres Garden Club

**MRS. CAROLYN GREENACRE, AGE 90
WITH THE CUP SHE DONATED TO THE GARDEN CLUB**

The purposes of the club are to further the study and practice of horticulture; encourage civic planting, beautification of roadsides and the preservation of scenic and historic locations; sustain interest in conservation of our natural resources; and promote garden therapy. Since the club's founding in 1939 it has continued to fulfill these organizational purposes.

Mrs. Carolyn Greenacre

Mrs. Carolyn Greenacre¹, for whom the garden club was named, was one of the Charter members. Two early members, Mrs. Eugene Curry and Mrs. William F. Cecil, helped organize the new club, which was patterned after the Middle Patent Garden Club.

Mrs. Greenacre came to Armonk from Colorado in 1933 to be near her daughter and son-in-law, Esther and Warren Hall. She quickly became involved in her new community serving as an early president of the Women's Society of the Armonk Methodist Church where she taught Sunday school. She was one of the early members of the North Castle Public Library.² Carolyn Greenacre was active in the Armonk Parent Teachers Association, serving as president for two years. She died at the age of 94 years on October 22, 1972 and is buried in the Middle Patent Rural Cemetery in North Castle. She left her community a thriving garden club.

Garden club members meeting at the home of Mrs. Hamilton Hadley³ in 1945 voted to make Mrs. Carolyn Greenacre permanent honorary president of the club. According to an article in The Reporter Dispatch published in White Plains on Tuesday, December 24, 1963, Mrs. Greenacre's eyes would twinkle when she recalled the early years of the garden club and learning the art of flower arranging.

¹ Carolyn Greenacre was born on May 2, 1878 in Wisconsin and moved to Colorado during her high school years. She taught school in Greeley, Colorado. She and her husband, Allen Greenacre, lived on a 13,640-acre cattle ranch. Family records indicate she had an avid interest in gardening, birds, and nature. She was widowed in 1914.

² According to records from the North Castle Public Library, in 1936 four women conceived the idea of a public library and enlisted townspeople to the cause. Julia Bennett, a real estate agent, joined with local teachers Lucille Kittredge and Emily Golden and writer Esther Hall. The women opened the North Castle Free Library on July 26, 1938 in a small store at 21 Maple Avenue with 1,600 books, all donated. Refer to North Castle History, Vol. 15, 1988.

³ The Hadleys lived on Orchard Drive, Armonk. Mr. Hamilton Hadley was an Air Raid Warden during World War II.

"I remember our first lecture on the subject of arrangements. It was given in 1940 or 1941 by a young woman named Mrs. William Frank, who was then a member of the Larchmont Garden Club."⁴

1940s and 1950s

During the 1940s and 1950s local newspapers consistently reported garden club activities such as a "Victory Garden Rally" that included speakers, specimens and even a canteen supper; a talk by Police Sergeant John Hergenhan on the winter storage of vegetables; talks about tulips and tent caterpillars; and flower shows. In May 1948 The Villager⁵, reported, "This Month Marks Green Acres Club's Ninth Anniversary ... During the war years victory gardens were predominantly a necessity and a patriotic duty. This group worked strenuously in their own gardens and did everything possible to encourage many of the townspeople to do likewise." On September 18, 1946, the North Castle newspaper announced that the 8th annual garden club flower show had been celebrated four days earlier at the Armonk Methodist Church.

In 1947 the garden club joined the 9th District of the Federated Garden Clubs as well as the New York State and National Council of State Garden Clubs. This enabled the club to widen its scope for garden club activities so that it could participate at the District level.

In the early days monthly meetings were held in members' homes, then later in the North Castle Free Library and the Armonk Methodist Church. The annual flower shows took place in members' homes, the North Castle Free Library, the Armonk Methodist Church, the Armonk (Whippoorwill) School, and the American Legion Hall.



Collections of the Green Acres Garden Club
EARLY PROGRAM COVER 1948-1949

⁴ Mrs. Ruth Frank later moved to Armonk and served as president of the club during 1956-58 and 1962-64. Ruth and Bill Frank retired to Jacksonville, Florida, where they presently live.

⁵ Published in Bedford, New York.

Two outstanding shows were held at the homes of Mrs. James E. Robison and Mrs. Joseph Binns. Between 1949 and 1956 the Middle Patent Garden Club co-sponsored these shows with Green Acres Garden Club. Shortly after 1957 the Middle Patent Garden Club ceased to exist.

On September 17, 1949 the Green Acres and Middle Patent Garden Clubs held a joint Flower Show at the Armonk Methodist Church. Men from the community were invited to submit vegetable or flower arrangements.⁶ Top honors in the first Community Christmas Decorating Competition sponsored by the garden club were awarded to John and Goldie Hergenhan in 1952.⁷

In 1954 the club sponsored the landscaping of the Major John Andre Monument⁸ in cooperation with Lawrence Labriola Nursery⁹. One of the more imposing tasks undertaken by the club was landscaping the grounds at Crittenden Middle School in 1959 using plans provided by Michael Perri, a landscape architect living in Windmill Farms¹⁰. Competing in a large statewide field of entrants, the project won \$100 and first prize for Civic Improvement at the York State Fair. This led to future horticulture projects at the local schools, including plantings at the Byram Hills High School and landscaping at the District Office.

On June 2, 1954 the Middle Patent Garden Club and the Green Acres Garden Club joined to present an "Historic Homes" Tour and Flower Show. Admission was \$1.50 and included five houses,¹¹ with tea served at the fifth house.

⁶ The two clubs shared a flower show again on June 11, 1952.

⁷ The Hergenahns were active in many organizations in North Castle. John served as police chief for many years. In 2007 the old Armonk Fire House on Maple Avenue underwent renovations and is now the John C. and Goldie Hergenhan Recreation Center.

⁸ Refer to North Castle History, Vol. 7, 1980 and Vol. 32, 2005.

⁹ Labriola Nursery donated plants and labor.

¹⁰ According to www.windmillclub.com Carlo Paterno inherited Windmill Manor from his father Dr. Charles Paterno in 1946 and decided to turn it into a residential community. In 1954 the then-called Windmill Farm, consisting of about 60 homes, was sold to developers Edward Tobin and Mac Welson, who continued the home and road building for five more years at which time Olivia G. Seeler took over operation. There were 372 homes until the turn of the 21st century, when five more were built. Refer to North Castle History, Vol. 29, 2002.

¹¹ The homes toured were the William Bowron House, owned by George Leisure; the Moses Quinby House, owned by Warren J. Hall; Smith's Tavern, owned by Samuel A. Datlowe; Brundage Homestead, owned by Arthur Z. Gray; and the William Henry Creemer House, owned by D. Theodore Kelly.

The first official plant sale was held in 1959 at the Melody Mills Shop, a building on Main Street in Armonk opposite the Methodist Church. Plant sales quickly became a club project and proceeds of the sales continue to be used for civic beautification. As more space was needed, the plant sales were held at the North Castle Highway Garage, the Armonk United Methodist Church, Armonk Airport, the North Castle Free Library, and the H.C. Crittenden Middle School.

1960s

As a jump-start to many future projects, the club planted a wildflower garden near the Crittenden Middle School, which was made possible with funds provided by a Sears-Roebuck Civic Beautification Award.

A Rose Garden For Hendry House



Collections of the Green Acres Garden Club

PLANTING THE ROSE GARDEN AT HENDRY HOUSE

from left, Mrs. Walter M. Bittiner, Mrs. Stanley Price, Mrs. F.S. Straus, Mrs. Carol R. Ellis, Mrs. Cleve W. Clark, Mrs. Frederick M. Evans, Mrs. C. Stanley Stubbe and son Bradford, and Mrs. Ernest J. Bolduc, Jr.

In the 1960s the garden club installed a Rose Garden at the Hendry House, an historic house¹² that had been moved behind Town Hall. Under the leadership of president Pi Benz, 25 garden club members set out 344 plants over a two-day period. North Castle Highway Superintendent McKinley Battistelli and John Fava, Armonk resident and then Westchester County Planner, laid out the rose garden. The North Castle Town Board provided the fence, and a local citizen donated the sundial and wrought iron bench. A "Book of Evidence" was submitted to Sears Roebuck for a Civic Beautification Award, resulting in a third prize and \$100. The Rose Garden does not exist today.

As early as 1963 the garden club sponsored a flea market and plant sale on the grounds of the old Armonk Airport.¹³ Mrs. H.D. Kline served as chairman. Past projects funded from proceeds from the plant sales have included planting pin oaks along Route 22 in Armonk, landscaping at Crittenden Middle School and planting dogwoods and shrubbery around parking areas at the school.

Another of the earlier, larger projects was the 1964 development of a master plan for landscaping the North Castle Public Library's grounds in Armonk. A long-lasting relationship began, and the garden club continues to maintain plantings in the interior and exterior of the library. Crab apple trees were planted across from the library building during the 1960s, and the landscaping was honored with a Federated Garden Clubs of New York (FGC) citation.¹⁴ The club redesigned plantings at the Kent Place parking area, adding bushes and a rock wall to the front of the Whippoorwill East entrance. Most recently the garden club undertook a redesign of the Library's Reading Garden, which was originally completed in 1965 and received a Sears-Roebuck Beautification Award.

¹² The Cornell-Birdsall House was known as the Hendry House when Wenga Farm estate manager Arthur Hendry lived there. The house was moved to the present site in the mid-1960s, currently serves as office space for the North Castle Building, Planning, Receiver, Assessor and Highway Departments and is commonly referred to as 'the annex'. Refer to North Castle History, Vol. 27, 2000.

¹³ Refer to North Castle History, Vol. 6, 1979.

¹⁴ Federated Garden Clubs of New York, Inc. (FGC) is located in Guilderland, New York. Thirty-one clubs from the Bronx, Westchester, Putnam and part of Dutchess Counties comprise the 9th District of the FGC.

1970s

Working with Ms. Christine Pecora's 7th grade science classes at Crittenden Middle School, the garden club was involved with the River Watch Program to foster a sense of environmental conservation awareness in young people. Garden club funds purchased a turbidometer for the school.

Another major project of the club was landscaping and plantings at the Wampus Brook Park. Intervention by the garden club contributed to the beauty of the Park and produced an area that serves as Armonk's village green. Many community events are held annually in this open space.



Collections of the Green Acres Garden Club

WAMPUS BROOK PARK PLANTINGS AND LANDSCAPING

(North Castle News, June 28, 1972)

from left, Mac Battistelli, North Castle Highway Superintendent, North Castle Supervisor John Lombardi, Mrs. John E. Richardson, Mrs. Sidney Gerow and North Castle Councilman Kathleen Baroni

Support for The North Castle Historical Society

Being interested in historic sites, the garden club planted a Chinese chestnut tree near the Brundage Blacksmith Shop behind Historic Smith's Tavern¹⁵. In 1982 the club planted an early American kitchen herb garden at Smith's Tavern that is still very much in use today¹⁶. The Herb Garden

¹⁵ Headquarters for The Society are at 440 Bedford Road, Armonk. Two other buildings were saved and moved to the property, the one-room East Middle Patent Schoolhouse and the 1798 Quaker Meeting House.

is one of the stops on the Docent Tours of the complex, as well as on Colonial Crafts' Days for fourth graders.

In Honor of Pauline Benz

On June 3, 1984 the garden club dedicated the Herb Garden at Smith's Tavern in honor of Pauline "Pi" Murrah Benz. Mrs. Benz served as president of the garden club during 1967-69. A framed photograph of Mrs. Benz with a tribute to her written by Mrs. Margery Curry hangs inside the back door to Historic Smith's Tavern. It was presented at the dedication of the Herb Garden¹⁷.

In Honor of Betsy Sluder

Green Acres Garden Club donated a bench to the Betsy Sluder Nature Preserve, a site honoring long-time Armonk resident Mrs. Betsy Sluder, a garden club member and a principal founder of the North Castle Conservation Board. Presently the garden club is involved in a work-in-progress refurbishment of the entrance to the Preserve.

Today

With the assistance of the Armonk Girl Scouts, the garden club continues to plant annuals in the memorial garden at the Hergenhan Recreation Center. The old tradition of creating holiday wreaths and table arrangements for shut-ins, senior citizens, The Historical Society and the Town's libraries and offices continues. According to a newspaper clipping dated May 1948 from The Villager, "For several prewar Christmas seasons, the club sponsored contests for Christmas door decorations and business window displays. Prizes were awarded." Today the club participates in the "Downtown Armonk Holiday Lights Awards" by selecting the award recipients. The club also participates in the Town's 9/11 Memorial Service and places a wreath of red roses at the site of the memorial.

On October 18, 2009, the "Landscape Under the Eagle" project was implemented at the intersection of New York State Routes 22 and 128

¹⁶ The herb garden is used to teach visitors about early uses of herbs – including potions, remedies, household cleaning and cooking.

¹⁷ Refer to North Castle History, Vol. 25, 1998.

(Main Street) in Armonk. The improvement of this site creates a striking aesthetic entrance to the downtown area. In 2008 the garden club received a Federated Garden Clubs of New York "Civic Concern Citation-Roadside Beautification" Award for this project, and in 2009 went on to receive a National Garden Award for a "Book of Evidence" documenting the project.

This article highlights the good deeds and accomplishments of the members of Green Acres Garden Club over the past 70 years. Today's members salute the founding and past members for their selfless efforts and contributions in establishing the precedent of volunteer community service to enrich our North Castle community. These women have been a driving force in making our town a better place in which to live.

In doing so, members have also exemplified a vibrant national tradition. Since Colonial times, American women have often banded together to accomplish important and worthy goals including the right to vote, assuring freedom of education, and promoting equality in the workplace. The communal action of dedicated women has changed the social landscape of America and improved the quality of life for all Americans.

Those fifteen women¹⁸, the founders of a garden club that has meant so much to their community, should therefore be celebrated in that context. Their efforts, and the efforts of their successors, deserve to be honored with enthusiasm and vigor.

* * *

IN APPRECIATION

The writer thanks the following women for sharing information: Mrs. Carol Hall Murray, granddaughter of Mrs. Carolyn Greenacre and daughter of Mrs. Warren J. Hall; Mrs. Ruth Frank, former two-term president of the garden club; and Mrs. Judith Hill Galeanna whose mother Helen Hill was one of the early members of the club. Much of the information in this article was researched from Green Acres Garden Club archives, including newspaper articles and photographs.

¹⁸ Mrs. Joseph Alexander, Mrs. Karl DuPont, Mrs. Joseph Garland, Mrs. Warren J. Hall, Mrs. Richard Koenig, Sr., Mrs. Paul C. Lehr, Miss Louise Spector, Mrs. William C. Whipple, Mrs. Elliott Bliss, Mrs. Morton Engelman, Mrs. Carolyn Greenacre, Mrs. Karl Koenig



Collections of the Green Acres Garden Club

A DOWN TO EARTH GROUP ... DIGGING IN FOR THE SALE
from left, Mrs. George Bellantoni, Mrs. Alexander Pinney,
Mrs. Robert Alpert and Mrs. Richard Blair
(The Reporter Dispatch, May 18, 1972)

A SALUTE TO THE SUCCESSORS
GREEN ACRES GARDEN CLUB MEMBERS - 2009

Mrs. Alex Bohm (Susan)
 Mrs. Andrew L. Caesar (Betty)
 Mrs. Dominic Capone (Carol)
 Mrs. Dominick D'Angelica (Carole)
 Mrs. Charles DiBernardo (Mary)
 Mrs. Raymond P. Dubiell (Kay)
 Mrs. George Early (Judy)
 Ms. Diane Greco
 Mrs. Donald Gregg (Margaret C.)
 Mrs. James Henderson (Joanne)
 Mrs. Robert Herbert (Eileen)
 Mrs. Jonathan Kerner (Peggy)
 Ms. Joan Klonsky
 Mrs. Douglas Lau (Marion)

Mrs. Peter Limburg (Maggie)
 Mrs. Edward Lobermann (Terri)
 Ms. Carol Lee Matroka
 Mrs. Joseph Monforte (Angela)
 Mrs. John Naclerio (Nanette)
 Mrs. Eugene Quarrie (Constance)
 Mrs. Joel Salon (Carolyn)
 Mrs. Harold Schaller (Anne)
 Mrs. Ernst Thiel (Erika)
 Mrs. George Trovato (Caroline)
 Mrs. Stanley M. Turk (Helga)
 Mrs. Barraud Watson (Lynn)
 Mr. John Carelli, Honorary Member
 Mr. Steve Gallo, Honorary Member

DIFFERENT 'BEANSTALK' GROWS IN WESTCHESTER

Reprinted from The Reporter Dispatch, August 30, 1973
George Giokas, Staff Writer



Collections of Ms. Loronda Murphy

TOMATOES GO SKY HIGH FOR NORTH WHITE PLAINS MAN McKinley Battistelli reaps harvest from his 12-foot high plant ...

Shown in the 1973 photograph above are Mr. Battistelli with his grandchildren Paul and Loronda Cartularo (now Ms. Loronda Murphy).

"The well-known story of Jack and the Beanstalk is being rewritten by a family in North White Plains. The 'beanstalk' is, in fact, a tomato plant and it's 12 feet high and growing in McKinley Battistelli's garden at

6 Smallwood Place. Battistelli's plant is the largest of 14 tomato plants in his 'small garden'. Some, he said, have grown to a height of ten feet. Although he didn't calculate how many tomatoes he has, he did say that there were enough to hand out to his relatives and neighbors.

Battistelli, who for ten years has been North Castle's Superintendent of Highways, is giving the leaf mold away free upon request. Leaf mold, he explained, is soil, which was once a bunch of leaves. Through a three-year process of storage and wind blowing, the leaves turn into leaf mold. The leaves he said are the leaves the Town of North Castle picks up from residents. Leaf burning is not allowed, so the town provides a service for their disposal. And, Battistelli reaps an unofficial benefit."

McKINLEY BATTISTELLI HONORED BY NORTH CASTLE

In recognition of the community's high regard for him, in 1975 a memorial was erected in Wampus Brook Park in Armonk.



Collections of The North Castle Historical Society

WAMPUS BROOK PARK MEMORIAL SITE, ARMONK

The plaque, mounted on the stone that rests in the landscaped garden, reads:

WAMPUS BROOK PARK
TRANSFORMED FROM WILDERNESS
TO PARKLAND UNDER THE DIRECTION OF
McKINLEY BATTISTELLI
SUPERINTENDENT OF HIGHWAYS
1964 - 1975
WHOM THE CITIZENS OF THIS TOWN HOLD
IN HIGH ESTEEM AND AFFECTION FOR
HIS MANY LABORS OF LOVE
SEPTEMBER 21, 1975
TOWN OF NORTH CASTLE

Mr. Battistelli was a veteran of World War II. He was also a member of the Armonk Lions Club and a Trustee for The North Castle Historical Society from 1978 until 1983. He provided his assistance to the Green Acres Garden Club and worked alongside the members on several of their projects.



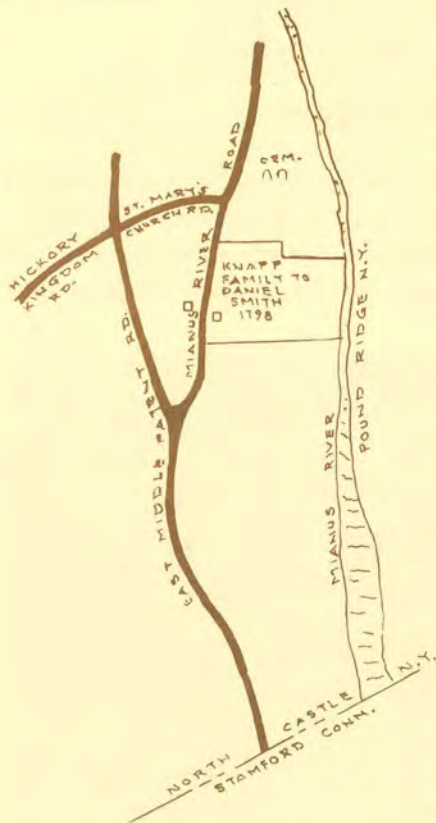
Collections of The North Castle Historical Society

THE PLAQUE ON THE WAMPUS BROOK MEMORIAL STONE

THE DANIEL SMITH FAMILY OF THE TOWN OF NORTH CASTLE

by Barbara S. Massi

There is a tiny “half-house” that sits on 3 1/3 acres on Mianus River Road in the eastern area of the Town of North Castle. In the 18th and 19th centuries the property where the house is located consisted of 150 acres that ran back to the Mianus River.



In the 18th century the house and land belonged to Abraham Knapp, who, together with his two sons, Abraham and Eli, farmed the land. It is not known when Abraham Knapp bought his property, but he was living there by April 7, 1772 when he was appointed by the Town of North Castle as Overseer of the Road “from the Bedford line to the Colony [Conn.] line.”¹

Abraham Knapp died on February 3, 1792 at the age of 52 and was buried nearby in a recently found old cemetery that lies in today’s Mianus River Gorge Preserve.

His wife Abigail and sons Abraham and Eli, their wives Charlotte and Elizabeth respectively, and their children, remained on the farm for some time eventually moving to New York City.

Map Drawn by Lewis Massi

¹ Historical Records North Castle/New Castle, 1736-1791, Frances Cook Lee (ed.), 1975, p. B53 (New York)

In 1798 two deeds recorded selling the house and the 150 acres² to Daniel Smith of Stamford, Connecticut.³ Daniel and his wife, Mary, moved into the house with their (then) seven young children.⁴

Daniel Smith was a private in the Colonial Militia during the Revolutionary War, serving at a young age under Capt. Charles Smith in 1778, 1779 and 1780.⁵

In March of 1805 Daniel Smith moved his family back to Stamford⁶ according to the 1810 Federal census. It is believed that Daniel rented out his house and land while he and his family were in Stamford. Research tells us that they were back in North Castle by 1813. By then Daniel and Mary had seven more children.⁷

There are a number of deeds and leases associated with the Daniel Smith property, all of which are confusing since they seem to sell or lease the same land repeatedly.⁸ One deed stands out. In 1815 Daniel deeded the 150 acres to his son, Daniel L. In his Will of 1823 Daniel L., who died just before his 36th birthday in 1825, divided his possessions among his siblings but stipulated that the house and land would remain in the family for the use of his parents for as long as they lived.

Daniel Smith, the father, died on December 15, 1831 and his wife, Mary, remained on the farm with two of their children. According to the 1850 Federal census two of the Smith's children were still on the farm: Rebecca L. and Abigail Smith Daniels, presumed to be a widow.

² The March 22, 1798 deed indicates that sons Abraham and Eli were cordwainers. At the time cordwainers were shoemakers who were allowed to work with new leather, and cobblers were those who repaired shoes and worked with old leather.

³ See addendum 1. The March 22, 1798 deed between Daniel Smith and Abraham and Eli Knapp and their wives records Daniel's residence as Stamford, Connecticut. The March 31, 1798 deed with widow Abigail Knapp records Daniel's residence as Westchester County, State of New York. The sons received seven hundred pounds; Abigail received fifty dollars. Abigail's March 31, 1798 deed records the property boundaries: "bounded westerly by the highway from Samuel Melins to Stanwish southerly by lands of Samuel Lockwood and James M. Daniels eastwardly Manice River northerly and easterly by Samuel Maleses land..."

⁴ Nancy, Abigail, Daniel L., Sally Ann, Maria, Walter and Patty.

⁵ See addendum 1.

⁶ Refer to The Story of Mary Guion Brown From Her Diary of 1800-1852 by Barbara S. Massi. Mary wrote about the move in her diary.

⁷ Samuel W., Joseph E., Eliza B., Rebecca L., Mehetible A., Julia and John

⁸ See addendum 3.

Rebecca L.'s first husband was George (or David) Hall.⁹ They had three children: Eliza (not researched), Cornelia born about 1838, died February 21, 1913¹⁰, and George W. born January 20, 1840, who died August 27, 1933.¹¹

After George (or David) Hall died, Rebecca L. married John Rich, a shoemaker. According to the 1850 census they and her children Eliza, Cornelia and George W. lived in the Smith house with her widowed mother, Mary, who was blind. John Rich's shoe shop was across the road from the Smith house on land apparently acquired after the original purchase from Abraham Knapp. Although the building is now gone the stone steps up to it are still there.



Photograph by George Pouder, 2007

RICH/TALLMAN¹² BARN AND ROOT CELLAR
Mianus River Road across from the Daniel Smith "Half-House"

Steps to the shoe shop/house (no longer standing) are to the right, just out of the photograph.

⁹ There is conflicting information regarding the first name of Rebecca's first husband. No death certificate for Rebecca has been located, but her daughter Cornelia's death certificate reports David was the father, yet Rebecca's son, George W.'s death certificate says that George was the father. Research indicates that David was probably the father since the 1840 Federal census lists a David Hall living with or across from Mary Smith.

¹⁰ Cornelia is buried in The Middle Patent Rural Cemetery in North Castle.

¹¹ George W. Hall served as a Private in the Civil War with Company E, 172nd New York Infantry. He died at age 93, and his grave is in The Middle Patent Rural Cemetery in North Castle.

¹² Some of the old records spell the name as "Talman".

After Mary Smith died, around 1855, the house and property became part of her son Daniel L. Smith's estate. However, Rebecca L. and her family continued to live there. On February 1, 1858 Rebecca L.'s daughter, Cornelia, married George Tallman¹³ (a carpenter). It is believed that around this time the shoe shop was converted into a house. The Beers 1867 map of North Castle shows the John Rich family living across the road from the Smith house.

Rebecca L. died sometime between 1860 and 1870 and on March 5, 1877 John Rich sold the house, barn and root cellar, situated on "one-quarter of an acre", to his stepdaughter Cornelia Tallman for \$125.¹⁴ Although he sold the property to Cornelia in 1877, the 1880 Federal census for North Castle tells us that John Rich continued to be a shoemaker. After her husband George Tallman died, Cornelia continued to live there with her son William and his wife Jessie.¹⁵ Cornelia died on February 21, 1913 and is buried in The Middle Patent Rural Cemetery in North Castle.

Rebecca L.'s son, George W. Hall, continued to live in his grandparent's house, and the 1880 Federal census indicates that he was a farmer with wife, Helen, and four children.¹⁶ After Helen died George W. continued to live there with his second wife Jennie.¹⁷ It is interesting to note that the 1910 Federal census lists two boarders living with George W. Hall and his wife, Jennie: Mary Green, age 68, and Annie Kriline, age 26, from Germany, a teacher at the local (East Middle Patent) school. George W. died on August 27, 1933 at the age of 93 and is buried in The Middle Patent Rural Cemetery.

¹³ Born about 1830, died November 16, 1902, buried in The Middle Patent Cemetery in North Castle.

¹⁴ Westchester County Land Records, Liber 93, p. 148. The deed indicates "on the road leading from John B. Dobbie's house to Oliver Finch's house and bounded Northerly and Westerly by land late of Samuel Lounsbury, Southerly by land of Cornelia Talman and Easterly by the aforementioned highway..."

¹⁵ According to their gravestones in The Middle Patent Cemetery in North Castle, William Tallman was born in 1858 and died in 1936. Jessie was born in 1859 and died in 1934.

¹⁶ Reportedly, Helen's maiden name was Lockwood. She was born 1842-43 and died between 1880 and 1895. The names of the four children were Charles A., Gilbert O., John R., and Albert G.

¹⁷ Jennie is buried in Bedford with her family. She was born November 2, 1857 and died August 9, 1929.

The 1930 Hopkins map of North Castle shows that a Stanley Murray owned the property¹⁸ even though George W. Hall did not die until 1933. Did Stanley Murray buy the property and allow George W. to live and farm there? Since then the house has changed hands several times until it was purchased a few years ago by Mr. Jean Paul Valles who restored it and gifted it in a conservation easement to the Mianus River Gorge Preserve.

And so the legacy of the Daniel Smith family will live on, just as their house is being preserved for history, standing to remind us of a time and place, and a family from long ago.



Photograph by George Pouder, 2007

RESTORED DANIEL SMITH TINY "HALF-HOUSE"

¹⁸ Stanley Murray was a real estate investor.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION FOR THIS ARTICLE:

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- North Castle, New York and Stamford, Connecticut vital statistics, census records, deeds, and death records
- Stamford Soldiers. Genealogical Biographies of Revolutionary War Patriots from Stamford, Connecticut. Published by Stamford Genealogical Society.
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- Westchester County Land Records, Land Records Office, White Plains, New York.

A special "thank you" to a dear friend, Judy Johnson Zelver, for assistance with the research for this article.

SOME DATES FOUND IN THE RESEARCH MATERIALS ARE CONFLICTING. AFTER FURTHER RESEARCH THE MOST LOGICAL DATE WAS USED.

EXCERPTS FROM PUBLICATIONS OF THE CONNECTICUT ANCESTRY SOCIETY, INC.

Addendum 1: Daniel Smith b. March 11, 1763 was the 5th generation of this Smith family to live in Stamford. He was the youngest of the six children of Nathaniel and Abigail (Scofield) Smith. His siblings were: Nathaniel, Abigail, Isaac, Caleb and Susannah. At a young age he served as a private in the militia during the Revolution in Capt. Charles Smith's Company, Col. John Mead's Regiment from April 1778 for five months, April 1779 for nine months and April 1780 for nine months. He died in North Castle on December 15, 1831.

On April 12, 1784 Daniel married Mary Lockwood in Stamford. She was the daughter of Daniel and Mary (or Martha) Bellamy Lockwood and was born April 1, 1765 and died in North Castle around 1855. Daniel's father, Nathaniel, was born in Stamford November 11, 1729 and died in Stamford in 1812. He was the fourth generation of this Smith family to live in America. On June 15, 1752 he married Abigail Scofield in Rye, New York. She was born December 27, 1730

and died February 12, 1766 in Stamford. Daniel and his father, Nathaniel, descended from an old Stamford family. Their ancestor, Henry Smith, was born in England probably about 1619 and had come to America as a young man and settled first in Wethersfield, Connecticut. And then moved to the southwest corner of the Connecticut Colony in 1641. The new settlement was given the name Stamford after an English town in Lincolnshire. In addition to the Stamford land he accumulated, Henry Smith was granted eighty acres in Stamford in 1671 for his service in the Pequot War. He died sometime after July 4, 1687, the date of his final will and testament.

Addendum 2: Daniel and Mary Smith's fourteen children were: *Nancy* b. about 1785 d. 4/7/1811 married Sept. 1804 Enoch Hoyt of Stamford b. 1/8/1772 d. 7/1/1827, son of Jonas and Elizabeth (Smith) Hoyt. Their children were: Maria, Nancy, and Calvin; *Abigail* b. 3/11/1787 married a Daniels (no first name found); *Daniel L.* b. 2/19/1789 d. 2/17/1825. Will dated 1/23/1823. Buried in the Mianus Cemetery, Town of North Castle; *Sally Ann* b. 6/23/1791 d. 1860. Married Enoch Hoyt sometime after his wife and her sister, Nancy (above) died. Their children were: Calvin Goddard, Sarah Ann, James Nelson, Sarah Mehitable, Susan Matilda, Samuel Willard, Harriet, Sally Ann, John Smith, Clarissa Augusta; *Maria (or Mary)* b. 3/3/1793 d. sometime after 1823 since she is in her brother Daniel L.'s will of 1823; *Walter* b. 2/15/1795 d. 2/7/1815. Buried in the Mianus Cemetery in North Castle; *Patty* b. 2/15 or 17/1797 d. ?, married Garret Montifort of Unadilla, N.Y. on 5/4/1826; *Samuel W.* b. about 1799 d. ? Samuel was Executor of his brother, Daniel L.'s will; *Joseph E.* b. about 1800 or 1801 d. ?; *Eliza B.* b. 1803 d. 3/18/1828; *Rebecca L.* b. 1805 d. 1860-70. Married first David (or George) Hall, second John Rich; *Mehitable A.* b. ? d. ?; *Julia* b. 1809? d. ?; *John H.* b. ? d. ?

Addendum 3: We know that Daniel had 150 acres. In 1815 Daniel deeded 150 acres to his son Daniel L. and in 1824 three acres and a house to his son Samuel W. Some of the land was sold or leased to a Benjamin Smith Jr. b. 1775 d. 1849, son of Benjamin Smith b. 1750 d. 1822 who had lived in North Castle on Middle Patent Road (the road from Route 22 to Bedford/Banksville Rd.) since 1784 when he bought property from John Pine. These Smiths were very distant relatives of Daniel, having also come down from Henry Smith of Stamford. (Both Benjamin Smiths and their wives are buried in the Middle Patent Rural Cemetery in North Castle.) Benjamin Smith Jr. and his wife, Maria, later bought property up the road from the Daniel Smith family. In 1840 the house and land were sold to the Lyon family (see 1851 Sidney and Neff map).

Correction from the Editors – An article previously published, based on available research at the time, indicated John Pine was an owner of the Daniel Smith tiny “half-house”. Subsequent research indicates that was not the case.

WASHINGTON'S HEADQUARTERS —
THE ELIJAH MILLER HOUSE

Save this "1 and Only"¹ National Landmark

by Ashley Elizabeth Halloran and Mrs. Arietta's 2007/2008 **Third** Grade Class

On March 30, 2008 Ashley Elizabeth Halloran and her third grade classmates in Paula Arietta's class at Wampus Elementary School sent the following letter to the Westchester County Department of Parks, the citizens' agency responsible for maintaining the "1 and Only" Miller House. The sentiment and request from the children reflect the universal plea from all historic preservationists.



COVER ILLUSTRATION FOR THE LETTER FROM THE CHILDREN

The letter was signed by Ashley and her classmates Abby Klein, Rachel Broomer, Matthew Malone, Alex Jacobs, Casey Stillman, Lamdan Nieves, Katie Roth, Jason Hurvitz, Aerin Bacon, Jacob Reinhardt, Remi Assael, Jen Spruck, Kinan Khader, Ally Steffen, Matthew Schwartz, Evan Barker, Michael Gelb, Stephen Tannenbaum, and Benjamin Selkin and their teacher Ms. Paula Arietta.

¹ From the cover illustration sent with the letter from the children.

PLEASE SAVE THE MILLER HOUSE!!!!!!!

Very truly yours,

Ashley Halloran

Ashley Elizabeth Halloran

Paula Arlette

Abley Klein

Rachel Broome

Oliver Jacobs

Casper Stillman

London News

Katie Roth

~~Aerin Bacon~~ ~~harris~~

Jacob Reinhardt

Reni Kozell

Jen Spruck

Kinan Khader

ally stellen

Matthew Schwarz

Evan Barker

Michael Bell

Stephen Jannendaum

Benjamin Selkin

March 30, 2008

Mr. John Baker
Westchester County Department of Parks
25 Moore Avenue
Mt. Kisco, New York 10549

Dear Mr. Baker:

We write this letter because we are concerned that the Miller House may be falling apart and needs to be inspected and cared for immediately.

The Miller House is a symbol of American freedom. George Washington used the Miller House during his fight for independence. This house has great potential. Students could visit it for school trips. Families could develop a love of history. It should be preserved and open to the public. It is an important landmark.

The farmhouse of Elijah and Ann Miller in North White Plains, New York was George Washington's Headquarters during the Battle of

White Plains in October 1776. One of the earliest descriptions of Washington's Headquarters is an article about Ann Miller in the December 1819 issue of the *Methodist Magazine*:

"Her house was for some time Gen. Washington's headquarters. Her land was covered with tents; and on an eminence, the highest in all the plains, belonging to her, and overlooking her house in the rear, a permanent fortification was made so that not a day passed for many years without the noise of war, to which was frequently added the sight of garments rolled in blood. Mrs. Miller was a nursing mother; she gave water to wash the hands of Generals Washington, Putnam, Lewis, and other officers and soldiers."²

The Revolutionary War changed the lives of many children in our town of North Castle. There are many stories about children in our Miller House. When thinking about the Revolutionary War, we think about the generals and soldiers and battles. But children lived in North White Plains, and the Revolution touched them as well.

Ann and Elijah Miller had seven children: Sarah, Martha, Zipporah, James, Elijah, John and Abraham³, and they were great children at the time. George Washington was "fond" of children, and he took them in his arms⁴.

There is a famous story about little Zipporah. An interesting little story showing Washington's gracious courtesy and love for children is handed down through the Miller family. As the General was leaving the hospitable homestead on the ninth of November 1776, he placed his hand on the head of little Zipporah, the youngest child of the house, and caressing her sunny curls, told her that she was the prettiest little girl he had ever seen and presented her with a silver punch bowl.⁵ What a great little girl she was.⁵

² *The Methodist Magazine*, "The Grace of God Manifested: Short Account of Mrs. Ann Miller, of White Plains, N. York", December 1819, p. 459 (New York).

³ *Magazine of American History*, "Historic Homes and Landmarks", Vol. XXVIII, October 1892, No. 4, p. 260 (New Haven).

⁴ *Ibid.* A nephew of Sarah Miller Cornell reported in 1892 that he had heard her talk of Washington's fondness for her children, and of his taking them in his arms.

⁵ Oral tradition not documented.

Martha Miller and her sister went on a secret mission for General Washington. In the summer of 1778, Washington was again for several weeks at White Plains. Washington also attempted to cooperate with the French fleet, which had just arrived, in an attempt to capture New York. Martha Miller, then but fourteen years of age, and her sister, a little older, volunteered to deliver a message to a point desired by the Commander-in-Chief; he, knowing their courage and discretion, entrusted them with this important mission. They delivered the message and returned home unharmed.⁶

Sarah Miller knew how to stand up for her country. While the British troops were passing the Miller house one day, an officer rode up on horseback and demanded a drink of water from Sarah. She gave it to him from a dipper. He, a surly fellow, kept in check by her dignity, said 'You should give a British officer a glass to drink out of.' She replied, 'Your soldiers have stolen them all.'⁷

WASHINGTON'S HEADQUARTERS – THE ELIJAH MILLER HOUSE⁸

Built in 1738, with an addition about 1770, the little farmhouse has stood on Virginia Road in North White Plains for almost 270 years. Elijah Miller and two of the Miller sons died fighting for our country.

Elijah Miller was adjutant for Colonel James Drake's Westchester regiment of minutemen. General Nathaniel Woodhull, president of the New York congress, signed his commission as adjutant on October 27, 1775. Before the war for independence Elijah Miller held a commission as first lieutenant of Captain Fowler's company of foot, Westchester county militia, signed by William Tryon, Governor, under King George, of the province of New York, and dated June 25, 1772. As of 1892 both commissions were in good condition, and owned by Mr. F.L. Halsted of Brooklyn, a descendant of Adjutant Miller. Elijah Miller's sword was taken apart a few years prior to 1892, and the silver hilt was melted and made into silver spoons for heirlooms.⁹

⁶ Ibid.

⁷ Ibid.

⁸ Refer to North Castle History, Vol. 31, 2004.

⁹ Magazine of American History, "Historic Homes and Landmarks", Vol. XXVIII, October 1892, No. 4, p. 253 (New Haven).

For more than 150 years after the American Revolution the Miller House was recognized and celebrated as one of George Washington's Headquarters. However, in 1932 a question was raised as to whether the Miller House or the Purdy House was the "1 and only" headquarters during the Battle of White Plains.

Certainly no one can argue whether the 1738 farmhouse on Virginia Road in North White Plains where the American forces entrenched on the hill above is the "1 and Only" Miller House, or whether it was used by General Washington as one of his headquarters during the war for independence.

Thomas R. Parker, a former professor of history for New York University and Hunter College, and chairman of North Castle's Historic Landmarks Subcommittee of the Bicentennial Committee, presented compelling evidence in his 32-page publication, Washington's Headquarters at the Battle of White Plains, that the Elijah Miller House was used by General Washington during the Battle of White Plains.

In 1976 the Elijah Miller House was accepted for addition to the National Register of Historic Places as one of General Washington's Headquarters during the American Revolution.¹⁰

Westchester County Parks Commissioner Joseph Caverly and Deputy Commissioner Paul Lohner and historians of the White Plains Chapter of the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution, led by Mrs. Denslow Dade, Regent, made major contributions towards the development of Mr. Parker's successful application to the National Register of Historic Places.

Action by Westchester County is Long Overdue

Since 1917 the people of Westchester County have owned Washington's Headquarters – The Elijah Miller House. The care and safekeeping of the house and property have been entrusted to the Westchester County Department of Parks, Recreation and Conservation.

¹⁰ North Castle has three properties listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The other two are Smith's Tavern and the Bedford Road Historic District, both in Armonk.

However, the building has not been maintained and continues to deteriorate. Westchester County employees removed furniture and furnishings from the building for safekeeping. Staffing by County employees was discontinued. Additional care and repairs by the County are needed.

Westchester County Department of Parks, Recreation and Conservation must accomplish the preservation necessary to protect this 1738 national treasure. Historic preservationists make the following plea: Safeguard the "1 and Only" Elijah Miller House – Washington's Headquarters.



Collections of The New York Public Library

**THE MILLER HOUSE – WASHINGTON'S HEADQUARTERS
AT THE WHITE PLAINS, N.Y.**

The original of this engraving is in a repository of The New York Public Library, Print Collection, Miriam and Ira D. Wallach Division of Art, Prints and Photographs. Abram Hosier did the drawing, and H. B. Hall made the engraving.

LOG CABIN FARMS

from The American Roadside by James Agee¹

Now there are stands and stands. Stands that started on shoestrings have become whole shoe stores. Such is the Log Cabin Farms² near Armonk, New York, on Route 22.³ Its history is the history of the whole industry in miniature. It began with the shed that farmer Frank Webster built in 1916, where first he marketed his rusty cider from a barrel with a tin cup. Next he tried selling hot coffee in his kitchen and soon he put out honey from his own hives. But it was his nephew whose name is Schmaling who really built up the place.

Webster Schmaling⁴ was an aviator in the War and when he came back he brought a fresh point of view. When an old friend from the Adirondacks visited him he found out how to build a log cabin, and they built one from his own logs. Therein he laid out loaves of bread and plates of butter and cheese and let you make your own sandwiches to go with your cider. The place took its name from the building, rapidly acquiring both a character and a clientele.

Schmaling used to peddle corn around White Plains and Port Chester at two cents an ear, delivered. One day he left a load hitched alongside the cabin. When he came back it was sold out - at two cents an ear on the spot. He never hauled another load. They put up a stand in front of the cabin and sold fresh farm produce in season, and homemade ice cream and cake.

The next winter Schmaling fooled around with doughnut recipes and by summer (1920) they had added doughnuts and a soda fountain. And what were the profits? Well, in 1922 Uncle Webster retired to Florida on his share. The log cabin's first financial melon had been split.

¹ Noted American author James Agee's article appearing in Fortune Magazine is excerpted in "Touring the 1930s American Roadscape", created by Kristin Amacker for the American Studies Program Spring 2002; website http://xroads.virginia.edu/~MA02/amacker/roadscape/scanned_fortune/bk_rdside.htm

² Refer to North Castle History, Vol. 12, 1985.

³ Prior to construction of "new" Route 22, "old" Route 22 was the main road. The Log Cabin stood approximately where the building 333 Main Street stands today.

⁴ Webster Schmaling was cousin of George P. (Buck) Schmaling, who served as Receiver of Taxes for the Town of North Castle from 1946 until 1961. Refer to North Castle History, Vol. 26, 1999.

Nephew Schmaling built a log kitchen and spent \$2,200 on a nickel-slot violin. In no time the machine had brought in \$4,000 and Schmaling was hiring twenty-five helpers regularly for the weekend trade. In 1924 he bought the big (2,200 gallons per day) cider mill. But the War had made him airplane crazy. He wanted to fly again and gradually he lost interest in Log Cabin Farms.

An old visitor drove up in 1929 with a new light in his eye. He had heard that the Log Cabin Farms was for sale. August Hussar was a Brooklyn farm-products jobber who had been playing the market on the side and who was losing faith. He wanted to get out before it was too late, and he'd always wanted a farm. That evening Schmaling mentioned a bottle of rye with which he was going to christen a new plane. Hussar said, "If you'll open that bottle instead of breaking it, I'll buy the farm." Schmaling opened the bottle.

The next morning Hussar had forty-five acres, 800 feet of frontage on Route 22, the cabin and the stands, the house and the barn and the big mill, eight cows, 5,000 White Leghorns, and a great flock of unsold hot dogs. And Schmaling, who now runs the Bedford airport, had \$165,000 in cash - the second fortune to come out of the roadside stand.

The next year Hussar added his big \$2,500 dining room. He designed it himself, and his help built it with flooring from a seminary in Valhalla and leaded windows from the Florsheim (shoe) estate. He put cigar and beer and sandwich counters out front.

Hussar's taste in the rustic is as sound as his predecessors. The walls support stuffed animal heads, the chandeliers are cider jugs, and it costs Hussar \$300 a year to renew the imitation branches and leaves. The room is kept very dim on purpose, lady motorists like it like that. Nowadays a ten-piece orchestra plays each night, and Hussar carries about \$10,000 worth of beer and liquor (gin's the favorite) in stock. A lot of people still bring their own, but he has less trouble with drunks now than in the old days. The theft of stuffed animals (about a dozen a year) and similar keepsakes is the bother now, that and the ladies' room - "My God they even swipe the tiles off the wall - I'm not kidding."

But all in all it's worth it and more. On big nights as many as a thousand guests crowd the dining and dancing place, and counting in the stands and all, Hussar rates very near a million visitors a year, and hopes to take in

\$175,000 in 1934. Mr. Hussar does not break down his income: beer and broilers are one to him. His 1933 expenses were about \$144,650 and against this he took in \$160,000, netting \$15,350.

He would note the expenses for 1933 were something like this:

Salary amount to 56 Employees who live on the place	\$46,000
Board account to 56 Employees who live on the place	18,000
To poultry farm (feed, repairs, etc.)	15,000
For groceries bought over and above his own produce)	40,000
For fuel and light	5,000
For ice cream, candy, and cigars	10,000
For laundry (aprons and coats only; he uses no table linen	1,000
For paper napkins	1,000
Miscellaneous	8,650



Collections of The North Castle Historical Society, donated by L. H. Welling

LOG CABIN FARMS, ARMONK, NEW YORK
Corner View – Main Dining Room – Seating Capacity 1500

“... and it costs Hussar \$300 a year to renew the imitation branches and leaves”



Collections of The North Castle Historical Society

**New York State Route 22 (now Route 128) – Armonk (looking South)
1931 photograph by Con Filardi**

Leaving Armonk in 1931 one could purchase a gallon of Gulf gas for 12 ½ cents per gallon plus three cents tax. The Log Cabin sign reads “Log Cab-Inn”.



Collections of The North Castle Historical Society

**New York State Route 22 (now Route 128)– Armonk (looking North)
1931 photograph by Con Filardi**

Entering Armonk in 1931 one passed dog boarding, breeding and kennels on the right and then arrived at the Log Cabin (shown on the left in the photograph). The Methodist Church steeple can be seen in the rear center of the photograph.

**WILLIAM BOWRON HOUSE
GEORGE LEISURE HOUSE, 1976 Photograph**

William Bowron had a milk business in New York and was one of the first men to sell milk door to door in New York City. This was his country home. George S. Leisure purchased the house in 1930. He was a partner in the well-known New York City law firm of Donovan, Leisure. The house was destroyed when the property was subdivided and developed for homes in the late 1980s.

The original (right-hand part) of the house was thought to date back to the 1760s. The original road ran directly by the house and intersected with Old Mt. Kisco Road prior to going into Sands Mills. Reportedly the corner stone of the home bore the inscription "G W 1766", but the meaning of the initials has never been authenticated.

In 1834 Isiah Quinby conveyed this property to James Sands, a brother of the operator of Sands Mills. A daughter Hannah and her husband Jacob Bowron Carpenter (1812-1876) lived here through 1876. He was the son of Sarah Bowron and Rees Carpenter, who owned much of the Sands Mills property. Title transfers also indicate that several members of the Bowron and Hargraves families resided here.

In 1902 the actor Harry Davenport, who became famous for his role as Dr. Meade in the 1939 movie *Gone With the Wind*, acquired this home. Reportedly the house was a rendezvous for such famous theatrical people as John Drew; Lionel, John and Ethel Barrymore; Ruth Chatterton and others.

The old 1798 Quaker Meeting House stood on the grounds before it was saved and moved in 1994 to The North Castle Historical Society property at 440 Bedford Road, Armonk.

Please forward any corrections or additions to the information presented herein and/or your constructive suggestions for improving this publication to your editorial board at The North Castle Historical Society, Historic Smith's Tavern, 440 Bedford Road, Armonk, New York 10504. If you would be willing to research and/or author an article, please let us know. Different writers and diverse perspectives are vital.

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