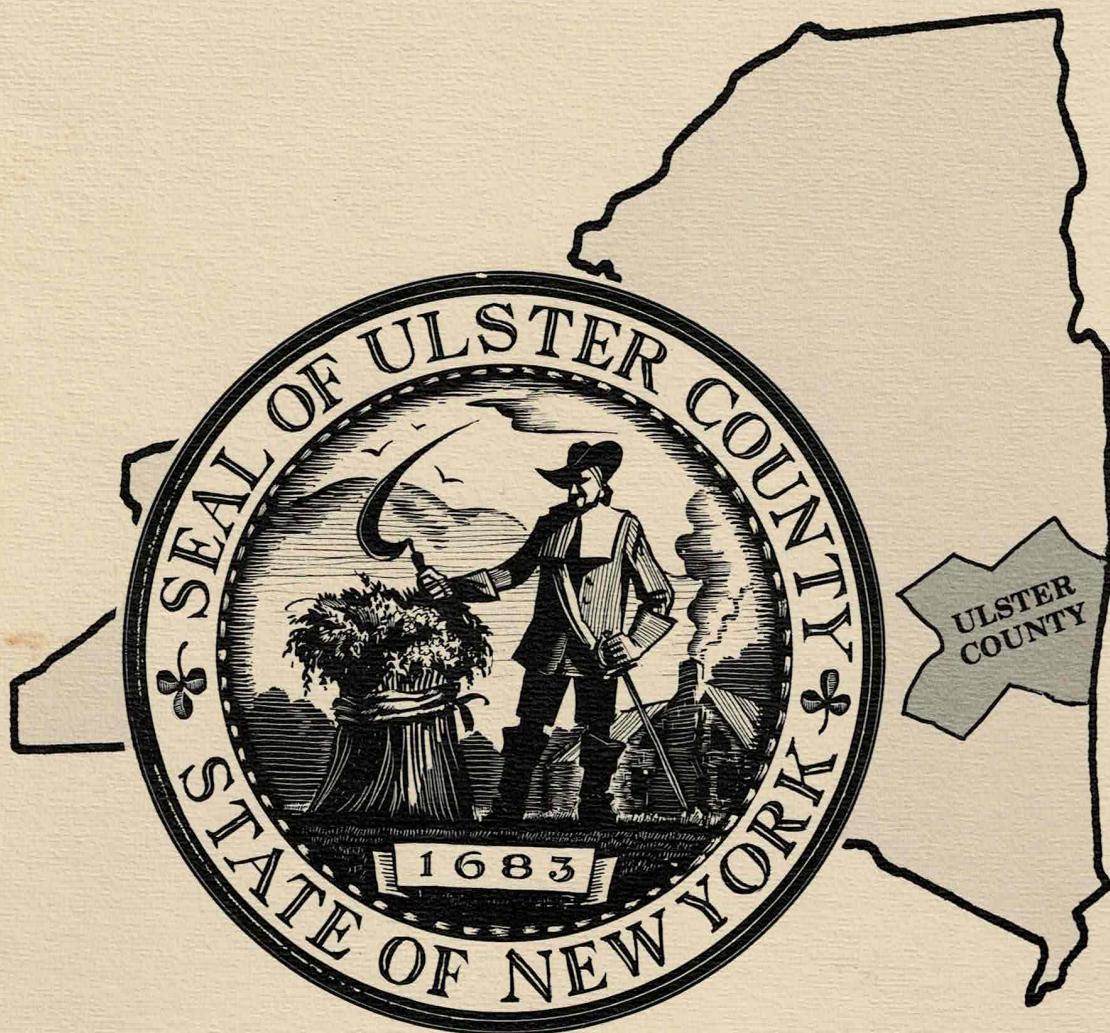
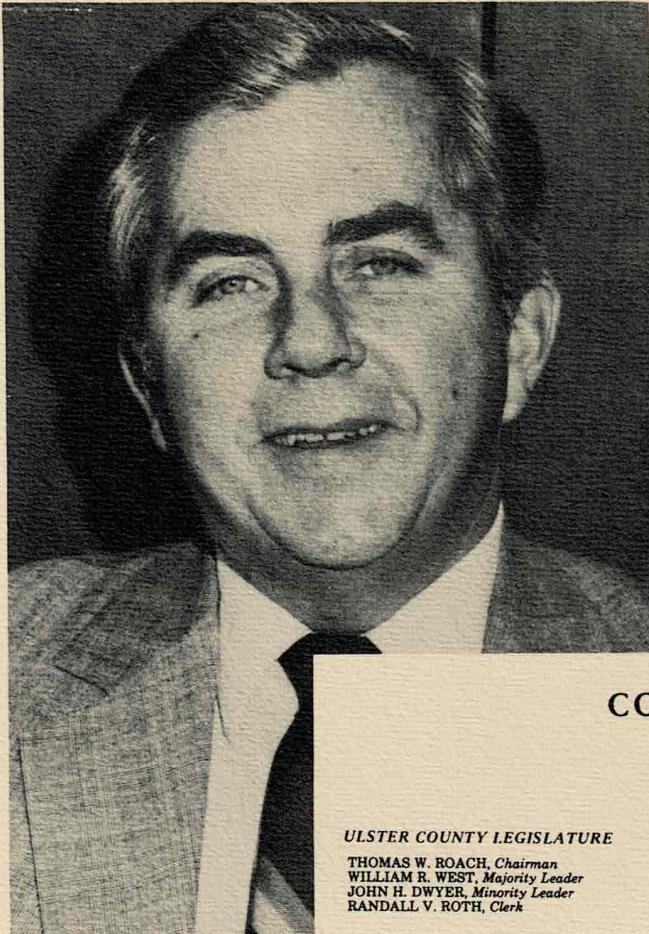


Ulster County Tercentennial



1683 - 1983



COUNTY OF ULSTER

244 FAIR STREET

BOX 1800

KINGSTON, NEW YORK 12401

ULSTER COUNTY LEGISLATURE

THOMAS W. ROACH, *Chairman*
WILLIAM R. WEST, *Majority Leader*
JOHN H. DWYER, *Minority Leader*
RANDALL V. ROTH, *Clerk*



Telephone:
914-331-9300
Ext. 489

Dear Visitors and Friends,

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the Ulster County Tercentennial Commission for this publication, and for the very interesting and exciting program of activities it has planned and coordinated in celebration of the historic event of Ulster County's 300th anniversary.

Inspired by our rich past, which provides a strong link to the present and future, the program reflects the individuality of our residents and allows them the opportunity to participate in experiences that have personal significance and lasting value.

Ulster County is the product of more than three centuries of growth and development. One of the original counties of the State of New York, it was born on the first day of November, 1683. It has witnessed the days of the Indians, the years of Dutch rule and settlement, survived the burning of Kingston, and has played the leading role in the birth of the state government.

It is, therefore, fitting to mark the events that belong to our history, to fuel the flame of pride that ignites the spirit, upon which the future rests.

I most cordially invite all of our residents to join with me in celebrating this most historic occasion, with an enthusiasm that speaks of a genuine respect and love for our distinguished county.

Sincerely,

Thomas W. Roach, Jr.
Chairman
Ulster County Legislature

TERCENTENNIAL COMMISSION



Standing left to right: Hildegard Frey, Edward Arace, Rosemary Hutton, Marianne Darrow, Thomas Reynolds Jr., Sister Catherine Gormley, Harry Castiglione, Donna Miller and Edward Levine.

Sitting: Al DeLuca, Rose LeFever, Emily Kane, Co-Chairman, Randall Roth, Co-Chairman, Alice Tipp, and Ralph Biche.

Absent Commission members: Robert Pritchard, Harry Rigby, Sharon Torraca, and Clifford Henze.

On November 1, 1683 twelve counties were established, which joined to create the State of New York. One of those original twelve was Ulster County.

The First Capitol of the State of New York, Ulster County boasts a rich history with its many stone houses and beautiful and stately churches, such as the Old Dutch Church, built in Kingston in 1852. Ulster County has steadily moved forward for the past three hundred years, with a current population of 158,158.

The Ulster County Tercentennial Commission, appointed by Thomas W. Roach, Jr., Chairman of the County Legislature, has planned a very exciting year to celebrate this three hundredth Birthday of Ulster County.

On November 1, 1982, a ceremony was held on the steps of the Ulster County Court House, to officially begin this year-long celebration. Each of the twenty Town Supervisors with the Mayor of the City of Kingston lit a candle to light the entire area while the crowd joined in a singing of America The Beautiful.

On May 7th, representatives from throughout Ulster County joined in a gala parade in Kingston, complete with memorable floats and displays, making it one of the largest parades ever held there.

On Flag Day, June 14th, a ceremony will be held at the County Court House, where the original Tablet on the structure will be rededicated. The tablet, presented by "The Society of the Colonial Dames of America" in 1898, has been completely restored, with its inscription presented herewith on the inside back cover, together with the Court House photograph.

In addition, among the host of events throughout the County celebrating this momentous time in history, will be the American Waterways Floating Theatre, which will present a program from August 2-6 on the waterfront at Rondout. Featured will be a concert Friday, August 5 (rain date August 6) by the American Wind Symphony Orchestra.

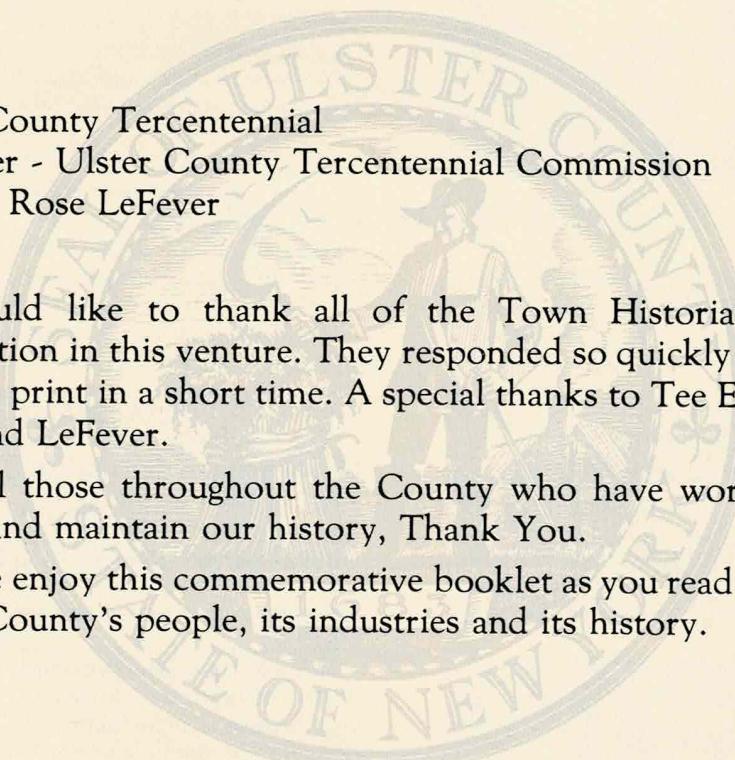
All of the celebrating will draw to a close on November 5, 1983 with a Ball, at the Capri Restaurant. Federal, State and County dignitaries will be present for the occasion. Appropriately, tickets for the event are \$16.83 per person.

This celebration, indeed, renews our appreciation and pride in Ulster County's rich historical heritage.

ROSE LE FEVER
Ulster County Associate Historian

This Tercentennial book is dedicated to
Colonel Frank Fabbie,
former Clerk of the Ulster County Legislature, who was the inspiration
for the Ulster County Tercentennial Celebration.

A man of extraordinary Spirit and Compassion with unsurpassed
Dedication to God, Country and Fellow Man.



Ulster County Tercentennial
Publisher - Ulster County Tercentennial Commission
Editor - Rose LeFever

I would like to thank all of the Town Historians for their cooperation in this venture. They responded so quickly we were able to go to print in a short time. A special thanks to Tee Ellsworth and Raymond LeFever.

To all those throughout the County who have worked to save, record and maintain our history, Thank You.

Please enjoy this commemorative booklet as you read a little about Ulster County's people, its industries and its history.

The Editor

TOWN OF DENNING

Jane Smith

Historian

On March 6, 1849, the Town of Denning was created by an act of the State Legislature and was formed from the Town of Shandaken. The first town meeting was held on April 9, 1849, in the only log school and Albert VanDover was chosen the first tax collector. His roll is well-preserved in the Ulster County Treasurer's office. It lists seventy-one names.

Early settlers came to Denning to cut down the vast forest of hard woods and mill it into lumber. Many of those settlers were carpenters and furniture and cabinet

makers, while others built sleighs and wagons. Later men came to strip the bark from hemlock trees to feed the prolific and profitable tanning industry. The bark was necessary for the tanning process.

Today, people are drawn to Denning's mountain scenery that must be seen to be appreciated. Increasing numbers of summer tourists, campers and day-trippers alike, seek out Denning, many to fish for native trout in its numerous mountain streams.



TOWN OF ESOPUS

Mary Polhemus

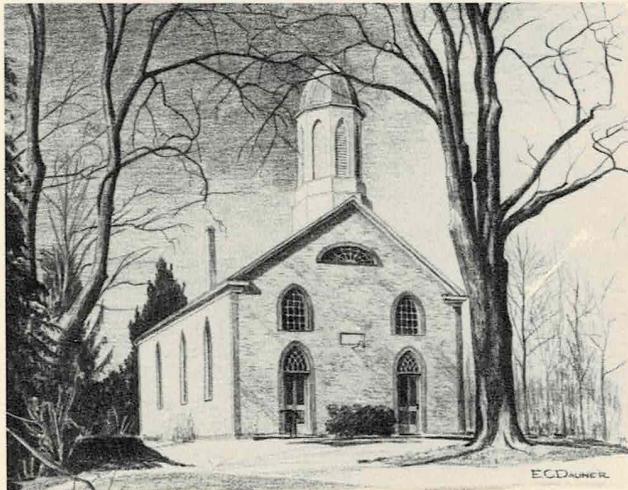
Town Historian

Town of Esopus covers an area of 20,000 acres and has a population of 7800. It is appropriately named. Esopus means "Land of high banks and flowing waters". On its west flows the Wallkill, on its north, the Rondout, and along its east, for 10 miles, the Hudson. The towns of Lloyd and New Paltz border it on its south. Its topography is a series of low hills and gently sloping valleys, with the high ridges of Shaupeneak Mt. and

Hussey Hill running north and south in its center.

The first Indians settled here along the high banks of the Hudson as early as 3000 B.C. The first settlers came from Holland in the 1660's. Originally part of the Esopus colony that became Kingston, it was called Klyne (little) Esopus. Separating from Kingston, it became the Town of Esopus, April 5th, 1811, and elected John J. LeFever as Supervisor and Jonathan Snyder as Town Clerk.

Its most rapid growth occurred following the opening of the Delaware and Hudson Canal in 1835. The Rifton area became a manufacturing center using the power generated by the falls in the Wallkill to produce tools, blankets, carpets, explosives, and finally electricity. Port Ewen was developed in 1851 as a terminus for the canal by the Pennsylvania Coal Co. Ship yards developed at Connelly and Sleightsburgh. Cement, bricks, building stone, slate and sand brought thriving industries to the hamlets along the Rondout and the Hudson. Many of the river steamers, tugboats and barges plying the Rondout and the Hudson were manned by residents of Port Ewen and Sleightsburgh. The Mary Powell's home was at Port Ewen. Ice harvesting and fishing were prevalent along the Hudson. Fruit growing was the leading agricultural industry and still thrives. The wealthy established estates and mansions along the Hudson in Esopus and West Park. Most of these are now the property of religious orders. Presently Hercules, Callanan's and Medrex are the only large industries. Small businesses line the sides of busy 9W, but most of the town is now residential. Present supervisor is Marilyn Coffey. Town Clerk is Anne Hiller.



Pencil sketch by Eugene C. Dauner of the Klyne Esopus Historical Society Museum. It was formerly the Ulster Park Reformed Church which was closed in 1968. It was built in 1827 by the "Low Dutch Church and Congregation of Klyne Esopus". The Klyne Esopus Historical Society now owns it and is restoring it, with plans to open it in 1984 as a museum of local history.

TOWN OF GARDINER

Kenneth Hasbrouck

Historian

The Town of Gardiner, formed from parts of the Towns of Shawangunk, Rochester and New Paltz, April 2, 1853, was named for Addison Gardiner of Rochester, New York, who was elected Lieutenant-Governor of the State in 1844.

The aqueduct of 1910 brought workers and their families to the town. In 1910 the Supervisor's Report noted that the Town of Gardiner had sufficient revenue so that citizens did not have to pay any taxes that year.

The Village of Gardiner developed as a result of the Wallkill Valley Railroad being built in 1869. The station at Gardiner was first known as Guilford Station, but it caused such confusion for passengers (the name already in use by another station) that the name was changed to Gardiner Station.

Tuthilltown, once called only Tuthill, was a very busy market in the early 1800's and is the oldest settlement of trade in the town. Later the name Ganaghote was given the part on the east side of the bridge. Today, the name Guilford has been appropriated from the real Guilford, located about a mile and a half north of Tuthilltown. Selah Tuthill built the present historical landmark (the mill) about 1788. The mill has continued in operation.

Benton's Corner has been identified with the Schoonmaker family from a very early period. The original homestead stood on the present Nicholas Dellano property. Rutsonville was named in honor of J. Rutson, an early patent holder. John Rutson and Jacobus Bruyn were granted a patent of land June 16, 1712, comprising 3,710 acres. A part of this tract was in the Town of Gardiner.

The first settlers of the Libertyville section were Solomon and Louis DuBois and the Indian name for the



District #13 Kettleborough School (1832) Route 208, Gardiner.

area was Nescatock. It became Libertyville in the 1880's when the first post office was established in the old store opposite the school building.

The Shawangunk Mountains, which extend in a southwesterly direction from near the center of Ulster County on the Hudson River to the southwest corner of the County, were named by clans of the Esopus Indians who roamed this region. The clan on the east side of the Shawangunks were called the Warranawonkongs. The name Shawangunk means "White Rocks." Some references give the meaning as "Place of falling waters." Others state that it means "South mountain, or south water." The first interpretation is most likely the correct one.



TOWN OF HARDENBERGH

Betty Baker

Historian

On April 15, 1859, the People of the State of New York, represented in the Senate and Assembly did exact as follows: "There shall be erected out of parts of the town of Denning and Shandaken, in the County of Ulster, a new town to be called the "Town of Hardenbergh".

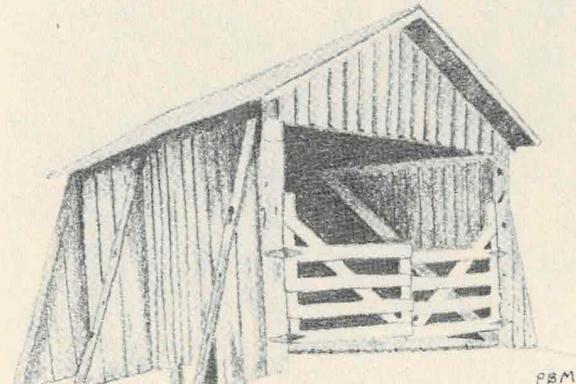
The name of Hardenbergh being taken in honor of the original patentee Johannes Hardenbergh. It consists of approximately 50,000 acres of land, a large portion is now owned by New York State. It contains five charming wilderness lakes; Alder, Balsam, Beecher,

Turlough and Tunis. Most of the headwaters of the three main streams the Dry Brook, Millbrook and Beaverkill are privately owned by fishing clubs.

Like all areas this old, Hardenbergh has undergone many changes. Until very recent times (the 1960's on) the main mode of living was gleaned from dairy farming and its agricultural off shoots. Naturally in clearing the forests for farming many land owners utilized its by-products as part of their livelihood. Some were the bark era, acid wood times, summer boarding homes, lumbering, growing of cauliflower, sprouts and cabbage.

As age overtook our farmers, along with more stringent government regulations, and improved highway systems, their acreage was sold. Sometimes in large lots, but more often small parcels. Most of which the new owners, from the metropolitan area use for second homes.

Many buildings erected in the townships beginnings



FORGE COVERED BRIDGE
SEAGER, NEW YORK

still stand and are occupied by the ancestors. Three of our churches are amongst them. Two are in the Dry Brook section. The former Methodist Church 1867 is now owned by the Dry Brook Community Association and is still used for religious observances. The advent Church 1897 is now used as a private home. The third church is located at the foot of Cross Mt. in the Beaverkill portion of the town. Most of the school houses are now used as camps and/or second homes. As one can see Hardenbergh has many outstanding features. Of the six existing covered bridges in Ulster County's entirety, four can be found in Hardenbergh. Three in the Dry Brook area; the Forge, privately owned and restored; Tappan, town owned; Meyers, county owned. Even though the latter two are in daily use they are in dire need of repair, suffering from neglect and abuse. It is hoped that town and county officials will soon do something to aid and abet these landmark 'Timbers of Time' before they are lost forever! The fourth is Grants Mills located in the Millbrook Valley. This is no longer used, and some monies have been spent to aid in its preservation. They have all withstood the ravages of floods, time, and negligence since the early 1900's, when most modern bridges have either been destroyed or replaced.



TOWN OF HURLEY

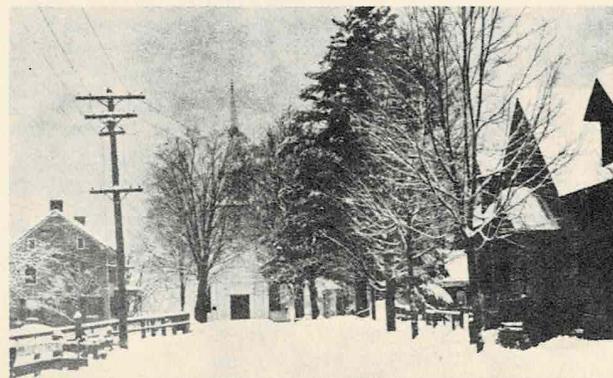
Olive Clearwater

Historian

The town of Hurley takes its name from the village of Hurley. The original name of the settlement was Nieuw Dorp, which means New Village in the Dutch language. In 1669 Sir Francis Lovelace was appointed governor of New York and his brother, Dudley Lovelace was sent into Ulster County . . . (to) name the several towns . . . On September 18, 1669 the commissioner wrote that the Nieuw Dorp was named Hurley after the paternal estate of the governor.

On June 7, 1663 an Indian attack burned the entire village of Hurley. The Indians captured women and children, taking them off as prisoners. The men were working in the fields, and were not present to protect their families. On September 7, three months after their capture, the families were rescued. The settlers had requested the military to affect the rescue, and this time was spent determining where the prisoners were, gathering forces for the rescue, and then waiting for the harvest to be completed. The important thing to the settlers was the gathering of the crops.

October 16, 1777 the British attacked and burned Wiltwyck (Kingston). The people of Wiltwyck fled to Hurley, and the Council of Safety, appointed by the



HURLEY, N.Y. 1908

State Legislature, fled to Marbletown to the house of Andrew Oliver. Their sessions were continued in Marbletown, until November 18, when they adjourned to Hurley where they met at the home of Jan VanDeusen. Thus Hurley was virtually the capital of New York State for one month.

The 25 old stone houses in and around the village of Hurley were designated a National Historic Region in 1963. Population in 1980 was 7,050.

TOWN OF KINGSTON

Katherine Burton

Historian

The Town of Kingston is a small municipality nestled in the valley between the City of Kingston and Woodstock. Originally, it surrounded the City and included the Town of Ulster, part of Woodstock and Hurley. The heart of the town began to be settled by the late 17th century, mainly by small farmers and millers who used the Sawkill Creek for grinding grain and making gunpowder. Primarily a self-sufficient community engaged in some commercial trade on the Hudson River, Sawkill as the center of the town, changed dramatically with the discovery of Bluestone and with the influx of immigrants who came to live in the town and work the quarries.

Extensive quarrying of Bluestone began with the opening of the Delaware and Hudson Canal, which facilitated the transport of heavy rock slabs, and the increased demand of growing Northeast cities for stone to pave sidewalks and streets.

Most of the people who lived on Hill Road and Jockey Hill were Irish. The thriving stone trade encouraged the growth and flourishing of the area. The Catholic Church was opened on Jockey Hill in 1869 and a school began operating soon afterward.

Shortly thereafter, intense competition and cut-throat operations, coupled with a slowing of the Canal economy (now being challenged by railroads) began to have impact on the Bluestone workers.

Bluestone quarrying continued on a lesser scale typically by local residents who also did farming as a

means of support. Around the 1920's, "taking" summer boarders became a popular pastime with town people as well as a boost to the economy. Although a new school was built at this time, growth of the town was stymied until the end of W.W.II. Because of the establishment of new and expanding industry in Ulster County during the 1950's and 1960's, the town experienced the national trend of suburban growth. In recent years, it has also had to grapple with important environmental issues and the question of a return to Bluestone quarrying. But its scale allows the town to retain its essential small town character and effective government.



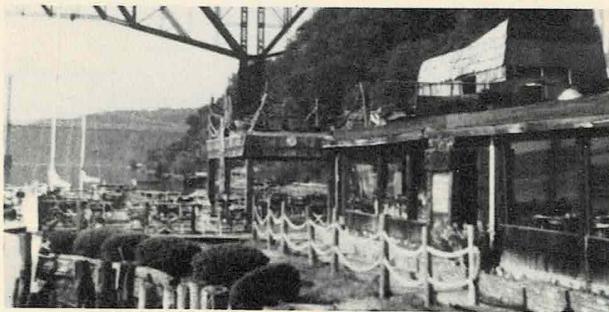
BLUESTONE QUARRY MEN
(Left to right) William Hulsair, Frank Joy. Murphy Quarry 1920



TOWN OF LLOYD

Beatrice Hasbrouck Wadlin

Historian



This is Mariner's Harbor Restaurant. Shows the end of The Railroad Bridge and small boats on the Hudson River.

The area of our township was part of the Township of New Paltz from earliest of times to 1845. About 8.6 miles of Hudson River frontage were passed by Henry Hudson, by the early settlers going to Wiltwyck and Fort Orange, bombarded by the British in 1777 on the day they burned Kingston and seen by Robert Fulton in 1809. But mostly it was the spot for east-west river crossings and travel. A trolley line connected the river area with New Paltz 1894-1925.

New Paltz Landing was a thriving river port with ferries to Poughkeepsie and sloops to N.Y.C. Today Mariner's Harbor Restaurant on the water edge is a delightful place to eat and watch river activities. The

West Shore R.R. and several large fires demolished the buildings of the original Landing and business moved up the hill to where Highland P.O. is today.

Raising fruit has always been the main occupation. Today the wineries are pleasant places to visit. Orchards of blooms in the Spring and beautiful fruit in the Fall make a good sightseeing tour. Large coolers and processing plants are on the farms.

Lloyd claims to have the oldest frame house in Ulster County still standing without extensive alterations -- Yelverton at 39 Maple Ave., Highland.

Fine schools, five churches, a library, a summer recreation park and town organizations are all available here together with river views and mountain vistas. Present population close to 8,000.



TOWN OF MARBLETOWN

Dorothy E. Pratt

Historian

The Town of Marbletown was settled as early as 1669, but did not receive its patent until the 25th of June, 1703. The patent was granted by Col. Henry Beekman, Capt. Thomas Garton, and Capt. Charles Brodhead in trust for the inhabitants. The trustees continued to be elected annually, until 1808.

By 1672, there were fifty-three houses on the site of the village of Marbletown, most of them log dwellings. The surface of the town is hilly upland, broken by the valleys of the streams. The Esopus flows through the northern part, while the Rondout runs through the southeast corner with a fall at High Falls. The town, like the county, changing as a part for Olive was removed in 1823, while the part for Rosendale was in 1844.

The men, who applied for land in 1703, were Capt. Richard Brodhead, John Cock Senior, Moses DuPuy, Jeremy Kittle Jr., Loondert Kool, William Nottingham, Gysbert Roosa, Thomas Van der Mark, and Richard Wilson.

Of the pre Revolutionary houses now standing in Ulster County, the one at Stone Ridge, known as the Wynkoop Lounsbury house, was built in or before 1772, by Cornelius E. Wynkoop, Major of the Minute men. He was born the 4, March, 1746, died the 19th of September, 1795, aged 49 years, was buried by the "new" church at Marbletown. On August 22nd, 1766, he was married to Cornelia Mancius, daughter of the Rev. George Wilhelmus and Cornelia (Kiersted)

Mancius, minister of the First Dutch Reformed Church of Kingston. General Washington spent the night here, before going on to Hurley for the reception.

After the burning of Kingston, in 1777, the courts were held for a time at Marbletown, in the house of Johannis Tack, which is diagonally opposite the Wynkoop-Lounsbury house. At this time it was a public tavern.

The Council of Safety fled to Marbletown on the 19th of October, three days after the invasion of Kingston. They resumed their sessions at the house of Andrew Oliver. After being there a month, they removed to Hurley, on the 18th. of November, meeting at the house of Captain Jan Van Deusen, until the 17th. when they adjourned to Poughkeepsie.

In 1672, we had fifty-three houses in the Town of Marbletown, in 1870 our population was four thousand, two hundred twenty four. The assessed valuation of \$698,825.00 on 30,146 acres. In 1980 census we have four thousand nine hundred fifty-six.

Bibliography

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Wynkoop Genealogy
Ulster County Directory-1871
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TOWN OF MARLBOROUGH

John Mathews

Historian

The Town of Marlborough, which includes the Hamlets of Marlboro and Milton, is thought to have been named in honor of the Duke of Marlborough, although some suggest that it may have been indirectly so, after Marlboro in Massachusetts.

It is the Center and principal Community of the Hudson Valley Fruit Industry, with all other industry being thus oriented.

The area abounds in Historic, Romantic and Traditional Tales.



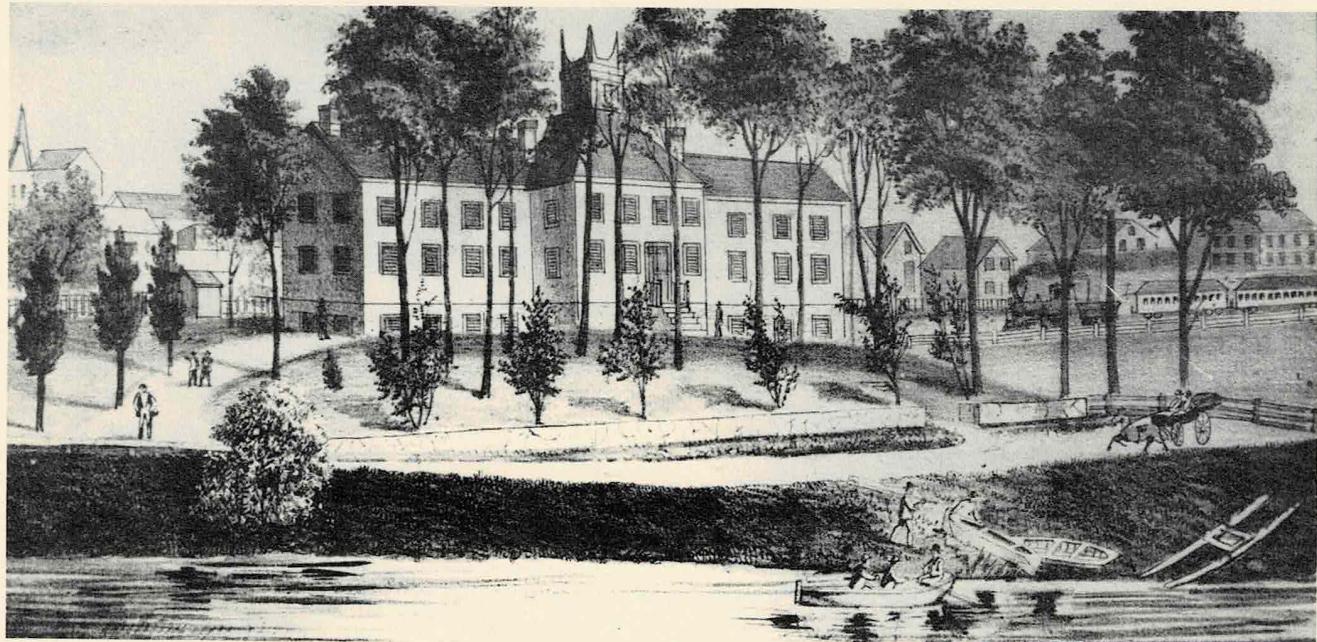
An Apple Orchard In Marlborough.



TOWN OF NEW PALTZ

Mrs. Donald Martin

Historian



New Paltz Academy Built 1833.

New Paltz was settled in 1678 by French Huguenots who had purchased the more than 39,000 acre tract from the Esopus Indians a few months before. New York English Governor, Edmund Andros granted the Huguenots a land patent for this fertile area which

stretched from the Shawangunk Mountains on the west to the Hudson River on the east.

Driven from their native land by religious persecution, many of these French Protestants found temporary refuge at Paltz on the Rhine in the German

Paltinate. Those who were to become the New Paltz Patentees eventually came to America and lived for a time in Hurley, New York before settling on the banks of the Wallkill River with their families. The Patentees decided this place should be named New Paltz in memory of the Rhineland Province which had first given them sanctuary.

Each year the stone houses built by the Patentees are visited by tourists and Huguenot descendants from around the world.

The State University of New York College at New Paltz is not only important to the economy of the Town,

but makes an equally important contribution to the cultural life of the community. The 1983 student body numbers 7,418. The predecessor of the present institution was the New Paltz Academy which was established in 1833 on Huguenot Street.

New Paltz ranks among the top five Towns in Ulster County in the production of fruit, principally apples.

According to the 1980 census figures, the Town of New Paltz has a population of 10,183 which includes village residents numbering 4,937.



TOWN OF OLIVE

Vera Sickler

Historian

By an Act of the New York State Legislature, the Town of Olive, as a Political Organization began its



This stone School was built in 1817 (before Olive became a Town). It served for 25 years all of northeast Olive children. In 1842 it ceased to be a school and was sold to my great grandfather, John DuBois (It was on his property) for \$12.00. It is now being reconstructed as it was in 1817 on the grounds of the Campus of the State University of New Paltz. In the future I will dedicate to the memory of my ancestors.

Vera M. Sickler

(This picture taken in 1890. I played in and out of the school when I was a small girl, VMS)

existence on April 15th 1823. It is an interior Town. The land taken from three Towns, Hurley, Marbletown and Shandaken. At that time there were 37,370 Acres. The Town received the name from the Bible, "Noah sent a dove out from the Ark and when the land was dry it returned with an Olive Leaf". By 1830 the census was 1636. The first Supervisor was Gordon Craig of Tongore (Olivebridge) N.Y.

The Esopus Creek flowed south east through the Town. Occupations through the years were Farming, Saw Mills on every stream of Water, Tanneries, Bluestone, Charcoal Burning, Hoop making etc. By 1900 these occupations were over except for farming.

By 1905 we were faced with the problem of the Ashokan Reservoir being constructed through the center of the Town. A Railroad was rerouted and seven Hamlets were displaced. Three were gone forever and four built back on the Shores of the Reservoir.

On Nov. 9 1971 the town seal was adopted, A Dove sitting on an Olive Branch.

In this year 1983, the Town Supervisor is E. Lee Denman. A growing Town with many new homes and Business Properties. The census is 3834.

By 1982 a Hydro Electric Plant replaced the Famous Ashokan Aerators. A fountain has been placed to preserve the Beauty of the area.

To the north and west the Catskills Mountains, an eternal Guardian over the Valley and the Town of Olive.

TOWN OF PLATTEKILL

Shirley Anson

Historian

Located in southern Ulster County, between the Shawangunk Mountains and the Marlborough Hills, Plattekill embraces the unincorporated villages of Ardonia, Clintondale, Modena, Plattekill and part of New Hurley. Formed 21 March 1800 from the Town of Marlborough, the 1800 census showed a population of 1,625 residents, including 20 slaves; steady growth over an 180 year period brought the population to 7,409 by 1980.

Containing fertile farm lands, interspersed with many homes and small businesses, the 1983 tax rolls show 4,986 acres of agricultural land within a total of 22,784

acres. Once a leading producer of grapes, apple production is the main industry of today. Retaining a rural appearance, Plattekill has been a popular area for tourists since the 1880's and still attracts numerous people to its resorts.

Presently, along with small stores and independent trades, the town is served by three post offices, three volunteer fire departments and four churches; Dutch Reformed, Friends (Quaker), Methodist and Catholic. The current town hall, built in 1973 and located in Modena, is the repository for surviving historical records of the town.



"Donaldson Farm - ca. 1892 - One of the largest grape producers."



TOWN OF ROCHESTER

Alice Schoonmaker (Mrs. John Jr.,)

Historian

The "Rochester Patent" was granted in 1703 .. Prior to this time the name of Mumbakus included the present

towns of Rochester and Wawarsing and also parts of the Town of Gardiner and Sullivan County .. It contained



*The John Schoonmaker Family
Town of Rochester
September 1919*

some 46,982 acres .. How early the first white people came to this area is unknown .. Mention is made of a survey of forty acres was made in 1676 but we are certain that a Thomas Quick purchased land from an Indian named Harmon Hekan in the early 1680s .. The grant to Anna Beek was made in 1684. Other grants followed these. Land was cleared for farms. Mills were built. In 1700 a log church was erected and preaching services were started in 1695 and in 1701 a church was duly organized .. In 1703 the record shows there were three hundred and thirty-four white persons living in the town .. A petition was made to have the town fully organized with power to sell lands in the town to those who wish to buy the parcels still unclaimed with trustees appointed for that purpose and the general welfare of the town. The Queen gave the patent dated "25th June in the Second year of our reign Annoqis Dui 1703". The Patent was granted by the Crown of England in honor of the Earl of Rochester .. In 1875, the population was 3,927 .. Today, 1983 the population is around 5,033.

The name Accord, given to the post office, was decided upon many years ago, and the tradition is that it

occured in the following manner: A meeting called to consider the question of name ended in confusion, "many men of many minds" not being able to agree .. somewhat irritated, a prominent citizen wrote to Washington, and in connection with the petition for an office suggested Discord .. The Department authorized the opening of the office promptly, but sent on the name Accord, and Accord it has been ever since .. At that time, the business district may be briefly stated as consisting of the Rondout Valley Hotel, owned by J. Mendleson; the Accord Hotel, owned by John J. Schoonmaker, a small store owned by Nelson Krom; near the canal store of Mr. Wood and of J. Mendleson.." (These were located at Lock 23 of the D&H Canal)..

The Town of Rochester is famous for its sweeping views of the scenic mountains .. Our rich farmlands are blessed with nearby streams .. The resort business still flourish and recreation of golf courses and swimming and hiking are most prominent. Three small airports are also a claim to our Rural scene .. History remains alive in the Dutch Stone Houses of which we have recorded stories on twenty-two which have been well preserved.



TOWN OF ROSENDALE

Ann Gilchrist

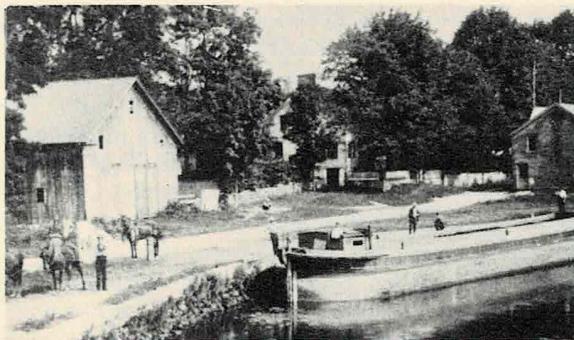
In 1825, when work had begun on the locks of the Delaware and Hudson Canal in High Falls, blasting

Historian

uncovered a natural, hydraulic cement which was extremely durable.

This discovery of cement led directly to the formation of the township of Rosendale in 1844. Taking lands that had been formerly included in the towns of Hurley, Marbletown and New Paltz, the state intended to place the booming cement industry under the control of one political body.

At its peak during the second half of the eighteenth century, the cement business involved the operation of at least 19 large companies and several smaller ventures and employed more than 5,000 men. Four million barrels of cement a year were produced which was 50 percent of the total production of natural cement in the United States.



The D&H Canal along Creek Locks Road. The house in the background was formerly occupied by Peter LeFever.



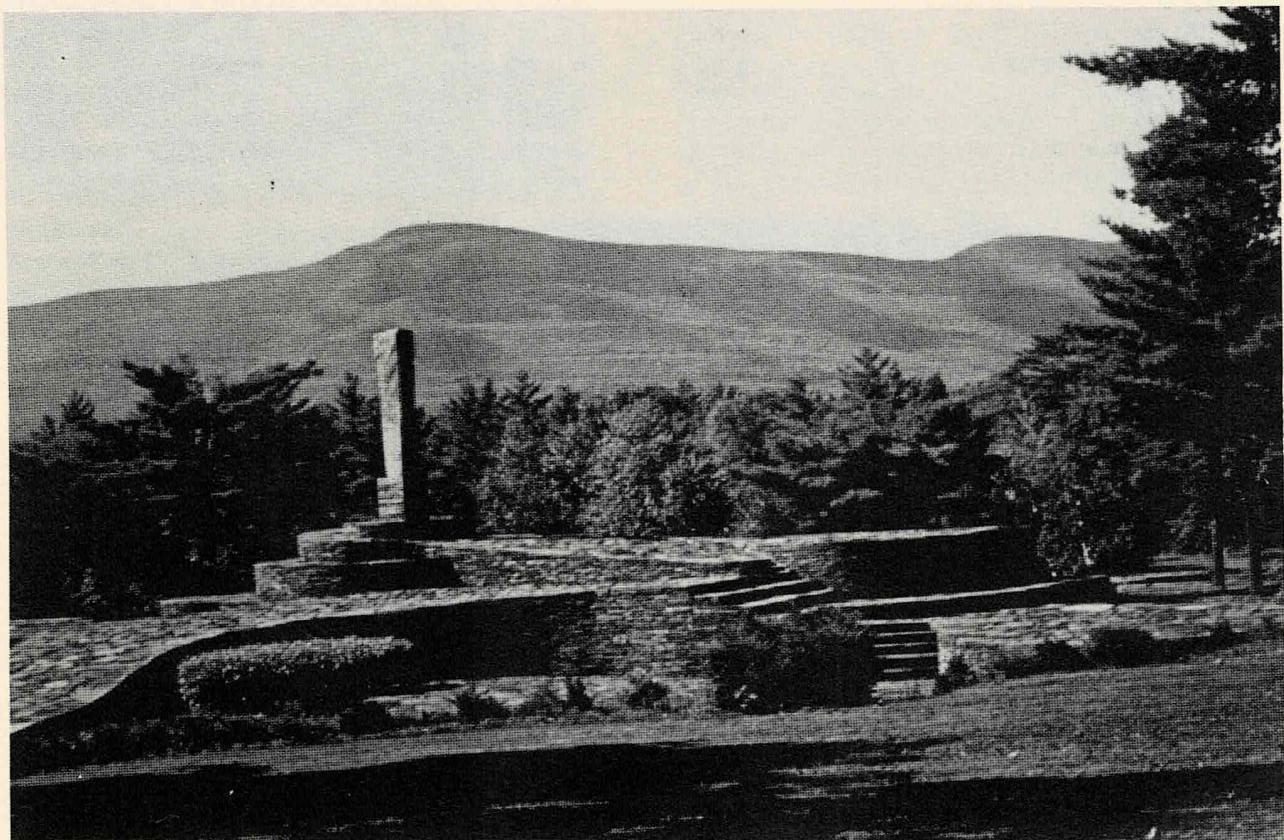
TOWN OF SAUGERTIES

Lloyd Loop

Historian

Three hundred years ago a man called Barent Cornelius Vogel built a sawmill on the Sawkill Creek

where it empties into the Hudson River. The Indians called him the "little sawyer" and the Dutch of Kingston



Opus 40 is a stone sculpture created by the late Harvey Fite. He worked 37 of the 40 years in this endeavor of creating stone work using quarry stone.

Opus 40 is located in the High Wood Section of the Town of Saugerties.

referred to the area as the "de Zaagerties", meaning "the Sawyer's". Thus the name of Saugerties.

The first known settler in the township of Saugerties was Cornelius Lambertson Brink and his wife. They made their home in the Mt. Marion area in 1688. His stone house is still being used as a residence. In 1819 the population was over ten thousand. In the 1980 U.S. Census the population is given as 17,975.

During its history Saugerties has witnessed the growth and the decline of some major businesses and large scale agriculture, although there are still many commercial enterprises in the town. There is a desire in the community to preserve its heritage, as witnessed by the restoration projects. There is also willingness by the citizens to work toward improving and beautifying the town.



TOWN OF SHANDAKEN

Edward G. West

Historian

On April 9, 1804, Governor George Clinton approved Chapter 80 of the laws of that year, creating the Town of Shandaken from the Town of Woodstock. Shandaken is the Northwest corner town of Ulster County. It can truly be described as "The Heart of the Catskills", as it is situated in the exact geographical center of the Catskill Mountains.

It has a difference of elevation of 1,500 feet from about 700 feet at Cold Brook to 4,180 feet on the summit of Slide Mountain, the highest point in the Catskills. There are nine peaks exceeding 3,500 feet wholly within the Town and two more (Big Indian and Eagle) over the summits of which runs the line between the Towns of Hardenberg and Shandaken.

The Town embraces an area of 75,968 acres, of which 62 per cent or 47,000 acres are State Forest Preserve. Over 35 per cent of all Forest Preserve land in Ulster County is in this Town and nearly 20 per cent of all the Catskill Forest Preserve.

From the beginning of the recorded history of the area, and even during its aboriginal occupation before the advent of the white man, hunting and fishing has occupied, directly and indirectly, a most important place in our existence. The Esopus Creek, long one of the famous and important trout streams of the world, may rightly be considered as a "life-line" of the Town of Shandaken. The word "Shandaken" is Indian and means "rapid water".



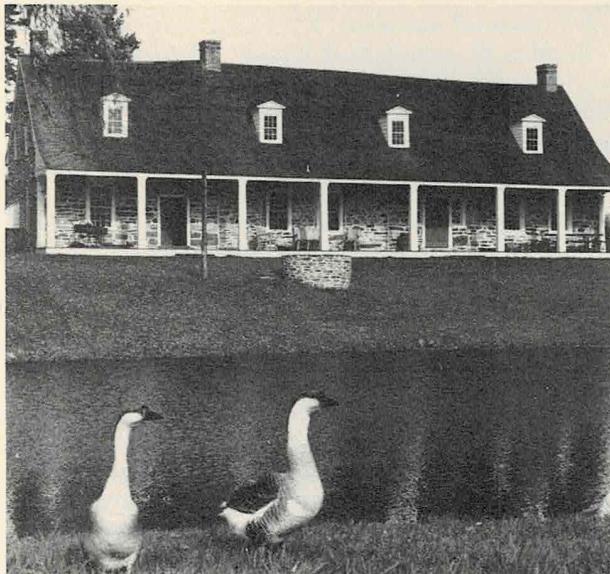
Longyear Store & Bakery, Main Street, Phoenicia, about 1935

TOWN OF SHAWANGUNK

Carole Decker

Historian

The history of the Town of Shawangunk is rich, spanning three centuries. Generations of historians have debated the real name of the meaning "Shawangunk", suggested meanings include "the place of the white rocks," "south mountain", "swift current," "strong stream," "mink river", "the place of leeks", and the "place of the white man". The proper pronunciation is "Shon-gum, no "sha-wan-gunk"!



Johannes Decker Home 1726 now owned by Mr. and Mrs. Peter Beinstock, Wallkill, New York.

The first permanent settlers in this area were Gertrude and Jacobus Bruyn and their three children who

purchased their land from the Esopus Indians in 1687. Within a few years other settlers began to pour into the fertile valley of the Shawangunk Kill and by 1729 at least 18 land patents had been issued, and a new community born. A look at the names of the earliest settlers shows the beginnings of the "melting pot" America was to become. The Deckers, Terwilligers, Smedes, Schuts and Van Weyens were Dutch; the Bruyns Norwegian; the Winfields and Davis, English; the McLeans and Grams, Scottish; the Hoffmans, Swedish and the Schoonmakers, German.

On December 27, 1743 Shawangunk was incorporated as an independent precinct and consisted of Dwaarskill, Ulsterville, Walker Valley, Red Mills, New Prospect, Crawford, Galwell and Wallkill which is now the largest area, and the center of town government. Shawangunk was organized into an independent town on March 7, 1788 and Cornelius Bruyn was the first Supervisor. The state census of 1782 revealed a population of 1,343. By 1790 the population had grown to 2,128 and finally the state census of 1982 showed the population to be 8,174.

It has been said that history and tradition have lent an added charm to the natural beauties of Shawangunk and this may account for the growth in population over the last decade. Or it might just be the lure of the rocky sides of the old Shawangunks themselves, which legend has it "have more than once been reddened by the glare of burning homes; whose precipices have echoed back the dying groans of early settlers, and whose night winds have borne along its rugged crest the shrieks of women and children mingled with the war whoops of savages."



TOWN OF ULSTER

Bruce Burgher

Historian

The Town of Ulster is the youngest of the twenty towns in the County. With land taken from the Town of Kingston, it was formed by an act of the Ulster County Board of Supervisors in 1879. In his history of Ulster County, Nathaniel Sylvester found "this new town somewhat peculiar in its geographical relations" for it

encircled the City of Kingston.

The population which numbered 3600 by 1900 declined during World War I and grew very little - numbering 4400 by 1950. With the location of IBM within the Township, the housing and population boom began. In the seven year period from 1950-57 there was



a 63% increase. It now numbers approximately 12,400.

Ulster was, before IBM, essentially a rural residential township. The Delaware-Hudson Canal which had once made Eddyville a center of activity was almost a thing of the past. The major businesses were ice-houses and brickyards along the river. Now the shopping complexes along Ulster Avenue bring people from all areas.

Two elementary schools, a Junior High, a Parochial High School and a Library serve the Town as do churches of various denominations.



TOWN OF WAWARSING

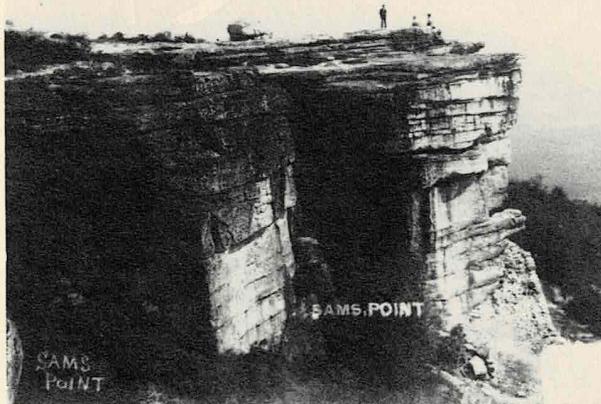
Katharine Terwilliger

Historian

The Town of Wawarsing is in the southwest corner of Ulster County, lying at the base of, and within, the Shawangunk Mountains. The valley once belonged to the Lenape Indians whose village is believed to have been in today's hamlet of Wawarsing. The first permanent white settlers, in contrast to the red men, came between 1703 and 1709. Gradually other families moved along the trails and many stayed to establish homes. In 1806 the Town was established officially. The name Wawarsing appeared on many very old maps and deeds; it is an Indian word meaning where the stream winds. Growth has been steady. The 1980 census shows a population of 12,956.

The construction of the Delaware & Hudson Canal, which ran through the Town, led, in the early 1830s, to the establishment of factories in Napanoch where the Rondout Creek furnished tremendous water power. The Canal also made possible the establishment of a glass factory in Ellenville, starting that community on its commercial importance. Every covered wagon going West supposedly carried an axe from Napanoch and a demijohn from Ellenville. In the 1870s the Ontario and Western Railway began to replace the Canal. Now city dwellers could travel quickly to the pure air and water of the area. The fame of the Town as a summer resort grew quickly and phenomenally and continued into the 1900s.

The Town of Wawarsing is now famous for some of the finest luxury hotels in the country -- The Nevele Country Club, The Fallsview and the Tamarack Lodge. There are no longer factories in Napanoch, but the Eastern New York Correctional Facility, with approximately 1,000 inmates, is located there and employs scores of local people. There are three large factories in Ellenville, Channel Master Division of Avnet, famous for its pre-packaged TV antenna and a leader in the satellite field; VAW of America, manufacturers of aluminum tubing and extruded shapes; and Schrade Cutlery Corp. which has expanded the knife factory begun in the 1870s. Further stability is given by the Ellenville Central School system and many houses of worship supported by diverse denominations. An important project looms in the future -- the opening of a plant which will once again bottle for national distribution the exceptionally pure water of the Shawangunk Mountains, perhaps the Town's greatest treasure today.



The ledge at Sam's Point, some 2,255 feet above Ellenville. It is the highest point in the Shawangunk Mountains, and affords one of the most magnificent views not only in Ulster County but in the entire country. Together with the Ice Caves Mtn. historic landmark it attracts thousands of visitors each year.

TOWN OF WOODSTOCK

Alf Evers

Historian

In 1902 Woodstock -- to the astonishment of its older inhabitants -- became the site of a colony devoted to the practice of the arts and crafts and the making of plans for social reform. Year after year the colony has grown. It has attracted painters and sculptors, craft workers, teachers, actresses and actors, dancers and novelists and poets -- it would be hard to find a category in the arts or intellectual activity which has not been represented in Woodstock and often by people of great distinction. In 1906 the Summer School of Landscape Painting of the Art Students League of New York came to Woodstock -- it was soon the best known American school of its kind. The outstanding physical beauty of the Woodstock landscape helped make the School a success. An offshoot of the original colony of Byrdcliffe was set up in the town of Hurley just over the Woodstock line. There many musicians gathered and from 1916 to the present have given performances of chamber music on every Sunday afternoon during the summer. There too, from 1915 to 1931 the annual Maverick Festivals took place under the full moon of late summer. On these joyous occasions thousands were drawn to the Maverick woods to enjoy music, drama, dancing and the colorful costumes of their fellow-revellers until dawn put an end to the Festival.

During the 1950s and 1960s folk and then rock musicians played an important part in Woodstock life and some of them -- Bob Dylan was one -- made their homes in the town. In 1969 the world-famous Woodstock Festival was planned in the town but after it became apparent that it could not be held in Woodstock it moved on and ended up in White Lake in Sullivan County but without losing its connection in many minds with the Woodstock in which it was born.

Long before Woodstock became famous for its art colony, it had a distinctive history. The town once formed part of the million and a half acre Hardenbergh Patent which was granted by Queen Anne in 1708. By 1762 most of the town was in the hands of absentee landlord Robert Livingston of Clermont across the Hudson River. Under the guidance of several generations of Livingstons of Clermont Woodstock grew from a little settlement beside the Livingston's sawmill and inhabited by Livingston tenants who lived under Old World leases. The leases did not come to an end until after the Anti-Rent War of the 1840s in which Woodstock tenants played a part. During the hectic years which led up to the War of 1812 glassmaking came to Woodstock and continued for almost half a century.

Thanks to abundant waterpower, closeness to transportation on the Hudson and its vast forests, forest based industries arose and gave employment to many local people. Tanning, lumbering, shingle and barrel making and wood turning were all sources of Woodstock income. Bluestone quarrying brought Irish

immigrants to Woodstock -- many remained after the decline of quarrying to become absorbed into the mainstream of Woodstock life. Farming and especially fruit growing played prominent parts in Woodstock through the nineteenth century -- early in the century Philip Rick grew the first of one of the world's greatest apples -- the Jonathanon -- his leasehold on the Bearsville Flats.

Woodstock derives its name from the old English town in Oxfordshire -- a name which is said by some to mean "a clearing in a wood." The clearing in which Woodstock began beside the mill on the Sawkill became larger and larger -- in 1787 Woodstock was large enough to become an organized town. During the second half of the nineteenth century Woodstock was charming visitors by its mixture of cultivated fields, enclosed in neat stone walls, its high sheep pastures, its wooded mountain summits and its sparkling trout streams. As the region of the Catskills emerged as a popular summer resort Woodstock's attractions brought urban families to spend summers in the town's many farm boardinghouses or at the Overlook Mountain House, highest of all hotels in the Catskills at about three thousand feet on Overlook Mountain. President U.S. Grant was among many notables who stayed at the mountaintop hotel.

Woodstock's farming period is over, its bluestone quarries have become tangles of wild grape vines and white birches, its once busy glassmaking villages live on



The center of the hamlet of Woodstock about 1905 before the town's art colony brought change. The building on the left once a store, is now the home of the Woodstock Guild of craftsmen, the one behind it was also a store which has given way to the gallery of the Woodstock Artists' Association. The Woodstock Hotel straight ahead burned in 1930 and has been replaced by buildings housing shops which sell pottery, exotic clothing and craft objects from many parts of the world. The empty corner to the lower right is now the site of a Near Eastern restaurant, varied shops line Tinker Street between the restaurant and the former hotel.

only in folklore, its former farm boardinghouses have been converted into second homes for New York people. Yet the Woodstock art colony continues vigorous and healthy. It changes and expands with the times. As at many times in the past new people are coming to Woodstock and are taking part in the town's

life. Many are workers in Hudson Valley industries. They find the town's dramatic, musical, artistic and outdoor activities as attractive as earlier newcomers to Woodstock found the opportunities offered by Woodstock's forests, waterpower, soil and ledges of bluestone.



CITY OF KINGSTON

Harry Rigby

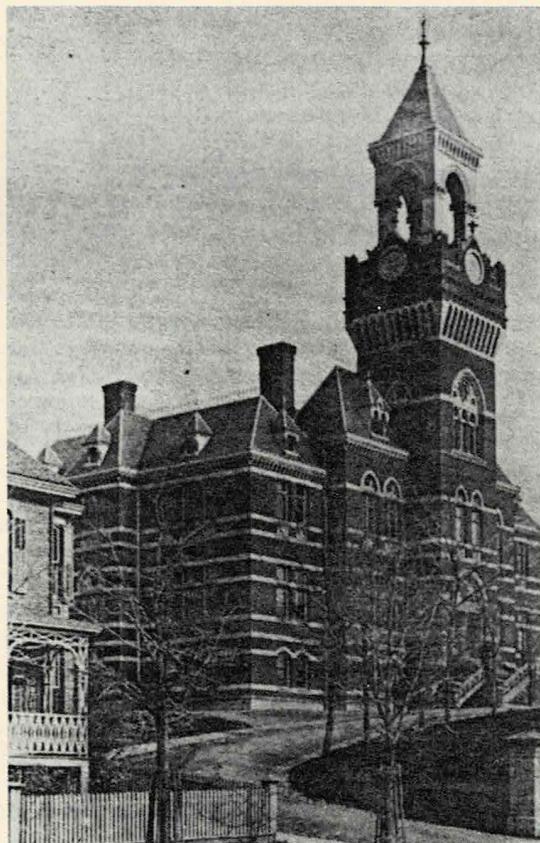
Historian

The City of Kingston, seat of Ulster County, most historic of the Hudson River Communities, rises to high ground above the river. The broad waters of the Hudson are its face; the rolling heights of the Catskill Mountains are at its back.

The history of Kingston is closely intertwined with that of New York State. Kingston served as a meeting place for the committee drafting the state constitution and was designated as the first capital of the state. Kingston was settled in 1652, stockaded in 1658 due to Indian attacks, burned and its inhabitants massacred in 1653 by Esopus Indians, governed by the Dutch and the English, and was burned by the British in 1777. Kingston is a careful custodian of its historic treasures. The Old Senate House, first seat of government in New York State, still stands in perfect preservation in the uptown section of the city. (see facing page)

In Kingston, the past and present live as harmonious neighbors. Kingston, originally called Esopus, was elevated to municipal status and called Wiltwyck under Governor Stuyvesant's order in 1661 and in 1664 the village became Kingston. The village of Rondout, was combined with Kingston in 1872 and chartered as the City of Kingston when the city adopted its present mayor-council form of government.

The Kingston area is in the full flower of change. Its institutions are growing; its streets resound to the stir of business and the builders' hammers. The city's cultural heritage remains unchanged and is carefully being preserved under its Urban Cultural Parks program. The people are inheritors of the sturdy Dutch and Colonial American traditions of thrift and industry, neighborly warmth and welcome.



"Tower of Old City Hall" was site of the first radio station in the Valley.



Senate House, 1678

New York State Historic Site, the meeting place of New York State's first Senate 1777.

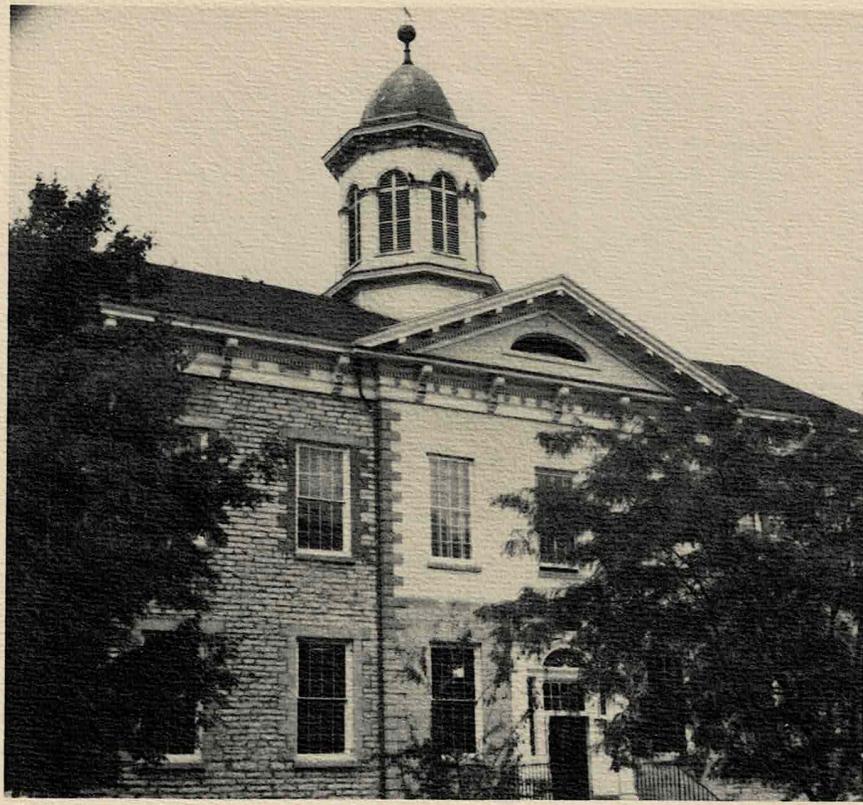
On the first day of November, 1683, the Province of New York was divided into twelve counties and the County of Ulster was given its name. The naming was done by the Duke of York, then sole proprietor of the Province, who named all of the counties after his relatives.

The counties of New York and Albany were named after his titles, the Duke of York in England and the Duke of Albany in Scotland. The counties of Kings and Queens were named in honor of his brother, King Charles II and his wife. Dutchess was after his own wife, the Dutchess of York, Suffolk after King Charles, again who was also Duke of Suffolk, and Richmond, after King Charles' son, the Duke of Richmond. Orange was in honor of William, Prince of Orange, later king of England. The counties of Dukes and Cornwall became parts of Massachusetts and Maine. The Earl of Chester, was another of King Charles' titles, and from that, came Westchester.

Finally, there was Ulster, named after the Duke of York's younger brother, with the Irish title, Duke of Ulster. So, Ulster County has an Irish name, given by an Englishman, to a bunch of Dutchmen.



Kingston Point Lighthouse



Ulster County Court House Built 1818

"The Society of the Colonial Dames of America place this tablet to mark the spot whereon was set in motion the commonwealth of the State of New York on the thirteenth day of July in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy seven by the inauguration as Governor in the presence of the Council of State of Major General George Clinton of Ulster seven times Governor of New York and twice Vice-President of the United States."

The Court House Tablet



ULSTER COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING
1983