Stephentown Historical Society Newsletter

Vol III, Issue III

HISTORY OF THE TOWNS OF RENSSELAER COUNTY

As published in the Troy Daily Times 1880

THE MANOR OF RENSSELAERWYCK

It was under the liberal provisions of the West India Company charter that Kiliaen Van Rensselaer, a dealer in pearls and diamonds in Amsterdam, and one of the wealthy directors of the Dutch West India Company, became a patroon and acquired by right of settlement a property right to the extensive territory known as the manor of Rensselaerwyck, lying on the east and west banks of the upper Hudson. The charter of liberties also provided that any one who should settle any colony out of the limits of Manhattan island would be obliged to satisfy the Indians for the land upon which he should place colonists, and that a patroon might extend or enlarge the limits of his colonies if settled a proportionate number of persons thereon. Kiliaen Van Rensselaer, in order to perfect a claim to a large extent of land in New Netherland, made purchases of the Indians of several tracts of land, which in time embraced a territory 24 miles long and 48 broad, containing as estimated more than 700,000 acres of land, over which the present counties of Albany, Rensselaer and a portion of Columbia now extend. The persons who acted as agents of Kiliaen Van Rensselaer were Sabastian Jansen Krol, who made the purchase, April 8, 1630; Gillis Hassett, the second, July 27, 1630, and Brandt van Slechtenhorst, the third, March 13, 1652.

The English confirmation of a patent to Kiliaen Van Rensselaer given by Gov. Thomas Dougan, dated November 4, 1685,

COUNTY 1775-1783 Verm SCHAGTI-COKE HALF HOSICK MOON SCHOH. FAST WEST DISTRICT OF DISTRICT OF RENSSELAERWYCK RENSSELAFRWYCK KINDERHOOK DISTRY Ulster County Lesend: Mass. State 1976 County Lines 1772

LIVINGSTON MANOR

Dutchess

County

Approx. Distr

E Rivers

ALBANY' Name

DISTRICTS OF ALBANY

describes the boundaries of the several purchases made by the agents of Van Rensselaer as follows: Beginning at the south end of or part of Berrent island on Hudson's river and extending northwards up along both sides of the said Hudson's river unto a place heretofore called the Kahoos or the great falls of the said river and extending itself east and west from each side of the said river backwards into the woods 21 English miles, as also a certain tract of land situate lying and being on the east side of Hudson's river, beginning at the creek by Major Abraham Staet's and so along the said river southward to the south side of Vaxtrix island by a creek called Waghankasigh, stretching from thence





Conn.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Calvin Kenyon Sally Fox Bill Zimmerman Virginia Atwater Betty Feathers Beverley McClave Al Silvernail Pat Bowman Sylvia Leibensperger

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CALENDAR OF EVENIS

- July 1 A WATER POWER RESTORATION AT HANCOCK SHAKER VILLAGE Heritage Center, 7:30PM
- WATER EXHIBIT July 12 to 28 Heritage Center
- HISTORY OF THE SEDGWICK INN Aug 5 Heritage Center, 7:30 PM
- Sept 9 INDIAN ARTIFACTS Heritage Center, 7:30PM
- Oct 7 DEMONSTRATION OF LEATHER BOOKBINDING Heritage Center, 7:30PM
- PRESERVING AND UNDERSTANDING Nov 4 OUR MILITARY HERITAGE Heritage Center, 7:30PM
- Dec 2 HOLIDAY POTLUCK AND PARTY Heritage Center, 6:30PM

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continued from pg. 1

with an easterly line into the woods 24 English miles to a place called Wawanaquiasick, and from thence northward to the head of said creek by Major Abraham Staet's as aforesaid. This patent excepted Fort Albany and the town of Albany, from the southernmost end of the pasture lying over against the north end of Martin Garrittson's island to the post on the north side of the said town, where it was formerly marked by Gov. Stuyvesant, and so backward into the woods northwest 16 English miles.

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Third Annual Report of the Rensselaer County Mutual Fire Insurance Company For The Year Ending December 31, 1900.

| | For the Year Ending | |
|----------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| | December 31, 1900. | |
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| | | |
| | LOSSES PAID DURING THE YEAR 1900. | |
| 000.00 | Terry I thanks show and contents destroyed by for | Jan. 2 |
| 300.00 | Joseph Liberty, shop and contents destroyed by fire . \$
George G. Chittenden, damage to household furniture | Meh. |
| 2.00 | by tire | MICH. |
| 18.75 | Frank Welch, damage to hotel by fire | |
| 5.00 | G. N. Denison, damage to dwelling by fire | Apr. 3 |
| 558.70 | J. P. Midnight, dwelling and contents destroyed by fire | ··· 6 |
| 2,188.20 | Wm. O. Taylor, hotel and contents destroyed by fire . | May 10 |
| 1,828.50 | Charles Holser, personal property destroyed by fire . | . 12 |
| 5.00 | Christian Earnst, damage to dwelling by lightning | . 21 |
| 200.00 | Mrs. Ida Davitt, barn destroyed by fire | June 4 |
| 15.00 | A. L. Timmerman, barn damaged by lightning | · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · |
| 15.00 | Ephriam Hastings, outbuilding damaged by fire | |
| 6.00 | W. O. Daboll, barn damaged by lightning | |
| 5.00 | J. A. Coonrad, barn damaged by lightning | |
| 40.00 | John W. Wilford, cow killed by lightning | July 3 |
| 11.00 | Wm. H. Bateman. damaged by lightning | . 6 |
| | Harvey and Nancy Diamond, house and contents de- | 9 |
| 1.050.00 | stroyed by fire | 19 |
| 15.00 | Tracy Taylor, house damaged by lightning | |
| 15.81 | by lightning | Aug. 9 |
| 6.00 | A. F. Babcock, outbuilding damaged by lightning | 9 |
| 4.00 | Alonzo Hall, house damaged by lightning | 9 |
| 2.50 | Christian Wargers, barn damaged by lightning | · 20 |
| 16.00 | Fred. Mulson, bull killed by lightning | 24 |
| 12.86 | Willet A. Brown, hotel damaged by fire | 24 |
| 5.75 | Tracy Peck, house damaged by lightning | 81 |
| 8.00 | Michael Steers, barn damaged by lightning | Sept. 5 |
| 163.00 | Frank E. Wiegner, personal property destroyed by fire | . 22 |
| 500.00 | Samuel F. Murphy, house and contents destroyed by fire | Oet. 1 |
| 1.360.00 | Mrs. Lucy Metcalf, house and contents destroyed by fire | |
| | Sidney V. Ives, wagon house, contents and damage to | 2 |
| 1,100.00 | dwelling by lightning | |
| 200.00 | John E. Hoag, barn destroyed by lightning | |
| 701.67 | Adelbert J. Austin, barn and contents destroyed by lightning | . 11 |
| .01.01 | George and P. Meslinger, threshing machine destroyed | 16 |
| 225.00 | by tire | |
| 3. J. 17 | Ira and Rupert Whitman, farm produce destroyed by | · · 30 |
| 56.00 | fire | |
| 968.00 | Nellie Carner, barn and contents destroyed by fire | Nov. 20 |
| 106.45 | Elizabeth Abel, personal property destroyed by fire | Dec. 5 |
| | J. W. Donnelly. Sec'y, damage to hotel and contents | 15 |
| 62.59 | by fire | |

ARTHUR M. PECK, Sec'y and Trees.

JOHN R. McLAREN, President

HISTORICAL SOCIETY LIFE MEMBERS

Adams, Leslie Bakker, Jacob Barrett, Hazel Bowman, Don Bowman, Pat Davis, Andrew P. Davis, Jessica P. Desormeaux, David Feathers, Betty Fox, Ed Fox, Sally Fruchtman, Ellen Gilman, Fred Gilman, Judith A. Gilman, Katherine M. Goold, Arline D. Goold, W. Gordon Gordon, Albert Haley, Alexander Haley, Frederick Haley, Janet Peters Haley, Jesse Max Hickey, Father Joseph Hicks, G. Marie Hicks, Robert Irons, Martin

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HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERS

Abrash, Merritt Atwater, Virginia Baum, Joyce Burg, Anitta Burg, Klaus Carpenter, Charlesetta Catalano Family Dunton, Anna Mary Eckhardt, George Eckhardt, Jean Frankel, Elayna Frankel, Stanley Feeney, Helen Feulner, John Garnier, Ruth J. Hoffman, Marie Huyett, Carolyn Jensen, Cheryl F. Johnson, Helen K. Knoblock, Carol Leab, Don Leab, Ruth

Leibensperger, Howard Leibensperger, Sylvia Lewis, Ellen Lewis, Richard McMillan, Joan Meisberger, Ray Mockler, Martin Mockler, Ruth Prior, Ini Rhindress, Meredith Savage, Susan Sherman, Bertha G. Silvernail, Albert Smith, Millie Strobl, Edith Strobl, Erich Tomlinson, Clyde Tomlinson, Thelma

HISTORICAL SOCIETY EVENTS

The 15th annual STRAMBERRY FESTIVAL will be held at Zema's on Rt. 22 from 1 to 5:30 PM on Sunday, July 7 subject to ripeness of the berries. The special event of this year will be a WATER EXHIBIT at the Heritage Center from July 12 to 28. Please check the Echo for the time schedule. Is it possible this will be our 7th annual CRAFIFEST! As before, it will be held at the Muster Field Pavilion on August 3. It is a one day 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM rain or event, shine. This attracts juried show craftspeople and visitors from considerable distances. Please publicize this event locally. The items for sale are of superior quality, the food is great, and the activities appeal to all ages. We expect to see you at the TAG SALE on August 31, same place (Dave's Market) same time (10:00 AM to 4:00 PM) unless it rains. Rain date is Monday, September 2.

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ANNUAL DUES ARE DUE

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ANNUAL FUND DRIVE

June 15, 1996 to July 30, 1996.

With NYSCA and NY State cutting funds we need your local support more than ever. This year our goal is \$4,500.

To help solicit funds or to save yourself a visit for your tax-deductible contribution call Bill Zimmerman at 794-8430 or send your contribution to Stephentown Historical Society, Box 11, Stephentown, NY 12168

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FLASH: The photo contest for winter scenes of Stephentown is over and so is the snow, we hope. The winning photo is of Ed and Sally Fox's barn after one of our biggest and best snows. The runner-up is Bev McClave with pictures of the Federated Church on Garfield Road and the Stephentown Cemetery on Cemetery Hill Road.

These pictures will be added to our postcard collection. Postcards will be available for sale . . .

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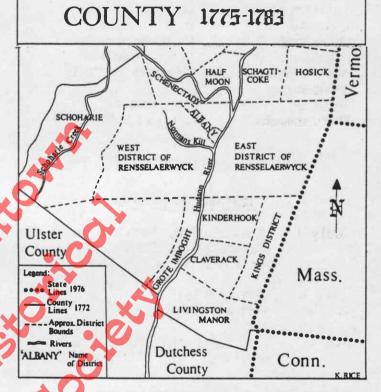
THE MANOR OF RENSSELAERWYCK

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