



HASBROUCK FAMILY

ASSOCIATION

JOURNAL

PO Box 176, New Paltz, N Y 12561-0176

JUNE 2012

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Our focus this year continues to be the major restoration project at the Abraham Hasbrouck House, re-creating – to the extent practical – what it looked like during the chosen interpretation period of 1760-75 when Daniel's widow, Tryntje Deyo, ran the household. This ties in with the interpretation theme: "The Role of Women in 18th Century New Paltz."

We have Helene Hasbrouck Anderson (see bio in Sept. '04 newsletter) to thank for the fruition of this comprehensive project. It is being funded entirely from the bequest she left for the benefit of the Abraham House (she was an "Abe" descendant). The Anderson Fund has more than doubled in size since her death in 1994. Helene had no children, and the "Abe" House was her "baby". She was much involved with its furnishings and display in the early years of HFA. Her husband, Robert Anderson, built a scale model of the house with a removable roof to show the inside. They took it with them to display on trips around the country promoting Huguenot Street.

There is lots of activity at the house these days (see details under Our Houses on page 2). It's all pointing toward a Reopening Celebration for the house on Saturday, July 21 from 4 to 7PM. House tours will begin at 4PM with a ribbon-cutting ceremony at 5PM, followed by an outdoor reception. All family members are invited. If you plan to attend, please notify Nancy Gentile (nancy@huguenotstreet.org or 845-255-1660, ext. 100) by July 16.

In line with HHS plans to create gallery/rental space at the DuBois Fort Visitors Center, the scope of the museum shop has been reduced. However, purchases can be made at the HHS website

(www.huguenotstreet.org; click on SHOP on the home page). HFA also offers family-related items by mail through the HFA Store link on our website (www.hasbrouckfamily.org). And you can order a variety of items decorated with the family coat of arms at www.cafepress.com/hasbrouckfamily. (You can also link to it from the HFA Store). We have recently added some new items: necklace, wrist bracelet, earrings, keychain and jewelry case.



Helene Hasbrouck Anderson, a young beauty at age 28

I hope you can join fellow Hasbrouck descendants in celebrating our family heritage at the Abraham House reopening on July 21 and/or our annual reunion on October 13. Meanwhile, please interact with some of our 300+ "friends" on our Facebook page and see

what surprising family links might come to light.

We are always in search of family-related stories and happenings like the ones presented in this edition of the newsletter. If you have anything of this nature that might be of interest to our members, please submit it or contact us to discuss it. We need your continuing input to help maintain this newsletter as an enjoyable reading experience.

Robert W. Hasbrouck, Jr.

HFA ANNUAL REUNION

Our reunion in New Paltz this year is on Saturday, October 13. It will follow the format initiated last year: registration/socializing, business meeting, service in the French Church followed by an on-site update at the Jean and Abraham Hasbrouck Houses, lunch at Deyo Hall, a status report from HHS and a short presentation on a relevant topic. If you are coming from a distance and want to visit Huguenot Street in some detail, plan to spend at least one night here because the reunion will take up most of Saturday, and you will need at least one additional day on the Street, which is open from 10:30AM to 4:30PM except Tuesdays and Wednesdays. The houses can be visited only on guided tours (at 11AM, 1PM and 3PM) starting from the Visitors Center in the DuBois Fort.

If you will be a first-time visitor, contact us to help with your planning. The Hudson River Valley is full of beautiful scenery and tourist attractions; you can easily spend an entire vacation here. Anyone planning an overnight stay should make reservations as soon as possible. The reunion is during the foliage season, and accommodations usually sell out early. New Paltz has three good motels: Super 8 (845-255-8865), EconoLodge (845-255-6200), and Days Inn (845-883-7373). You can also get information on bed & breakfast inns in the area from the Chamber of Commerce (845-255-0243), including a Hasbrouck House B&B (The Inn at Stone Ridge).

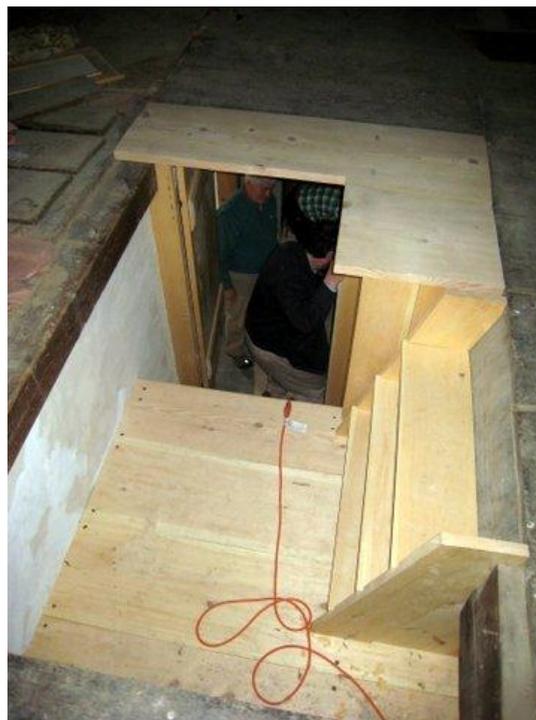
HHS is offering a wide variety of other programs and events in the New Paltz area

during the year for adults, children and families. You can see the schedule on their website: www.huguenotstreet.org. Bring your HFA (or HHS) membership card whenever you visit to get free house tours.

OUR HOUSES

Abraham Hasbrouck House

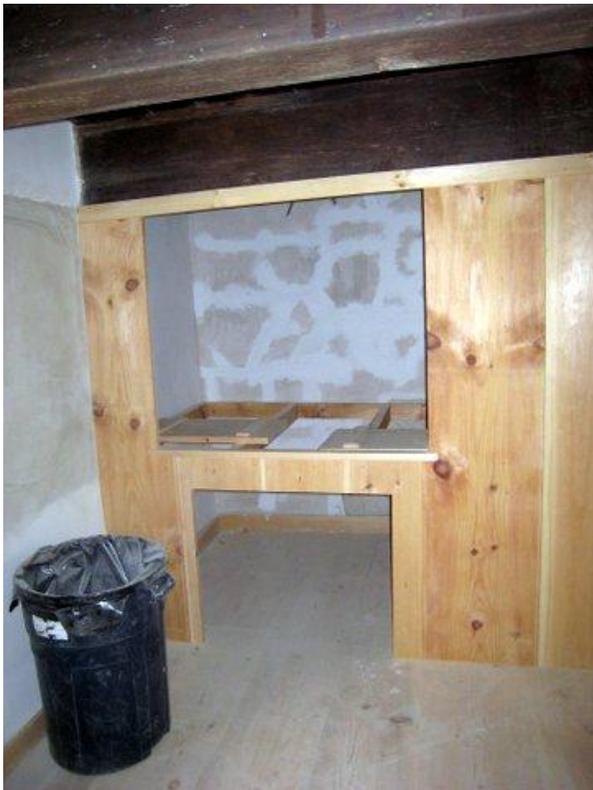
The construction phase of the restoration project is approaching completion (see photos), including re-construction of two partitions and attic stairs in locations identified by evidence of them found in the house. We'll soon be ready to start with interior painting in historically accurate colors. Paul Himmelreich from New York's Metropolitan Museum of Art has designed a lighting plan, and installation details are being worked out. Most of the period-appropriate furnishings for the house are on hand, mainly from the HHS collections plus a few purchases, especially textiles. It should all come together for the grand reopening celebration on July 21, after which the house will finally be back on the HHS tour schedule and will join the Jean Hasbrouck House as showpieces of Huguenot Street.



Stairs between attic and ground floor – historically authentic but dangerously steep



Re-created partition on east side of north room



Revised space for box bed in center room

Jean Hasbrouck House

No changes since our February newsletter. There is no restoration activity underway at this time. The house is open for tours and – except for the roof (needing replacement) – is looking great, both inside and out.

Josiah Hasbrouck House (Locust Lawn)

Ken Snodgrass, Executive Director of Locust Grove (which now controls Locust Lawn) reports that, with recent completion of the dining room and upstairs bedrooms, the most essential restoration steps have been accomplished, and the house is open again for group tours of ten or more by appointment. On June 10 it will be included in a tour of historic farm houses in the area.

A reopening celebration is being planned, and the Hasbrouck family is invited. We'll send HFA members an email with details when they become available. Meanwhile, visit the Locust Lawn section of the Locust Grove website (www.lgny.org; use link at upper left of home page) for interesting photos and information about the house, including tour information.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Dues (\$20/year) for renewal of annual memberships should have been paid by October 1, but there are still quite a few laggards out there. If you don't have L (for Life member) or 12 on your mailing label, you're 8 months delinquent by now. But it's never too late to get yourself up to date! We need your support. If you wish to maintain your membership and feel you cannot afford the dues, please tell us your situation and request a waiver. We don't want to abandon members whose current financial condition makes the dues a hardship.

HFA OFFICE

Our New Paltz office is open by appointment only. But if you are planning a visit to the area, leave a message on our answering machine or send us a fax or e-mail (see numbers on the masthead), and Meryl will contact you to arrange a visit where you can get information, look at our genealogy files and publications, and check our archives. If you are doing family research, you may also want to see what is available in the HHS library and

archives. Call them (845-255-0180) to make an appointment.

Our office is just half a mile from Huguenot Street in the Pine Office Center at 124 Main Street. It's across the street from the Citgo gas station and far back from the street, but there is a sign at the driveway entrance, ample parking and handicapped access.

SCHOLARSHIPS

The deadline for scholarship applications this year is August 31, which means that awards will apply to the spring semester rather than the fall semester. To be eligible you must be (at that time) a college sophomore, junior or senior and be able to document your Huguenot heritage. The HHS scholarships are for \$1,000, but the two top-rated applicants will receive \$2,000 scholarships from HFA. If you are interested, contact HHS for detailed requirements and an application: (845)255-1660 or www.huguenotstreet.org (go to Learn, then Scholarships).

MISSION ACCOMPLISHED, DR. LA MAR HASBROUCK MOVES ON

In 2009 Ulster County (where New Paltz is located) brought in Dr. La Mar Hasbrouck, an experienced manager as well as an MD, to take over its troubled health department after firing its previous director. (See our Feb.'10 newsletter for more details.) In short order, Dr. Hasbrouck transformed the department. His success was described in a recent county press release:

“Under Hasbrouck’s leadership the County Health Department achieved and maintained full compliance with all State Department of Health regulations, transitioned the department toward a ‘prevention-based’ agenda, created a stakeholder-inclusive process, and secured hundreds of thousands of dollars in grants allowing the department to increase services with no additional cost to county taxpayers.” Last year Dr. Hasbrouck took on an additional position as commissioner of the Ulster County Department of Mental Health.

This outstanding record of accomplishment attracted attention elsewhere. Dr. Hasbrouck was chosen recently as director of public health for the State of Illinois and has just assumed that position – a well deserved career advancement.



Dr. La Mar Hasbrouck

For us on Huguenot Street, Dr. Hasbrouck’s departure came much too soon. Surprisingly, he came to Ulster County without ever having heard of Huguenot Street or its Hasbrouck family there. He was a Californian, and was surprised to learn that he had arrived in his ancestral homeland. We had hoped that together we might gain additional knowledge about the African-American link to our family name. But although he was interested, his challenging assignment allowed no time for historical research; and his departure leaves us knowing only that his family line almost certainly traces back to a Hasbrouck’s slave who (as was a frequent custom) took the family name as his own either before or after emancipation.

In any event, we are happy to see Dr. Hasbrouck’s accomplishments rewarded with this important new position and are sure it will add another success to his distinguished career.

A FOURTH GENERAL HASBROUCK: HENRY CORNELIUS

We have published newsletter mini-biographies of the two Hasbrouck generals involved in World War II: Maj. Gen. Robert W. Hasbrouck (Feb. '06) and Brig. Gen. Sherman V. Hasbrouck (May '02). We also covered "General Joe" Hasbrouck of the Guilford branch of the family (Sept. '07), who was a lieutenant colonel in the Revolutionary War and became a brigadier general in the militia afterwards. But between these two periods there is a fourth general in our genealogy: Brig. Gen. Henry C. Hasbrouck, who up to now has received only brief mention in newsletters. So it's high time to provide a more complete account of this illustrious ancestor.



Brig. Gen. Henry C. Hasbrouck

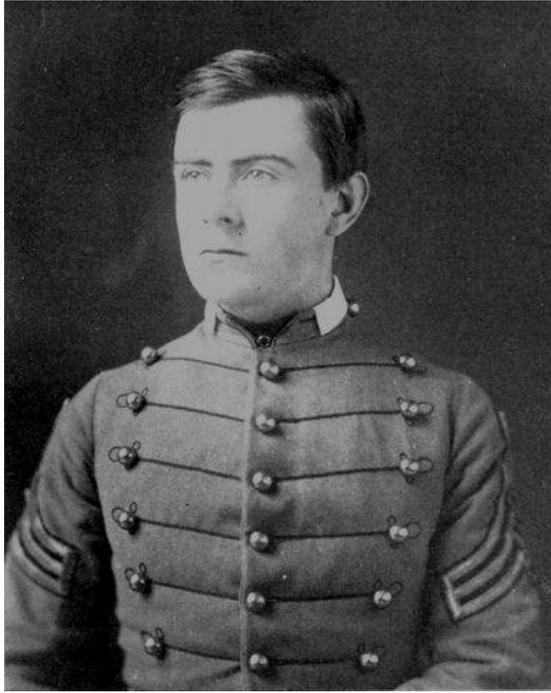
Henry Cornelius Hasbrouck, a 6th-generation descendant of Abraham, was born in 1839, the son of William Cornelius and Mary Roe Hasbrouck, a prominent couple in Newburgh, NY who were described in our June '11 newsletter. Their portraits are displayed in the portrait gallery in the Le Fevre House on Huguenot Street. The middle name Cornelius in both generations comes from William's father, Cornelius B. Hasbrouck, also of Newburgh. Henry grew up in the family home in Newburgh (a mansion, really – see photo), entered the nearby U. S. Military Academy in 1856 and



Newburgh home of William C. Hasbrouck, where Henry grew up and ultimately retired

graduated as a second lieutenant of artillery in May 1861, a month after the siege of Ft. Sumter in South Carolina initiated the Civil War. Just eight days later he was promoted to 1st lieutenant, a common occurrence in the rapidly expanding wartime army. (Robert W. Hasbrouck's first promotion was almost as rapid after he graduated in 1917.) In July 1861 Henry participated in the (first) Battle of Bull Run. We have no details, but in October 1862 he received a brevet (temporary promotion with no pay increase, common in war time) to captain "for gallant and meritorious services" in action at Blackwater Ridge, near Suffolk, VA.

In 1863 Henry was assigned to West Point as an assistant professor of natural and experimental philosophy. After dinner with fellow officers one night in September 1863, the conversation centered on the lack of recognition given to the wartime sacrifices of the Regular Army veterans, owing to the fact that the newspapers at the time stressed the accomplishments of local volunteer units. Henry proposed including the names of the Regular Army officers and men killed in the war on a monument to be erected at West Point. The idea was adopted, a monument committee formed, a site chosen and a campaign commenced to raise the funds from the membership of the Regular Army (no government expense involved). The site was dedicated in 1864 with General George McClellan as the principal speaker. But it took



Cadet Henry C. Hasbrouck

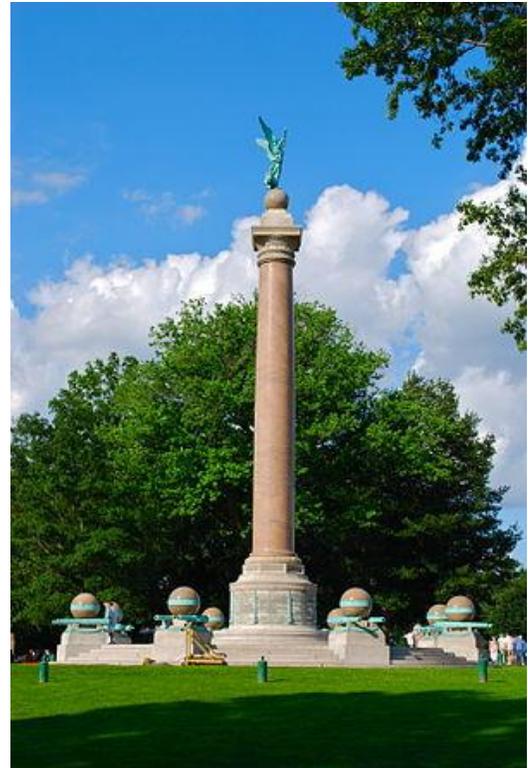
25 years to raise the necessary funds and another eight to complete the monument, which was dedicated in 1897 and presented to the government.

It appears to have been worth the wait. Called Battle Monument, it is still today the most prominent monument on the academy grounds. It is located at Trophy Point with a spectacular view of the Hudson River (see photo). Designed by Stanford White and made of granite, it features a 40-foot-high shaft topped by a statue of Fate. It displays the names of 188 Union officers and 2,042 enlisted men. (Some cadets from the South irreverently refer to it as “a monument to Confederate marksmanship”.)

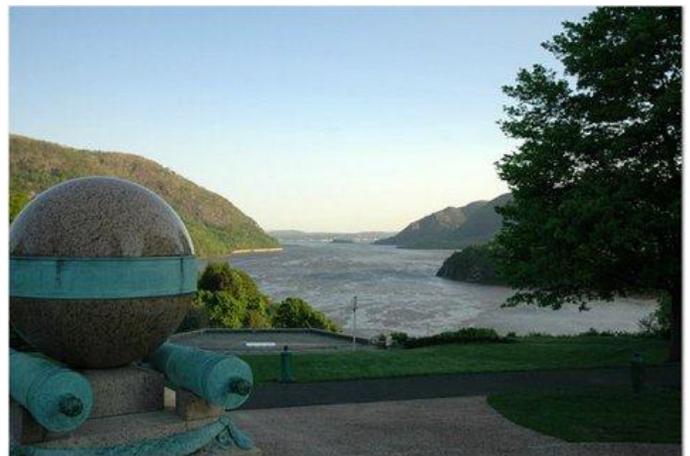
Henry was still at West Point for the 1864 site dedication. But in February 1865 he returned to the battle front – in the operations around Richmond -- and was cited for “gallant and meritorious service” during the siege of Petersburg (again no details available). In 1866 he was made a regular captain (with pay increase at last).

In 1873 Henry participated in the Modoc Indian War in the Lava Beds area of California. Here he delivered the most distinguished combat performance of his career. On May 10 his unit was facing disaster when a well-timed Indian surprise attack threatened to overrun it.

Henry rallied his desperate troops, repelled the attack, pursued the evasive Modocs (who were more familiar with the rugged terrain) over the next twelve days and forced their surrender. For this performance he was brevetted to the rank of major. We have extensive documentation on this action and will cover it in more detail in a later newsletter. Henry also participated in an expedition against Nevada Indians in 1875 and another expedition in 1878.



Battle Monument at West Point



View up the Hudson River toward Newburgh from Battle Monument

1882 was an auspicious year for Henry. On October 26 – his 43rd birthday – he married Laetitia Viele Warren of Buffalo. And he returned again to West Point – this time as commandant of cadets, a post he held until 1888. In 1887, after 14 years as a brevet, he was finally appointed officially to the rank of major and was sent to witness the maneuvers of the French army. After his West Point assignment ended in 1888, doubtless benefiting from his French experience, he was a member of the commission to prepare a system of tactics for the U. S. Army. In 1896 he was promoted to lieutenant colonel while acting as inspector general of the North Atlantic District.

In April 1898 the Spanish American War commenced with the U.S. supporting Cuban independence from Spanish rule. The next month Henry was appointed brigadier general of Volunteers (not the same as a Regular Army promotion) and given command of a brigade of the Seventh Army Corps, which moved to Savannah, Jacksonville, and then to Marianas, Cuba. By the time they reached Cuba, the fighting may have already ended; there is no evidence that Henry's brigade was in combat there. The war ended in December 1898, and Cuba became an "independent" republic, but U.S. occupation lasted until 1902, and its strong influence on the island continued long afterward, including arrangements in 1903 for the establishment of the U.S. naval base at Guantanamo.

In February 1899 Henry was promoted to colonel in the Regular Army and was in command of the Department of Pinar del Rio, Cuba for the following two months before returning to the U.S., where he was post commander of Fort Adams, RI as well as commander of the regiment stationed there. In December 1902 he was appointed a brigadier general in the Regular Army, and the following month he retired with that rank after more than 40 years of service.

Also in 1903 Henry received title to his parents' home in Newburgh, and he lived there with Laetitia in retirement – in the same house where he was born and raised. The one activity we know of in this period is that he was one of

three officers of the Holland Society representing the U.S. Army from 1901 until his death in 1910 at age 71. In December of that year he suffered a stroke and was in a coma for a week before dying on December 17. Laetitia survived him. The couple had no children. He was buried in the West Point cemetery.

What sort of person was Henry? Excerpts from a friend's eulogy:

"..... extremely modest Without effort for fame or even recognition, his life was one of laborious fidelity Few ever heard him speak harshly or unkindly of anyone even when harshness may have been merited. free from guile and from every form of smallness an inspiring example."

There is a postscript to Henry's story. In 1913 a series of seven coast artillery gun emplacements was constructed at Fort Kamehameha, HI for the defense of Pearl Harbor. One of them was Battery Hasbrouck, named for Henry. It had eight twelve-inch (projectile diameter) mortars sited to protect the harbor entrance. These mortars could fire a 700-pound shell up to 8.6 miles. That same year its crew won the coveted Knox trophy in a nationwide gunnery competition, a remarkable achievement for a newly formed team.



Battery Hasbrouck at Fort Kamehameha, early 1920's. The mortars are the black dots on the white background.

After World War I military preparedness was relegated to a lower priority. In 1924 these coast artillery batteries were put on inactive, caretaker status. At the beginning of December 1941 with the threat of increasing war with Japan, the batteries were reactivated and units assigned to train to fire the guns. But before the

training was completed, the Japanese attack of December 7 took place, and the guns were never fired. After World War II the batteries were rendered obsolete in an era of air attacks, atomic weapons and missiles. The mortars were removed and scrapped. The massive concrete gun emplacements of Battery Hasbrouck still survive on the edge of a housing area at Fort Kamehameha.

ANOTHER HASBROUCK FAMILY OCTAGON HOUSE

Our June '11 newsletter featured an octagon-shaped house built by Augustus Hasbrouck and still standing in Garfield, NJ. Further research provided information on another such house built in 1856-57 by John W. Hasbrouck (1826-1906) and his wife, Lydia Sayer (1827-1910) in Middletown, N.Y. After working in the newspaper business in Kingston, John, a fifth-generation descendant of Abraham, founded the Whig Press in Middletown in 1851. He also edited other papers. Dr. Lydia Sayer practiced medicine in Washington DC and also spent time in lecturing and writing. In 1856 she came to Middletown, where she managed and edited several newspapers. She and John apparently met professionally and must have had an instant romance since they were already married on July 27th, 1856 and immediately built the octagon house as their home. An early feminist, Lydia later published *The Liberal Sentinel*, advocating equal rights for women.



Octagon House- Middletown, New York

Octagon houses were briefly popular in the US in the 1850s, but this was the only one built in Middletown. John and Lydia apparently lived there for the rest of their lives and had three children, all in their first five years together. Unlike the house in Garfield, however, this one did not survive. It was demolished in 1919 to build the Memorial School on Linden Avenue. Linden Avenue still has a nearby intersection with Hasbrouck Street, which was named for John and Lydia in the 1860s because it ran through their property. The street is the only remaining evidence of this prominent couple.

NEW BOOK RECOUNTS PRESIDENT CLEVELAND CANCER COVERUP

A two-installment article in our newsletters of June and September 2009 told the story of President Grover Cleveland's mouth cancer in 1893, a secret operation to remove it involving Dr. Frederick Hasbrouck as the anesthetist, and the government coverup which followed, designed to prevent public panic at a time of serious national financial controversy. Surprisingly, after all these years, a recently published book covers the same story in greater detail: *The President Is a Sick Man* by Matthew Algeo. If you're interested in the story and how it was influenced by the political tensions and cultural mores of that time, it's available on Amazon for \$14.85 new hardcover, \$11.53 new paperback (available September 1) and \$6.55 used. Readers give it a 4-star rating.

We welcome our new members:

William Coleman, Bristol, Connecticut
Randal Hasbrouck, Franklin Park, New Jersey

We have received notice of the following member deaths:

Robert Harvey Hall, Sr.
Helen Seacord