



HASBROUCK FAMILY

ASSOCIATION

JOURNAL

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The most important news to report at this time is the significant progress taking place in the restoration work at the Abraham Hasbrouck House and Locust Lawn. See the details under Our Houses on page 2.

There is also progress on another front. Since Eric Roth resigned last August as executive director, HHS has had a critical vacancy to fill. Christina Bark stepped in admirably as interim director through March; and since then, Mary Etta Schneider has been doing double duty as president and interim director. Meanwhile, an executive search was organized, and – reflecting the impact of the recession on the whole museum community – there were more than 120 applicants for the position! HHS has by now narrowed the field to a few and hopes to have a new director in place soon.

Have you visited HFA on Facebook yet? We have well over 200 “friends” there; you can interact with any of them, and maybe you’ll find some new family friends or unsuspected relatives. Also, click on the “Discussion” tab and share the story of how your ancestral line moved from New Paltz to wherever you are now.

And do check out the attractive assortment of items customized with the Hasbrouck coat of arms at www.cafepress.com/hasbrouckfamily. They make great family gifts, and you’ll want some for yourself too.

Would you rather receive this newsletter by e-mail rather than the printed version? As it is now, you can have it both ways because we send members an e-mail notice when the newsletter is posted on our website. But if you would just as soon reduce clutter and dispense with the printed

version, let us know and we’ll e-mail it directly instead.

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 8. It will probably follow the usual format: registration/socializing, HHS update, and service in the French Church in the morning followed by an on-site update at the Jean and Abraham Hasbrouck Houses, lunch at Deyo Hall and our annual meeting. An added attraction again this year will be a “Celebration of the Arts” festival on Huguenot Street until 5PM, so you can enjoy its exhibits after our meeting. 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. The houses can be visited only on guided tours and are closed on Wednesdays.

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. Take your HFA (or HHS) membership card whenever you visit to get free house tours and a 10% discount at the museum shop.

OUR HOUSES

Abraham Hasbrouck House

The house is closed this year for tours, but a lot is going on there! The project to replace/strengthen roof rafters in the center and north sections has been completed (see photos in last newsletter) and should last for many years. We (meaning HHS/HFA together) are now starting to move ahead on the interior restoration. Bids are being sought for plastering. Plans are advancing to remove the stone floor (a 20th century addition) in the kitchen, conduct archaeology there during the summer, and then install a more period-authentic wooden floor with a vapor barrier underneath to prevent ground moisture from damaging the wood. An engineer will design a heating system to further reduce basement moisture and avoid damage to the furnishings to be displayed there. Also this summer, two partitions will be built and installed to provide an appearance more appropriate for the chosen 1760-75 interpretation period. And with interpretation plans set for each room, we are getting down to the details on furnishings – what should go where in each room and which items need to be acquired vs. what is available from the HHS collections. Later we'll be addressing plans for painting and lighting. We hope to be finished in time to reopen the house in May or June next year.

Jean Hasbrouck House

There is no restoration activity underway at this time. The house is open for tours and – except for the roof – is looking great, both inside and out.

Josiah Hasbrouck House (Locust Lawn)



Locust Lawn with shutters added

Locust Lawn is already benefiting from the improved funding available under Locust Grove's ownership. Twenty support pillars have been added in the basement to stop the settling, which has caused bedroom plaster to crack. The shutters have finally been rehung, vastly improving the external appearance of the house. For the first time in many years the original venetian blinds have been installed. Repairs in the worst-damaged bedroom (in the northwest corner) were paid for with a \$5,000 contribution from HFA. Upstairs plaster work should be completed in July; the downstairs is scheduled for next year. When the upstairs is finished, Locust Grove will host a garden party at the house to celebrate these improvements, and HFA members will be invited. We will send an email message when the details are available.

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 11 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. Call them (845-255-6738) 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).

WHO ARE THOSE PAINTED HASBROUCKS?

In the LeFevre house on Huguenot Street, HHS is exhibiting 31 portraits from its collection, and nine of them are Hasbroucks (including three of their wives). The subjects are all interesting, prominent people worthy of our attention; so for the benefit of those unable to attend the exhibit,

the HFA *Journal* is presenting pictures of the portraits (see them in color on our website) and something about the people they show.



Abraham J. Hasbrouck by Ezra Ames

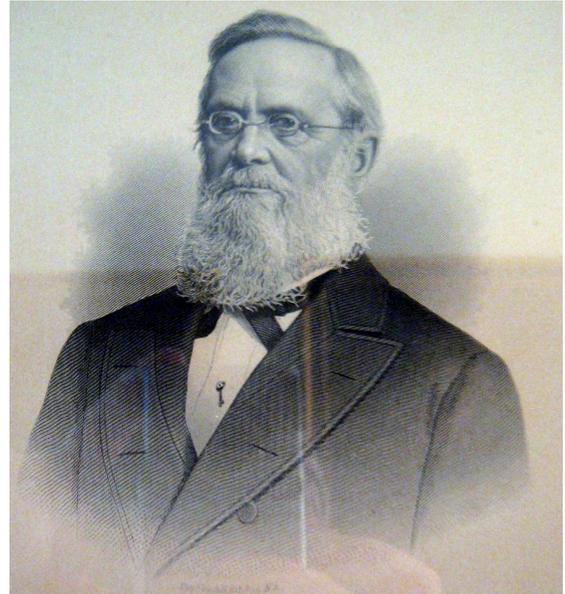


Abraham J. Hasbrouck-engraving

Probably the most prominent are Abraham J. (1773-1845) and his son Jansen (1810-91). In fact these two are each represented by a pair of portraits (in different stages of life) in the exhibit, one an oil painting and the other a steel-plate engraving. Interestingly, because of the different ages represented in the portraits, as well as Jansen's facial hair, the father in each case appears to be younger than the son! We have written about these two in earlier newsletters

(Abraham J. in February 2000 and Jansen in May 2004), so will cover only the bare essentials here. Abraham ran a prosperous shipping and mercantile business on the Hudson River from his base on the shore at Rondout (now part of Kingston). The area was called "The Strand", and he was known as "Abraham of the Strand." He was a member of the NY State Assembly in 1811, the US Congress 1813-15 and the NY State Senate in 1822. In 1828 he was a co-founder of the Delaware & Hudson Canal and was a director for many years afterward. Hasbrouck Avenue in Kingston is named for him. He planned on his eldest son, Joseph, taking over the family business; but in 1830, Joseph, only 22 at the time, died after breaking his neck in a fall while boarding one of his father's sloops. Thus in 1834 the business passed instead to his younger son, 24 year old Jansen, an 1831 Yale graduate who proved to be equally adept as his father at business. He expanded the shipping business and successfully transitioned it from sail to steam.

Hasbrouck Park is on land he owned, donated by his children. In 1849 he married Charlotte Ostrander, a Kingston native who had DuBois and



Jansen Hasbrouck-engraving



Jansen Hasbrouck by John Vanderlyn, Jr.

He also became a banking executive: incorporator/director of the Kingston National Bank in 1836, founder/president of the National Bank of Rondout in 1848 and president/trustee of the Ulster County Savings Institution. Jansen Avenue in Kingston is named for him, and

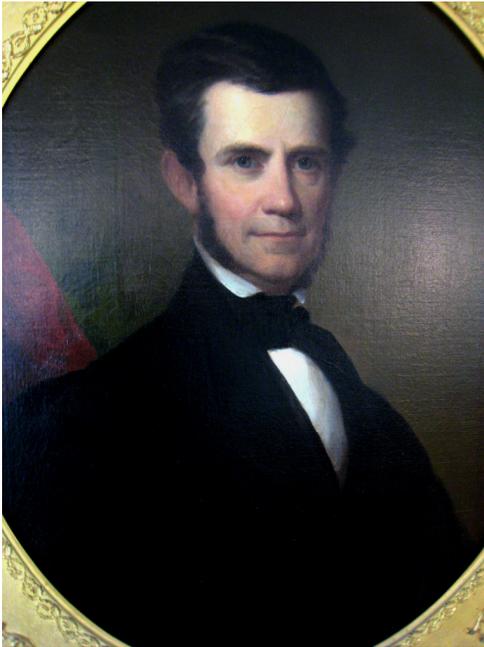


Charlotte Ostrander by John Vanderlyn, Jr

Elmendorf ancestry. Their portraits were painted shortly thereafter, when he was around 40 and she 24. Abraham's oil portrait was done in 1824, at age 50, by the noted portrait artist Ezra Ames. The date is on the back of the canvas with the notation, "43 Dollars paid in full." It has been appraised at over \$7,500! The Jansen/Charlotte

portraits are also attributed to a well-known portrait artist, John Vanderlyn, Jr. The steel-plate engravings are undated, but Abraham appears to be close to the same age as his oil portrait, while Jansen is obviously much older.

Next we turn to William Cornelius Hasbrouck (1800-70) and his wife, Mary Elizabeth Roe (1809-1907). Following graduation from Union College, William became principal of the Academy in Franklin, TN. Among his pupils there were Andrew Jackson and Sam Houston. Afterward he returned north to become principal of Farmers Hall Academy in Goshen, NY while also studying law. William was admitted to the Orange County Bar in 1826 and became a prominent member. He was elected to the NY State Assembly in 1847 and became speaker of that body. In history books he was described as “a man of high character – tall, slender, attractive – courteous, liberal in his charities” and “a man of high bearing, spotless character and a chivalrous sense of duty.”



William Cornelius Hasbrouck by Asher Durand

William chose well in his marriage to Mary Elizabeth Roe in 1831. She was beautiful, well educated, talented (a skilled pianist) and from a wealthy family. She grew up in Manhattan and, from age 17, in Newburgh, NY, where her father, William Roe, retired after amassing a considerable fortune in his mercantile business. Interestingly, one of his business ventures during the War of

1812 was part-ownership in the privateer Paul Jones, captained by a relative, which profited handsomely from capturing British merchant ships and their cargo.



William C. Hasbrouck house in Newburgh



Mary Elizabeth Roe by Asher Durand

In Newburgh William Roe built a mansion on two acres overlooking the Hudson River in the center of town. In 1838 he gave the couple land adjoining his house, on which they built their own impressive stone and stucco mansion, which still survives today although not well maintained in recent years (see photo). There they lived until William's death in 1870 and had nine children.

Mary survived him by 37 years and died at age 98. In 1903 the mansion passed to their second son, Brig. Gen. Henry C. Hasbrouck, upon his retirement from the Army, and he lived there until his death in 1910. (See coverage of Henry in the May '05 newsletter).

The portraits are attributed to the famous Hudson River School artist Asher Durand. They were done around 1840, when William was 40 and Mary 31.

The other Hasbrouck couple featured in the exhibit is Augustus (1809-81) and his wife, Jane Van Winkle Elting (1815-94). Augustus was one of eleven children of Joseph I. Hasbrouck in Tuthilltown, not far from New Paltz. As a young adult he was a merchant in NY City. In 1833 he married Jane, whose father was a minister, earlier in New Paltz, but at that time in Bergen County, in northern NJ. Although in the portraits they appear quite fashionable, their life together was more prosaic. The couple settled near Passaic, NJ and remained there for 36 years while farming and raising 16 children of their own plus two more from a deceased friend. Jane inherited 100 acres in the area from her father, on which the couple built a well-known octagon-shaped house (see photo) based on Jane's own ideas. It is still an attraction today. Its original farmland site is now surrounded by other houses in Garfield, NJ.



Octagon House in Garfield, NJ

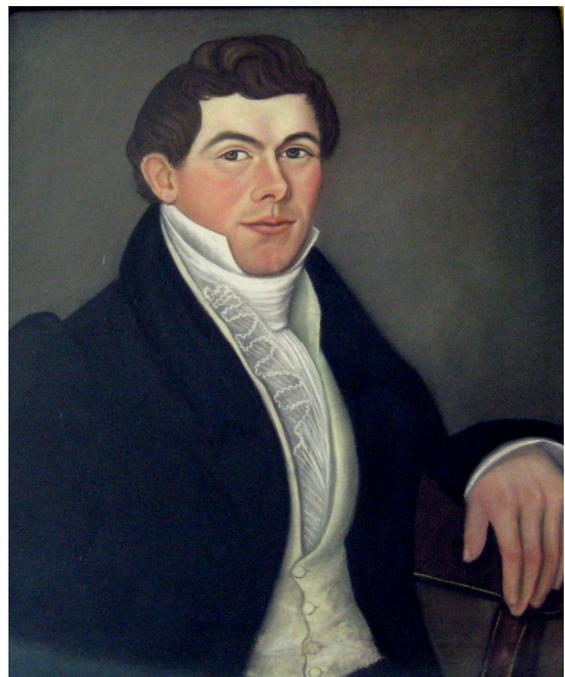
In 1869 the couple moved to Goshen, NY and lived there until Augustus's death from a

bladder disease in 1881. His obituary described him as "a quiet, upright citizen who probably had not an enemy in the world."

The portraits were apparently done shortly after their marriage, when he was 24 and she was 18. They are both pastels on paper by Micah Williams, who is classified as a NJ folk artist. He specialized in pastels, but later used oil as well.



Jane Van Winkle Elting by Micah Williams



Augustus Hasbrouck by Micah Williams

TRAVELING HASBROUCK HOUSE PANELING WINDS UP AT THE MET



Benjamin Hasbrouck House paneling at the Met

One of the stone houses associated with the Hasbrouck family in the Stone Ridge/High Falls area is referred to as the Benjamin I. Hasbrouck House. It was apparently built in 1752, and its outstanding interior feature was handsome Palladian-style wood paneling with fluted columns and elaborate crown moldings stretching the length of the south wall and surrounding a central fireplace. The builder of the house remains an unsolved puzzle. There is a triangular stone in the peak of the south gable inscribed (on three lines) IBV, FK * EL, 1752, but no one has yet identified these initials. The earliest known owner was Benjamin I. Hasbrouck (1764-1843), a fourth-generation descendant of Jean and the ninth of eleven children of Isaac Hasbrouck and Maria Bruyn of Marbletown. Benjamin acquired the house around 1802, and there is reason to believe that it came through his father, who had owned several other houses in the area. Benjamin had just married his cousin Rachel Hasbrouck, a fourth-generation descendant of Abraham. Their ownership is indicated by another stone (this one on the north wall) inscribed BI HB * R HB, 1806. At that time Benjamin expanded and modernized the house in neo-classical style. In the process, the panels on the east side of the fireplace were removed to make space for an added room on that side.

Benjamin lived in the house until his death in 1843. Two years earlier he had passed ownership to his son Alexander, who lived there until 1863. In that year he and his son (another

Benjamin) sold it out of the family to William Terwilliger. Around 1878 Matthew Steen, who lived next door, bought the house and used it for rentals. He and his daughter, Katie (married to George LeFevre) removed the remaining paneling and stored it in the cellar. They owned the house until 1929, when it was sold to Harry Wiener. He further modernized the house, found the paneling and sold it to a dealer in Kingston, who in turn sold it to a dealer in Kentucky.



Replica paneling to right of fireplace



Replica paneling around fireplace

In the early 1930s the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City was looking for furnishings for the Hudson Valley Alcove in its American Wing. Somehow the Museum learned of this paneling and purchased it in 1933. The panels were installed the next year and are still there today. But the Met's experts were skeptical

of the claim that this paneling came from the Benjamin house and raised questions concerning its stylistic and structural details. They did not get around to conducting a detailed analysis (with a visit to the house) until 2003, but they then found convincing evidence of the paneling's former presence there, including exact fit of the moldings against the sophisticated design of the anchor beams as well as a surviving outline of the crown moldings on the ceiling boards and nail holes from their original attachment. So the Met's experts now consider the paneling's original location in the Benjamin house to be verified, and they said it appeared to be built for a Huguenot family because its style is Flemish rather than Dutch. If you visit the Met, be sure to see it in the New York Alcove on the third floor of the American Wing. But to restore a harmonious appearance, the Met's installation deliberately differs from its configuration at the time of its removal at the house. The left-side panels had disappeared since their removal in the 1806 expansion, leaving the fireplace in the southeast corner of the shrunken room and the right-side panels covering the surviving portion of the south wall. The Met's configuration moved one of the two right-side panels to the left side, thus restoring the balanced appearance of the original 1752 installation.

Now our narrative moves back to the house. It went through a series of owners who did very little maintenance work until it was purchased in 2009 as a weekend/vacation home by Edward Katz, who lives in New York City but commutes to his jewelry business in Boonton, NJ. A fan of historic houses, he was attracted to this one because of its unusual layout (reflecting the 1806 expansion). Mr. Katz researched the history of the house and made numerous renovations. He learned about the paneling at the Met and decided to restore it (in replica form) to the house. He entrusted this project to Cottage Industries, a Rosendale firm operated by Jerry Vis and his son, Ben, and specializing in period residential design. They visited the installation at the Met and spoke with the curator of the American Wing, who assisted them in getting the information required to produce the replica. But their project was on an even grander scale. Rather than placing the replica in its original location, where it was

truncated and asymmetrical, Mr. Katz moved it to a different room with a corner fireplace and, using the original design, extended the paneling to all four sides of this room. (The original paneling might also have been more extensive; no one knows.) This was a major project, running from January to May 2010 and evenly divided between construction and installation. Because the walls were of rough stone, it was necessary to build plywood walls against them to attach the paneling. The result is a splendid, fully paneled room with five doors and a bay window. Certainly Benjamin Hasbrouck would be surprised and pleased if he could see what his house looks like today and know that his original paneling is being displayed to thousands as an outstanding specimen of Hudson Valley workmanship at one of America's most prestigious museums.



Benjamin I. Hasbrouck House (around 1925)

We welcome our new members:

Carolyn Blaylock, Winston, GA
Tristan Blaylock, Winston, GA
Paul A. Hasbrouck, Rochester, NY
Richard C. Hasbrouck, Savannah, GA
Joshua Maner, Savannah, GA
Laura Maner, Savannah, GA
Marsha Pilger, Council Bluffs, IA
Theresa Plumart, Rochester, NY
Kathryn Thomas, Savannah, GA