



HASBROUCK FAMILY
ASSOCIATION

JOURNAL

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Our annual reunion is fast approaching, and a reservation form is enclosed with this newsletter. Note that, for ease of mailing, we have a single, two-sided form for dues/contributions, reservations and proxy voting. Please be sure to fill out both sides of the form. For details on the reunion schedule see the separate item on this page. Annual members, please send in your dues promptly to spare us the time and expense involved with follow-ups to delinquents. Our life memberships are a bargain at \$350 (\$200 for age 65 and older).

On the form we are asking again for special contributions for the Jean Hasbrouck House. (See separate item about the house status for details). As you'll see on the form, we're also looking to your generosity for contributions to our General Fund (which pays for our activities other than the Abraham House) and our Endowment Fund (the income from which feeds the General Fund). Our General Fund income is still insufficient to fund all the things we should be doing. Please mail back your forms to reach us no later than October 3, so that we can meet the caterer's deadline for a luncheon headcount.

With the annual membership cycle starting in October, I'm again asking for your help in recruiting new members for HFA. Ask your relatives to join. Give memberships to your children and help them to develop an interest in their fascinating cultural heritage. The longer-term health of our organization depends on having younger members enthusiastic about carrying on its objectives as the older ones inevitably fade from the scene. As mentioned previously, a potential aide for interesting young people in their Huguenot origins is an issue of Calliope (a history magazine for children) devoted entirely to the story of the Huguenots (all in Europe except the last page,

which features New Paltz). It's available for \$5.95 through the HHS Museum Shop. I found it interesting reading as an adult and would recommend it for about fifth grade and up. Call them at 845-255-4544 if you're interested.

Robert W. Hasbrouck, Jr.

ANNUAL REUNION

Our reunion this year is on Saturday, October 11, in New Paltz. We will have registration, coffee/pastries and socializing beginning at 9AM in Deyo Hall. At 10AM HHS Executive Director Eric Roth will update us on what's going on with HHS. At 10:45AM we'll proceed to the French Church for our traditional short memorial service. Afterwards we'll visit the Jean and Abraham Houses for an update on what's happening and planned at each one. In between, we'll be passing by an encampment of Civil War reenactors near the DuBois Fort and can stop for a quick look. At 12:45PM we'll meet back at Deyo Hall for a group picture followed by lunch, a talk by Adam Schenkman about Col. Jonathan Hasbrouck and his house, and our annual business meeting. We should be finished by 4PM. (Please make lunch reservations on the enclosed form.) Bring your HFA or HHS membership card for free house tours and a 10% discount (except for books and music) at the HHS Museum Shop. While in Deyo Hall, you can visit the exhibit "A Notion to Sew", displaying the needlework of Hylah Bevier Hasbrouck and her daughters from Locust Lawn plus related historical information. Locust Lawn will be open for public tours on Saturday and Sunday, but you won't have much time for it on Saturday. The first tour each day starts at 11AM and the last at 4PM. On Sunday from 1 to 2:30PM there will be a special tour there:

“The Women of Locust Lawn”, which is linked to the “Notion to Sew” exhibit. (See related article on page 4.)

If you are visiting Huguenot Street for the first time, we strongly advise you 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 to visit Huguenot Street. The houses can be visited only on guided tours and are closed on Wednesday. Feel free to contact us to help with your planning. The Hudson 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 on Columbus Day weekend, and accommodations usually sell out early. New Paltz has three good motels:

Super 8 (845-255-8865)

EconoLodge (845-255-6200)

Rodeway Inn (845-883-7373).

You can also get information on bed & breakfast inns in the area (including a Hasbrouck house in Stone Ridge – see June '08 newsletter) from the Chamber of Commerce (845-255-0243).

Mark your calendars for October 11 and plan to come and find out about your extended family!

MEMBERSHIP DUES

Enclosed is our annual membership dues notice. If your mailing label has an L on it, you are a life member and owe no dues. If you think you are a life member and don't have an L on your label, contact our office for follow-up. Annual members who don't have 08 on their mailing label owe dues in arrears at \$20/year as determined by the year on your label. Please send in your dues now; reminder notices are expensive! If you don't want to bother with annual dues, life memberships are \$350 (\$200 for age 65 and over).

If you wish to maintain your membership and feel you cannot afford the dues, please tell us your situation and request a waiver. We especially don't want to abandon long-time members whose current financial condition makes the dues a hardship.

Unlike the unincorporated family associations, membership in HFA does not include membership in The Huguenot Historical Society (HHS) although it does include all the benefits of HHS membership* except voting rights. If you want membership in HHS (and we encourage it), annual

dues are \$35 for individuals or \$50 for families. You can send them a check at 18 Broadhead Avenue, New Paltz, NY 12561.

*Main benefits are (1) free house tours, (2) 10% discount at museum shop (except books and music), (3) HHS newsletters, and (4) information requests to HHS Library/Archives requiring up to 30 minutes of staff time.

OUR HOUSES

Jean Hasbrouck House

It's open again! See the detailed article on page 3. Unfortunately, houses of this age are always in need of some kind of work. The Jean House will need a new roof next year with an estimated cost of about \$130,000, and we're asking HFA members to send us contributions for this project. Please continue to support the preservation of this family treasure as a reminder of our heritage and as a means of making it interesting and relevant to the Huguenot Street visitors.

Abraham Hasbrouck House



North wall/chimney improvements at Abraham House. Light (upper) part is finished, dark is not. Big difference!

With our representative, Neil Larson, coordinating with HHS, the north wall and chimney have been restored. The Portland cement in the chimney caused bricks to crack and enabled moisture to penetrate. The cracks were sealed and the Portland cement replaced with more appropriate lime mortar. The door frame on the east side of the

kitchen was reset after becoming separated from the adjoining wall. The wooden hatch doors above the kitchen door have cracks between the slats which allow rain to pass through. These cracks are being closed off from the underside to leave the exterior appearance of the doors undisturbed. Painting of windows is under way, as is analysis of artifacts collected around the house in the 2005 archaeology project.

Locust Lawn (Josiah Hasbrouck House)

With limited funds available, current projects are restricted to repair of the septic system and a significant crack in a chimney below the roof line. The major project for next year will be painting the exterior of the house. Locust Lawn is open for tours on the hour from 11 to 4 on Saturday and Sunday through October. See the Reunion article for additional activities that weekend and also the "Locusts" article on page 4.

JEAN HASBROUCK HOUSE REOPENS



Jean Hasbrouck House -- front view (east side)

July 26 was a day of celebration as the Jean Hasbrouck House was reopened after a four-year, \$577,000 restoration project -- \$500,000 to take down and accurately restore the sagging north wall and \$77,000 for interior work and furnishings. This was by far the biggest restoration project in the 109-year history of HHS! The half-million-dollar wall restoration was covered by a \$250,000 matching grant from the prestigious Save America's Treasures Fund of the National Park Service, matched through an intensive HHS fundraising campaign featuring a substantial level of contributions by HFA and its members.

The result is well worth the wait. The restored north wall looks great, and it features replicas of its original 1721 Dutch casement windows, which are the only ones of this type on Huguenot Street. The interior is attractive and interesting. It reflects meticulous attention to detail by the HHS staff, which deserves our thanks and praise for an outstanding effort. The paint colors reflect microscopic analysis of the layers accumulated over the years. Fabrics and furnishings are based on historical research and a knowledge of what is appropriate for the portrayal of each room. The period of interpretation is the 1760's except for the store room, which portrays the store that was a vital element of the house's history. (Its year of origin is uncertain, but the earliest records we have are from 1784. It was moved from the house to a downtown location in 1811.) Educational panels supplement information from the guides and are aimed particularly at enhancing the visitor experience on self-guided tours. However, because of staffing constraints and security concerns, self-guided tours are not being offered this year. Hopefully they will be available next year.

The reopening day was highlighted by a reception on the (Deyo House) lawn across from the house for important restoration donors and Hasbrouck family members. Attendees split their time between the reception tent and touring the house. The guest of honor was Congressman Maurice Hinchey, whose district includes the New Paltz area and who was instrumental in supporting the HHS grant proposal with the National Park Service.



Jean Hasbrouck House -- visitors viewing restored north wall



Jean Hasbrouck House -- rear view with north and west sides

The few black and white photos here cannot do justice to the restoration. **Please go to our website (www.hasbrouckfamily.org) for more complete photo coverage in color of this and other topics in this newsletter. We will send an e-mail message to all members for whom we have addresses when the photos are posted on the site.**

TWO LOCUSTS IN THE FAMILY

By now most members have heard about Locust Lawn, the Federal-style mansion built by Col. Josiah Hasbrouck in 1814 and located on Highway 32, 3 ½ miles south of New Paltz. It is one of three Hasbrouck houses owned by the Huguenot Historical Society (HHS) and is very different from the stone houses on Huguenot Street, although a similar stone house (the Terwilliger House) from 1738 occupies a corner of the property.

Those of us familiar with the Hudson River Valley have probably heard of Locust Grove, an equally impressive but different-looking mansion overlooking the river in nearby Poughkeepsie. It is a National Historic Landmark property, known primarily as the home of Samuel F. B. Morse, famous as the inventor of the telegraph and the Morse code. Less well known – even by most HFA members – is that in later years Locust Grove had an important Hasbrouck connection, that the two “Locusts” shared a common ownership, and that the same Hasbrouck descendant is responsible for both “Locusts” being open to the public today.



Jean Hasbrouck House -- Andre Bevier room



Jean Hasbrouck House-- upstairs kitchen with jambless fireplace



Locust Grove -- front view

To appreciate how this came to pass, it is helpful to review the history of both properties and see how their different ownerships came together.

The development of Locust Grove began in 1751 when Henry Livingston (a prominent name in New York history) acquired the land and began to farm it. His son, Henry Jr., purchased the farm from his father in 1771, settled there with his family, and named the estate Locust Grove. In 1830, two years after his death, his heirs sold it to John and Isabella Montgomery, a wealthy couple from New York City. They built a new House (the core of the present one) on a bluff overlooking the Hudson River. In 1847 Samuel Morse, benefiting financially from his famous inventions, purchased the property from the Montgomeries. He enlarged and remodeled the house into a Tuscan-style villa and worked steadily to improve the landscaping around it. He lived there until his death in 1872, and his family remained for several years. But declining finances forced them to move out and rent the estate.



Locust Lawn -- earliest photograph (1865)

Meanwhile at Locust Lawn, Col. Josiah died in 1821, just seven years after building the house. It was inherited by his son, Levi, under whom the 200-acre farm estate prospered. He married Hylah Bevier, and they had four daughters (Sarah, Ann, Louisa and Laura) and a son (Josiah). In 1855 Ann married George Innis of Poughkeepsie, a prosperous businessman and 3-time mayor. They lived at Rosewood, a prominent house on Main Street in Poughkeepsie, and raised a son (Hasbrouck, born 1859) and a daughter (Martha – also called Dolly -- born in 1856). Hasbrouck Innis never married. In 1883 Martha married William Hopkins Young, a wealthy Poughkeepsie lawyer and businessman. It was she who created the Hasbrouck link with Locust Grove.

In 1896 Martha and William began renting that property as a summer home, and in 1901 they



Ann Hasbrouck Innis (ca. 1890)



Laura Hasbrouck Varick (ca. 1873)

bought it. Respecting its historic importance, they left Morse's design essentially intact but added a dining room wing on the north side, bringing the house to its present appearance. They brought in and added to important collections of fine art and furniture, much of which is on view today.

Back at Locust Lawn, Levi died in 1861, leaving his unmarried son, Josiah, in charge of the estate. His mother, Hylah, and unmarried sisters, Louisa and Laura, still lived there, and the farm continued to prosper until Josiah's health failed in 1868. Feeling he needed a milder climate, he moved to California, where he was unsuccessful in business and accumulated onerous debts. Meanwhile his sister Laura married Abraham Varick in 1873 and moved to Poughkeepsie; the following year Hylah died. By 1875 Josiah was back at Locust Lawn, living alone in the house and managing the farm. In 1881, at age 52, he married 29-year-old Margaret ("Maggie") DeKay; and the next year a daughter, Hylah, was born. But in 1883 Josiah had a leg amputated, and the next year he died suddenly, leaving his affairs in disorder. Young Maggie was suddenly faced with the burdens of raising her child alone and coping with Josiah's debts, which exceeded the value of his estate. The New York Supreme Court ordered that his lands be partitioned and sold at auction. The prospect of their beloved Locust Lawn passing to strangers greatly alarmed Josiah's sisters, Ann Innis and Laura Varick; and ultimately Laura bought the parcel including the house. (Maggie moved back home with Hylah to live with her own family.) Laura owned Locust Lawn until her death in 1925 at age 91. She never lived there again but rented the property to tenant farmers, who lived in a designated section of the house and served as caretakers. Laura's husband died in 1894, and she moved in with her sister, Ann Innis, and Ann's family at Rosewood.



Locust Grove -- river-facing view with Tuscan tower

Back to Locust Grove. When Ann's daughter, Martha, and her husband, William Young moved in there, they brought with them their two children, Annette (born 1885) and Innis (born 1887), along with twelve servants, who were needed to keep the estate running and maintain its forty rooms and the collections they contained. Martha and William instilled in their children a great appreciation for Locust Grove and its furnishings, in which they maintained a strong, life-long interest.

Ann's husband, George Innis, died in 1903, and Ann followed him in 1906. During those last three years she split her time between Rosewood and Locust Grove, thus becoming the only person who lived at both Locust Lawn and Locust Grove. Laura Varick must certainly have visited Locust Grove but never lived there.

Laura died in 1925. Two years previously she gave a parcel of land to the Village of New Paltz for a public park and playground in memory of her patentee ancestor, Jean Hasbrouck (who had owned the property) and the veterans who died in World War I. This survives today as Hasbrouck Park (see article in the May '01 newsletter). Laura willed Locust Lawn to her nephew, Hasbrouck Innis, with whom she had resided at Rosewood after Ann's death. He took an interest in the house but died seven years later at age 73, passing ownership to his sister, Martha. Widowed in 1909, she continued to live at Locust Grove and now owned both properties, which she maintained in good condition through the Great Depression and World War II until her death in 1946.

Martha's children, Annette and Innis Young, inherited both Locust Lawn and Locust Grove. Both were well educated and very interested in both family and local history. Neither ever married. They lived at Locust Grove and treated Locust Lawn as a family museum to show to friends and visitors. But they (and their forebears) also raided the family heirlooms stored there to add to the collections at Locust Grove and Rosewood, where they could enjoy them on a daily basis. The property was still maintained by tenant farmers.

In 1951 Innis and Annette met Kenneth Hasbrouck, then Secretary-Treasurer of HHS, and soon developed a close relationship with him, particularly with respect to their common ancestry at Locust Lawn. But Innis was in poor health. He died in 1953 at age 66. Now Annette Young was the sole owner of both properties. She continued to live at Locust Grove and maintained the relationship with Kenneth. In December 1958 she started to deed property at Locust Lawn to HHS, beginning

with the house. She also created a fund at HHS to maintain the house. (But over the years that fund has become inadequate for the needs of the aged building and its adjoining farm structures.) The farm continued to operate into the 1960's with tenants under her ownership. In 1964 she gave more adjacent land to HHS for a bird and wildlife sanctuary and added to it in 1966. As late as 1971 she was adding to the HHS acreage at Locust Lawn. She became a trustee of HHS and was particularly involved with the Society's preserving Locust Lawn as a museum.



Annette Innis Young (ca. 1940)

Annette was equally intent on preserving Locust Grove for future generations. In her will she established a trust to preserve the estate and its contents for the "education, visitation and enlightenment of the public." She died in 1975, having lived all but the first ten of her ninety years at Locust Grove.

In 1979 Locust Grove opened to the public. It is well worth a visit – less than half an hour's drive from Huguenot Street – when you're in the area. Not surprisingly, the site's publicity and visitor center are oriented toward Samuel Morse and are quite interesting – including a display and explanation of his inventions and his art. Most people these days don't realize that he was a skilled and respected (though commercially unsuccessful) artist. But when you arrive at the porte-cochere of the house for your tour, you'll see there a carriage with a plaque noting its donation by Kenneth

Hasbrouck. And when you come inside, the furnishings and collections you will see are almost all from the Youngs. On one wall is a display of family trees which includes the Hasbrouck coat of arms and a family line beginning with Ann Bevier Hasbrouck from Locust Lawn.

There is another interesting facet to the history of the two properties. It would be logical – and most of us had assumed – that the "Locust" in both names was a deliberate indication of the linkage between the two properties. But it turns out that it's a coincidence! Henry Livingston, Jr.'s stone house, the first on the property, was located midway between the river and the highway – not close to the present house. He named the place Locust Grove because the house had a fine lawn with stately locust trees, preferred as being the hardest and most durable of woods. From that description it would appear that "Locust Lawn" would have been an appropriate title there too. Indeed, Locust Lawn's name was inspired by the same type of setting.

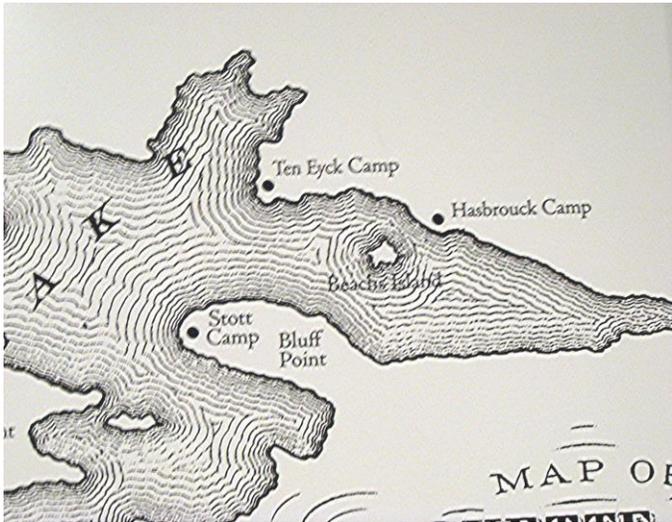
Laura Varick formally registered the name "Locust Lawn" with the Ulster County clerk in 1912, lending credence to the idea of a linkage. But the HHS archives yielded a letter from Josiah using the name already in 1869 – long before any linkage was created between the two properties. We have no record of when or by whom the name originated.

Though the names don't prove the relationship between the two "Locusts", the family histories certainly do. And we hope that an understanding of the linkage will add to your enjoyment of these two fascinating properties.



Locust Lawn -- 2005 view (Shutters are presently removed for restoration)

HASBROUCK ADIRONDACK CAMP – CAN YOU SUPPLY MORE INFORMATION?



Eastern section of Raquette Lake.
Note Hasbrouck Camp on right side.

A recent TV special on PBS highlighted the beauty and history of northern New York's Adirondack Mountains region, most of which is preserved (although some commercial development is allowed) in the huge Adirondack State Park (6 million acres, 2,759 lakes, 1,200 miles of rivers). One of the features of the show was the rustic but luxurious resorts – understatedly called “camps” – built there in the late 19th century by wealthy families as woodland summer retreats from urban heat and bustle. Some of the grandest (dubbed “Great Camps”) were built on or near Raquette Lake by such notables as J. P. Morgan and Alfred Vanderbilt. The Vanderbilt compound, Great Camp Sagamore, has been restored and is open to the public as an example of the genre.

We were informed that there was a Hasbrouck Camp at Raquette Lake, and we have tried to get details about it with limited success. If you can supply additional information, please let us know. We found the camp on an old map of Raquette Lake (see photo) – on the northeast shore opposite Beach's Island (Beecher's Island on another map). We found an interview with a local craftsman who said he had built a camp for Frederick Hasbrouck in the 1880's. An e-mail contact said the camp was purchased in 1884 from John Plumley, a famous local guide, by Frederick Hasbrouck, a wine/liquor merchant from Rutherford, NJ. He sent the photo shown here. Google produced a NY Times article from August 1902 detailing Raquette Lake news, including the Morgans and Vanderbilts, and stating that “F. L.

Hasbrouck of New York City is spending the summer at Camp Hasbrouck with Mrs. Hasbrouck” and “having excellent success with fishing.” (This is not necessarily the Frederick Hasbrouck cited earlier.) A Raquette Lake ferry schedule many years later showed a stop at “Camp Lake View (formerly Hasbrouck Camp).” A search of the Frederick Hasbroucks in our database produced no likely fit with the information above. So at present we are unable to identify the Frederick or F. L. Hasbrouck mentioned or obtain any details about the camp and its history. We're hoping someone among our readers has some additional knowledge about this piece of family history. If so, please contact us to help complete the picture.



Hasbrouck Camp -- main building

We welcome our new member:
Christopher Hasbrouck, New Paltz, NY

