

**HISTORIC STONE HOUSES IN THE  
TOWN OF WAWARSING  
ULSTER COUNTY, NEW YORK**

**Prepared for the Joint Historic Preservation Commission  
of the Town of Wawarsing and the Village of Ellenville**

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## I. INTRODUCTION

In this report, undertaken at the request of the Town of Wawarsing/Village of Ellenville Historic Preservation Commission (HPC), we revisit a 1967 survey of historic Town of Wawarsing buildings. It was conducted under the guidance of Katharine T. Terwilliger, who was then the Town Historian, and Patricia Clinton, a local historian and author. The survey was part of a larger Ulster County-wide project (see below) that focused exclusively on buildings depicted on circa 1850s maps and that could be identified as standing in 1967. The results of the Town of Wawarsing portion of the survey can be found in a document that is presently housed at the Ellenville Public Library and Museum. Edited by Terwilliger and Clinton, it is entitled “Historic Buildings Prior to 1850 in the Town of Wawarsing.”

Among the 121 pre-1850 historic buildings identified in the Town of Wawarsing, eighteen were stone dwellings dating to the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. All were constructed within the vernacular Dutch-Huguenot architectural tradition. Fourteen of the Wawarsing stone houses still stand, but four others have been demolished since 1967. Our primary purpose is to update the 1967 survey data for these eighteen houses.

This Introduction is followed by a section discussing the fourteen standing structures, using the information from the 1967 survey as well as additional research. We discuss the distinguishing characteristics of these buildings as well as their condition. Those that are considered to be endangered are noted. The houses that have been lost since the 1967 survey are also discussed as well as two houses lost prior to 1967.

The text is followed by a spreadsheet summarizing information on the fourteen stone houses that have survived over the nearly 50 years since the original survey was conducted, as well as the four that no longer stand. It includes probable construction dates for these structures, their addresses, their Ulster County section/block/lot (SBL) designation, names of the present owners, and indication of their present physical condition. The spreadsheet is followed by maps giving the location of each structure, and a set of sheets presenting recent photographs of the standing structures, and historical photographs (where available) for the four demolished structures.

### **Background of the 1967 Junior League Survey**

The impetus for the 1967 survey can be traced to a time when there was growing public concern over the loss of many of the nation’s historic buildings. This concern would eventually culminate with the passage of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966. In 1964, a group representing the Ulster County Planning Board’s Historic Sites Committee and the Junior League of Kingston had obtained funding to investigate the status of approximately 1700 historic buildings located throughout the county. The Junior League, assuming leadership of the project, reached out to the official historians of each of the county’s 20 towns, including the Town of Wawarsing’s Katharine Terwilliger (Junior League 1974: 7-8).

Terwilliger and Clinton oversaw a team of volunteers who traveled the Town of Wawarsing’s highways and back roads, seeking to identify any surviving pre-1850 structures. The volunteers inspected structures, took photographs, conducted research, and interviewed owners and

occupants. The results were entered on “field report sheets” based upon the then current U.S. Department of the Interior Historic American Buildings Survey guidelines. Among the structures identified were eighteen stone houses dating to the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. When the work was completed, the Town of Wawarsing submitted the sheets and accompanying photographs to the Junior League of Kingston, who then assembled a document entitled “Survey of Buildings in Historic Ulster County” (1969) that contained data on all known historic buildings in Ulster County. In 1974, using this report as their basis, the Junior League published *Early Architecture in Ulster County*. Out of the 1700 buildings identified throughout the county in 1969, 84 “outstanding” buildings were featured in the book, including five of the Town of Wawarsing stone houses: the Vernooy-Bevier House, the DeWitt-Benedict House, the Jansen House and the Benjamin Bruyn House.

We have appended the 1967 survey data sheets for the eighteen stone houses to this report.

## II. DISCUSSION OF TOWN OF WAWARSING HISTORIC STONE HOUSES

### STANDING STRUCTURES

#### **House #1, Benjamin Bruyn House (circa 1800, with an earlier portion built prior to 1800)**

##### **Summary:**

Although this house is the largest of the historic stone houses surveyed by the 1967 Town of Wawarsing Historic Buildings Survey, not many details of its architecture and history are available beyond what was recorded on the field report sheet. The construction date for the visible portion of the house is circa 1800. The latter, however, is an addition to an older one-room and loft dwelling. Documentary research and access to the house would shed more light on the house's history. The house's exterior condition appears to be excellent.

##### **Discussion:**

The first known study of this house was undertaken by the 1967 Town of Wawarsing Historic Buildings Survey. The field report sheet describes the house as "imposing" and records original features including the flooring, fireplaces ceiling beams, original glass panes, and hardware. According to the report sheet, the original one-room and loft portion of the house was built "prior to 1800." The front portion of the house, evidently built in the Federal Style, was added in 1800. Many generations of Bruyns were said to have occupied the house and surrounding property.

During the nineteenth century, the house overlooked the Delaware and Hudson Canal, which opened to navigation in 1828. In 1900, according to the survey, Harry Gordon bought the house, building a south wing. During World War II, the Bruyn House sheltered children evacuated during the bombing of England. The south wing, the site of their classroom, was then dubbed the Schoolhouse Wing. The sheet describes the house's historical significance as "local school."

In 1974, using the 1967 survey as their basis, the Junior League published *Early Architecture in Ulster County*. Eighty-four "outstanding" buildings were featured in the book, including the Benjamin Bruyn House, one of five selected in the Town of Wawarsing. No additional information beyond what was recorded in 1967 appears in the Junior League's book. The house appears to be in excellent condition and well maintained.

#### **House #2, Jacobus Bruyn House (circa pre-1781)**

##### **Summary:**

This house has received much attention over the years. Architectural historians and others have noted its unique roofline. In 1967, the Town of Wawarsing Historic Building Survey itemized the house's "...many original features." Assuming that these features remain intact today, the house's interior should also be considered unique. The house's exterior appears to be in excellent condition. It should be noted that the property has remained in the Mahoney family since the time of the 1967 survey. A classic Dutch-American barn stands immediately adjacent to the house. In their 2008 detailed assessment of this structure, The Hudson Valley Vernacular Society (HVVA) noted the barn's "rare and unusual" construction elements as well as the fact that the original interior timbering remained intact. Words such as "outstanding," "spectacular," "rare"

and “unusual” recur throughout their assessment. They have suggested that further study would provide an “opportunity to obtain a great awareness of the manner in which Dutch barn artisans plied their craft more than 230 years ago” (Huber 2008/2009:9). Based on the HVVA’s findings, the HPC might want to consider landmarking the Jacobus Bruyn Barn at some future point. In the meantime it is recommended that the HPC contact the HVVA to obtain an assessment of the barn’s structural condition.

**Discussion:**

Information gathered by Helen Reynolds (1929:187) for her *Dutch Houses in the Hudson River Valley Before 1776*, indicated that house was known to have been occupied by members of the Bruyn family at least by 1781. While documenting the house Reynolds remarked upon “the lovely curve of the line of [its] roof...” and added that this feature of the house “...was the only one of its kind found in this survey.”

During the 1930s, the house was photo-documented by the Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS). Designated “HABS NY56-WAWARS, 2” and assigned the name “Bruin House,” it was one of five historic stone houses recorded within the Town of Wawarsing, including one that was then a ruin (the Coenradt Bevier House in Napanoch). At that time, funding for HABS came from the Works Progress Administration, the National Park Service, the American Institute of Architects, and the Library of Congress. HABS remains active to this day and the four photographs produced of the Jacobus Bruyn House can be viewed on the Library of Congress’s website.

The volunteer who visited the house in 1967 as part of the Town of Wawarsing Historic Building Survey noted that the house retained “...many original features” and described these on the field report sheet, including the flooring, ceiling beams, original glass panes, Dutch doors, and hardware. Under “Historic Significance,” it was noted that former occupants “used to keep slaves in the cellar.” When the HVVA encountered the property in 2008, member Greg Huber described it as an “enigmatic homestead.” Unaware of the 1967 survey, Huber attributed the property’s mysterious air to its not having been previously “examined or documented to any real extent.” Like Reynolds, the HVVA focused upon the curving roofline, pronouncing it “nearly unique.” It was the barn, however, that really drew the HVVA’s attention. They considered its rafter system “unique among all Dutch barns that have been examined in the last thirty-five years.” Of its roof-lines and wide end walls, they commented “perhaps only one half dozen extant barns that appear in New Jersey and New York” are as distinctive as those possessed by Bruyn barn (Huber 2008/2009:7-8).

New York State Parks Recreation and Historic Preservation has entered the Benjamin Bruyn House into their online Cultural Resources Information System and assigned it Unique Site Number 111-19-0005.

**House #3, DePuy-DeWitt House (portions circa mid-eighteenth century or earlier)**

**Summary:**

Although the DePuy-DeWitt House has been documented by multiple parties and known to be one of the oldest surviving stone houses in the Town of Wawarsing, there is some confusion

regarding its history. Perhaps its most historically significant aspect is that it is one of two extant houses to have survived the 1781 burning of Wawarsing. Because its exterior is well maintained and in excellent condition, it is cannot be considered “endangered” and is thus not a landmarking priority.

**Discussion:**

In 1909, Charles Gilbert Hine published an account of a 100-mile walking trip that he began in Kingston, N.Y. and ended upon reaching New Jersey’s Delaware Water Gap. The title of Hine’s book, *The Old Mine Road*, took its name from the route that he followed—a 250-year old roadway, which became the present-day Route 209. Along the way he collected local legends and history. He also observed and wrote about many old houses. Passing through Wawarsing, he came across “an evidently old building on the left [that] cannot help but attract attention.” This was the Depuy-Dewitt House, which he was told was the oldest building in Wawarsing. It had supposedly been built in three episodes, “1616 and two additions made in 1716 and 1783.” A self-described “wayfarer” and folklorist, Hine knew enough to be skeptical of the earliest date “as it antedates the founding of Kingston by thirty-seven years” (Hine 1909: 69-70).

The HABS photographs (HABS NY, 56-WAWAR, 1) taken of the DePuy-DeWitt House during the 1930s show it as little changed since photographed by Hine during his visit. By far the most primitive appearing photograph of the house is one dating to 1906 that Helen Reynolds (1929:251) used to illustrate her description of the house, which she visited in 1924. Because of its “crude” masonry and comparatively few windows and doors, Reynolds concluded that it was “a typical frontier dwelling of the Rondout Valley.” Making no claims to the house’s great antiquity, she stated that it was built by members of the DePuy family in the mid-eighteenth century and known to be standing in 1781, when Wawarsing was attacked and burned by Tories and their Native American allies during the Revolutionary War. According to Reynolds, the house had passed from the DePuys to the DeWitts by marriage in 1776 and still belonged to the DeWitt family at the time of her visit.

Complicating our understanding of the DePuy-DeWitt House’s history is the possibility that the 1967 field report sheet contains much misinformation. This is indicated by a handwritten note on the back of the field report sheet initialed by Katharine Terwilliger, the survey’s co-director. Typewritten passages appearing below her note contain the statement “There is a considerable difference of opinion as to the date of building and builder.” At present, a New York State historical marker stands near the house. It reads: “Depuy-DeWitt House. Attacked by Indians, Aug. 12, 1781. Garret Van Wagenen, 16, shot the leader and scared the others away.” It is worth noting that Katharine Terwilliger doubted the accuracy of many of the town’s historical markers. One thing that Terwilliger (1977: 310) was apparently certain of, however, is that the DePuy-DeWitt House is one of two extant houses to have survived the 1781 burning of Wawarsing village, the other being the previously landmarked Vernooy-Bevier House. Although the house has undergone significant modification since the circa 1930s HABS photo-documentation, it appears to be in excellent condition.

New York State Parks Recreation and Historic Preservation has entered the Depuy-DeWitt House into their online Cultural Resources Information System (CRIS) and assigned it Unique Site Number 111-19-0003.

#### **House #4, Jacob Dewitt/Rosenfeld House (circa eighteenth or early nineteenth century)**

None of the standard sources used to research the Town of Wawarsing's historic stone houses contain information on this house. The only information available at present is the 1967 survey's field report sheet. As with House #3, some of the information presented in the sheet appears to be inaccurate. The sheet reports that "Stone portion may have been built by Jacob DeWitt who owned the farm around the 1850s." Although the construction date given is "1850-1860," the architectural style of the house suggests that its construction must have occurred at least two or three decades prior to this (Larson 2014:10). Documentary research and access to the house would shed more light on the house's history.

#### **House #5, Vernooy-Bevier House, previously landmarked**

#### **House #6, Lundy/Edgar Vernooy House (circa 1760-1780)**

##### ***Summary:***

The Lundy/Edgar Vernooy House was previously evaluated in 2000 as part of a cultural concluded that:

Because of its architectural significance, its association with the history of the region, and its research value, it is most likely eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places (Harris and Pickman 2000:3).

The authors also found the house to be unique because of its setting, which approximates the rural frontier landscape that originally characterized nearly all of the Town of Wawarsing's historic stone houses. The research done in 2000 should be updated, however, since additional pertinent information has been digitized and is now available online. Although Harry Hansen, an architectural historian who also participated in the OSI survey, pronounced the house to be in "good condition," recent visits suggest that the house has deteriorated since 2000. New York State DEC is the present owner and may not have the resources to maintain the house. This is a shame because of the house's historic fabric and its associations. It may be possible to create a local non-profit "Friends of" organization. All of the above make the house especially noteworthy and a promising candidate for landmarking.

##### ***Discussion:***

This historic stone house, located within the Vernooy Kill State Forest, was part of the 5400-acre Frederick W.I. Lundy Estate when the Town of Wawarsing Historic Buildings Survey recorded it in 1967. In 2000, the Open Space Institute, having acquired the entire tract, hired the present authors to conduct a cultural resources survey of the many structures and ruins located here (Harris and Pickman 2000). As a result, much of the information appearing in the 1967 survey field report sheet was superseded. Based on evidence supplied by architectural historian, Harry Hansen, a construction date of circa 1760-1780 was assigned to the house. It was also determined that Peter Vernooy (1738-1813) was the house's first occupant. Primary documents indicated that Peter Vernooy, his wife Mary Clearwater (1748-1840) who he had married in 1773, and their four sons, lived in the house until about 1810. Peter and Mary Vernooy are also associated with the Vernooy-Bevier House, which the HPC landmarked in 2014. As noted in the

Vernooy-Bevier House landmark nomination report, Peter Vernooy's great-grandfather, Cornelis Vernooy, settled in the area in 1702, thus becoming the first Euro-American resident landowner in what is now the Town of Wawarsing. Peter and Mary Vernooy were also among a group of Wawarsing residents involved in an attack by Tories and Native Americans during the Revolutionary War. Additional research will be needed to clarify the relationship between the couple and the two houses. Peter and Mary Vernooy's descendants—including Edgar Vernooy, after whom this house is named—continued to live here and farm the surrounding acreage until the early twentieth century. As stated above, architectural historian Harry Hanson undertook an architectural assessment of the house in 2000. He noted that although the house had undergone extensive modifications and sustained considerable damage, many original architectural elements survived. Hanson not only described the house as in good condition but also stated "it could easily be saved" (Harris and Pickman 2000: 4). A new architectural assessment would be required to determine whether this is still the case fifteen years later.

#### **House #7, Wood House (circa late eighteenth century)**

None of the standard sources used to research the Town of Wawarsing's historic stone houses contain information about this house. The only information available at present is the 1967 survey's field report sheet, which cites a construction date of "about 1790," with the possible builder being James Wood. Although the sheet indicates that it had few original elements within its interior, its one notable feature is described as a "baking compartment w/old fashioned hearth oven." This is clearly visible today on the building's southern façade.

Access to the house remains a problem because it is located on the grounds of the Ulster Correctional Facility. The house was apparently restored when the facility was constructed. As a result, its present exterior appears to be in excellent condition. There may have also been a state-mandated archaeological survey conducted prior to the facility's construction. Any reports that resulted from these efforts would probably contain additional information about the house and its history and thus should be located via the New York State Parks Recreation and Historic Preservation online Cultural Resources Information System (CRIS).

#### **House #8, Miller House (circa 1750s)**

Most of what is known about this house appears in the 1967 Town of Wawarsing Historic Buildings field report sheet. Only the southern first-story portion of this building is actually of fieldstone construction suggesting that extensive modifications have occurred here. This so-called "old section" is said to date to the 1750s. Initially built and occupied by Asa Miller, many subsequent generations of Millers also occupied it. C.G. Hine (1909: 75-79), however, who may have visited the house at the beginning of the twentieth century, suggests an early connection with the DePuy family as well as an association with the popular Shawangunk Ridge legend of Old Ninety-Nine's Cave. The field report sheet describes the house's historic significance as "said to have been a fort used by both Indians and Americans [sic]."

## House #9, Benjamin Bevier House (circa eighteenth and early nineteenth century)

### **Summary:**

The 1967 Historic Buildings Survey field report sheet credits Benjamin Bevier (1762-1822) as the house's builder and first occupant. A descendant of the first Euro-Americans to settle in Napanoch, Bevier is said to have built the house no later than 1822. Larson and Fisher (2015: IV-2), who have also evaluated the house, assigned it an estimated construction date of circa 1754. A New York State Historic Preservation Office staffer also apparently found structural evidence supporting a pre-1775 construction date. Based on their estimation of the building's age, Larson and Fisher have determined that it is the hamlet's sole surviving eighteenth-century structure and thus a "notable Napanoch property." The house also has associations with leaders of Napanoch's industrial era. It has undergone substantial modifications and its exterior appears to be in excellent condition.

### **Discussion:**

Much of the historical information used in filling out the 1967 Historic Buildings Survey field report sheet seems to be taken from Katherine Bevier's *The Bevier Family: A History of the Descendants of Louis Bevier* (1916: 120-121). She credits Benjamin Bevier (1762-1822) as the house's builder and first occupant. A veteran of the War of 1812, he attained the rank of General.

Additional information regarding the house and Benjamin Bevier can be found in Katharine Terwilliger's *Napanoch, Land Overflowed by Water* (1982: 36-37). She reports that he was the grandson of Abraham Bevier, who with his brother Jean, became the first Euro-American to settle in Napanoch. Benjamin Bevier ran the family gristmill and was an active member of the local community, elected repeatedly to the state assembly. Terwilliger assigns the house a construction date of circa 1820 (and no later than 1822, the year of Bevier's death) but does not tell us her source for this. Larson and Fisher (2015: IV-2) give an estimated construction date of circa 1754. Again, no source is given. It is worth noting that during a visit to the house, New York State Historic Preservation Office staffer William Kattinger observed pre-1775 architectural elements in the building's cellar, suggesting to him that the original portion of the house dated to the eighteenth century (Safer 2004).

By the middle of the nineteenth century the house no longer belonged to the Bevier family. Subsequent owners included Frederick Bange, owner of the Napanoch Blast Furnace, and Demmon Reynolds, inventor of various waterwheels and turbines that powered Napanoch's early industries. In her book, Katherine Bevier provides a description of the house as it appeared in the early-twentieth century:

...a substantial building of peculiar dignity and in an excellent state of preservation...It resembles in some respects , the houses built by the early planters in the South before the Civil War. It a low rambling building with extensive porticos.

The house changed hands many times during the twentieth century and thus underwent extensive modifications. However, as reported in the 1967 survey field report sheet, original flooring, ceiling beams and deep windowsills were evident. By 2015, when evaluated again by Larson Fisher Associates, Inc. as part of a historic resources survey of Napanoch, it was still considered

a “notable Napanoch property.” It was also singled out as the hamlet’s sole surviving eighteenth-century structure (Larson and Fisher 2015: IV-2).

### **House #10, Messinger House (circa 1800 or earlier)**

#### ***Summary:***

The Messinger House should be considered “endangered” due to its close proximity to a major roadway (Route 55). It also appears to be unoccupied and deteriorating. Its immediate surroundings consist of dense vegetation and overgrowth, another indication that it is not being maintained. Information provided during the 1967 Town of Wawarsing Historic Buildings Survey suggests that its interior contains original architectural elements. The Town of Wawarsing Historian believes that portions of the house may be older than noted on the survey field report sheet and may have Revolutionary War associations. All of the above make the house especially noteworthy and a promising candidate for landmarking.

#### ***Discussion:***

None of the standard sources used to research the Town of Wawarsing’s historic stone houses contain information on this house. The only information available at present is the 1967 survey’s field report sheet. Bucky Green, Town of Wawarsing Historian, has contributed some additional observations regarding the house’s history. These are discussed below.

According to the field report sheet, the larger two-story portion of the house dates to the “early 1800s” and consists of stone with stucco covering. A frame addition, “built about 50 years later,” is attached to the rear of the house. The interior contains original features including the flooring, ceiling beams, deep window sills, window glass, and some wrought iron hardware. Four fireplaces are listed, with mantles said to be “imported from England.” One set of stairs were said to be “same as used in boats, possibly that came from England.” Katharine Terwilliger apparently conducted additional research on the house and has entered this onto the back of the survey sheet. She indicates that Albert Demarest (1777-1856) and his wife, Cornelia Van Voorhis were probably the house’s builders and first occupants of the house. Maps and deeds show that towards the end of nineteenth century the property became the site of a tannery.

Although the house has been assigned an early nineteenth-century construction date, there is a possibility that a portion of it is older and may be associated with Revolutionary War incidents/skirmishes (Bucky Green, Town of Wawarsing Historian). More research would be necessary to verify this, however.

### **House #11, DeWitt-Benedict House, landmark designation pending**

### **House #12, Jansen House (circa eighteenth century)**

#### ***Summary:***

The Jansen House was one of five Town of Wawarsing buildings featured in The Junior League’s *Early Architecture in Ulster County* (1974: 94-95). It is presently undergoing renovations and has been evaluated by an architectural historian. Hopefully the HPC

will be able to obtain a copy of the report as it might shed light on the house's history, which is not well known at present.

**Discussion:**

The 1967 Town of Wawarsing Historic Buildings field report sheet for the Jansen House (probably compiled by Katharine Terwilliger) gives 1707 as a construction date but notes that this is uncertain as no reliable source has been provided. Because the Nevele Road, which the house faces, is the former Minisink Trail and Old Mine Road, an eighteenth-century date is certainly possible. In fact, the sheet reports that the house belonged to Benjamin Roosa in the late eighteenth century and that his grandson, Benjamin Roosa Bevier ("who became a well-known doctor in Napanoch") was born in the house. The house is also said to share legends of mid-eighteenth-century Native American attacks with Leurenkill's Conrad Bevier House, now demolished (see Hine 1909: 98-99). The field report sheet indicated that the house retained many original features including flooring, ceiling beams, deep windowsills, window panes, and a fireplace.

The Junior Leagues *Early Architecture in Ulster County* (1974: 94-95) included the Jansen House as one of the county's 84 "outstanding" buildings. It was one of five buildings selected in the Town of Wawarsing. The book states that

this early 18<sup>th</sup> century house with its steep roof, is not unlike the [Vernooy-Bevier House] in its basic shape. However, its exterior was transformed in the 19<sup>th</sup> century into a quaint and attractive Gothic cottage.

As of 2015, the house had new owners who are presently renovating it. They have had an architectural historian evaluate the house. Hopefully these findings have resolved some of uncertainty regarding the house's early history.

**House #13, Tice House (late eighteenth century, early nineteenth century)**

None of the standard sources used to research the Town of Wawarsing's historic stone houses contain information about this house. The only information available at present is the 1967 survey's field report sheet. The construction date is given as "late 1700s or early 1800s." The fact that the builder is said to have been Andrew Brodhead suggests that the house is closely tied to the neighboring Brodhead House, located on the opposite side of Route 209. The original portion is the northern first-story, which is entirely stone. Assuming the field report sheet is correct, the house possesses few interior original elements. Its exterior appears to be in good condition.

**House #14, Brodhead House (circa 1752/1753)**

**Summary:**

The Brodhead House is unique in that it was continuously occupied by a single family for over 150 years. The house also appears in Claude Joseph Sauthier's 1779 *A Chorographical Map of the Province of New-York in North America*, in which it is the only dwelling within the present-day Town of Wawarsing to be labeled with the name of its owners/occupants. This suggests that

the house and surrounding property possessed considerable significance for the colonial authorities. The house not only has alleged Revolutionary War associations but also alleged associations with the French and Indian War. If reports of a slave cemetery located nearby can be verified, the house would be noteworthy in this regard as well. Although the Brodhead House cannot truly be considered “endangered” due to its excellent condition, it is recommended that the HPC undertake additional research in order to determine whether the house should be landmarked at some future date.

***Discussion:***

As noted above the Brodhead House appears on Claude Joseph Sauthier’s 1779 map and is the only dwelling within the bounds of what is now Wawarsing labeled with the name of its owners/occupants. Visiting the house during his Old Mine Road trek, Hine (1909:99-100) photographed it and discussed its history with the occupants, who identified themselves as the ninth generation of Brodhead inhabitants. He was shown the sites of plastered-over loopholes (i.e. small slits in the wall through which rifles could be fired) and a tomahawk-scarred Dutch door, removed some years prior. The occupants also related the tale of the house’s minor involvement in events of the French and Indian War. The location of a slave burial ground was also pointed out to him. The forty-six graves were described as “across the road on a slight elevation.” This is also the present-day location of the Brodhead Family Cemetery, which today, although shown on the Ulster County Parcel Viewer (SBL:90.4-3-7), is totally overgrown and apparently not maintained. Bucky Green, Town of Wawarsing Historian, has identified the area of slave interments as being located on the southern and unfenced slope of the family cemetery. He also recalled that before maintenance of the cemetery ceased, caretakers were instructed to also mow the area containing the slave burials. This was said to have done “out of respect.”

Judging by the level of detail provided and the careful inclusion of sources, the 1967 field report sheet was probably filled out by Katharine Terwilliger. In 1976, the house’s then owner, Earl H. Tice, a Brodhead descendant who had purchased the house in 1955, forwarded the information gathered in 1967, along with some additional information to the New York State Historic Preservation Office. This was then entered onto one of the State’s Building-Structure Inventory forms and as a result, the Brodhead House was assigned a Unique Site Number 111-19-0012. The new inventory form along with photographs and an earlier Ulster County Historic Landmarks Commission form can now be found online at the New York State Parks Recreation and Historic Preservation’s Cultural Resources Information System (CRIS).

What can be learned from these two recordation efforts is that John Brodhead built and first occupied the house circa 1752/1753. According to Tice, one source for this information was a masonry plaque bearing the inscription “IB & AB 1753, 1849.” The plaque (no longer extant) was most likely associated with the first known renovation of the house, which is said to have occurred in the 1840s, and to former occupants, Isaac Brodhead and Andrew Brodhead. Helen Reynolds visited the house in 1925 and observed a date stone bearing a similar inscription (Rhoads 2011:282). Both the 1967 survey form and the NYS form included the statement that “it is alleged [the house] was used as a ‘fort’ during Indian uprisings, also by soldiers passing through during the Revolutionary War.” As noted above, the first known renovation of the house occurred in the mid-nineteenth century. Subsequent renovations were undertaken in 1955 and

during the 1970s but these seem mostly to have involved efforts to restore portions of the house to its original condition.

William B. Rhoads included the Brodhead House in his *Ulster County, New York; Architectural History and Guide* (2011:281-282). It is worth noting that it is the only extant Town of Wawarsing historic stone house described in his book, the other two having been demolished. He explains that although Helen Reynolds visited the house, she excluded it from her book due to its having been “altered and modified.” This, however, is exactly what Rhoads found noteworthy. He comments that its Gothic Revival elements (i.e. bargeboards, etc.) “...raised the stature of the house from old and venerable (from long association with one family), but painfully plain, to something admirably picturesque.” At present the house’s exterior appears to be well maintained and in excellent condition.

## LOSSES

In her introduction to “Historic Buildings Prior to 1850 in the Town of Wawarsing” (Terwilliger and Clinton 1967:1), Patricia Clinton stated that “the aim...was to pinpoint historic houses...for future preservation.” The present reevaluation of the 1967 survey has the same purpose. Many of the houses surveyed in 1967 have since been lost to demolition, fire or neglect. Among these were four of the stone houses: the Winkler House, the Bevier-Brown House, the Bevier-Ogden House (also known as the Colonial Inn) and the Conrad Bevier House/Leurenkill (also known as the Bevier/Newkerk House). Because the loss of the four buildings underlies the HPC’s interest in preserving those that survive, we have reviewed their histories. Several other stone houses were destroyed prior to 1967 and thus were not included in that survey. Our discussion of these earlier losses will be limited to two of the most historically significant of these buildings: the Coenradt Bevier House/Napanoch and the Johannes G. Hardenbergh House.

### Buildings Lost Since 1967

#### **The Winkler House (Demolished House D1):**

The site of this building was immediately north of Foordmore Road’s intersection with Route 209 (see Map #1). According to a later notation on the 1967 Town of Wawarsing survey sheet, it was demolished in 1971. The photograph taken for the 1967 survey (see photo sheet D4) shows it to have been a two-story stone dwelling. The 1967 survey sheet also states that it was constructed during the eighteenth century and was a tavern as well as “a store.”

#### **Bevier-Brown House (Demolished House D2):**

As recorded on the 1967 survey sheet, the date “1805” was inscribed in stucco over the structure’s door. It is also noted that the original builder may have been a member of the Bevier family.

The house had apparently been destroyed by the early 1980s, which is also the period when Katharine Terwilliger (1982:17) was doing the research for her book *Napanoch, Land Overflowed by Water*. While investigating the site of what must have been the Bevier-Brown House (same location as that noted on the 1967 survey sheet: Route 209, near its intersection with Institution Road – see Map #2), Terwilliger spotted an historic marker that read “Abram Bevier whose house stood here, had a small canon, which the Indians feared, and which made his home a fort for settlers in the raid of 1781.” She raised questions, however, about the marker’s accuracy.

It is also possible that this was the house photographed by the Historic American Buildings Survey in the 1930s and identified as the “Cornelius Bevier House” (HABS NY, 56-NAP, 2). Further research would be necessary to confirm this.

**Bevier-Ogden House/Colonial Inn (Demolished House D3):**

This building was located on Route 209, opposite the Fantinekill Cemetery (see Map #1). The 1967 data sheet and a photograph taken for the 1967 survey (see photo sheet D3) shows it to have been a two-story stone dwelling with a stucco facing. The compilers of the house’s survey sheet indicated that it dated to 1789 and that a member of the Bevier family had “possibly” built it.

In the early-twentieth century, the building was purchased by Frank Seaman and Olive Brown Sarre, co-founders and owners of Yama Farms Inn, who used it to house the superintendent of the Inn’s dairying operations—famous for its herd of prize winning Jersey cows. During the 1970s, it became the Colonial Inn, a popular local bar.

When the building was demolished in March 1982, the *Ellenville Journal* published a photograph of the demolition in process. The caption beneath it explained that the house “...goes under the wrecking ball....under terms of the town’s unsafe buildings ordinance.”

**Conrad Bevier House/Leurenkill - also known as the Bevier-Newkerk House (Demolished House D4):**

Although this house was demolished in 2005, photographs and measured drawings exist showing its appearance at the beginning, middle, as well as at the end of the twentieth century. C.G. Hines (1909: 98-99), who visited it in 1908, remarked that it looked “as if it was one of the old guard.” His photograph (see photo sheet D4) depicts a simple stone dwelling built into a hillside with steep steps leading to its front porch. Hines interviewed a Bevier family descendent who claimed that the house was built by Conrad Bevier “at the beginning of the French and Indian War” (i.e. 1750s). The house was later occupied by a series of Newkirks, Freers and Brodheads. In 1967, when visited by the historic survey volunteers, the house had become “part of a bungalow colony for summer visitors.” Its interior and exterior condition was described as “fair.” Although many architectural elements had been altered, the flooring and some of the original hardware seemed to have survived.

By the 1990s, the house was apparently on the verge of collapsing. New owners intervened and began a renovation project. In the fall of 1999, members of the Dutch Barn Preservation Society (now the Hudson Valley Vernacular Architecture Society) documented the house with a series of

photographs and measured drawings (see their November 1999 *Newsletter*). In 2006, upon hearing that the house had been torn down, Peter Sinclair, the editor of the *HVVA Newsletter*, noted that:

the house was evidently begun in the early 18<sup>th</sup> century as one-room with a Dutch jambless fireplace. The smoke hood had survived, one of a very few examples of this feature and unique in that the hood was constructed of stone rather than brick. This attested to its isolated frontier setting where brick was unavailable.”

### **Buildings Lost Prior to 1967**

#### **Johannes G. Hardenbergh House:**

Formerly located near the present intersection of Routes 209 and 44-55, the house bore a date stone indicating that it was constructed in 1762. During the American Revolution, the house's builder, Colonel Johannes G. Hardenbergh (1731-1812), represented Ulster County in the newly formed state government. In October 1777, with Kingston (New York's first capital) under threat of attack by the British, the Council of Safety oversaw the transfer of New York State's and New York City's most vital public papers to the Hardenbergh House, located deep within what was then perceived as the frontier (*Olde Ulster* 1906: 10-13).

The house was already in poor condition by the time it was visited by C.G. Hines (1909: 68-69) and Helen Reynolds (1929: 202-203). In his *Ulster County, New York, The Architectural History and Guide* (2011: 258-260), William Rhoads recounts the



Ca. 1930's HABS Photograph of Johannes G. Hardenbergh House

house's destruction, the story of which forms one of the earliest chapters in Ulster County's efforts to preserve its historic buildings. Interestingly, the crusade to save the house was led by three notable Town of Wawarsing residents: Olive Brown Sarre, co-founder of Yama Farms; Thomas E. Benedict, local historian and former owner of the DeWitt-Benedict House; and Frederick Dellenbaugh, Cragsmoor artist and architect.

By the late 1930s, when all hopes of preserving the house had failed, much of the house's interior was removed and reconstructed at the Winterthur Museum in Wilmington, Delaware. Just prior to this, a team from the WPA/HABS (HABS NY, 56-KER, 1) was able to fully document both the exterior and interior of the house with a series of photographs and measured drawings. In 1938, the Hardenbergh House's exterior walls collapsed and what remained of the structure was razed.

#### **The Coenradt Bevier House/Napanoch:**

Terwilliger (1982: 16) locates the site of this house as near the present day intersection of Route 209 and Napanoch's Main Street, describing it as "the triangle where Peters' Market is today." Photographs taken by Reynolds (1929: 242) and by HABS (HABS NY, 56-NAP, 1) indicate that the building was destroyed at some point between the late 1920s and the 1930s.



1930s HABS Photograph of Coenradt Bevier House Ruins

Terwilliger (1982: II-11) cites a 1926 *Ellenville Journal* article identifying its original builder as Conrad Bevier. Hines (1909:99) suggests that prior to building this house, Bevier first built the house in Leurenkill that also bears his name (i.e. stone house D4). The photograph in Reynolds' book depicts the Napanoch house as a large two-story gabled-roofed stone building with two chimneys. Her caption calls attention to the house having been built in three stages, with the roof finally being raised over all three sections. Reynolds (1929: 184-185) also notes that the house "illustrates the principle of growth in building stone houses, as contrasted with that of design." Elaborating on this theme, she concludes that the house's construction illustrates the experiences of many Rondout Valley Dutch-Huguenot settlers: "small beginnings" in the form of the original house built when the area was still a frontier wilderness, followed by

an addition, built in days when some prosperity had been achieved; of doubling of size by 1800-1810, that marked economic recovery after the war of the Revolution; of a large house comfortably occupied in the nineteenth century

By 1908, when Hines first saw the building, it was no longer a residence and had become an ice house. In the 1920s, during the period of Reynolds' visit, a local paper mill was using it as a storage space for pulp (Terwilliger 1982:16). Although Reynolds noted that many of the building's original architectural features and hardware remained intact, she referred to its overall condition as "hopeless." The building was finally destroyed by fire in the 1930s (Terwilliger 1982: 16). As can be seen from their photographs, by the time the HABS team arrived, all that remained were walls and piles of stone rubble. The Coenradt Bevier House's historic significance is best expressed by Reynolds' (1929:185) observation that:

No better example of the hap-hazzard [sic] method followed in Ulster in the building of stone houses could be found than this ruin, and in its doors and windows, and interior detail, it provides a genuine archaeological record of the social life of two centuries.

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**CURRENT INFORMATION  
TOWN OF WAWARSING HISTORIC STONE HOUSES**

STANDING STONE HOUSES										
Stone House #	Name	Map #	1967 Survey Designation	Construction Date (from 1867 survey unless noted in comments)	Address	Ulster County SBL	Property Acreage	Present Owner(s)	Condition	Comments
1	Benjamin Bruyn House	1	Kerhonkson #2	1800 (Portion of House Built Earlier)	1250 Berme Road Kerhonkson	75.4-3-24	48.5	Howard Estrin	Excellent	
2	Jacobus Bruyn House	1	Wawarsing #8	1780 or Earlier	6747 Rte. 209 Wawarsing	75.4-3-1	109.2	Marie Mahoney Elizabeth Heldron	Excellent	historically significant barn on property - see Note 1 below
3	DePuy-DeWitt House (Blair-DeWitt House)	1	Kerhonkson #3	Oldest Portion Built Mid-Eighteenth Century or Possibly Earlier	6881 Rte. 209 Wawarsing	75.4-4-2	2.9	Roger Ross	Excellent	historical marker on site - see Notes 1 and 2 below
4	Jacob DeWitt/ Rosenfeld House	1	Kerhonkson #4	Eighteenth or Early Nineteenth Century	6872 Rte. 209 Wawarsing	75.4-1-37.100	6.2	Philip Coombe	Excellent	the 1850-1860 construction date given on the survey form is incorrect

5	Verney-Bevier House (Shepard House)	1	Wawarsing #6	Early to Mid-Eighteenth Century	7075 Rte. 209 Wawarsing	75.81-2-21	6.9	Keaagle Family Trust	Excellent	landmarked - date is from nomination research - date on 1967 survey sheet is incorrect - see Note 2 below
6	Lundy/Edgar Verney House	5	Wawarsing #11	1760-1780	Lundy Road (formerly Hillsdale Road) Wawarsing	75.1-1-5.219 (SBL of State Land)	On large State Forest tract	New York State	Very Poor (Unoccupied) House is endangered	Date is from 2000 OSI report (Harris & Pickman 2000)
7	Wood House	2	Napanoch #20	Late Eighteenth Century	Berme Road	83.1-1-4	363	State of New York Ulster Correctional Facility	Excellent	house on large tract belonging to the Correctional Facility - historical marker on site
8	Miller House	2	Wawarsing #12e	About 1750 or Earlier (stone portion)	195 Port Ben Road Wawarsing	83.34-1-21	2.3	Herta Diener	Renovated - 20th century frame second story built above original stone first story (which appears to be in good condition)	

9	Benjamin Bevier House	2	Napanoch #16	Eighteenth or Early Nineteenth Century	4 Water Street Wawarsing	83.10-1-17	1.2	Timothy Loftus Vimal Shah	Excellent	the "prior to 1822" date in the 1967 survey possibly should read "prior to 1812"
10	Messinger House	5	Wawarsing #12a	Eighteenth and Early-Nineteenth Century	519 Rte 55 Wawarsing	75.3-1-14	32	Thomas Edler	Poor (Probably Unoccupied) Endangered Stone Plastered Over - See Note 3	May be earlier than early 1800's
11	Dewitt-Benedict House	2	Napanoch #18	Old Wing Probably Ca. Early 1760s New Wing 1818	7880 Rte 209 Wawarsing	83.1-2-24	17.3	Salvatore Altadonna	Good/Excellent (Unoccupied)	landmark designation pending - dates from nomination research
12	Jansen House	3	Wawarsing #22	Eighteenth Century	57 Country Club Road (formerly Nevele Road) Ellenville	91.21-1-4	5	Stanley Tso Diane Tso	Fair	being renovated - has been evaluated by architectural historian
13	Tice House	4	Wawarsing 24c	Late Eighteenth or Early Nineteenth Century	8782 Rte. 209 Wawarsing	90.4-2-23.100	68.4	Scott Little	Good/Excellent	stone 1st floor frome above - Leurenkill area
14	Brodhead House	4	Wawarsing #24	1752/1753	8595 Rte. 209 Ellenville	90.4-3-67.100	91.6	Victoria Anderson	Excellent	Leurenkill area - see Note 2 below

STONE HOUSES THAT HAVE BEEN DEMOLISHED								
D1	Winkler House	1	Kerhonkson #5	Eighteenth Century	Intersection Rte. 209 and Foordmore Rd.			Demolished in 1971 - see Note 2 below
D2	Bevier-Brown House	2	Napanoch #21	1805	Routh #209 near Institution Road			Demolished
D3	Bevier-Ogden House - Colonial Inn	5	Napanoch #19	1789	Route 209 - Between Ellenville & Napanoch (Opposite Fantinekill Cemetery)			Demolished in 1982
D4	Conrad Bevier House (Bevier - Newkerk House)	4	Wawarsing #23	Eighteenth Century	near Oak Ridge on Banadic Road			Demolished in 2005 - Laurenkill area - see Note 2 below

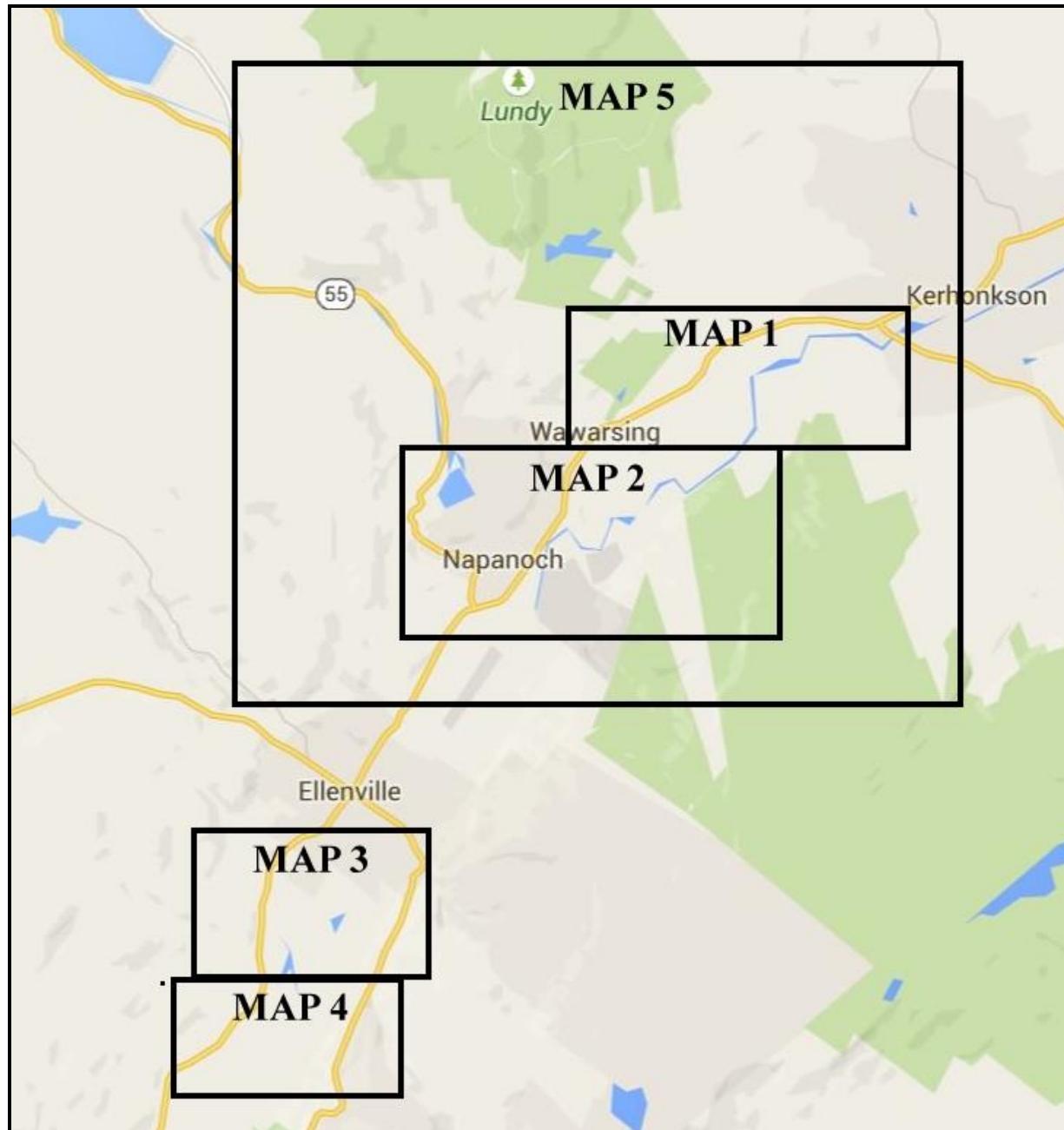
#### NOTES

Note 1 - Photographed by the Historic American Buildings Survey in the 1930s

Note 2 - Has a NYS Unique Site Number and is in NYS's online Cultural Resources Information System

Note 3 - Town of Wawarsing Historian suggests that Messinger House may be associated with Revolutionary War Events

**TOWN OF WAWARSING HISTORIC STONE HOUSES  
LOCATION MAPS**

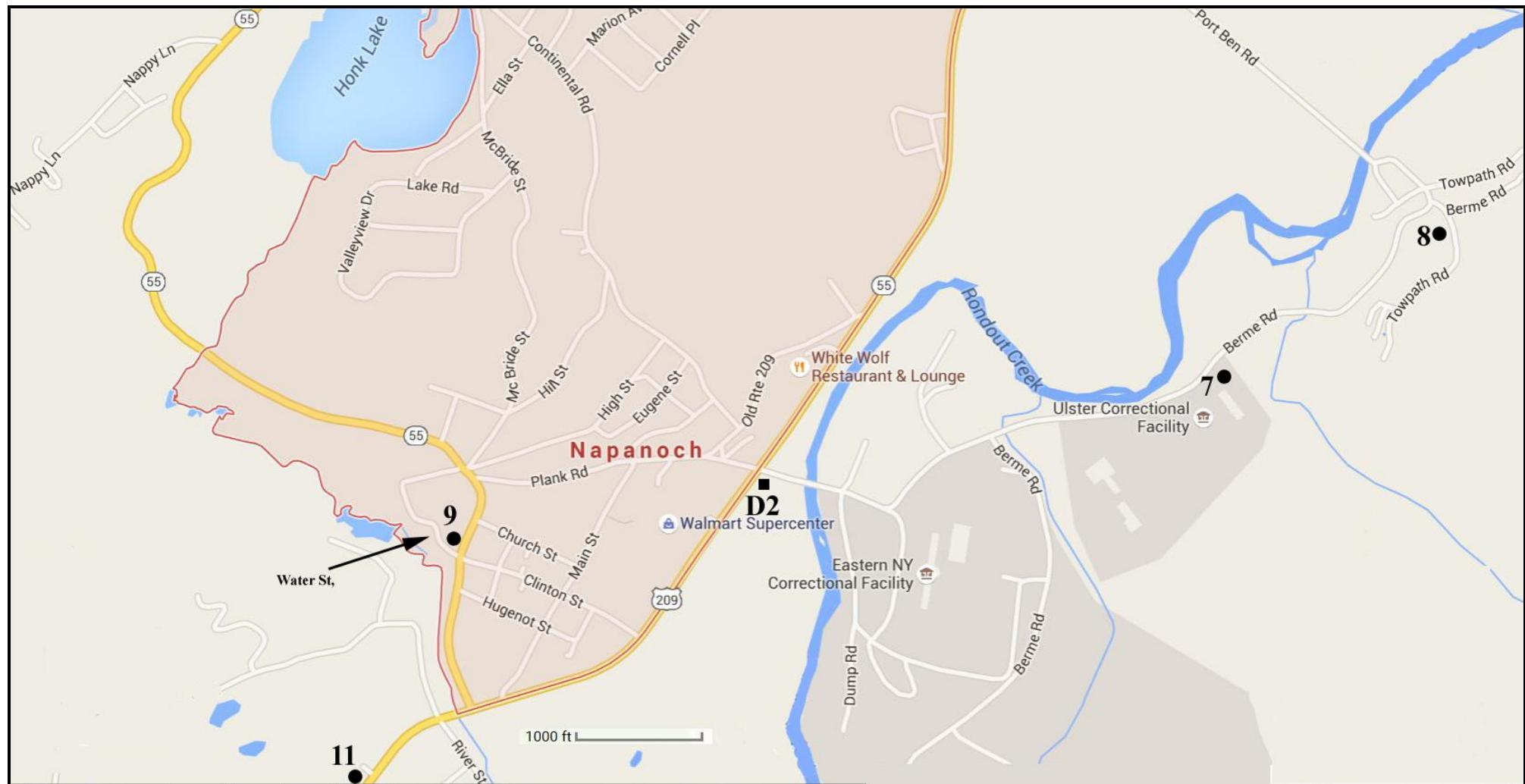


**TOWN OF WAWARSING STONE HOUSE LOCATIONS  
KEY MAP**



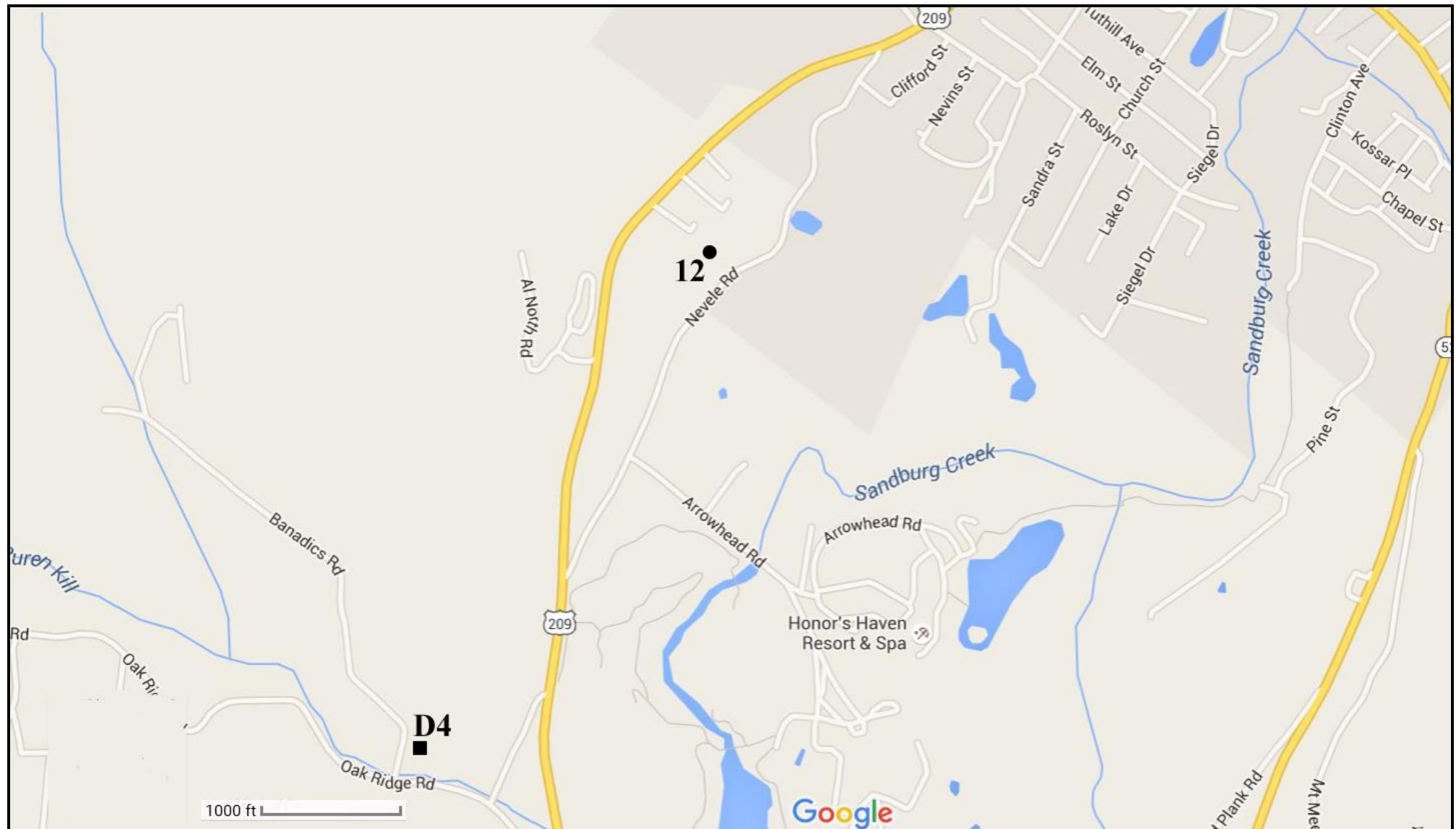
MAP 1

Circles – Locations of Existing Stone Houses  
Squares – Approximate Former Locations of Demolished Stone Houses



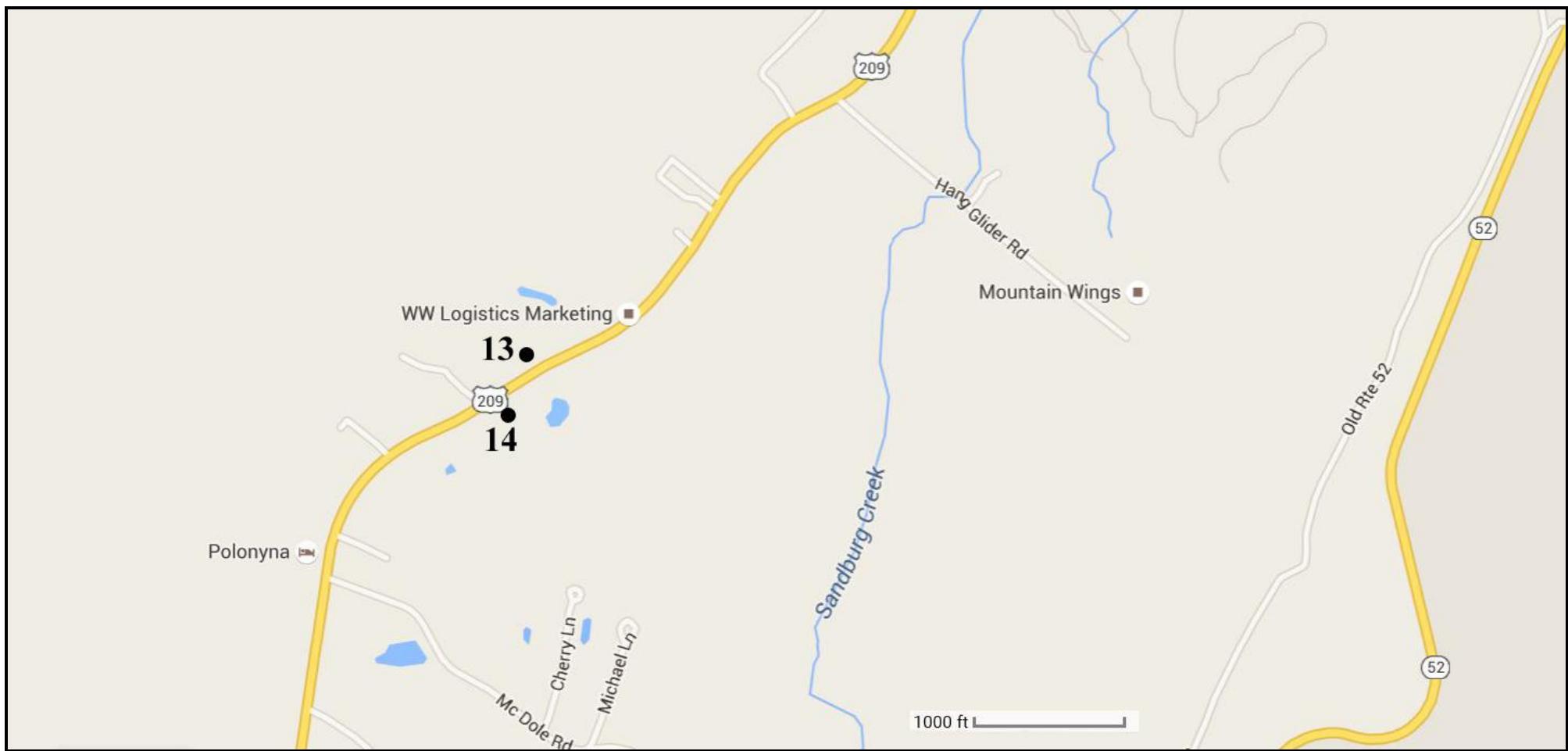
**MAP 2**

Circles – Locations of Existing Stone Houses  
Squares – Approximate Former Locations of Demolished Stone Houses



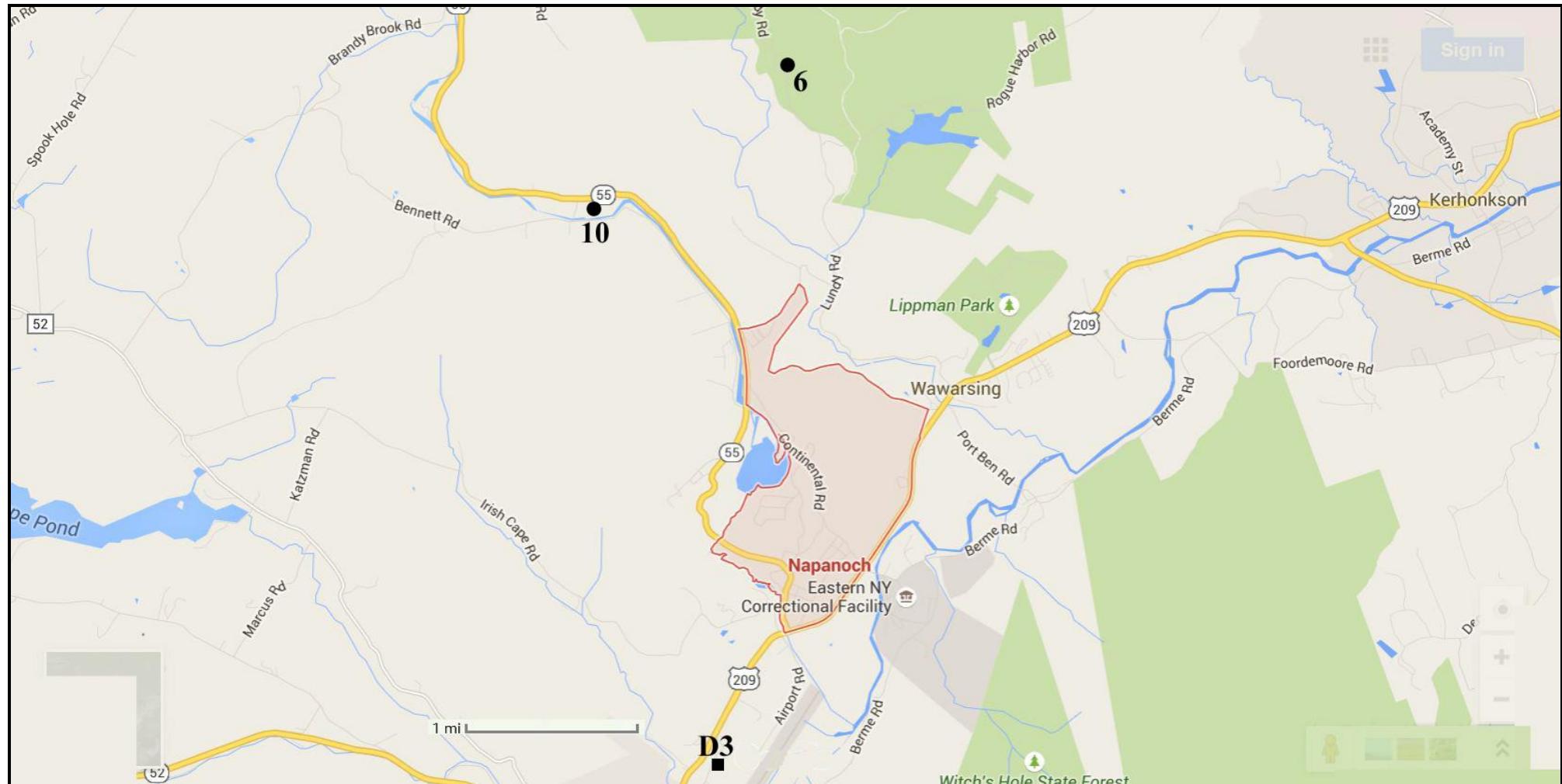
MAP 3

Circles – Locations of Existing Stone Houses  
Squares – Approximate Former Locations of Demolished Stone Houses



## MAP 4

**Circles – Locations of Existing Stone Houses**  
**Squares – Approximate Former Locations of Demolished Stone Houses**



MAP 5

Circles – Locations of Existing Stone Houses  
Squares – Approximate Former Locations of Demolished Stone Houses

**TOWN OF WAWARSING HISTORIC STONE HOUSES  
PHOTOGRAPHS**

**STONE HOUSE #: 1**

**NAME: Benjamin Bruyn House**

**MAP: 1**

**CONSTRUCTION DATE: 1800 (Portion Built Earlier)**

**CONDITION: Excellent**

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**STONE HOUSE #:** 2

**NAME:** Jacobus Bruyn House

**MAP:** 1

**CONSTRUCTION DATE:** 1780 or Earlier

**CONDITION:** Excellent

**NOTE:** Historically Significant Barn on Property (See Attached Photo)

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**Barn on Jacobus Bruyn House Property**

**STONE HOUSE #:** 3

**NAME:** DePuy-DeWitt House  
(Blair-DeWitt House)

**MAP:** 1

**CONSTRUCTION DATE:** Mid-Eighteenth Century or Earlier

**CONDITION:** Excellent



**STONE HOUSE #:** 4

**NAME:** James DeWitt/  
Rosenfeld House

**MAP:** 1

**CONSTRUCTION DATE:** Eighteenth or Early Nineteenth Century

**CONDITION:** Excellent



**STONE HOUSE #: 5**

**NAME: Vernoy-Bevier House  
(Shepard House)**

**MAP: 1**

**CONSTRUCTION DATE: Early to Mid-Eighteenth Century**

**CONDITION: Excellent**

**Note: Previously Landmarked**

---



**STONE HOUSE #:** 6

**NAME:** Lundy/Edgar Vernooy  
**House**

**MAP:** 5

**CONSTRUCTION DATE:** 1760-1780

**CONDITION:** Very Poor  
(Unoccupied)

---



**STONE HOUSE #:** 7

**NAME:** Wood House

**MAP:** 2

**CONSTRUCTION DATE:** Late Eighteenth Century

**CONDITION:** Excellent

**Note:** No Access to Site – Photo is from Google

---



**STONE HOUSE #: 8**

**NAME: Miller House**

**MAP: 2**

**CONSTRUCTION DATE: Stone Portion 1750 or Earlier**

**CONDITION: Renovated -  
Stone Portion in  
Good Condition**

---



**STONE HOUSE #: 9**

**NAME: Benjamin Bevier House**

**MAP: 2**

**CONSTRUCTION DATE: Eighteenth or Early Nineteenth Century**

**CONDITION: Excellent**



**STONE HOUSE #: 10**

**NAME: Messinger House**

**MAP: 5**

**CONSTRUCTION DATE: Eighteenth and Early Nineteenth Century**

**CONDITION: Poor**

**(Probably  
Unoccupied)**

---



**CONSTRUCTION DATE:** Old Wing Probably Ca. 1760's  
New Wing 1818

**CONDITION:** Good/Excellent  
(Unoccupied)

**Note:** Landmark Nomination Pending

---



**STONE HOUSE #: 12**

**NAME: Jansen House**

**MAP: 3**

**CONSTRUCTION DATE: Eighteenth Century**

**CONDITION: Fair**  
**Being Renovated**

**Note: House Has Been Evaluated By Architectural Historian**

---



**STONE HOUSE #:** 13

**NAME:** Tice House

**MAP:** 4

**CONSTRUCTION DATE:** Late Eighteenth or  
Early Nineteenth Century

**CONDITION:** Good/Excellent



**STONE HOUSE #: 14**

**NAME: Brodhead House**

**MAP: 4**

**CONSTRUCTION DATE: 1752/1753**

**CONDITION: Excellent**

---



**DEMOLISHED STONE HOUSE #: D1**

**NAME: Winkler House**

**MAP: 1**

**CONSTRUCTION DATE: Eighteenth Century**

**DEMOLITION DATE: 1971**

**PHOTOGRAPH: From 1967 Survey**

---



From the Collections of Ellenville Public Library & Museum

**DEMOLISHED STONE HOUSE #: D2**

**NAME: Bevier-Brown House**

**MAP: 2**

**CONSTRUCTION DATE: 1805**

**DEMOLITION DATE: ?**

---

**No Photograph Available**

**DEMOLISHED STONE HOUSE #: D3**

**NAME: Bevier-Ogden House MAP: 5**

**- Colonial Inn**

**CONSTRUCTION DATE: 1789**

**DEMOLITION DATE: 1982**

**PHOTOGRAPHS: From 1967 Survey and Demolition Photograph from Ellenville Journal**



From the Collections of Ellenville Public Library & Museum



The former Colonial Inn goes under the wreckers' ball last week under terms of the town's unsafe buildings ordinance. The old stone structure was once the farmhouse for the Yama Farms Dairy, according to Mrs. Virginia Van Keuren, whose father Elmon LaForge was superintendent of the farm after Frank Seaman purchased about 188 acres in 1911 from Mr. and Mrs. George Krom (parents of Percy Krom). Seaman built a large barn which is now part

of Channel Master Plant 2. The farm, noted for its purebred Jerseys, supplied all the dairy products to the famed Yama Farms Inn. In 1941 the farm and house were sold to G. Chandler Young, with LaForge continuing his duties. In 1949 Young sold the buildings and acreage to Channel Master Corporation. The stone dwelling later was owned by Mary S. Ogdon.

Clipping from Collections of the Ellenville Public Library and Museum

**DEMOLISHED STONE HOUSE #: D4**

**NAME: Conrad Bevier House MAP: 4**

**(Bevier-Newkerk**

**House)**

**CONSTRUCTION DATE: Eighteenth Century**

**DEMOLITION DATE: 2005**

**PHOTOGRAPH: From Hine, C.G The *Old Mine. Road* (1909: opp. Page 108 (republished 1963)**



**APPENDIX**  
**1967 JUNIOR LEAGUE SURVEY DATA SHEETS**

## BENJAMIN BRUYN HOUSE

Kerhonkson 2

3

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDING SURVEY FIELD REPORT SHEET:

I identify yourself, organization, and the Ulster County Planning Board Historic Sites Committee. If possible, travel as a team, especially when calling on any unfamiliar houses. Try to answer the following questions about each building as fully as you are able and return to your area chairman, with a photograph.

## 1. LOCATION

a. State New York County Ulster Town Wawarsing  
 b. Street or Road Fordmore Ave. Kerhonkson  
 c. Does it appear on town map? If so, where \_\_\_\_\_

## 2. EXTERIOR:

a. Date 1800  
 b. Style Early Federal Per. Builder  
 Material stone Architect \_\_\_\_\_  
 c. Condition Excellent  
 d. Porches or dormers No porches

## 3. INTERIOR:

a. Number of rooms 10+3 bath Height of ceilings 8 ft. + 10 ft.  
 b. Number of stories (Cellar plus 2 ft. + 10 ft.) 2 stories  
 c. Number of fireplaces 7 Are they original? yes  
 d. Width of floor boards Varied Are they original? yes  
 e. Ceiling beams? Timbers yes Located where? Kitchen  
 f. Windows: Original panes yes depth of window sills 12"  
 g. Hardware: In kitchen Is it original? yes  
 h. Wall construction: plaster  
 i. Condition interior good - excellent

## HISTORY:

a. Original owner Benjamin Bruyn Used as Home  
 b. Present owner Howard Anderson Used as Unused  
 c. Remodeled? School room Restored? School room When? 1900  
 d. Notable features: original mantles & fireplaces  
 e. Historical significance: Used as 1st school  
 f. Any legends?  
 g. Published source?  
 h. Open to the public? No

WRITE ANY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION BELOW OR ON THE BACK OF THIS SHEET.

From the Collection of  
 Ellenville Public Library &  
 Museum

OVER

Stone House #1  
 Benjamin Bruyn House  
 Sheet 1 of 2

... in the early days when there was a school  
house, a church and a post office. There were  
a few houses, a blacksmith, a tannery and a few  
other buildings. The house is the only one  
left standing. It is a fine example of a Federal  
style house.

The land where this house stands and considerable acreage was owned  
by the Bruyn family for well over 100 years prior to 1900. The Bruyns were  
prominent and wealthy citizens of Ulster County.

A one-room and loft section in the back was built prior to 1800.  
This is still standing.

The front portion was built in 1800 by Benjamin Bruyn and is said  
to represent the Federal period of architecture. Three generations of the  
Bruyn family lived in the house over a period of 100 years. The imposing  
house faced the Delaware and Hudson Canal a few hundred feet away.

About 1900 Harry Gordon purchased the house and acreage. He had  
a large model dairy and race track. Mr. Gordon added a large wing on the  
South from which he could view the race track. This large wing became known  
as the Schoolhouse Wing during World War II when many English children were  
brought here to live as part of the program to protect them from the bombing  
of England.

During the last ten years the house has been completely redecorated  
in 18th century American style by Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Small, the owners at  
the time. In late 1966 they sold the house to Howard Anderson.

From the Collection of  
Ellenville Public Library &  
Museum

Stone House #1  
Benjamin Bruyn House  
Sheet 2 of 2

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDING SURVEY FIELD REPORT SHEET:

I identify yourself, organization, and the Ulster County Planning Board Historic Sites Committee. If possible, travel as a team, especially when calling on any unfamiliar houses. Try to answer the following questions about each building as fully as you are able and return to your area chairman, with a photograph.

1. LOCATION

a. State N.Y. County Ulster Town Wawarsing  
 b. Street or Road State Road (200) Wawarsing - opposite Prison Farm  
 c. Does it appear on town map? If so, where \_\_\_\_\_

2. EXTERIOR:

a. Date 1780 or earlier  
 b. Style Dutch Colonial Builder Jacobus Bruyn  
 Material stone Architect "  
 c. Condition good  
 d. Porches or dormers small front porch, 3 dormers

3. INTERIOR:

a. Number of rooms 4 Height of ceilings 7 1/2 downstairs, 7' upstairs  
 b. Number of stories (Cellar plus 2) \_\_\_\_\_  
 c. Number of fireplaces 4 Are they original? Yes  
 d. Width of floor boards 1 1/4" Are they original? Yes  
 e. Ceiling beams? Covered? Located where? all through house - notable kitchen  
 f. Windows: Original panes Yes depth of window sills 12"  
 g. Hardware: Wrought iron Is it original? Yes - notable on back door (below)  
 h. Wall construction: Plaster with horsehair  
 i. Condition interior Good

## HISTORY:

a. Original owner Jacobus Bruyn Used as Farmhouse  
 b. Present owner Charles Mahoney Used as \_\_\_\_\_  
 c. Remodeled? No Restored? Yes When? 1965  
 d. Notable features: Dutch doors, so many original features  
 e. Historical significance: Used to keep slaves in cellar  
 f. Any legends?  
 g. Published source? 1977 "Dutch Houses in the Hudson Valley Before 1776"  
 h. Open to the public? No

## WRITE ANY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION BELOW OR ON THE BACK OF THIS SHEET.

Large barn is original farm barn - hand hewn pegs and hand cut floors. Front door of house has an enormous key and lock; house has all original locks; back door has 2 strap hinges with splice + loop locks, very crude. 3 Dutch doors (now closed into 1 door) all original. Fireplace mantel in living room has 2 stone Adam sunbursts in it, with 5 matching sunbursts on panelling around fireplace. Upstairs, 1 room has fireplace with stone hearth. 2 mantels side by side take up one wall from cellar to attic.

ARREST  
ONEK  
ARREST  
ONEK  
ARREST  
ONEK  
ARREST  
ONEK

Wooden steps to upstairs are in middle of house - wider than usual small steep stairs in most old houses; also not steep - well designed.  
Original closets in kitchen - tongue & groove cupboards.

Cellar divided into 4 rooms - full basement. Cellar fireplace has opening with beams directly above it. Slaves were quartered in the cellar.

From "Dutch Houses in the Hudson Valley Before 1776" - Reynolds -

"In 1781 Jacobus Bruyn was living in the house when it was sacked by Tories and Indians in a raid on Wawarsing. . . . Present owner, Arthur Gary, bought the farm recently from the Hornbeck family, who had owned it for much of the 19th century, and who in their turn had purchased it from the Bruyns. It is not known who built the house but in general character it is somewhat suggested of the Hornbeck homestead at Pine Bush which is supposed to belong to the period of the raids. . . . Believe that is construction of the second or third generation in the occupation of Wawarsing.

"The lovely curve of the line of the roof of the Bruyn house is an instance of the instinctive feeling possessed by the local workmen of the colonial period. It was more or less common in Ulster for the rear wall of a house to rise but a few feet from the ground in 18th century building. But in such cases the roof usually slanted from ridgepole to eaves in a single direct pitch. The curved line of the Bruyn roof is the only one of its kind found in this survey and its individuality makes it interesting."

From the Collection of  
Ellenville Public Library &  
Museum

Stone House #2  
Jacobus Bruyn House  
Sheet 2 of 2

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDING SURVEY FIELD REPORT SHEET:

I identify yourself, organization, and the Ulster County Planning Board Historic Sites Committee. If possible, travel as a team, especially when calling on any unfamiliar houses. Try to answer the following questions about each building as fully as you are able and return to your area chairman, with a photograph.

## 1. LOCATION

a. State *New York* County *Ulster* Town *Wawarsing*  
b. Street or Road

c. Does it appear on town map? If so, where \_\_\_\_\_

## 2. EXTERIOR:

a. Date *1716 - 1616 (?)* No - See over

b. Style *Early Colonial* Builder *Jacob DeWitt*  
Material *Stone* Architect

c. Condition *excellent*

d. Porches or dormers *2 dormers*

## 3. INTERIOR:

a. Number of rooms *6* Height of ceilings *8 ft.*

b. Number of stories (Cellar plus *2*)

c. Number of fireplaces *2* Are they original? *yes*

d. Width of floor boards *1 ft.* Are they original? *yes*

e. Ceiling beams? *yes* Located where? *kitchen + dining rm* <sup>down stairs</sup> *dormers*

f. Windows: Original panes *1 win.* depth of window sills *1 ft.*

g. Hardware: *1 door upstairs* Is it original? *yes*

h. Wall construction: *plaster*

i. Condition interior *excellent*

## HISTORY:

a. Original owner *Cornelius DeWitt* Used as *Home*

b. Present owner *C. T. Blair* Used as *Home*

c. Remodeled? *no* Restored? *yes* When? *1973*

d. Notable features:

e. Historical significance: probably oldest house in Town of Wawarsing

f. Any legends? *yes - see reverse side*

g. Published source? *"Old Mine Road", "Dutch Houses in the Hudson Valley"*

h. Open to the public? *no*

WRITE ANY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION BELOW OR ON THE BACK OF THIS SHEET.

From the Collection of  
Ellenville Public Library &  
Museum

over

Surveyed - Mrs. A. Dean Minken, Miss Katherine Terwilliger

Stone House #3  
DePuy-DeWitt House (Blair-DeWitt House)  
Sheet 1 of 2

I do not know where you found it on other side can't find out  
believe it is inaccurate.

The oldest house in the Town of Wawarsing, IF 1616 date (see below) can be correct;  
but certainly among the oldest.

There is considerable difference of opinion as to the date of building and  
the builder.

"Dutch Houses in the Hudson Valley Before 1776," pages 192-193 and Plate  
68, states the early portion was built by Moses C. DePuy about the middle of  
the 18th century. The book calls it "a typical frontier dwelling of the Rondout  
valley." It says further: "Two seams in the north wall are shown in the picture  
from which it may be deduced that the east end of the house was built first, then  
a small addition to the west and then a second, somewhat larger than the first one."

House is often referred to locally and in above book as the Fort.

"The Old Mine Road," pages 69-70 quote a resident of the area when the book  
was written, about 1907, as saying there are three periods for this house "1616,  
and two additions made in 1716 and 1783."

This is another house in the Town of Wawarsing where DeWitt Clinton is said  
to have been born.

The most familiar legend of the house tells that during the Indian raid\*  
when Wawarsing was burned in 1781 a young boy was sent to the attic of this  
house for safety. He looked out a hole, saw the Indians coming, and fired.  
His aim was good or lucky and he killed the Chief whereupon the other Indians  
fled. For many years there was a road marker telling this story but when  
the road was redone a few years ago it was removed or buried.

On the road in front of this house always stood one of the very old  
milestones; this one said 23 miles to Kingston. It was stolen in 1964.

\*"The Old Mine Road" dates this incident as happening at the time of the  
Fantinekill Massacre. This occurred in 1779, five miles away in what is now  
Ellenville so it seems more likely that it would have happened when the burning  
of Wawarsing took place in 1781.

From the Collection of  
Ellenville Public Library &  
Museum

Mr George Heinszel told me bricks in chimney  
were hand made

KT

Stone House #3  
DePuy-DeWitt House (Blair-DeWitt House)  
Sheet 2 of 2

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDING SURVEY FIELD REPORT SHEET:

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## 1. LOCATION

a. State New York County Ulster Town Wawarsing  
 b. Street or Road CR 209, Wawarsing  
 c. Does it appear on town map? If so, where \_\_\_\_\_

## 2. EXTERIOR:

a. Date 1850-60  
 b. Style Colonial / Dutch Builder  
 Material Stone Architect  
 c. Condition Excellent  
 d. Porches or dormers 3 porches, 2 dormers

## 3. INTERIOR:

a. Number of rooms 11 Height of ceilings 8'  
 b. Number of stories (Cellar plus 2 floors)  
 c. Number of fireplaces 1 Are they original? Yes  
 d. Width of floor boards 4" Are they original? Yes  
 e. Ceiling beams? Yes Located where? 2 front rooms  
 f. Windows: Original panes Yes depth of window sills 2 ft  
 g. Hardware: No Is it original? \_\_\_\_\_  
 h. Wall construction: Plaster  
 i. Condition interior Good

## HISTORY:

a. Original owner Jacob DeWitt Used as Home  
 b. Present owner Mr. Maynard Rosenfeld Used as Home  
 c. Remodeled? Yes Restored? \_\_\_\_\_ When? 1957-78  
 d. Notable features: \_\_\_\_\_  
 e. Historical significance: \_\_\_\_\_  
 f. Any legends? \_\_\_\_\_  
 g. Published source? \_\_\_\_\_  
 h. Open to the public? No

WRITE ANY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION BELOW OR ON THE BACK OF THIS SHEET.

Stoneportion may have been built by Jacob DeWitt who owned the farm around the 1850s. It was a large farm of some 200 acres. He willed it to his nephew Benjamin Bruyn Russell, who lived in the house.

This house stands next to a ledge of rocks called the Soccanssing Rocks; the entire area of Wawarsing in this vicinity is called Soccanssing. It is an Indian word meaning water hole or marsh.

Stone House #4  
 Jacob DeWitt House (Rosenfeld House)  
 Sheet 1 of 1

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDING SURVEY FIELD REPORT SHEET:

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1. LOCATION

a. State N.Y. County ULSTER Town WAWARSING  
b. Street or Road PRIVATE ROAD OFF RTE 209

c. Does it appear on town map? If so, where VILLAGE OF WAWARSING

2. EXTERIOR:

a. Date APPROX - 1740

b. Style DUTCH  
Material STONE

Builder PRESUMABLY BUILT BY FIRST GENERATION  
VERNOY FAMILY  
Architect —

c. Condition EXCELLENT

d. Porches or dormers SMALL PORCH (KITCHEN ENTRANCE) 1 DORMER

3. INTERIOR:

a. Number of rooms 4 Height of ceilings APPROX 9 FEET

b. Number of stories (Cellar plus 2)

c. Number of fireplaces 2 Are they original? YES

d. Width of floor boards 1 1/2 Are they original? YES

e. Ceiling beams? NOT IN Located where? KITCHEN, LIVING ROOM, CELLAR

f. Windows: Original panes NO depth of window sills 2 1/2 inches

g. Hardware: NOT IN Is it original? —

h. Wall construction: NO ORIGINAL INTERIOR WALLS SHAVING

i. Condition interior EXCELLENT

HISTORY:

a. Original owner PRESUMABLY 1ST GENERATION <sup>VERNOY</sup> Used as DWELLING

b. Present owner HENRY MAX SHEPARD Used as DWELLING

c. Remodeled? YES Restored? — When? 1953

d. Notable features: DWELLING RETAINS ORIGINAL EXTERIOR LINES

e. Historical significance: EXAMPLE OF EARLY BASIC DUTCH ARCHITECTURE

f. Any legends? UNDER ATTACK OF INDIAN RAID OF 1751

g. Published source? NOTE IV

h. Open to the public? NO

WRITE ANY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION BELOW OR ON THE BACK OF THIS SHEET.

1) Basement & kitchen ceiling's probably represent original flooring - random width boards about 16 inches.

2) Size - 3 kitchen beams width 11 inches depth 15 inches - length 22 feet

3 living room - approximately same as kitchen beams

6 cellar beams approximately 12 inches by 12 inches by 22 feet

3 replaced in 1966

(OVER)

Stone House #5  
Vernoy-Bevier House (Shepard House)  
Sheet 1 of 2

3). Reproduced hardware used with exception of kitchen door, which appears to have some original hardware. Living room entrance has several pieces of original hardware

4) References and cross references in the following sources:

- a) History of Ulster County - W. B. Sylvester, 1880
- b) Dutch Houses in the Hudson Valley Before 1776 - H. W. Reynolds

1923

- c) The Old Mine Road - C. G. Hine - 1908
- d) The Indians: Or Narratives of Massacres and Depredations on the Frontier, in Wawaseek and Its Vicinity, during the American Revolution. A. G. Beale, 1846
- e) Legends of the Shawangunk. P. H. Smith, 1887

From the Collection of  
Ellenville Public Library &  
Museum

Prepared by Mrs Max Shepard

Stone House #5  
Vernoy-Bevier House (Shepard House)  
Sheet 2 of 2

LUNDY HOUSE  
(ABANDONED)

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDING SURVEY FIELD REPORT SHEET:

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1. LOCATION

a. State N.Y. County Ulster Town Wawarsing  
b. Street or Road Hillsdale Rd., Wawarsing  
c. Does it appear on town map? If so, where \_\_\_\_\_

2. EXTERIOR:

a. Date c. 1750  
b. Style colonial Builder  
Material stone Architect  
c. Condition fair (being restored)  
d. Porches or dormers 1 porch

3. INTERIOR:

a. Number of rooms 9 rooms Height of ceilings  
b. Number of stories (Cellar plus 2)  
c. Number of fireplaces None Are they original?  
d. Width of floor boards 10"-13" Are they original? yes  
e. Ceiling beams? 7" x 7" Located where? downstairs rooms  
f. Windows: Original panes yes depth of window sills 13"  
g. Hardware: wrought iron Is it original? yes (1 door)  
h. Wall construction: being plastered  
i. Condition interior good (being restored)

HISTORY:

a. Original owner Edgar Vernoy Used as farm house  
~~bailey~~ nothing  
b. Present owner F. W. T. Lundy Used as nothing (abandoned)  
c. Remodeled? no Restored? ✓ When? in process  
d. Notable features: simple farm house  
e. Historical significance: \_\_\_\_\_  
f. Any legends? None that we knew or could find out.  
g. Published source? \_\_\_\_\_  
h. Open to the public? no

WRITE ANY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION BELOW OR ON THE BACK OF THIS SHEET.

Stone House #6  
Lundy House (Edgar Vernoy House)  
Sheet 1 of 1

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDING SURVEY FIELD REPORT SHEET:

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## 1. LOCATION

a. State New York County Ulster Town Wawarsing  
b. Street or Road Berme Road, Napanoch

c. Does it appear on town map? If so, where \_\_\_\_\_

## 2. EXTERIOR:

a. Date \*See below

b. Style Dutch Colonial Builder \*see below

Material Stone w/stucco

Architect

c. Condition poor

d. Porches or dormers none

## 3. INTERIOR:

a. Number of rooms 7 Height of ceilings ft.

b. Number of stories (Cellar plus 2½)

c. Number of fireplaces 1 Are they original? doubtful

d. Width of floor boards 12 Are they original? yes

e. Ceiling beams? yes Located where? yes

f. Windows: Original panes yes depth of window sills 4

g. Hardware: yes Is it original? yes

h. Wall construction: wood

i. Condition interior fair

## HISTORY:

James Wood -?

a. Original owner James Wood Used as home

b. Present owner State of N. Y. Used as storage space

c. Remodeled? no Restored? no When? 1900

d. Notable features: Baking compartment w/ old fashioned hearth oven

e. Historical significance: no

f. Any legends? no

g. Published source? no

h. Open to the public? no

WRITE ANY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION BELOW OR ON THE BACK OF THIS SHEET.

\*Institution records the "Wood Homestead" as having been erected about 1790.  
Research reference for description and historical background there on.

Liber 155 - Page 374

353 - Pages 345 and 346

\*\* Patents from parties unknown to owner but ascertainable from County Clerk  
Land Records. Patents to: James Wood then to Uriah Wood

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDING SURVEY FIELD REPORT SHEET:

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## 1. LOCATION

a. State New York County Ulster Town Wawarsing  
 b. Street or Road near Burn Road, Port Ben  
 c. Does it appear on town map? If so, where \_\_\_\_\_

## 2. EXTERIOR:

a. Date Old (South) end about 1750 or earlier  
 b. Style Dutch colonial Builder Asa Miller?  
 Material stone (old section) Architect  
 c. Condition of stone section: Fair  
 d. Porches or dormers 2 dormers 24" thick; 1 small window in each

## 3. INTERIOR:

a. Number of rooms 17 in all \* Height of ceilings 6 1/2'  
 b. Number of stories (Cellar plus 3) \_\_\_\_\_  
 c. Number of fireplaces 1 Are they original? no now covered.  
 d. Width of floor boards 12-18" Are they original? old section: 12"-18" /  
 e. Ceiling beams? \* yes Located where? downstairs  
 f. Windows: Original panes some depth of window sills old section 24"  
 g. Hardware: nondescript Is it original? no  
 h. Wall construction: plaster over original stone  
 i. Condition interior Poor

## HISTORY:

a. Original owner Not known Used as Dwelling  
 b. Present owner Gustave Diener Used as Dwelling and machine shop  
 c. Remodeled? yes \* Restored? When? Various \*  
 d. Notable features:  
 e. Historical significance: Said to have been a fort used by both Indians and Americans.  
 f. Any legends?  
 g. Published source?  
 h. Open to the public? no

## WRITE ANY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION BELOW OR ON THE BACK OF THIS SHEET.

\* The old stone end of this house is very old. Five generations of the Miller family have lived in it (and the 5th generation is now 40-50 years old). The original Miller to own it was Asa Miller, who bought the stone section which was all that existed then. It has a dug cellar under it, with earth floor. The first floor had two small rooms; the window sills in this measure 24". In 1930-1939 Harry Miller (4th generation) took out this partition and made one room. The second floor had one bedroom with dormer. The floor boards have been covered.

OVER

Stone House #8

Miller House

Sheet 1 of 2

The new section of the house was built for Lewis C. Miller (3rd generation) after his father, Justus (4th generation) died.

The Millers have found many arrowheads on the property. Some of these appeared in caches, leading to the assumption that the Indians had stored them ready for use.

**Stone House #8  
Miller House  
Sheet 2 of 2**

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDING SURVEY FIELD REPORT SHEET:

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## 1. LOCATION

- a. State New York County Ulster Town Wawarsing
- b. Street or Road Cor. National St. & Route 52, Napanoch
- c. Does it appear on town map? If so, where \_\_\_\_\_

## 2. EXTERIOR:

- a. Date prior to 1822
- b. Style Dutch Colonial Builder Benjamin Bevier (General in War of 1812; usually called Colonel Bevier)  
Material Stone Architect
- c. Condition good-- could be restored--now not authentic
- d. Porches or dormers

## 3. INTERIOR:

- a. Number of rooms 19 Height of ceilings 7½ ft.
- b. Number of stories (Cellar plus 2)
- c. Number of fireplaces \_\_\_\_\_ Are they original? \_\_\_\_\_
- d. Width of floor boards 20" Are they original? yes
- e. Ceiling beams? yes Located where? owner states entire house
- f. Windows: Original panes yes depth of window sills 18"
- g. Hardware: 1 lock Is it original? yes
- h. Wall construction: plaster
- i. Condition interior fair- not in original condition

## HISTORY:

- a. Original owner Benjamin Bevier Used as home
- b. Present owner Con Wisdom Used as apartment building & business
- c. Remodeled? yes Restored? When? about 1942
- d. Notable features: Deep Window sills in parlor- wide floor boards- old blinds
- e. Historical significance: Significant in Napanoch history because of Bevier family, which was 1st one to settle in Napanoch, (about 1707) and were leading citizens.
- f. Any legends? \_\_\_\_\_
- g. Published source? \_\_\_\_\_
- h. Open to the public? \_\_\_\_\_

## WRITE ANY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION BELOW OR ON THE BACK OF THIS SHEET.

Katherine Bevier in The Bevier Family page 120 says; "This house, a substantial building building of peculiar dignity and in an excellent state of preservation, is still to be seen at Napanoch. It resembles, in some respects, the houses built by the early planters in the South before the Civil War. It is a low rambling building with extensive porticoes." Book published 1916. It has now been remodeled beyond recognition.

For many years it was the home of Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Bangs. He built an iron forge and rolling mill in Napanoch. Their home was a prominent social center.

For many years, prior to 1913 when he died, the home was owned by Demmon Reynolds, inventor of a turbine water wheel, and a leading citizen of Napanoch.

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Museum

**Stone House #9  
njamin Bevier House  
Sheet 2 of 2**

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDING SURVEY FIELD REPORT SHEET:

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## 1. LOCATION

- a. State N.Y. County Ulster Town Wawarsing
- b. Street or Road Lackawack Rd. about  $4\frac{1}{2}$  miles from Napanoch Bridge
- c. Does it appear on town map? If so, where \_\_\_\_\_

## 2. EXTERIOR:

- a. Date Early 1800s (see over)
- b. Style Colonial Builder Albert Demarest (over)  
Material stone with stucco (1830) Architect
- c. Condition good
- d. Porches or dormers 3 porches

## 3. INTERIOR:

- a. Number of rooms 10 Height of ceilings  $6\frac{1}{2}$  - 8'
- b. Number of stories (Cellar plus 2 stories)
- c. Number of fireplaces 4 Are they original? Yes
- d. Width of floor boards 6"-24" Are they original? Yes
- e. Ceiling beams? 5" x 6" Located where? 1st floor & kitchen (lower level)
- f. Windows: Original panes <sup>lower 12</sup> depth of window sills 18"
- lower level 2nd floor
- g. Hardware: <sup>2 wooden knobs</sup> steel <sup>iron</sup> Is it original? Yes
- h. Wall construction: Plaster walls
- i. Condition interior excellent good - excellent

## HISTORY:

- a. Original owner \_\_\_\_\_ Used as \_\_\_\_\_
- b. Present owner Etienne Messinger Used as home & office
- c. Remodeled? Yes Restored? Yes When? 1966
- d. Notable features: kitchen is wooden wing & built about 1800s. later.
- e. Historical significance: a well-to-do farmer owned it & considered a real Federal home.
- f. Any legends? Used as a school house around 1865 (lower level)
- g. Published source? \_\_\_\_\_
- h. Open to the public? No

WRITE ANY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION BELOW OR ON THE BACK OF THIS SHEET.

1 set of stairs is same as used in boats, possibly that came from England.

fire place mantels imported from England.

1 building in front of house was used as kitchen throughout the yrs. & up until 1964.

Stone House #10

Messinger House

Sheet 1 of 2

Descendants of Albert Demarest and Cornelia VanVoorthis, his wife, state that he built this house. Records of the old Wawarsing Reformed Church show he was born in 1777 and died in 1856.

In 1842 Albert and Cornelia Demarest transferred the property to their sons, John V. Demarest and Albert Demarest, Jr. Liber 73: 53.

Therefore, if Albert Demarest built this house it seems fair to assume he did so in the early 1800s.

An old map (undated) indicates that this site was once the location of a tannery and deeds bear this out. April 14, 1862 Albert Demarest and Sarah, his wife, sold  $8\frac{1}{2}$  acres more or less to Alfred D. McKinstry, James B. Childs and Mial T. Childs; the Childs family owned tanneries in various places. Later this tannery passed into possession of the Ellenville Tanning Company. Demarest to McKinstry et al 119:482; ? to Albert Thompson Liber 17: 11; Thompson to Ellenville Tanning Company 1890, Liber 188: 237; Ellenville Tanning Company to John Wilbur June 3, 1890, Liber 294:528. The dwelling is not indicated on the map but must have been there.

The farm (which included a large amount of acreage on the other side of the road) was associated with the Wilbur family from 1890 to 1961.

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Ellenville Public Library &  
Museum

Stone House #10  
Messinger House  
Sheet 2 of 2

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDING SURVEY FIELD REPORT SHEET:

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1. LOCATION

- a. State New York County Ulster Town Wawarsing
- b. Street or Road Route # 209 (Old Mine Road) Napanoch
- c. Does it appear on town map? If so, where 1853 map as heirs of A. Dewitt

2. EXTERIOR:

- a. Date New wing bears date 1818- so main part is earlier Probably 1740

- b. Style Dutch Colonial Builder

Material Stone (uncut fieldstone) Architect

- c. Condition excellent

- d. Porches or dormers added at unknown date

3. INTERIOR:

- a. Number of rooms 14 plus baths Height of ceilings 8 ft.

- b. Number of stories (Cellar plus 2)

- c. Number of fireplaces 3 Are they original? yes (also 1 in cellar)

- d. Width of floor boards 4" Are they original? yes see other side

- e. Ceiling beams? yes Located where? attic

- f. Windows: Original panes 1 window depth of window sills 1 to 2 ft.

- g. Hardware: latches, knobs, Is it original? most of this original

- h. Wall construction: plaster and wood

- i. Condition interior excellent

HISTORY:

- a. Original owner John S. Dewitt Used as home

- b. Present owner Frederick Benedict Jr. Used as home - (weekend)

- c. Remodeled? at various times Restored? yes When? about 1958 started

- d. Notable features: Fireplace Mantles- Gun Ports-Window sills

- e. Historical significance: See Below

- f. Any legends?

- g. Published source?

- h. Open to the public? By appointment

WRITE ANY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION BELOW OR ON THE BACK OF THIS SHEET.

- e. History: Another of the houses where Governor DeWitt Clinton is said to have been born. This was a farm owned by members of the DeWitt family.

John S. DeWitt was an early owner

On October 21, 1901 Thomas E. Benedict purchased from E. V. McNally and William C. McNally several parcels of land. Reference is made to the same premises as conveyed to John S. DeWitt on June 22, 1815,  
( over)

reserving about three acres conveyed by John S. Dewitt to Ceasor Dewitt and Jane his wife (colored persons). Another parcel with somewhat the same description adds deed of Simon Dewitt Jr. and Sarah his wife to John S. DeWitt June 5, 1813.

Deed to colored persons:

May 8, 1844 Liber 62: 165

John S. Dewitt and Sarah his wife, to Cesar Dewitt and Jane, his wife, both colored. For \$150. 3 acres more or less. Right of way across lands of party of first par. Desc. of land gives one boundary as John S. Dewitt land.

Mr. Dewitt had slaves. He wished to give them some of his land but he could not do so because a slave could not own land. He therefore freed them and gave them this land for \$150. Tradition says that the man who owns these acres in 1967 is a grandson or great-grandson of the slaves.

Former Iron Mine

Thomas F. Benedict purchased this land from Newton LeFever on Oct. 30, 1901.  
Liber 368:321

Deed refers to this as same premises conveyed to Hudson River Ore and Iron Co. by William Wallace February 3, 1883 and by Hudson River Ore and Iron Company to Newton LeFever December 6, 1899. 26 acres more or less.

Land described as along road Ellenville to Napanoch. There are several mine shafts on the property; one said to be 300 feet deep. (Ore mined in 1830s and 1850s; other mines in Napanoch in addition to this one.

\* Old flooring varies in width from about 10 to 18 inches, and is only apparent in a few sections of house. Other sections have new flooring placed on top of old flooring... and one wing is all newer flooring.

\*\* Hand hewn ceiling beams visible only in two small upstairs rooms and in basement.

Mr. Benedict says, "We inherited this house about ten years ago and have been gradually restoring it. We have not yet had a chance to check the archives at Kingston to learn its full history. \*\*\*

One item of interest: There are several mine shafts on the property. Iron said to have been mined here during Revolutionary War. One shaft with 300 ft. of water still has huge old supporting beams."

\*\*\* Please note, however, that considerable information on this report has been obtained from records at County Clerk's office by the Town historian.

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDING SURVEY FIELD REPORT SHEET:

I identify yourself, organization, and the Ulster County Planning Board Historic Sites Committee. If possible, travel as a team, especially when calling on any unfamiliar houses. Try to answer the following questions about each building as fully as you are able and return to your area chairman, with a photograph.

## 1. LOCATION

- a. State New York County Ulster Town Wawarsing
- b. Street or Road Nevele Road, just outside Ellenville village limits
- c. Does it appear on town map? If so, where \_\_\_\_\_

## 2. EXTERIOR:

- a. Date 1707 \*
- b. Style Colonial Builder
- Material stone Architect
- c. Condition
- d. Porches or dormers No porch; 5 dormers

## 3. INTERIOR:

- a. Number of rooms 7 Height of ceilings 7½'
- b. Number of stories (Cellar plus 2 )
- c. Number of fireplaces 1 Are they original? yes
- d. Width of floor boards 17" Are they original? yes
- e. Ceiling beams? yes Located where? entire house
- f. Windows: Original panes some up/ depth of window sills 24"
- g. Hardware: Is it original? cast iron; some original
- h. Wall construction: plaster
- i. Condition interior Excellent

## HISTORY:

- a. Original owner Used as dwelling
- b. Present owner E. Gordon Jansen Used as dwelling
- c. Remodeled? Restored? yes When? 1932
- d. Notable features: original fireplace, wide boards and beams
- e. Historical significance:
- f. Any legends? See below
- g. Published source? See below "The Old Nine Road"
- h. Open to the public? No

WRITE ANY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION BELOW OR ON THE BACK OF THIS SHEET.

\* Date built not known for certain. Mr. and Mrs. Jansen say the Ulster County Historical Society gave them date of 1707 but did not give source.

This is a beautifully-maintained old home and one we are proud to have in the Town of Wawarsing.

In the latter part of the 18th century the house was owned by Benjamin Roosa. His grandson, Benjamin Roosa Bevier who became a well-known doctor in Napanoch, was born here in 1782.

OVER

Stone House #12  
Jansen House  
Sheet 1 of 2

A legend told of this house (source unknown) is also told of the Conrad Bevier house (owned 1967 by Louis Levine, see Wawarsing # ). The lady of the house, left alone one evening, was barricaded behind locked doors when Indians came. Failing to get in the normal ways they went on the roof and were preparing to come down the chimney. The lady burned a mattress and smoked them out.

The outside walls of the dining room are the exposed stone.

The house is on the Old Minisink Trail which led from Esopus to Pennsylvania.

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Museum

**Stone House #12  
Jansen House  
Sheet 2 of 2**

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDING SURVEY FIELD REPORT SHEET:

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## 1. LOCATION

a. State New York County Ulster Town Wawarsing  
 b. Street or Road Route 209, Spring Glen

c. Does it appear on town map? If so, where \_\_\_\_\_

## 2. EXTERIOR:

a. Date late 1700s or early 1800s

b. Style Builder Andrew Brodhead

Material stone and frame Architect

c. Condition

d. Porches or dormers

## 3. INTERIOR:

a. Number of rooms 8 Height of ceilings  $7\frac{1}{2}$ '

b. Number of stories (Cellar plus 2 )

c. Number of fireplaces Are they original? \_\_\_\_\_

d. Width of floor boards Are they original? no

e. Ceiling beams? Located where? \_\_\_\_\_

f. Windows: Original panes no depth of window sills \_\_\_\_\_

g. Hardware: Is it original? no

h. Wall construction: plaster

i. Condition interior good

## HISTORY:

a. Original owner Used as \_\_\_\_\_

b. Present owner Earl H. Tice Used as Dwelling; rented to R. Schaupp

c. Remodeled? Restored? When? \_\_\_\_\_

d. Notable features: partial fieldstone exterior; this is original portion of house; north side.

e. Historical significance: \_\_\_\_\_

f. Any legends? \_\_\_\_\_

g. Published source? \_\_\_\_\_

h. Open to the public? \_\_\_\_\_

WRITE ANY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION BELOW OR ON THE BACK OF THIS SHEET.

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Stone House #13  
 Tice House  
 Sheet 1 of 1

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDING SURVEY FIELD REPORT SHEET:

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## 1. LOCATION

- a. State New York County Ulster Town Wawarsing
- b. Street or Road Route 209, South of Ellenville
- c. Does it appear on town map? If so, where \_\_\_\_\_

## 2. EXTERIOR:

- a. Date 1752 or 1753(1753 usually given)
- b. Style Builder John Brodhead  
Material stone and frame Architect
- c. Condition Excellent
- d. Porches or dormers No porch. 2 Dormers on 3rd floor

## 3. INTERIOR:

- a. Number of rooms 6 Height of ceilings 7½'
- b. Number of stories (Cellar plus 3) \_\_\_\_\_
- c. Number of fireplaces 1 Are they original? No (originally had 4)
- d. Width of floor boards 18" Are they original? Yes downstairs (none up)
- e. Ceiling beams? yes Located where? cellar and attic
- f. Windows: Original panes possibly depth of window sills about 16"
- g. Hardware: cellar door hinge Is it original? yes
- h. Wall construction: stone
- i. Condition interior good

## HISTORY:

- a. Original owner Brodhead family Used as dwelling
- b. Present owner Earl Tice Used as dwelling (rented to O. Mendon Savela)
- c. Remodeled? 1845-46 1915 Restored? (1955) Yes When? 1955-1915 addition taken off
- d. Notable features: stone exterior, recessed window sills, eyebrow window
- e. Historical significance: said at one time to have been fort (not confirmed)
- f. Any legends? \_\_\_\_\_
- g. Published source? \_\_\_\_\_
- h. Open to the public? no

WRITE ANY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION BELOW OR ON THE BACK OF THIS SHEET.

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Museum

96

Stone House #14  
Brodhead House  
Sheet 1 of 2

House built by John Brodhead, first of Brodhead family to live in it and occupancy by Brodhead family continued until 1919 when it was sold to Frank P. Dow. The house is now owned by Earl H. Tice whose mother, Jessie Brodhead Tice, was born in it. Mr. Tice, when he purchased the old Homestead in 1955, removed the very large frame addition put on in 1915 by Henry Brodhead and thus restored it to the way it had been since 1845-6.

The tract of land was a grant to the Brodhead family from the Queen of England in 1732. Much of this original tract has been broken up, particularly on the East side of present Route 209.

"The Old Mine Road" (1909) says the house was loopholed but that the loopholes had been covered up.

Tradition says the front door was marred by tomahawks thrown by Indians. It is believed this door was taken off during the alterations of 1845-6 and it has disappeared; the front entrance supposedly is unchanged from 1846.

The large barn on the premises now was the Carriage House in Brodhead days. The family had beautiful carriages and a tally-ho, all in use up to the time of its sale in 1919.

Standing on the lawn is a statue of a boy with a boot. This is a famous statue cast by the Henry Mott Company, of New Jersey. There are only a few (perhaps 15) in the world and it has become very famous. The boot of the one on the Brodhead property became broken and was removed; however, the present tenants Mr. and Mrs. O. Mendon Savels, had another cast and the statue is now complete. (It may be of interest to note that one of the original statues, complete with boot, stands in Ellenville at the head of Liberty Street where it joins Maple Avenue.) Mr. Henry Brodhead was a salesman for the Mott Company, which accounts for Ellenville's good fortune.

Across the road from the Brodhead Homestead, and slightly to the South, is the old Brodhead Cemetery. Slaves once owned by the family are buried outside of it inasmuch as tradition states slaves could not be buried in consecrated ground. The Cemetery is now owned by The Brodhead Family Cemetery, Inc. (Deeded to Association by Henry Brodhead, substitute Trustee under Will of Andrew Brodhead, April 12, 1918, Liber 464-224.)

Deeds have not been traced all the way back. Those of interest traced are:

May 10, 1869 Liber 157-377. \$800

Henry Brodhead and Wintie, his wife to Andrew Brodhead  
Left by Andrew's Will (Book V, page 433) to his sisters Mary and Sarah Ann Brodhead.  
Henry Brodhead inherited life use of Homestead after death of the two aunts. His  
son Stuyvesant Brodhead would have inherited Homestead property; but Henry obtained  
a court order to sell the property and he did so in 1919. Henry Brodhead and  
Harriet his wife to Frank P. Dow, September 10, 1919 Liber 470-401.  
Dispersed by Frank P. Dow to various members of family and others.  
June 29, 1955 Liber 933-356. Augustus J. Dow to Earl H. Tice & Irma M. Tice.

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Stone House #14  
Brodhead House  
Sheet 2 of 2

## WINKLER House

Kathleen S

## HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDING SURVEY FIELD REPORT SHEET:

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## 1. LOCATION

a. State N.Y. County Ulster Town Wurtsboro  
 b. Street or Road Rte. 209  
 c. Does it appear on town map? If so, where \_\_\_\_\_

## 2. EXTERIOR:

a. Date 18th Century  
 b. Style Early Colonial Builder  
 Material Stone Architect  
 c. Condition Poor  
 d. Porches or dormers

## 3. INTERIOR:

a. Number of rooms 7 Height of ceilings 8 ft  
 b. Number of stories (Cellar plus 2 stories)  
 c. Number of fireplaces 1 Are they original? Yes  
 d. Width of floor boards 11" Are they original? Yes  
 e. Ceiling beams? Yes Located where? Kitchen  
 f. Windows: Original panes \_\_\_\_\_ depth of window sills 2 ft  
 g. Hardware: \_\_\_\_\_ Is it original? \_\_\_\_\_  
 h. Wall construction: Plaster  
 i. Condition interior Poor

## HISTORY:

a. Original owner \_\_\_\_\_ Used as Tavern  
 b. Present owner Laszlo Winkler Used as home  
 c. Remodeled? No Restored? Yes When? \_\_\_\_\_  
 d. Notable features: \_\_\_\_\_  
 e. Historical significance: \_\_\_\_\_  
 f. Any legends? \_\_\_\_\_  
 g. Published source? \_\_\_\_\_  
 h. Open to the public? \_\_\_\_\_

WRITE ANY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION BELOW OR ON THE BACK OF THIS SHEET.

1853 county map shows two buildings here - probably a store and dwelling labeled Kelly. Samuel Wilkinson's memoirs say Katy Hoornbeek had a store here before Kelly (K.T.)

(torn down 1971)

From the Collection of  
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 Museum

Stone House #D1  
 Winkler House  
 Sheet 1 of 1

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDING SURVEY FIELD REPORT SHEET:

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## 1. LOCATION

a. State New York County Ulster Town Wawarsing  
 b. Street or Road Route # 209, Napanoch (near Institution Road)  
 c. Does it appear on town map? If so, where \_\_\_\_\_

## 2. EXTERIOR:

a. Date Date in stucco over door is 1895  
 b. Style Dutch colonial. Builder  
 Material Stone Architect  
 c. Condition excellent  
 d. Porches or dormers? One across front. Dormers not original

## 3. INTERIOR:

a. Number of rooms 9 w/ large halls Height of ceilings  $7\frac{1}{2}$  ft.  
 b. Number of stories (Cellar plus 2 \_\_\_\_\_)  
 c. Number of fireplaces \_\_\_\_\_ Are they original? \_\_\_\_\_  
 d. Width of floor boards about 10" they original? yes  
 e. Ceiling beams? yes Located where? living room  
 f. Windows: Original panes yes depth of window sills 16 inches  
 g. Hardware: all changed Is it original? \_\_\_\_\_  
 h. Wall construction: plaster  
 i. Condition interior excellent

## HISTORY:

a. Original owner Mr. ?? Bevier Used as home  
 b. Present owner Mr. & Mrs. Frank Brown Used as home  
 c. Remodeled? yes Restored? When? 1922  
 d. Notable features: Beams in living room  
 e. Historical significance:  
 f. Any legends?  
 g. Published source?  
 h. Open to the public?

WRITE ANY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION BELOW OR ON THE BACK OF THIS SHEET.

Surveyed - Mrs. Everett C. Cole

From the Collection of  
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Stone House #D2  
 Bevier-Brown House  
 Sheet 1 of 1

Napanoch 19

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDING SURVEY FIELD REPORT SHEET:

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1. LOCATION

- a. State New York County Ulster Town Wawarsing
- b. Street or Road Route 209, between Ellenville and Napanoch (opp. Cemetery)
- c. Does it appear on town map? If so, where \_\_\_\_\_

2. EXTERIOR:

- a. Date 1789
- b. Style Colonial      Builder Possibly one of the Bevier Family  
Material Stone      Architect
- c. Condition Fair - Stone part is plastered over
- d. Porches or dormers Porches across front not original

3. INTERIOR:

- a. Number of rooms      Height of ceilings 7 $\frac{1}{2}$  ft.
- b. Number of stories (Cellar plus 2 \_\_\_\_\_)
- c. Number of fireplaces 0 Are they original? \_\_\_\_\_
- d. Width of floor boards \_\_\_\_\_ Are they original? \_\_\_\_\_
- e. Ceiling beams? no Located where? \_\_\_\_\_
- f. Windows: Original panes \_\_\_\_\_ depth of window sills \_\_\_\_\_
- g. Hardware: \_\_\_\_\_ Is it original? \_\_\_\_\_
- h. Wall construction: \_\_\_\_\_
- i. Condition interior \_\_\_\_\_

HISTORY:

- a. Original owner Possibly a Bevier      Used as Home
- b. Present owner Mary Ogden      Used as Bar
- c. Remodeled? Yes Restored? \_\_\_\_\_ When? \_\_\_\_\_
- d. Notable features: \_\_\_\_\_
- e. Historical significance: \_\_\_\_\_
- f. Any legends? \_\_\_\_\_
- g. Published source? \_\_\_\_\_
- h. Open to the public? \_\_\_\_\_

WRITE ANY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION BELOW OR ON THE BACK OF THIS SHEET.

It possibly was used as a fort. Mr. Percy Krom of Ellenville was born in the house. He stated there was an Indian burying ground in the back and several skeletons were dug up and taken to New York City by a group of Historians. Mr. Krom has arrow heads and beads found there. Mr. Krom also told me the Indians burned the roof. The walls are about 2" thick and covered with stucco or cement. There are wooden additions that have been added at various times.

(over)

Stone House #D3  
Bevier-Ogden House - Colonial Inn  
Sheet 1 of 2

William  
The place has changed hands many times. Once owned by a Mr. J. Webb  
who had a  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile race track on the flats in the back.

It also belonged to Yama Uchi, being the Dairy Farm. The House  
was the Farm House. The Dairy was run for many years by Mr. Frank  
Seaman, owner of the famous Yama Farms Inn, Napanoch.

From the Collection of

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Stone House #D3  
Bevier-Ogden House – Colonial Inn  
Sheet 2 of 2

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDING SURVEY FIELD REPORT SHEET:

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## 1. LOCATION

- a. State N.Y. County Ulster Town Wawarsing
- b. Street or Road Banadic Road, Leurenkill
- c. Does it appear on town map? If so, where \_\_\_\_\_

## 2. EXTERIOR:

- a. Date 1700's
- b. Style Dutch Colonial Builder  
Material stone Architect
- c. Condition fair
- d. Porches or dormers 1 front porch, 2 dormers

## 3. INTERIOR:

- a. Number of rooms 4 rooms, 2 baths Height of ceilings 8'
- b. Number of stories (Cellar plus 0) \_\_\_\_\_
- c. Number of fireplaces 1 Are they original? yes
- d. Width of floor boards 12-18" Are they original? mostly
- e. Ceiling beams? yes-original Located where? living room, cellar, attic
- f. Windows: Original panes some depth of window sills 6"
- g. Hardware: \_\_\_\_\_ Is it original? no -except front door
- h. Wall construction: stone
- i. Condition interior fair

## HISTORY:

- a. Original owner Conrad Bevier? Used as home
- b. Present owner Louis Levine Used as rental bungalow
- c. Remodeled? yes Restored? When? since 1945
- d. Notable features: rock walls of exterior form the interior walls
- e. Historical significance: \_\_\_\_\_
- f. Any legends? yes - see below
- g. Published source? "The Old Mine Road"
- h. Open to the public? no

## WRITE ANY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION BELOW OR ON THE BACK OF THIS SHEET.

Attic is boarded up now but original beams and boards are visible through the windows. The house sits on a slope so that the front door is reached by steep steps - the porch on the front is not original but the house must have had a porch and steps when first built. The front door is handmade and original, with two small original panes in the top panel. Window panes in the upstairs are original - windows there are 2/2/2. There are original panes in the

(over)

## Stone House #D4

Conrad Bevier House (Bevier-Newkerk House)

Sheet 1 of 2

the dormers - windows are 3/3. The front facade is crudely plastered over on the outside; the other three exterior walls are native stone. Interior beams on the first floor have been boxed in - there are 2 in each room running from front to back; four in all. There are three narrow doorways inside, measuring only 22" in width; possibly one led to the attic which is now inaccessible. There is a trap door to the cellar, also covered over now. Most of the flooring is original wide boards, ranging from 12 1/2" to 18" in width. The doorways are 8" deep throughout the house. There was a stone fireplace in one end of the house, now covered over - it is stone with a wood mantel. On the front door, on the inside, may be seen handmade iron brackets in which a beam was set to lock the door. The front door lock seems original and is quite large.

Mr. Levine bought the property in 1945 from Aaronson, who had bought it from a Jensen. He uses the house as part of a bungalow colony for summer visitors.

There is a legend connected with this house which is snared by the Jansen House on Country Club Road near Ellenville. The lady of the house, left alone one evening, was barricaded behind locked doors when Indians attacked. Failing to gain entry, they climbed to the roof and tried to come down the chimney, but the lady stuffed a mattress into the fireplace and smoked them out.

"Picture in "Old Mine Road" Pg. opposite 108 shows the house looking much as it does today. (book published in 1908)

From the Collection of  
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Museum

Stone House #D4  
Conrad Bevier House (Bevier-Newkerk House)  
Sheet 2 of 2