



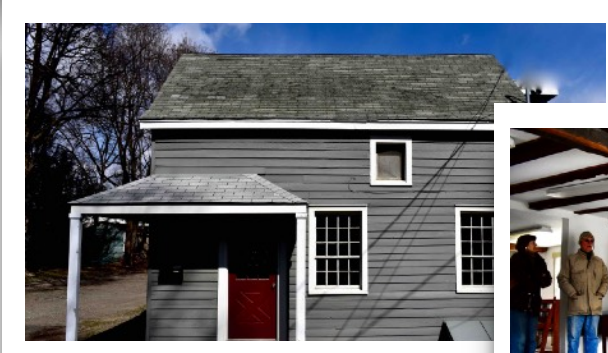
HISTORIC RED HOOK

The Place for Our Unfolding Stories

2018 Annual Report
February 2019

The Elmendorph Green Project

Thanks to a significant one-to-one matching gift of \$160,000 from a longtime supporter, Historic Red Hook purchased the adjacent property, 5 Cherry Street, in 2018. This allows us to begin realizing a bold vision for the future: a new, dynamic community gathering place consisting of a large, central green flanked by the historic Elmendorph Inn and an engaging, 21st Century Story Studio, Makerspace and Exhibit Gallery in the Cherry Street house.



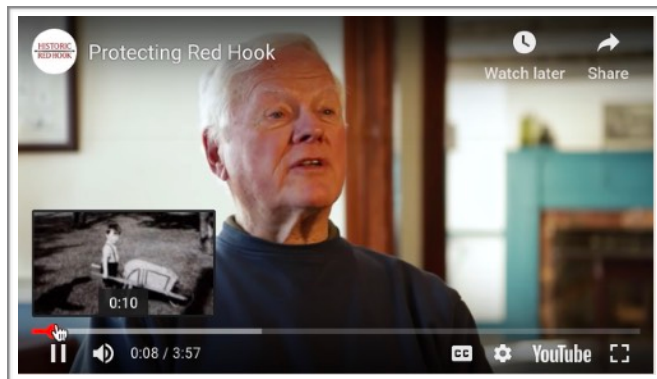
Recording History Today... for Tomorrow

One of Historic Red Hook's principal goals is to identify and record personal histories for posterity. This year's Annual Meeting, on October 4, was highlighted by Seth Kramer's documentary "Protecting Red Hook," honoring Town Board Member Bill O'Neill and his dedicated service to Red Hook.

<https://historicredhook.org/videos/>

In collaboration with Red Hook Post 7765 of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, and working with Bard College's Mobile History Van, we launched our first 'Stories of Service' documentary 'Memories of War,' featuring Korean War veteran Ken Anderson

<https://historicredhook.org/oral-histories/>



Comprehensive, Accessible Local History

Above all, Historic Red Hook collects, preserves and makes accessible the material that illuminates Red Hook's unfolding stories. Consequently, this year we digitized the 19th century ledgers from the Society for the Apprehension and Detection of Horse Thieves, available at

<https://nyheritage.org/contributors/historic-red-hook/> Red Hook Town Board minutes (1813-1895), and Red Hook High School yearbooks (1950-1989).



And among the more interesting items added to our collections were:

An intricately stitched, well-preserved 'Friendship' quilt made in 1850 by members of Red Hook's Methodist Church to honor The Reverend James N. Shaffer. Signatures of the individual quilters appearing on the quilt come from old Red Hook families such as the Benners and Martins;

A box-framed, intricate Victorian-era hair wreath made by Martin family sisters, donated by the Red Hook Library, and

Scrapbooks, photos, letters and business artifacts belonging to two farm families, the Norman Vogels and the Robert Teators.

An album of World War I photos, notes and souvenirs from veteran Roland A'Brial, donated by his granddaughter, Patsy Vogel-Hansen.

Spreading the Word!

April 18 – Claudine Klose and Historic Board Members Dr. Susan Merriam and Emily Majer gave a presentation on the Digital History Lab at the Ulster County History Conference.

May 5 – Former board member Gretta Tritch-Roman and Emily Majer presented ‘Alexander Jackson Davis’ Swiss Cottage and 1861 Farmhouse’ at a history conference convened at Montgomery Place.

Communicating History

Partnering with Bard College’s Experimental Humanities program and drawing from documents in our collections and interviews with local farmers, we helped develop ‘Hudson Valley Apples,’ a website <https://projects.eh.bard.edu/hvapples> featuring apple growing and local growers.

We contributed to Dutchess County’s “Year of the Veteran” marking the centennial of the end of World War I by writing “Red Hook and the War to End All Wars” and “The Six Griffins: Tivoli’s Own ‘Band of Brothers’ for publication in the Northern Dutchess News

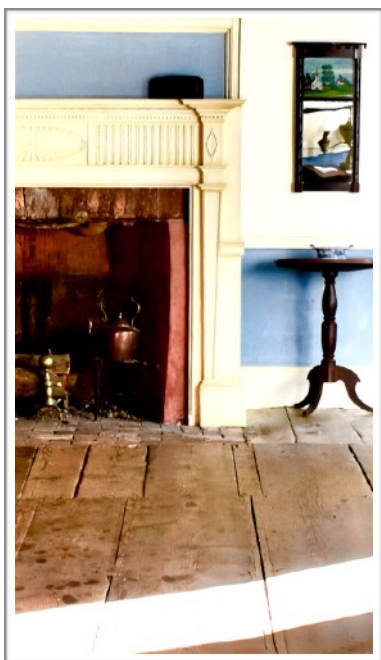
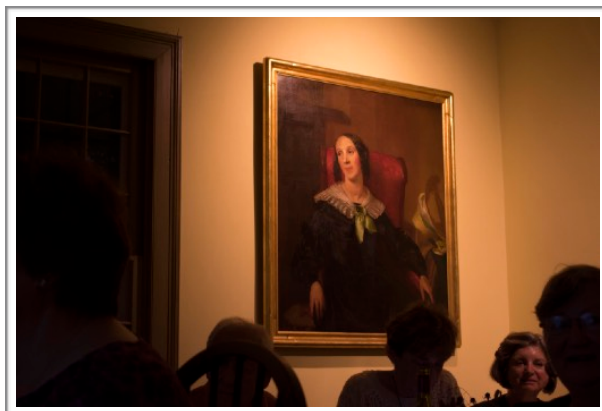
Distributed our monthly E-Bulletin of upcoming events and interesting news items to more than 400 subscribers.

Grants

We received \$9,450 in grants in 2018, including:

\$3,200 from the Greater Heritage Hudson Network to conserve the large portrait of Benjamin Pier by Edward L. Mooney that, with the portrait of his wife (and Mooney’s sister) Anne Marie (Mooney) Pier, hangs in the South Room of the Elmendorph;

\$3,000 from the Sidney Stern Memorial Trust for video production;



\$2,250 from Arts Mid-Hudson for the StoryHorse Documentary Theater production of “The Quiet Execution of Frank L. Teal,” and

\$1,000 from the Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area to help sponsor the Preservation Expo.

Most important, we were awarded an Archival Needs Assessment Grant from Documentary Heritage & Preservation Services for New York (DHPSNY) to evaluate our archival program and detail ways to improve our collections development, care and management.

Board of Trustees:

Claudine Klose, President; Amanda Bodian, Elliott Bristol, Thea Burgess, Sally Dwyer-McNulty, Sarah Hermans, Bill Jeffway, Beth Jones, Christopher Klose, Emily Majer, Susan Merriam, Doug Strawinski Honorary: Patsy Vogel

2018 Activities

Talking About History

April 29 - 'Marriage and Mischief: What was a Skimelton?' by Marist College Dean Dr. Thom Wermuth

June 8 - 'Remembering the Great War: From the Western Front to the Home Front' - by Emily Majer

June 24 - 'Tales from Ancient Documents - by County Historian William P. Tatum III, Ph.D.

July 15 - 'Documenting Doughboys' by Federal Census expert Constance Potter

Annual Community Open Houses

Sept 15 - On Hardscrabble Day, boys and girls of all ages gathered inside and out at the Elmendorph to sample our ever-popular homemade apple pie and ice cream, pet some sheep and llamas, and test their skill at old-time 'apple-bobbing.'

November 3 - Red Hook's annual Chocolate Festival enticed chocolate lovers young and old to the Elmendorph for our popular chocolate "fun-Do!", live music and a table-top exhibit of archival photos and objects detailing the history of Red Hook's own chocolate producer, W.H. Baker Co.

December 2 - As always, holiday merrymakers thronged the inn for our annual Dutch Christmas Open House. They enjoyed the best in holiday music from Red Hook Central School student musicians and other local performers, as well as hot mulled cider, homemade cookies, and fresh-baked treats straight from the wood-fired beehive oven, courtesy of Tivoli Bakery's Mike Gonnella.

School "Field Trip"

May 31 - We welcomed some 100 Red Hook Central School fourth graders on their annual field trip to the Elmendorph Inn to meet "Cornelius Elmendorph" and hear about the early days when the inn was a popular waypoint on the four-day stage coach trip between New York City and Albany.

Preservation Expo

June 9 - Visitors to our free, fourth annual Preservation Expo encountered "hands-on" demonstrations and a wealth of practical resource information for old house and barn enthusiasts. Fifteen master artisans, architects, historians, planners and preservationists were on hand to talk about sustainable preservation, restoration and adaptive re-use of period houses, barns and outbuildings.

Music! Music!

January 29 - More than 120 visitors packed the inn on Soup Night to hear great live music by Duality and enjoy a variety of tasty homemade soups.

March 3 - Dan Budd and his GrassFed bluegrass band wowed the crowd on Chili Night.

May 4 and July 27 - Playing historical instruments, Barrytown's premier cellist, Christine Gummere and the Hudson River Consort gave two concerts of Early Music at the Elmendorph, the first devoted to baroque selections, the second to Mozart quintets.

Live Theater

April 13-14 - 'The Quiet Execution of Frank L. Teal' by Tivoli's StoryHorse Documentary Theater was a huge hit. Working from a script developed by Jeremy Davidson and based on documents from the archives of Historic Red Hook and the Rhinebeck Historical Society, professional actors gave a gripping reading of the still-unsolved 1949 murder of local surveyor Frank Teal.

December 8 - Parents, children, grandparents, friends, neighbors and holiday visitors to Tivoli enjoyed a free theatrical production of Charles Dickens's 'A Christmas Carol' produced by Theater on the Road and sponsored jointly by Historic Red Hook, the Village of Tivoli, and the Tivoli Free Library.