

Next meeting
Sept. 28, 1979
Friday @ 8 PM
Town Hall

Town of Clinton Historical Society
Clinton Corners, N.Y. 12514

The Clinton Historian

TOWN OF CLINTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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The Clinton Historian
Bill Mc Dermott, editor

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Archives

According to Webster, an archive is the place where records are stored. This very succinct definition implies the collecting, organizing cataloging, preserving, copying and preparing for public use documents of importance for study.

Since our society began in 1975 we have pursued preservation in a number of ways, by providing safe storage and also duplicating methods such as photography and typing. We are now ready for the next step - archives.

Let Gwen Oberly, our person in charge, tell us what's next.

The historical society has decided that the records, photos and newspaper clippings that people have access to should be organized. This work has begun. In the cabinet drawer in the library, lists have been made of files and general information contained therein. Additional preservation techniques are being looked such as microfilming. As a result material will be made available to people interested in doing research and also to those who just wish to look at old stories and photos.

Gwen is almost as brief as Webster. She has done a lot already. Presently she is applying for a grant to defray the cost of microfilming Clinton's 19th century records. Good Luck, Gwen. The microfilm project will allow us to microfilm what's in your attic. Now is the time to get it out and show the material to Gwen or any member on the executive board. Most anything can be preserved on microfilm.

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said county, for 6 or 7 years in Dutchess county, N.Y. and for the past 17 years in Reading(now Starkey), Yates County, N.Y. where he at the date hereof resides.

/s/ Silas Wickes

A New Publication

It almost three years since it began but its finished. A new book

Eighteenth Century Documents of the Nine Partners Patent

is now at the printers for a December publication. The material in the book was compiled by Clifford Buck and Bill Mc Dermott.

This 750 page hard cover reference book is the newest addition to the Collections of the Dutchess County Historical Society. The book contains the following material: 1) a 100 page verbatim transcription of the journal kept by the Nine Partners Company from 1730 - 1749 during the period when the patent was being settled, 2) summaries of 2300 documents describing land transactions and probated estates, 3) town minutes of the 18th century including the slaves who were freed in Clinton and 4) a 92 page index which includes the names of more than 8000 residents. Also the index lists roads, places of business, occupational designations and other items important to the 18th century settler.

The Nine Partners Patent included the towns presently know as Clinton, Amenia, Hyde Park, Pleasant Valley, Stanford, Washington and Northeast. Maps of the Nine Partners Patent, Hyde Park Patent, Pawling-Staatsburgh Patent and the Oblong are included. Clinton is especially prominent in the book during the years 1770 - 1800. Its a good reference work about the early period of settlement.

A copy may be obtained from

Dutchess County Historical Society
P.O.Box 88, Poughkeepsie, N.Y. 12602

This is a limited publication. A check to the above address in the amount of \$28.00 plus \$1.45 for postage and shipping will reserve your book when it returns from the publisher two weeks before Christmas(hint, hint).

Private Silas Wickes

Ed. note: While searching in the National Archives in Washington, D.C. for material about Clinton I found the pension application of the above soldier. He lived with his family on Salt Point Turnpike on the farm next to Agway now occupied by Miss Barone.

On this 28th day of September, 1832 personally appeared in open court before the Judges of Yates County Common Pleas, Silas Wickes, a resident of the town of Starkey, county and state aforesaid, aged 74 years, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed June 7, 1832.

That he was born in the town of Huntington, Suffolk County, Long Island, N.Y. according to a record in a Bible now in his possession on the 10th day of September in the year 1758. His home during the revolutionary war was in Amenia (should be Charlotte) Precinct since called town of Clinton in the County of Dutchess, N.Y. In the year 1777, immediately after the taking of Fort Montgomery by the British under Gen. How, the militia of Dutchess County was called out, among other things for the defense of the town of Poughkeepsie and this deponent went as a militia man in the service of the U. States and served about one month in a company commanded by Capt. Samuel Smith in Col. Fryer's regiment, when he was discharged by reason as this deponent understood of the departure of the British fleet down the North River.

Immediately after his discharge at Poughkeepsie, this deponent with many others, volunteered under Capt. Samuel Smith, in routing Tories in the county of Dutchess, who were numerous and troublesome, and was engaged five or six weeks at that time, and on various occasions during five years ensuing, this deponent was engaged sometimes as a volunteer and at other times by orders from his Captain, to proceed on the same business which occupied nearly

one quarter of his time for the said five years and it was very laboring service.

In the month of May 1778 the militia of Dutchess County was detached, one fourth at a time, to proceed to West Point for two months to fortify the same and the deponent went as one of the said militia in a company commanded by the before mentioned Capt. Samuel Smith. Major Paulding commanded the detachment. Col. Graham of Pine Plains, Dutchess County was commandant of West Point. There were a few continental troops at West Point at that time and some levies of nine months men. This deponent served at West Point during the two months and then volunteered to remain and so remained five or six weeks longer and then returned home.

In September 1779 in the militia above mentioned under the aforesaid Capt. Smith this deponent served about six weeks near Fishkill creek in the county of Dutchess for the protection of the county, when the attachment was relieved by others.

In Oct. 1780 this deponent volunteered in the militia of Dutchess county to proceed to Skeensborough, now called Whitehall, to check a body of British Tories and Indians, who had taken Forts Ann, Edward and George. When our forces arrived there the enemy was gone and the regiment to which this deponent belonged commanded by Col. Graham was ordered from Albany to Fort Stanwix to guard a drove of cattle for the supply of said fort for its winter provision. We returned back to Albany and were discharged. I was six weeks engaged at this time. This deponent has lost a discharge given he thinks by Col. Graham know of no person living by whom he can prove his actual service further than is contained in the statement of Nathaniel Ruscoe hereunto annexed. This deponent has resided since the revolutionary war for 17 years in Schadacoke, Renssalaer county; N.Y. for 6 years in Troy in
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Meeting

Clinton Historical Society

The Early Garden Rose

slides and talk by

Lili Shohan

Friday 9/29/79 at 8 PM

at Clinton Town Hall

A Rose is a Rose?

Or is it when there are 18,000 varieties. Is it just a rose when there is a 3000 year history? There are a good many who grow roses as a hobby who know that a rose is more than just a rose. One such enthusiast is Lili Shohan, Clinton resident, who has grown roses for many years. Lili's research on roses has been a long term pursuit as her personal collection of 1000 photographs will attest. The 80 bushes she grows and 70 miniatures plus indoor cuttings and refrigerated rose seeds keep her attention year round. One must be knowledgeable to distinguish the 125 varieties in Lili's gardens.

An expert is an expert is an expert. Lili is an expert. Her local and national recognition as a consultant or executive officer acknowledges her expertise. No need to list her credentials. They are many. She has been invited to our society as North-eastern Director of the Heritage Rose Group. This organization specializes in the old garden rose. Visit with Lili and her slide collection at our forthcoming meeting. She will discuss the history of the old garden rose, its place in early gardens and its place in present gardens.

Lets see if a rose by any other name is still a rose.

* * * * *

1.

Field trip - October

Fall is coming - the leaves are turning. What better time is there to take an historical field trip than the pleasant weather of fall. Although the date is not yet firm much of the preparation is under way.

Where to? We are going to try to relive part of the surveying trip in the Nine Partners Patent as it was 245 years ago. In fact, October 1734 was the time when the survey maps were made of the survey which had been completed the previous spring. The executive board has selected two of the large lott lines which run through Clinton, checked the terrain and determined that the 4 mile walk is over dry land and generally good walking terrain. While we will not enter the virgin forests the original surveyors saw, the walks which have been prepared have woodland in one side for much of the trip. We found walks which have fields on one side of our path and wooded land on the other - easy walking trying to duplicate the first surveyors' experience.

The date, time, starting place and other details will be sent to our members and their guests following the next regular meeting. Walk and talk with us on a pleasant fall day about the middle of October.

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Please correct your copy

Last newsletter had 2 errors in column 4. Under the date 1737 Water Lotts 1 & 2 should read Water Lotts 2 & 3. Also under the date 1740 18 smaller lotts should read 15 smaller lotts.

If you should find an error in the newsletter at any time please bring it to the editor's attention and the correct information will appear in the next newsletter.

2.