

MINUTES OF THE FIRST DESIGNATION HEARING
HELD BY THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
OF THE TOWN OF SAUGERTIES

The first hearing of the Saugerties Preservation Commission was held May 14th, 2004 at 4:00 p.m. at the Saugerties Town Building. A list of the attendees at the hearing is attached. Chairman Barry Benepe announced that the purpose of the hearing was to designate the Wynkoop House and property, located at 2769 Route 32, Saugerties, N.Y. as one of the significant historic houses in the Town of Saugertie. He then invited Wendy Ricks, one of the present owners of the property, to say a few words about the house. She spoke about growing up in Saugerties near the house and of her emotional attachment to it which she remembered since she was a child.

Chairman Benepe then asked Peter Sinclair of the Society for the Preservation of Hudson Valley Vernacular Architecture to give his analysis of the Wynkoop House. He felt that the original house, which was built in 1740, had been taken down completely and then rebuilt in 1790. He was impressed to see the attic open, which is how the house would have been originally. He submitted a copy of his February 2003 Newsletter which contains additional information on the House.


David Baker, Historian for the Town of Hurley, then gave his analysis of the House which seemed to be somewhat in disagreement with Peter Sinclair's. He felt the building was from Dutch culture, it had no original windows and was from the 4th style of housing built in the Kingston area and was called an early and middle Georgian style cottage. However, Peter Sinclair felt it was a 1780 vintage house. There was also some disagreement about the fireplaces - i.e. earliest on side wall or end wall. However, both David and Peter were in favor of the designation. Attached to the Minutes is a written report with attachments from David Baker. *where is it?*

The hearing was closed and the Commission went into a special meeting, open to the public, at which the next regular meeting was scheduled for Friday, May 28, at 4:00 p.m. at Saugerties Town Hall. A registered letter stating the reasons for the designation will be sent to the owner, with copies to the Building Inspector, Assessor, Town Clerk and County Clerk. The Town Board will have 45 days in which to reject or modify the designation. Barry will present a draft of the letter at the next meeting on the 28th. The next meeting will also consider additional designations and the owners of the Wynkoop House will be invited to informally discuss their proposals for alterations to the house and property.

Bill Trumbour stated that he felt that another letter should be drafted for the next meeting which would be sent out to owners prior to the letter which notifies them their property is being designated as an historic

landmark. He felt it would be more tactful to approach the owner from the standpoint of asking them if they would like to be considered for designation rather than telling them it is to be designated. Leanne Thornton, Town Board Liaison to the Committee, agreed this was a good idea.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting, duly seconded and carried.


Eliner W. Trumbour
Secretary