



Genealogical Society of Rockland County Newsletter

Volume 9, No. 2
December 1994

Genealogical Society of Rockland County, c/o The Historical Society of Rockland Co., 20 Zukor Rd., New City, N.Y. 10956

NOTICES

✓ **Ramapo Presbyterian Church Register** — Have you ever wondered about the old stone church trapped by the new Suffern, NY interchange of the New York Thruway, Routes 17 and 59? The Ramapo Presbyterian Church was begun as a simple white frame church in 1810 by Jeremiah Pierson and his associates at Ramapo Works — then the industrial center of Rockland County, NY. A flood and hard times forced the closing of the church in 1857. It reopened in 1862. In 1893 three new churches in the parish were dedicated — Ramapo (the stone church), Hillburn, and Brook Chapel, under the mountain.

The Ramapo register was missing for 15 years! When Miss Helen Iserman died a couple of years ago, it was found in the attic of her home, where it had been stored for safekeeping. It was returned to the Hillburn church. With the permission of Rev. Anthony Reif, Sr., Marjorie Smeltzer-Stevenot xeroxed 259 pages of the original register (1868-1918) and added 20 pages of index — members, marriages, baptisms, and funerals. The index was computerized by Marie Koestler as a contribution to the Genealogical Society of Rockland County. The register includes records of all three churches. Mrs. Stevenot has donated copies of this unique item to the Genealogical Society of Rockland County, the Genealogical Society of Bergen County, and the community libraries of New City, Suffern, Sloatsburg, and Tuxedo Park, all in NY.

✓ **New York Methodist Records** —

According to the August issue of the publication of the Queens Genealogy Workshop of the Greater Ridgewood Historical Society in Queens, NY, records of more than 41,000 New York City marriages can be found in the New York Genealogical and Biographical Society Methodist transcripts. These transcripts were prepared in the early 1890s by the Rev. Samuel Seaman, a Methodist minister of New York City. Microfilmed copies of the transcripts are available through Family History Libraries of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. There are six microfilmed reels. A recent publication, the two-volume index to these records, New York City Methodist Marriages, 1785-1893, compiled by William Scott Fisher, was published by Picton Press (this is available in the Rockland Room at the New City Library; see p. 2 of this newsletter). Most of the original records are kept in the New York Public

Library's Rare Books and Manuscript Division.

✓ **Historic Resources 1920 Census Search** — Historic Resources, Inc. of Bountiful, Utah, has announced a new search and copy service for the 1920 federal census. In addition to the expected listing of names, ages, sex, marital status and place of residence, the 1920 census provides more, especially when dealing with foreign-born residents or children of immigrants. The enumerators asked for the year of immigration to the U.S., citizenship status, place of birth for the individual and his or her parents, and mother tongue if foreign-born. Historic Resources professional staff will search the 1920 federal census for \$8.00 per household/per state. You will receive a written report of the search results. For another

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Upcoming Meetings and Events

Regular meetings are held the fourth Tuesday of every month (except July, August, and December) at the History Center of the Historical Society of Rockland County, 20 Zukor Road, New City, N.Y. (except where otherwise noted).

Meeting time is 7:45 p.m.

No meeting in December.

- Jan 24 Regular Meeting. Bob Devino, Librarian, on "What's New in the Rockland Room." This meeting will be held at the Rockland Room, New City Library, 220 North Main Street, New City, NY.
Feb 21 Regular Meeting.
Mar 28 Regular Meeting.

OFFICERS AND CHAIRPERSONS

President.....	Roy Scheulin
Vice President.....	George Fee
Recording Secretary	Joan Brooks
Treasurer	Bob Protzmann
Archivist.....	Pat Kerner
Genealogical Research	Marie Koestler
Indexing Committee.....	Les Baisley, Joan Brooks, Mike Secora
Librarian.....	Marie Koestler
Membership	Bob Protzmann
Publicity	Ruth Fee
Programs.....	Sally Dewey
Surname Index	Bob Protzmann
Newsletter Editor	Pat Wardell
Society Telephone Contact	Pat Kerner, 914-357-1355

The Newsletter of the Genealogical Society of Rockland County is published four times a year, in mid-month of September, December, February and May.

The deadline for submitting material for inclusion in the Newsletter is the 25th of the month preceding issue date. Send items and articles to Pat Wardell, GSRC Newsletter Editor, 78 Edgewood Rd., Allendale, NJ 07401.

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\$5.00 a photocopy of the household from the original census will be sent. Similar services are available for most earlier federal censuses as well. If you can supply the state, county, township, E.D. No. and page, the cost of the photocopy alone (without the search service) is \$6.00. To order a search and/or copy, call or write: Historical Resources, Inc., PO Box 329, Bountiful, UT 84011. Phone (801) 298-5446 or Fax (801) 298-5468.

✓ **Check Research Fees** — A tip from Marjorie Smeltzer-Stevenot reminds researchers looking for data in other counties that they should know that information by mail may not be free. Many libraries and historical associations charge an hourly fee. For instance, DeWitt Historical Association, Tompkins Co., NY, charges \$11.50 per hour — minimum \$25.00 (includes \$2.00 postage), payable in advance; \$1.00 each for copies of court house records. The more data you can give in advance, the lower the cost of research is likely to be. It is advisable to check in advance an institution's fee schedule or set a limit on what you are willing to pay. If you make a personal search at DeWitt, for instance, the charge is \$5.00 a day. Policies vary throughout the state and the country.

AT THE NEW CITY LIBRARY

Recent acquisitions (as of October, 1994) at the Rockland Room of the New City Library, compiled by Bob Devino, Local History Librarian.

These and other new works can be found on the window ledge in the Rockland Room. Please return these new books to this same area when you are done with them. Thanks for your help.

- 929. 3747 New York City Methodist Marriages, 1785-1895. Compiled by William Scott Fisher. Vol. I, Index of Brides. Vol. II, Index of Grooms. Picton Press, 1994.
- 974. 73 Sch The River of Renown (The Hudson): The River, Its Valley, Its Cities and People, Its Role in the History of America. Otto L. Schreiber, Ph.D. Greenwich Book Publishers, 1959.
- 974. 73 Phi Black Dirt. Harriet E. Phillips. Hep Press, 1991.
- 929.4 Wou Irish Names and Surnames. Rev. Patrick Woulfe. Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc., 1993.
- 352. 0747 Kna New York Public Records Guide: Southern New York Region. Fifth Edition. Fred D. Knapp. REYN Inc., Publishing Div., 1994.
- 759. 13 Col Thomas Cole: Landscape into History. Edited by William H. Truettner and Alan Wallach. National Museum of American Art, 1994.
- 974.7 Wil Long Hammering. A J. Williams-Meyers. Africa World Press, Inc., 1994.
- 929.1 Tep American Passenger Arrival Records. Updated and Enlarged Edition. Michael Tepper. Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc., 1993.
- 016. 9291 Ame The American Genealogist. Reprint of the Fifth edition originally published by Joel Munsell's Sons, 1900. Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc., 1971.
- 929. 373 Col English Adventurers and Emigrants 1609-1660. Peter Wilson Coldham. Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc., 1991.
- 312. 0973 Gre American Population Before the Federal Census of 1790. Evarts B. Greene and Virginia D. Harrington. Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc., 1993.
- 325.2 4109 Cam The Emigrants from Scotland to America 1774-1775. Viola Root Cameron.

Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc., 1990.

- 929.3 **Dictionary of Scottish Emigrants to the**
 Why **U.S.A.** Compiled and Edited by Donald
 Whyte. Vol. I and II. Magna Carta Book
 Company, 1986.
929. **Germans to America: Lists of Passengers**
 373 **Arriving at U.S. Ports.** Edited by Ira A.
 Ger Glazier and P. William Filby. Vol. 39: June
 1881-August 1881. Vol. 40: August 1881-
 October 1881.
387. **New Jersey's Relation to the Fort of New**
 109 **York: Fourth Preliminary Report of the N.J.**
 New **Harbor Commission.** New Jersey Harbnon
 Commission, 1914. ■

LETTERS

*From Marjorie H. Thiell (Mrs. Edward P. Thiell),
 599 Mardon Ave., Akron, OH 44303, to Marie
 Koestler, 19 Sep 1994:*

... Not only was I thrilled at your response but
 the contact has led to further developments that only
 genealogists appreciate to the fullest. To wit: just
 prior to receiving your letter I received a large
 manila envelope stuffed with Thiell information from
 Edward Thiell in Garnerville, NY. He apparently
 received my name from your Genealogical Society.
 This led to correspondence and telephone calls
 which resulted in our visiting over Memorial Day
 weekend and Mr. Thiell took us (myself, my son
 Edward and my daughter Virginia) all around to the
 various points of interest to us in what had been
 Thiell's Corners. In comparing notes, it was found,
 presumably, that the Garnerville Edward Thiell and
 the White Plains Edward Thiell (my late husband)
 were third cousins, being descended from Jacob
 Thiell's grandson, John. It will now be up to me to
 research from the White Plains end back to this John
 Thiell ... One additional development: another
 Thiell descendant has become interested in
 researching back ... I received a letter from Jane
 Thiell O'Conner in New Castle, Pennsylvania ...



QUERIES

Queries will be published in the newsletter as space permits. It would be helpful if querists would submit their queries beginning with surnames concerned in the query listed alphabetically. Please keep queries clear, but concise, and provide identifying data — including names, dates and locations — whenever possible. Send queries to Pat Wardell, GSRC Newsletter Editor, 78 Edgewood Road, Allendale, NJ 07401.

When answering a query, please send a copy of the answer to this editor for our files and for possible inclusion in future newsletters. Many thanks.

55. BECRAFT, BAILEY, CALL, CHARLESTON, HOGENCAMP, PITT — Families of the Ramapos, Vol. I nearing completion. Genealogies of Becraft, Bailey (Orange Co.), Call, Charleston, Hogenkamp, Pitt. Would appreciate additional data from descendants (male or female) not previously contacted.

— M. Smeltzer-Stevenot, 150 Johnstontown Rd., Sloatsburg, NY 10974

56. Huyly — Huyly, a girl's given name, 19th century. Was it Dutch or German? If so, what is the English equivalent?

— M. Smeltzer-Stevenot, 150 Johnstontown Rd., Sloatsburg, NY 10974

57. WEIANT, DEVRIES, RIDER — Can anyone clear up this mystery? Most records indicate that John Weiant, son of Tobias Weigand, grandson of Michael and Anna Catherine Weygandt, Palatine settlers of Newburgh, Orange Co., and Haverstraw Twp., Rockland Co., married 1st Hannah Rider or Reeder (having children Tobias, John Jr., Andrew C., and George) and 2nd Margaret DeVries (child Samuel). But working backward from the death date and age at death given on his gravestone in Doodletown Cemetery #3 (page 43, Marjorie Smeltzer-Stevenot book), it appears Samuel was born first (17 Mar 1759), then followed by half-brothers Tobias (1763), John Jr. (1765), Andrew C. (1770) and George (1773), indicating that John's marriage to Margaret DeVries preceded that of his marriage to Hannah Rider.

— Donald A. Sanborn, 94-654 Hikianalia Place, Mililani Town, HI 96789-2102

58. WEIANT, SHELDON, DEVRIES — Seek information regarding parents, birth, marriage, death of Elizabeth Sheldon who married Samuel Weiant of Haverstraw Twp., Rockland Co. about 1800. He was son of John Weiant and Margaret (?) DeVries.

— Donald A. Sanborn, 94-654 Hikianalia Place, Mililani Town, HI 96789-2102

59. WEIANT, RIDER, REEDER — Seek

Queries, continued from page 3

information regarding parents, birth, marriage, death of Hannah Rider or Reeder who married John Weiant about 24 Aug 1764. He was son of Tpbias Weigand, grandson of Michael and Anna Catherina Weygandt.

— Donald A. Sanborn, 94-654 Hikianalia Place, Mililani Town, HI 96789-2102

60. WIANT, DEVRIES — Seek information regarding parents, birth, correct name, marriage, and death for Margaret (?) DeVries, mother of Samuel Weiant, and husband of John Weiant who died in Haverstraw Twp., Rockland Co. 15 Dec 1804.

— Donald A. Sanborn, 94-654 Hikianalia Place, Mililani Town, HI 96789-2102

61. WEIANT, SHELDON, ROSE — When, where, how did George Weiant die? He disappears from the census on the NY State Census 1855. He was born 1808, Haverstraw, son of Samuel and Elizabeth (Sheldon) Weiant, husband of Mary J. Rose, married 23 Oct 1825 at the 1st Presbyterian Church, Monroe, Orange Co., NY.

— Donald A. Sanborn, 94-654 Hikianalia Place, Mililani Town, HI 96789-2102

62. Egypt, Rockland Co. — Egypt, Rockland Co. Where was it? Several 19th century records say "born in Egypt."

— M. Smeltzer-Stevenot, 150 Johnstontown Rd., Sloatsburg, NY 10974

GSRC JOTTINGS

♦ **Notes from the Editor** — Many thanks to Marie Koestler, Bob Protzmann, Marjorie Smeltzer Stevenot, and Joan Brooks for contributing information for this issue of the newsletter.

We really appreciate those members who collect and share information with us! This editor can organize and present information, but she can't invent it! We need your input. You can make your newsletter more useful by submitting material for publication — your own research, tips or compilations, or items you find in other publications or sources. If you find something that may be of interest to our readers, please send it or a copy (with name and date of publication it appeared in so that we can give proper credit) to : Pat Wardell, GSRC Newsletter Editor, 78 Edgewood Road, Allendale, NJ 07401. You can also fax info to me, but since at present the telephone, modem and fax are all sharing one telephone line, you must telephone me first to tell me you're faxing something, so that I can turn the fax on. The phone number is 201-327-0605.

The deadline for submitting material for inclusion in the newsletter is the 25th of the month preceding issue date. Issue dates are September, December, February and May.

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome the following new members to the Genealogical Society of Rockland County:

♦ (#R-13) Mr. and Mrs. William Rose, Highview Avenue, P.O. Box 92, Tallman, NY 10982

♦ (#B-26) Mr. Brian Belanger, 227 Jackson Crescent, Centerport, NY 11721 (Surnames: Anderson, Tremper, Trumper, Secor, Zorn)

♦ (#G-6) Mrs. Nina M. Grohgan, 348 Culpeper, Warrenton, VA 22186-3003 (Surnames: De Clark, Haring, Naugle, Nagel, Outwater, Sickels, Sickles)

♦ (#C-18) Mrs. Mary Cardenas, 66 Pine Tree Lane, Tappan, NY 10983 (Surnames: Haire, Hare)

♦ (#R-14) Mr. Douglas Renud, 8 Heatherhill Lane, Suffern, NY 10901 (Surnames: Carlough)

♦ (#E-06) Ms. Barbara Egtvelt and Family, 1778 Tamarack Trail, Skaneateles, NY 13152 (Surnames: DeGroat, Leet, Rose, Dykens/Duykens)

♦ Ms. Jean Sinclair, 152 Fairlawn Court #1, Walnut Creek, CA 94595 (Surnames: Van Duessen, Laroy, Leroy, Wood)

Welcome back to:

♦ (#K-12) Jerry Kral, 50 Grant Street, Sloatsburg, NY 10974

Changes of address:

♦ (#H-16) Mrs. Leota J. Hosler, 4900 Hwy 98 E. #401, Huntington By The Sea, Destin, FL 32541

♦ (#S-23) Mr. Michael J. Secora, 25 Dunwoodie Road, Glenmount, NY 12077

♦ (#C-05) Mr. Bradley P. Conklin, 89 Cedar Flat Road, Stony Point, NY 10980

♦ (#B-11) Col. Talman C. Nudd III, 36144 N. Springbrook Lane, Gurnee, IL 60031-4514

♦ (#W-10) Mrs. Eleanor F. Winnett, 118 Entrada Avenue, NE, Port St. Lucie, FL 34952

Additional surnames:

♦ (#M-26) Carol Miles (Additional surnames: Price, Straut, Cosgrove, Mauer, Rednor, Blank, Jacquemin)

It is with regret that we report the death of Myrtle S. Edwards (#E-1), on 14 Augut 1994 at Goshen, NY. She was a charter member of the Genealogical Society of Rockland County and the Orange County Historical Society, and was active in the Chester Historical Society, the Orange County Genealogical Society (trustee, first secretary and editor), and the Minisink Historical Society. She was also a Certified Genealogist.

OTHER LOCAL SOCIETIES

The Genealogical Society of Bergen County, NJ (P.O. Box 432, Midland Park, NJ 07432) meets every fourth Monday of the month (except December) at 7:00 p.m. at the Midland Park, NJ Library (downstairs). Upcoming Society Meetings include:

□ March 27, 1995 — Regular Meeting. The program will be a panel of members on "Researching German Roots."

Resumes of Past Programs at Meetings of the Genealogical Society of Rockland County

Records at the Rockland County Clerk's Office

Program presented by Peter Scheibner at the October 25, 1994 meeting of the Genealogical Society of Rockland County, held at the Rockland County Clerk's Office in New City, NY

Notes by Joan Brooks, Secretary, GSRC.

Peter Scheibner, Rockland County Archivist, described what records the county holds and what is being done to preserve those old records. Most of the records generated in the County Clerk's office are permanent records, which cannot be desposed of and must be preserved.

Mr. Scheibner handed out a list of archival records which are available to researchers and the public. This list (at the end of this article) includes census records, naturalization books, marriage registers, Orangeand Rockland County deeds and mortgages, tax and assessment rolls, map collections, etc.

He noted that the clerk's office hours are Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., with extended hours on Wednesday to 7:30 p.m. The building contains offices for passports, pistol permits, researching deeds and mortgages, and a map section. There is always someone on hand in the reference area to lend assistance if necessary; even the title searchers are extremely helpful.

Mr. Scheibner indicated that he is continually trying to obtain grant money, and, so far, has managed to get \$80,000. They are attempting to microfilm records and develop a computer index to the collection. He would like to see better references to the documents contained in the clerk's office. In addition, many of these documents are in dire need of repair, which costs a large amount of money. Everything has to be done in a cost-effective manner. They have 30,000 boxes of records scattered around the county. The garage alone contains about 6,000 boxes of historical records. They actually need their own building to house the archival records of Rockland County. Elmsford has a reference area for archival records, with state-of-the-art conditions for keeping them intact. We have to convince people that this is what should be done, or all will be lost. There are no sprinklers in the County Clerk's building or the garage, so that if there were a fire, everything would be destroyed.

In Mr. Scheibner's opinion, the real priority is the census records collection. The first census book is 1855 (New York State) for Haverstraw and Ramapo. At one time, with help from the Social Services Program, the books were indexed by computer from A to Z; there is a hard copy printout also. Sometimes the writing was very difficult to

read, but they did the very best they could. The 1925 state census is the latest one they have. At Varick Street, New York City, there is a wonderful section on census and other records. Mr. Scheibner is going to try to budget some funds to get them on film.

Concerning the marriage records, even though some are in the County Clerk's office, basically they are filed in each local town clerk's office.

Mr. Scheibner reported that they just received two grants to microfilm the first 100 years of the tax rolls, naturalization, and marriage records. Naturalization records will be organized in the best way they can and then microfilmed. The goal is to get as much as possible to people on microfilm. The office has deeds and mortgages for Rockland County back to 1798 (Orange County from 1703 to 1800); these will eventually be microfilmed also. They are trying to work with Orange County, since we were part of it at one time. Perhaps we can get a collection going prior to 1798.

The Budke collection is located at the New York Public Library, and they are trying to get that collection up here eventually. In addition, the grantor/grantee books go back a long way — these are utilized to locate owners of property.

On the computer, if you punch in the person's last name, it will steer you to the owner and the buyer from 1930 to present. Prior to 1930 you have to go to the books. These records are on film from 1980 to present — there are no books or hard copy. The County Clerk is budgeting for a large imaging system, in which you can punch in a name to get the index and also the document. This would eliminate running around to find a vacant microfilm machine. Many counties are already experimenting with this system.

There are books of Court (i.e., Court of Common Pleas) papers from 1847 to 1913; from 1953 they are on the computer. RSVP members have volunteered to index them, and then they will be microfilmed. There is a large collection of maps, including roads, subdivisions, on "aperture" cards. Copies can be made of these maps, which go back to 1822. Another project is indexing some of the area map collections of the county; then the collection will be microfilmed.

In addition, there are records on businesses, partnerships, etc. The Highway Department has an invaluable collection of the county road maps from the WPA. The county legislature has Board of Supervisors' minutes from 1798 to 1969. They are working with the State archives, which is making things available through networking.

Another excellent collection of records is located in the Surrogate Court in the County Court House. These are the wills and testamentary papers, and all are also on microfilm.

Mr. Scheibner asked that if anyone is interested in volunteering his or her services to index, copy, etc. records, he would be pleased to arrange for it. ■

(List of Rockland County Records on next page)

Rockland County Archival Records Available to Researchers and the Public

The following documents are available to researchers and the public at the County Clerk's Office, 27 New Hempstead Road, New City, NY 10956. The Office hours are Monday through Friday, 8:00 - 5:00 with extended hours on Wednesday to 7:30 p.m.

Census Records

1855 Haverstraw and Ramapo
1860-1865 (3 volumes)
1875 (3 volumes)
1880 (2 volumes)
1892 (2 volumes)
1905 (3 volumes)
1915 (3 volumes)
1925 (3 volumes)

Naturalization Books

1880 - present

Marriage Register with Index

1908 - 1935

Orange County Deeds and Mortgages

1703 - 1800

Rockland County Deeds and Mortgages

1798 - present

Index to Grantors

1798 - 1980

Index to Grantees

1798 - 1980

Index to Mortgagors

1798 - 1980

Index to Mortgagees

1798 - 1980

Index to Maps

1822 - 1987

Tax and Assessment Rolls

1857 - 1930

Atlas of the Hudson Valley

1891

Ramapo Tract [Ramapo Patent]

An area of 42,500 acres of land (about 66 square miles) conveyed from Indians to John Auboyneau, Elias Boudinot, Peter Fauconnier and Lucas Kierstead (empowered by Peter Sonmans, one of the Proprietors of East Jersey, to purchase) by deed dated 18 November 1709. The area stretched from the Great Rock (now in Glen Rock) northerly along the Saddle River into what is now New York State, and extended westerly to a point beyond the Ramapo River. Peter Sonmans conveyed the tract by deed dated 10 December 1709 to a group including Auboyneau (3), Boudinot (3), Fauconnier (7), and Kierstead (2), and in addition, John Barbarie (3), Thomas Bayeaux (2), Andrew Fresneau (2), and Peter Bard (2). There were 24 shares in the tract; the number of shares each grantee received is indicated in parentheses. The Sonmans deed and his subsequent collection and retention of the quit-rents, resulted in a suit, never prosecuted, about 1725 by the Board of Proprietors. Settlements with the settlers of the tract and the heirs of grantees were attempted, and eventually a grant of land was given to the family of Magdalena Valleau (daughter of Peter Fauconnier), and confirmations of their land titles were given to other settlers, but difficulties in establishing clear land titles to various tracts within the Ramapo Patent continued until the 1760s. Various spellings, including Ramapoch, etc.

General Reference:

Board of Proprietors of the Eastern Division of New Jersey, The Minutes of the Board of Proprietors of the Eastern Division of New Jersey from 1685 to 1705, Perth Amboy: 1949 (Vol. I). Subsequent volumes: Vol. II (1725-1744), pub. 1960; Vol. III (1745-1764), pub. 1960; Vol. IV (1764-1794), edited by Maxine N. Lurie and Joanne R. Walroth, pub. by New Jersey Historical Society, 1985.

Rockland

Early name for a community in Rockland County, N.Y., on the Hudson River, just north of the New Jersey state line. The area included the community today called Palisades, N.Y.

Rockland County

Chronologically, the 25th county created in New York State, organized February 23, 1798 from the eastern portion of Orange County, N.Y. ("south of the mountains"). Its county seat is at New City, N.Y.

Rockland Lake

A locality in Rockland County, N.Y. Its earlier name was Slaughter's Landing (or Slawter's Landing). The locality was known for its early ice industry and quarries. One ice business was begun in 1831 by Nathaniel Barmore, John J. Felter, and Peter P. Gasque. In 1855 some of the ice businesses consolidated to form Knickerbocker Ice Company, mainly supplying ice to New York City businesses. Years ago there was an amusement park and picnic area known as "The Grove," and steamboats stopped at the pier on their way to Bear Mountain.

After 1957 the community nearly vanished, making way for a golf course, swimming pools, and parking lots for

Dictionary of Rockland County Place Names

Compiled by Pat Wardell

This started as a personal project for my own information and it is certainly far from complete. I hope that even in its incomplete form it might be helpful to others, and at least a start for a more complete listing. I hope that members will add to (and correct, if necessary) the information given in this alphabetized series. References are cited. If you find place names in deeds, records, and other documents, I would like to know so that I can add time frames, geographic placements and further information to these usages. —Pat Wardell, 78 Edgewood Rd., Allendale, NJ 07401.

(continued from September 1994 issue)

Rockland Lake State Park.

- "Rockland Lake"—HRC, p. 122, 144.
- "Rockland Lake"—Bailey, Rosalie Fellows, Pre-Revolutionary Dutch Houses and Families in Northern New Jersey and Southern New York. William Morrow & Company: 1936, p. 218.

Saint Johns

- A locality in Rockland County, N.Y.
- 1977, "Saint Johns"—in 1977 Hagstrom's Atlas of Bergen and Rockland Counties.

Sampsonville

A community in Rockland County, NY. Lossing, who stopped overnight in 1848 at the tavern of Mr. Benson near Sampsonville, described the place as being about three miles below Stony Point and two miles from Haverstraw.

Scotland

- Area in Rockland County, near the Bergen County border, south of Spring Valley, N.Y. Named after the Scottish settlers in the area. The area was called Scotch Plains in a survey of the Kakiat Patent.
- [1827], "Scotland"—Cole, History of Rockland County, p. 280, 299, "Scotland post office established December 29, 1827 (Post Master: Peter D. Tallman) discontinued June 5, 1848." Ibid, p. 282, "About a mile and one-half south of Spring Valley, we come to what was formerly known as Scotland, after the Scotch people settled thereabout."
- 1836, "Scotland"—Charity Ackerman Diary.
- 17 October 1839, "Scotland"—Martha Ann Zabriskie Diary.
- "Scotland Hill"—Green, Frank B., The History of Rockland County. New York: A. S. Barnes & Co., 1886, p. 35.

Sherwoodville

- A locality near Suffern, in Rockland County, N.Y. Here J. Sherwood about 1825 bought an old bark mill and turned it into a factory for fulling cloth and carding wool. Sherwoodville is in the Village of Wesley Hills.
- "Sherwoodville"—Cole, History of Rockland Co., p. 284.

Sickeltown

- A locality in Rockland County, N.Y., also known as Nauraushaun. Named for the Sickles family, early settlers of the area.
- "Sickletown"—Green, Frank B., The History of Rockland County. New York: A. S. Barnes & Co., 1886, p. 35,36.
- "Sickeltown (Nauraushaun)"—Bailey, Rosalie Fellows, Pre-Revolutionary Dutch Houses and Families in Northern New Jersey and Southern New York. William Morrow & Company: 1936, p. 182.

Sidman's Clove

A locality in Rockland County, N.Y., near Sloatsburg. Apparently named for the Sidman family who lived in this vicinity.

- "Sidman's Clove"—Cole, History of Rockland County, p. 263.

Skunk Hollow

A locality in northeast Bergen County in or near Alpine, near the Rockland County, NY border. Skunk Hollow was a small settlement of free blacks (who probably intermarried with Indians) that flourished here about 1806-1905. Between 1870 and 1880, at the settlement's peak, there were about 12 households.

The Skunk Hollow Cemetery is a small African-American church cemetery located in Alpine in Palisades Interstate Park, near the New York State line and Route 9W. Some remains were transferred to other locations and other headstones were vandalized. Among the family names originally represented in this cemetery were Sisco, Thompson and Oliver.

General Reference:

- Haagensen, Alice Munro, Palisades & Snedens Landing, 1986 (p. 71, 179).
- Geismar, Joan, "The Legends of Skunk Hollow," Academic Press, 1982 CI, p. 2.

Slaughter's Landing

- Later Rockland Lake, Rockland County, N.Y. Also written Slawter's Landing. The name, by some accounts, is said to be derived from the British foraging parties during the Revolution who would appropriate cattle from the neighborhood and slaughter them on the beach before taking them on board waiting vessels. It seems more likely that place was named for John Slawter, of Long Island, who in 1711 bought 200 acres of land in the Quaspack Patent. Earlier, the lake itself had been called Quashpeake (or Quaspack) Pond by the Indians.
- "Slawter's Landing"—Cole, History of Rockland County, p. 122, 144.
- "Slaughter's Landing"—Bailey, Rosalie Fellows, Pre-Revolutionary Dutch Houses and Families in Northern New Jersey and Southern New York. William Morrow & Company: 1936, p. 218.

Sloatsburg

- A community in Rockland County, N.Y., near Suffern. The name is from the Sloat family, early settlers of the area. Earlier the locality was called Pothat, which was an Indian name for the body of water later called Negro Pond as well as for the vicinity that became Sloatsburg..
- "Negro Pond"—Cole, History of Rockland County, p. 266, 272.
- 1977, "Sloatsburg"—in 1977 Hagstrom's Atlas of Bergen and Rockland Counties.

Sloat [the]

- Alternate name for the Tappan, N.Y. vicinity. Also written Tappan Slote and "the Slote." Later called Piermont, N.Y.
- 15 August 1840, "the Sloat"—Martha Ann Zabriskie Diary.

(to be continued next issue)

1855 NEW YORK STATE CENSUS, ROCKLAND COUNTY

Transcribed by Pat Wardell

This 1855 census, although incomplete, is especially valuable because at this early date it gives relationships to the head of the family of all individuals living in a household (the Federal Census notes relationships beginning in 1880). Only the Towns of Haverstraw and Ramapo are represented by the extant pages of the 1855 Census. Of these, only the 2nd Election District of Haverstraw is extant, and the first ED of Ramapo is mostly missing. What exists of the Second ED in Ramapo on the microfilm read for this transcript is difficult to read (poor handwriting) and was poorly filmed — for most of this filmed census, every other page appears to have been underexposed and is too dark to read. Because of these factors, this transcript must be an imperfect and incomplete one and I had long hesitated to reproduce it here. I've decided, however, that even what is legible might be of interest and use to some readers. Others who might want to try to struggle to make out and guess at what's written in illegible or impossibly dark sections might want to check out the microfilm themselves (it is available from The American Genealogical Lending Library, P.O. Box 244, Bountiful, Utah 84011 as Reel V14-0083). Those who can get to New City can look at the state census records at the Rockland County Clerk's office (see article in this newsletter).

General notes on this transcription:

Spellings have been retained exactly as written, as far as can be determined.

Doubtful readings of names and occupations are enclosed in square brackets, i.e. [] and guesses are enclosed in square brackets with a question mark, i.e. [Smith?]; really wild guesses will have two or more question marks. Interpolations by this transcriber are enclosed in parentheses, i.e. (obscured) or (illegible). In some places ink spills or other damage has completely obscured portions of the handwritten enumeration; in other places the notation is illegible either because of poor handwriting, entries that have been written over, damage to the record, or poor microfilming. Numbers and/or letters which are out of sequence, unusual or unlikely are underlined by this transcriber to draw the reader's attention and to indicate that the entry as transcribed, though unusual or possibly in

error, is as given in the original and is not the transcriber's typographical error.

Page numbers of the original census are indicated in parentheses on a separate line in the "dwelling" column when a page break occurs.

The tight binding of pages of the census has hidden some of the dwelling numbers which appear in the extreme left column as well as some of the comments in the extreme right column; when this occurs, the pertinent notation is eliminated and the field is left blank.

Enumerators generally left the Color field blank except when an individual was black (B) or mulatto (M). Enumerators generally left the relation field blank for the head of the family.

The following headings for information were preprinted on this census form (those in italics have been deleted from this transcript in the interests of saving space): (reading from left to right) (1) Dwelling numbered in order of visitation; (2) *Of what material built*; (3) *Value*; (4) Families numbered in the order of visitation; (5) Name of every person whose usual place of abode on the first day of June was in this family; (6) Age; (7) Sex; (8) Color: white or black or mulatto; (9) Relation to the head of the family; (10) In what county of this state, or in what other state or foreign country born; (11) Married; (12) Widowed (re: 11 & 12; these marital status fields were combined into one field in this transcript; enumerators left this field blank when a person was single); (13) years resident in this city or town; (14) Profession, Trade, or Occupation; (15) *Voters: Native*; (16) *Voters: Naturalized*; (17) *Alien*; (18) *Persons of color not taxed*; (19) *Persons over 21 years who cannot read and write*; (20) Owner of land; (21) *Deaf, Dumb, Blind, Insane, or Idiotic*.

TOWN OF RAMAPO, 1st ELECTION DISTRICT

The census taker for Ramapo, 1st Election District, was Edward J. Straut. This election district is represented by only a few extant pages; the first two or three are missing, and then only a few follow. The first two entries are from a family group on a missing previous page.

Dwel.	Fam.	Name of every person... 1 June 1855	Age	Sex	Col	Relation to head of family	Where born	M/W	Yrs Res	Profession, Trade, Occupation	land owner
		Alvah Cooper	1/12	M		Child	Rockland		1/12		
		John G. "	70	M		Father	"	W	70	None	
34		Claus Myers	33	M			Germany	M	3/12	Farmer	Owner
		Mary "	34	F		Wife	"	M	3/12		
		John Henry "	12	M		Child	Kings		3/12		
		Andrew "	10	M		"	"		3/12		
		John F. "	5	M		"	"		3/12		
		Ernst Coesfeld	34	M		Employed	Germany		2/12	Laborer	
35		Samuel Johnson	45	M			Rockland	M	45	Farmer	Owner
		Catherine "	39	F		Wife	"	M	30		
		Adelia "	13	F		Child	"		13		
		Rebecca "	10	F		"	"		10		
		Sarah F. "	7	F		"	"		7		
36		Robert Johnson	82	M			Rockland	W	82	None	Owner

Dwel.	Fam.	Name of every person...1 June 1855	Age	Sex	Col	Relation to head of family	Where born	M/W	Yrs Res	Profession, Trade, Occupation	land owner
		Abigal "	44	F		Child	"		44	(Field 21: "Idiot")	
		Hannah Hendrix	49	F		Employee	"	W	48		
		Jane "	8	F		Boarder	"		8		
37		George Johnson	32	M			Rockland	M	32	Farmer	Owner
		Elen "	30	F		Wife	"	M	27		
		Elvira "	5	F		Child	"		5		
		Andrew T. "	1	M		"	"		1		
38		Ann Johnson	50	F			Rockland	W	50	Farmer	
		William "	19	M		Child	"		19	"	
		Margaret A. "	16	F		"	"		16		
39		Harriet A. Blauvelt	40	F			Rockland	W	40	Farmer	
		John L. "	16	M		Child	"		16	"	
		Hannah R. "	14	F		"	"		14		
		Richard W. "	11	M		"	"		11		
		James S. "	7	M		"	"		7		
		Walter Abrams	40	M		Employee			40	Labourer	
40		Joseph Crous	30	M			Germany		1	Labourer	
		Katherine "	23	F		Wife	"		1		
41		Richard Blauvelt	57	M			Rockland	M	57	Manufacturer of Agri ^l . Implements	Owner
		Elizabeth "	56	F		Wife	"	M	56		
		Uretta "	25	F		Child	"		25		
		Edward "	18	M		"	"		18	Moulder	
		George "	16	M		"	"		16	None	
		Mary "	14	F		"	"		14		
		Elizabeth Unknown	19	F		Employee	Canada		1/12	Servant (crossed out)	
42		Nelson [Blauvelt]	33	M			Rockland	M	33	Farmer	
		Joanna "	29	F		Wife	"	M	4		
		Amanda "	1	F		Child	"		1		
		Aron Brown	23	M		Boarder	New Jersey		9	Molder	
43		David McElroy	39	M			Rockland	M	9	Labourer	
		Phoebe "	39	F		Wife	N. Jersey	M	9		
(page 74)											
		Mary McElroy	14	F		Child	Rockland		9		
		Frances "	11	F		"	"		9		
		Adelia A. "	9	F		"	"		9		
		James "	7	F		"	"		7		
		Harriet R. "	4	F		"	"		4		
		Catherine M. "	1	F		"	"		1		
44		Jacob Osborn	28	M			Rockland	M	14	Tailor	
		Catherine "	36	F		Wife	"	M	36		
		Catherine Carlo	66	F		Mother in Law	Rockland	W	66		
42	45	Aron Blauvelt	47	M			Rockland	M	47	Farmer	
		Sarah C. "	42	F		Wife	"	M	38		
		Cornelius "	19	M		Child	"		19	"	
		Elinor "	17	F		"	"		17		
		Rebecca "	15	F		"	"		15		
		Samuel P. "	13	M		"	"		13		
		Amelia A. "	8	F		"	"		8		
		Sarah L. "	5	F		"	"		5		
		Franklin "	2	M		"	"		2		
43	46	Abram I. Forsha	63	M			Rockland	W	59	Farmer	Owner
		Hiram "	22	M		Child	"		22	"	
		Phoebe "	19	F		"	"		19		
		Manchester "	15	M		"	"		15	to be continued next issue	

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF ROCKLAND COUNTY
c/o The Historical Society of Rockland Co.
20 Zukor Road
New City, N.Y. 10956

☐ I wish to become a member and support the activities of the
Genealogical Society of Rockland County.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP:

☐ INDIVIDUAL (\$10.00)

(Membership year runs from
September 1 to August 31.)

☐ FAMILY (\$15.00)

MY SPECIAL INTEREST(S) OR CURRENT RESEARCH PROJECT(S) IN GENEALOGY ARE:

THE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF ROCKLAND CO.
c/o The Historical Society of Rockland Co.
20 Zukor Road
New City, N.Y. 10956