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FILE NO.

HISTORIC BUILDING REPORT

W/Revisions

Memo March 28-1958

GENERAL PHILIP SCHUYLER

HOUSE, SCHUYLERVILLE, N. Y.

by

[John F. Luzader
Park Historian
April 25, 1957

IMPORTANT

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HISTORIC BUILDING SURVEY
General Philip Schuyler House and Grounds

*Memo March 28/59
to Director from
Reg Director Reg 5*

Revision of Administrative Data

The General Philip Schuyler House will be rehabilitated in a manner that will result in the stabilization of the entire structure, including the post-Schuyler additions, i.e., the eastern block of rooms and the portico on the building's western front. While the period of primary historical significance for the house ended with 1804, the year of General Schuyler's death, the structure's association with the General and with the Saratoga story is not of such primary importance that the retention of later features would materially detract from the interpretation of the basic historical story. The grounds of the property should be restored, insofar as practicable, to their 1804 appearance.

While, as the conclusion of the Historical Data Section States, the historical research that has been completed should not be considered exhaustive, enough has been accomplished to meet the fundamental requirements for rehabilitative and interpretive purposes. Further research at this time would probably add very little of essential value to what is already known.

On the other hand, archeological research will be necessary in order to gather information for restoration of the grounds and garden to their appearance during the historic period.

On the basis of the recommendations contained in the various component sections of this report, an estimated \$27,000 will be required to complete the structural rehabilitation of the Schuyler House, and another \$1,500 will be required to accomplish the requisite archeological research.

The determination of whether the outbuildings of the property should be restored or rehabilitated will await the preparation of a Historic Building Report for these structures, pending the completion of a documentary research study.

HISTORIC BUILDING SURVEY

General Philip Schuyler House and Grounds

Revision of Furnishings Data

✓ The target period for the furnishing of the General Philip Schuyler House will be the period of the General's lifetime and the first half of the 19th century.

Based upon the above period, the House will be furnished with articles of domestic culture dating from the Dutch Colonial period to the approximate date of the vacating of the house by Philip Schuyler II, 1839. These will be of such a character as that which would have been owned by people of the Schuylers' economic and social position, which might have been acquired either by inheritance or purchase. The guide for the selection of the various items of furnishings will be the list of furnishings contained in Miss Fanny Schuyler's Will and Inventory, a copy of which has been included in the Interim Furnishings and Exhibition Data of this report. While there are many pieces listed that were acquired by the family subsequent to their moving to Pelham, no better sources of information and guidance have been located. The objects that will be obtained will be received as donations whenever possible, and indefinite loans will be accepted only in those cases in which furnishings cannot be acquired by donation.

Under the terms of the appropriate cooperative agreement, the Old Saratoga Historical Association, Inc., Schuylerville, N. Y., is responsible for the furnishing and exhibiting of the house, subject to the policies of the National Park Service.

HISTORIC BUILDING REPORT

GENERAL PHILIP SCHUYLER

HOUSE, SCHUYLERVILLE, NEW YORK

Part 1

John F. Luzader

Park Historian

April 25, 1957

Reviewed

Director, National Park Service

Date

Regional Director, Region Five

Date

Chief, Eastern Office of Design
& Construction

Date

Approved

Superintendent

Date

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ADMINISTRATIVE DATA

Prepared by I. J. Ellsworth, Park Superintendent

- a. The General Philip Schuyler House, Saratoga National Historical Park, Schuylerville, New York, Building Number 15.
- b. The General Philip Schuyler House is proposed for exhibition as an example of a Revolutionary period country house, the preservation and interpretation being justified because of its association with General Philip Schuyler, a prominent political, economic and military figure of the early days of the Republic.
- c. The operation and furnishing of the General Philip Schuyler House has been delegated to the Old Saratoga Historical Association, Schuylerville, New York, under the terms of a cooperative agreement between the Secretary of the Interior and the Association.
- d. In addition to funds already expended, through fiscal year 1956 it is estimated (Mr. Zimmer's memorandum of August 16, 1956 and Mr. Tobin's memorandum of January 22, 1957) that \$35,000 be allotted to accomplish the remaining work on the house. It is assumed that the major portion of this amount will be needed for restoration with perhaps \$4,000 being available for the few remaining items of rehabilitation encountered in the restoration process.

In addition, approximately \$12,000 will be required for restoration of garden and grounds.

Historical Data

Prepared by John F. Luzader, Park Historian

April 25, 1957

The objective of this report is to present all of the pertinent basic material that has been discovered and studied relating to the Philip Schuyler House and Grounds at Schuylerville. The purpose of this research is to assist in the restoration of the property and to serve as background information for interpretive guidance.

This report is prepared in accordance with a memorandum from Regional Director Daniel J. Tobin for the Superintendent, Saratoga National Historical Park, dated December 18, 1956, requesting a documentary report on the General Philip Schuyler House and Grounds for the purpose of consolidating the available information concerning the historical significance and appearance of this structure, its grounds, and dependencies.

Although the Schuyler House at Schuylerville, N. Y., is located in an area that because of the Burgoyne Campaign and the Battles of Saratoga is rich in historic significance, the house did not play an important part in these events. ~~It~~ It is true that the house was a product of the Burgoyne Campaign since it replaced one that had been burned during the British occupation of the Village of Saratoga, now Schuylerville. ~~However~~ However, the building was not the scene of any events of more than local historic significance.

The primary importance of the house lay in its association with General Philip Schuyler, an important military, political, and economic figure of the Revolutionary and post-Revolutionary periods,

who built the house and used it as a country home from 1777 to 1804. A secondary importance stems from its role in the economic reconstruction that followed the American Revolution. However, the house was of national significance only as a product of the interests of General Schuyler and in the light of his place in the history of his state and nation.

The historic period, for the purposes of restoration and interpretation and restoration, is limited to the years of General Schuyler's ownership, 1777 to 1804.

While the purpose of this report is to effect a consolidation the known basic information concerning the house, it should not be construed as definitive. When the writer began research on the subject in October, 1956, an estimated 12% of the materials had been used, and five months of research could not exhaust the remaining 88%. However, additional intensive documentary research is not justifiable in the light of the relative importance of the structure and its anticipated utilization.

The following is a documentary study of the Schuyler House and grounds from 1777 to 1837.

Like the rest of the northern Hudson Valley, Saratoga Patent,¹ of which the Town of Saratoga was a part, was settled by the descendants of the Dutch Settlers of Manhattan Island. Less wealthy and aristocratic than the Van Rensselaers and Van Cortlandts, the Schuylers

1. The Town of Saratoga, which includes the present Village of Schuylerville, is not to be confused with the City of Saratoga Springs.

were, nevertheless, an important family with close ties of blood and interest with their patroon neighbors and furnished several prominent men during the 17th and 18th centuries.

The Schuyler holdings were extensive, and they owned farms and houses in Albany, to the north of that town at the Flachte, and in the Saratoga Patent. Sometime between 1720 and 1745, one of the numerous Philip Schuylers built a brick house about twenty yards east of the present house. This, the first Schuyler House at Saratoga of which we have a record, was built to serve as a private fort with walls pierced for muskets. On November 28, 1745, a French detachment, under the command of Beauvois, attacked the settlement at Saratoga, completely destroying the Village and Schuyler's house.²

The extensive Saratoga properties at Saratoga were inherited by Philip Schuyler's nephew and namesake, Philip, who was born November 22, 1733. This, the most famous member of the family, saw service against the French and Indians during the Seven Years War and was active in the civil affairs of the Colony, being elected a delegate to the Continental Congress in 1755.

X In June of 1775, he was appointed a major-general of the army and assigned the command of the forces in New York and the preparation of the defenses of the northern frontier against an expected invasion from Canada, a difficult task because of the lack of a national machinery for the raising and supplying of an army.

2. Brandow, John Henry, The Story of Old Saratoga, Port Orange Press, Albany, 1919, p. 309.

In 1776, Schuyler was chosen ^{not} to command the ill-fated Canadian invasion. Confronted with overwhelming problems of organization and logistics and faced with the hostility of the New Englanders, to whom a New Yorker, especially an aristocratic one, was anathema, and plagued by ill-health, he managed to organize an expedition. Unable to assume personal command because of his health, he was blamed by many for the failure of the invasion. However, it is apparent that the failure was due to conditions inherent in the military situation which Schuyler could not overcome. Nevertheless, the failure of the Canadian Campaign, while contributing to the prestige of some of the field commanders, provided Schuyler's critics with more grist for their mill.

Following the Canadian Campaign, Schuyler managed, against considerable odds, to keep his forces together. The beginning of the Burgoyne Campaign in the Summer of 1777 found Schuyler attempting to defend the northern frontier with a force that was numerically inadequate and riddled with discord. New England and Yorker, at odds over the Hampshire Grants, and as yet more imbued with "localissimo" than nationalism, sapped the vitality of the defending force. Schuyler's effectiveness, already compromised by New England hostility both within the ranks and in Congress, was further weakened by his almost chronic poor health and his rigid personality. Unable to retain Ticonderoga and Crown Point, he managed to conduct an effective retreat until he was replaced by Horatio Gates in August. After successfully defending before a courts-martial, he served a

term in Congress and was very active in the economic development of upstate New York. ^{He and I} It was because of its association with this figure that the Schuyler House possesses its peculiar significance. The scene of no events of major importance, it was, nevertheless, representative of a segment of the post-Revolutionary socio-economic scene.

The History of the Schuyler House

The Destruction of Schuyler's First House

After the death of Philip Schuyler, the elder, in November of 1745, the Saratoga lands were inherited by his nephew, Philip, who became General Schuyler, then about 12 years of age. Young Philip Schuyler appears to have become active in Saratoga about 1763 when his development of the area was begun and his attention was directed toward the administration of the lands attached to the Saratoga property, some 3,000 acres in extent, and to the construction of mills. About 1766, he constructed a summer house. Tradition, supported by some evidence, has it that this house was larger and more pretentious than the present one. Tench Tilghman, who was Secretary of the Indian Commissioners, appointed by the Continental Congress to carry on negotiations with the Six Nations at German Flats, records in his Journal:

"Hearing that General Schuyler was at his seat at Saratoga, we determined to pay him a visit and set out this morning. From Albany to Saratoga is 32 miles thro' a country entirely settled since the last war and therefore in no very great improvement tho pretty thickly settled. The good land is very little in proportion to the bad, being anarrow strip of Bottoms along the North River. These bottoms are very kind to grass

to which they seem adapted they are not of that fine quality, that the Bottoms on the Mohawk River are of. General Schuyler has a very fine settlement at Saratoga the Bottom just there is extensive, he has two very fine saw mills and a good grist mill on the Fish Kill which runs into the North River just by his House and is as fine a Mill Seat as I ever saw. Indeed I did not see another good one in the whole province. We were very genteely entertained by the Gen. and his Lady and left them on Monday to return again to Albany."³

In her Memoirs of An American Lady Mrs. Grant describes the Schuylers' Saratoga property in the following glowing terms:

"Thirty miles or more above Albany, in the direction of the Flats, and near the far-famed Saratoga, which was to be the scene of his future triumph, he had another establishment. It was here that the Colonel's political and economic genius had full scope. He had always the command of a great number of those workmen who were employed in public buildings, etc. Those were always in constant pay.....it being necessary to engage them in that manner; and were, from the change of seasons, the shutting of the ice, and other circumstances, months unemployed. All these seasons, when public business was interrupted, the workmen were employed in constructing squares of buildings in the nature of barracks, for the purpose of lodging artisams and labourers of all kinds. Having previously obtained a large tract of fertile lands from the crown, on which he built a spacious and convenient house; he constructed those barracks at a distance, not only as a nursery for the arts which he meant to encourage, but as the materials of a future colony, which he meant to plant out around him. He had here a number of negroes well acquainted with felling of trees and managing saw-mills, of which he erected several. And whole these were employed in carrying on a very advantageous trade of deals and lumber, which were floated down on rafts to New York, they were at the same time clearing the ground for the colony the Colonel was preparing to establish.

"This new settlement was an asylum for every one who wanted bread and a home. From the variety of employments regularly distributed, every artisan and every labourer found here lodging and occupation; some hundreds of people, indeed

3. Tilghman, Tench, Memoir of Lieut-Col. Tench Tilghman, Secretary and Aid to Washington, together with an Appendix Containing Revolutionary Journals and Letters hitherto unpublished (Albany, J. Munsell, 1876) Microfilm Roll No. 8, Saratoga N. H. P.

were employed at once. Those who were in winter engaged at the saw-mills, were in summer equally busied at a large and productive fishery. The artisans got lodging and firing, for two or three years, at first, besides being well paid for everything they did. Flax was raised and dressed, and finally spun and made into linen there; and as artisans were very scarce in the country, every one sent linen to weave, flax to dress, etc. to the Colonel's colony. He paid them liberally; and having always an abundance of money in his hands, could afford to be the loser at first, to be amply repaid in the end. It is inconceivable what dexterity, address, and deep policy were exhibited the management of this new settlement; the growth of which was rapid beyond belief. Every mechanic ended in being a farmer, that is, a profitable tenant to the owner of the soil; and the new recruits of artisans from the north of Ireland chiefly supplied their place, nourished with the golden dews which the sagacious projector could so easily command. The rapid increase and advantageous result of the establishment were astonishing. It is impossible for my imperfect recollection to do justice to the capacity displayed in these regulations. But I have thus endeavoured to trace to its original source that wealth and power which became, afterwards the means of supporting an aggression so formidable."⁴

Mrs. Grant thus gives a picture of a large and diversified economic establishment planned and constructed along manorial lines, reminiscent of some of the great landed holdings in England, presided over by a wise and paternalistic landlord. However, some care should be exercised in using Mrs. Grant's account since she was only sixteen years old when she returned to Great Britain and never saw America again.

An officer of the British Army, Lt. Digby, records in his Journal that "General Schuyler's house was the best we had seen in that part, and much superior to many gentlemen's houses in Canada."⁵

4. Grant, Anne (McVickar), Memoirs of An American Lady, 2 vols., London, 1808, Vol. II, pp. 188-192.
5. Baxter, James Phinney, The British Invasion from the North, The Campaigns of Generals Carleton and Burgoyne from Canada, 1776-1777, J. Munsell, Albany, 1887, p. 249.

Writing in 1780, and therefore from hear-say, the French traveler, Francois Jean, Marquis de Chastellux, noted that: "On the right bank of the Fish-Kill, the name of that little river, stood formerly a handsome country-house, belonging to General Schuyler: a large farm depending on it, two or three saw-mills, a meeting-house and three or four middling houses composed all the inhabitants of this celebrated place."⁶

John Henry Brandow in his The Story of Old Saratoga states that the house of that period was larger and more elegant than its successor, and in a print that is represented as being of this building it is pictured as having a large center portion three stories tall, having an imposing three story portico over the door. This center section is flanked by two wings two stories high with flat balustraded roofs. The writer has not been able to determine the origin of or authority for this picture. However, it is so out of character for this period and area that until it can be definitely identified it should be viewed with skepticism.⁷

While these accounts agree that the pre-war house was large and impressive, Lord Adam Gordon, who visited Saratoga between August and October, 1765, noted that ".....Philip Schuyler Esqr., of Albany, has two good saw mills and a very pretty little house. On this land he produces Hemp, from Six to Ten Feet High, and for to crops running"⁸ However, if Brandow is right in dating the construction of

6. Chastellux, pp. 425-7.

7. John Henry Brandow, The Story of Old Saratoga, pp. 310-11.

8. Journal of Lord Adam Gordon, quoted in Meriness, Newton D., Travels in the American Colonies, N. Y., the MacMillan Co., 1916, p. 446.

the house in 1766, Gordon may have been writing about an earlier house, which would mean that there have been four Schuyler Houses at Saratoga, rather than the three that have been known. Another possibility would be that the pre-war house, like its successor, was built in stages and that Gordon saw a structure that was eventually added to and incorporated into the house that was burned in 1777. However, Schuyler must have had some sort of quarters on the estate before 1766 if, as it would seem, he was developing the area. Nevertheless, research has uncovered no other mention of a house, and Schuyler may have occupied a tenant house during his stays in Saratoga.

On the basis of the research that has been accomplished, one is apparently safe in saying that Philip Schuyler built a house, probably in the 1760's, that by the time of the Revolution was large and impressive. A diligent search for definite information has revealed only the information cited in this report.

Following the defeat of the Second Battle of Saratoga, Burgoyne began his slow retreat to Schuylerville (Saratoga), which he reached on October 9, and took up quarters in the Schuyler House. On that night, according to Baroness Riedesel, who was something less than fond of General Burgoyne, the British commander "...was very merry and spent the whole night singing and drinking and amusing himself with the wife of a Commissary who was his mistress, and who like him was fond of champagne." Von Eelking corroborates this stating

9.
9. Die Berufs-Reise nach Amerika. Briefe der General in von Riedesel,
8 vol., 1800.

there were sounds of revelry by night, that champagne flowed like water, and that "by the General's side sat the beautiful wife of a commissary who was his mistress."

10

Because of his fairmindedness and an unusual solicitude for the welfare of his troops Burgoyne enjoyed their respect and affection to a rare degree. Thus one might be led to question the accuracy of the Baroness's account because it is a rare commander who can at once command his men's devotion and exhibit such callousness as the lady's story implies. However, Madame Riedesel was not a liar and Gentleman Johnny may have been of a rarer breed than has been thought. Be that as it may, whether such a party took place or not is not really important for the purposes of this study.

Whatever happened on the night of the ninth of October, the events of the tenth are clear enough; only the motive remains in question. On that day Lt. Digby says:

"Preparations were made early in the morning to push for the heights of Fort Edward, and a detachment of artificers we sent under a strong escort to repair the bridges and open the road to that place. The 47th regiment, Captain Frazier's marksmen and MacKay's provincials were ordered for that service; but about 11 o'clock, intelligence was received that the enemy were surrounding us, on which it was resolved to maintain our post, and expresses were sent to recall the 47th regiment etc. We burned Schuyler's house to prevent a lodgment being formed behind it, and almost all our remaining baggage rather than it should fall into their hands."¹¹

On May 26, 1778, General Burgoyne made a speech in Parliament on a Motion of Inquiry made by Mr. Vyner, MP, in which he was accused of wanton destruction of property giving the following account of the

10. Eelking, M. V., German Allied Troops in the North American War of Independence, 1776-83.

11. Baxter, op. cit., pp. 301-302.

destruction of the Schuyler estate:

"I am ignorant of any such circumstances; I do not recollect more than one accident by fire. I positively assert there was no fire by order or countenance of myself, or any other officer except at Saratoga. That district is the property of Major General Schuyler of the American Troops, these were large barracks built by him, which took fire the day after the army arrived upon the ground in their retreat, and I believe I need not state any other proof of that matter being merely accident, than that the barracks were then made use of as my hospital, and full of sick and wounded soldiers. General Schuyler had likewise a very good dwelling house, exceeding large storehouses, great saw mills and other out buildings, to the value altogether of perhaps ten thousand pounds; a few days before the negotiations with General Gates, the enemy had formed a plan to attack me; a large column of troops were approaching to pass the small river, preparatory to a general action, and were entirely covered from the fire of my artillery by these buildings. Sir, I know that I gave the order to set them on fire; and in a very short time that whole property I have described, was consumed. But to shew that the person most deeply concerned in that calamity, did not put the construction upon it which it has pleased the honourable gentleman to do, I must inform the house that one of the first persons I saw after the convention was signed was General Schuyler. I expressed to him my regret at the event which had happened, and the reasons which had occasioned it; said that the occasion justified it, according to the principles and rules of war, and he should have done the same upon the same occasion, or words to that effect."¹²

Naturally some Americans have refused to accept Burgoyne's justification and have contended that he acted out of malice; and most early writers, reflecting an aggressively nationalistic spirit took that point of view.

The extent of the destruction is reflected in a letter to Schuyler from Colonel Richard Varick, Schuyler's former aide and staunch partisan, dated Oct. 12, 1777: "No part of your Buildings have escaped their Malice except the Necessary and your upper Saw Mill which is in the Same Situation we left it--Hardly a vestige of the Fences is left except a few Rails of the Garden."¹³

12. Speech of General Burgoyne on a Motion of Inquiry made by Mr. Vyner in Parliament, May 26, 1778.

13. Philip Schuyler papers, N. Y. Public Library (617).

This apparently refers to the mill that was located in what is now the Village of Victory Mills. Brandow places it there, and a careful examination of the site by the writer indicated that a dam and mill buildings were formerly there. Local tradition says that they stood until about 1850.

The British map of Burgoyne's position at Saratoga locates six very large buildings, which may have been the barracks that were mentioned by Burgoyne in his speech of May 26, 1778, and eleven smaller ones, that were apparently a part of the Schuyler establishment.¹⁴

At the time that the property was destroyed Schuyler was in Albany and probably learned of it on Oct. 11 or 12 because on the latter date he wrote to Varick asking him to do what he could to save whatever was left at Saratoga. The same letter indicated that he was already planning to rebuild for he told Varick that:

"I sent up Tom and another servant to pick up the iron work of the Buildings which the enemy have burnt. If you can possibly procure some hands to assist I wish you to do so. Iron and naile are at present so very scarce and I wish that what can be saved should be carried to the Mill House at the Upper Mill which Major M_____ ? informs me is entirely standing. If I am not too indisposed I propose riding up tomorrow or next day.....

"I intend immediately to have my mills rebuilt and some house Brected."¹⁵

The Construction of the New House

The story of the construction of the new house is difficult to reconstruct because one must rely principally upon Schuyler's extant

14. Map, Plan of the Position Which the Army under Lt. Genl. Burgoine took at Saratoga on the 10th of September 1777 and in which it remained till the Convention was signed. Engraved by Wm. Faden, in Burgoyne, John, A State of the Expedition from Canada..... London, 1780, J. Almon.

15. See Superintendent Ronalds' memorandum of March 20, 1950 to Superintendent, Saratoga NHP.

correspondence which is very incomplete in that while many of the letters that he received are preserved research has failed to recover most of those written by him.

Perhaps the first problem that presents itself is the location of the new house with respect to its predecessor. Most of the early writers locate the site of the older house to the east of the present one. Brandow said that the former stood about twelve rods southeast of its successor and that parts of its walls were unearthed, along with many relics, when the Champlain Canal was dug.¹⁶

Anne Royall, early woman journalist who wrote during the period from 1824-54, wrote:

".....I walked to Major Philip Schuyler's, a grandson of General Schuyler. His house stands on the opposite side of Fish Creek, a few yards in front of the General's which was burnt by General Burgoyne.

"After paying my respects to Major Schuyler and his family, Mrs. Schuyler walked out with me to the spot where General Schuyler's house stood. The length and breadth was distinctly seen, having been sunk below the adjoining ground. His garden is also visible, being near the house....."¹⁷

On the west bank of the canal is a fragment of masonry that local tradition has identified as a part of the older house. However, it appears to be more recent and the cement is a modern conglomerate that could not have been used in the pre-war structure. Nevertheless, both local and family tradition were explicit in placing the new home west of its predecessor. The family tradition supported by the reminiscences of visitors who viewed the site prior to its destruction by the canal would seem to give the last word on the matter.

16. Brandow, op. cit., 311.

17. Porter, Sarah Harvey (ed.), The Life and Times of Ann Royall, Torch Press, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, 1909, I, 69f.

On the other hand, the writer is convinced that a possibility exists that the present house is located on the site of the older one.

This opinion is based upon two basic considerations. The first is derived from the British map of Burgoyne's position, drawn at the time of the siege, which locates the house of that period on an axis with the Waterford and Whitehall Turnpike. The present house is likewise located on an axis with the Turnpike, as is obvious both from the map of Schuylerville, dated 1837¹⁸ and from a personal examination of the site.

An examination of the cellar of the present house reveals a curious condition that indicates the presence of an earlier house on the present site. On the eastern and western walls are bricked up sections resting directly beneath some of the beams supporting the floor of the first story. This bricking up may indicate that an earlier and more massive building with heavier rafters occupied the site and that when the present structure was built the older window or rafter wells were reduced to receive smaller beams. The writer is aware of the tenuous character of this assumption, but can find no other reason for this circumstance.

Another argument in favor of this thesis is utilitarian; General Schuyler was in a hurry to rebuild before winter should begin and while workers were available. Why then would he abandon the site of the old house with its cellar and foundations and start from the beginning? The reason why he was able to complete the shell of his house in seventeen days may have been because he utilized the cellar of the old

¹⁸. Map, Plan of the Position which the Army under Lt. Genl. Burgoyne took at Saratoga on the 10th of September 1777 and in which it remained till the Convention was signed. Engraved by Wm. Faden, in Burgoyne, John, A State of the Expedition from Canada....., London, 1780, J. Almon.

house. In fact, the size of his new building may have been dictated by the size of the cellar, to which it conformed. If this was so, the rapid completion of the house is more readily understood. If it were not so, it is difficult to understand how the stone cellar and frame house could have been built within seventeen days, especially in view of the nature of November weather in this portion of New York and the difficulty that was encountered in obtaining masons.

While the story of the actual construction is difficult to piece together from the limited reference that is made to it in Schuyler's correspondence, it is clear that the traditional account of how Schuyler, using American troops, built his new house in ten days must be modified in the light of what evidence we do have.

As has been noted even before he came to Saratoga to be present at Burgoyne's "surrender", Schuyler directed that the iron and nails of the burned buildings be salvaged. His first requirement was labor. While the most promising source of manpower was the American army, the extent to which troops were used is not clear. Gates apparently promised some help for in a postscript to a letter of October 21, Varick said, "P.S. Gen. Gates told Mrs. Schuyler he had put some things in your way, he had left you a Company of Carpenters. - We doubt it."¹⁹

In spite of Varick's skepticism, soldiers from Captain Thayre's Company, Colonel Jeduthan Baldwin's detachment of engineers and artificers, were employed. However, their employment was very brief. Baldwin's Journal notes that:

19. General Philip Schuyler Papers, N. Y. Public Library, New York City, Letter No. 1138.

"October 18, 1777. This day the main body of the American army marched to Albany 36 Mi. this forced march was occasioned by our hearing that the Enemy was coming up the River & had burnt Esopas. Oct. 19. at Albany, the Troops much fatigued. Oct. 23, Capt. Low came down. Oct. 24, at Albany, Capt. Thayre came down."²⁰

The effect of the troop movement on Schuyler's construction is reflected in a letter from him to J. Lansing, Jr. dated Saratoga, October 23:

"The Carpenters under Capt. Thayre being ordered to join Colo. Baldwin, you will please to proceed to Schenectady and procure as large a number there as you possibly can, also as many Masons as you can get. I am so much in want of Masons that you must allow them extraordinary wages."²¹

That Lansing experienced difficulty in finding the men that Schuyler needed is reflected in a letter to the latter, dated October 25.

"I could not get any Masons of the Town to go up to Saratoga except Nicholas Jarolleman who is reputed a good Workman - He had engaged to take with him his Apprentice, who he informs me is as good as Mason as himself.

"I have agreed to pay him Sixteen Shillings per Day and his Apprentice twelve. Enormous Wages, but absolutely necessary to induce them to work.

"Mr. Glen of Schenectady to whom I have applied for Assistance has promised to send two on Monday, nor can I prevail upon Jarolleman to go up before....."²²

On the 27th, Lansing wrote Schuyler:

"As Colonel Varick informs me that you will be in want of more Masons than you mention in your letter to me and as I find it impracticable to procure any here I shall instantly set off for Schenectady and endeavor to send you four or five in addition to those already agreed with. The Rain which we have had all Day has hitherto detained the two that were to go from here: but they will go off on the Morrow."²³

Two days later Lansing informed Schuyler that he had been able to secure the services of two British prisoners who were masons:

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20. Baldwin, Jeduthan, The Revolutionary Journal of Col. Jeduthan Baldwin, 1775-1776. Edited with a memoir by Thomas William Baldwin, Bangor, printed for the De Burrians, 1906. (Saratoga Microfilm Roll No. 8), p. 125.
21. Collections of the Philip Schuyler Mansion, Albany, N. Y.
22. Schuyler Papers, New York Public Library, Letter No. 1066.
23. Ibid, Letter No. 1067.

"I send you by the Bearer two British Soldiers who are Masons by trade and prisoners - These I procured by the Intervention of General Philips, who by giving them permission to enter your employ has removed their Scruples respecting the Safety of that Measure. The others I could not prevail to go voluntarily."²⁴

October 30 found the situation effecting the masons still acute and Varick wrote Schuyler telling him that:

".....Mr. Lansing set out for Schenectady immediately, there he found Colo. Yates who had already procured two and Mr. Lansing procured two more, hope they will be with Youthis Day, if not already there. The two in Town seem very loath to move, however I shall importune them."²⁵

Whether all or any of these artisans actually arrived at Saratoga, Schuyler apparently still needed masons on November 5 for Lansing wrote on November 7:

"I was yesterday afternoon honored with your Favor of the 5th Instant, and immediately went to Town to endeavor to procure Masons out of the Brigade stationed here; but could neither find General Gates or Colonel Groaton (who commands Nixon's Brigade) at their quarters. I shall this Morning wait on Gates for an order for four masons and send them up instantly, if they can be got. Those from Schenectady Mr. Glen informs were set off on Wednesday, but lest you should have received information from that Quarter since the Date of Mr. Glen's letter (which I think, was the 3rd) I shall venture to send those I can procure."²⁶

Lansing succeeded in contacting General Gates in an effort to have some masons detached and reported to Schuyler as follows:

"Your application to General Gates for permission to take some masons out of the troops stationed here, he informed me that he could not suffer any to be drafted out of them but that if I would go to Schenectady he would give me an Order to Colonel Van Schaick to deliver me all the Masons of his Regiment - The Order being furnished I set off for Schenectady and found that four had already been sent off - I procured three more who will leave Schenectady this morning."²⁷

24. Ibid, Letter No. 1068.

25. Ibid, Letter No. 2344.

26. Ibid, Letter 1069.

27. Ibid., Letter 1070.

While the sources do not disclose how many masons finally were employed or how long they worked, apparently at least some of those mentioned did go to Saratoga and work. It might seem strange that so much trouble would be experienced in view of the high wages that were paid; however, the men were apparently reluctant to go to a point so far distant from their homes and one which might be exposed to some hostile military activity. In spite of Burgoyne's defeat, the area was not completely secured as later events were to prove.

Varick and some writers have censured General Gates for his lack of support of Schuyler's building efforts. They interpreted his reluctance and/or refusal to detail men to work for the latter as being motivated by ill-feeling. However, it is difficult at this distance to find much fault with the commander's action. Granted that there was no love lost between the two men, Gates was confronted with a military situation that, while improved by Burgoyne's defeat, was by no means devoid of danger. Clinton was still an unknown quantity and the British were still capable of action in the North. Nor could Gates be expected to sit on the Hudson doing nothing while the war went on. One should also remember what Varick and others apparently forgot: that an army is not composed of a labor force available for private exploitation, but is a military machine. It is an interesting commentary on the times and the men involved that Schuyler should expect to employ troops for a private purpose and that chagrin should be produced by a failure to meet his requests.

To return to the story of Schuyler's building operations; carpenters apparently were either more plentiful or more willing to go to Saratoga for we find less difficulty in connection with their employment.

While Colonel Morgan Lewis, Gates' Quartermaster General, wrote on October 20 that: "The Albany Carpenters refuse going to Saratoga upon any conditions, beg you will advise me how many Mr. Flylter under him, and how many more will be necessary....."²⁸ The correspondence does not reflect any more difficulty. Perhaps Schuyler had among his servants and tenants men who had sufficient skill to aid the carpenters that were employed in executing the work required.

Most of the remainder of the correspondence relating to the construction of the house was concerned with the problem of obtaining materials. Timber was certainly plentiful which could be sawn at Schuyler's "upper mill"; but manufactured items were scarce, and the War made their acquisition difficult. We have noted that this scarcity led Schuyler to direct that the nails and other iron objects that had not perished in the fire should be salvaged.

On October 22, apparently in response to a request that Schuyler had addressed to Varick, Lansing reported:

"I send by Congt the Iron Work mentioned in your Letter to Colo. Varick, three Iron Potts & the Box with Scythes--the Stones I cannot find, nor can any Body here give any information respecting them.

"Colonel Lewis informs me that he has sent up to Blacksmiths. The Trowels are not yet compleated."²⁹

Three days later, Varick wrote Schuyler, "The Clevises & pins were to have been sent off Yesterday, but the Servants neglected calling for them at the Blacksmith's shop they will be sent on this Day."³⁰

A few days later he wrote again telling Schuyler

"Jeaherm(?) says that he gave the Iron Work in Charge to Colo. Rensselaer & knows Nothing of the iron for the Scythes - Some are making & Mr. Lansing will take them up."³¹

28. Schuyler Papers, Letter 1138.

29. Ibid., Letter 1065.

30. Ibid., Letter 2343.

31. Ibid., Letter 2344.

On November 5, Varick wrote:

"Agreeable to Your Request I send You the Frames by Peter Milbon which is the quickest Conveyance I know of."

"The Chimney stands & Bars are now making as soon as these are done they shall be sent on with the Stove pipe, which Mr. Shepherd is to pick up this morning....

"You say the Bar 2 to be 5 feet long but mention nothing of the length of the other two.....

"Mr. Rensselaer say he thinks he has Hinges, sufficient, these shall be sent in the Waggons with the Other Articles."³²

A week later, Varick wrote from Albany:

"I am sorry to inform you that both Mr. Rensselaer & Mr. Shephard have deceived about the Chimney Irons. They are not done yet, occasioned by the Variety of public Work which has employed Shephard's hands - He promises to compleat them to Day.

".....I am happy to hear Your Building is in such Forwardness, but the same time apprehend Your being delayed for want of the Irons."³³

On November 12, Lansing forwarded the following from Albany:

"the Bearer has in Charge a Stove with about twelve feet pipe, a pair of Andirons, Two white wash Brushes and a couple of Broomes forth pair of Door Hinges, eight pair of window Do.(ditto) and our chimney Bars....."³⁴

Although these four chimney irons were sent, apparently more had been ordered for on the next day Varick wrote:

"The Chimney Bars will not be Done till Evening. The want of coals has been assignmed among other causes of delay.....The Stands will be sent afterwards, Shephard says they are not immediately wanted, however, he is to do them without delay."³⁵

From these few examples one can gain some idea of the difficulties that attended the construction of the General's new house. By dint of hard work and some good fortune, men and materials were obtained and the construction accomplished.

32. Ibid., Letter 2349

33. Ibid., Letter 2349.

34. Ibid., Letter 1072.

35. Ibid., Letter 2350.

The time consumed in the building of the new house has been the subject of both legend and contention. While the traditional period was ten days, William L. Stone, citing the Marquis de Chastellux's account of his visit in 1780,³⁶ did not believe that the new house was built in 1777 and supported his thesis with the letter from Schuyler to Congress, dated "Saratoga, November 4, 1777, in which he said:

".....On the 2nd instant two British Officers on their way to Canada took shelter in a violent storm of rain in my little hut, the only remains of all my buildings in this quarters."³⁷

Thus, Stone contradicted the tradition that the house was immediately rebuilt within ten days. However, toward the end of the same letter, Schuyler said, "In less than twenty days, I shall nearly complete a comfortable house for the recaption of my family."

The most definite statement concerning the date of the building and the time consumed in its construction is found in a letter that Schuyler wrote on November 28, 1777:

"On the first instant I began a house, on the 19th I had two rooms and Cellar Kitchen finished and on the 30th Instant I shall discharge my carpenters."³⁸

It would, therefore, seem that Philip Schuyler completed at least the exterior of the house and the two first floor rooms. Research has failed to reveal when the remaining rooms were completed.

36. 1. Stone, William L., ed. Visits to the Saratoga Battle-Grounds, 1780-1788, Albany, N. Y., 1895, pp. 71, 73-76.

2. Chastellux, p. 87"....he left the farms [sic] standing, which is at present the only asylum for its owner. It is here that Mr. Schuyler lodged us in some temporary apartments he fitted up, until happier times allowed him to build another house."

37. New York Historical Collections for 1879, p. 191.

38. Mr. Lloyd W. Smith's Manuscript Collection.

Description of Schuyler's House

The first problem that presents itself in connection with the appearance of the last Schuyler House is that of trying to determine the original size. The major discovery relating to the solution of this problem was the location by Dr. Ronalds of an early floor plan of the building. In a memorandum to Mr. Warren Hamilton, former Superintendent of Saratoga NHP, dated February 11, 1944, he said:

"Enclosed is a rough copy of a plan of the house from the Schuyler Papers at the New York Historical Society. It is on paper not of the eighteenth century. The drawing in ink shows lines and entries originally made in black ink; the pencillines and words indicate later additions. I would appreciate your comments on this plan as soon as possible. Apparently the inked lines are of the original house. Note that the sixty foot piazza appears to be an addition at the time the back rooms were added."

Mr. Hamilton replied in a memorandum of February 18, 1944, as follows:

"After reviewing the plan and comparing it with the layout of the present house and with some of the information given in Brandow's "Story of Old Saratoga", it is evident that the inked portion indicates the house as originally built. The tier of rooms in the rear as well as the kitchen were supposedly added later by General Schuyler. You will recall that they are one step lower than the front part of the house. The addition apparently didn't all go "according to plan" as the portion labeled library, spare room and the one used by Lafayette in 1824. It does not extend any further to the rear than the office.

"The outside dimensions check with the original size of 60 feet long and 21 feet broad as mentioned in Schuyler's letter of November 6 to John Jay. The dimensions of the original rooms also are the same as shown on the plan....."

"Brandow is also of the opinion that the veranda was not built at first and I understand that Strover later raised the roof of it to permit more light into the rooms on the second floor."

On March 2, 1955, Mr. Olsen, former Park Historian, discovered a floor plan among the Schuyler Papers of the New York Public Library. While he was not certain that this is a plan of the house at Saratoga, he believed that it might represent the original plan of the house because it resembled very closely the original west portion, or front, of the house. The dimensions were smaller than those of the house, being 42 feet by 20 feet, rather than 60 by 21 feet. The plan carries this legend: "42 by 20 1st 1st first story 10 feet 2nd hip Roof 8 ft. Cellar 4 ft. in Ground and 3 foot in all 18 Lights in first story 12 Do in Second An oven in kitchen under the parlour."

Brandow, in his The Story of Old Saratoga, described the house as follows:

"Only the main structure, 22 by 60 feet was built at that time; additions on the east side and also the present kitchen were put on later. The cellar extends under the whole of this part, and is deep, dry and airy. It is divided into three parts. The south end has in it a large fireplace, and for a while was used as a kitchen; the center one was the wine cellar, and the north end was used as a storeroom for provisions, but not vegetables. The vegetable cellar was separate from the house and was located about twenty-five feet from the southeast corner of the main house. The floor timbers are of oak 10 by 12 inches in size and four feet apart.

"On entering the house you first pass under the spacious veranda 10½ by 60 feet. One tradition says originally there was no veranda, only a Dutch porch over the front with side seats. But this is disputed. All events there have been several changes here, for we have been told by those who can remember, that the first pillars were round, coated with stucco, and that were not so high as the present ones by several feet. Mr. George Strover, after he came into possession, raised the roof of the veranda to let more light into the upper rooms, and substituted the present square pillars for the round ones. The main door is made of two thicknesses of plain boards laid at right angles to each other..... The lock is iron 7 by 15 inches in size and 2 inches thick and furnished with a prodigious key, about the size of the key to the Bastille preserved at Mt. Vernon.

"Entering you find yourself in a large reception hall 17x19 feet. The ceiling is 9 feet 3 inches high. The original stairway, with its landing and turn, was long ago replaced by the present enclosed staircase. The hall is flanked on the left and right by spacious rooms; on the left by a room 18 by 20 feet used by the Schuylers as the dining room; on the right by the parlor 20 by 22 feet."³⁹

Brandow goes on to describe the east tier of rooms, the second story and the kitchen. While Brandow describes the house as he knew it, one cannot accept his account as authoritative with respect to its original appearance. While noting that additions and alterations had been made and attributed most of them to Schuyler, he cited no authority, except tradition, to support his theories.

While there is general agreement concerning the original size of the house, there remains the problem of determining when the more recent additions, i.e., the kitchen, eastern tier of rooms, and portico, were constructed. Brandow, as has been noted, thought that they date back to General Schuyler's time. On the basis of the floor plan, located by Dr. Ronalds, which seemed to indicate additions in pencil, the rear rooms and portico were added during Schuyler's lifetime. A local tradition that the date 1779 was discovered under the plaster in the "Lafayette Room", the south downstairs room of this portion, appeared to add credence to this theory. The result was that a large amount of folklore developed concerning this portion of the house. The southern room of the first story came to be known as the "Lafayette Room," and the tradition was that the Marquis occupied it when he visited Saratoga in 1825. The room immediately to the rear of the hall was termed "Father's Office," and the one north of it as the "school room." As such they had a definite interest to visitors who associated them with the Schuyler's intimate family life and with Lafayette.

When architectural reconnaissance by National Park Service personnel was accomplished in 1956 a new picture of the house began to unfold. The examining architects reached the cautious conclusion that

the piazza and the eastern tier of rooms were probably built by the Strovers after they acquired the property in 1839. If this is true, the dating of the additions is capable of being narrowed to a period between 1839 and 1848. In the latter year Benson Lossing sketched the Schuyler House and reproduced it in his Pictorial Field-Book of the Revolution. This shows the present house sans the kitchen wing.⁴⁰ Thus, if the eastern tier and portico are of post 1839 construction and if Lossing's sketch is accurate, these additions were made sometime during the nine year period between 1839 and 1848.

The kitchen poses a more puzzling problem. The Graham's lithographic map, dated 1837, indicated the presence of a structure, although apparently narrower, on the location of the kitchen wing. On the other hand, Lossing's sketch does not show such a wing. Thus we have uncertainty compounded by confusion. Two questions arise in the light of these two sources: (1) Is the structure recorded on the 1837 map the present kitchen wing or an earlier "narrower" building? (2) Is Lossing's sketch accurate?

To approach the latter first, Lossing was usually very accurate and most of his sketches are faithful reproductions of what he saw. The picture of the Schuyler House that he reproduced in his book is an excellent likeness of the present house, excluding the kitchen wing. The picture appears complete, and there is no indication of an appendage of any type. If Lossing's picture is accepted as being an accurate and complete reproduction, one must conclude that the kitchen wing was added after 1848.

40. Lossing, Benson J., Pictorial Field Book of the Revolution, Harper Bros., N. Y., 1851, p. 74.

On the other hand, the 1837 map clearly indicates that a structure occupied the site of the kitchen wing. Although this structure appears somewhat narrower than the present wing, the map probably is not exact in its presentation of the size of building appendages. A physical examination of the wing reveals that the lath, flooring, plaster, and nails are of the same period as those in the original portion of the house. When the Government acquired the property, the kitchen had a plaster ceiling, which when removed was found to cover an open wooden ceiling, quite black with smoke from the fireplace. The plaster and split lath that were removed were of the same period as that found in the first floor rooms of the front portion. Scraps of paper found above the plaster ceiling had dates between 1819 and 1822, indicating that the plaster was probably in place during the period. The smoke-blackened condition of the older ceiling indicated that the room was used for several years prior to the installation of the lath and plaster. If the plaster ceiling was installed before 1819, as the trash mentioned above would suggest, and in the light of the evidence of long use prior to that date, the kitchen must have represented a very early addition to the house, probably as early as 1790 - 1800. While this portion may have been added by General Schuyler, the writer believes that it was done during the occupancy of his son, John Bradstreet Schuyler, who may have found the original house inadequate for year-round use by his family. If this is true, the probable date of construction for the kitchen wing would be between 1787 and 1793.

While local tradition, supported by Mr. Brandow, attributed the construction of the piazza, the kitchen, and eastern tier of rooms to the Schuylers, and while historical research has failed to produce pertinent information, internal evidence indicates that with the exception of the kitchen wing, these additions were made by the Strovers.⁴¹

Architectural investigation revealed that none of the windows of the house were original. Those on the western side were formerly shorter; however, the materials used indicate that they were altered quite early, possibly prior to 1800. Those on the south end wall may have been installed when the above windows were lengthened, but those on the north end are more recent. An interesting feature was the absence of windows in the eastern wall of the original house, except for one on the second floor and a window or door at the rear of the reception hall.⁴² The shutters for the windows were the solid rather than the venetian blind type that appeared later.

Thus the exterior appearance of the house is very different from what it was in 1804, the time of General Schuyler's death. On the basis of the evidence that has been gathered, the house as he knew it consisted of the front or western block of rooms, the kitchen wing, and a small room on the easternside of the house, labeled "Father's Office" in the old floor plan. The walls of this structure were lined with unburned brick, or "nogging". In an effort to determine the original color of the outside walls an ochre color was discovered worked in around old

41. Memorandum, Chief, EODC from Supervising Architect, Historic Structures, subject - Schuylers House Restoration, May 4, 1956.

42. Memorandum, Chief, EODC from Architect Judd, subject - Schuylers House Restoration, May 23, 1956.

wrought nails and on the original rear door sill that had long been buried in what is now an interior wall between the hallway and the room traditionally called "Father's Office."⁴³ However, scrapings from portions of the exterior indicated that the first coat may have been white.

The house is entered in the front through a massive door of two thicknesses of plain boards laid at right angles with each other. The door is secured by an iron lock seven by fifteen inches in size and two inches thick operated by a large antique key.

Turning to the interior of the original house, the first portion to come to the attention is naturally the entrance hall, which is really something more than a hallway. Like the Schuyler house at the "flats" above Albany, this hallway was so large as to serve as a summer sitting room where the family enjoyed the cross breeze afforded by the doors on either end, reserving the parlor for formal occasions.⁴⁴

It was in the hall that one of the major internal alterations had been made. When the Federal Government acquired the house, the stairway to the second floor, a closed type, ran north and south in the rear of the hall. Tradition, recorded in Brandow's book, held that there had been an earlier stairway. In this instance, the tradition was correct. When the architects examined the walls of the hallway, they found the location of the original stairway. Further search revealed that the stair rail had been cut under a ceiling joist, leaving a distinct pattern of the rail and balusters on the under side of the joist. The only major question about

43. Memorandum, Chief, BOEC, from Architect Judd, subject: Schuyler House Restoration, May 23, 1956.

44. See Grant op. cit., pp. 164-67, 171-73.

stair that remained unanswered was about the design of the newel post. Fortunately, a house, the old "Dutch Parsonage", built about 1792, is still standing in Schuylerville, and the newels of this house were used as models for reconstruction, at the same time conforming to molding details already in the Schuyler House.⁴⁵ Armed with this information, the architects succeeded in reconstructing a stairway on the pattern of the original.

Another major problem that appeared was concerned with the fireplaces, an important item in a restoration of this period. Investigation revealed that several alterations had been made over a long period of time. It was found that the chimney in the Parlor had been reduced from two flues to one, probably when the south window was installed, resulting in the crippling of the basement fireplace. The two fireplaces in the second story had been relined inside the original openings, making the front opening ten inches narrower than originally. The oldest unchanged mantel was found in the northwest bedroom. In fact, this mantel appeared to be as old as the house. However, when it was detached from the chimney breast, a full surface of plaster covered with four coats of whitewash and one of "yellow wash" were found, proving that there was no mantel originally; possibly none were installed until several years after the house was built. However, since the mantel was of early 19th century design and very attractive, a decision was made to retain it.⁴⁶ Other mantels, more modern and less attractive, were removed as being inconsistent with the standards of the restoration.

45. Memorandum, Chief, HODC, from Architect Judd, subject: Schuyler House Restoration, June 15, 1956.

46. Memorandum, Chief, HODC, from Supervising Architect, Historic Structures, Subject: Schuyler House Restoration, May 28, 1956.

Another object of considerable study was the wall covering. Apparently the plastering of the house had presented problems from the beginning because the plaster did not adhere well to the unburned brick of the "nogging". The result was an amazing complication of plastering and wallpaper in which in some instances plaster was applied over whitewashed plaster, while in others it was even applied over wallpaper. In some places the frame had been hacked to retain plaster which had subsequently fallen off and then wallpaper had been applied directly on the wood.

As has been noted, when the mantel of the northwest bedroom was removed the plaster was found to have been covered with a total of five coats of white or yellow wash, indicating the appearance of that room during its earliest period. How long the house was occupied before the plastered walls were papered was the next step in trying to get a picture of the interior of the house.

When the house was acquired by the Park Service, the parlor walls were covered with an old paper which, according to local legend and Mr. Brandow, had been hung in preparation of the marriage of Philip Schuyler II's daughter, Ruth to T. W. Ogden in 1836.⁴⁷ When this paper was removed for possible reproduction seven layers of earlier paper were found beneath it. There followed an intensive effort to recover, evaluate and reproduce the oldest layers available and an extensive correspondence was carried on in connection with the matter. As the difficult task of removing the several layers of paper progressed, efforts to determine the dates and manufacturers continued. One layer

47. Brandow, op. cit., p. 328.

of "mustard and russet" colored paper, appearing to be the oldest and of late 18th century design, was removed and a sample sent to Katzenbach and Warren, Inc. for evaluation. They, in turn, sent the fragment to Colonial Williamsburg who advised that the paper had been produced about 1830. Since this seemed to be the oldest layer, Katzenbach and Warren were asked to reproduce a quantity sufficient to repaper the parlor.⁴⁸

Further comment on this paper was made by Mr. Calvin Hathaway, Director of Cooper Union, who wrote:

"Your paper reminded me immediately of something I had seen in Europe not long ago, and reference to my file of color transparencies has been helpful up to a point. There is in the Beutches Tapeten museum in Kassel a somewhat similar paper of festooned drapery or of attached colonettes, depending on how one's eyes work and what one is looking for. This paper is dated about 1825, and is known from an original invoice to have been imported into Germany from France. In the files of papers produced by Zuber at rexheim in Alsace - remarkable files giving the run of the entire output of the firm from 1803 down to date - I photographed several papers of closely similar color scheme, which range in date from 1816 to 1822.

"In the Victoria and Albert Museum in London are the Order Books of the old firm of Crace, afterward Cowtan; these books contain small clippings of papers supplied by the firm from 1824 to 1935. Although the samples of paper are very small, being only about 1" by 3", and hence far from giving the full repeat of any but the smallest designs, they do convey a great deal, especially about the character and quality of printing in England; and they show that the technical proficiency of the English paperstainers was far behind that of the French.

"The sample that you have sent us while displaying design characteristics that one would expect to find between 1810 and 1825, and a coloring that could be associated with the period from 1813 to 1825, is so inferior technically to anything that I have seen in European collections as to make me wonder whether it could have been produced in the United States. Aside from bandboxes, I have seen no wallpapers that I know with certainty were produced in this country at the beginning of the nineteenth century; and I wonder whether this paper of yours may not be American.

48. Memorandum: Regional Director from Chief, E.O.D.C., subject: Schuyler House Parlor Wallpaper, December 28, 1955.

"Certainly its simplicity and its brightness make it most attractive, despite the summary character of its execution. I only wish that it were in our collection here; and I am grateful to you for giving me an opportunity to see it."⁴⁹

From the above, it would seem that the paper being discussed was hung during Philip Schuyler II's occupancy, and, from the evaluation of its quality, during the period when he was in financially straitened circumstances.

Plans to repaper the walls with this paper proceeded and Museum Preparator Albert McClure was assigned the task of removing a sufficient amount of the original wallpaper to decorate the south wall of the parlor. In the process of removing this paper, two older layers were uncovered. The older layer had been pasted to rough surfaced plaster showing evidence of a chimney fire. The second layer was apparently applied to cover the scorched area.⁵⁰

The layer next to the plaster was in shades of gray. The next layer showed a sheaf of grain or flowers growing out of what appeared to be a hat printed in blue-green on a tan background. The reverse side bore a monogram with a crown and the letters Paper J6. Photostats of these fragments were sent to the Cooper Union for identification and evaluation.⁵¹

In reporting on these samples Mr. Hathaway wrote:

"The wallpapers illustrated in the photostats that you have sent us are interesting in several ways. In the first place, I have never seen anything at all close to either of these papers although their general type of design strikes me as what one would expect to see in the quite ordinary -- and hence, now quite rare -- wallpaper production of the later 18th century. To your paper #2 I should give a date range between 1785 and even as late as 1805, while your paper #3 might be a little later, say, from 1790 to 1805. Naturally the judgments would be firmer if I could see the papers themselves, for the coloration might not agree in period with the type of design and might help in a more accurate dating."

49. Calvin S. Hathaway to Mrs. Eleanor L. Duncan, Nov. 3, 1955.

50. Memo. Supt., Roosevelt-Vanderbilt NHS from Museum Preparator McClure, 5-16-56.

51. Charles E. Peterson to Mr. Calvin S. Hathaway, July 12, 1956.

"I am rather puzzled by the fact that the design of your paper #2 appears on the reverse of the paper, for I cannot remember that I have ever seen an instance of such visibility through the paper of wallpapers of the presumed date of this example. Ordinarily the paper is much too heavy to permit such translucence or transfer through the sheet. It may be, of course, that the reverse that you have photographed had been applied on top of a paper of identical design, and that you have split the two thicknesses in order to examine the reverse of the paper that have been applied. The crowned monogram that you observe is that of "George Rex," and is the device that was stamped on wallpaper when the manufacturer paid his excise tax; as you may know, wallpaper was taxed in England until the reform laws of 1832. I cannot account for the "J6", which may well be an indication of the manufacturer; but English investigators seem not to have published any researches into the taxation records of the 18th century. As a matter of fact, I have been trying, but so far without success, to learn something about the taxation laws in the English Colonies in North America, in the hope of finding out whether wallpaper produced in the American colonies was subject to the same tax laws as those prevailing in Great Britain; and Professor Morris of Columbia University, seems to feel that such tax stamps were not used in the Colonies."⁵²

This information would indicate that within a few years after the house was built the earlier of these layers was applied, using paper that had been manufactured in England.

While these samples were the oldest found in the house, they were very small, and no reproduction of these designs was undertaken.

While doing research on the Schuyler House furnishings, Mr. Olsen, former Park Historian, obtained from Mr. Richard J. Koke, curator of the New York Historical Society, a photograph of a water color of Philip Schuyler II and his family which was painted in the Schuyler House by Ambrose Andrews in 1824. This picture portrays the walls as painted a dark blue-gray, rather than papered.⁵³ While this picture might seem to confuse the story in that it depicts painted rather than papered walls, it

52. Calvin S. Hathaway to Mr. Charles E. Peterson, 16 July 1956.

53. Olsen, Herbert, A Preliminary Report on the Schuyler House Research, Sept. 12, 1955, p. 15-16.

is probable that the itinerant artist took substantial liberty with the subject, not being too exact in reproducing the background for his portrait.

Turning from the walls to the floor covering, some interesting facts wererevealed. ~~X~~ The original wide tongue and groove flooring of the oldest part of the house showed evidence of having been covered since the time it was installed. The linoleum immediately next to the flooring was covered with 1862 newspapers and had been well worn before being covered.⁵⁴ While this covering was obviously very old, there was no assurance that it was original or even of the Schuyler period. In an effort to determine its age and the technique employed in its production, samples were sent to the Henry Francis Du Pont Winterthur Museum at Winterthur, Delaware. At the writing of this study no report of their study has been received by Saratoga N. H. P. Thus, while one may be certain that the floors were covered, it is impossible at this time to determine whether the covering was oil cloth (linoleum), matting, or wall to wall carpeting.

This discussion does not cover all of the facets of the architectural study of the Schuyler House, but the examples cited are representative of the alterations that occurred and the complexity of the attendant story.

From the evidence that has been discovered we can obtain a fairly faithful picture of the house during its first fifty years. As the Schuylers knew it, the building consisted of the front or western block of rooms, plus the kitchen wing, and probably a small one story room to the rear which was termed "Father's Office." Its interior was designed along simple lines, with the downstairs walls papered and the up stairs room white

54. Memorandum - Chief, BODC, from Supervising Architect, Historic Structures, BODC, subject: Visit to Schuyler House, November 9, 1953.

and yellow washed. Changes were effected during the period such as installation of mantels and the enlarging and additions of windows. However, many of the questions that have been posed concerning the appearance of the house must await the removal of the modern eastern tier of rooms and further architectural investigation.

THE LATER SCHUYLER PERIOD

Turning to the furnishing of the Schuyler House during the occupation of its original owners, we come to an area when the results of the research are very meagre in proportion to the effort expended.

In order to obtain a clear background against which to fix the information that has been uncovered, a brief review of the Schuyler occupancy is necessary.

General Schuyler's son, John Bradstreet, named for his father's old commanding officer, came of age in 1787, and the General decided to turn over to him the lands of the Saratoga estate, promising him full title after his father's death. The letter, written from Saratoga on December 3, 1787, by which this trust was executed is interesting and revealing.

"My Dear Child:

I resign to your care, and to your sole emolument a place on which I have for a long series of years bestowed much care and attention, and I confess I should part from it with many a severe pang did I not resign it to my child.

"I feel none now because of that paternal consideration. It is natural, however, for a parent to be solicitous for the weal of a child who is now to be guided by, and in a great measure to rely on, his own judgment and prudence.

"Happiness ought to be the aim and end of the exertions of every national creature, and spiritual happiness should take the lead, in fact temporal happiness without the former does not really exist except in name. The first can only be obtained by an

improvement of those faculties of the mind which the beneficent Author of Creation has made all men susceptible of, by a conscious discharge of those sacred duties enjoined on us by God, or those whom he has authorized to promulgate His Holy Will. Let the rule of your conduct then be the precept contained in Holy Write (to which I hope and entreat you will have frequent recourse). If you do, virtue, honor, good faith, and a punctual discharge of the social duties will be the certain result, and an internal satisfaction that nontemporal calamities can ever deprive you of.

"Be indulgent, my child, to your inferiors, affable and courteous to your equals, respectful, not cringing, to your superiors, whether they are so by superior mental abilities or those necessary distinctions which society has established.

"With regard to your temporal concerns it is indispensably necessary that you should afford them a close and continual attention. That you should not commit that to other which you can execute yourself. That you should not refer the necessary business of the hour to the next. Delays are not only dangerous, they are fatal. Do not consider anything too insignificant to preserve; if you do so the habit will steal on you and you will consider many things of little importance and the account will close against you. Whereas proper economy will not only make you easy, but enable you to bestow benefits on objects who may want your assistance and of them you will find not a few. Example is infinitely more lasting than precept, let therefore your servants never discover a disposition to negligence or waste; if they do they will surely follow you in it and your affairs will not slide but Gallop into Ruin.

"In every community there are some wretches who watch the dispositions of young men, especially when they come to the possession of property; some of these may hang about you; they will flatter, they will cringe, and they will cajole you until they have acquired your confidence, and then they will ruin you. Beware of these, they are the curse of our society, and have brought many, alas! too many to destruction.

"Be specially careful that you do not put yourself under such obligation to any man as that he may deem himself entitled to request you to become his security for money. You are Good natured and Generous, keep a Watch upon yourself, and do not ruin yourself and family for another.

"Directly upon my return to Albany I shall make you out a Deed of Gift for all the Blacks belonging to the farm except Jacob, Peter, Cuff and Bett, and for the Stock and Cattle, Horses, &c, &c, with a very few exceptions. For all the farming utensils, household furniture, &c &c.

"The crops of last year I must of necessity appropriate to the discharge of Debts, and they must be brought down in Winter, except what may be necessary for the subsistence of your family and to satisfy those whom you may have occasion to employ. This I shall hereafter Detail.

"The logs now in the Creek will be sawed at our joint expense and you shall have half the boards which I hope will net you something of Value. We will consult on the best and cheapest terms to have this done.

"Althou' for reasons which prudence dictates, I shall not give you a deed for any part of my estate, yet you ought to know what of this farm I intend for you, and which I shall immediately make you by Will; it is all on the South Side of the Fishkill, and as far down as Col. Van Vechten's, and as far West as to Inclose Marshall's. & Colvert's farms. Besides a just proportion of any my other Estates. But all the tenants now residing on the farm either on the South or North side of the Creek are to pay their rents to me and Preserve the right of settling people on the west side of the road and to the north of Little Creek, which runs by Kilian Winne's, the blacksmith. For altho' you will have the occupancy of all the rest of the f on both sides of the Creek, yet that on the North side of the Creek I intend for one of your Brothers.

"Should you die before me, which I most sincerely pray may not happen, your children, if God blesses you with any, will have this farm and such share of my other Estates as I intend for you; and should you die before me, and without children, your wife, who is also my child, will be provided for by me. In short, it is my intention to leave you without any excuse if you fail in proper exertions to improve the property intrusted to you; and it is with that in view that I so fully detail my intentions, and Give you this written testimony of them, and that no unworthy conduct may induce me to change my intentions is my hope and my anxious wish, and I have the pleasure to assure you that I believe when once the heat of youth is a little abated, I shall enjoy the satisfaction of seeing you what I most ardently wish you to be, a Good man and an honor to your family.

"I must however not omit to inform you that the Income of all my estate except what you and your Brothers and Sisters may actually occupy at my decease will be enjoyed by your dear Mama; she merits this attention in the most eminent degree, and I shall even give her a power to change my Disposition of that part of my estate, the income of which she will enjoy should unahppily the conduct of my children be such as to render it necessary; but I trust they are and will be so deeply impressed with a Sense of infinite obligations they are under to her as not to give her a moment's uneasiness.

"I must once more recommend to you as a matter of indispensable importance to Love, to honor, and faithfully and without guile to serve the Eternal, incomprehensive, beneficent and Gracious Being by whose will you exist, and so insure happiness in this life and in that to come, And now my dear Child, I commit you and my Daughter and all your concerns to his Gracious and Good Guidance, and sincerely intreat Him to enable you to bk a comfort to your parents and a protector to your Brothers and Sisters, an honor to your family, and a good citizen. Accept my blessing and be assured that I am your affectionate father.

Ph. Schuyler⁵⁵

In this letter Schuyler was revealing his attachment to the Saratoga property, his deep affection for his son, and a great deal about himself. A rigid and rather austere man with a profound sense of duty, he was offering this young man not only a piece of property but also a philosophy. Adhering to a high standard of personal and social conduct, he was attempting to set his son upon a course that conformed to his own canons of probity and responsibility. Consciously or ;otherwise, Schuyler and other men of his position and generation modeled themselves upon the Stoics in the concept of their place in society. The same quality was present in Washington's correspondence and serious conversation. While the ideal was often better than the man who professed it, it had a distinct and governing influence on his concept of himself and his place in society.

John Bradstreet had already entered into a man's estate for on September 13, 1787, he had married his kinswoman, Elizabeth Van Rensselaer. He accepted his father's proffer and took immediate possession and became, as his father had hoped, a competent business man and useful citizen, becoming a trustee of Williams College, Supervisor of the Town of Saratoga, and a member of the New York Assembly.

With the occupation of John Bradstreet and Elizabeth Schuyler the character of the house at Saratoga underwent a definite change. From a summer house and occasional residence it became a year-round home, and this change may have been the occasion for some of the alterations and additions that were made, i.e., the building of the kitchen wing, lengthening of the windows, and the installation of mantels.

During the next seven years, the young Schuylers made Saratoga their home and from its lands obtained a good living. Two sons, Philip and Stephen, named for their grandfathers, were born. Stephen died in infancy, but Philip grew to manhood and became the third possessor of the Saratoga estate.

On August 10, 1795, General Schuyler suffered the first of a series of personal tragedies.⁵⁶ John Bradstreet had been with his father in the Mohawk Valley where they were active in the affairs of the Inland Lock and Navigation Company, of which the General was president. According to family tradition, young Schuyler, feeling ill, left his father and went to Saratoga, arriving there on August 7. His wife and son were visiting in New York. The Schuyler Family Bible records the following:

"Aug. 7, 1795, John B. Schuyler arrived at his house in Saratoga from the westward. Taken sick on Wednesday, the 12th of a Bilious Fever. Died the 19th August, 1795. Buried in the vault of Stephen Van Rensselaer Esq. at Watervliet, 20 August 1795."⁵⁷

The management of the estate at Saratoga reverted to the General until his death in November 1804. The estate was then inherited by John Bradstreet's son, Philip, then sixteen years of age and a student at Columbia College. The date when young Philip took up residence is not known. It may have been after his marriage to Grace Hunter in 1811, but was probably earlier. As the only child of John Bradstreet Schuyler, and by terms of his grandfather's will, Philip II, inherited the house at Saratoga and approximately 3,200 acres adjoining it.⁵⁸ Young Philip Schuyler

56. Philip Hamilton, son of Alexander Hamilton and Schuyler's daughter, Elizabeth, was killed in a duel with George I. Bakder on Nov. 23, 1801, as a result of which his eldest sister became deranged until her death at the age of XXI 73. On July 11, 1804, only a few months before Schuyler's death, Alexander Hamilton, of whom he was extremely fond, was fatally wounded in his famous duel with Aaron Burr.

57. Schuyler Family Bible, Schuyler Mansion, Albany, N. Y.

58. General Philip Schuyler's Will, Surrogate Court, Albany, N. Y., recorded Dec. 12, 1804.

shared his grandfather's interest in the economic development of the upper Hudson region, and was active in the promotion of canal navigation. It was during his occupancy that the Saratoga Estate was visited by many persons interested in the area because of its economic and historic importance. // It was during this period that the Marquis de Lafayette is supposed to have visited Saratoga. The Schuyler MSS give the following account, as related to Fanny Schuyler, Philip II's daughter, by her oldest sister Ruth, who was born in 1812.

"The general came in the coach and four which my father had sent to convey him from the town beyond. His son, who was with him, had round face and wore gold spectacles. His secretary and another gentleman filled a second carriage. Lafayette received the villagers, who were assembled on the lawn in front of the house, with very courteous bows, and spoke some appreciative words.

"Being greatly fatigued from his journey, Lafayette was shown into the guest chamber where, having stretched himself on the bed, he slept for several hours. After a collation was served and before his departure, he stepped to the side-board, and while resting one arm on its polished surface, with the other poured a glass of Madeira, which he drank to the health of four generations of Schuylers he had known."⁵⁹

The only contemporary reference that has been found is a "Copy of General Lafayette's Letter to Grandfather Schuyler," in the handwriting of Fanny L. Schuyler, which reads:

New York July 6, 1825

"My dear Sir:

You have promised me to present my apology to the Gentlemen of Saratoga Springs who had so politely visited me, and whom you expected to see the next day at New York - Yet, as it is impossible for me to pay them the visit before I proceed to Philadelphia and Washington I enclose a few lines to which I beg you to give the proper direction -

I hope you will have good news of Mrs. Schuyler and family and offer to you the affectionate Sentiments of an old friend of four generations."⁶⁰

59. Schuyler MSS, N. Y. Historical Society, 2. Brandow, Op. cit., pp. 346 & 348.

60. Schuyler MSS, N. Y. Historical Society.

Local tradition and Mr. Brandow related that the southeast bedroom immediately behind the parlor was the room that the Marquis slept in, and it has been traditionally termed the "Lafayette Room." However, as has been noted, architectural investigation has revealed that the room was a later addition.

If Lafayette visited Saratoga, and the writer is not convinced that he did, he must have done so in 1825 when he traveled by steamer "Phoenix" to Whitehall where he was on June 28 and by carriage from there to Albany, and thence to New York, arriving on July 3.⁶¹ Thus he would have visited at Saratoga sometime between June 28 and July 3, 1825. The only evidence that of a Lafayette visit that has been recovered is the account purportedly given to Fanny Schuyler by her older sister many years after the event and a copy of a letter in Miss Schuyler's handwriting, the original of which has not been found, in which reference was made to Saratoga Springs rather than to Saratoga. Until research reveals more nearly conclusive evidence, care should be exercised in perpetuating the story of Lafayette's alleged visit.

The financial panic of 1837, produced by over-speculation and unwise banking practices, struck an almost paralyzing blow at commerce and manufacturing. Thousands of mercantile establishments were suddenly bankrupted; and with the suspension of specie payments by the banks the crash was complete.⁶² Among the victims of the depression were the mills and canal companies of up-state New York who, sharing the optimism of the

61. 1. Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography, Vol. LI, No. 203, pp. 193-288.

2. American Historical Register, Vols. II-IV.

62. Schlesinger, Arthur M., Jr., The Age of Jackson, Little Brown & Co. 1948, pp. 217 - 226.

boom years of the 1820's and 30's, had overexpanded. Purchasing power and markets were so depressed that goods lay unpurchased, and unpaid balances on sales made on credit could not be liquidated.

Philip Schuyler, being deeply involved through his interest in the mills and canals and because of his farming operations, found himself faced with bankruptcy. In order to meet his obligations, he made the following deed to his lawyer, Jacob T. B. Van Vechten, dated April 28, 1837:

".....provided nevertheless and these presents are upon the several trusts following to wit First That the said party of the second part J. T. B. Van Vechten or his heirs shall use his and their best endeavors to grant bargain sell convey and dispose of the said real estate at public or private sale in his discretion or in such manner and upon such terms as he or his heirs shall deem the most advantageous and that the said party of the second part....shall convert all goods, chattels, stocks, household furniture, and personal property of every description into money.... and shall apply the proceeds and avails of the said bargained and assigned premises and property as hereinafter expressed and directed....apply the residue of the proceeds and avails [after costs deducted] of the said real and personal estate Stock things in action and effects in satisfaction of the debts of the said Philip Schuyler which are due or owing or to become due from him in the following preference to wit after paying off and satisfying all the creditors of said Philip Schuyler who have acquired liens upon his real or personal property [then to pay off in full or pro rata all of Philip Schuyler's debts in which Stephen Van Rensselaer acted as principal maker joint drawer, co-obliger, surity or acceptor or endorser - (3) "to pay all such debts as are due from said Philip Schuyler to said Stephen van Rensselaer Junior...""⁶³

Stephen Van Rensselaer, Jr., had become responsible for the payment of large sums of money for Philip Schuyler by a bond for the sum of \$400,000. executed on April 3, 1837 for the purpose of paying Schuyler's debts for which Stephen Van Rensselaer was to be liable. Because it was feared that a forced sale would not bring sufficient money to satisfy the debts the real estate and personal property was conveyed to Van Vechten.

63. Deed from Philip Schuyler and Grace, his wife, to Jacob T. B. Van Vechten, April 28, 1837, Deed Book DD, pp. 470 ff., County Clerk's Office, Ballston Spa, N. Y.

Four schedules were included within the deed. Schedule 1 number one listed the real estate involved as is of interest because it indicates the extent of Schuyler's properties:

"Beginning on the west bank of the Hudson River and at the southeast corner of lot #3 of first partition of part of tract commonly called Saratoga Patent which was made about 1685 and which lot was purchased from Abram and Dick TenBroeck and south bounds of which lot extends westerly from beginning along north bounds of lot #2 to easterly bounds of lot #24 of second partition of Saratoga tract made about 1750; thence northerly along lots 24, 25, 26, 27 and 28 of second partition of the southwest corner of land sold to Patrick McDavitt and Harry O'Hara; thence easterly along the same to Hudson River; thence southerly along same to beginning.....

"Also as much of lot 2 as fell to share of late Gen. Philip Schuyler on partition thereof between Cornelius Van Veghten and late Gen. Philip Schuyler and all houses, mills belonging or in any way appertaining as by the will of the late Gen. Philip Schuyler, reference to which will more fully appear.

"Excepting such as heretofore been conveyed containing about 2000 acres.

"2. Parcel in Saratoga known as westerly part of Parsonage lot, containing about 14-3/4 acres by deed dated May 6, 1833, between Minister Elders and Deacons of Reformed Dutch Church to Philip Schuyler.

"3. Farm in Saratoga known as lot #2 of subdivision of lot IV of 18th general allotment of Patent of Kayaderoperas (sic) containing 500 acres described in indenture dated February 16, 1815, between John Knickerbocker, Jr. and John Payn.

"Also 150 acres, west part of lot 3 of 5th allotment of Patent to John Schuyler, Jr. in Argyle in Washington County and other property in other sections."⁶⁴

Schedule number two listed goods, chattels, household furniture and effects, and personal property. Schedule three contained a list of bonds and other securities; and Schedule number four listed Schuyler's creditors in order of preference of payment.⁶⁵

On November 2, 1837, property listed in Schedule number one of the above deed was bought by Meunis Van Vechten, trustee and assignee of

64. Ibid.

65. Ibid.

Stephen Van Rensselaer, Jr., Schuyler's uncle and creditor, for the sum of \$4,600.00 as noted in the following deed:

".....Conveys lands commencing at the Hudson River and extending westerly along the north side of Fish Creek at the distance of 100 feet therefrom as it winds and turns to west bounds of property assigned by said Philip Schuyler including bed of creek to south bank thereof. Excepting rights of Cotton Factory to use of water and excepting thereout that portion lying between Bridge and Champlain Canal.

"Subject to certain judgments not here set up.

"2. Iron Foundry subject to judgments and lease for three years.

"3. Woolen Mill or factory.

"4. Grist Mill.

"5. Unsold village lots in Village of Schuylerville mentioned in annexed Schedule.

"6. All the residue of estate of Philip Schuyler situated in the Town of Saratoga, County of Saratoga containing about 1900 acres.

"Excepting Cotton Factory and yard containing about two acres.

"All subject to judgments and a mortgage executed to executors of last Will and Testament of John Howe, deceased, dated February 1, 1828, to secure \$20,000. and mortgage to William Mowry for \$15,000, and mortgage to John Jacob Astor on May 5, 1832, for \$20,000. All executed by Philip Schuyler and wife subject to lease."66

For thirteen months Van Rensselaer's trustee held the estate when the house site and environs were sold to George Strover for \$6,000.

By the following Deed, dated January 3, 1839:

"Teunis Van Vechten as Trustee
of Stephen Van Rensselaer, Jr.
to
George Strover

For the purpose of paying creditors of Philip Schuyler, conveys; All those two pieces of land situate in the Town of Saratoga, in the County of Saratoga and known and distinguished on a map made by Harmon Van Allen of the lands lately belonging to the above mentioned Philip Schuyler as the Mansion house lot and lot #8. The Mansion house lot is bounded and described as follows: Beginning at an elm tree standing at the south side of the fish creek and at the east side of the White Hall Turnpike which tree is distant 2 chains and 92 links on a course North 42 degrees 30 minutes East from the southeast corner of the cotton factory and runs from said

66. Deed, Jacob T. B. Van Vechten to Teunis Van Vechten, trustee and assignee of Stephen Van Rensselaer, Jr., November 2, 1837, Deed Book GG, p. 113, COBS.

tree along the east line of the said Turnpike South 30 degrees East 1 chain 91 links to the southgate post in fence; thence South 25 degrees 30 minutes East 7 chains 10 links ends in fence; thence South 15 degrees East 92 links ends in fence; thence South 11 degrees 30 minutes East 2 chains 90 links to west side of Champlain Canal; thence along the same northerly to the southside of the before-mentioned Fish Creek; thence up and along the same as it winds and turns to beginning, containing 10 acres."⁶⁷

The deed noted that the liens and encumbrances subject to which the parcel was sold to Jacob T. B. Van Vechten and purchased by Teunis Van Vechten had been "paid and discharged of record."⁶⁸

The remainder of Schuyler's estate was disposed of in a series of sales that are recorded in the Deed Books of Saratoga and Washington counties. The writer has been unable to determine whether these transactions resulted in enough money to discharge all of Philip Schuyler's debts. The only way in which that could be determined would be through the examination of each deed, which would contribute nothing of value to this report.

In this manner, the Saratoga property passed from the Schuylers.

Philip Schuyler served as American consul in Liverpool for about two years following December 1840. After his recall, he removed to Pelham-on-Sound, where he died in 1865.

Conclusion

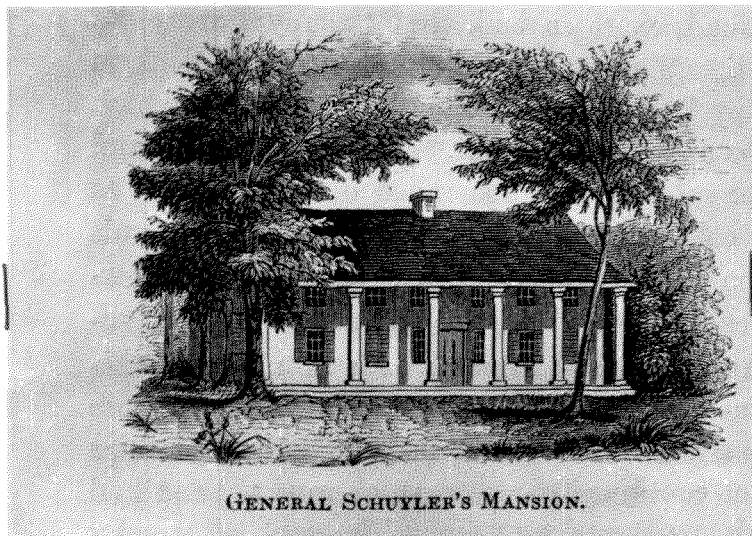
After 1839 the house continued in the possession of the Strovers and their heirs, the Lowbers. Because the period of their ownership was not historically significant and because the two sources of information for this period, the Strover Papers and The Schuylerville Standard, have

67. Deed, Teunis Van Vechten as Trustee of Stephen Van Rensselaer, Jr. to George Strover, January 3, 1839, Deed Book GC, p. 504.

68. Ibid.

not revealed much that was worthwhile, an account of the house from 1839 to 1950 has not been included in this report.

While research has revealed much that was not known when the United States Government acquired the property, it has also posed questions that can be answered only by further architectural and archeological study. As was noted at the beginning of this report, the historical research that has been accomplished should not be considered exhaustive. The transfers of the various historians who have worked on this project and the time factor have conspired against a comprehensive and integrated research schedule. However, the information that has been discovered and studied is sufficient to present a reasonably full picture of the house's history and to serve as a background for a valid restoration and interpretative program.



GENERAL SCHUYLER'S MANSION.

Lossing's Sketch, 1848

the past.

An outline sketch of events to which allusion has just been made is



THE SCHUYLER MANSION.

Schuyler House, ca. 1850

Source



SCHUYLER HOMESTEAD

Schuyler House, 1906

Architectural Data

Prepared by John F. Luzader, Park Historian

May 16, 1957

The original General Philip Schuyler House was constructed during November, 1777, and consisted of a two story frame building, lined with unburned brick "nogging," erected on a stone cellar that contained a kitchen. The outside dimensions of this structure were 60 feet long by 21 feet broad. The interior was finished with plaster which for several years was white-washed. This building was enlarged, probably during the last decade and a half of the 18th century, by the addition of the current kitchen wing.

The exterior appearance of the house is very different from what it was in 1804, the year that General Schuyler died. The erection of a two story tier of rooms on the eastern side of the historic structure subsequent to 1839 and the addition of a "Mount Vernon" type portico on the western side sometime prior to 1848 have enlarged the house considerably beyond its historic dimensions with a corresponding change in its appearance.

During 1956 architectural activity was carried out that resulted in restoring the interior of the original portion of the structure to 1804, although this restoration is not complete pending the resolution of questions concerning the interior wall covering and three of the four mantle-pieces.

The result of this partial restoration is that the house currently presents a mixed appearance in which the interior of the

oldest portion approximates the 1804 period and the exterior retains its post-Schuyler appearance, while the interior of the kitchen wing is in a state of flux because the activity there has not gotten beyond the investigative stage.

A summary of the restoration work mentioned above is discussed in the Historic Data section of this Survey on pages 23 to 33, inclusive.

The restoration that has been accomplished, limited as it was by the available funds, left many questions concerning the character of the original house unanswered, while posing new questions that can be answered only by further architectural investigation. Such additional investigation is necessary in order that the eastern side of the house be restored to its original appearance. This will necessitate the removal of the post-1839 tier of rooms and the restoration of the exterior of the eastern wall. The portico on the western side of the house should be removed and the front restored to the period of 1804. At the same time, the restoration of the kitchen wing should be restored if research reveals that it dates back to 1804. In short, the interior and external appearance of the house should be made to conform to its historic period which terminates with the year 1804. This work will cost an estimated \$35,000.00.

Archeological Data

Prepared by John F. Luzader, Park Historian

May 16, 1957

The completion of the restoration of the General Philip Schuyler House and Grounds requires that a limited amount of archeological reconnaissance be accomplished in order to determine the character of the eastern face of the historic structure through the examination of foundations. The mound a few yards southeast of the house should also be examined to determine whether it is the site of the old vegetable cellar. Research into the location and general character of the garden is likewise necessary in preparation for the restoration and landscaping of the grounds.

The estimated cost for this exploratory work is \$1,500.00.

Landscape Data

Prepared by John F. Luzader, Park Historian

May 17, 1957

The best sources for determining the size, location, and character of the Schuyler House Grounds are two maps, one drawn by a British officer during the siege of Saratoga in 1777, and an undated map of Schuylerville. The former shows General Schuyler's first house, with its outbuildings, mills, and garden prior to the destruction of the place on October 10, 1777.¹ This map depicts the pre-Revolutionary house as being on an axis with the road that came to be called the Waterford-Whitehall Turnpike. The house was flanked on the north by two buildings very close to the bank of the Fishkill. To the east lay a garden divided into six parts, separated by what appears to be wide paths and surrounded by a walk or driveway. This garden extended from the rear of the house, which opened into it, for approximately one hundred yards east and was about as wide. A building occupied the northwest corner of the garden, on the very edge of the creek bank.

The second map was located by Historian Charles Snell, formerly of Saratoga N.H. P., on October 10, 1950, during an interview with Mr William M. Snyder, Historian of Schuylerville. This map, of which the village historian had the only known copy, contained information that reflected the water conditions that prevailed in 1835, which led Mr. Snell to estimate that as the date of its production.²

Mr. Snell's successor, Charles E. Shedd, in response to a memorandum from the Assistant Regional Director of January 30, 1953,

1. Plan of the Position Which the Army Under Lt. Genl. Burgoyne Took at Saratoga on the 10th of September 1777 and in which it remained till the Convention was signed. Engraved by Wm. Faden, In Burgoyne, John, A State of the Expedition from Canada....., London 1780, J. Almon.
2. Snell, op. cit., p. 33.

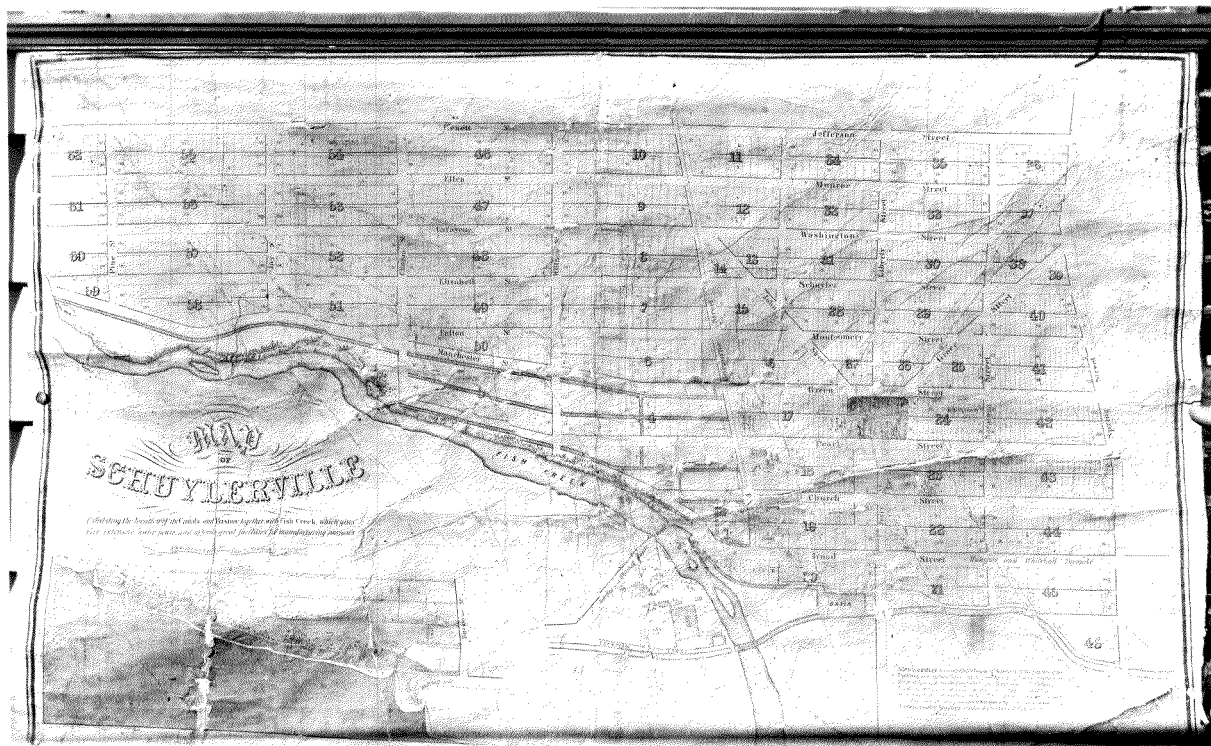
studied the map and concluded "that the date of the map's preparation lies between the years 1936 and 1939."³

The next Park Historian, Herbert Olsen, convinced that another copy of the map must exist, examined the map collection of the New York State Library, finding a copy bearing the interpolated date [1837]. Not content with this convenient but uncertain data, Mr. Olsen turned to deeds at the Saratoga County Clerk's Office in Ballston Spa, N. Y. These provided a very clear picture of the economic conditions that prevailed in Schuylerville during the last years of the 1830's. Coupling this knowledge with the history of the Schuyler Family during that period, Mr. Olsen came to the conclusion that the map was drafted preparatory to the public sale of the Schuyler estate. In short, the map was a promotional instrument designed to stimulate interest in the purchase of the property being offered.⁴ Thus Mr. Olsen concluded that the map dates from late 1837.

This map, which details the major features of the Schuyler grounds, locates the house on an approximate, but not exact, axis with the Turnpike. Two outbuildings were located on a line north of the house, one a few yards from the residence and another near the bank of the Fishkill. The map indicated that the lawn and trees in front of the house were much as they are today. To the rear and northeast of the kitchen wing was a large garden of what appears to have been of formal design, bordered by fence or hedge. A large building stood at the southeast corner of the garden, and three other buildings, grouped so as to form a "U" with the

3. Memo. Regional Director, Region One, subject: "Date of Map of Schuylerville, N.Y.," March 2, 1953.

4. Olsen, op. cit., pp. 18-19.



Undated Map of Schuylerville

open end facing the east stood near the junction of the Canal and Fish Creek (Fishkill). An informal garden appears to have been located just south of the house. As the earliest post-Revolutionary map that has been located showing in any detail the Schuyler House and Grounds, and for lack of an older and better source, this map must serve as a historic base map for this area. A careful use of this document makes it possible to determine much of the character of the property as it was at the end of the Schuyler occupancy.⁵

Although some time has been spent in an effort to obtain information concerning the garden, the results have been somewhat disappointing. Mary Gay Humphreys in her "Women of Colonial and Revolutionary Times" says, "Here were the vegetable gardens laid out by the English gardeners. Each bed was bordered by wide pesturias offlowers between paths wide enough to allow for the carts."⁶ On pages 236 and 237 of the book she says:

"Whatever the vicissitudes in affairs the improvement of the Saratoga estate was carried forward. During the anxieties that preceded the battle of Saratoga, Mrs. Schuyler is sending to 'Mr. Robert Morris, merchant of Philadelphia' for large strawberry plants. Now willow cuttings are being forwarded, and garden seeds occupy part of the correspondence of various aids. John Graham, the gardener, keeps Mrs. Schuyler informed of the progress of things when she is not there, 'and would be very sorry if the General or Madame should see it, so overgrown is the garden until it is in better order.' Such reputation has the place achieved that there is a request for 'white pine, balm of Gilead, sugar maple, ash, white and black swamp elm for the garden of King George IV,' with the assurance that any choice plants that the King has will be given in exchange."⁷

5. Undated Map of Schuylerville.

6. Humphreys, Mary Gay, Women of Colonial and Revolutionary Times, Chas. Scribner's Sons, N. Y., 1897, pp.

7. Ibid., pp. 236-7.

Although scattered reference is made in General Schuyler's correspondence to seeds and plants, no detailed concept of either the size or character of the garden can be had from their sources. On the basis of these references and Mrs. Humphrey's statement, a tentative list made of plants that were probably in the Schuyler gardens, including:

<u>Vegetables</u>	<u>Fruit</u>	<u>Trees</u>	<u>Flowers and Shrubs</u>
Squash	Apples	White Pine	Lilacs
Peas	Pears	Sugar Maple	Hedge (unidentified)
Beans	Grapes	Ash	Roses
Strawberries		White Swamp	Lilies
Potatoes	<u>Grain</u>	Elm	
Corn	Wheat	Black Swamp	<u>Herbs</u>
Cabbage	Oats	Elm	Thyme
		Locust	
		Balm of Giliad	

An examination of the area to the rear of the kitchen reveals physical evidence of what may have been the garden, or a part of it. An archeological reconnaissance might reveal its extent and design; however, the evidence that has been uncovered has been so fragmentary as to preclude a definite description.

A few yards southeast of the house is a large mound on the site that Brandow says was occupied by the vegetable cellar.⁸ Archeological examination would reveal its origin, but, here again, there is a complete absence of documentary information.

Legend has identified the well and outside toilet as dating from General Schuyler's time, and in connection with the latter, a letter from Varick dated October 12, 1777, informed the General that, "No part of your buildings have escaped their Malice Except the Necessary & and

8. Brandow, op. cit., 326.

your upper saw mill.....⁹ However, there is no conclusive evidence that the existing building is the original, although the writer would like to think that it is because that would support his belief that the present house was built on the site of its predecessor, rather than to the east. A "Necessary" ^{well} would be located in front of the house, unless custom has undergone a radical change.

Since the above information represents all of the documentary evidence that has been found concerning the grounds and dependencies, further research should be directed toward determining through an archeological reconnaissance the location of the vegetable cellar; to locate the roads that were present in the grounds during the historic period; and to locate and determine the general character of the formal kitchen and flower garden to the northeast of the house and what appears to have been an informal garden adjacent to the southern end of the structure.¹⁰

9. Schuyler Papers, NYPL.

10. See Archeological Data section of this report.

INTERIM FURNISHINGS AND EXHIBITION
DATA

Both the writer and his predecessor, Historian Herbert Olsen, have spent a considerable amount of time attempting to determine the character of the furniture that was used in the Schuyler House during the period 1777 to 1837. Aside from some fruitless exploratory research in the accounts of travelers and newspapers, the search for information has consisted of the examination of wills and related Surrogate Court records.

As has been noted, when Philip Schuyler turned his Saratoga property over to his son, John Bradstreet, he did not convey it to his son but retained title. However, he apparently did give him the household furniture by a "Deed of Gift".¹ This document has not been located. Although the Schuyler MSS of the New York Historical Society, Schuyler Papers of the New York Public Library, and the Schuyler Papers in the New York State Library have been thoroughly searched.

After John Bradstreet Schuyler's death in 1795, the guardianship of Philip II and the management of the Saratoga estate became the General's responsibility. It would be nice to think that the original furniture remained in the house during the balance of Philip Senior's life and between that date and his grandson's marriage in 1811, for that would simplify the story considerably. Family tradition held that this was the case; however, certain circumstances make that somewhat unlikely. In the first place, the furnishings apparently ceased to belong to the General, and to accept the thesis that they remained in the house would

1. Historic Data, p. 35.

mean that John Bradstreet's wife would have relinquished them, for which there is no documentary evidence. Another factor is the time element. From John Bradstreet's death until that of his father was just a few days less than nine years. While it is possible that the furniture remained in the house and was used by the General during his stays there, the following letter throws some doubt on this assumption:

Saratoga December 18, 1795

To Messrs. Samuel Brian, John McKinstry, William Wilcox,
George McScutchin and Abner Scidmore
Gentlemen:

I have seldom called on you for the two days riding which you are annually to perform for me or pay in lieu of each day two shillings. The effects of my late son are to be removed from this place to Albany during the present winter. I must therefore request you to attend with your Sleds at the time which Reinard Davis Esqr. shall appoint who has the Effects in his charge and I trust you will find it your interest to comply with my request.

I am your kind and Humble Servant...."2

Ph: Schuyler

This would seem to indicate that the five tenants removed the furnishings during the winter of 1795-6. Research has revealed no information concerning the disposition of these "effects."

The story is complicated by the fact that there is no record of a John Bradstreet will in the Surrogate Court records of either Albany or Saratoga County.

If the General occupied the house when taking care of the Saratoga property, and in the light of his public duties, advancing years, and poor health, his visits must have been progressively less frequent, he probably refurnished the place.

2. Schuyler MSS, New York Historical Society.

General Schuyler's will was located several years ago in the Albany County Surrogate Court, and that document bequeathed the larger part of the Saratoga property to his grandson, Philip, including "all and singular, the house, outhouses, milk and other buildings and appurtenances."³ The will, signed on June 20, 1804, and witnessed by Abraham and Margaret Ten Broeck and George W. and Catherine Mancius, was proved at the Albany Surrogate Court on December 4 of that year. Philip Jeremiah Schuyler, Rensselaer Schuyler, Stephen Van Rensselaer, and John Barker Church were named as executors, "they being first duly sworn, will and faithfully to administer the same and to make and exhibit a true and perfect inventory of all and singular the said Goods, Chattels and Credits and also to render a just and true account thereof when the theseunto required."⁴

The executors submitted an inventory of the estate to the Surrogate Court on April 12, 1805, containing the following data:

	Dollars	Cents
"Rent in arrear at Testator's death	\$ 3,858..	36
Implements of husbandry	10..	..
Plate, and other household goods	4,735..	54
Horses and furniture	300..	..
Carriages	1,240..	..
Horned Cattle and Sheep	84..	..
Wearing apparel	150..	..
Money		
10 shares in the Capitol stock of the		
Bank of Albany	4,000..	..
1 do in 2 of Farmers		
Bank	25.0	..
1 do in do of the Western		
Ins'd lock navn Comp J.		
angl cost 2500	2,000..	..
5 do in of the Northern comp.		
worth nothing		

3. "Last Will and Testament of Philip Schuyler," Book of Wills III, 149, Surrogate's Court, Albany County, Albany, N. Y.

4. Surrogate Court, Albany County, N. Y.

1	do in the <u>Capital Stock of the</u>		
	Albany Library	20..	..
	Debts supposed to be good	15,666..	54
	Debts supposed to be bad	m 2,958..	63

Dollars 35,342.. 15

Appraised by us the day and year above written
Jas. Van Ingen
Genl. Lansing⁵

As can be noted, the account that the executors made, unspecific as it was, provided no identifying information concerning the furnishings of either the Albany or Saratoga residence.

Because his grandson was only sixteen years old when the General made his final will, he named his son Philip Jeremiah and his sons-in-law, Stephen Van Rensselaer and Alexander Hamilton, as young Philip's guardians. However, Hamilton died on July 11, and the surviving brothers-in-law apparently served as guardians. While it was probable that they have an account of their guardianship when their ward reached his majority in 1809, no document reflecting such an account has been found in the Surrogate Court.

As has been noted, Philip II occupied the house from 1811 to 1837, when the property was deeded to his attorney for the satisfaction of Schuyler's creditors.⁶

On May 4, 1837, a "Schedule of Household Furniture" was drawn up, which was apparently identical with Schedule 2 of the Deed made to Van Vechten, of which a portion has been recovered listing the furniture of the parlor, piazza, garrett and cellar.

5. Ibid.

6. Supra pp.

"Parlour
Carpet, Sofa, Center Table - Pier table - 12
mahogany chairs - 2 arm chairs - 2 ottomans -
rug - 2 andirons, fender, tongs - Shovel, clock -
Piano & seat - 2 tripods - 2 nests of small tables,
2 candle-abras. Guitars - small table - 4 curtains -
cornices & shades - Looking glass.

Plaza 2 sofas

In garret - Old Piano - Trunks - 3 glass shades, 4 dozen bottles
old Madeira 13 dozen Bottles Madeira 10 Galls in
Demijohns

In cellar - Barrell Pork

18½ Dozn Garman closet - 7-1/3 Dozn bottles Port Wine
10 bottles Hock 3 Dozn muscat &c., 20 Galls port wine
2 bottles pale sherry 8 dozen bottles Madeira
3 Dozn champagne 1 Dozn & 8 half do Champagne 6 Galls
Madeira in cask - 1 Bbl Hard Cyder ½ box soap, 2 Doz
Wax Candles 2 Galls Cherry Brandy."

The Schuyler's household furniture was retrieved for them by

Philip II's mother, who had married John Bleecker. She purchased her son's
furniture and gave it to his wife by a deed of gift, exempting from

attachment by his creditors.⁸ Thus Grace Hunter Schuyler came into the

ownership of furniture of the Schuyler House. Apparently they remained

in her possession until her death, when they probably reverted to her

husband.⁹

The terms of his will provided that all of his property, both

real and personal, was bequeathed to Robert W. Ludlow in trust. The

trustee was directed to settle Schuyler's debts and to apply the

7. Schuyler Mrs., New York Historical Society.

8. 1. Ibid., "Deed of Gift to Grace Hunter Schuyler."

2. Ibid., "Copy of the Will of Mrs. Elizabeth Bleecker", which reads in
part, "In consequence of having before the making of my said Will
purchased the household furniture of my son Philip Schuyler and given
the same to his wife, I do hereby give and bequeath to my daughter
Catherine W. Van Rensselaer....."

9. Olsen, Herbert, Preliminary Report on the Schuyler House Research,
Sept. 12, 1935, p. 26.

"residue therefor, together with the use of my farm and house at West Neck, with all the goods and chattels appertaining to the same for the use and benefit of my unmarried children and as a homestead for the family for the term of one year from the time of my decease....¹⁰ After that period has elapsed, the property was to be sold and the proceeds divided into nine equal parts among the heirs. An inventory of householdfurnishings was drafted by the appraiser on August 31, 1865 which contained the following:¹¹

"List of Furniture contained inHouse -

Room No. 1

1 Piano	\$75	
1 Mirror	10	
2 Armchairs	6	
8 black chairs	6	
3 Garden chairs	3	
5 tables	10	. 50
2 benches	1	
1 Screen		50
3 curtains	10	
Mantle-vases	5	
XX 2 Engravings	2	
1 Mat		
2 pair bronze candlesticks	1	

I

Room No. 2

1 Bookcase	8	
3 Bookstands12/-	4	. 50
1 Sofa	2	. 50
3 Tables	2	. 50
6 Chairs	7	
2 Benches	1	
1 Clock	5	
2 Candlesticks	4	
2 Curtains	6	
Carpet and Rug	15	

Room No. 3

1 Sideboard	4.00	6 Chairs	5.00
1 Dining Table	5.00	1 Clock	10.00
1 ? do	2.50	4 Pictures	2.00
1 ArmChair	2.50	2 Curtain-	
1 Lounge	2.50	hangings	1.00
1 Bookstand	3.00	4 Candlestick	
Carpet and Rug	5.00	and lamps	3.00

10. Will of Philip Schuyler, File No. 238-1865, Surrogate Court, Westchester County.

11. Ibid.

II Floor Contained

Bedroom No. 2

1 Bedstead beds and cover	14.00
1 Bureau	5.00
1 Sofa	2.00
1 Washstand china	1.00
1 Table	.50
2 Benches	.50
4 Chairs	3.00
1 Rocking-do	1.00
1 Arm Chair	1.00
Carpet	5.00

Dressing Room

2 tables & glass	1.50
1 Washstand	.50
1 Chair	.50
Mat	1.50

Bedroom No. 4

1 Bedstead	3.00
1 Dressing table	2.00
1 Bureau	1.50
1 Wash Basin - china	2.50
4 Chairs	2.00
Wardrobe	5.00
2 Chairs	.75
2 Benches	.50
1 Hatstand	.75
1 Lamp	1.00
Oil Cloth	2.00

II Floor

Hall

1 table, 2 chairs	1.50
-------------------	------

Bedroom No. 1

1 Bedstead - beds & cover	25.00
1 Wardrobe	4.00
1 Lounge	1.50
1 Dressing table & glass	6.00
XXI Mantle Vases	1.00
2 Benches	1.50
Wash stand and china	3.00
Carpet	5.00
Chairs	2.00
Writing desk	3.00

Bedroom No. 5

Bedstead, beds & cover	5.--
1 tablet	25
1 Washstand china	2.00
1 Glass	.50
4 Chairs	2.00
1 Bureau	2.00

Small Room No. 4

1 Dining Table	4.00
4 Cane chairs	2.00

Room No. 5

1 Sofa	3.00
1 Dressing table & glass	6.00
1 Washstand china	5.00
2 Tables	1.50
4 chairs	2.00
1 Wooden Wardrobe	1.00
Carpet	3.00

Hall

1 Stove	5.00
2 Flower tablet & vases	3.00
2 Chairs	1.50
1 Table	1.00
2 Benches	.50
1 Glass	.50
5 Chairs	3.00
2 Sets of dinner china	12.00
1 Set of Glass	6.00
3 sets of tea cups	5.00
1 lot bedding	3.00

Kitchen

Chairs, tables & Cooking Utensils	5.00
--------------------------------------	------

Bedroom No. 2

1 Bedstead, beds & Cover	5.00
1 Bureau	2.00
1 DressingTable	4.00
1 Washstand and china	2.00

Laundry

Tables, tubs, stove 3.00

511 ounces of silver 511.00

600 Books 150.00

While the will provided for the sale of the property, the heirs agreed not to sell any part of the estate; rather, they decided to retain the house as a "family homestead" and to leave the family furnishings therein. This arrangement appears to have been maintained until the death of Fanny Schuyler, one of Philip Schuyler II's daughters, on January 10, 1917.¹²

Fanny Schuyler's will provided that her share of the family heirlooms should be devised to her four nieces, specifically indicating what items each was to receive. The furniture and personal effects at the Schuyler residence at what had become 380 Pelham Road, New Rochelle, N. Y. were appraised and the following affidavit and appraisal were submitted to the Surrogate Court of Westchester County.

12. Will of Fanny Schuyler, File No. 939-1917, SCWC.

SURROGATE'S COURT,
COUNTY OF WESTCHESTER.

* * - - - - -X
In the Matter of the Transfer :
Tax upon the Estate :
-of- :
FANNY SCHUYLER, :
DECEASED. :
- - - - -X

CITY & COUNTY OF NEW YORK, SS:

F.H.G. Keeble, being duly sworn, says:

I am connected with The Anderson Galleries Inc., dealers in, and auctioneers and appraisers of furniture and other personal effects, whose offices are at Madison Avenue and 10th Street in the City of New York, and am an appraiser of furniture and other such personal effects. I have been engaged in that business for more than ten years last past, and have made a large number of appraisals of household furniture and other such personal effects and am well acquainted with the values thereof.

On the 19th day of November, 1917, at 380 Pelham Road, New Rochelle, New York, I examined and appraised the furniture and effects hereinafter scheduled, which, as I am informed, belonged to the heirs of Philip Schuyler, who died more than fifty years ago. I am informed that the above named Fanny Schuyler, deceased, in whose residence said furniture and effects were when I saw them, had an undivided

nineteenth-ninetieths interest ~~therein~~, and in my opinion such interest was worth not more than nineteen-ninetieths of the whole value of said effects as appraised by me. I have placed opposite the items of said furniture and effects in the annexed schedule the values thereof according to the best of my judgment, and in my opinion the values thereof were the same on the 10th day of January, 1917, the date of the death of said Fanny Schuyler, as they are today. I appraise the whole of said effects at the total mentioned in said schedule, or \$7,549.00, and I appraise the undivided interest of said Fanny Schuyler therein at nineteen-ninetieths of said sum, or \$1593.68

Sworn to before me this)
30th day of November, 1917.)

(Signed) F. H. G. Keeble

(Signed) C. W. Breck

Notary Public Westchester Co.
Filed in New York Co.

SCHEDULE OF FURNITURE &C.

Parlor

Mahogany Colonial Console, white marble top, mirror under	\$ 75.00
Pier glass, gilded, with shaped top	50.00
Four late Sheraton arm chairs, scroll arms, carved backs	240.00
Nine Colonial side chairs, carved backs (4 in parlor, 1 in south bedroom, 3rd floor, 1 in hall, 3 in Miss Schuyler's bedroom)	225.00
Two Empire mahogany chairs, loose seats	150.00
Roman bench of Colonial mahogany, needlework seat	25.00
Roman bench, similar, smaller	20.00
Large Hepplewhite couch, scroll head, round foot, claw feet	200.00
Colonial mahogany round table, marble top	50.00
Large Hepplewhite couch, ends scrolled, top rail carved, with drapery and cornucopia	200.00
Mahogany Colonial chair for spinet	40.00
Chippendale pie crust table	750.00
Mahogany Sheraton Bookcase, two doors with Gothic lattice	100.00
Colonial gilded mirror	30.00
Two Empire candelabra, female figures, bronze base and arms in part gilded	35.00
Two Colonial lamp stands, mahogany, marble top (one in ante room)	70.00
Two bronze Colonial candlesticks	20.00
Three pairs Empire curtains, holders of bronze gilt	15.00
Nest of four lacquer tables	60.00
Two classic bronze candlesticks, Colonial	70.00

Ante Room to Parlor

Large Hepplewhite mahogany dining table, tilting tops, two parts as side tables	200.00
Pembroke Hepplewhite mahogany table	125.00
Colonial mahogany stand for books	50.00

Dining Room

Mahogany Hepplewhite sideboard	150.00
Mahogany folding pillar table	60.00
Mahogany Hepplewhite folding breakfast table	150.00
Eleven mahogany Colonial chairs (4 in dining room)	330.00

2 in "Lafayette room", 2 in J. S. 's room, 1 in
third floor south, 2 in third floor north)

Forward,

\$3,490.00

(Signed) F. H. G. Keeble

Brought Forward, \$ 3,490.00

Empire mantel clock, Sienna marble base 75.00

Miss P. Schuyler's room

Colonial four post mahogany bed 100.00
 Colonial bureau with mirror over 50.00
 Colonial washstand 20.00
 Sheraton mahogany secretaire, fall front drawer 200.00
 Hepplewhite desk and work table 75.00
 Colonial mantel clock, black with bronze
 mountings 40.00
 Sheraton nest of three tables 30.00

"Lafayette Bedroom"

Hepplewhite four post mahogany bed, reeded
 pillars, gilded carved canopy 1,000.00
 Mahogany wardrobe, to match bed 350.00
 Small mahogany Colonial drop leaf table 50.00
 Sheraton inlaid mahogany card table, mirror
 over same 100.00
 Two pairs curtain holders, rosette, brass 10.00
 Hepplewhite mahogany dressing table 125.00
 Mahogany Sheraton carved table 75.00
 Mahogany Sheraton washstand 40.00
 Painting, Tiepolo school 20.00

Mr. J. Schuyler's room

Empire bed, mahogany 60.00
 Small mahogany table 25.00
 Small mahogany washstand 20.00
 Small mahogany bureau 40.00

Hall, Second Floor

Colonial mahogany table 20.00

Third floor, south bedroom

Mahogany Sheraton bureau 60.00
 Mahogany Sheraton washstand 35.00
 Chippendale pole screen 40.00

Third floor, north room

Mirror 10.00

Servant's bed room

Sheraton mahogany bureau

35.00

Dining room (continued)

Empire coffee set, 9 pieces

125.00

Forward,

\$6,340.00

(Signed) F.H.G. Keeble

Brought forward

\$6,340.00

Teapot, gilded

20.00

Twelve Crown Derby plates, scroll pattern,
dark blue

25.00

Twelve saucers, light blue, flowers

15.00

Yellow band cups and saucers

10.00

Fourteen Colonial cut green wine glasses

20.00

Nine Colonial cut goblets

20.00

Thirteen tall Colonial cut champagne glasses

39.00

Eight Colonial cut wine glasses

24.00

Six red glass finger bowls

12.00

Two Colonial cut glass bowls, pineapple

25.00

Colonial cut glass punch bowl

40.00

Four Colonial cut glass dishes (as are)

10.00

Two Colonial glass sugar bowls and covers

15.00

Two Colonial cut glass sugar bowls, steeple tops

60.00

Four Colonial glass candy dishes

40.00

Six Colonial glass salts

9.00

Two Colonial cut glass double mouthed decanters

30.00

Four cut glass claret decanters

30.00

Two Colonial cut glass water pitchers

50.00

Large Colonial dinner set, white and gold

150.00

(if broken into two sets, \$100.00 each)

Two old Canton platters (as are)

25.00

Three piece Empire Furniture, Bisque figures

150.00

Three Empire pots, griffin handles

75.00

Two blue and redpots

15.00

Two covered jugs, Staffordshire

35.00

Two delft vases

150.00

Two cut glass decanters (odd)

5.00

Portrait of a Boy, artist Unknown

50.00

Two miniatures, Mr. & Mrs. Schuyler

60.00

(Signed) F.H.G. Keeble

\$7,548.00

80 27 Affidavit and Appraisal by F. H. G. Keeble "In the Matter
of the Transfer Tax upon the Estate of Fanny Schuyler Deceased," ibid.

Under the terms of the cooperative agreement between the Secretary of the Interior and the Old Saratoga Historical Association, Schuylerville, New York, the operation and furnishing of the General Philip Schuyler House has been delegated to the Association. The Association with the assistance and advice of the Park Superintendent and the Park Historian, has attempted to acquire original Schuyler pieces and pieces of the appropriate period. To date, no authentic Schuyler furniture has been acquired. However, the Association has acquired several period originals through loan from Cooper Union and the Museum of the City of New York as well as a few pieces from private individuals that have been authenticated as being 18th century pieces. The cooperating agency hopes to acquire sufficient approved furnishings to permit the exhibition of the Parlour, Entrance Hall, Dining Room, a Bedroom, Nursery, and Kitchen. Pending the removal of the post-Schuyler addition, an exhibition of documents and illustrative materials is planned for display in the "Lafayette Room."

An accession list is being prepared for all items acquired by purchase, donation, or loan which will be maintained in the park headquarters in a fire resistant cabinet.

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