

October “Fall’s Bounty” Tours Offer Rare Opportunity to Experience Locust Lawn

Even in a valley filled with historic homes, Locust Lawn stands out. This site, just minutes from the village of New Paltz, features the grand 1814 manse of Congressman and gentleman farmer Josiah Hasbrouck as well as the earlier stone house of the pioneering Terwilliger family. Situated on a knoll rising from the Plattekill Creek, Locust Lawn was once the hub of a thriving 1,000 acre farming enterprise. When the Hasbroucks “mothballed” their home in 1885, they left behind three generations of furnishings, clothing and documents. All of it remains in the house today. In part because of the special nature of the site, it is open on a limited basis. In October, HHS will open the site for a tour each Saturday and Sunday at 2:30. Tours are \$9 per person. Tickets can be purchased at the site, located at 400 Route 32 South in New Paltz, or at the DuBois Fort Visitor Center on Huguenot Street. Discounted combination tickets for both Historic Huguenot Street and Locust Lawn are available in the Museum Shop. For more information, call (845) 255-1889.



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Huguenot Historical Society
18 Broadhead Avenue
New Paltz, NY 12561
www.huguenotstreet.org



HAUNTED HUGUENOT STREET

THURSDAY 10/29
FRIDAY 10/30
SATURDAY 10/31
7 TO MIDNIGHT

CREEPY VIGNETTES \$9 IN ADVANCE
GHOULISH DUTCH FOLKLORE \$11 NIGHT OF
NATIVE AMERICAN TALES AGES 12 AND UP

RESERVATIONS @ WWW.HUGUENOTSTREET.ORG

WHO KNEW HISTORY COULD BE THIS SCARY?

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On Huguenot Street

The Newsletter of Historic Huguenot Street

Restoration of DuBois Fort Roof Completed

By PJ Preuss, Historic Preservation Officer

The standing seam metal roof on the DuBois Fort Visitor Center was completed in July, successfully adding to the architectural character and diversity of the street. With the completion of this project, the Fort complements the various roofing materials and styles exhibited on site. These include the Abraham Hasbrouck roof, with its 30 inch hand shaved cedar shakes, and the Deyo House slate roof finished with metal flashing and valleys. The Fort roof is an excellent example of a traditional metal roofing system that has been used since the 18th century.



Technological advances in the 19th century improved the manufacturing process and accessibility to a variety of metal roofing materials such as tin plate, terne plate (sheet metal dipped with a lead tin alloy), and galvanized sheet metal (metal dipped with Zinc). The new terne-coated stainless steel roof

has a tin zinc alloy coating. This material requires minimal routine maintenance and has a life span of 100 years. A well maintained metal roof should last generations – as did the original standing seam roof on the Fort, from the 1880s to the 1970s.

The design of this restoration project was guided by documentation supplied by the DuBois Fort’s Historic Structures Report, compiled by John G. Waite Associates in 2003. Along with the restoration of the roof, the Tuttle Construction Company repaired and re-pointed the three chimneys and installed a new gutter system.

During the project work, evidence of a past fire was discovered. A number of original rafters of the porch roof were charred and damaged. The evidence was documented and has furthered our knowledge of the Fort’s history.

Meredith Gorres: A Young Descendent and Budding Historian



By Richard Heyl de Ortiz
Director of Public Programs

Earlier this year, I had the opportunity to meet Meredith Gorres, an enthusiastic young woman at a lecture here on the Street. I was impressed with her knowledge and her obvious interest in learning more about our history. When I sat down with Meredith recently, she talked about a love of history that has been part of her life since she was a small girl and about her growing interest in her Deyo and Freer genealogy.

Meredith, who grew up in Clintondale, a small hamlet just outside New Paltz, is currently a student at Marist College in Poughkeepsie. She plans to transfer to the State University of New York at New Paltz

(SUNY), to pursue a more hands-on course of study. She intends to major in history and Native American studies – an interest that was further peaked this past summer when she enrolled in SUNY’s Archaeological Field School at Historic Huguenot Street.

Meredith’s interest in history can be traced to her grandfather and the luck of growing up on an old farm. “It was my grandfather who did the genealogical research,” Meredith said as she showed me a family tree tracing her family back to the late 1600s. “He was interested in our family history. He was also a railroad historian.” As a girl, Meredith began digging up artifacts buried around her family’s home. “Part of our yard must have once been the garbage pile,” she says. Meredith displayed the artifacts she found in a “museum” in her father’s shed.

At our Before Hudson conference earlier this year, which Meredith attended, she learned about the

Archaeological Field School and enrolled. Meredith enjoyed being part of a team that unearthed evidence of a very early European structure and in her unit, they found items including a late 17th century wine bottle. “It was an intense experience. Fun, but testing. I could have kept going,” she says.

Meredith was first introduced to Historic Huguenot Street by her parents, who brought her here when she was younger. She shared that the Deyo House is her favorite on the Street and that, encouraged by fellow Marist student Doug Yaun, himself a Freer descendant, she has recently joined the Freer-Low Family Association. Learning more about her genealogy, her connection to the founders of New Paltz, has only deepened her interest in history. “I want to encourage other Huguenot descendants to do this – to get involved.”

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Historic Huguenot Street is a National Historic Landmark District

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(845) 255-1660
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