

The Homestead during the Dickerson Family's Ownership



During the Dickerson Family's ownership, 1911–1944, the 300 Acre property on which the homestead was located was operated as a working farm. In Abraham Fort's day, his will indicates that the property also served as a working farm and included orchards and gardens. Major Abraham Fort was born in 1750, commissioned a Lieutenant in 1778, a Captain in 1786, a Major in 1793 and died August 9, 1822. Major Fort was buried in the Fort Family Ground which now lies across Route 9, in the Town of Poughkeepsie from the Homestead. Early historical records indicate Abraham Fort served several terms as Assessor in Poughkeepsie between 1778 and 1794. In the years 1827–1829, 1831 and 1832, his son James served as Supervisor. Sons John and Peter both served in the War of 1812 under Andrew Jackson. Peter Fort's Memoirs recall hearing the "Clermont," as she came up the Hudson River. He could see it from the field while working on the farm. "Long before it came in sight we could hear it, and it sounded like a mill grinding, and indeed we thought at first that one had become detached from the shore and floated away with the tide."

6 Timberline Drive
Poughkeepsie, NY 12603

**Fort Homestead
ASSOCIATION**



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Preserving

Major Abraham Fort's
Revolutionary War Homestead

With our sight's set on

providing

a living history
education center in
the Town of Poughkeepsie

**Fort Homestead
ASSOCIATION**

Provisionally Chartered by
the Regents of the
University of the State of New York
IRS 501(c)3 Tax Exempt

JOIN NOW - Become a Part of Preserving Our Local History !
 Complete & Return this portion - Make Checks Payable to **Fort Homestead Association**
 Mail to: 6 Timberline Drive, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603

Name: _____ Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____
 Address: _____
 City, State, Zip: _____

Membership Level - Check One

- Individual \$20.00 Family \$35.00
 Sustaining \$50.00 Institutional \$100.00

Donation enclosed
 in support of
 FHA's goals

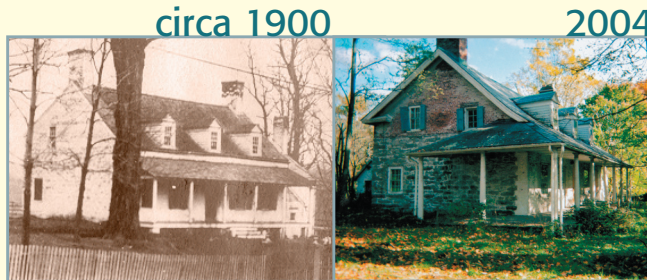
Check here if you are not interested
 in becoming a Member but would
 like to be added to our Mailing List

I can help/have skills to lend in the following areas: _____



Goals

- Have Homestead deemed a **Historic Landmark** in the Town of Poughkeepsie **COMPLETED**
- Obtain ownership** of the homestead and property located at 2228 South Road, Poughkeepsie
- Have homestead listed on the **State & National Registers**
- Preserve, rehabilitate, reconstruct, maintain & open** to the public, the Fort Homestead as a **living history education center** in the Town of Poughkeepsie
- Disseminate & encourage a **greater knowledge** of our **local history** including the Town of Poughkeepsie & Dutchess County
- Accomplish these goals by seeking **Grants, Fund Raising, Stewardship and Advocacy**
- Showcase the accomplishments & evolution of a family and their farm through three centuries in the Town.



Dutch Houses in the Hudson Valley

By Helen Wilkinson Reynolds

“The land it [the Fort Homestead] stands on was sold in 1759 by Christopher VanBommel to Johannes Abraham Fort (“late of Ulster County”) and was built either by the Van Bommel Family between 1742 and 1759 or by Johannes A. Fort about 1760. The Fort family was established in upper Albany County by 1700. Johannes Fort, born at Nisayuna, drifted down to Kingston and married there in 1749 Rebecca Ostrander. He it was who in 1759 removed to this farm of three hundred acres in the precinct of Poughkeepsie. Johannes Fort’s son Abraham (b. 1750 d. 1822) who was locally prominent in the War of the Revolution, succeeded his father in the house.”



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