

## MIDDLETOWN AREA: PARCEL D

### HISTORIC AND NATURAL DISTRICT INVENTORY FORM

NYS OFFICE OF PARKS, RECREATION  
& HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
DIVISION FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
(518) 237-8643

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YOUR NAME: Larson Fisher Associates

DATE: September 2006, updated Sept. 2014

YOUR ADDRESS: P.O. Box 1394 Woodstock NY 12498

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ORGANIZATION (if any): for Town & Village of New Paltz Historic Preservation Commissions

#### IDENTIFICATION

1. **NAME OF DISTRICT:** Josiah Elting Farm, 272 Old Kingston Road

2. **COUNTY:** Ulster

**TOWN/CITY:** New Paltz

**VILLAGE:** Middletown

#### 3. **DESCRIPTION:**

This resource contains the following parcels and components.

In the Town of New Paltz:

| Map ID# | Parcel No.     | Address               | Acreage | Components                               |
|---------|----------------|-----------------------|---------|--|
| 1       | 78.15-1-26.110 | 272 Old Kingston Road | 20.50   | Brick house (1786), carriage barn, woods |
| 2       | 78.15-1-26.200 | 274 Old Kingston Road | 8.90    | House (1955), barn                       |
| 3       | 78.15-1-25     | 276 Old Kingston Road | 1.40    | House (early 20 <sup>th</sup> century)   |
| 4       | 78.16-3-18.210 | Route 32 North        | 38.50   | orchards                                 |

Josiah Elting's Farm contained 88 acres at the west end of Lot No. 10 in the Southern Division, of the First Tier of the 1760 distribution of patent lands; it also included 90 acres of land on the west side of the road, which was the northern half of the Bouwerie Tract his grandfather and namesake's. The farm parcel is fairly intact with the exception of the addition of a few newer houses and the construction of Route 32 North, which bisects it. A creek crosses the property where a saw mill is said to have operated until 1870. The western 90 acres were conveyed to Josiah's son Charles in the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

The story-and-a-half stone and brick house is located on the east side of Old Kingston Road. It was built in 1786 and is said to be the first brick house constructed in the town. It faces south and has a symmetrical three-bay front façade with a center entrance flanked by windows. The house has a full front porch with stone columns added some time in the early twentieth century. There is a driveway just north of the house which leads to a barn and other outbuildings located to the northeast of the house. An early 20<sup>th</sup>-century brick house is located north of the older house, and there is a brick addition to the older house that appears to have been built at the same time; it replaced a wood lean-to shown in a 1902 photograph. [LeFevre, 495.] Two historic barns on the also survive near the main house.

Josiah Elting Farm  
272 Old Kingston Road  
New Paltz, Ulster County

#### 4. SIGNIFICANCE:

According to LeFevre, "Abram's son Josiah married Hester Brodhead and, together with his brother Henry, who did not marry, built, about 1786, the brick house now owned and occupied by Mr. Terpenning, about 2½ miles north of this village and which is by far the oldest brick house in this town. Josiah died in 1813, May 15<sup>th</sup>, aged 52 years, his wife, Hester, in 1848, at the ripe age of 86 years. Josiah left four sons, Cornelius, Abm. J., Charles and Richard. The last named studied medicine and located in Rondout, where he became a very noted physician. Charles lived on part of the old homestead where his grandson, Watson, lived. Abm. J. lived for a time in the brick house of his father." [p. 494]

Maurice Freer owned the property when the 1865 Agricultural Statistics were taken as part of the New York State Census. Freer is listed as owning 105 acres with a farm valued at \$3,000. In 1873, Freer sold the property to Sylvester Rose for \$6,250. Rose sold the property barely two years later to Eliza and Nelson Terpenning. The Dutch barn on the property burned to the ground in July of 1915. Today, the property contains 20.50 acres of land, a carriage barn and woods. 38.50 acres of orchard are now a separate parcel.

#### CHRONOLOGY

- |      |   |
|------|---|
| 1786 | Josiah Eltinge built the house; said to be the first brick house built in town  |
| 1790 | U.S. Census, Ulster County, Town of New Paltz<br>Josiah Elting<br>1 free white male 16 and over<br>2 free white males under 16<br>2 free white females<br>1 slave   |
| 1798 | J. Eltinge on map of Town of New Paltz  |
| 1798 | Tax Assessment for the Town of New Paltz<br>Josiah Eltinge owner & occupant, one-story stone and brick house 43x 24 ft., "good" condition on 2 acres, situated "on the rode from Paltz to Bontekoe," valued at \$525." Also, 1 Dutch Barn, 40 x 40 ft., 1 Hay House, 35 x 20 ft., 1 Sheltor Stable, 20 x 20 ft.; 87 acres, 80 perches in lot N. 10 first tier to the south joining Elias Ein & Joseph Dubois, , valued at \$845; 90 acres being "½ of the Bowery Joining Philip Eltinge & J Hasbrouck;" 15 acres "hog pasture Join. Philip Eltinge & Road." |
| 1813 | Josiah Elting died; his wife, Hester would live until 1848, probably with her son, Abraham M. Elting, who became the head of the household.   |
| 1820 | Abm. J. Eltinge is the occupant of the farm [LeFevre, 204]  |

Josiah Elting Farm  
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## 1850 U.S. Census, Ulster County, Town of New Paltz

| NAME              | AGE | OCCUPATION | VALUE<br>OF REAL<br>ESTATE | ORIGIN   |
|-------------------|-----|------------|----------------------------|----------|
| 990/1045          |     |            |                            |          |
| Abraham J. Elting | 61  | Farmer     | 5,300                      | New York |
| Jane Elting       | 58  |            |                            | New York |
| Emily Elting      | 31  |            |                            | New York |
| Norman Elting     | 29  | Laborer    |                            | New York |
| Amanda Eting      | 25  |            |                            | New York |
| Lavina Elting     | 20  |            |                            | New York |
| Timothy Wood      | 35  | Laborer    |                            | New York |

1865 U.S. Census: Agricultural Statistics, Ulster County, Town of New Paltz  
Maurice Freer

|                  |      |                 |   |                    |    |
|------------------|------|-----------------|---|--------------------|----|
| Improved acres   | 70   | Acres rye       |   | Cows milked        | 6  |
| Unimproved acres | 35   | Bu. rye         |   | cows for butter    | 6  |
| Farm value       | 3000 | Acres buckwheat |   | Pounds butter      |    |
| Livestock value  | 350  | Bu. buckwheat   |   | Horses             |    |
| Tools value      | 200  | Acres corn      |   | Calves             |    |
| Acres plowed     |      | Bu. corn        |   | Swine under 6 mo.  |    |
| Acres of pasture |      | Acres potatoes  |   | Swine over 6 mo.   | 3  |
| Acres of meadow  |      | Bu. potatoes    |   | Sheep              | 10 |
| Tons of hay      |      | Bu. apples      |   | Fleeces            |    |
| Bu. grass seed   |      | Bbl. Cider      |   | Pounds wool        | 30 |
| Acres wheat      |      | Cows over 1 yr. | 1 | Value of poultry   | 20 |
| Bu. wheat        |      | Oxen            |   | Value of eggs sold |    |
| Acres oats       |      | Total cows      | 6 | Manure bought      |    |
| Bu. oats         |      | Cows killed     |   | Yards flannel      |    |

## 1870 U.S. Census, Ulster County, Town of New Paltz

| NAME            | AGE | OCCUPATION    | VALUE<br>OF REAL<br>ESTATE | VALUE OF<br>PERSONAL<br>ESTATE | ORIGIN   |
|-----------------|-----|---------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------|----------|
| 201/225         |     |               |                            |                                |          |
| Freer Maurice W | 54  | Farmer        | 6,000                      | 1,000                          | New York |
| Sarah H         | 50  | Keeping House |                            |                                | New York |
| Margaret H      | 31  | Milliner      |                            |                                | New York |
| Alfred M        | 28  | Farm Laborer  |                            |                                | New York |
| Elmira          | 18  |               |                            |                                | New York |
| William         | 14  |               |                            |                                | New York |
| Oscar A         | 12  |               |                            |                                | New York |
| Josephine       | 10  |               |                            |                                | New York |
| Ephraim         | 7   |               |                            |                                | New York |

Maurice W. Freer was a resident of the Town of Lloyd in 1860.

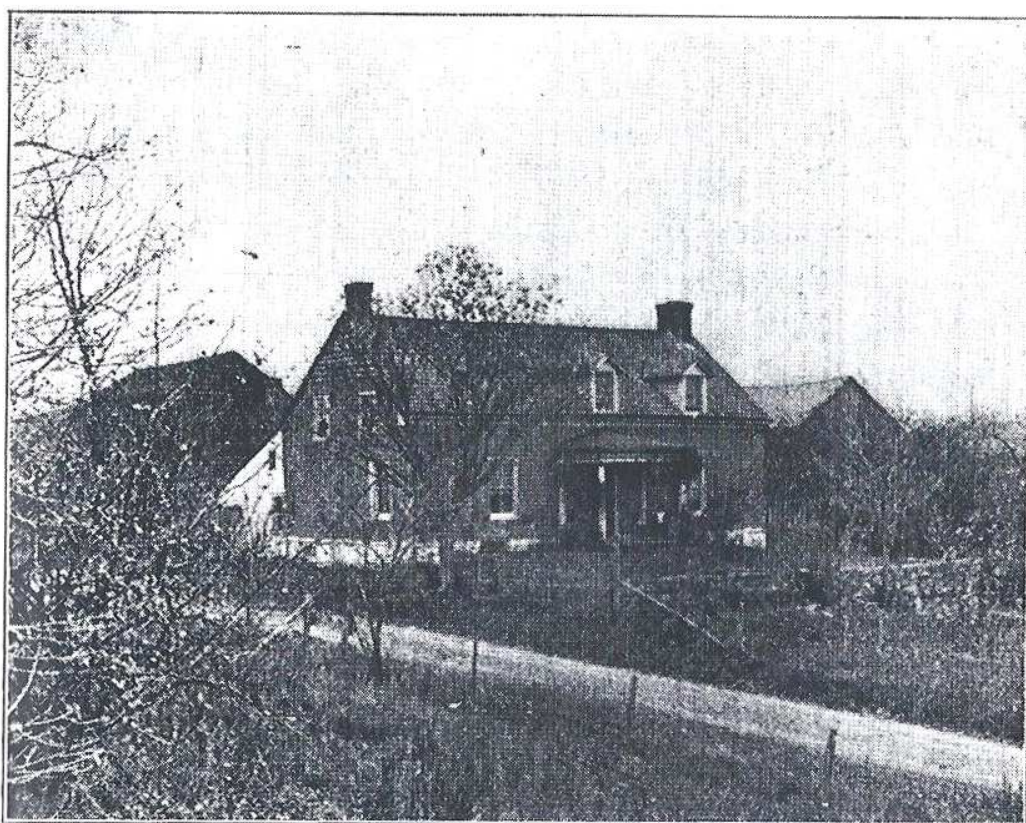
Josiah Elting Farm  
272 Old Kingston Road  
New Paltz, Ulster County

- 1873 30 Jan 1873 NPI  
“Mr. Maurice Freer has sold to Sylvester Rose the farm on which he now resides, lying about three miles north of this village. The farm contains 105 ½ acres. Price \$6,250. Mr. F. contemplates a removal to this village, having purchased of Mr. Edmund Eltinge a lot on Eltinge Avenue on which he will erect a residence. Price paid for the lot, \$575.”
- 1875 S. Rose on 1875 Beers Atlas
- 1877 12 April 1877  
“The farm of Sylvester Rose, formerly owned by Maurice W. Freer, about two miles north of the village, was sold on Tuesday under a second mortgage of \$1000 held by Eliza A. Terpenning. There was a Savings Bank mortgage of \$2,000 ahead of the mortgage under which the place was sold. The property was bought in by the mortgagee for \$3,400, the amount of the two mortgages with interest to date. The place contains 105 acres, and was sold a few years ago for about \$6,000.”
- 1880 U.S. Census: Eliza & Nelson Terpenning
- 1900 U.S. Census, Ulster County, Town of New Paltz
- | NAME                | AGE | RELATIONSHIP | OCCUPATION | ORIGIN   |
|---------------------|-----|--------------|------------|----------|
| 104/104             |     |              |            |          |
| Terpenning Nelson M | 71  | Head         | Farmer     | New York |
| Eliza A             | 70  | Wife         |            | New York |
| George              | 40  | Son          |            | New York |
| Rachel              | 42  | Dau-in-law   |            | New York |
| Raymond             | 15  | G'son        |            | New York |
| Jessie              | 12  | G'daughter   |            | New York |
| George              | 7   | G'son        |            | New York |
| Mary Ann            | 5   | G'daughter   |            | New York |
| Anthony             | 4   | G'son        |            | New York |
- 1915 23 July 1915 NPI  
“The fire was at the Henry L. Hasbrouck place, formerly the Terpenning place on the state road north of our village where the barn was on fire. The building was old and burned rapidly.
- Present Roy, Richard & Rachel Hasbrouck

Josiah Elting Farm  
272 Old Kingston Road  
New Paltz, Ulster County

## 5. SOURCES:

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New Paltz NY. Elting Memorial Library. Haviland-Heidgerd Historical Collection. "House Books," obituary and marriage records, NYS census schedules, vertical and photograph files.  
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Sylvester, Nathaniel B. History of Ulster County, New York. Philadelphia, Everts & Peck, 1880.



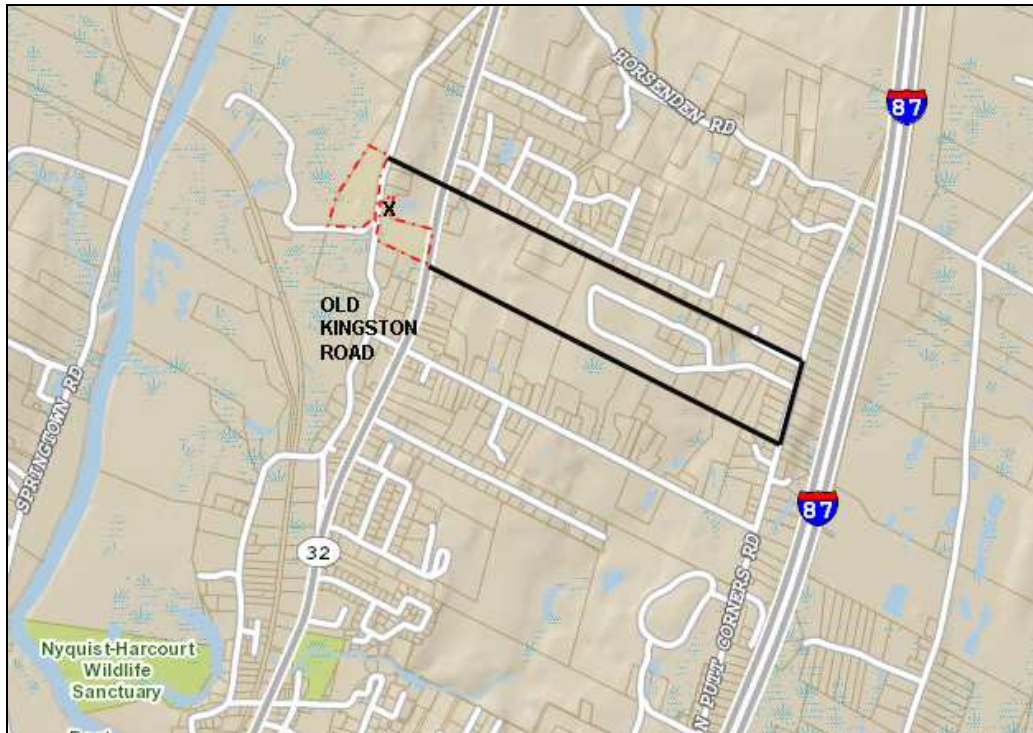
HOUSE BUILT BY JOSIAH ELTING—THE OLDEST BRICK HOUSE IN THE TOWN

From Lefever. *History of New Paltz* (1903), 495.

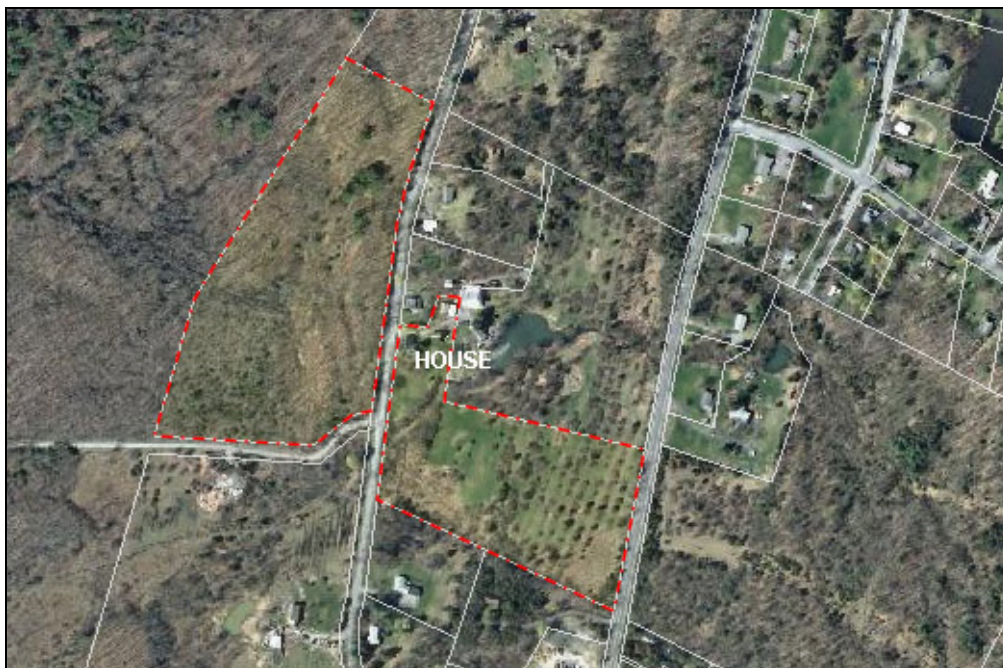


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## 6. MAPS:



Parcel map with outline of Lot No. 10, Southern Division, First Tier, conveyed to heirs of Josiah Elting in 1760. The location of the Josiah Elting House is marked with an X at the extreme western edge of this lot (see maps below)



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Aerial view of Josiah Eltinge Farm, detail.

**7. PHOTOS:**



View of the house on the east side of Old Kingston Road, from the northwest.



View of carriage barn northeast of the house, from the west.



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View from SW (2014)