

History Department Update  
Dec. 10th, 2024

- Dave Bathrick Masonry submitted the bill for the chimney work completed during the week of 10/14-10/18. Will submit the expenditure according to the Town procurement policy if it hasn't already been done by the Highway Superintendent.
- Upcoming grants: Tom will submit inquiry letters to the Hudson River Bank and Trust Foundation, Summerhill Foundation, and the J.M. Kaplan Fund for assistance with replacing the roof at the Parsonage and other maintenance projects. The Bank of Greene County's grant cycle is open. Will ask for cemetery cleaning supplies. Americana Corner is due on Dec. 15th.
- Cemetery cleaning is complete for the season. 55 gallons of D-2 Biological Solution was sprayed onto gravestones in the oldest part of the Second Reformed Cemetery over the summer and fall. Nearly all of the older gravestones from the second Reformed church site all the way back to the Persons and Robinson family graves have been treated.
- GCS will host a celebration of the school's centennial on the 100th day of this school year, Feb. 13th, 2025. Alumni are invited to partake.
- Tom and Yvonne will meet with Anna Duhon of the Hawthorne Valley Association on Dec. 10th to discuss possible educational programming at the Parsonage in the summer of 2025.
- Christopher Nolan visited the Parsonage in November to discuss the ongoing collaboration between the towns of Clermont, Germantown, and Livingston on a project highlighting Mohican history and artifacts.
- Tom, Rich, and Alvin held court at the Hudson Area Library History Room on Saturday morning, Dec. 7th, to give the Germantown Garden Club free reign at the Parsonage for their holiday market.
- Tom submitted a very brief history of river access in Germantown for potential inclusion in the LWRP Inventory and Analysis section. It contains easy-to-access citations for the Livingston and Hunter deeds, Sharp and Hagedorn's 1724 petition, Burnet's 1724 decree, the Wigram map, and the various Beers atlas maps.

- Recent donations: several family photographs of Clyde H. DeWitt, given by his grandchildren, Craig Rowland and Linda Elliot. They got in touch after seeing [this article](#) in the Columbia Paper about the Germantown National Bank failure. Brenda Shufelt shared digitized images from a recent donation to the Hudson Area Library of WWI-era Farmerettes who worked on farms in Germantown.
- The NAGPRA process is complete but for arranging and completing the actual repatriation with Stockbridge-Munsee representatives.
- The Sacramento German Genealogy Society recently donated 4 boxes of German genealogy books to Palatines to America and the Germantown Library to add to the Henry Z Jones Jr. Collection.
- Mendes Wood DM produced a number of postcards and totebags based on Walt Miller's drawings (described under events) for sale. All proceeds will go to Friends of Historic Germantown.
- Events:
  - Dec. 14th, 3 PM, Walt Miller's Historical Imagination. Fifteen of Walt's drawings on display and the context behind them, leading into Winter Glow. Mendes Wood DM gallery, 10 Church Ave.
  - Jan. 6th, Program on Zoom and possibly hybrid at the Claverack Library to highlight projects funded by the Pomeroy Foundation in Columbia County. Tom, Gregg Berninger, Edgar Masters, Virginia Martin, possibly Tom Moreland, and more.
  - Jan. 24th, a public get together of the Columbia County Historians to mark the 250th anniversary of the first documented Albany County Committee of Correspondence Meeting. Details coming soon.
  - Winter Zoom history talks at the Germantown Library, TBD.
  - Talks for the Friends of Clermont and Hendrick Hudson DAR in the springtime. TBD.