

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL SURVEY OF HISTORIC SITES AND BUILDINGS

1. STATE New York	2. THEME(S). IF ARCHEOLOGICAL SITE, WRITE "ARCH" BEFORE THEME NO. Th. VII, Dutch and Swedish Exploration and Settlement
3. NAME(S) OF SITE Hurley (Historic District)	4. APPROX. ACREAGE
5. EXACT LOCATION (County, township, roads, etc. If difficult to find, sketch on Supplementary Sheet) U. S. Route 209, three miles west of Kingston and New York Thruway	
6. NAME AND ADDRESS OF PRESENT OWNER (Also administrator if different from owner) Privately-owned Houses, Mayor of the City of Hurley, Hurley, New York <i>Mr. Raymond Croswell, Town Clerk, Russell Rd., Hurley, N.Y.</i>	
7. IMPORTANCE AND DESCRIPTION (Describe briefly what makes site important and what remains are extant)	

Old Hurley is Dutch in everything but name, and that was Dutch for the first few years of its history when it was Nieuw Dorp, that is, New Village. With characteristically Dutch conservatism, Old Hurley has slumbered on through its nearly three centuries of existence; tucked away, as it were, in a backwater past which the swirling eddies of modern progress have raced heedless of its presence, it has preserved a refreshing savour of the days and ways of the New Netherland of Peter Stuyvesant.**

Preserved in this little town, lying between the Hudson River and the Catskills, is a collection of stone houses which, despite the usual alterations wrought by the years, still preserves the Dutch heritage of the region to an unusual degree. Ten of these solid dwellings, many still occupied by descendants of early Dutch settlers, extend along Hurley Street, the town's principal thoroughfare. Scattered nearby are other survivors of two centuries and more. A few of these have characteristics more English than Dutch, attesting to the changes in settlement after the fall of New Netherland; changes which occurred despite the stubborn, if non-violent, resistance of the original settlers to the English and their alien ways.

Features and Condition

The principal concentration of Dutch stone houses extends along Hurley's main street (U. S. Route 209). However, the outlying 18th century houses should be included in the suggested historic district outlined on the map. All of the most interesting houses are contiguous in the sense that all but one lie along two historic roads--Hurley Street

*Harold D. Eberlein and Cortlandt Van Dyke Hubbard, Historic Houses of the Hudson Valley (New York, 1942), 170

8. BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES (Give best sources; give location of manuscripts and rare works)
Harold D. Eberlein and Cortlandt Van Dyke Hubbard, Historic Houses of the Hudson Valley (New York, 1942); The Hurley Historian, periodical, Vol. I, Nos. I - X, February to November-December, 1959, inclusive, published by Hurley-Hudson-Champlain Festival Committee; Helen W. Reynolds, Dutch Houses in the Hudson Valley Before 1776 (New York, 1929); Augustus H. Van Buren, A History of Ulster County Under the Dominion of the Dutch (Kingston, N. Y., 1923)

9. REPORTS AND STUDIES (Mention best reports and studies by NPS staff, IMBS, etc.)			
10. PHOTOGRAPHS* ATTACHED: YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>	11. CONDITION Various	12. PRESENT USE (Museum, farm, etc.) Town	13. DATE OF VISIT 3/30/61
14. NAME OF RECORDER (Signature) Charles E. Shedd, Jr.	15. TITLE Historic Sites Historian		16. DATE 9/13/61

* DRY MOUNT ON AN 8 X 10 1/2 SHEET OF FAIRLY HEAVY PAPER. IDENTIFY BY VIEW AND NAME OF THE SITE, DATE OF PHOTOGRAPH, AND NAME OF PHOTOGRAPHER. GIVE LOCATION OF NEGATIVE. IF ATTACHED, ENCLOSE IN PROPER NEGATIVE ENVELOPES.

(IF ADDITIONAL SPACE IS NEEDED USE SUPPLEMENTARY SHEET, 10-317a, AND REFER TO ITEM NUMBER)

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SUPPLEMENTARY SHEET

This sheet is to be used for giving additional information or comments, for more space for any item on the regular form, and for recording pertinent data from future studies, visitations, etc. Be brief, but use as many Supplement Sheets as necessary. When items are continued they should be listed, if possible, in numerical order of the items. All information given should be headed by the item number, its name, and the word (cont'd), as, 6. Description and Importance (cont'd) . . .

STATE	NAME(S) OF SITE
New York	Hurley (Historic District)

7. Features and Condition

and the Hurley Mountain Road, west of Esopus Creek. The single exception is the Hardenbergh House, birthplace of the Negro evangelist Sojourner Truth. This residence is a short distance south of Hurley Street, on Schoonmaker Lane at the Millbrook, as shown. The house, dating from 1750, is easily accessible from Hurley Street and should be recognized in designating the historic district. The dates shown on the map should be used with caution, as study of the houses is still going on in an effort to authenticate their dates of construction. However, the dates probably are within a few years of actual construction. In the case of the historic district, the exact dates, while desirable, are not essential to recognition of the town's significance in preserving the Dutch heritage. The old cemetery north of Hurley Street is the resting place of many of Hurley's earliest settlers, as revealed by the Dutch names on the worn grave stones.

Not only Hurley's houses, but the fertile flood lands of Esopus Creek, west of the town, recreate the story of the early settlers, showing why they chose this spot for their "New Village."