



3. **DESCRIPTION:**

The Joachim Schoonmaker Farm originated as a component of a larger land grant devised to Schoonmaker family soon after the Town of Rochester was incorporated. Joakim Schoonmaker (1710-1789) was the second generation to establish a farm on the grant; his father's homestead is believed to be west of this farm near the Accord Cemetery. The eighth and ninth generations of the family continue to operate the farm. The property is situated on a fertile flood plain on the south side of the Rondout Creek at the eastern end of the large Schoonmaker tract that once extended from here west to Accord on both sides of the Rondout. Today it incorporates farm land east of the farmstead once a part of another large tract granted to Moses Depuy when the Town of Rochester formed in 1703. The division line between these two parcels ran roughly along Garden Lane. The cultivated landscape remains open and functional stretching east and south from the farmstead. The existing stone and brick house on the farm was built in 1787, two years before Joakim died and a decade or more after his son Jacobus Schoonmaker (1740-1820) had become the farm's proprietor. The precise location and appearance of the original house has not been determined. The stone house and farm buildings of the neighboring farmstead, known as the Depuy-Davenport Farm, are visible to the west; the agricultural lands once associated with it are now part of the Schoonmaker farm. Likewise peripheral lands along the oxbows of the Rondout are still under cultivation by the Schoonmakers, Davenports and others.

The building compound is concentrated at the northern terminus of Garden Lane, which once was a public road that bridged the canal and forded the Rondout to connect with the Kingston Road (Rt. 209) near its intersection with Lucas Turnpike. As noted, this road represents the division line between early Schoonmaker and Depuy land grants. The house is on the west side of the lane, and the barn is on the south side; both are later replacements of original buildings. The two-story brick-fronted stone house was constructed in 1787 and is one of a group of about a dozen large masonry houses built by major land owners in the town during the last half of the 18<sup>th</sup> century. Most were located on the bottom lands of the valley where the largest and most productive wheat farms were located. Their imposing scale and luxury of interior space reflect the wealth and status of these commercial enterprises and the families that owned them. Such large farms required more labor than a single family could provide; all of them functioned with numerous slaves (most slave-owning families had no more than one slave). In 1790 Jacobus Schoonmaker owned five slaves.

The house appears to have been built in a single building campaign, although further investigation may reveal evidence of an earlier dwelling within it. The two-story scale associates it with elite architecture of the period and shows that the Schoonmakers were identifying themselves with a higher class of plantation owners and merchants within the regional wheat trade. Brick was a more expensive material than stone and its use on the front façade of the stone house would have been a conspicuous elite feature in the neighborhood. Only a few other stone houses in the Rondout and Wallkill valleys were designed in this distinctive manner, in particular the Dewitt Hasbrouck (Gazlay) House at the intersection of Route 209 and Boice Mill Road, the Joseph Hasbrouck House in Guilford, which burned around 1850, and the Ezekiel Elting House on Huguenot Street in New Paltz. Two wood frame wings were added to the rear (west side) of the Schoonmaker house at later dates.

A stone smoke house is located behind the house along with a wagon house, granary and ice house, which were moved there more recently from the opposite side of Garden Lane where the barn is sited. The original Dutch barn was replaced with a larger dairy barn around 1875; utilizing sawn members typical of its period, this long, aisled building was still framed in a method evincing the local Dutch tradition. The Dutch barn was designed for the drying and processing of wheat, the principal cash crop of farms in the Hudson Valley region during the 18<sup>th</sup> century. After the Revolutionary War, due to wheat blights and price competition from more fertile areas west of the Catskills, the local agricultural economy shifted to dairy farming, with butter as the main product. No longer engaged in the international wheat trade of the Colonial period, farmers provided fresh foodstuffs to meet demand in the fast-growing city to the south. The new barn was large to accommodate increasing amounts of hay being grown on farms for animal feed and bedding and for export to stables in the cities. The unusual size of the barn may relate to the proximity of the canal and the boarding of tow mules. A stable is located in the southeast corner; a silo once abutted the west wall. Around 1915 a new cow barn was added to the west side

of the building; both have more recently been altered in their use for market garden functions. A wood frame milk house and a concrete block milk tank room (now a cooler) remain from the dairy operation. In its existing condition, the building evinces many stages in the functional and architectural evolution of dairy barns in the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries.

Additional buildings represent other farm functions. A 19<sup>th</sup>-century wagon house is located on the west side of the road, having been moved there along with a granary and an ice house. Two poultry houses frame a small yard on the south side of the barn. Newer buildings, including a complex of arched greenhouses covered with polyethylene, have been gradually added to the site as the farm's market production has increased.

The earliest farm statistics are found in the 1850 U.S. Census. At that time the farm contained 60 improved acres and 40 unimproved acres, substantially fewer than those that constitute the property today. In that year, the farm covered an area mostly west of Garden Lane, and it was largely involved with animal husbandry. It supported four horses, six oxen, seven milk cows, four other cattle, fifteen sheep and 29 swine, all of which were pastured. The number of oxen is unusual suggesting that they were raised for sale. The many swine indicate that they were raised for sale, either on the hoof or slaughtered and cured. Fields were planted with rye, buckwheat and corn, all of which largely went to animal feed. The absence of oats in the listing is probably an error, for nearly all farms grew oats and the number of animals on the farm would have required it. Some of the 20 tons of hay produced on the farm may have been shipped on the canal to city stables or fed to tow mules. In addition, Irish potatoes were grown for human and animal consumption. Butter and wool were market products. The 600 pounds of butter churned on the farm was an exceptional amount, and the waste products would have been fed to the swine. Animals were slaughtered for meat, some for home consumption and some for sale. Poultry and orchard products were not recorded in 1850, but they would have made an important contribution to the farm's income. Production statistics remained consistent to the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, which was well above the mean for farm activity town-wide.

The Joachim Schoonmaker Farm is now the central facility of a far-reaching market farming enterprise now known commercially as Saunderskill Farm, that uses fields in numerous remote locations in the Rondout Valley. Produce is prepared and packaged for market in the barn and shipped by truck to stores and farm markets in the region, including one operated as the Saunderskill Farm Market on Rt. 209 in Accord. Fields in the flood plain north and east of the farm continue to be cultivated every year. The historic stone and brick house, barns and outbuildings remain in service and link the current agricultural operation to its origins in the 18<sup>th</sup> century. Because of this rare continuity, the farm was designated a Century Farm—meaning a farm in continuous family ownership for 300 years—by the New York Agricultural Society.

Farm Features (a description of historic features follows; numbers relate to site plan at end of form)

1. Stone house, built 1787
2. Stone smoke house, c. 1787
3. Wagon house, c. 1870 (moved)
4. a. Wood frame smoke house, c. 1870 (moved)  
b. Granary, c. 1870 (moved)
5. Barn, c. 1870 & 1929
6. Power house, c.1900
7. Poultry house I, c. 1900
8. Poultry house II, c. 1900
9. Fuel shed, c. 2000
10. Truck garage, c. 1980
11. Delaware & Hudson Canal, 1828
12. Greenhouses (16), c. 1980 –
13. House & garage, c. 1925
14. Tenant house, c. 1860

15. Shed & silos
16. Mobile home
17. Farm worker housing (3), c. 1990
18. House, 1988

1. Stone House. The two-story brick-fronted stone house was built in 1787 for Joachim Schoonmaker's son, Jacobus. It was completed two years before the father died. The scale and materials of the house established it and the farm as one of the best in the town (there were around a dozen two-story stone houses in Rochester in this period). The house had two rooms and a passage on each floor, all heated by fireplaces; the original kitchen probably was in the basement, which is exposed at grade on the north end. A number of alterations have occurred on the exterior including the enlargement, brick-framing and replacement of end windows, the removal and replacement of the original front porch, and the addition of two wood frame wings on the rear (west) façade.
2. Stone Smoke House. A stone building of domestic scale located in its original location behind the house. It dates to the time of the existing house or, perhaps, its predecessor. Smoke houses were common features of early farms where pork was cured for long-term preservation. (Swine were easily raised on dairy farms as they could be fattened with the refuse from butter-making.)
3. Wagon House. A story-and-a-half wood frame building with a wagon door in the gable end with a large door above for loading hay and feed above. Built in the late 19<sup>th</sup>-century, it was moved to its current location.
- 4a. Wood-Frame Smoke House. A one-story wood frame building with a ventilator in the roof. A hanging track door on the front façade has been replaced and windows added to other walls as the use has changed. This larger building was used for preserving greater amounts of meat for sale. Built in the late 19<sup>th</sup>-century, it was moved to its current location.
- 4b. Granary. A one-story wood frame building elevated above the ground on wood posts for the original function of storing grain and corn. A porch or roofed loading platform has been added to the front. Built in the late 19<sup>th</sup>-century, it was moved to its current location.
5. Barn. The oldest section of the wood frame building was built c. 1870. It was framed as an aisle barn with eight bents constructed of sawn timbers. Its similarities to the traditional framing of the Dutch barn it likely replaced is noteworthy. It originated as a mixed-use animal barn with horse stalls in the south end and a huge hay mow under the roof. The size of the barn suggests that it incorporated functions related to the supply of feed, hay and mule boarding for the Delaware and Hudson Canal. In response to modern improvements to dairy production in the 20<sup>th</sup> century, a gambrel-roof addition was built round 1929 with 52 cow stanchions at ground level and a hay mow above. Both barns have been adapted for the storage and packaging of market garden produce.
6. Power House, c. 1900. The fireproof stuccoed section of the one-story building contained a gasoline-powered generator. It was later expanded with a wood frame addition.
- 7&8. Poultry Houses. Two long wood frame buildings with shed roofs and multiple doors. The front of one of them has been altered with infill of original doors and the addition of a vehicle door for the use of storing farm equipment.
11. Delaware & Hudson Canal, 1828. A long section of the canal traverses the property as it bends to cut across the oxbow of the Rondout. The ditch and towpath are relatively intact, although drained of water.

13. A two-story wood frame house built for a family member in 1929 is located south of the farm compound in the midst of an orchard.
14. A story-and-a-half wood frame tenant house is located at the entry to Garden Lane from the main road (Tow Path Road). It did not originate with an association with the Schoonmaker farm.

#### Chain of Ownership

1. Joachim & Lydia Schoonmaker, married 1730
2. Jacobus & Annatje Schoonmaker, built existing stone house in 1787
3. Joachim & Elizabeth Schoonmaker, inherited farm in 1820
4. John D. & Martha Schoonmaker, head of household by 1840
5. Joachim & Louise Schoonmaker, Louise proprietor after Joachim's death in 1879
6. Daniel E. & Minnie Schoonmaker, owned farm by 1920
7. John L. & Helen Schoonmaker, owned farm by 1930
8. John L., Jr. & Alice Schoonmaker, current owners

#### 4. SIGNIFICANCE:

The Joachim Schoonmaker Farm is historically and architecturally significant as a distinctive example of an early-18<sup>th</sup>-century farmstead that has evolved over a 300-year period. The farm originated as part of a large land grant conveyed by the Town of Rochester to Kingston resident Jochem Hendrickz Schoonmaker (c.1665 – c.1730), who is recorded as living in the area in 1703. (His homestead is believed to have been west of this property, near the Accord Cemetery.) Once his heirs began to spread out within the large holding, this farm was established as the approximately 100-acre homestead of his son and namesake Joachim Schoonmaker (1710-1789). The existing two-story stone house on the farm was built by a grandson, Jacobus Schoonmaker (1740-1820) in 1787, two years before his father died. With the possible exception of a stone smoke house, it is the oldest building now on the property. The location and appearance of Joachim Schoonmaker's house is not known. The eighth and ninth generations of the family continue to occupy and operate the farm.

By 1850 the farm comprised 100 acres situated in one of the most fertile areas in the Rondout Valley: a expansive flood plain through which the Rondout Creek wound in a tight series of bends. Under the proprietorship of John D. Schoonmaker (c.1810-1870) and his wife, Martha Markle, in the fourth generation, the farm was valued at \$6000, which ranked it in the upper 12% of farms town-wide. By this time the agricultural economy was based in dairy production, with butter being the principal market product. This production level and property value remained consistent to the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. By this time, the farm had begun to make the shift from dairy production, which was in economic decline, to market gardens, supplying local villages and summer resorts with fresh produce. This transition set the stage for the prosperous market business the farm supports today. The Joachim Schoonmaker farm, known commercially as Saunderskill Farm, now encompasses over 300 acres and owns and rents additional farm land in the valley.

The following chronology provides a more precise account of the property's history.

#### CHRONOLOGY

- |      |  |
|------|--|
| 1730 | Joachim Schoonmaker married Lydia Rosenkrans and established an independent farm north of his family's homestead on the south side of the Rondout Creek. |
|------|--|

*Joachim Schoonmaker (1710-1789) was one of the youngest sons of Jochem Hendrickz Schoonmaker (c. 1655 – c. 1730) who was one of the trustees of the Town of Rochester when it was organized in 1703. His grandfather, Hendrick Jochemsz (or Jochemsen), had arrived in Albany from Hamburg, Germany by 1653, which was the year he married Elsie Janse. He was an innkeeper there, but soon moved his family to Wiltwyck (Kingston) where he became a prominent figure and officer in the local militia.*

*Family lore states that his young son, Jochem Hendrickz, was captured by the Indians during the Wiltwyck Massacre in 1663 and was tortured and disfigured by them. In 1679 Jochem Hendrickz married Petronella Slecht, daughter of Cornelius Barentsen Slecht and Tryntje Tysen Bos. Slecht also was an officer in the citizens' militia and was a close associate (and probably good friend) of Hendrick Jochemsz, who died in 1683.*

*Jochem Hendrickz and Petronella Slecht moved to Mombaccus soon after their marriage and established a homestead there. At least one account (Schoonmaker Genealogy) speculates that this homestead may have been located at Appeldoorn Farm, where his son Benjamin lived on the north side of the Rondout, but it is more likely that it was on the south side of the Rondout near the family cemetery outside Accord. Petronella died within ten years, having given birth to five children, and Jochem Hendrickz married for a second time in 1689 to Antje Hussey (1670-1752) daughter of Frederick Hussey and Margaret Bos of Marbletown. Together Jochem Hendrickz and Antje Hussey begat 11 more children. Their tenth child was named Joachim, and he would later establish a farm north his father's farm on a broad and fertile flood plain. This property is still owned and farmed by his descendants.*

Joachim Schoonmaker (1710-1789)

m. (1730) Lydia Rosenkrans (1713-1778), dau. Dirck R. Rosenkrans & Wyntje Kierstede of Rochester

CHILDREN:

Wyntje, b. 1733, m. Thomas Schoonmaker

Antje, b. 1733, m. Ephraim Depuy

Lena, b. 1735, m. John Wansa Jr.

Daniel, b. 1736, m. Majke Slecht

Martinus, b. 1737, m. Mary Bassett; he was dominie in Gravesend, Harlem, Flatbush

Elizabeth, b. 1738, m. Frederick Schoonmaker

John, b. ?, m. Annatje Wood

Jacobus, b. 1740, m. Annatje Sleght

Catherine, b. ?

1787 The existing stone house was built. By this time, Jacobus Schoonmaker (1740-1820) would have been the proprietor of the farm, although his father would live for another two years.

*The substantial two-story house represented the farm's and family's status in the town. There were about a dozen two-story houses built in Rochester during the 18<sup>th</sup> century, each distinguishing a prominent farm. The brick façade on the Schoonmaker's house was a novel and modern feature of stone house architecture in 1787.*

1789 Joachim Schoonmaker died 14 January 1789 at age 79 years of age. His wife, Lydia, predeceased him eleven years earlier, and his youngest son, Jacobus, inherited the farm.

Jacobus Schoonmaker (1740-1820)  
m. (1772) Annatje Sleght, dau. Hendricus Sleght & Rachel Jansen  
CHILDREN:  
Joachim, b. 1774  
Abram, b. 1776  
Ann E.

*The Schoonmaker family genealogy provides few details for this generation.*

1790 U.S. Census, New York, Ulster County, Town of Rochester

Jacobus Schoonmaker  
2 free white males 16 years of age and over [Jacobus & son Joachim]  
3 free white females [wife Annatje, daughter Ann & unknown female]  
5 slaves

*This enumeration suggests that Joachim and Annatje's son, Abram (recorded in the Schoonmaker Genealogy) had died by the time the census was taken in 1790. It also documents the Schoonmakers as slave owners indicating both their personal wealth and the productivity of their farm. It was common in the 18<sup>th</sup> century for farmers above the subsistence level to own at least one slave; however, owning five or more indicates the Schoonmakers were engaged in the commercial production of wheat. The farm's location on a fertile flood plain was another prerequisite of a large-scale wheat-growing enterprise. Jacobus likely inherited his slaves from his father (his brother Daniel is recorded with no slaves).*

1800 U.S. Census, New York, Ulster County, Town of Rochester

Jacobus Schoonmaker  
1 free white male under 10 years of age  
1 free white male 10 to 15 years  
1 free white male 45 years and over [Jacobus]  
1 free white female 26 to 44 years  
1 free white female 45 years and over [wife Annatje]  
4 slaves

*Although the only census entry for Jacobus Schoonmaker, the enumeration of household members does not correspond with the family genealogy.*

1810 U.S. Census, New York, Ulster County, Town of Rochester

Jacobus Schoonmaker  
1 free white male 45 years and over  
3 free white females 45 years and over  
1 other free person  
6 slaves

*This entry does not account for Jacobus's son Joachim who was married with a number of children; no independent listing has been found with Joachim Schoonmaker as a head of household.*

1820 Jacobus Schoonmaker died and his son Joachim inherited the farm.

*By this time Joachim Schoonmaker had been married to Elizabeth Depuy for 17 years and had assumed responsibility for the farm. No census entry was found for either man that could be clearly identified as pertaining to his household.*

Joachim Schoonmaker (1774-1853)  
m. (1793) Elizabeth Depuy (1776-1844)

CHILDREN:

James, b. 1795, m. Maria Everly, served in War of 1812, —moved west”  
Jan Depuy (1799-1870), m. Martha Markle [birth date more like c. 1810]  
Helen Wanshaw (1802-1853), m. Abraham Van Horn Brodhead  
Sarah (1804-1838), m. George Clinton Schoonmaker  
Maria, b. 1807, m. Ralph Westervelt Depuy  
Blandina, b1808, m. Albert DeWitt, hotel prop. Accord, postmaster, town supervisor  
Moses T. (1811-1891), m. Phebe Decker  
Nicholas (1813-1894), m. Charity Schoonmaker  
Catherine D. (1816-1895), m. Nelson Deyo  
Rachel (1814-1882), m. Daniel R. Elting, res. Ellenville  
Sarah E. (1811-1864), m. Stephen Goetschius DuBois, res. New Paltz

1830 U.S. Census, New York, Ulster County, Town of Rochester

Jacobus Schoonmaker  
1 free white male age 10 to 14 years  
1 free white male age 15 to 19 years  
1 free white male age 20 to 29 years [son Jan?]  
1 free white male age 50 to 59 years [Joachim]  
2 free white females age 10 to 14 years  
1 free white female age 50 to 59 years [wife Elizabeth]  
1 free white female age 80 to 89 years [mother Annatje?]

*This entry may represent Joachim Schoonmaker's household in 1830, since no listing with the name Joachim could be found.*

1840 U.S. Census, New York, Ulster County, Town of Rochester

Joachim Schoonmaker  
1 free white male age 15 to 19  
1 free white male age 20 to 29  
1 free white male age 60 to 69 [Joachim]  
1 free white female age 15 to 19  
1 free white female age 20 to 29  
1 free white female age 60 to 69 [wife Elizabeth]  
2 persons employed in agriculture  
1 person employed in navigation of canals, lakes, rivers

John D. Schoonmaker  
4 free white males 10 to 14 years  
1 free white males 30 to 39 years  
1 free white male 50 to 59 years  
1 free white female 5-9 years  
1 free white female 15 to 19  
5 persons employed in agriculture  
1 person employed in navigation of canals, lakes, rivers

*Census records for 1840 also are inconclusive. There are entries for Joachim Schoonmaker and John D. Schoonmaker, but the compositions of their households do not clearly correlate with that presented in their genealogies. If these identifications are accurate, they bring the genealogies into question. It is interesting to note that both households included persons employed on the Delaware & Hudson Canal, completed in 1828, which was routed through the farm and just north of the house.*

Jan Depuy Schoonmaker (c.1810-1870)  
m. (1840) Martha Markle, Marbletown RDC  
CHILDREN:  
Ellen T., b. 1841, m. Emzy Hornbeck  
Mary E., b. 1844, m. John Vernoooy  
Joakim H. (1846-1879), m. Louise Krom  
Hilah C. (1850-1888), m. Albert Myers

1850 U.S. Census, New York, Ulster County, Town of Rochester

John D. Schoonmaker, 35, farmer, \$8,000 [real estate]  
Martha Schoonmaker, 30,  
Ellen Schoonmaker, 8  
Mary E Schoonmaker, 6  
Joachim Schoonmaker, 4  
[Hilah] Schoonmaker, 7/12

Agricultural Production  
60 improved acres  
40 unimproved acres  
\$6,000 cash value of farm  
\$150 value of farming implements & machinery  
4 horses  
7 milch cows  
6 working oxen  
4 other cattle  
15 sheep  
29 swine  
\$740 value of livestock  
200 bushels of rye  
300 bushels of Indian corn  
0 bushels of oats  
35 pounds of wool  
2 bushels peas & beans  
120 bushels of Irish potatoes

80 bushels of buckwheat  
600 pounds of butter  
20 tons of hay  
\$135 value of animals slaughtered

*The household of John D. Schoonmaker is more precisely described in the 1850 census. His father, Joakim, was boarding with the family of farmer of Joseph W. and Charity Davis. Charity Davis was the widow of Joakim's son Nicholas; she also was a Schoonmaker.*

*At \$6,000, this farm was in a better class of property among the 240 recorded in the town. Those of lowest value—assessed in the hundreds of dollars—were relatively few in number, and they probably mostly were for subsistence of people whose occupations were other than farmers. Only 29 farms were valued at \$6,000 or greater. Ten farms were valued at \$10,000 or more, with the highest assessment being \$20,000 for Wessel B. Westbrook's 1,700-acre farm. Thus John D. Schoonmaker's farm was moderate in size (100 acres) and above average in production when compared to others in the town. The \$8,000 of real property assigned to John D. Schoonmaker in the population schedule evidently takes the stone house into account; he also may have owned other property not considered part of the farm. These values would have been volunteered by the householder, so their accuracy was subjective with informants over- or under-estimating value to reflect whatever image they wished to project.*

1853 Joachim Schoonmaker died.

1858 Map of Ulster County: "J.D. Schoonmaker"

1860 U.S. Census, New York, Ulster County, Town of Rochester

John D Schoonmaker, 50, farmer, [real and personal estate values illegible]  
Martha Schoonmaker, 35  
Ellen Schoonmaker, 18  
Mary E Schoonmaker, 16  
Joachim Schoonmaker, 14  
Hila C Schoonmaker, 10  
John Crawford, 27, farm laborer

Agricultural Production

80 improved acres  
20 unimproved acres  
\$10,000 cash value of farm  
\$400 value of farming implements & machinery  
11 horses  
10 milch cows  
4 working oxen  
8 other cattle  
0 sheep  
6 swine  
\$1,200 value of livestock  
500 bushels of rye  
300 bushels of Indian corn

700 bushels of oats  
300 bushels of Irish potatoes  
720 pounds of butter  
100 tons of hay  
100 pounds of honey  
\$300 value of animals slaughtered

*In the ten years since the last enumeration, the value of the farm increased to \$10,000. There were 11 horses and four oxen recorded indicating that John D. Schoonmaker was raising them for sale (he had six oxen in 1850). Ten milk cows was double or more the typical number on local farms as was the 720 pounds of butter they produced. Crop production also was well above the norm, probably reflecting the fertility of the rich land at the bottom of the valley when compared to upland farms. The Schoonmakers boarded a young farm laborer and could have hired any number of farm laborers residing nearby.*

*With 100 pounds of hay reported, much of it would have been shipped east and west on the canal for liveries in ports along the route, as well as feed the tow mules passing through the farm.*

1870 U.S. Census, New York, Ulster County, Town of Rochester

Schoonmaker Joachim, 23, farmer, \$8,000 [real], \$1,000 [personal]  
Louise, 21, house wife  
Daniel, 1, at home  
John D, 70, farmer  
Martha, 50, house wife  
Hila C, 19, at home  
Barley Peter, 30, laborer

Barnheart Elias, 37, laborer  
Sarah, 34, house wife  
Sarah C, 12, at home  
Mary A, 10, at home  
Clara, 7, at home  
Phoebea, 5, at home  
John 2, at home

Agricultural Production

130 improved acres  
0 unimproved acres  
\$6,000 cash value of farm  
\$700 value of farming implements & machinery  
\$300 total wages paid  
2 horses  
6 milch cows  
2 working oxen  
3 other cattle  
0 sheep  
9 swine  
\$700 value of livestock  
100 bushels winter wheat

50	bushels of rye
200	bushels of Indian corn
300	bushels of oats
10	bushels of buckwheat
60	bushels of Irish potatoes
600	pounds of butter
25	tons of hay
\$100	value of animals slaughtered
\$950	total value of farm production

*The size of the farm increased by 30 acres by 1870, even though its overall value had decreased to \$6,000. At this value, the farm was among the top 60 (16%) of the 374 farms recorded in the town. It was one of 16 farms assessed at \$6,000, and there were 44 farms ranked at higher values. Two farms were assessed at the highest value of \$20,000: Daniel Rider and John B. Vanleuven. Livestock numbers and crop production were both down on the Schoonmaker farm compared to ten years earlier.*

Joakim H. Schoonmaker (1846-1879)

m. Louise Krom(1848-1923), dau John L. Krom & Rebecca Caverly, Rochester

CHILDREN:

Daniel E., b. 1868, m. Minnie Krom

Alton B., b. 1876, m. Ray Schoonmaker

1875 Atlas of Ulster County

—J. Schoonmaker”

1880 U.S. Census, New York, Ulster County, Town of Rochester

Schoonmaker Louisa, 32, conducts farm

Daniel, 11, son

Alton D, 4, son

Markle Joseph, 65, servant, laborer

Agricultural Production

65 improved acres

10 acres woodland & forest

\$6,000 cash value of farm

\$300 value of farming implements & machinery

\$340 value of livestock

\$25 cost of fertilizers

\$150 amount paid in wages for farm labor

25 weeks hired labor was on farm

\$2,000 value of all farm production

25 acres grass lands mown

8 acres grass lands not mown

40 tons hay

2 horses

3 milch cows

0 other cattle

3	calves dropped
7	cattle purchased
7	cattle sold living
1	cattle slaughtered
300	pounds butter
7	sheep
4	lambs dropped
6	sheep sold living
3	fleeces shorn
12	pounds wool
6	swine
40	poultry on hand
400	eggs produced
8	acres planted in Indian corn
300	bushels of Indian corn
4	acres planted in oats
120	bushels of oats
7	acres planted wheat
70	bushels of wheat
1	acre planted in broom corn
725	pounds of broom corn
2	acres planted in Irish potatoes
300	bushels of Irish potatoes
70	apple trees
150	bushels apples
9	peach trees
30	bushels peaches
\$75	orchard products
\$500	value of market garden produce sold

*The value of the farm remained constant after Joakim Schoonmaker's widow and children took over the farm. Butter production was cut in half, but balanced by an increase in poultry, eggs, orchard products and market garden produce, which signifies the transition made by this and other farms to supplying fresh foods to Catskill tourist homes and neighboring villages and cities via the canal.*

1900 U.S. Census, New York, Ulster County, Town of Rochester

Schoonmaker Louisa, 52, widow, 2 of 2 children living, truck farmer, owns  
Daniel, 31, son, farm laborer

Rose Nancy, 50, servant

Relyea Fany, 17, servant

Tappan John, 35, farm laborer

Knapp Joseph, 35, head, farm laborer, rents

Daniel E. Schoonmaker (1868-1923)

m. (1900) Minnie Krom (1874-1952), dau. Capt. John Krom & Elizabeth LeFevre

CHILDREN:

John Ludington (1902-1986)

Marion Elizabeth, b. 1903, m. Augustus Lawton Sahler, res. Accord  
Anna D., b. 1907, m. Charles Jerome Flack, res. Horseheads NY

1910 U.S. Census, New York, Ulster County, Town of Rochester

Schoonmaker Daniel E, 40, head, married 9 years, general farming, rents  
Minnie K, 35, wife, 3 of 3 children living, none  
John L, 8, son, none  
Marianne E, 6, daughter, none  
Anna D, 2, daughter, none  
Rose Nancy, 62, servant, housework  
Lustberg Fred, 28, hired man, farm labor, b. Russia

Schoonmaker Louise, 62, head, widow, none, owns

1920 U.S. Census, New York, Ulster County, Town of Rochester

Schoonmaker Daniel E, 50, head, general farming, owns  
Minnie K, 45, wife, none  
John L, 18, son, student, high school  
Marion E, 15, daughter, student, high school  
Anna D, 12, daughter, student, high school  
Louise, 70, mother, widow, none  
Roosa Nancy, 70, servant, housework  
Sahler Augustus, 23, farm laborer

1923 Deed, 8 Feb 1923, 494:474

Louise Schoonmaker to Daniel Schoonmaker

All that certain piece or parcel of land situate in the Town of Rochester... being the homestead farm of John D. Schoonmaker, deceased, on the south side of the Rondout Kill... containing 131 acres; also rock lots 7 & 8 situate in Great Lot No. 1 of Groton [sic] Transport in the Shawangunk Mountains; also Great Lot No. 5 on Groton Transport

1930 U.S. Census, New York, Ulster County, Town of Rochester

Schoonmaker J L, 28, head, owns, general farming  
Minnie K, 54, mother, widow, none  
Rose Nancy, 81, widow, none  
Schoonmaker, Anna D, 22, sister, none

John Ludington Schoonmaker (1901-1986)

m1. (1932) Helen Jones, b. 1905, dau. George Jones & Elizabeth Osterhoudt

CHILDREN:

John Ludington, b. 1933, m. Alice Clements

George Daniel, b. 1935, m. Mary Lou Davis, res. Little Falls NY

m2. (1962) Virginia Smith Boyce, b. 1912, dau. Elmer Smith & Brigitta C. Peterson, Kyserike

- 1932 Deed, 26 March 1932, 558:95  
Minnie K. Schoonmaker, widow of Daniel E. Schonmaker, Marion E. Sahler, and Anna D. Schoonmaker, all of Accord, to John L. Schoonmaker

All that certain piece or parcel of land situate in the Town of Rochester... being the homestead farm of John D. Schoonmaker, deceased, on the south side of the Rondout Kill... containing 131 acres; also rock lots 7 & 8 situate in Great Lot No. 1 of Groton [sic] Transport in the Shawangunk Mountains; also Great Lot No. 5 on Groton Transport [which Louise Schoonmaker, widow of Joakim H. Schoonmaker conveyed to her son, Daniel E. Schoonmaker, in 1923]... also 16 other parcels in the vicinity.

John Luddington Schoonmaker, Jr. (1933- )  
m. Alice Clements, dau. Henry S. Clements & Annie Nora Overend

CHILDREN:

Daniel L, b. 1955

David J., b. 1957

Diane C., b. 1958

- 1938 Account in —“Old Stone Houses of Rochester and Some of the Men Who Lived in Them,” *Kingston Daily Freeman*, 15 October 1938

—“One mile east of Accord is the home of John L. Schoonmaker, which is more than an old stone house. It might be classed as a mansion of former days. Walls of stone with corners and front faced with brick, surrounded by giant trees and velvety lawns, it is one of the finest old places in the Town of Rochester. It was built in 1787, as a stone in the wall attests. The builder is thought to have been John D. Schoonmaker, the great grandfather of the present owner. The farm belonging to the estate is one of the largest and best in the town. It supports a dairy of nearly a100 registered cows, and its truck gardens make it one of the leading industries in the Town of Rochester.”

**5. SOURCES:**

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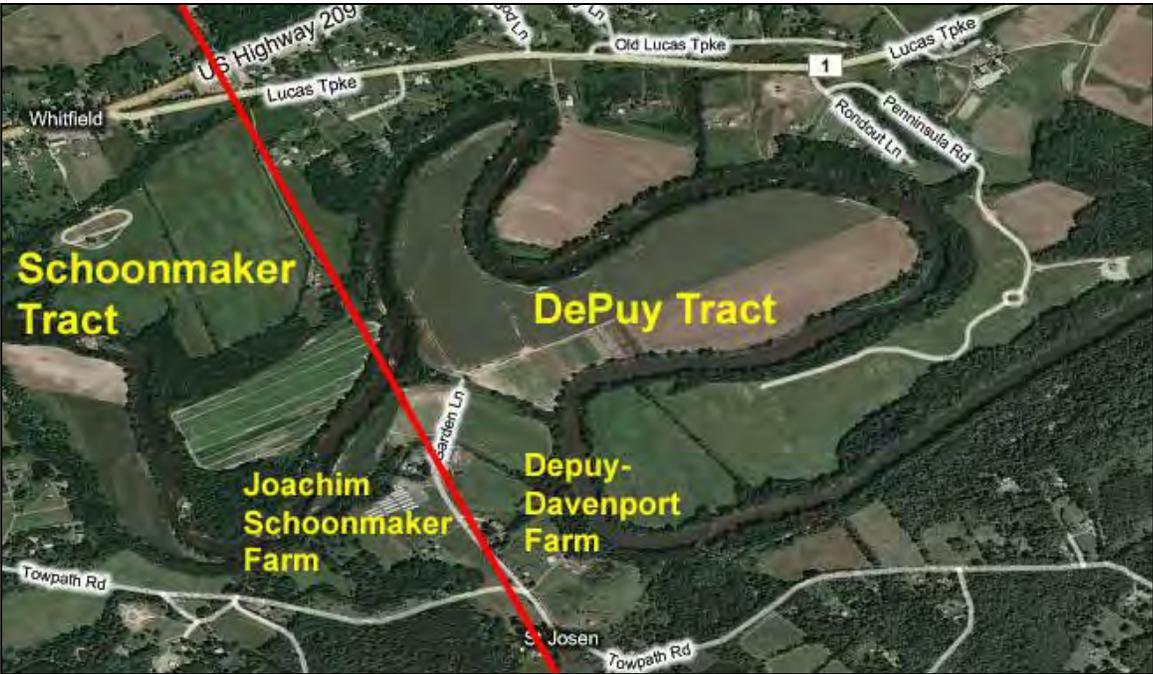
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6. MAPS



The boundary of the existing farmstead is outlined in a heavy black line. It encompasses lands currently associated with the farm and includes land once a part of the Davenport and Relyea farms in the SW corner as well as forest land south of Tow Path Road only partially indicated at the bottom of the map. In the 19<sup>th</sup> century, the farm contained less than 100 acres; today it exceeds 300 acres, about half of which is forested. Ulster County Planning Department, On-line Parcel Viewer.



Aerial view of Schoonmaker and Davenport farms showing location of early division line between DePuy and Schoonmaker tracts. Course of Rondout Creek is evident in serpentine tree line. Source: Bing Maps.



1. Stone house, built 1787
2. Stone smoke house, c. 1787
3. Wagon house, c. 1870 (moved)
4. a. Wood frame smoke house, c. 1870 (moved)  
b. Granary, c. 1870 (moved)
5. Barn, c. 1870 & 1929
6. Power house, c.1900
7. Poultry house I, c. 1900
8. Poultry house II, c. 1900
9. Fuel shed, c. 2000
10. Truck garage, c. 1980
11. Delaware & Hudson Canal, 1828
12. Greenhouses (16), c. 1980 –
13. House & garage, c. 1925
14. Tenant house, c. 1860
15. Shed & silos
16. Mobile home
17. Farm worker housing (3), c. 1990
18. House, 1988



Site plan. Numbers are keyed to list of historic components listed below. Source: Ulster County Planning Department, On-line Parcel Viewer.

**7. PHOTOS: (Credit :all images by Larson Fisher Associates, 2010 unless otherwise noted)**



View of farm from south



View of stone house from SE showing gate posts and recent garage. Front façade constructed of brick, porch is a recent addition



Historic view of house from SE showing original porch and windows, c. 1880.



View of house from SE, c. 1930.



View of house from NE.



View of house from NW showing later rear wings.



View of house from SW, smoke house on left.



View of smoke house from SE.



View of wagon house (left) and ice house from SW with house visible behind.



View of smoke house, wagon house and ice house (right to left) from NE.



View of granary from NE, ice house at right.



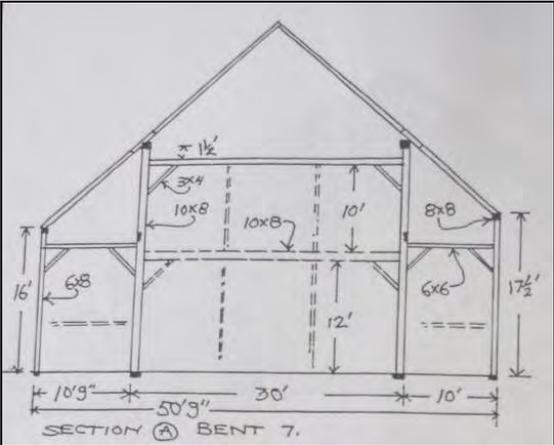
View of barn (left) and granary (right) from NW, a portion of power house and poultry house I visible in background.



View of barn from west, the c. 1870 section on right and c. 1910 section on left with later cooler attached.



View of c. 1870 section of barn from SW.



Sectional view of c. 1870 section of barn, drawing from Town of Rochester Barn Survey.



View of barn from NE



View of barn from west with c. 1910 section on left.



View of interior of barn, c. 1900 section in foreground and c. 1870 section at rear



View of framing in c. 1870 section.



Century Farm monument.



Century Farm plaque



View of power house from NW.



View of power house (right) and fuel shed (left) from SE.



View of poultry houses from SW.



View of truck garage (left) and barn (right) from NE.



View of canal looking NE from house.



View of canal east of house.



View of canal looking east.



View of greenhouses from SE.



View of greenhouses from NE.



View of c. 1925 house from NE.



View of Tenant House, farm buildings and farm worker housing from NW.



View of orchards west of Garden Lane.



View of farmland east of Garden Lane.



View of farmland looking east.



View of young orchard.



View of farm land looking east.