

# HOUSE HISTORY HOW-TO

A Guide to Resources and Methods for Researching Property History in Ulster County, New York



#### WITHIN:

Researching the history of your home can be an extremely rewarding process, but it can also prove frustrating if you don't know where to begin or how to proceed. This guide answers some basic questions and provides some explanations of resources available to help you with your research.

Ulster County Clerk's Office
A Publication by the Ulster County Archives

## **Table of Contents**

Conducting A Deed Search	Page 3
Deed Search Tools	Page 4
Parcel Viewer	Page 4
SearchIQS	Page 5
Adding Tax Records To Your Research	Page 9
Useful Reference Maps	Page 10
Examining the House	Page 11
Suggested Reading	Page 11
Expanding Your Research	Page 12
Records Available through Familysearch.com	Page 12
Newspaper Databases	Page 13
Other Databases	Page 13
Local History Publications	Page 14
Using the Cultural Resource Information System	Page 15
List of Municipal Historians for 2025	Page 16

#### WANT TO LEARN MORE ABOUT YOUR PROPERTY?

Researching the history of your home can be an extremely rewarding process, but it can also prove frustrating if you don't know where to begin or how to proceed. This guide answers some basic questions and provides some explanations of resources available to help you with your research.

#### WHERE SHOULD I START?

There are several different places you can begin, and depending on where you start you'll find out some different but equally interesting information. Part of this research process happens by examining the house, and part of it happens by searching historic records series through your County Clerk and local Historical Societies.

#### **CONDUCTING A DEED SEARCH**

While studying the structure of your home can reveal much about the history of the building and its evolution, it will not reveal the lineage of previous owners nor any of the rich narrative about those previous inhabitants. This section will explain resources and tools to help you develop this aspect of your home's history using public records and archives.

#### Lets clear up some common questions right away:

But can't I just look the house up by its address? – The short answer is no. In many parts of Ulster County street/mailing addresses and 911 numbers are a relatively recent phenomenon. Many people don't realize their houses are older than the addresses assigned them. Even after street numbers became common they were not consistent and could occasionally change.

I have a parcel ID, Can I just google that? – Parcel ID Numbers, assigned by Ulster County Real Property Tax Services, have only been around since the 1970s. From a historical perspective they are similar to street addresses though their functions are very different.

Don't you have a file on my house or building plans? – The Clerk's Office is responsible for accepting and filing deeds, mortgages, and surveys related to your land, but these records are filed by the name of the buyer and seller, owner, or mortgagor and mortgagee. Our county and the 24 Town, Village, and City governments within Ulster do not maintain historic files of building plans nor history files on individual houses.

I had a title search done when I bought the house, isn't that what I need? — A title search is a great way to get started on the breadcrumb trail of deeds for your land, but title searches will only go back as far as necessary to prove clear title to a parcel of land. A title search on a 300-year-old house might only cover 50 to 75 years of relevant deeds. Nevertheless, keep that title search handy to get the ball rolling with your research!

I found the early deeds for my home, but they mention nothing about the house! — You're right! While on occasion a historic deed will mention the improvements present on a parcel of land at the time of a sale, the deed is only a conveyance of land and concerns the land itself. This is why deeds have lots of description of the boundaries of the parcel conveyed — it was the important thing the buyer and seller needed to make sure was clear. We will discuss tricks to find construction dates when it isn't necessarily clear from the deed.

My Home is already on the National Register of Historic Places, what does that mean? — Outstanding! This means you are going to be able to find information that has already been compiled and preserved by the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). You can find our region's representatives through the link below, and the second link has an interactive map where you can view your property's National Register paperwork. Jump to the section on CRIS [Page 12] if you would like more detailed instructions on how to use this map tool to view National Register information.

https://parks.ny.gov/shpo/contact/

https://cris.parks.ny.gov

#### **DEED SEARCH TOOLS**

This section will cover the databases you need to use to conduct a deed search. Ulster County maintains a Parcel Viewer tool and a SearchIQS deed database, but you will also want to make a free account with familysearch.org to view some of Ulster's earliest records and other resources that will be helpful later in the process.

#### <u>Ulster County Parcel Viewer:</u>

Start your search by visiting Ulster County's Parcel Viewer tool. You can google "Ulster County Parcel Search" or visit the URL linked below. You will use parcel viewer to find your plot of land and the most recent corresponding deed for it.

https://ulstercountyny.gov/maps/parcel-viewer/\

#### Instructions for use:

- Open the parcel viewer in your browser and read the short instruction popup. This small window contains all the important information you need to use the map along with handy tips and other resources. Close it when you are ready.
- On the left of the main page you will see a menu with Basemap, Map Layers, Measurements & Coordinates, and Parcel Details. Click through these to see the functions available and to get familiar with them. You can change the look of the map and add layers to show an amazing variety of information.
- Use your mouse and scroll wheel (or the [+] and [-] icons on the upper left) to navigate the map and zoom in and out.
- If you know where you are looking, zoom in and select the round blue information icon in the menu at the top right so you can click on any parcel for more details. Otherwise, try entering your last name or street address in the search bar at the top left.
- When you have found your parcel and used the information icon at the top right to make it clickable, take a look at the results that appear in the menu on the left side. You will see information like the current address and municipality, as well as information on the current owner. Most importantly, you will see "Deed Book" and "Page" number listed. Copy these down, because this is the citation used to find the most current deed on file.

#### **Ulster County Clerk's Office Land Records:**

Your next step is to look up the deed for your land using the book and page number from Parcel Viewer. Go to <a href="https://clerk.ulstercountyny.gov/">https://clerk.ulstercountyny.gov/</a> and select "Search Land Records" in the "LAND RECORDS" dropdown menu. This will bring you to Ulster County's SearchIQS portal.

#### Instructions for use:

- On the SearchIQS landing page, click the **big green button** that says "Search Records as Guest" to enter the search portal.
- On the main search page, take a moment to orient yourself to the navigation tabs in the blue bar at the top, as well as all the fillable search fields.
- Halfway down the search page you will see a drop-down menu called "Document Group" that gives you the option to search the wide array of documents filed by the Ulster County Clerk.
   Select "Deeds" from this menu
- At the bottom of the search page you will see a "Book" and "Page" search box second up from the bottom. Enter the book and page numbers you found on Parcel Viewer.
- Click the grey "Search" button on the upper right of the screen.
- On the results page, click the "View" function on the left to open a deed.
- Recent deeds filed by the Clerk's Office all have a cover page that will appear first in the view window. At the left you will see a summary of the document, and above the view window you will see navigation options.
- Advance between pages of the deed by clicking the blue arrows at the top right of the view window.
- If you would like to print or download that document, click the "Print/Download" button above the view window and follow the steps to enter your credit card information. The database will only store your credit card info for the rest of your session, so don't close the IQS window until you are ready to wrap up a research session.

5 | Page

#### **Interpreting Your Results:**

Every deed is relatively formulaic, and you will notice as you go further back in time that much of the language has remained consistent century by century. The beginning will contain information about "Party of the first part" and "party of the second part" which you will need to keep straight in your mind as you continue reading the document. On deeds, these parties are the "Grantor" (seller) and the "Grantee" (buyer) of the land. "Grantor" and "Grantee" are terms that are vital to understand as you continue your research, because the Clerk's Office indexes deeds by Grantor and Grantee.

Following that initial section you will reach a line in the text that states something like "ALL THAT PIECE OR PARCEL" followed by a lengthy description of the meets and bounds of the land – i.e. the description of the boundaries of the parcel. This can be confusing, but often the description will remain consistent in at least some way from deed to deed, so keep your eye out for descriptions that include terms like "Bounded on the east by the highway" or "beginning at a hole drilled in a large rock jutting into the Wallkill River" – these features of the boundary are unlikely to change much over time, and will help you to confirm that earlier deeds describe the same parcel as your current one. Read the meets and bounds over so you are familiar with notable details.

At the end of some deeds, you will last encounter a phrase "Being the same as a parcel sold... and described in Deed Book \_\_\_\_ at page \_\_\_\_" – this is a reference to an earlier deed for the parcel you are examining, and you should make a note of the book and page number referenced so you can search for it later!

Because a deed is a record of sale, finding the preceding deed for a piece of land is as simple as finding the "Grantor" (seller) on the current deed and searching for them as a "Grantee" (buyer) in a Grantee Index Book. For sales from 1950 to the present, follow these steps next:

- On the main search page for SearchIQS, (get back to it using the blue navigation bar at the top) enter the last and first name of the Seller on a current deed in the "Party 1" search bar and make sure the "Ignore Party Type" box below it is checked off. Don't use any commas!
- Select "Deeds" from the "Document Group" drop down menu, and click the gray search button again.
- Depending on how long your list of results is, click through them to confirm which one refers to your parcel. Remember to look out for similar language in the meets and bounds section of the document. If you got lots of results, only examine deeds that are listed as pertaining to the town where your current parcel is.
- Did you get stumped here? If your problem is that you can't find something from prior to 1950, read on for further instructions. If you ran into a different issue, don't worry, just give us a call weekdays between 9 and 5 at the number on the top of this page and we can talk through it!

6 | Page

#### Searching for deeds prior to 1950:

Deeds recorded prior to 1950 are accessible through a separate section of the SearchIQS website. When you hit the point where you need one of these earlier deeds, it is time to jump to the "INDEXBOOKS" tab in the blue navigation bar at the top of the screen.

#### **Instructions for Use:**

- Click on the "INDEXBOOKS" tab and examine the search page that appears. In the top left you
  will see "INDEXBOOKS in blue followed by three sub-tabs Search by Name, Go to Section, and
  Go to Document.
- Starting on the "Search by Name" sub-tab, go to the "Select Volume" drop-down menu and examine the available indexes. You will see Grantor, Grantee, Mortgagor, Mortgagee, and corresponding Corporation versions of these books organized by date range.
- Since you are looking for when a current Grantor (seller) was a previous Grantee (buyer), pick the relevant grantee index and enter their last name in the search bar to the right of the drop-down menu.
- Your result will be an index page showing all results for a surname alphabetically by the first three letters. An example if you are searching for "Palmer" the search results will show you the "PAL" section of the grantee index.
- All the entries in these index pages appear by filing date from oldest to newest. Use the blue navigation arrows at the top left of the view window to turn pages.
- Copy down any results you think are relevant if you find the name of the person you are seeking, look at the far right of the index entry to copy down the listed book and page number. If you see a hash mark ["] instead of a number, refer to the last listed book number above your entry. Book and page number always appear in the last two columns of each page.
- Once you have found a book and page number you want to examine, click on the "Go To Document" sub-tab. You will find boxes to enter the book and page number and a search button. Entering the required information will produce the correct book and page.
- Please note that the deed you are seeking may not start at the top of a page, you might have to scroll down to see where the document you need begins – sometimes very close to the bottom.
   Often these separate records are divided on a page by a line like this:

SearchIQS, as of the date of this publication, allows access to all deed books for Ulster County beginning in 1684 with Deed Book AA. Mortgages from Book 345 to the present can also be accessed via this portal.

**7 |** Page

#### **Supplement Deed Searches with Mortgages:**

Mortgages, another record filed with the County Clerk related to property transactions, can be a useful supplement and workaround if a lineage of deeds hits a dead end. Mortgages are filed and accessed the same way deeds are, but the terms "Mortgagor" and "Mortgagee" are reversed from "Grantor" and "Grantee" when you start searching indices and reading documents. A Mortgagee is the lender - the individual or institution loaning money and collecting payments. The Mortgagor is the borrower.

With that in mind, head back to the INDEXBOOKS tab on SearchIQS and try picking out a mortgagor index from the drop down menu in the "Search by Name" sub-tab. This is a list of buyers of property, just like a Grantee index. You will find these also contain useful descriptions of the parcel being purchased by the mortgagor.

Currently, Ulster County's SearchIQS page only contains Mortgages going back to Book 345. The next section will tell you about other online resources you can use to search earlier mortgages online.

You can also access early mortgages and deeds in person by visiting the reading room of the Ulster County Clerk's Office at 244 Fair Street in Kingston, or by calling the Ulster County Archives at the number on this booklet. Reach us by phone or email to make an appointment!

#### ADDING TAX RECORDS TO YOUR SEARCH

There are several ways to narrow down the construction date of a house once you've done your deed research. Part of that work requires examining the building itself [See Page 11] but you can also use information you've found in your deed search by comparing it with other records kept by the County Government.

Tax Rolls, a record of property valuations used to determine how individuals are taxed annually, can sometimes narrow the construction date of a property to within a year. Tax rolls in Ulster County are organized by Town, and microfilm copies of all rolls going back to 1849 are available for the public to examine through the Ulster County Department of Finance on the fourth floor of the County Government Building at 244 Fair Street. Earlier rolls for Ulster can be viewed in Albany through the New York State Archives.

#### **Getting Started with Tax Rolls:**

These tax rolls list valuations by individual, so the list of names of previous owners of your property will be invaluable during this process. Deed lineages for your land can extend much farther back in time than any permanent structures on the land itself, so how can you narrow down which individuals to look for in the tax rolls and what years to pick?

A good place to start would be to first read the chapter on the history of your town in Sylvester's *History of Ulster County* [see page 14]. The chapter on your town will give you a rough idea about when parts of the town were developed and who the principal Anglo-Dutch landholders originally were following colonization. The earliest deeds you found may have been transactions by these major landowners, so narrow down which people to look for in the tax rolls by making guesses as to whom might have finally purchased the parcel to build a residence on.

As an example, say the DeWitt family owned a parcel in western Hurley or Olive that was purchased in the 1690s and they held onto it for over a century before selling again. There is currently a Federal or Greek Revival farmhouse on a part of that original plot, so it might make sense to take a look at the people who owned the lot in the period between 1790 and 1830 after the DeWitts sold the land. One of those subsequent owners probably first built on that parcel.

This can be one of the most complicated parts of your research, so feel free to call or email if you need some insight on interpreting your deed and using tax rolls.

#### **USEFUL REFERENCE MAPS**

Your property may have survey maps on file with the County Clerk's Office, and these can be found by consulting the Clerk's Map Index or by finding reference to the map in one of your deeds. Not every property will have historic surveys on file though, so start off by checking out some of these historic maps and atlases for Ulster County to benchmark some of your research.

#### Map of Ulster County, New York from Actual Surveys (1858):

This early map, prepared prior to the Civil War, shows the entirety of Ulster County prior to the formation of the City of Kingston and the creation of the Towns of Ulster and Hardenburgh. This is the earliest of the "Biographical" maps of Ulster County, notable for showing the location of structures and the names of corresponding owners and businesses when possible. This unique level of granularity is a great way to benchmark your research if your house is older than this map!

View and download the 1858 map here: <a href="https://www.loc.gov/resource/g3803u.la000571/?r=-0.555,-0.218,1.853,1.116,0">https://www.loc.gov/resource/g3803u.la000571/?r=-0.555,-0.218,1.853,1.116,0</a>

#### **Beers' 1875 Atlas of Ulster County:**

Beers' Atlas is a biographical map of every town and community in Ulster County in the last quarter of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. This amazing resource is useful not only because it can help you verify information found on your deed, but also contextualize other resources you might examine – the State and Federal Census for example. This map can also help you "jump" back in time if you hit a brick wall in your deed lineage during the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Find your property, identify the owner, find their deed, and work forwards in time to the point where you got stuck! A copy of this map has always been available at the Clerk's Office for property owners and title searchers to reference when necessary.

A digitized copy of the atlas can be viewed here: <a href="https://clerk.ulstercountyny.gov/beers-atlas/">https://clerk.ulstercountyny.gov/beers-atlas/</a>

#### Beers' 1891 Atlas of the Hudson River Valley:

This curious atlas shows an eight-mile-wide strip of the Hudson Valley centered over the Hudson River from New York to beyond Albany. For those with homes within four miles of the Hudson, this map offers the same kind of detail that the 1875 atlas does and offers details on the evolutions and changes that transformed the riverfront communities in Ulster on the eve of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

View the 1891 Atlas here: <a href="https://digitalcollections.nypl.org/items/34fad1b0-c5f6-012f-c472-58d385a7bc34#/?uuid=3559eaf0-c5f6-012f-7eaf-58d385a7bc34">https://digitalcollections.nypl.org/items/34fad1b0-c5f6-012f-c472-58d385a7bc34#/?uuid=3559eaf0-c5f6-012f-7eaf-58d385a7bc34</a>

#### **EXAMINING THE HOUSE OR CONDUCTING A RENOVATION**

Tearing down walls and opening sections of an old home can reveal many things about the age of the building. The end of this section contains some useful links for reference guides and materials, but as you look at your house, here are some things to take note of:

The design of a home can often tell you within a decade when the structure may have been built. Certain features, accents, and floorplans were sometimes only popular for a decade or two, meaning you can put a very healthy circa date on a home if you happen to know what to look for. Does the house appear to contain additions? Are there principles of symmetry present in the design? What height are the ceilings? Are rooms intended for specific functions? Make note of these things as you walk through the space.

If you are tearing out walls or looking in the basement and attic, examine the kind of lumber used. Look at joists and framing - is the lumber milled or hand-hewn? Is all the lumber in the home similar or are some sections older/more primitive? Such things can tell you how a home may have been used and when additions and features were added/removed. Sometimes you may even find marks on lumber and lathe showing the supplier or mill the wood came from. Keep an eye out for old graffiti!

Wiring and plumbing may be run differently in the home if it was built prior to electrification or if it was built with plumbing and electricity originally. Look for evidence of older utilities as well where gas lines might have been removed or where pipes may formerly have run - these things can tell you a lot about how different rooms functioned if you are trying to restore a space.

Look for different paints, molding, and decorative features as you remove more recent layers of carpeting, wallpaper, molding, and even exterior trim. These sorts of things may help you identify the age of the home based on the original aesthetic. You might be surprised what is hiding behind the walls of an enclosed porch or beneath aluminum siding.

With all of these aspects of the house in mind, try visiting your local public library to request some of the following books, or hop on the web to browse the following links:

- Library of Congress: https://guides.loc.gov/house-history/architecture
- https://www.oldhouses.com/styleguide
- A Field Guide to American Houses (Revised) by Virginia Savage McAlester (2013) https://search.worldcat.org/title/859307758
- American House Styles: A Concise Guide by John Milnes Baker (2002) https://search.worldcat.org/title/50061509
- Ulster County, New York: The Architectural History & Guide by William B. Rhoads (2011) https://search.worldcat.org/title/815935407
- Dutch Vernacular Architecture in North America, 1640-1830 by John R. Stevens (2005) https://search.worldcat.org/title/63108271

#### **EXPANDING YOUR RESEARCH**

Your deed search will ultimately result in a list of names of individuals and families who were previously connected with your home. While biographical information can occasionally appear in deed records, most often you must go elsewhere to find out more about them. This section covers some great resources to help you dig deeper.

#### Records available through familysearch.com:

FamilySearch is a free genealogical website with access to millions of records digitized by the Church of Latter-day Saints. You can create a free profile and use the "search records" function to browse digitized rolls of microfilm containing fascinating information related to Ulster County and its people.

#### The Census:

The United States has been conducting censuses in one form or another every decade all the way back to the first Federal Census of 1790. Throughout most of the 19<sup>th</sup> and into the 20<sup>th</sup> century the State of New York also conducted a census on the half-decade (1825, 1835, 1845, etc.,) until 1875, and scattered others until the last one in 1925. Together, these records offer a window into communities in Ulster County for most of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The census can tell you what the profession of people living in a home were, their place of birth, family structure, and certain economic and social conditions. The census also gives historians clues about what neighborhoods were like, what the important industries in a place were, and how these communities changed over time. Think of the census as a snapshot of your home at a moment in time. Check out the 1855 New York State Census of Ulster County here:

#### **Probate Records:**

Believe it or not, wills and estate documents/probate records can be an important tool to help develop the story of your home's past residents. These records, handled by the Surrogate's Court, offer insight into family groups, the material culture of a house, details like interior furnishings, and the social and economic status of the deceased. These records can be startling and revealing, sometimes being so detailed that they include room-by-room inventories of someone's estate. These records are also invaluable primary sources testifying to the practice of slavery in Ulster County during the colonial period and in New York State prior to 1827. View early wills and probate records through the following link: <a href="https://www.familysearch.org/search/image/index?owc=Q7PB-BZ3%3A213302401%3Fcc%3D1920234">https://www.familysearch.org/search/image/index?owc=Q7PB-BZ3%3A213302401%3Fcc%3D1920234</a>

#### **Deeds and Mortgages:**

Ulster County makes all filed deeds and most mortgage records available through our SearchIQS page, but for early mortgages prior to Book 345 (circa 1922) you must still visit the Clerk's Office in person or plan a visit to the archives. Some early mortgages for Ulster can be accessed through this link: <a href="https://www.familysearch.org/search/image/index?owc=M7CM-JZH%3A359005801%3Fcc%3D2078654">https://www.familysearch.org/search/image/index?owc=M7CM-JZH%3A359005801%3Fcc%3D2078654</a>

#### **Newspaper Databases:**

Much of the narrative history of a community, neighborhoods, and individuals can be gleaned from historic newspapers. While a comprehensive and contiguous run of Ulster's newspapers is not yet available in one place, there are lots of great resources to check. Here's a list of some of the most useful:

https://fultonhistory.com/ (read his FAQ page for handy tips on composing Boolean searches)

https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/

https://news.hrvh.org/

https://www.newspapers.com/ (a subscription service)

https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/

https://www.loc.gov/research-centers/newspaper-and-current-periodical/collections/digital-collections/

Also check out this list of Ulster County Newspapers and repositories that hold back issues: <a href="https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/">https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/</a>

#### **Other Databases:**

You might be very surprised what you can turn up by searching for names in places like Google Books and the New York State Archives. Lots of early magazines, periodicals, reports, and journals held by universities are discoverable through databases you might not think to consult. Here's a list of some other resources to check out:

https://books.google.com/

https://www.hathitrust.org/

https://www.gutenberg.org/

https://archive.org/

https://www.loc.gov/collections/

https://digitalcollections.archives.nysed.gov/

#### **Local History Publications:**

Published histories of communities are an invaluable tool to lend context to your research and ground it within larger stories of a community. The following publications are important works that will help shed some light on your community and might shed light on some avenues to direct your research.

The following works are of particular use and contain chapters on specific communities. They can be accessed through the Ulster County Archives in-person as well as through the accompanying links.

History of Ulster County, New York by Nathaniel Sylvester (1880)

https://www.google.com/books/edition/History of Ulster County New York/rul AQAAMAAJ?hl=en&g bpv=0

The History of Ulster County, New York by Alphonso T. Clearwater (1907)

https://www.google.com/books/edition/The History of Ulster County New York/cd0eivri doC?hl=en &gbpv=1&pg=PA3&printsec=frontcover

The Early History of Kingston & Ulster County, NY by Marc Fried (1975) https://search.worldcat.org/title/1031292

Olde Ulster: An Historical and Genealogical Magazine ed. Benjamin M. Brink, 1905-1914 https://www.google.com/books/edition/Olde\_Ulster/cn5FAQAAMAAJ?hl=en&gbpv=0

Picturesque Ulster by R. Lionel De Lisser (Hope Farm Press Edition of 1968)

https://search.worldcat.org/title/picturesque-ulster-a-pictorial-work-on-the-county-of-ulster-state-of-new-york/oclc/434725

A vast array of other more community-specific recommendations can be had by reaching out to your community's Public Library, or by contacting your appointed Town Historian through your municipal website.

List of Libraries in the Mid-Hudson Library System by County: https://www.nysl.nysed.gov/libdev/libs/publibs/3mh.htm

#### Using the Cultural Resource Information System:

CRIS is a tool that hosts an interactive map and digitized files for sites and structures on the National Register of Historic Places. Access it by visiting this link:

#### https://cris.parks.ny.gov/Login.aspx?ReturnUrl=%2f

#### Instructions for use:

- Agree to terms of service, then select "Proceed as Guest" on the landing page.
- On the homepage, click on the "Search" tab in the top navigation bar.
- Use your mouse and scroll wheel to navigate the interactive map and to zoom in on your county, community, or neighborhood.
- As you zoom in, you will see lots of interactive outlines begin to appear. Green lines are archaeological survey projects, blue outlines are consultation projects, and red-shaded red outlines are historic sites and districts. Click around and look to see what types of information you can interact with!
- If you own a historic register property, or are curious about a historic site, find it and click on it to open a small dialogue box.
- At the bottom left of the dialogue box, click the "View" button.
- On the window that opens there are a number of different tabs, click on the "Atts." (Attachments) tab to read the National Register nomination form and photos used to submit the site for National Register status. Click through the other tabs to view additional information.
- Lastly, if you are curious about what having a Historic Register property means, reach out to New York State Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation through their Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) using the contact information on this page: <a href="https://parks.ny.gov/shpo/contact/">https://parks.ny.gov/shpo/contact/</a>

### <u>List of Municipal Historians in Ulster County for 2024</u>:

Municipality	Municipal Historian	Associated Historic Site	Historian Phone	Email
Denning	Thomas McGee			historian@denningny.gov
Esopus	David Longendyke	Klyne Esopus Museum	845-338- 3798	davyo1@yahoo.com
Gardiner	Unknown			
Hardenburgh	Unknown			
Hurley	James Decker		845-331- 7474	historian@townofhurley.org
Kingston	Heather Heddleson		845-336- 8853	historian@tokny.us
Lloyd	Joan Kelley		845-691- 2732	jkelley@townoflloyd.com
Marbletown	Gail Many	Kripplebush Schoolhouse Museum	845-687- 7500	johnandgailmany@gmail.com
Marlborough	Thomas Schroeder		845-590- 7027	tomsable@aol.com
New Paltz	Susan Stessin- Cohn		845-255- 5030	sstessin@gmail.com
Olive	Ruth Anne Muller		845-428- 3798	cadygirl2@gmail.com
Plattekill	Elizabeth Werlau		845-883- 7331	historiantop@yahoo.com
Rochester	Kathleen Gundberg	Town Museum	845-626- 7384	kgundberg@townofrochester.ny.gov
Rosendale	Bill Brooks		914-388- 0845	wbrooks1110@gmail.com
Saugerties	Audrey Klinkenberg		845-246- 8329	genie2@hvc.rr.com
Shandaken	Vacant	Shandaken Historical Museum	845-254- 4460	
Shawangunk	Kyle Williams		845-505- 0350	ny124th@gmail.com
Ulster	Rob Sweeney		845-382- 2455	gallusguy@msn.com
Wawarsing	Henry Green		845-647- 6570	henrygreen@gmail.com
Woodstock	Richard Heppner		845-679- 8743	rheppner@hvc.rr.com
Ellenville [Village]	Paul Ross		845-647- 3801	classmates65@yahoo.com

New Paltz	Vacant			
[Village]				
Saugerties	Marjorie	Saugerties	845-246-	harry39a@aol.com
[Village]	Block	Historical Society	0784	
Kingston	Taylor Bruck		845-399-	historian@kingston-ny.gov
[City]			4079	
Ulster	Geoffrey		845-340-	gmil@co.ulster.ny.us
[County]	Miller		3415	

The following link includes a list of historic sites and Historical Societies/Associations in Ulster County as well as other heritage and cultural groups and organizations.

 $\underline{https://clerk.ulstercountyny.gov/archives/search-records/local-museums-repositories-societies-heritage-\underline{sites}$