

WALPACK

historical society

*“Preserving a Fine
Tradition of Caring”*

www.walpackhistory.org

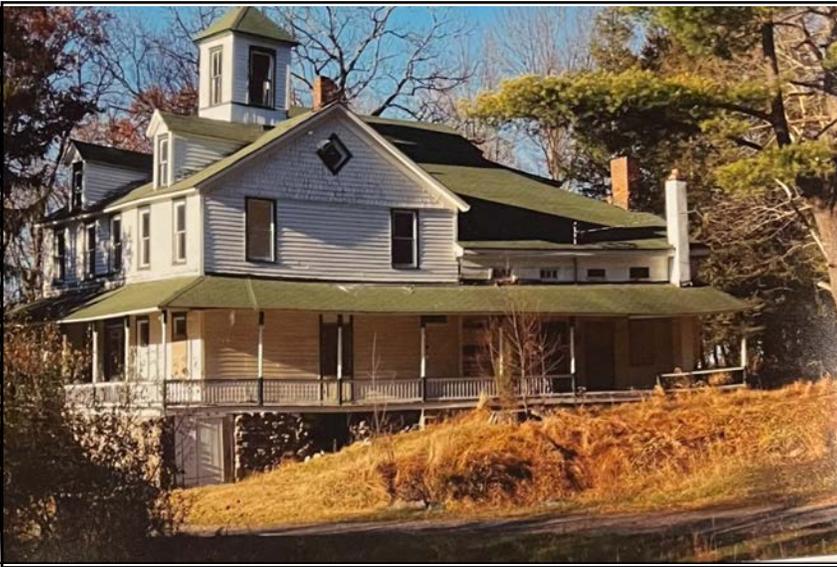
Newsletter of the
Walpack Historical Society

Published Quarterly

Fall 2025

A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE DELAWARE VIEW/SALAMOVKA HOUSE

by Sharon Spangenberg



Delaware View/Salamovka House

All color photos have been provided by Sharon Spangenberg.

Many who pass by the Delaware View house at the intersection of Millbrook/Stillwater/Flatbrookville roads may wonder if this once prominent house has a story to tell. The Walpack Historical Society featured an article about this once lovely property in the Winter 2023 edition of our newsletter.

The original portion of the Delaware View house is on the right side of the building as shown in the accompanying photograph. It was constructed between 1840 and 1850 by Charles Huff. Charles is noted as being a “Free Colored Person” according to census at that time. He and his wife Susan, their 10 children, plus one other adult lived there until 1870.

The property had been transferred several times when it was purchased in 1904 Samuel V. Garris. Garris added the Queen Anne Victorian sections

of the building. This impressive house became known as the Delaware View House for the commanding view it had of the Delaware River and Walpack Bend. During Garris’ ownership, the house was leased to the Losey family who operated it as a boarding house/hunting lodge.



Andrew Salamovka

In the early 1900s, while in Bushkill, Pa, Andrew Salama, a composer and musician who escaped from Moscow during the Russian Revolution, saw a bright light on the mountain across the river in New Jersey. He was so intrigued by the light, he set out to find it. The following day he discovered the light was coming from a small tower extending above the roof of a former hunting lodge. In 1926 he purchased that house and named it Salamovka, meaning “Salama’s House.”

He converted the hunting lodge into a summer resort for white Russian emigres, mostly musicians, artists and dancers. Many of their summer visitors did tasks around the house rather than pay rent.

A biographical sketch written by Sandy VanDoren of the Batch Institute for Ethnic Studies can be found online. It explains the fascinating life of Salama and his interaction with this house.

After the death of Salama, a friend, who at that time owned the property, continued to summer at Salamovka. The federal government acquired the house and property in 1969. Salamovka was then used by the Artists for Environment with students living there and painting the surrounding countryside. While it was a good use for the house, the organization eventually disbanded, and the house was abandoned.



Delaware View House officially changed its name to Salamovka. Andrew is pictured at the gate. All black and white photos have been provided by Bob Williams.

2026 CALENDAR

All events are subject to change. Vist WalpackHistory.org and Facebook.com/WalpackHistory for calendar updates, changes and details.

January 1	New Year's Day Hike 10:30 am Details TBA
April 18 or 19	Spring Hike 10:30 am Details TBA
April 25	*Spring Dinner
May 2	Walpack Center Spring clean-up
May 17	Program - New Jersey Forts Along the Delaware Frontier
May 24	Tours - VCI, Walpack Church, Rosenkrans Museum, Barn & General Store/Post Office open 12 - 3 pm
June 14	Tours - VCI, Walpack Church, Rosenkrans Museum, Barn & General Store/Post Office open 12 - 3 pm
June 19	Program - Juneteenth - VCI open, hikes to the Black/Slave Cemetery & Dedication of marker to honor those interred 11 am - 2 pm
June 28	Program - Details TBA
July 5	Program - Dedication of marker to honor Patriots of the Revolutionary War - Details TBA
July 12	Tours - VCI, Walpack Church, Rosenkrans Museum, Barn & General Store/Post Office open 12 - 3 pm
July 19	Program - Details TBA
August 9	Tours - VCI, Walpack Church, Rosenkrans Museum, Barn & General Store/Post Office open 12 - 3 pm
August 16	Program - Details TBA
September 6	Tours - VCI, Walpack Church, Rosenkrans Museum, Barn & General Store/Post Office open 12 - 3 pm
September 19	Return of The Spirits of Lower Walpack Cemetery
October 11	Walpack Village & Van Campen Day (Heritage Weekend)
November 14 or 15	Fall Hike 10:30 am Details TBA
December 5	*Holiday Dinner
December 12 & 13	Walpack Christmas (museum open) <i>*Members and their guests</i>

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 Restoration of Community History
Visit our Museums

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 Open April – August
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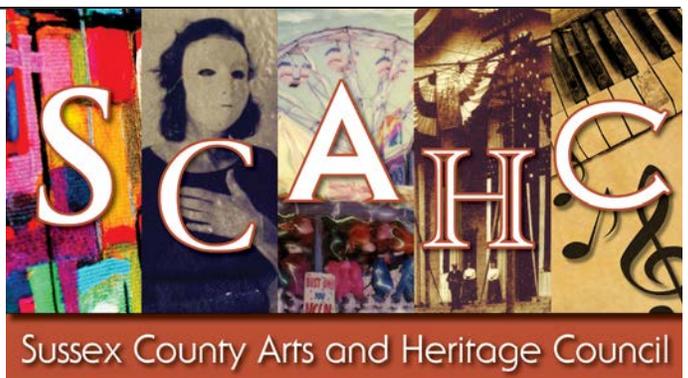
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This edition of the Walpack Historical Society newsletter was edited by Allyson Schwab and Art Lizza. Photographs are provided by the author, unless otherwise noted.

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Sussex County Arts and Heritage Council

VAN CAMPEN INN'S 1981 RECONSTRUCTION

by Sharon Spangenberg

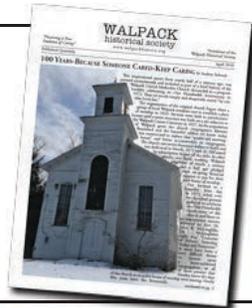
While visiting the Van Campen Inn, please take a few moments to look at the photos displayed on the second floor showing the extensive reconstruction of the Inn that began in 1981. Authorized by the National Park Service, two-thirds of the front and south walls were dismantled stone by stone, numbered and rebuilt by Clarence Sharp of Stillwater, NJ. As a lasting reminder of who beautifully restored the Van Campen Inn, "C. Sharp 83" can be seen on the top left of the front retaining wall.



Photos courtesy of Bob Williams

NEWSLETTER SPONSORSHIPS

The publication of our newsletter is an ongoing, time-consuming and costly process for the WHS. As our membership grows so do our expenses for printing and mailing the newsletter. To help, please consider becoming a sponsor. Simply make a donation and note that it is for "Newsletter Sponsor."



DUES ARE DUE

Members and friends of the WHS can fill out the membership form on page seven and mail it in with a payment to the address on the form. Also, payment can be made online with a credit card by visiting WalpackHistory.org.

All memberships must be made current in order to remain on our mailing list. Thank you!

The Walpack Historical Society would like to acknowledge and express its appreciation to our many Lifetime Members for their generosity.

BE A PART OF HISTORY - DOCENTS & VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED



A docent is a person who acts as a guide, typically on a voluntary basis. We are always looking for new people to help us at our events and meetings throughout the year. Please email info@walpackhistory.org to learn more about how you can help play a part in history.



THANK YOU!

To everyone who becomes a member, makes a donation, sponsors the newsletter, attends a dinner, or buys a book, we sincerely appreciate your support.

New Members

Beth Grosso
Taylor Panetta
Ellen & John Santoro
Dana Sweetman
Courtney Walsh

New Donations

Richard Amon
Arthur Glaeser
Kathy Green
Pamela J. Hartmann †
Jane Hill-Rosato †
Charles Pozzi
Vera Shotwell
Kenneth Zuber †

† Newsletter Sponsor

A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE DELAWARE VIEW/SALAMOVKA HOUSE

by Sharon Spangenberg

continued from pg. 1

The Rates Are As Follows:
 Single Room. \$25.00 For The Season
 Double Room. \$35.00 For The Season

For Those Desiring A Shorter Stay, The Rates Are:
 Single Room. \$5.00 Per Week
 Double Room. \$8.00 Per Week

These rates include the privileges of using the kitchen and dining room.

For those wanting their meals served, we have an excellent chef, a Mr. Victor. We will serve 3 meals daily at \$10.00 per week.

Further information will be gladly furnished on request.

Mail Address:

ANDREW SALAMA "SALAMOVKA", COLUMBIA, NEW JERSEY

or

Mrs. NINA SALAMA, 37 West 98th Street, New York, N. Y.
 Tel. ACademy 2-9342 (from 12-2 P. M. and 5-7 P. M.)





SALAMOVKA
 FLATBROOKVILLE SUSSEX COUNTY
 NEW JERSEY

★

The Ideal Place
for RELAXATION, REST and REPOSE

Located in the heart of the picturesque Kittatinny Mountains and Literally a stone's throw from the Delaware Water Gap, Flatbrookville is only 3 miles from Bushkill, Pa., and 15 miles from East Stroudsburg, Pa. It can be reached by either BUS or the DELAWARE LACKAWANNA R. R. from New York or any point in New Jersey.
 The bus and rail fares are very moderate now.

Summer Retreat Brochure

According to a 1981 *New Jersey Herald* article, this house was under the National Park Service Historic Property Leasing Program. Subsequently, it was leased to a Sparta resident who partially refurbished it and opened a general store. Many remember stopping there for a snack or beverage. That was until an unfortunate accident in 2009 resulted in the store's permanent shutdown.

The Delaware View/Salamovka house has been abandoned ever since. The 1994 Historic Structures Report recommended this building be stabilized otherwise it would be a cultural resource lost to future generations. The report added that without stabilization the house would continue to be a liability and a potential hazard.

As the years and decades passed, the house became more and more deteriorated. Now, thirty-one years after that 1994 recommendation, this once impressive house has become a hazard. Historic Property Stewards (most of whom are Walpack Historical Society trustees and active members) have done their best to preserve what remains. Vandals and thrill seekers continue to access this house by breaking into boarded up windows and doors and destroying what little is left of this house. The spotlight that intrigued Salama 100 years ago, intact in 2021, was recently smashed.

Please know that if you are caught entering this house or any other building within the boundaries of the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area, law enforcement will be contacted.



Delaware View, Flatbrookville Postcard



Salamovka Summer Guests
1926



Walpack Historical Society members and Historic Property Stewards cover graffiti and secure the Salamovka House.

IN THE SHADOW OF A ZINC GRAVE MARKER

Continued from the Spring/Summer 2025 Newsletter

by Jennifer S. Brylinski



Isaac Loacy's zinc marker located in the Walpack Center Cemetery

Isaac Losey is the final zinc grave marker at the Walpack Center Cemetery that I will mention. It is spelled Isaac Loacy on his zinc grave marker. The grave marker is a bit harder to find since it is smallish and located in a brushy spot. It is within an area with many other Losey burials, including all three of Isaac's wives and many of his children and their families.

Isaac was born on April 15, 1781, in Morris County, New Jersey. His father was Zebulon Losey. Zebulon came to Sussex County about 1786, with his wife Phoebe and family and settled on Mountain Road, near the Walpack Center Cemetery.

Isaac (April 15, 1781 – April 9, 1868), was a shoemaker as well as a farmer. He was also a local preacher and was one of the five first trustees of The Pleasant Valley Methodist Episcopal Church which was organized in 1834 and located within the boundaries of the first half acre of the Walpack Center Cemetery. It was later reestablished in 1871 at its present location on the other side of the Flatbrook River as The Walpack Center United Methodist Episcopal Church. Isaac was affectionately known as “Reverend Luce.”

Isaac's first wife was Elanor (1779 – 1834, aged 54). Isaac and Elanor's children included Jesse, Zebuland, Lydia, John, David and Cyrus. Isaac's wife Elanor was the first proven burial in the Walpack Center Cemetery. Her headstone is next to Isaac's zinc grave marker.

Isaac's second wife was Prudence (about 1780 – May 18, 1840, aged 60). They were married in 1834 when Prudence was 54 years old. And Isaac's third wife was Eliza Ann (January 12, 1816 – December 12, 1851, aged 35). They were married about 1841. Their children included Mary, Amos, and Lucinda. Isaac's son Amos was married to Catharine Mitten.

The Loseys were well-known residents of Walpack. At least thirty-two Loseys are buried in the Walpack Center Cemetery and five in the Lower Walpack Cemetery.

Mary Smith Rosenkrans is the fourth and final person I researched for this study. Mary is buried in Lower Walpack Cemetery, Walpack Township, New Jersey. She has a prominent zinc grave marker.



Mary Smith Rosenkrans's zinc marker located in the Lower Walpack Cemetery

Mary Smith was born in 1812, in Walpack, New Jersey, and died at the age of 52 in 1864. She died in Flatbrookville. Her father was Christian Smith, and her mother was Mary Smith. Both her parents are buried in the Lower Walpack Cemetery, New Jersey.

It is interesting to note that Mary died in 1864, which was

twelve years before the zinc monuments went on the market. It makes you wonder if she had a previous grave marker or did not have one at all.

Mary's husband was Elijah Rosenkrans, a prominent Walpack citizen. He was born in 1806, in Walpack, New Jersey, and died at the age of 79 in 1885, in Newton, NJ. His father was Colonel Benjamin Rosenkrans (War of 1812 veteran) and his mother was Margaret Schoonover. Benjamin and Margaret are buried in the Bevans-Peters Valley Reformed Dutch Church Cemetery, Sandyston, New Jersey. Elijah's grandfather was Colonel John Rosenkrans who enlisted in 1777, served in the Third Regiment of the Sussex County Militia and was commissioned to the rank of colonel. John is buried in the Shapanack Cemetery in Walpack Township, Walpack, New Jersey, along the Old Mine Road near the Van Campen Inn.

In the US 1860 Census, Mary is shown as age 48, living in Walpack, NJ, with a Flatbrookville post office. In the household are her husband Elijah and four other individuals. The US 1860 Census shows Elizah as a hotel keeper.

Mary's Death Record records her death on Feb 7, 1864, in Flatbrookville, New Jersey. Her occupation was noted as landlady. Mary's zinc grave marker says, “Mary Smith wife of Elijah Rosenkrans, Feb. 19, 1812 Feb 7, 1864. Immortal Bloom Beyond the Tomb. 51 years, 11 months, 18 Days.” Mary and Elijah had no children.

continued on pg. 6

IN THE SHADOW OF A ZINC GRAVE MARKER

continued from pg. 5

by Jennifer S. Brylinski

After Mary died, Elijah had a second wife named Amanda M.F. VanSickle (1836 – 1883). They were married on March 27, 1866. They lived in Walpack and in Newton, NJ, at 116 Halsted Street. Elijah was buried in Newton Cemetery, Newton, NJ. He is buried next to his second wife Amanda VanSickle.

The paragraph below is taken from *The Rosenkrans Family in Europe and America*, by Allen Rosenkrans of Newton, New Jersey, pg. 118 – 119, about Elijah and Mary Rosenkrans. Published originally in 1900. The “writer” referred to in the paragraph below is Allen Rosenkrans himself.

Elijah Rosenkrans, son of Col. Benjamin, was born in Walpack, NJ, March 11, 1806. He married Maria Smith July 2, 1830, born Feb 9, 1812, daughter of Christian and Mary Smith. In 1831 he purchased of his father a farm of 106 acres in Upper Walpack, which he sold to Benjamin Youngs, and purchased the farm of 230 acres in Walpack, formerly owned by his father-in-law, on the Ridge Road above his brother Everett, which farm he subsequently sold to Darius Layton. He then moved to Flatbrookville, in Lower Walpack, and improved the village by building a hotel, storehouse, flooring mill and other buildings, keeping a hotel there for many years. He owned a farm also in Lucerne County, Pennsylvania, which he sold to Benjamin Youngs, and subsequently owned one in Bradford County, Pennsylvania. In 1858, Elijah Rosenkrans purchased of the writer the property on the eastern corner of Halsted and Madison Street, Newton, and moved there 1874, where he remained till his death. In front of the dwelling on Halsted Street stand four maple trees which the writer placed there with his own hands in 1863.

While living at Flatbrookville Elijah's wife died Feb 7, 1864, and March 27, 1866, he married Amanda M.F. Van Sickle, daughter of Benjamin P. of Peter's Valley, NJ, born April 23, 1836, and died in Newton April 12, 1883. Elijah died November 5, 1885, the day after the writer's return from Scranton, who watched by his bedside the night before his death. His likeness and biography may be found in Everett & Peck's history of Sussex County, with the following record concerning him closing his biography,

“In his township he has been honored with most of the offices of trust and responsibility in managing its affairs, and for many years officiated as Justice of the Peace and Assessor.” His children, all by his second wife, were: Mary V., Hortense and Sylvia Augusta. [Though other sources say Elijah and Amanda only had one child, a son.]

The following excerpt is from a paragraph written about Flatbrookville which included information about Elijah Rosenkrans by Wayne McCabe, then President of the Sussex County Historical Society, originally published in the *New Jersey Herald*: “In 1854, Elijah erected a new store in Flatbrookville and leased it to Anson Rosenkrans and built a number of new dwellings. Around 1860 Elijah acquired the old mill and tore it down and built a new mill close by.”

Walpack Township was an 1800's microcosm of the history and imagery we have chosen to tell the story of who we are as a people and as a country. Henry, Horace, Isaac, and Mary were right in the middle of it. Salute to them all!

Sources available on request.

Jennifer Brylinski is a member of the Walpack Historical Society as well as the historian of the DAR Chinkeenunnska Chapter located at the Van Bunschooten Museum in Wantage, NJ.

FIRST HIKE - NEW YEAR'S DAY

The Walpack Historical Society invites you to join us for our annual First Hike on New Year's Day. Hikers are to meet at the Flatbrook-Roy Wildlife Management Area, located off NPS 615 (between Peters Valley and Walpack Center), at 10:30 a.m.. Please park in the fishermen's lot. The hike starts promptly at 11 a.m. and covers approximately 3 miles. Hikers are reminded to dress warmly, wear sturdy shoes with good traction and to bring water and snacks.

Those interested in following the 1860 Map while we hike may do so by downloading the Avenza Maps application and the Sussex County, NJ 1860 Map (both free).

Please visit our social media pages and website for more information and last minute updates.



Photo by Jeff Stoveken

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FROM THE WALPACK HISTORICAL SOCIETY FILES

by Sharon Spangenberg

It has been 75 years since the community of Walpack presented a program which was "the first of its kind given in Walpack." It was for the benefit of Walpack's churches, fire department and its baseball team. The Walpack Revue was an amateur talent show produced by David Ringle with Walpack residents performing as soloists and dancers. There were also skits, a pianist, an impersonator and pantomime performers. A bazaar preceded the 8:30 pm performances. It appears by the number of advertising sponsors (142) and boosters (105) that a great deal of funds were raised in 1950. In fact, the following year The Walpack Revue and Minstrel Show had 150 advertising sponsors and 211 boosters

The Walpack Theme Song—

"Walpack U. S. A."

Lyric and Music by
 Dave Ringle, Ascap.

There's Just one place for me—WALPACK
 It's a great place to be—WALPACK
 A Little Bit of Heaven nestled in the Hills
 A Little bit of Nature with a Million Thrills
 Where the Birds love to nest—WALPACK
 It's the spot they love best—WALPACK
 Where folks smile, all the while, why shouldn't they
 They live in WALPACK, U. S. A.

Copyright 1950

BENEFIT—

St. Matthews Catholic Church
 Walpack Methodist Church
 Walpack Fire Department
 Walpack Ball Team

AUGUST 26—

Bazaar—6:00 P. M.
 Curtain—8:30 P. M.

WALPACK NIGHT

Saturday, August 26

Consisting of—BAZZAR at 6 P. M.
 "THE WALPACK REVUE" at 8:30 P. M.

Benefit of—St. Matthews Mission
 Walpack Methodist Church
 Walpack Township Fire Department
 Walpack Baseball Team

Chairman—Lee Rosenkrans

Committees:

FinanceEverett S. Rosenkrans

Program and PublicityMrs. John Geer,
 Mrs. Paul Darrone, Mrs. Raymond E. Fuller, Mrs.
 Raymond J. Fuller, Mrs. John B. Knight, John
 Maichin, Nevins McBride, Mrs. Arthur Parr, Ted
 Steinmetz

The Mail BagMrs. David Ringle,
 Mrs. Ralph Gioielli, Mrs. Russell Heater, Mrs.
 Joseph Lombardi, Mrs. George Moffett, Miss
 Jane Quinn

The Country KitchenMrs. Lee Rosenkrans,
 Mrs. Abe Aber, Mrs. Charles Christie, Mrs. Har-
 old Hankins, Mrs. Joseph Robbins, Sr., Mrs. Jos-
 eph Robbins, Jr., Mrs. Clyde Warner

Soft DrinksBaseball Team
 Fire Department

ParkingJoseph Robbins, Jr.,
 John Gioielli, John Maichin, Jr.

Clean-upJacob R. Hancy,
 Paul Darrone, Joseph Robbins, Sr., Baseball Team

contributing to a second successful fund-raising event. Added to the performers in 1951 was a girls and boys chorus. How many years The Revue was held is not known. What was interesting to note in the programs was that single women were identified by their first and last name, but married women were identified by only their husband's first and last name, such as Mrs. Benjamin Rosenkrans.

www.walpackhistory.org

FROM THE PRESIDENT

by Don Stieh

Walpack Historical Society regrets the cancellation of Walpack Village and Van Campen Day activities that were scheduled for October 12th, 2025. This was necessary due to the federal government shutdown. We are planning to have all Walpack Village and Van Campen Day activities resume on October 11th, 2026.....so mark your calendars. The tentative 2026 calendar is included on page 2 of this newsletter with additional details to follow in future newsletters. Please remember to check our website and social media for updates and important information.

WE ARE LOOKING FOR WRITERS



As we continue to keep Walpack's history alive, we are requesting our members consider writing an article for possible inclusion in our quarterly newsletter. Please know in advance that any article submitted must be

approved by our trustees and must go through our editing process. If you have an interesting story to tell or have photos of Walpack that you would be willing to share, please submit them to us by visiting walpackhistory.org/newsletter/

~ MISSION STATEMENT ~

The Society actively stimulates an awareness and interest in the Walpack area through lectures, tours, publications and special events, such as Van Campen Day, hikes, and exhibits at county-wide events.

It promotes collection, preservation and dissemination of Walpack area history and acts as a repository for artifacts of the Walpack area, and also maintains a small museum and bookstore and provides tours of Walpack Center and VCI.