

# HUDSON RIVER HERITAGE

EXTENDS SPECIAL THANKS TO:

***André Balazs,***

for making this evening possible

Main Course, *catering*

Dick Miller and Friends, *music*

Everett Rood, Dot Chenevert

& Mid-Hudson Florist Association, *flower arrangements*

*Our staff and volunteers*



HRH is a non-profit organization dedicated for 34 years to preserving architecture, landscapes, and archaeological sites through education, advocacy, and community involvement.

HRH is the Federally-recognized Steward of the Hudson River National Historic Landmark District.

**HRH**  
HUDSON RIVER  
HERITAGE

P.O. BOX 287, RHINEBECK, NEW YORK 12572

(845) 876-2474 WWW.HUDSONRIVERHERITAGE.ORG

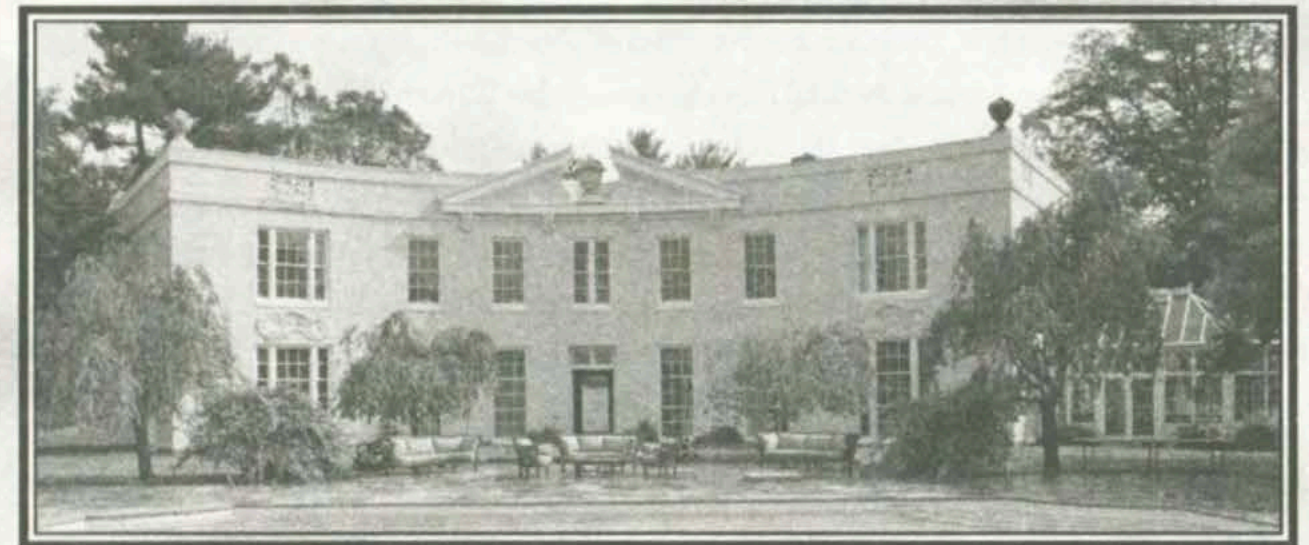
# HUDSON RIVER HERITAGE

## An Evening at The Locusts

STAATSBURG, NEW YORK

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2008

5:30 PM UNTIL 9 PM



*A Celebration of Preservation*



October 18, 2008

Dear Members and Friends,



On behalf of the Board of HRH, I thank you for attending a rare opportunity to enjoy a sunset and a moonrise at this jewel of the Hudson Valley. We all thank André Balazs for his determination to restore Mrs. Hull's beautiful villa and to return the estate barns and landscape to the grandeur of their Dinsmore days. His vision makes this evening possible.

I would like to place The Locusts in the context of our 20th Country Seats Tour, happening this weekend. Three of today's five private homes were originally part of the 1890s Vanderbilt Estate; the other two were earlier residences key to Hyde Park history. The Locusts, similar to the adjacent Staatsburgh estate also known as Mills Mansion, was two centuries ago a seat of the Livingston family: there a governor of New York, here a US Supreme Court justice appointed by Thomas Jefferson.

Tomorrow the tour visits five more homes in the beautiful, bucolic Town of Clinton on our northeast. Again we echo last year's tour "The Livingstons and Palatines" that visited country seats in and around Germantown. In Clinton, three of the four restored and expanded farmsteads were affiliated with descendants of the Palatine Germans, who came from the middle Rhine Valley to start life anew on Livingston land, two years short of three centuries ago. The fifth home is a 2007 eco-friendly version of the Gothic Revival style that architect A. J. Davis introduced in 1836 in the Towns of Red Hook and Rhinebeck, the location of next year's Country Seats Tour.

With your support, Hudson River Heritage may be around in another five decades to recognize the recently built Camp Tip-Up as one of the first Twenty-first Century historic sites. Meanwhile, our preservation advocacy work continues in respect to the Kingston waterfront and the Moul House, a 1700s farmstead in the center of Red Hook. Our upcoming education efforts include a Quadricentennial event and curriculum building in local schools. Thanks for your support of the HRH mission to preserve architecture, landscapes, and archaeological sites through education, advocacy, and community involvement.

Christopher Lindner  
President, Hudson River Heritage

# An Evening at The Locusts

HONORING EVERETT ROOD'S LIFETIME DEDICATION  
TO THE BEAUTIFICATION OF OUR HISTORIC AREA



## HUDSON RIVER HERITAGE EXTENDS ITS GRATITUDE TO OUR GENEROUS SUPPORTERS:

### HERITAGE PATRONS

Tom and Tosh Barron  
Central Hudson Gas & Electric Corporation

### HERITAGE FRIENDS

John and Gloria Golden, Jack and Fritzzy Goodman,  
Dr. Stephen and Ms. Patricia Lichtenberg, Locust Grove,  
Lillian and Derek Ostergard, Alex Reese and Alison Spear,  
Christopher Scholz and Ines Elskop, Lisa and Gordon Weiss,  
Marist College, Darmstadt Overhead Doors, Inc.



### WE ALSO THANK OUR HONORARY COMMITTEE:

Hilary Hull Huntington  
Fritzzy and Jack Goodman  
Alex Reese and Alison Spear

### AND, RECOGNIZE OUR WORKING COMMITTEE:

Karen Bullot	Joanne Cuttler	Arvia Morris
Matthew Carnicelli	Louise Kalin	Jennie Neu-Duncan
Heather Carroll	Susan Lindner	Lisa Weiss



# The Locusts

The Locusts enjoys a privileged setting with nearly 3,000 feet of river frontage on the banks of the Hudson. It is one of only three estates located west of the railroad, enabling one to stroll down the sweeping expanse of lawn

to the water's edge. André Balazs purchased the property in 2004 with the intention of restoring the home and its grounds to their original grandeur and former glory. Mr. Balazs has dedicated the past four years to restoring the magnificent 7,000 square-foot home back to the Modernistic design of architect John Churchill, restoring the barn complex, and honoring the property's historic heritage.

The copper-trimmed parquet floors; the conservatory; the marbleized, carved wood fireplaces; and other fine architectural details

have been masterfully returned to perfection. Original glass-front cupboards remain in the state-of-the-art chef's kitchen with a new floor of hand-crafted Italian tile. The villa was designed for the pleasure of entertaining in a splendid interior setting.

Guests are greeted at the front door with a view down a hallway through glass doors that offers the river, the mountains, and the sky. The innovatively curved design of the house truly invites one inside to delight in the light and the landscapes that the windows frame.

The extensive 1870s barn complex, distinguished by louvered rooftop cupolas and clover-leaf windows, and the fancy "Piggery" are now under restoration. Many of the locust trees planted by Livingstons and other specimen trees remain standing.

"One of the most picturesque and possessing places on the Hudson."

-Town and Country Magazine, 1902

Lithographs from *The History of Dutchess County*, James Smith



"THE LOCUSTS" - THE LODGE AND CARRIAGE HOUSE

The Locusts property was first inhabited by Native Americans, most likely traveling bands of Lenape Indians who camped along the river to fish. New York Governor Mario Cuomo was at the adjacent Staatsburgh estate for a tree planting at the entrance to the Greenway Trail system. When lifting out a ceremonial shovel of earth, he spotted a 5,000-year-old stone projectile! In 1686, Henry Pawling purchased the land that is now Staatsburg from the Indians. About 1720, Dr. Samuel Staats of New York City bought much of the Pawling land, hence the name of the hamlet.

Staatsburg became famous for its elegant riverfront estates, attract-

ing the country seats of important founding families including the Livingstons, Lewises, Hoyts, Morgans, Mills, and Norries. The Locusts property was first developed in the late 1700s by Henry Brockholtz Livingston, a Supreme Court judge and continued by James Dwayne Livingston, a prominent lawyer in New York. The Livingstons called the estate "The Locusts" after the many magnificent locusts their family members are reknowned for planting on their lands. Next door lived Gertrude Livingston and her husband New York Governor, Morgan Lewis. In 1835, William Emmet purchased the estate and built an early Gothic Revival house on the bluff.