

Descendants of Geertruy Philips van Schuyler

Generation No. 1

1. GEERTRUY PHILIPS¹ VAN SCHUYLER She married PIETER DIERCKS.

Children of GEERTRUY VAN SCHUYLER and PIETER DIERCKS are:

2. i. DAVIDSE PIETERSE² SCHUYLER, d. 09 Feb 1690.
3. ii. PHILIP PIETERSE SCHUYLER.

Generation No. 2

2. DAVIDSE PIETERSE² SCHUYLER (*GEERTRUY PHILIPS¹ VAN SCHUYLER*) died 09 Feb 1690. He married CATALYN VERPLANCK. She died 08 Oct 1708.

Notes for DAVIDSE PIETERSE SCHUYLER:

David Schuyler
by
Stefan Bielinski

David Pieterse Schuyler was a pioneer member of early Albany's most important New Netherland family.

He was born in Holland in 1636, a younger son of German-born Amsterdam baker Pieter Diercks and Geertruy Philips van Schuyler. He spent the first decade and a half of his life in Amsterdam. By the mid-1650s, he had emigrated to New Netherland with his older brother, Philip Pieterse.

Settling in Rensselaerswyck, the Schuylers initially were carpenters but quickly found fortune in trading for furs. By 1660, both brothers were listed among the principal fur traders of the community.

In 1657, he married Catalina Ver Planck - the daughter of a New Amsterdam trader. Settling along the Albany waterfront near the north gate, David Schuyler traded for furs and for countryside produce. His marriage produced eight children between 1659 and 1678. He was a member and officer of the Albany Dutch Church. After serving in a number of civic positions during the 1660s, '70s, and early 1680s, in 1686, this city father was appointed alderman under the Albany city charter. He served as alderman for the third ward until his death.

David Pieterse filed his will in May 1688. Calling himself a merchant of Albany City, he named his wife Catalina as executor and chief beneficiary. Also mentioned were his eight surviving children. To them he left his two Albany houses and other property. He died in February 1690 - according to bible records two days after fleeing from the Schenectady massacre. He lived about fifty-four years.

Child of DAVIDSE SCHUYLER and CATALYN VERPLANCK is:

4. i. ABRAHAM DAVIDSE³ SCHUYLER, b. 16 Aug 1663; d. 09 Jul 1726.

3. PHILIP PIETERSE² SCHUYLER (*GEERTRUY PHILIPS¹ VAN SCHUYLER*) He married MARGARITA VAN SCHLICHTENHORST Dec 1650.

Notes for PHILIP PIETERSE SCHUYLER:

Philip Pieterse
by
Stefan Bielinski

Philipse Pieterse Schuyler was the first outstanding member of early Albany's most important New Netherland family.

He was born in Holland in 1628, the oldest child of German-born Amsterdam baker Pieter Diercks and Geertruy Philips van Schuyler. By 1650, he had emigrated to New Netherland with his younger brother, David Pieterse.

In December 1650, twenty-two-year-old Philip Pieterse was in Rensselaerswyck where he married Margarita Van Slichtenhorst - daughter of the director of the colony. That union admitted a newly arrived carpenter to the upper echelon of New Netherland society. It also produced a large family of twelve American-born children between 1652 and 1672. Eight of those offspring went on to establish the Schuyler family in Albany and beyond.

Taking the surname of their mother's family, the Schuylers' success followed the meteoric rise of its founder. Settling in Beverwyck, Philip Pieterse was among its earliest householders when lots were first apportioned during the 1650s. Although nominally a carpenter or gunstockmaker, like many of his neighbors he entered the fur trade. By 1660, he stood with the principal traders of the community. He used those profits to begin a favored family practice of acquiring additional real estate. Those holdings began with the house he built on the corner of today's State and Pearl Streets. It remained a family fixture for most of the next hundred years. By 1672, he also had acquired land along the Hudson beyond the Van Rensselaer manor house. That farm became a family summer home known as "the Flats". In addition, Philip Pieterse owned houses and lots in New Amsterdam/New York, several hundred acres east of the Hudson and below Rensselaerswyck, and lots in Wiltwyck and at Halfmoon as well.

His marital connection to the New Netherland power structure set the stage for his appointment to the Beverwyck court. After the English take-over, he was appointed a magistrate of the Albany court - predecessor of the Albany Corporation. Although he retired from the court in 1671, he was considered one of Albany's leaders for the rest of his life. Sometimes referred to as "Captain Schuyler," he held military commissions under the Duke of York and also was appointed "commissary" at Albany in 1666. He was the first of many Schuylers to represent Albany in meetings with the Iroquois.

Born in Holland, Dutch-speaking Philip Pieterse was the first of several generations of independent but reasonable Albany leaders to be favored by the English and British with official appointments, access to land, and contracts.

On May 1, 1683, Philipse Pieterse Schuyler filed a joint will with his wife, Margarita. The document noted the ages of their eight living children. He died eight days later and was buried under the Albany Dutch Church. His widow continued to live in the family homes on State Street and at the Flats until her death in 1711. Dead before his time, Philip Pieterse did not see sons Pieter and Johannes serve as mayors of Albany. But from his Albany house came dozens of others who made the Schuyler family early Albany's foremost and one of the major families of colonial New York as well.

notes

Schuyler family histories: Many works have been issued on the family of Philip Pieterse and David Pieterse Schuyler. The most useful of them will be identified and linked from here in the future. The outstanding genealogical resource (and one consulted frequently for guidance by the (Colonial Albany Project) is the two volume Schuyler Genealogy published by the Friends of Schuyler Mansion in 1987 and 1992. Chief among the antiquarian works on the family is: George H. Schuyler, Colonial New York: Philip Schuyler and His Family (New York, 1885), two volumes.

Children of PHILIP SCHUYLER and MARGARITA VAN SCHLICHTENHORST are:

5. i. JOHANNES³ SCHUYLER, b. 1668, Albany.
6. ii. GEERTRUY SCHUYLER.

Generation No. 3

4. ABRAHAM DAVIDSE³ SCHUYLER (*DAVIDSE PIETERSE*², *GEERTRUY PHILIPS*¹ *VAN SCHUYLER*) was born 16 Aug 1663, and died 09 Jul 1726. He married GEERTRUY TEN BROECK 10 Nov 1691, daughter of DIERCK BROECK and CHRISTINA VAN BUREN.

Notes for ABRAHAM DAVIDSE SCHUYLER:

Abraham Schuyler

by

Stefan Bielinski

Abraham Davidse Schuyler was born in August 1663. He was the eldest surviving son of Beverwyck pioneers Davidse Pieterse and Catharina Verplanck Schuyler. As a young man, he represented his father's trading interests in the Indian country. Living among the Senecas for extended periods, he also represented Albany as an agent and interpreter. But following the untimely death of David Pieterse in 1690, Abraham was called home to manage the Albany end of the family business. At that time, he settled in Albany and into the life of a merchant and civic leader.

Marriage represented a first step in setting down community roots. He wed Geertruy Ten Broeck in 1691 - the daughter of one of Albany's founders. Because only two children were born during the first decade of the marriage, their family of five children was much smaller than the early Albany average. Abraham was an active member of the Albany Dutch church, where, despite absences from Albany, he was a frequent baptism sponsor.

More and more an export merchant, in his younger days Abraham Schuyler had been master of a Hudson River sloop. Thus, he was experienced in the sales and transport phases of bartering furs, farm, and forest products for imported items in New York.

From about 1690 to 1701, Abraham Schuyler was a prominent Albany figure. Connected to the most important early Albany families, his landmark home near the north gate was a center of city-based business. Serving as assessor, assistant, alderman, and judge, over a twenty year period, he literally spoke for Albany in dealings with the Indians.

In 1709, he accompanied his cousin, Pieter Schuyler, and four Mohawk chiefs to England and an audience with Queen Anne. He acted as interpreter on their mission to obtain military and spiritual assistance for the Iroquois. He returned home in 1710 and resumed his multi-faceted career. One of the more visible Albany city fathers, Abraham Schuyler continued to go to Canada and into the Indian country on diplomatic missions for the Albany Commissioners of Indian Affairs. He held a provincial appointment as "Overseer of the Indian Trade," captained a company of Indian scouts, held a militia commission, and was called "Captain" and "Major."

Barely middle-aged, Abraham Schuyler had filed a will in 1709. It left an extensive estate to Geertruy during her widowhood. Even into his sixties, Schuyler continued to travel on diplomatic business. Seventeen years later, in July 1726, he died in the Seneca country following a brief illness. His widow lived in their house on Market Street for more than a dozen years.

notes

The life of Abraham Davidse Schuyler is CAP biography number 921. This profile is derived chiefly from family and community-based resources. Because of his diplomatic career, much additional information has been derived from the New York Colonial Documents series.

The Verplanck (mother's family) connection gave him entre to Manhattan trading circles. His father-in-law was Dirck Wesselse. His younger brother, Myndert Schuyler, became mayor of Albany in 1719.

He lived in the house built by his father on the southeastern corner of Market and Steuben Streets. He shared that complex structure with his mother until her death in 1708. That home remained in the Schuyler family throughout the eighteenth century. He also owned another "little house on the street with a lot in the rear" either adjacent or located nearby. Perhaps the "little house" was owned by Jacobus Schuyler, a still-younger brother who died in 1707!

Notes for GEERTRUY TEN BROECK:

Geertruy Ten Broeck Schuyler

by

Stefan Bielinski

Geertruy Ten Broeck was born about 1670. She was the fifth of thirteen children born to Albany pioneers Dirck Wesselse and Christina Van Buren Ten Broeck. She grew up in a landmark home on Albany's main street from where her father conducted his multi-faceted business.

In 1691, she married Abraham Schuyler, a son of Albany's most prominent New Netherland family. Their five children were baptized in the Albany Dutch church between 1692 and 1707 where both parents were members.

These Schuylers set up their home on "Brewers" (Market) Street in what Abraham Schuyler later would call a "little house on the street." He was a fur trader, city official, and frequently was in the Indian country on diplomatic business. He died in the Seneca country after an illness in 1726.

Geertruy inherited all of Abraham's substantial estate. In 1736, she transferred some land. Perhaps she was still alive in 1756 and living next door to her son David A. Schuyler!

notes

The life of Geertruy Ten Broeck Schuyler is CAP biography number 46. This profile is derived chiefly from family and community-based resources.

Child of ABRAHAM SCHUYLER and GEERTRUY BROECK is:

7. i. JACOBUS⁴ SCHUYLER, b. 19 Mar 1707.

5. JOHANNES³ SCHUYLER (*PHILIP PIETERSE*², *GEERTRUY PHILIPS*¹ *VAN SCHUYLER*) was born 1668 in Albany. He married ELSIE STATS WENDELL Apr 1695.

Notes for JOHANNES SCHUYLER:

Johannes Schuyler

by

Stefan Bielinski

Johannes Schuyler was born in Albany in 1668, youngest of the six sons of Philip Pieterse and Margarita Van Slichtenhorst Schuyler.

Johannes grew up in the new family home on State Street and on the farm at the Flats. Although Philip Pieterse died when the boy was just fifteen, his father was able to establish three of his sons in advantageous business situations beyond Albany. Eldest son Pieter Schuyler succeeded in his father's Albany-based enterprises. Young Johannes was able to follow in the Albany setting as well. Few New Netherland families were able to place their children so well.

Residing with his widowed mother, Johannes Schuyler grew into adulthood. An accomplished fur trader who often went into the Indian country, he learned business and the responsibilities of landholding. Beginning in 1690, held militia commissions - where as Captain and Colonel he served Albany interests long and well.

In April 1695, he married the widow Elsie Staats Wendell - already the mother of eleven children. Marriage to the daughter and widow of two of early Albany's foremost families was not surprising. However, Johannes was twenty-seven and his bride a decade older. In addition, Elsie was expecting and would give birth to the first of their four children just eight months later. This union of an older women to a much younger man is without parallel in early Albany history.

Johannes moved into his wife's home on State Street and was elected to the city council in 1695. He would hold the first ward aldermanic seat for much of the next two decades. His trading experience made him one of the more

active members of the Commissioners of Indian Affairs. As late as 1737, he was sent into the Onondaga country on a diplomatic mission.

In 1703, this city father was appointed mayor of Albany. Re-appointed three more times, he served until 1706. In 1710, he was elected to represent Albany County in the provincial Assembly - where served until 1713. During this time, he retained his seat on the common council.

Assessment rolls for the early 1700s show Johannes Schuyler to be one of the wealthiest Albany traders. He was a supporter and deacon of the Albany Dutch Church and the godfather of many Albany children. Like many Albany leaders, he was able to acquire extensive frontier acreage and administered his mother's lands as well. During the three decades of peace and development (1713-44), he was able to establish mills on some of those properties and engage tenants to begin to tap farm and forest potentials.

Having outlived all of his siblings, by the 1730s this onetime youngest son became patriarch of the Schuyler family - watching as children, Wendell stepchildren, and grandchildren succeeded to places of prominence and leadership in Albany and beyond. His wife died in 1737. He made his will in 1742. City father, military leader, Indian diplomat and frontier developer, Johannes Schuyler's long career spanned Albany's transition from outpost to entrepot. He died in February 1747 - a year shy of his eightieth birthday.

notes

The life of Johannes Schuyler is CAP biography number 100. We know of no other narrative biography of Johannes Schuyler. Basic demographic information has been compiled in Christoph's Schuyler Genealogy.

This portrait of Johannes Schuyler has been sewn together with a portrait of his wife. It has been widely reproduced and is in the collection of the New-York Historical Society This unusual double painting was painted prior to Elsie's death in 1737. Both portraits probably were done by Scottish-born artist John Watson. In 1741, the double portrait was noted in Johannes Schuyler's will.

Between 1692 and 1731, Johannes Schuyler witnessed twenty-seven baptisms in the Schuyler, Staats, and Wendell families, and of other Albany children as well.

Child of JOHANNES SCHUYLER and ELSIE WENDELL is:

8. i. JOHANNES⁴ SCHUYLER, JR., b. Oct 1697, Albany, NY.

6. GEERTRUY³ SCHUYLER (*PHILIP PIETERSE², GEERTRUY PHILIPS¹ VAN SCHUYLER*) She married STEPHANUS VAN COURTLANDT.

Notes for GEERTRUY SCHUYLER:

Geertruy Schuyler Van Cortlandt

by

Stefan Bielinski

Geertruy Schuyler was born in February 1654. She was the first daughter and second child of New Netherland pioneers Philip Pieterse and Margarita Van Slichtenhorst Schuyler. Her family soon stood in the first rank in Albany business and landholding.

In September 1671, she married Stephanus Van Cortlandt at the New York City Dutch church. She moved to New York to become the wife of one of the colony's most successful merchants. Thus their marriage had united two of the colony's foremost families. By 1698, fourteen of their children were baptized in Manhattan.

Van Cortlandt held many public offices including that of mayor of New York City. He also acquired extensive acreage in Westchester County that became known as Van Cortlandt Manor. His family only visited there - living instead in Manhattan and Brooklyn. Stephanus Van Cortlandt died in 1700 and Geertruy became executor of his

vast estate!

Geertruy Schuyler Van Cortlandt died in New York in 1723.

notes

Sources: The life of Geertruy Schuyler Van Cortlandt is CAP biography number 1726. This sketch is derived chiefly from family and community-based resources.

Child of GEERTRUY SCHUYLER and STEPHANUS VAN COURTLANDT is:

9. i. CORNELIA⁴ VAN COURTLANDT, b. 1698.

Generation No. 4

7. JACOBUS⁴ SCHUYLER (*ABRAHAM DAVIDSE³, DAVIDSE PIETERSE², GEERTRUY PHILIPS¹ VAN SCHUYLER*) was born 19 Mar 1707. He married GEERTRUY STAATS 12 Nov 1735.

Notes for JACOBUS SCHUYLER:

Jacobus Schuyler

by

Stefan Bielinski

Jacobus Schuyler was born in March 1707. He was the son of Abraham and Geertruy Ten Broeck Schuyler. His father was a prominent Albany businessman. However, Abraham Schuyler neglected to name the two-year-old in the will he filed in 1709.

Jacobus married Albany native Geertruy Staats in November 1735. By 1752, their eight children had been baptized in the Albany Dutch church.

These Schuylers lived in Albany's north end. Perhaps they resided with his widowed mother! In 1737, Jacob was appointed firemaster for the third ward. In 1742, his name appeared on an Albany freeholder's list. Except for witnessing a will in 1753, subsequent references to him are rare in the community-based record.

Jacobus Schuyler died in the Spring of 1760 and was buried on May 5 from the Albany Dutch church.

notes

Sources: The life of Jacobus Schuyler is CAP biography number 1327. This sketch is derived chiefly from family and community-based resources.

Child of JACOBUS SCHUYLER and GEERTRUY STAATS is:

10. i. NEELTJE⁵ SCHUYLER, b. Albany; d. 11/14/1832.

8. JOHANNES⁴ SCHUYLER, JR. (*JOHANNES³, PHILIP PIETERSE², GEERTRUY PHILIPS¹ VAN SCHUYLER*) was born Oct 1697 in Albany, NY. He married CORNELIA VAN COURTLANDT 1723 in New York City, daughter of STEPHANUS VAN COURTLANDT and GEERTRUY SCHUYLER. She was born 1698.

Notes for JOHANNES SCHUYLER, JR.:

Johannes Schuyler, Jr.
by
Stefan Bielinski

Johannes Schuyler, Jr. was born in Albany in October 1697, the third child of businessman Johannes and the widow Elsie Staats Wendell Schuyler. He grew up in the Schuyler family home with a dozen siblings from his mother's first and second marriages.

Johannes Jr. married Cornelia Van Cortlandt at the New York City Dutch church in 1723. The marriage brought a large dowry and substantial inheritance from one of the wealthiest families in the province. Cornelia and Johannes had ten children. All of their births were inscribed in his bible that survives in the collection of the Schuyler Mansion State Historic Site.

He followed his father into frontier and farm business and to lucrative government contracts. He even added acreage to his family's already extensive holdings. During the 1730s, he was appointed to the Albany Commissioners of Indian Affairs.

In 1739, his father deeded him the family farm at the Flats. By the time he turned forty, Johannes had emerged as the most likely man to lead the Albany Schuyler family. He was elected first ward alderman in 1738 and 1739. The governor of New York appointed him mayor of Albany in September 1740. He was re-nominated in 1741 but did not take the oath of allegiance required of officeholders.

Johannes Schuyler, Jr. had become ill. Stating he was sick, Johannes filed his will in October 1741. It left the entire estate to Cornelia - including the property she had inherited from her father, as long as she remained a widow. She was charged with the education of their children. After her death, the estate would be divided among their five living children. He died on November 5, 1741 at age forty-four. He was buried in the family plot at Schuyler Flats.

notes

The life of Johannes Schuyler Jr. is CAP biography number 1428. This profile is derived chiefly from community-based resources and from Christoph's Schuyler Genealogy - the most comprehensive source of reliable demographic information. Also important is Don R. Gerlach, Philip Schuyler and the American Revolution in New York, 1733-1777 (Lincoln, NE, 1964).

Portrait by an unknown limner about 1725. Collection of the New-York Historical Society. This portrait has been reproduced widely.

Notes for CORNELIA VAN COURTLANDT:
Cornelia Van Cortlandt Schuyler
by
Stefan Bielinski

Cornelia Van Cortlandt was born in 1698 - the daughter of Manhattan magnate Stephanus Van Cortlandt and Albany native Geertruy Schuyler. She grew up in New York City to inherit one of the foremost fortunes in the province.

Even at the late age of twenty-five, Cornelia would be a coveted match for the son of any elite New York family. In 1723, she married Johannes Schuyler, Jr. in the New York City Dutch church. He was the son of a one-time mayor of Albany and heir to one of the premier estates in the upriver region. The new couple resided in Albany where she gave birth to at least ten children.

As the wife of a prominent merchant and civic leader, Cornelia lived an advantaged life that was augmented by her own inherited lands on Van Cortlandt Manor and in New York City. With her children, she was a frequent visitor in Westchester and also maintained a house on Manhattan.

While her husband was serving as mayor of Albany, he became ill and died in November 1741. She was left an

extensive estate and the responsibility of caring for and educating five almost grown children. For many years, she conducted business in the manner of her late husband from the Schuyler family home which, by the mid-1750s, she shared with her oldest son Philip.

Cornelia Van Cortlandt Schuyler died at home in October 1762 at age sixty-four. She had outlived her husband by more than twenty years. Their family bible was closed with a commentary on her death. It read: "Lovable were they in their lives. The Lord grant them salvation in their death."

notes

The life of Cornelia Van Cortlandt Schuyler is CAP biography number 6662. This profile is derived chiefly from community-based resources and from demographics compiled in Christoph's Schuyler Genealogy.

Her will was filed in November 1758. It described her extensive holdings on Cortland Manor and in New York City.

Child of JOHANNES SCHUYLER and CORNELIA VAN COURTLANDT is:

11. i. PHILIP⁵ SCHUYLER, b. Nov 1733; d. 18 Nov 1804.

9. CORNELIA⁴ VAN COURTLANDT (*GEERTRUY³ SCHUYLER, PHILIP PIETERSE², GEERTRUY PHILIPS¹ VAN SCHUYLER*) was born 1698. She married JOHANNES SCHUYLER, JR. 1723 in New York City, son of JOHANNES SCHUYLER and ELSIE WENDELL. He was born Oct 1697 in Albany, NY.

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Portrait by an unknown limner about 1725. Collection of the New-York Historical Society. This portrait has been reproduced widely.

Child is listed above under (8) Johannes Schuyler, Jr..

Generation No. 5

10. NEELTJE⁵ SCHUYLER (*JACOBUS*⁴, *ABRAHAM DAVIDSE*³, *DAVIDSE PIETERSE*², *GEERTRUY PHILIPS*¹ *VAN SCHUYLER*) was born in Albany, and died in 11/14/1832. She married ABRAHAM VEEDER 02 Apr 1770, son of MYNDERT VEEDER and ELIZABETH DOUW. He was born 30 Sep 1741 in Albany, NY, and died 20 Feb 1817.

Children of NEELTJE SCHUYLER and ABRAHAM VEEDER are:

- i. GEERTRUY⁶ VEEDER, b. 27 Jul 1789, Albany; m. (1) DANIEL WINNE; m. (2) ISAAC LA GRANGE¹.
- ii. ELIZABETH VEEDER.
- iii. MYNDART VEEDER.

11. PHILIP⁵ SCHUYLER (*JOHANNES⁴, JOHANNES³, PHILIP PIETERSE², GEERTRUY PHILIPS¹ VAN SCHUYLER*) was born Nov 1733, and died 18 Nov 1804¹. He married CATHERINE VAN RENSSELAER¹, daughter of STEPHEN VAN RENSSELAER.

Notes for PHILIP SCHUYLER:
Philip Schuyler
by
Stefan Bielinski

Philip Schuyler was born in November 1733. He was the sixth child (and eldest surviving son) of Johannes and Cornelia Van Cortlandt Schuyler. He grew up at the Schuyler house in Albany and on the family farm at the Flats.

Losing his father on the eve of his seventh birthday and several uncles during the 1740s as well, the boy grew up with his younger brothers and was schooled at home. In 1748 he was sent to New Rochelle to be educated by Peter Stoupe - a French Protestant minister. By that time, he was being groomed to take over family leadership in the years to come. Returning home in 1751, Philip began to show symptoms of the gout and pleuresy that would plague him for the rest of his life. But that summer, he undertook a traditional rite of passage with a trip into the Mohawk country to experience the Indian trade.

During that decade he was counselled by and learned from two early American icons, his aunt Margarita Schuyler - who lived at the Flats, and John Bradstreet - a British officer in Albany to procure supplies and transport them to the frontier.

In September 1755, twenty-one-year-old Philip married Catherine Van Rensselaer, daughter of the Lower or Claverack manor. A few months later the first of their fifteen children was baptized in the Albany Dutch church - where both parents were prominent members. At that time, they were living with his mother in the large and rambling Schuyler house at Albany's main intersection.

In 1755, Philip was commissioned a Captain and empowered to raise a militia company that would build fortifications north of Albany. In 1756, he accompanied Bradstreet to Oswego where he learned the business of military supply and also experienced disillusionment when that outpost fell to the French.

Back home in Albany, in 1756 Schuyler was elected to the common council as assistant alderman for the first ward and was able to obtain the contract to operate the ferry that connected Albany with Greenbush. He also held a provincial appointment as commissioner of the excise (import tax) and procured supplies and provisions for Bradstreet as well.

Philip Schuyler returned to active service. As an officer in the British supply train, he took part in attack on Ticonderoga and in Bradstreet's capture of Fort Frontenac. Stationed for the most part at Albany, he served in Bradstreet's quartermaster's department for the remainder of the war.

By 1761, he had begun to gather resources that would enable him to build his own landed estate south of the Beaverkill that became Schuyler Mansion. But in March, Schuyler went to England to broker settlement of Bradstreet's quartermaster's accounts leaving his mentor with the Schuyler family and in charge of the actual construction of his new home. When he returned to Albany at the end of 1762, he found John Bradstreet living with his family in his new Georgian mansion.

Philip Schuyler was elected to the New York General Assembly in 1768. He served until that colonial body disbanded and was replaced by an extra-legal Provincial Congress in 1775. It was in the Assembly that Philip Schuyler began to emerge as a leader of the opposition to post-war British restrictions and strictures.

During that time, his business involved the harvesting of farm and forest products on his extensive Hudson Valley estates and shipping them to New York on his own sloops and schooner. Trading on his inherited real estate and family credit, by the eve of the Revolution, the forty-three-year-old American had emerged as one of the wealthiest landholders in the region. However, his success rested on already functional estates that needed more independent access to markets and resources to develop further. Thus, he had little trouble supporting the

resistance activities that eventually made colonists into revolutionaries!

In June 1775, he was appointed one of the four Major Generals of the Continental army by the Continental Congress. He served until he was replaced in 1777 and finally resigned his commission in April 1779. He then returned to the Continental Congress.

He was selected to the New York State Senate in 1780 and was appointed one of the first two United States Senators for New York in 1788. He served until 1791 and later from 1797 to January 1798 when another attack of gout forced him to resign.

In 1790, Schuyler Mansion was configured on the first ward census with eight family members and thirteen slaves. A decade later, his household, still included eleven slaves.

He died on November 18, 1804 and was buried in the Ten Broeck family vault. Later, his remains were removed to Albany Rural Cemetery and a large monument was erected. His will left an extensive estate to his many heirs!

General Philip Schuyler was the most notable son of the most important early Albany family! He also was one of the wealthiest community residents with extensive client lists in Albany and throughout the region. He was the only Albany native of his day with a reputation beyond the region. However, he only held one Albany municipal office and much of his business was conducted beyond/away from the mainstream Albany commercial establishment. Much of his achievement was beyond the parameters of his birthplace. That said, many things in the community today commemorate his life. Because so much community iconography is focused on him, Philip Schuyler is one of the best-known figures in early Albany history. Although his papers are scattered, they are voluminous and his life has been closely interpreted by several generations of historians. In the process, his story has been mixed (made interchangeable) with that of his home town. Our task is to place "the General" in his proper Albany perspective and not let his interesting, significant, and largely beyond Albany careers speak for the more complex stories of the growth and development of this early American city!

notes

The life of this Philip Schuyler is CAP biography number 1750. He has been the subject of much more study and biographical scholarship than anyone else who lived in the early Albany community. The most substantial works are Don R. Gerlach, *Philip Schuyler and the American Revolution in New York, 1733* (Lincoln, NE, 1964), which comprehended all previous work and is an essential starting point for any understanding of the Schuyler family and its most famous son. Gerlach's second volume, *Proud Patriot: Philip Schuyler and the War for Independence, 1775-1783*, was published by Syracuse University Press in 1987. It is an exhaustive chronicle of the critical period of Schuyler's life. Christoph's *Schuyler Genealogy* is an indispensable family-based resource.

The ultimate intent of this biography is to place a great man in his local context and to leave his out-of-Albany career in the able hands of Don Gerlach and others. This will be a daunting task because Philip Schuyler rarely held Albany offices and was not among its major city-based businessmen. We will come to terms with this outstanding native son in the future.

From a miniature of Philip Schuyler painted by John Trumbull about 1792 and copied from the dust jacket of *Proud Patriot*. Original in the Yale University Art Gallery.

Mirror-image copy of a portrait copied from the Trumbull miniature by Jacob H. Lazarus (1822-91) in 1881. The painting is on display at the Schuyler Mansion State Historic Site, Albany.

His will (recorded December 10, 1804) has been transcribed and appears online.

Legacy: Philip Schuyler Elementary School; Philip Schuyler Apartments (formerly a high school of the same name); a statue of the General in front of city hall; monument at Albany Rural Cemetery; Schuyler Street; Schuyler Meadows Country Club; Schuylerville.

Philip John Schuyler (November 20, 1733 – November 18, 1804) was a general in the American Revolution and a United States Senator from New York. He is usually known as Philip Schuyler, while his son is usually known as Philip J. Schuyler.

Children of PHILIP SCHUYLER and CATHERINE VAN RENSSELAER are:

- i. ELIZABETH⁶ SCHUYLER, m. ALEXANDER HAMILTON.

Notes for ALEXANDER HAMILTON:
Secretary of the Treasury

- ii. PHILIP JEREMIAH SCHUYLER.
- iii. MARGARITA SCHUYLER, m. STEPHEN VAN RENSSELAER III.

Marriage Notes for MARGARITA SCHUYLER and STEPHEN VAN RENSSELAER:
They were cousins.

- iv. ANGELICA SCHUYLER, m. JOHN BAKER CHURCH.

Notes for JOHN BAKER CHURCH:
Member of Parliament

Endnotes

1. Vandervoorts.FTW, Date of Import: 3 Dec 2005.