

J. M. Stillwell

J.M. Kirby

Field + Eastman

- 1. W. M. Smith & Sons, smiths shop
- 2. Harness Shop
- 3.
- 4. D. Hegeman
- 5. Store (Hegeman)

ROSLYN 1859

0 100 200 300 400 500 600

KEY TO WALLING MAP OF MAIN STREET, ROSLYN

1. Van Nostrand-Starkins House (J.M. Kirby), 221 Main Street. Built circa 1680. Original owner not yet identified. William Van Nostrand was a yeoman who sold the house to Joseph Starkins, a blacksmith, in 1795. The house was extended to the north during the 18th century, probably by Van Nostrand. There also is an early 19th century wing which was built by Joseph Starkins. The Van Nostrand-Starkins House is owned by the Incorporated Village of Roslyn and is rented by the Roslyn Landmark Society under terms of a long-term lease. It currently is being restored by the Landmark Society and will be opened as a house museum.

To the rear of the Van Nostrand-Starkins House is the Jacob Kirby Cottage, circa 1855 (221 A Main Street). The Kirby Cottage started life as an independent 2 room structure. About 1870 it was attached to the Van Nostrand-Starkins House to serve as a kitchen wing. This operation was carried out by Capt. Jacob Kirby who acquired the property on the death of Joseph Starkins in 1843. Kirby operated a fleet of sloops and schooners between Roslyn and New York prior to the arrival of the railroad. In 1970 the Roslyn Landmark Society detached the Kirby Cottage from the Van Nostrand-Starkins House, re-located it and restored it to serve as a residence.

2. Warren Wilkie House, 192 Main Street. The present house is conservatively dated to have been built about 1865 although it could have been built a few years earlier. A house belonging to Warren Wilkie is shown on the Walling Map. However, Warren's father, Anthony Wilkie, had owned this land since the very early 19th century. Anthony had built an earlier house on the same site which was moved across the pond prior to the building of the present house. The earlier house still survives on East Broadway. At the moment it cannot be established definitely whether the house indicated on the Walling Map is the earlier house before it was moved or the present house. The house, which had been empty for many years, was involved in a landslide and badly vandalized. It is owned by and is being restored by the Roslyn Preservation Corporation.
3. Methodist Parsonage, 180 Main Street. Built as the parsonage for the adjacent Wesley Methodist Episcopal Church in 1843. Thomas Wood, a local carpenter, was the builder. The church edifice was burned during the 20th century and the church re-located in Roslyn Heights. Residence of Mr. & Mrs. Harold C. Mufson.
4. Wilson Williams House (Thomas Wood), 150 Main Street. The west end of the house is the earlier. This was built by Wilson Williams, a cooper, circa 1770. Williams made the vats for the Onderdonk-Remsen-Gaine paper mill in 1773. The house was bought by Thomas Wood, a carpenter, in 1827. Wood extended the house to the east. Thomas Wood was very highly regarded as a carpenter and built a number of houses along Main Street, and elsewhere in Roslyn, during the second quarter of the 19th century. A Roslyn Preservation Corporation project. Residence of Mrs. Donald P. Burkhart. The house has been carefully restored by its present owner.

Note: Between House #4 and House #5 are two houses not shown on the Walling Map but almost certainly built before its 1859 publication date. The map is a large one and includes all of the present Kings, Queens and Nassau Counties with many details of towns and villages as the map of Roslyn. Since most of these areas had not previously been mapped in as great detail it is likely the map took several years to prepare. For this reason a house built as early as 1856 or even 1855 might not be shown on the map. The two houses are:

Samuel Dugan I House, 148 Main Street. Circa 1855. Designated in this manner to distinguish it from Samuel Dugan, Jr's. house which still stands on East Broadway. Samuel Dugan was a highly accomplished local stone-mason who immigrated from Belfast, North Ireland, about 1850. He built the original stone railroad bridges in Roslyn. He almost certainly built the stone foundation of the Warren Wilkie House which is as sound today as when the house was built notwithstanding the house's inundation in a landslide which deposited 26 feet of gravel around the house. A Roslyn Preservation Corporation project. Residence of Mr. & Mrs. Leonard Blum. The house was carefully restored by its present owners.

John S. Wood House, 140 Main Street. Circa 1855. John S. Wood was the son of Thomas Wood whose house has been described above. Like his father, John Wood was a carpenter. Probably he was associated with his father in the construction of many of the Main Street houses. ~~XX~~ Almost certainly he built his own house in association with his father. Residence of Mr. & Mrs. Edmond H. Ilg.

5. John Williams House (W.H. Cornell), 130 Main Street. 1790-1800. Built by John Williams, son of Wilson Williams who lived a few houses to the south. Originally there were no houses between the two houses. Residence of Mr. & Mrs. Ernest G. Dunnet.
6. John Hendrickson House (Samuel R. Ely, D.D.), circa 1830. Virtually nothing is known of John Hendrickson except that, probably, he was the original owner of the house which, probably, was built by Thomas Wood, the carpenter. Reverend Samuel R. Ely was the minister of the Roslyn Presbyterian Church from 1854 to 1870. Obviously he had other income beyond the ministerial as the house was one of the most ambitious of its day. He was a Princeton alumnus whose reputation extended beyond the local area. His biography is included in Appleton's Cyclopaedia of American Biography (1888). Residence of Mrs. George E. Brower. ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ Restored and enlarged by present owner.
7. Capt. James Smith House (William H. Smith), 106 Main Street. Circa 1825. Original owner of house was James Smith, the local tailor, who was the Commanding Officer of the Hempstead Harbor-Flower Hill Militia Company during the War of 1812. The house was purchased by William H. Smith, the local blacksmith, who was not related, in 1856. The house remained in the ownership of the latter's descendents until the summer of 1971. Owned by Dr. & Mrs. Roger Gerry. The house is presently under study preparatory to its early restoration.

8. Obadiah Washington Valentine House (W. Valentine), 105 Main Street. Circa 1835. Washington Valentine operated his family's paper mill until his death in 1854. The house remained in the ownership of the Valentine family until the sale of the William M. Valentine holdings early in the present century. Almost certainly the house was built by Thomas Wood, a local carpenter. Residence of Dr. & Mrs. Roger Gerry. Restored by present owners.
9. Myers Valentine House, 83 Main Street. Built 1840-1845. Enlarged 1865-1870, probably by John Wood, a local carpenter. Myers Valentine took over the operation of the family paper mill following the death of his brother, Obadiah Washington, in 1854. Residence of Mr. & Mrs. Donald G. Horn.
10. Leonard Thorn. Two houses owned by Leonard Thorn are shown on the map, together; Thorn owned a large livery stable and was the local mortician. ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~
 - #94 Main Street. Built about 1825 with some later additions. Residence of Mr. & Mrs. Joseph H. Brown.
 - #88 Main Street. The larger of the two houses. Built circa 1840 with later additions. Residence of Mr. & Mrs. John J. Moreland. Restored by the present owners.
11. Henry W. Eastman House, 75 Main Street. The original south section was built 1815-1820 by an unidentified owner. Henry Western Eastman enlarged the house to the north about 1870 and his descendents enlarged it further in the same direction about 1890. Henry W. Eastman was a prominent local lawyer who served as President of the Bar Association of Queens County, which at that time included Nassau. He was the co-publisher of the Roslyn Plaindealer, the first local newspaper, during 1850-1852. He was one of the founders of the Roslyn Savings Bank. Residence of Mr. & Mrs. Karl B. Holtzschue. The house was restored by its present owners.
12. Dr. Furman Field House, 76 Main Street. Probably built by another prior to Dr. Field's ownership. Dr. Field was the local doctor during the third quarter of the 19th century. The house was built about 1830. Residence of Mr. & Mrs. Marc Brugnoni.
13. Henry W. Eastman Law Office, 55 Main Street. Circa 1850. Originally built as a residence but served for many years as the offices of Henry Western Eastman, who lived next door at 75 Main Street. The building served as the office for the first Roslyn newspaper, The Plaindealer (1850-1852). The Roslyn Savings Bank started operations in this building, in 1876, and functioned there for many years. The original brick bank vault, in the Gothic Style, survives. Owned by Charles Solomon.
14. O. W. Pollitz House. One of two houses owned by O. W. Pollitz shown on map. House is situated on hillside above Main Street. It was built about 1855. The Pollitz family immigrated from Belfast, North Ireland, about 1840. Residence of Mr. Alfred Edwards.

15. John Mott House, 60 Main Street. 1835. Probably Thomas Wood was the carpenter who built this house. Residence of Mr. & Mrs. Thomas H. Shilson.
16. George Allen. Two houses are shown, both keyed to the same name:
- 36 Main Street. Built about 1840. Property of Robert Augenstein.
- 20 Main Street. Built about 1830. Residence of Mr. & Mrs. Albert Pagnotta.
17. O. W. Pollitz House. This is the second of the two Pollitz houses which are listed individually on the Walling Map. Like the other, this is situated on the hillside above Main Street. It was built about 1850. The Pollitz family immigrated from Belfast, North Ireland, about 1840. Probably this house was their actual residence. A son, John Codman Pollitz, who died during the Civil War, saved his pay as a soldier in the Union Army to buy the bell for the original Trinity Church. Residence of Mr. & Mrs. Walter Ogle.
18. John Willis House, 18 Main Street. Circa 1835. John Willis operated the grist mill for several years during the 19th century in partnership with George Allen. Owned by Anthony Bretone.
19. Leonard Thorn Shop, 23 Main Street. One of a group of early 19th century shops, probably built circa 1840. Leonard Thorn operated a livery stable and was the local mortician. Owned by Marilyn K. Shaw.
20. A. Kilpatric Shop, 21 Main Street. One of a group of early 19th century shops, probably built circa 1840. Owned by Marilyn K. Shaw.
21. Mrs. Kirby's Shop, 19 Main Street. One of a group of early 19th century shops, probably built circa 1840. Owned by Marilyn K. Shaw.
22. Jean Pine House (D. Bogert). Intersection of Main Street & Old Northern Boulevard. House forms the northern terminus of Main Street. Built by Jean Pine, a Frenchman, in 1744. Probably should be called the Hendrick Onderdonk House, in honor of its owner for about 40 years starting in 1754. Hendrick Onderdonk owned most of Roslyn during the second half of the 18th century, including the Grist Mill, the Paper Mill, and a large general store. He was visited, in this house, by General George Washington in 1790. Since Hendrick Onderdonk's time the house has been very much enlarged. Owned by Henry Hermansen.

Numbers 23, 24, & 25 are not on Main Street but are closely related to it.

23. Grist Mill, 1347 Old Northern Boulevard. Built by John Robison and his sons, probably prior to 1710. Except for its sheathing, the mill has survived in an almost intact state and still retains much of its 18th century milling ~~machinery~~ machinery. Authorities agree that it actually was constructed by a Dutch millwright or one who was trained in the Dutch tradition. It is the only surviving commercial building of Dutch origin in the U.S. Not a single early 18th century water mill has survived in Holland. Owned by the Grist Mill Historical Society.
24. William M. Valentine House, Paper Mill Road. The house appears on the map to be located on East Broadway. Actually, it is somewhat west of East Broadway. It was moved across the Paper Mill Road in 1968 to make room for the expansion of the Bryant Library. ~~xxxx~~ Its original location was even further to the west. The house probably was built by William Valentine about 1801, although it may have been built by Hendrick or Anderis Onderdonk a few years earlier. It was enlarged by William M. Valentine, a son of William, about 1863. William Valentine purchased and operated the Onderdonk-Remsen-Gaine paper mill about 1801. His son, William M., had a ~~xxxx~~ general merchandise establishment in a large brick building which still survives at the corner of Main Street and Tower Street. This building was built in 1862. The William M. Valentine House was restored by the Incorporated Village of Roslyn, ~~xxxxxxx~~ in 1963, to serve as a Village Hall and a house museum. It has been mentioned that it was moved across Paper Mill Road in 1968.
25. Onderdonk-Remsen-Gaine Paper Mill, Paper Mill Road about 200 feet east of Main Street. The paper mill was built by Hendrick Onderdonk, Henry Remsen and Hugh Gaine in 1773. There is substantial basis for believing it to be the earliest paper mill in New York State. The present building is a replica of the original which collapsed early in the present century. The replica was completed in 1913. Hendrick Onderdonk owned most of Roslyn during the second half of the 18th century. Hugh Gaine was a prominent New York printer and publisher who founded the New York Mercury in 1752 and published it for a number of years. Property of the Town of North Hempstead.
26. Kirby's Corners (J. M. Kirby). Jacob Kirby was the owner of a fleet of schooners and sloops which carried passengers and merchandise between Roslyn and New York during the years prior to the arrival of the railroad. By the mid-19th century he owned all the property around the intersection of Main Street and East Broadway, including the Van Nostrand-Starkins House, which he enlarged. There are two structures indicated in black on the map. One of these is a tiny, mid-19th century house, now included in a new house, at 244 East Broadway. This house is the residence of Mr. & Mrs. G. W. Sammis. The other building, facing Main Street, is a mid-19th century Kirby warehouse. It does not have a street number.

The following buildings, on Main Street, do not appear on the Walling Map and were built after 1859. However, they were completed before the end of the Civil War.

219 Main Street. Built by Captain Jacob Kirby, circa 1860. It presently is the residence of Mr. & Mrs. Robert A. Hansen.

122 Main Street. Built by W. H. Cornell about 1860. It now is the residence of Mr. & Mrs. Robert E. Abrams.

William M. Valentine Store. A large brick building at the intersection of Main Street & Tower Street built by William M. Valentine in 1862. William M. Valentine's House survives in Roslyn Park (see #24). Owned by Marilyn K. Shaw.

Henry Western Eastman Cottage. This tiny cottage situated between numbers 11 & 13, but back from the street, is right on the line. Probably it was built when #11 was enlarged. This could have been as early as 1860-1865, but may ~~mk~~ have been as late as 1870. I have tried to be as conservative as possible in dating. Both cottage and addition are depicted on the Beers-Comstock Map of 1873 which probably was drafted a year or two earlier. In other words, both cottage and addition are no later than 1870 and may be as early as 1860.

SURVIVING BUILDINGS ■

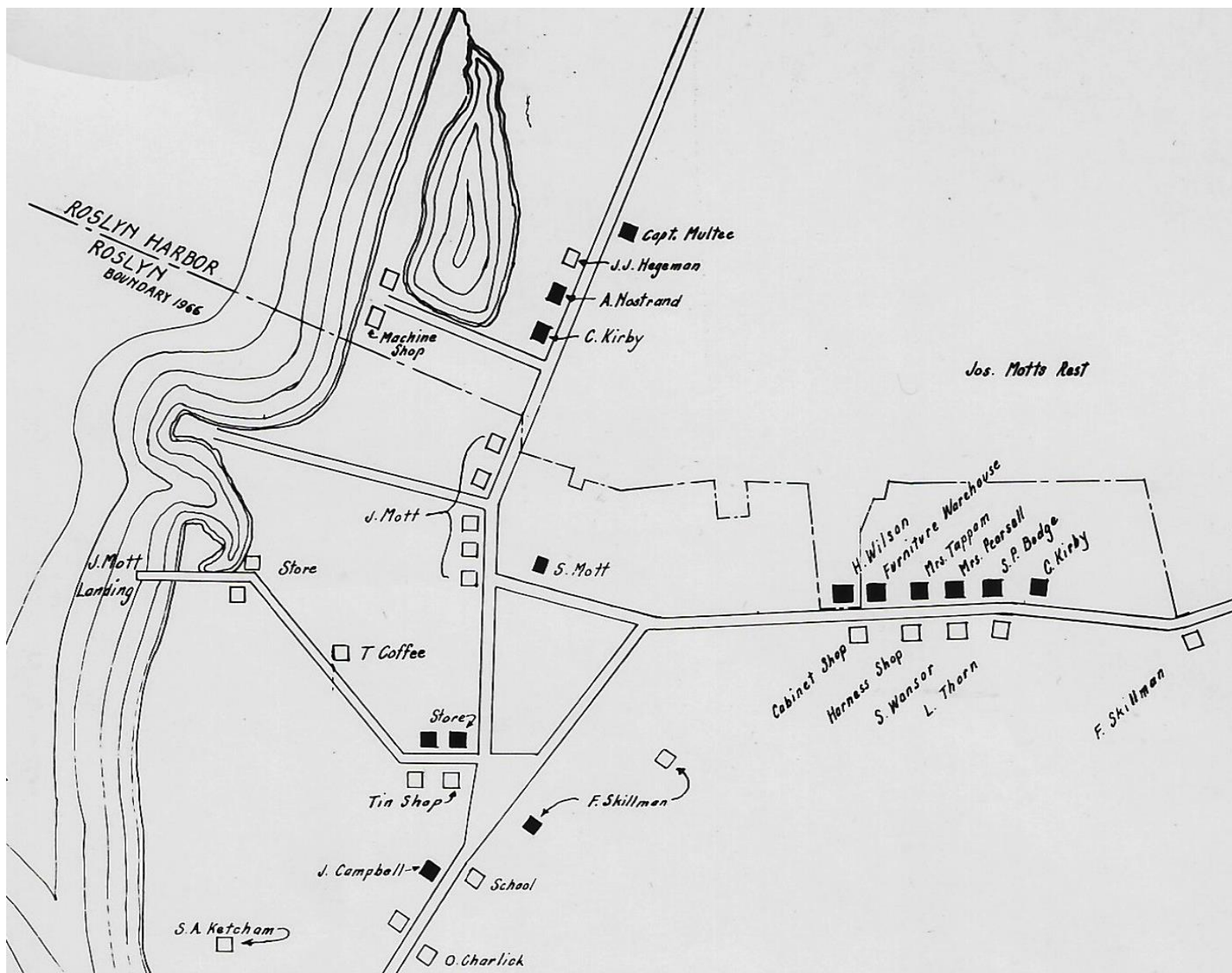
Due to inaccuracies in the placement of buildings on this map and the fact that not all buildings have been genealogically identified, it is likely that some of the "survivals" have not been accurately designated. However, in each group of buildings the total number of indicated survivals actually are standing.

*Enlarged from
Topographical map of the counties of Kings &
Queens, N.Y., from surveys under the direction of
H. F. Walling N.Y., W.E. and A.A. Baker, 1859. 62" x 60"
Eng. by H. F. Walling.*

*From map on exhibit at
William M. Valentine House
Roslyn, New York.*

ROSLYN 1859





ROSLYN HARBOR
ROSLYN
BOUNDARY 1966

■ Capt. Multee

□ J.J. Hegeman

■ A. Nastrand

■ C. Kirby

□ Machine Shop

Jos. Motts Rest

J. Mott

■ S. Mott

H. Wilson
Furniture Warehouse

Mrs. Tappan

Mrs. Pearsall

S.P. Budge

C. Kirby

J. Mott
Landing

Store

□ T Coffee

Store?

Cabinet Shop

Harness Shop

S. Wansor

L. Thorn

F. Skillman

Tin Shop

F. Skillman

J. Campbell

School

S.A. Ketcham

O. Charlick

