EXPLORE THE HISTORIC TOWN OF
MARBLETOWN

PHOTO: JOHN CURRIE

www.marbletown.net

HISTORIC DISTRICTS

The National Register of Historic Places includes four historic districts within the Town of Marbletown. The districts are detailed on the inside map.

MAIN STREET STONE RIDGE

Stone Ridge's Main Street Historic District follows one of our country's oldest roads. Main Street follows the pre-European Native American route connecting the Delaware Water Gap to the Hudson River at Kingston, NY. The path evolved into a major commercial highway and was variously known as the Kings Highway (18th C), the Old Mine Road (19th C), and now US Route 209. The village is named for its placement atop a ridge of Onondaga limestone that is, in part, responsible for the naming of the Town of Marbletown. The houses along Main Street hug the road, with large properties running down the back to lower fields and wetlands. The architecture of Main Street continued to evolve from the first years of the 17th-century into the early 20th century with a mixture of Dutch-style stone, Federal, Greek Revival, Victorian and Craftsman buildings following in quick succession. Today, many are still used as residences, and most remained relatively unchanged.

Within the National Register's Main Street Historical District exist many fine examples of vernacular architecture such as the General Hasbrouck House (ca. 1790), Tack Tavern (ca.1750), and the Marbletown Dutch Reformed Church (ca.1851), as well as three buildings locally landmarked. The Maj. Cornelius E. Wynkoop House, (ca. 1767, pictured on front page), has a Georgian plan and a gambrel roof, thus combining British and Dutch tastes. Maj. Wynkoop hosted Gen. George Washington on November 15, 1782. Next door is Maple Lawn, the Hasbrouck-Blanchard House, built in 1843 as a significant example of the Greek Revival residential style, expressed through handsome columned porches.

The stone building housing the Stone Ridge Public Library housed two prominent local families, having been built originally by the village blacksmith John Lounsbery around 1798, and sold to Cornelius Hasbrouk in 1859; the Hasbrouk family donated it to the community in 1909 to be used as a library. The library comprises the adjoining stone and clapboard house, built by Maj. Wynkoop for his son Evert before 1795, and expanded after 1800.

HISTORY AT A GLANCE

The Town of Marbletown was one of the first settlements to be established in Ulster County after the English took control of the region from the Dutch in 1664. The Esopus Indians still lived in the area, but started to move west to join Delaware tribes. In 1669, a group of 24 discharged English soldiers from the garrison in Kingston received land grants in the interior hinterlands of Ulster County and settled Marbletown. By 1672, there were 53 houses. By 1703, the population had reached 228. That year, the Town received its patent from Queen Anne. The Town adopted a seal bearing the name "Marbletown" at the top and the motto "Be just to trust". The upper part of the central shield is occupied by two deer and the lower part by three sheaves of wheat, signifying the hunting grounds of the upland forests and the fertility of the lowlands. The name Marbletown was derived from the significant amounts of Limestone found in the region. Although the original settlers were English soldiers, the Town became primarily occupied by settlers of Dutch-German-Huguenot extraction. It was not until the 1740's that English immigration into the area began to increase and, after the Revolution, this influx began to overwhelm the historically Dutch area. By 1870, the population of the Town had reached 4224 increasing to 4956 by the year 1980 and 5854 by year 2000. The Town of Marbletown is comprised of the 7 Hamlets of High Falls, Stone Ridge, Kripplebush, Lyonsville, Lomontsville, Atwood, and North Marbletown. The Town has a rich historic, cultural and architectural heritage.

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HIGH FALLS

The Hamlet of High Falls, named for its majestic waterfalls, began as a rural community in the 17th century and evolved into an industrial mill site in the 18th century. Thanks to the 1828 construction of the the 108-mile Delaware & Hudson (D&H) Canal, an engineering marvel at the time, High Falls became an important commerce and transportation hub in the 19th century. Today, it is a popular recreation and tourist destination.

The rich past of High Falls is reflected in its architecture, showcasing historic homes and commercial buildings located in the business district. Notable is the DePuy Canal House, originally opened in 1797 by Jacob DePuy as a tavern. Adjacent to the Canal House, the D&H Canal once transported anthracite coal from Honesdale, PA to the Hudson River port city of Kingston, NY. The Canal and locks 16 through 20 were designated a National Historic Landmark in 1968. The D&H Canal Historical Society and Museum, headquartered in the former St. John's Episcopal Church (1885), maintains the 5 Locks Walk linear park and the ruins of the Canal Aqueduct over the Rondout Creek designed by John Roebling. Listed on the National Register of Historic Places are the D&H Canal Store Ruin and the Lock Tender's Cottage. The High Falls Historic District is also home to several locally significant 18th and 19th century properties, including the Towpath House (1787/1820), the I. Hasbrouck House and Store (1850), and the Dutch Reformed Church (1867).

REST PLAUS

The rural Rest Plaus Historic District is distinctive as an open-space district that reflects the agrarian settlement and development of the town into the early 20th century. Settlement began in the mid-1700's with British and Dutch farmers constructing stone houses, and evolved into the 1920's with modest wood-frame homes scattered amidst the farms. The district's name derives from the location where Old Kings Highway crosses the Kripplebush Kill (the resting place) and which was the last spot to rest and water horses before heading north into Stone Ridge. Like many local place names, Rest Plaus is an unusual combination of corrupted Dutch and English.

The architecture in many ways is a reflection of the local transportation routes that fostered the development. The Kings Highway and Rest Plaus Road were both early tracks that allowed farmers access to the important markets on the Hudson River and fostered the development of eight stone houses. Much later, in 1901 the Ontario & Western (O&W) Railroad (now a recreational rail trail) allowed the farmers to transition to a more lucrative dairy economy. The railroad also brought tourists form New York City and access to inexpensive building material, most notably, the kit-style houses popularized by Sears. In addition to the historic homes in the district there is a mid-1850's school house, an early 1750's grist mill and a 1700's cemetery that is still active.

KRIPPLEBUSH

The Kripplebush Historic District is architecturally and historically significant as a complete and unusually well-preserved agricultural/industrial hamlet, representative of rural development in Ulster County between ca.1772 and ca.1922. Although mainly settled by the British, the name comes from the Dutch "Yeaugh Kripple Bush" "Yeaugh" is a corrupt spelling of the Dutch word jagh, "hunting," and creupelbosch, a term which means "thicket."

The historical district contains a variety of well-preseved stone and clapboard houses which, by their alignment to the road and land-use patterns, illustrate the structure of the original hamlet. In addition to residences, the district includes a school house and a lodge hall (Kripplebush Schoolhouse Museum), and a church. A dwelling in the center of the hamlet was a stage coach inn and general store in the mid 19th century. Two of the properties contain structures that are associated with the neighborhood's cooperage enterprise, with the hamlet furnishing wooden hoops for binding kegs, casks, and barrels.
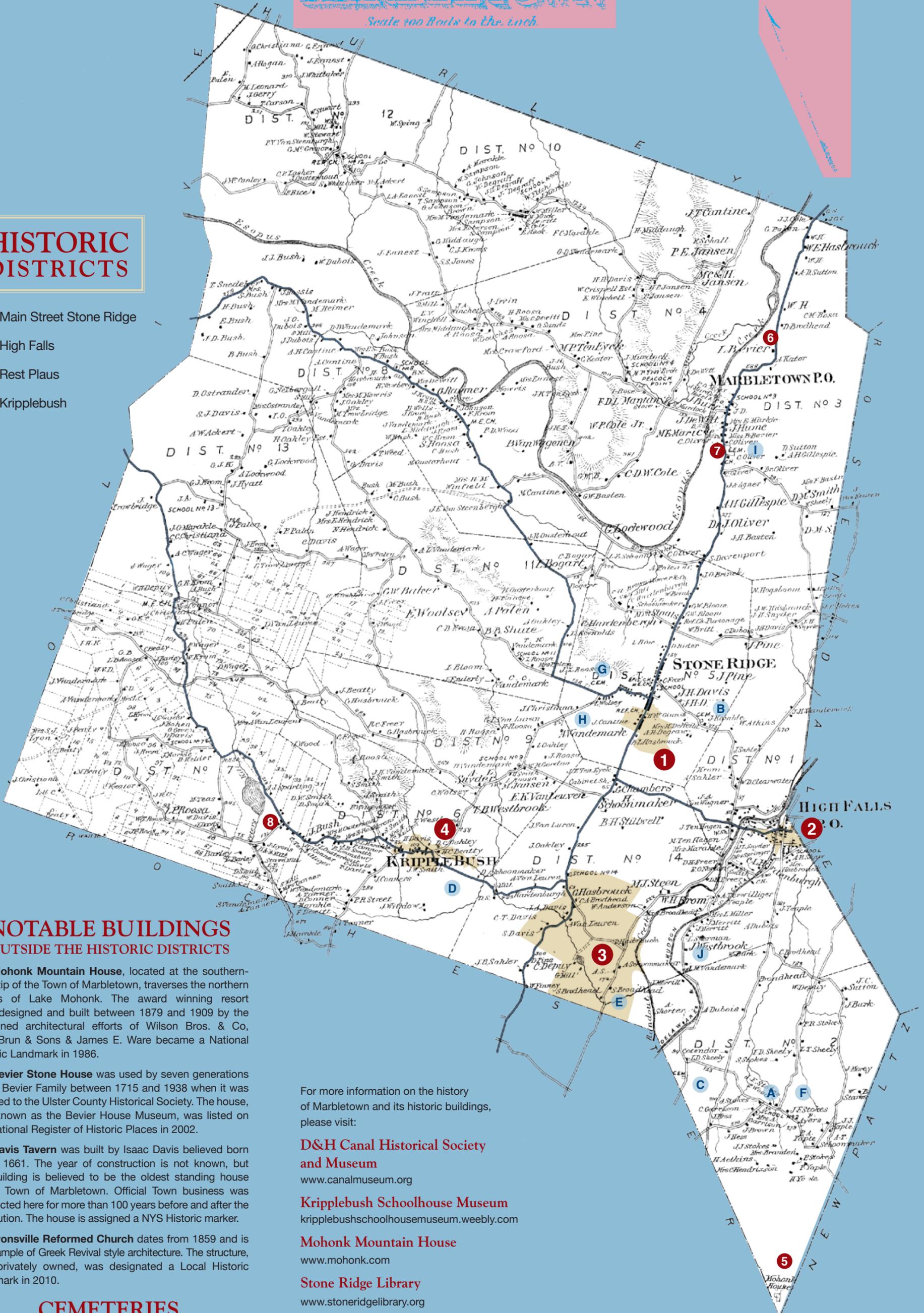

OLD D&H CANAL, HIGH FALLS, NY. PHOTO COURTESY OF THE D&H CANAL HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MARBLETOWN
Scale 100 Rods to the inch.

HISTORIC DISTRICTS

1. Main Street Stone Ridge
2. High Falls
3. Rest Plaus
4. Kripplebush

NOTABLE BUILDINGS
OUTSIDE THE HISTORIC DISTRICTS

5 **Mohonk Mountain House**, located at the southern-most tip of the Town of Marbletown, traverses the northern waters of Lake Mohonk. The award winning resort hotel designed and built between 1879 and 1909 by the combined architectural efforts of Wilson Bros. & Co, N. LeBrun & Sons & James E. Ware became a National Historic Landmark in 1986.

6 **Bevier Stone House** was used by seven generations of the Bevier Family between 1715 and 1938 when it was donated to the Ulster County Historical Society. The house, now known as the Bevier House Museum, was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2002.

7 **Davis Tavern** was built by Isaac Davis believed born about 1661. The year of construction is not known, but the building is believed to be the oldest standing house in the Town of Marbletown. Official Town business was conducted here for more than 100 years before and after the Revolution. The house is assigned a NYS Historic marker.

8 **Lyonsville Reformed Church** dates from 1859 and is an example of Greek Revival style architecture. The structure, now privately owned, was designated a Local Historic Landmark in 2010.

CEMETERIES

A Broadhead ground (Clove Chapel)

B Delamater ground

C unnamed ground

D Smith ground

E Benton Bar cemetery (Kyserike)

F Stokes ground

G Winchell ground

H Fairview cemetery, older portion

I Marbletown Reformed Dutch Church ground

J High Falls cemetery

For more information on the history of Marbletown and its historic buildings, please visit:

D&H Canal Historical Society and Museum
www.canalmuseum.org

Kripplebush Schoolhouse Museum
kripplebushschoolhousemuseum.weebly.com

Mohonk Mountain House
www.mohonk.com

Stone Ridge Library
www.stoneridgelibrary.org

Town of Marbletown
www.marbletown.net

Ulster County Geneological Society
www.ucgsny.org

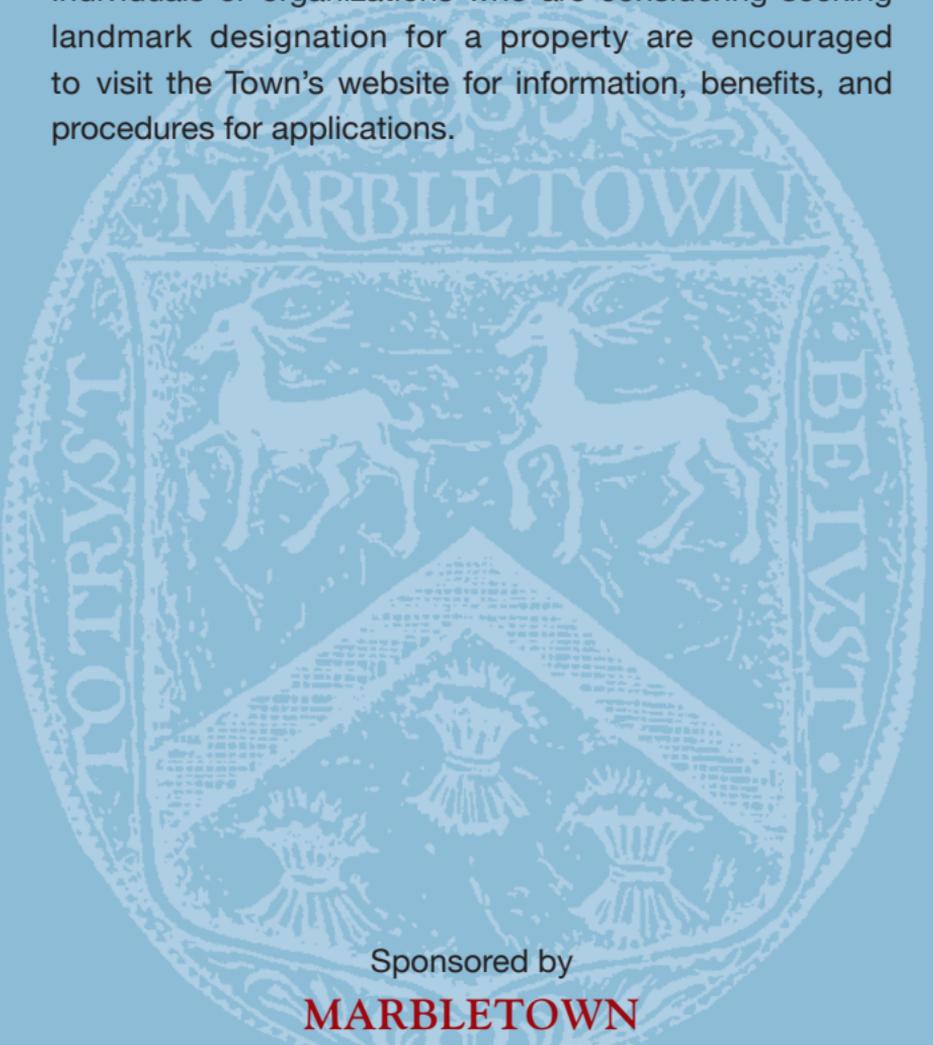**Ulster County Historical Society at Bevier House Museum**
www.ulstercountyhs.org

Map adapted from
County Atlas of Ulster, New York, F.W. Beers, 1875
2016/03

Town of Marbletown Local Designation of Historic Landmarks and the Marbletown Heritage Preservation Law

Recognizing the importance of historic preservation, the Town adopted the Heritage Preservation Law in the year 2007. The purpose of the law is to "protect and enhance the landmarks and historic districts which represent distinctive elements of Marbletown's historic, architectural and cultural heritage; foster civic pride in the accomplishments of the past; protect and enhance Marbletown's attractiveness to visitors and the support and stimulus to the economy thereby provided; and ensure the harmonious, orderly and efficient growth and development of the Town."

The law was crafted by members of the Town's Historic Preservation Commission.

The Town of Marbletown and the Historic Preservation Commission encourage participation in historic preservation. Individuals or organizations who are considering seeking landmark designation for a property are encouraged to visit the Town's website for information, benefits, and procedures for applications.