

# Scarsdale's 18th & 19th Century Houses

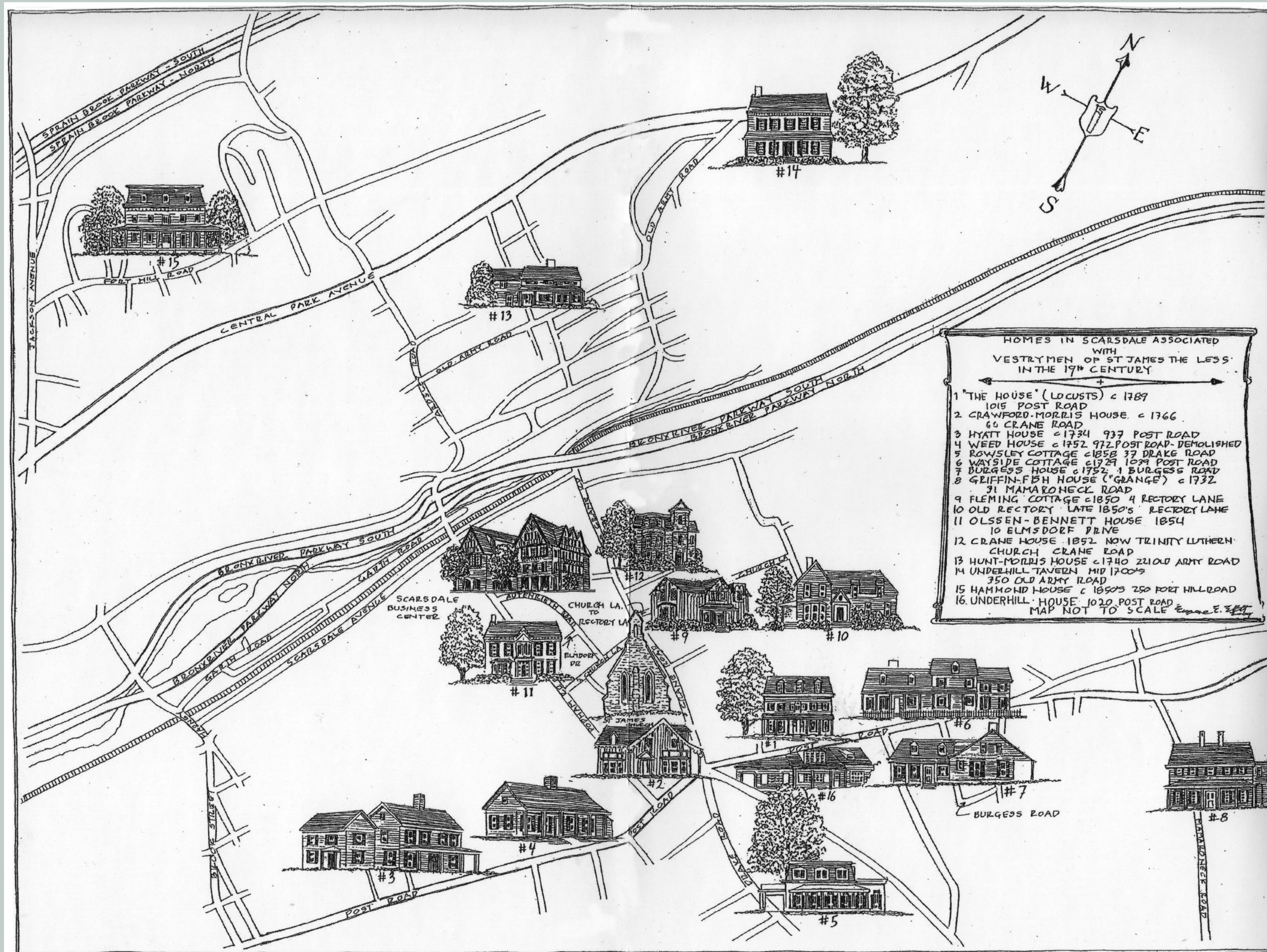
Adapted from the Scarsdale Historical Society Article by Lesley Topping, Barbara Shay MacDonald, & Marc Cheshire

Scan the QR code to read the article

Scarsdale  
Historical  
Society



SCARSDALE  
PUBLIC LIBRARY



This lovely illustrated map, showing some of the early houses in Scarsdale (and Greenville), is from Louise Kinsey Clark's book about the history of the Church of St. James the Less, From Rural Church to Suburban Parish. Many of the early farmhouses in Scarsdale were built along the Post Road, which was once a Native American trail. Unfortunately the Weed House (#4) has since been torn down.

The Underhill House predates the formation of the Manor of Scarsdale in 1701 and is the oldest existing farmhouse in Scarsdale. The house was built next to a deep spring, just off the Indian trail that became the Post Road. It was owned in the second quarter of the 18th century by Thomas Hadden and the small two-story cottage probably housed his slave family. Hadden's wife and three children lived in Wayside Cottage across the road. In the mid 18th century a west wing was added. In the late 18th century Benjamin Underhill bought the farm and in 1790 joined the 1730 springhouse to the main house to accommodate his large family of ten children.

## Underhill House (c. 1687) - 1020 Post Road



## Wayside Cottage (c.1717) - 1039 Post Road



The Wayside Cottage is one of Scarsdale's oldest houses. Caleb Heathcote conveyed the land to Edmund Tompkins in 1717. Thomas Hadden purchased the farm and lived in the cottage from 1729 to 1761 with his wife and three children. He also owned a house across the road where he had a slave family of seven children that he had fathered with an enslaved African woman, Rose. Isaac Varian, a butcher from New York City, bought the farm in 1764. His sons James and Michael were patriots during the Revolution, and after the war they operated a successful drover's inn. Charles Butler, a wealthy lawyer and influential estate owner, bought the farm in 1853, and the cottage became the home of his nephew, and later a rectory for St. James the Less Church. Charles Butler's daughter Emily donated the cottage to the Village in 1919. Through the years, it served as a meeting place for suffragettes, the offices of the Scarsdale Inquirer, and Scarsdale's first library. Today the Junior League of Central Westchester is the custodian of the Cottage, and they have beautifully preserved its legacy.

# Scarsdale's 18th & 19th Century Houses

Adapted from the Scarsdale Historical Society Article by Lesley Topping, Barbara Shay MacDonald, & Marc Cheshire

Scan the QR code to read the article

Scarsdale  
Historical  
Society



SCARSDALE  
PUBLIC LIBRARY

## Cornell House (c. 1728) - 257 Mamaroneck Rd.



Richard Cornell built the original part of this house in 1728 and his family was the first Quakers to settle in Scarsdale. The house is now part of the Westchester Reform Temple. The fascinating history of this prominent family and the Society's role in preventing this landmark from being torn down is detailed in Barbara Shay MacDonald's article, [Saving the Cornell House](#).



The Griffin-Fish house is also known as "The Grange." Jonathan Griffin built the original house around 1732. The Griffins were Quakers and family members owned several houses and farms throughout Scarsdale and Mamaroneck. Jonathan Griffin's adopted son, Jonathan G. Tompkins, became the father of Daniel Tompkins who was Governor of New York and James Monroe's Vice President from 1817 to 1825. British General William Howe used the Griffin-Fish House as his headquarter during the Battle of White Plains. The house is built on a hill, which provided a clear view of troop movements. After the Revolution, the first town meeting was held in this house and the men in attendance were Quakers, mainly from the Cornell and Griffin families.

## Griffin-Fish House (c. 1732) - 31 Mamaroneck Rd.



## Cudner-Hyatt House (c.1733) - 937 Post Rd.



The Cudner-Hyatt house was the home of two families, the Cudners and the Hyatts, for over 200 years. In the 1970s and 1980s the Historical Society renovated this historic farmhouse and turned it into a museum. It was carefully furnished to reflect farm life in 19th century.

A Tour of the Cudner-Hyatt  
House



The Cudner-Hyatt House  
Museum and the Birth of the  
Scarsdale Historical Society

# Scarsdale's 18th & 19th Century Houses

Adapted from the Scarsdale Historical Society Article by Lesley Topping, Barbara Shay MacDonald, & Marc Cheshire

Scan the QR code to read the article

Scarsdale  
Historical  
Society



SCARSDALE  
PUBLIC LIBRARY

John Fisher was a tenant farmer on the Manor of Scarsdale, and his descendants lived in this house until 1850. The farm was then sold to Lawrence Dobbs. He was related to Jan Dobbs, the founder of Dobbs Ferry. The house was expanded in the mid-19th century and nothing remains of the original house except for a well, which is inside the house. A large barn was built on the property about 1890. The Dobbs family ran a steam-operated sawmill just east of the house.

## Fisher-Dobbs House (c. 1750) - 16 Tompkins Rd.



## Burgess House (c.1750) - 1 Burgess Rd.



The Burgess house was a classic colonial that was remodeled in 2017. The original part of the house may have been built around 1750, but Jonathan Waring, a carpenter, and his wife Elizabeth took out the earliest recorded mortgage in 1791. Benjamin Maitland bought the farm in 1802 and expanded the house to provide for his five daughters. George Burgess, a linen merchant, purchased the home in 1854 for \$7500. His son, Thomas Burgess, married Laura Crane. Her father was Alexander B. Crane who owned the Crane mansion, which became the Lutheran Trinity Church on Crane Road. Thomas Burgess founded the Town Club in 1904. He was also the president of the Fire Department and of the School Board. His wife, Laura Crane, was also an active member of the community and she helped organize the Community Farms efforts in World War I.

In 1760 Samuel Crawford purchased 100 acres of land for his farm and home from Anne DeLancey and Martha Johnson, daughters of Caleb Heathcote. Crawford fought in the Revolutionary War and he was killed in a skirmish with British troops in Eastchester in 1777. Richard Morris, who became the Chief Justice of the State of New York, bought the property in 1788. He wanted to be near his daughter Mary and son-in-law, Major William Popham, who lived in Scarsdale in their famous home called The Locusts. The Popham family inherited the Crawford house and lived there until 1949. The house has been considerably renovated.

## Crawford-Morris-Popham House (c. 1760) - 60 Crane Rd.



# Scarsdale's 18th & 19th Century Houses

Adapted from the Scarsdale Historical Society Article by Lesley Topping, Barbara Shay MacDonald, & Marc Cheshire

Scan the QR code to read the article

Scarsdale  
Historical  
Society



SCARSDALE  
PUBLIC LIBRARY

This house has been beautifully renovated and enlarged many times since John Hatfield, a tenant farmer, constructed the original portion of the house. Elijah Angevine occupied the farmhouse in 1768 and his family lived there for almost a hundred years. He had nine children, some of whom married into the Cornell, Purdy and Underhill families. The novelist James Fenimore Cooper built his home on a freehold section of the Angevine Farm where the Middle School stands today. In 1858, Lewis Gouverneur Morris bought the Angevine Farm, along with the Hatfield and Cornell farms. His heirs sold the properties in 1904.

Angevine-Hatfield-Morris House (c. 1768) - 164 Mamaroneck Rd.



Griffin-Nathaniel Brown House, (c. 1785) - 400 Mamaroneck Rd.



The Nathaniel Brown House may have been built between 1780 and 1790. Horsehair found in the plaster of the house helped to determine its age. A deed records that 125 acres of William Griffin's farm, with houses and orchards, were transferred to Nathaniel Brown in 1795. The house has some typical characteristics of Dutch colonials in Westchester in the late 18th century. In his will, Brown set aside land for a small cemetery on Colonial Road. He is buried there along with his wife, Anna, and members of his extended family, and neighbors including the Meritts, Cornells and Griffins. The Village now owns the cemetery.

Major William Popham moved to Scarsdale after eloping with Mary Morris. She was the daughter of Richard Morris, the Chief Justice of the State of New York. Both families were large landowners in Scarsdale. The Pophams called their home The Locusts, after the grove of trees on their property, but it is also known as The Popham House. The Pophams knew many influential people, and it is said that Alexander Hamilton, Aaron Burr and John Jay were among those who visited their gracious home. The writer James Fenimore Cooper admired this house and fictionalized it in his Revolutionary war novel, *The Spy: A Tale of Neutral Ground*.

The Locusts (c. 1789) - 1015 Post Rd.



# Scarsdale's 18th & 19th Century Houses

Adapted from the Scarsdale Historical Society Article by Lesley Topping, Barbara Shay MacDonald, & Marc Cheshire

Scan the QR code to read the article

Scarsdale  
Historical  
Society



SCARSDALE  
PUBLIC LIBRARY

George Washington Tompkins built this lovely house in 1799. He was the brother of Daniel Tompkins, who was the fourth Governor of New York State and later served as James Monroe's Vice-President. In 1802 the house was known as the Scarsdale Academy, a school of languages run by Rev. George Donovan. His daughter married Samuel McCabe and the family stayed in the house for several generations. Tompkins built the right hand section of the house and Donovan built the left section in 1804. There is a fireplace in every room.

**Tompkins-McCabe House (c. 1799) - 1209 Post Rd.**



**Carson-Hampton House (c. 1830) - 42 Tompkins Rd.**



The Carson-Hampton house's historic legacy has been beautifully preserved and its interior retains many of the original details including the latched doors, wide wooden floors and low ceilings. Jacob Carson and his wife Phoebe built their home in the 1830s. They purchased the land from Richard and Benedict Carpenter. Jonathan Griffin and the Tompkins family had also owned the original farm that included over 44 acres.

Ernest F. Haubold built this stately house in 1850. He owned 83 acres of land east and north of the Hartsdale Train Station, which was called Mooringville. Haubold was an entrepreneur who produced gunpowder for the government during the Mexican War and dynamite used for building the railroad. He had four grinding mills on the Bronx River, however, his operation was shut down following two fatal explosions. Around 1913, the Powder Mill House was used as a teahouse by the early Greenacres developers. The well-known historian Dixon Ryan Fox also lived in the house from 1918 to 1934. The Italian fountains had to be removed when the Bronx River was renovated. A small garden exists in its place today.

**Haubold-Powder Mill House (c.1850) - 6 Fountain Terrace**



# Scarsdale's 18th & 19th Century Houses

Adapted from the Scarsdale Historical Society Article by Lesley Topping, Barbara Shay MacDonald, & Marc Cheshire

Scan the QR code to read the article

Scarsdale  
Historical  
Society



SCARSDALE  
PUBLIC LIBRARY

## Fleming-Hill House (c.1852) - 4 Rectory Lane



The Fleming-Hill House is also known as “The Cottage.” It was built in 1852 on an acre of Popham land, bought for \$200, to be the home for the sisters of William Sherbrooke Popham’s wife. His first wife was Elizabeth Hill and after her death he married one of her sisters, Jane Hill. Popham built the house for their sisters, Margaret and Sarah Hill. Built in the Hudson River Gothic style, it has unusual diamond-shaped glass panes in the windows. The Cottage earned some notoriety because Anna McNeill Whistler, the mother of the painter James McNeil Whistler, lived in the house from 1864 to 1867. Next, Mary Carmer Hill Fleming (another sister of Margaret) and her husband Charles Fleming moved in. Charles Fleming had been a Major in the Civil War and veteran of the Battle of Bull Run. The family operated the Fleming School from their house.

The Trinity Lutheran Church on Crane Road was originally the home of Charles and Mary Carmer (Major Popham’s daughter).

They built the estate in 1851 and named it Holmhurst. Colonel Alexander Baxter Crane, a wealthy lawyer and Civil War hero, bought the house in 1873 and enlarged it using stones from his quarry in nearby Greenburgh. Crane acquired many acres of land in Scarsdale and Greenburg, where he owned Crane Pond and lived in the former Underhill Tavern on Old Army Road while his mansion was being built. The mansion has been the home of the Lutheran Trinity Church since 1951.

## Carmer-Crane Mansion (c.1851) - 25 Crane Road



## Olssen-Bennett House (c.1854) - 10 Elmdorf Drive



This stately, solid stone residence was constructed in 1854 by Edward J. Olssen, father of the second minister of the Church of St. James the Less. Olssen bought the parcel of land from William Popham in 1851 for \$800. It was, for a time, owned by Horace J. Autenrieth for whom Autenrieth Road was named.

The Rowsley Estate has been the home of the Scarsdale Women’s Club since 1928. William Bailey Lang purchased 34 acres of land from Elias G. Drake in 1855 and built the house a few years later for his wife, Susannah. Lang was a wealthy iron merchant and he based the design of the house on an English estate he admired named Rowsley. The location of the house was meant to complement the ancient oak tree in the front yard. The tree is over 500 years old and was sacred to Native Americans who lived on the land before the Dutch purchased it in the 1600s. The beautiful house is on the National Register of Historic Places.

## Rowsley Cottage (c.1858) - 37 Drake Rd.



SCARSDALE  
PUBLIC LIBRARY

54 OLMSTED ROAD  
SCARSDALE NY, 10583  
(914)722-1300  
WWW.SCARSDALELIBRARY.ORG