



### **Marker #26**

The late historian Arthur Gregg called Frederick Crounse a "dear old country doctor." History records note that Dr. Crounse was born Feb. 3, 1807 in the Loonenburgh Tavern in Schoharie owned by his father, Jacob, who later built an inn and tavern in Guilderland. Frederick, after graduating from Fairfield Medical College, Herkimer County, in 1830, set up his medical practice near Black Creek in Voorheesville.

Later, Dr. Crounse built a house on the corner of Gun Club Road and Route 146 outside the village of Altamont. The good Dr. Crounse could be seen daily, riding his horse or sometimes riding in a leather gig on his way to administer to an ailing town resident or to deliver a new one. Farmers plowed the roads open for his arrival when, at times, winter ice would cause his horse to fall under him.

Dr. Crounse was a local leader of the anti-rent wars, which made him a political opponent of his next-door neighbor, Benjamin Knower. The noted doctor was the featured speaker at 4th of July celebrations in Guilderland.

The blue and gold marker on the corner of Gun Club Road and Route 146 recalls for us the picture of a country doctor who would leave his mount tied by the side of the road to trek by snowshoe down a long country lane to treat a patient, and perhaps take supper with the family after his visit. Dr. Frederick Crounse, Altamont's first physician, was such a man.