



Marker #14

Evert Bancker was the third mayor of the City of Albany serving from Oct. 15, 1695 to September 28, 1696. Born January 24, 1619 in Albany (then Beverwyck) the son of one of Schenectady's earliest settlers, he became a merchant of prominence in the colonies.

Bancker was a justice of the peace, served as Indian commissioner for seven years and served a second term as mayor from 1707 to 1709. He resided in a town house on Yoncker Street, now called State Street, during his tenure as mayor. History notes that Mayor Bancker would paddle a canoe up the Normanskill to reach his country place in Guilderland rather than take a path through the forest travelled by Indian trappers.

He was married to Elizabeth Abeel; they had five sons. Sons William and Johannes settled in Albany County as farmers. Bancker died in 1734 in Guilderland, leaving a large estate mostly invested in land.

On Route 146, a half-mile south of the Western Turnpike, a blue and gold historic marker graces the lawn of the lovely old Bancker farm house. It is a tribute to a man who spent many years in the public service of a new, emerging government. The farm was subsequently owned by James Howenstein, great-grandfather of the present owner, James Brust.