



Marker #34

The Crounse family of Guilderland was one of the three earliest pioneer families to settle near the escarpment of the Helleberghs. At seven years of age, Frederick Crounse Jr. came to America from Germany with his father. In his adult life, he acquired approximately 600 acres of land near the mountains where he had lived his boyhood. He also became an expert in the art of weaving and was known widely for his craft. He married Anna Weber.

In 1767, Frederick Crounse Jr. is recorded as an ensign in the militia under the company of Lieutenant John M. Veeder. During the Revolutionary War, when troops under General Gates were fighting Burgoyne at Saratoga, the farmers and tenants of Stephen VanRensselaer were asked by the patroon to give as much grain and provisions for the American Army as they could spare. History records reveal that patriotic Frederick Crounse Jr. and several of his neighboring farmers emptied their barns and food barrels and delivered them to the troops in Saratoga. They were later rewarded by Patroon VanRensselaer by having their yearly land rental forever waived.

Frederick Crounse Jr. was the son of the first Frederick Crounse to settle in Guilderland and the grandfather of Dr. Frederick Crounse, the first physician in town (named on another marker in this series).

The historic marker bearing the above title inscription is no longer visible in its designated place on Route 156, 1 mile south of Altamont. The Crounse family is designated in history annals as pioneering settlers, patriotic military servers and community activists in early Guilderland.