



Marker #20

For over 190 years the Mynderse-Frederick House has stood as a bastion against time and the elements, a symbol of the strength and tenacity of the generations of Guilderland residents who lived in the era when it was built.

Nicholas Mynderse built his 15 room house on the old Schoharie Turnpike in 1802. A year later, when the Town of Guilderland became incorporated, Mynderse was appointed the first supervisor.

Mynderse sold the house to Michael Fredericks, who operated a tavern and inn there. The tap room in the cellar was where the innkeeper served cider pressed from the fruits of his orchard. A rude cloth-covered table served as a bar, and behind it shelves were lined with stoneware jugs and glass bottles reported to have been made at the Hamilton Glass Works.

A stairway led from the tap room to the parlor upstairs where the ladies took their refreshments. Across from the parlor was the ballroom with a large fireplace. There was also a fireplace in the tap room and in the second floor bedrooms.

A banner carried by the Wide-Awakes, a pre-Republican party in Guilderland, was found in the taproom in a state of disintegration. A replica of the banner is displayed in the historic mansion.

Today, the Mynderse-Frederick House has come to a fitting and appropriate use. Under the direction of the late town historian Roger Keenholts, the rooms of the old house were refurbished to conjure up a vivid picture of life in the town nearly 200 years ago. A small museum on the second floor is maintained by the Guilderland Historical Society, whose members hold their monthly meetings in the house. Area Daughters of the American Revolution Chapters, Tawasentha, Old Hellebergh and Gansevoort, hold occasional meetings there also. The house is open for a Christmas Greens Show decorated by the Guilderland Garden Club. Visitors are invited to sample hot cider and refreshments.

The historic Mynderse-Frederick House now houses the history of Guilderland, its artifacts and ledgers of old. A blue and gold marker on the lawn of the aged house reminds town residents of its important historical value.