

THE TOWN OF RED HOOK
c/o The St. Margaret's Committee
7340 South Broadway
Red Hook, NY 12571

Composition & design donated by
Wambach Communications Group, Inc.
Illustration by Dennis Griffin

Red Hook's
Newest
Historic Landmark



ST. MARGARET'S HOME
a designated
National Historic Landmark
Circa 1853



A LITTLE HISTORY GOES A LONG WAY!

By 1851 the Village of Red Hook was a thriving little community. The name Red Hook had replaced "Hardscrabble" 50 years previously. In addition to the village, clustered around the Albany Post Road (now Route 9) and Market Street, many magnificent river-front homes were established on the lands of the Schuyler Patent, by which England had granted ownership since 1688.

Margaret Armstrong, the wife of William B. Astor, who lived in the great riverfront family home "Rokeby," recognized the need to care for and especially to train young orphaned or otherwise neglected girls within the Red Hook community. Her goal was to teach them skills that would enable them to find husbands or employment in private homes, such as the river road estates.

In 1853 Mrs. Astor decided to personally establish and fund such a home and training school on land her family owned as part of the Schuyler Patent. The decision was made to build a substantial brick structure for the home at a time when few brick structures of any kind existed in Red Hook.

The home was consistently supported by the Astor, Chanler, and Aldrich families, under the attentive stewardship of Christ Church, Red Hook, until 1934 when it was closed. The building and its approximately nine acres of land found many subsequent uses, both private and commercial. In 1998 the property was purchased by the Hannaford grocery store chain, which generously deeded St. Margaret's to the town of Red Hook in 2006.

Currently the town is enlisting the aid of community volunteers in visioning a plan for the restoration and rehabilitation of Red Hook's newest old landmark.



How the St. Margaret's Volunteer Committee Is Working With and For The Community...

- St. Margaret's building and site donated to the Town by Hannafords
- St. Margaret's Committee Established (2009)
- Environmental Protection Fund grant administered by NYS Office of Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation
- Community Capital Assistance Grant sponsored by NYS Senator Stephen Saland
- Clearing out the brush and distressed trees
- Hired architect for exterior restoration

