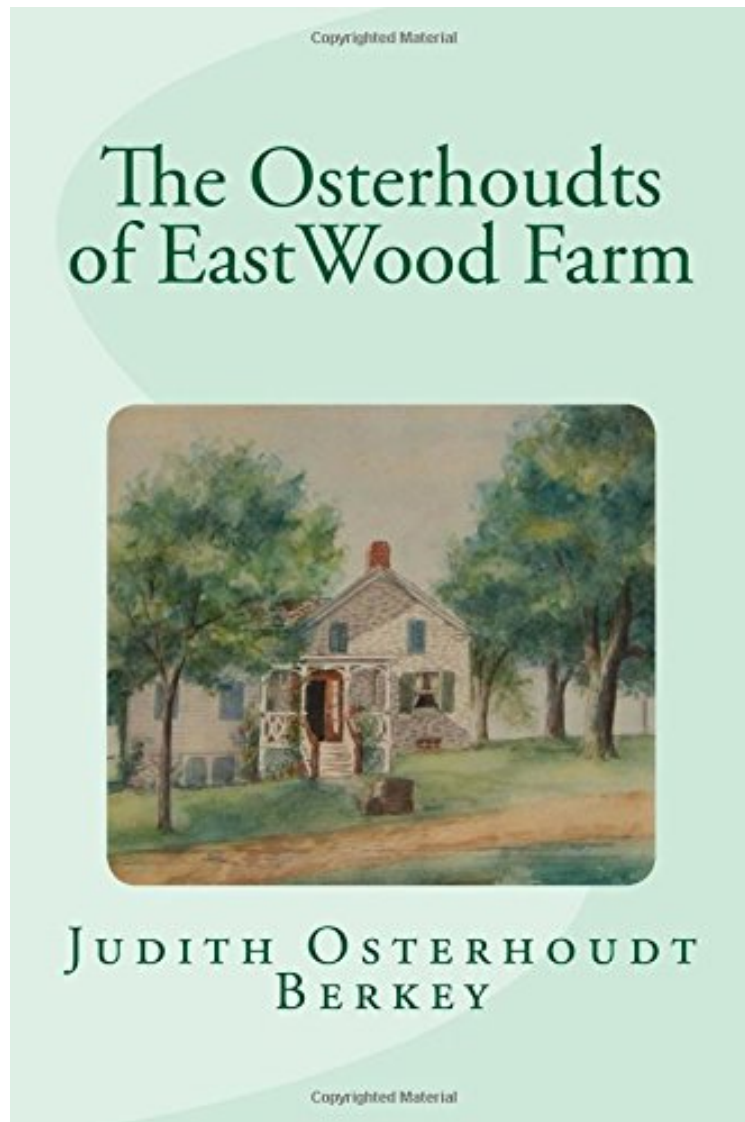


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## The Osterhoudts of EastWood Farm

*Judith Osterhoudt Berkey*

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**Judith Osterhoudt Berkey : The Osterhoudts of EastWood Farm** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Osterhoudts of EastWood Farm:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. a great source for information about a unique era and familyBy Clyde Osterhouta great source for information about a unique era and family. Especially if you a part of that family, as I am! But the book has a very narrow focus, and would be if limited interest to most people.3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. A Rich and Moving Historical Legacy of the Dutch and one family in the New WorldBy KeesThis is a rich portrait not only of the history of a family but also an important part of American history. The

Dutch settlers who arrive in the colony of New Amsterdam were important contributors to the development of the United States. There is a long history of the Dutch in American history including the only president who spoke English as a second language. The story of the descendants of Jan Jansen van Oosterhout is a moving tribute and example of how the Dutch settled, integrated, and created a key part of New York. The interweaving of personal with historical information provides a rich and moving narrative. The illustrations help bring to life not only the history of a single family but also the legacy of the Dutch. The historical research done by the author is impressive particularly given that Jan Jansen van Oosterhout was likely one of less than 50,000 settlers when he arrived in New Amsterdam in the 1650s. This book would be very valuable for anyone interested in the Dutch in the New World as well as anyone interested in family histories. This book is a treasure for all future descendants of Jan Jansen van Oosterhout. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A CHARMING LITTLE BOOK: a real gem By Lawrence Tuller The Osterhoudts of East Wood Farm will tickle the fancy of anyone interested in or curious about the history of the middle Hudson River valley. Across the river from the East Wood farm, the historic town of Rhinebeck, New York and the estates of FDR and Elenor Roosevelt is worth a mini-vacation. Sadd the East Wood Farm and both sides of the Hudson come alive with scenes of yesteryear, in many respects the land that time forgot. At the same time modern day roads and a few restaurants afford amenities for the weary traveler. Although in the beginning, I had only mild interest in the western side of the Hudson, I still thoroughly enjoyed this little book. The pictures (in color and black and white) alone are worth the price of the book. I had little interest in the genealogy of the Osterhoudt family. Still, I found the detail that Berkey researched both fascinating and educational. This is a good book. If you don't know the middle Hudson River valley, you'll learn a lot. If you are familiar with the area this book will be even more fun. For \$13.00 you can't go wrong

Jan Jansen van Oosterhout, one of the first settlers in the Dutch community of Wiltwyck (now Kingston, New York) is the ancestral head of the Osterhoudt family which numbers about 20,000 people in the United States. During the eighteenth, nineteenth and twentieth centuries, eight generations of Osterhoudts lived on EastWood Farm, the home of Jan Jansens grandson, Laurens J. Osterhout. The story of how the farm land was acquired and insight into the early Dutch settlement of New York has been a life-long research project for Judith Osterhoudt Berkey who grew up in the eighteenth century stone house on EastWood Farm. Her recollections of life there offer a poignant view of the Osterhoudt family and life in the Hudson Valley. She transcribed a set of ten eighteenth century land sale documents to confirm her thesis of the land grants for EastWood Farm. Her research has taken her to the Maritime Museum in Amsterdam and to the town of Oosterhout, Netherlands.

About the Author Judy Osterhoudt Berkey grew up on EastWood Farm in the beautiful Hudson Valley area of New York. She was the eighth generation to live in the stone house built by Laurens J. Osterhoudt. She developed an interest in her family's genealogy and the Dutch settlement of the area while in high school. After graduation from Syracuse University she became one of the early female computer programmers and upon receiving a PhD from George Mason University she taught computer science at Northern Virginia Community College and at George Washington University. In retirement she is continuing her research into the settlement of the Hudson Valley and has written a family history. She and her husband Walt live in Ashburn, Virginia and Davenport, Florida. They have two sons and two grandchildren to continue the family line.