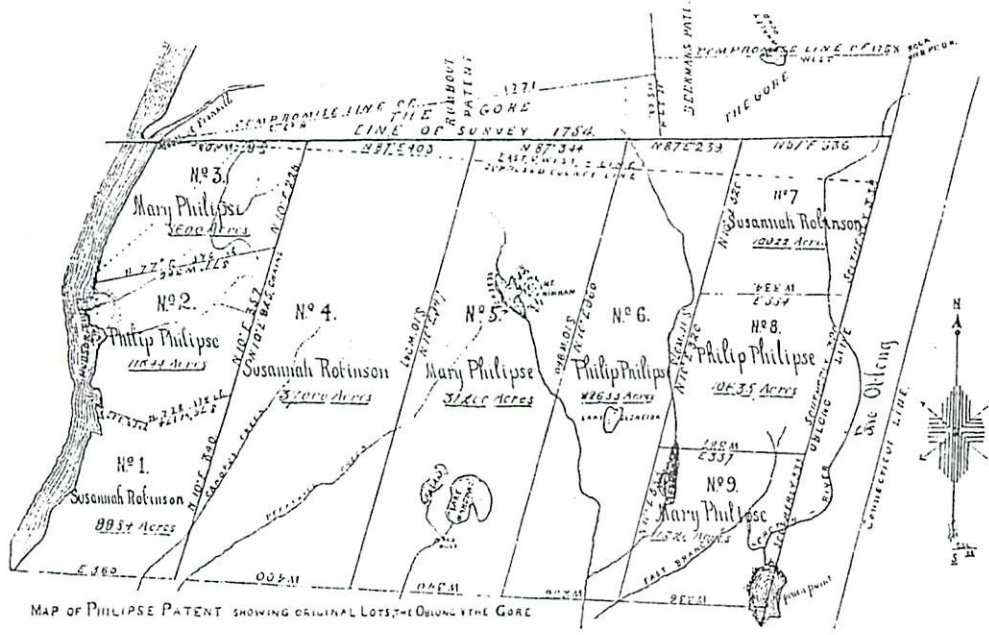




A HANDBOOK
FOR
PUTNAM COUNTY
HISTORY AND GENEALOGY



MAP OF PHILIPSE PATENT SHOWING ORIGINAL LOTS, THE GORE, AND THE GORE

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A HANDBOOK FOR PUTNAM COUNTY HISTORY AND GENEALOGY

This handbook has been compiled by the Office of the Putnam County Historian to assist persons seeking information about Putnam County's past. Many of us have complained for years that our history is poorly documented, yet there is a great deal of documentary and secondary material available if we know where to look for it. This handbook can help locate resources, libraries and repositories in Putnam County that may have the material we need.

Many people write, e-mail, or visit Putnam County History office with requests for information about their families or other aspects of Putnam County history. As the smallest department in Putnam County government, we are not staffed to do extensive research on such individual projects. However, we can help people find the resources that they need - and this handbook aims to do just that. In addition to the Putnam County Archives, and the Historian's Collection and Library of books, maps, photographs, documents, CDs, and videos, we also have "how-to" books to help in genealogical research, in doing house histories, in using archives and records centers, and in researching and writing local history.

The County Archives and Historian's Library are open for research on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 9 to 4 (except legal holidays) and other weekdays by pre-arrangement. Persons planning to use the archives and collection are asked to call (845) 278-7209 or e-mail us at putpast@bestweb.net in advance and to let the staff know the area of the researcher's interest. This will help us locate materials that can make a researcher's visit more productive. The County Archives and Historian's Office are located in the Putnam County Records Center at 68 Marvin Avenue in Brewster.

A bibliography for Putnam County history is included in this handbook. It is not meant to be exhaustive but only to list material that is available here in Putnam County. Certainly, Putnam County's past cannot be interpreted without reference to records and scholarly work encompassing areas beyond Putnam's borders; however, this bibliography concentrates material that has significant interest for Putnam County. The researchers should consult other bibliographies for other related resources. For more information, please visit our website: www.putnamcountyny.com/historian.

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