

Nellis Tavern Timeline

1725 – Christian Nellis, Sr. obtained 640 acres, Lot #12 of Harrison Patent; built log cabin & Ft. Nellis near Mohawk River.
1734 – Christian Nellis, Jr. was born. He became a grist miller, member of NYS Assembly, Judge in Court of Common for Montgomery County, pvt in Tryon County Militia, Ranger in Revolutionary War, Battle of Oriskany.
1747 – Nellis Tavern building built by Christian, Sr. – Georgian Period.
1767 – Christian Sr. deeded much of his share of Klock and Nellis Patent to Christian Jr.
1768 – Palatine Church started.
1769 – Johannes Christian Nellis born.
1771 – Jacob Christopher Nellis born. Christian Sr. died.
1783 – Christian, Jr. started Tavern before this date.
1785-1790 – Tavern renovated. (1792, 2nd story was added.)
1801 – Store was added to Tavern.
1805 and 1809 – Christian, Jr. deeded land to Jacob C. and John C. Nellis.
1808 – Christian Jr. died; buried in cemetery across road, to the west.
1811 – New Turnpike legally established, from Johnstown, to end at home of John C. Nellis, St. Johnsville.
1812 – Jacob as captain and John also an officer, served in War of 1812.
1815-1820 – Tavern renovated. Two-story wing was added to east.
1834 – Railroad bought land from John C. and Jacob C. Nellis.
1835 – Date chosen for present restoration – post Revolution – Federal Period.
1838 – Fulton County was formed from part of Montgomery County and Town of St. Johnsville was split off of Town of Oppenheim.
1839 – John C. Nellis died after deeding land to John Nellis.
1845 – Jacob C. Nellis died.
1870 – James G. Nellis born to Alpha Nellis.
1887 - Alpha Nellis (descendant of William) bought Tavern.
1913 – Alpha Nellis died and left tavern to son, Jimmy Nellis.
1945 – Jimmy Nellis died and left Nellis Tavern to his niece, Aleda Mary Nellis Weaver.
1960's – Department of Transportation condemned building when they prepared to widen NYS Route 5, and evicted Aleda Weaver.
1969 – Stenciling discovered in vacant tavern.
1978 – Palatine Settlement Society formed.
1984 – Elizabeth Bilobrowka donated \$1200 for purchase of Nellis Tavern.
1985 – Palatine Settlement Society bought Nellis Tavern and 8 acres of land. Tavern open for tours; 112 total memberships in PSS, 20 local.
1987 – Spoppable cheese house (1810-20) donated.
1988 – Archeological dig over 2 acres. Current President – Elizabeth Bilobrowka.
1989 – PSS received \$14,000, State and County grants for renovating Tavern.
1990-1991 – Nellis Tavern placed on State and National Register of Historic Places.
1993-1994 – North façade porch and entrance were finished. Trees, brush cleared to east.
1995 – Tavern refurbished and open for tours.
1997 – Tavern outside east, north and west walls were renovated and painted yellow.
2003 – Jim Nellis and Microsoft donated a total of \$20,000 for renovations. The south side, entrance and porch were constructed, painted; other improvements made.
2007 – Slate roof was replaced with asphalt shingles that look like weathered cedar shakes.
2009 – Outside east, north and west walls were renovated and painted yellow.
2010 – A well was dug and water piped into the tavern. A bar was built in the tavern room and the neighboring fireplace front and mantle were rebuilt.
2012 – Paneling under stairs was rebuilt and replaced; red 'cheese' house was moved to back of property.
2014 – Basement pillar reconstructed; Technical Assistance Grant received for stenciling conservation needs assessment, prepared; Nellis quilt square dedicated on Fulton–Montgomery Quilt Barn Trail.