



## The BIRD & BOTTLE Inn

*Over 260 years of American history*

- The Bird & Bottle Inn is situated on the ancestral lands of the **Munsee Lenape** - indigenous peoples who lived in the Highlands region and all along the tributaries leading to what we now call the Hudson River.
- **Built in 1761**, The Bird is an example of the traditional **Dutch Colonial** style home, with a history predating the American Revolution.
- Known for years as **Warren's Tavern**, the property was an important **stagecoach stop** along the **Old Albany Post Road** in Garrison, NY and catered to those journeying between NYC & Albany.
- The Bird once housed **George Washington's Continental troops** as it was perfectly placed between The Fishkill Military Supply Depot, the Garrison Redoubts, West Point, and The Beverly Robinson House where Generals like Benedict Arnold were stationed during the war.
- **George Washington, Alexander Hamilton and The Marquis de Lafayette** likely passed through The Bird on their travels up and down the Hudson Valley as the property was a centrally located stop for watering horses and grabbing a pint.
- In 1832 the property served as a **farm, gristmill and sawmill** under the ownership of the **Nelson family** (Justus and his son James Nelson).
- Once the Warren family home / ancestral home of the great **Emily Warren Roebling** -- chief engineer and construction supervisor of the landmark **Brooklyn Bridge** project. A woman ahead of her time in the 1870s.
- Purchased by NYC police commissioner **Rhinelanders Waldo** in 1916 but later abandoned until 1940.
- **1940 – opens to the public as The Bird & Bottle Inn** after a complete restoration led by locals Charles & Constance Stearns. The Bird quickly established a reputation as a culinary destination and getaway for NYC's celebs and foodies. Hollywood starlets like **Joan Crawford and Veronica Lake** were known to hang out here.
- Famed African American chef **Lena Richard** is the Bird & Bottle Inn's very first Executive Chef, taking the helm in 1940 and bringing her unique Louisiana Creole flavors to the New York set. A woman ahead of her time, Lena was a celebrity chef who smashed barriers in the Jim Crow south with her own business, published cookbook, and television show. **Lena Richard's recipes put the Bird & Bottle Inn on the map and her Creole influence remained here through at least the late 1950s.**
- Around the time Lena Richard left The Bird, an up-and-coming NYC caterer was brought in as a consultant. It was none other than **James Beard**.
- In the late 1960's, **The Tonight Show bandleader Skitch Henderson** took ownership of the inn.
- The property **operated as The Bird & Bottle Inn for many memorable years** and hosted countless meals and special celebrations through the 40s & 50s (Charles & Constance Stearns), 60s (Skitch Henderson), 70s (Noonan family), 80s, 90s (Ira Boyer and family) and 2000s (Elaine & Mike Margolies).
- 2020 - local Hudson Valleyites Marjorie Tarter and Brendan McAlpine purchased and restored The Bird & Bottle, reopening its doors to the public in April of 2022.