

## The Van Campen Farm – Pahaquarry, NJ A Casualty of the Tocks Island Project



**“The depressing grey sky complemented perfectly the dead overgrowth still frozen from the previous winter months. The wind gusted furiously at times, rattling and shaking everything inside the old house. Doors and windows slammed closed at will, and occasionally after a strong gust the house itself seemed to shift. Strange creaking sounds echoed from the fatigued walls and plaster from the ceiling now covered the floor. Outside, a rusty shutter smashing against the exterior siding, produced a horrible sound, amplified by the hollow house.”**

**Pictures taken in 2009 during a visit to the former farm – last occupied by Harold Van Campen (May 1920 - Feb 2001), a descendant of the Dutch founder of Pahaquarry, NJ, one of its last township committee members before the town ceased existence in 1997. Now owned by the National Park Service, Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area, which lacks funds to maintain such historic structures. The area is currently more overgrown and deteriorating.**

Photos and quote courtesy Justin Gurbisz

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