

# *Rolling Toward Revolution...*

## *August, 1772*

While summer in the Raritan Valley was proceeding for the most part quietly, Hendrick Fisher was making news: He had been serving for several years as Chairman of the Committee of the NJ Colonial Assembly to confer with the Governor's Council to finally settle the boundary between New York and New Jersey, which was finally accomplished.

Outspoken in the Assembly, he was attacked in the *New York Gazette*, but was defended by supporters in a subsequent 1772 issue of the paper as "deserving of the highest commendation for his upright and exemplary service during a long series of years....devoted entirely to the service of his county and the Province in general."



An early photo of the unrestored Hendrick Fisher House, present-day South Bound Brook.  
<https://www.kowalarchitects.com/fisher-house>

He was also serving on the Commission to upkeep the barracks housing British troops in Perth Amboy, Burlington, Elizabethtown, and Trenton and was the Barracks Master at New Brunswick (NB: Only the Trenton barracks remain standing today). In this role, he received in late August, an ominous letter from Charles Pettit, personal secretary to the Royal Governor, William Franklin (1772-74). It announced that a battalion of His Majesty's Troops was expected to immanently and that the New Brunswick barracks were to be "in proper Condition for the Reception of such Part of this said Battalion..." The unrest in Boston and the anti-tax sentiment was having consequences in the mid-Atlantic "Provinces".

### *.Sources:*

- ❖ *Somerset County Historical Quarterly, Vol 8, 1919. "Hendrick Fisher – The Real German American."*
- ❖ *An original letter held in Rutgers University Library Special Collections and reproduced in Images of America: Somerset County, Crossroads of the American Revolution (1999). Schleicher & Winter. Eds.*
- ❖ <https://www.founderoftheday.com/founder-of-the-day/hendrick-fisher>.
- ❖ [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Charles\\_Pettit](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Charles_Pettit).