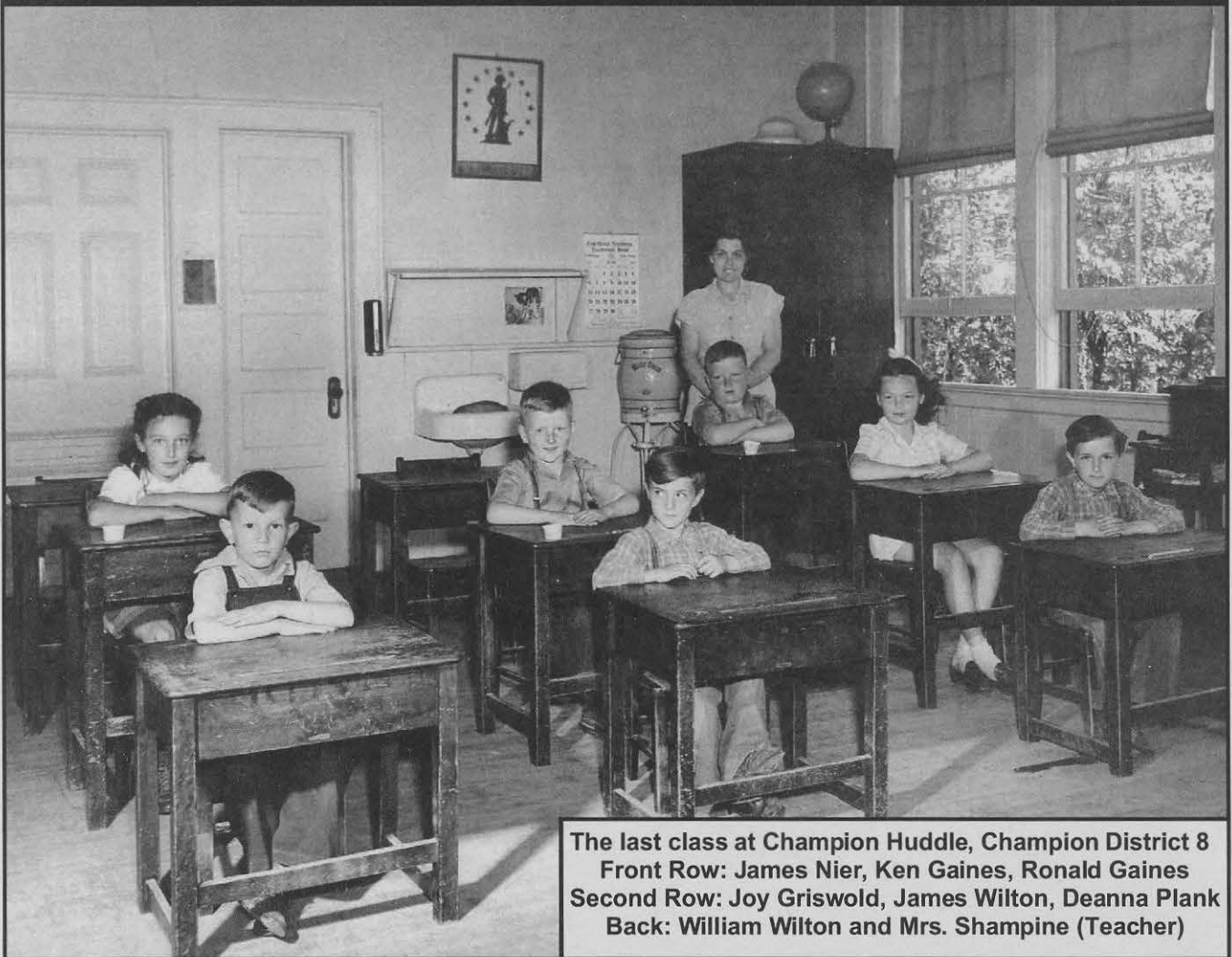


INFORMER

Volume 17, Issue 1

Annual Dues \$15.00 Canadian \$19.00

January 2010



The last class at Champion Huddle, Champion District 8
Front Row: James Nier, Ken Gaines, Ronald Gaines
Second Row: Joy Griswold, James Wilton, Deanna Plank
Back: William Wilton and Mrs. Shampine (Teacher)

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INFORMER JANUARY 2010

Correspondence about dues, memberships, and lost *Informers* should be directed to:
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E-mail: JCNYS@att.net *Web site:* <http://jefferson.nygenweb.net>

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Minutes will be taken by a volunteer at each meeting until position is filled!

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The *Informer* Committee includes Bill Dixon, chairman; Nan Dixon, nandixon@gisco.net, editor; Clancy Hopkins, clancyhopkins16@gmail.com, publisher. Editorial members (alphabetically) are Lis Couch, lcouch30@twcny.rr.com; Jerry Davis, mari-davis@aol.com; Bob VanBrocklin, Rvan992@aol.com; and Pauline Zach, pinzach@aol.com. The *Informer* is published in January, March, May, July, September and November. A special Surnames issue has also been published in December.

Letters.....

Letters to the editor may be directed to nandixon@gisco.net or to Nan Dixon, 15407 Dixon Road, Clayton, NY 13624.

In our series on the schools in Jefferson County, the staff of the *INFORMER* has decided to allocate two issues for the Carthage Central School. This is due mostly because of the extensive amount of material that has been made available to us from the work of Lynn M. Thornton, the town of Champion historian and retired Carthage Central School teacher as well as an active member of our society. Lynn has compiled a great collection of articles, remembrances, histories and pictures especially of the 32 common schools that became the present Carthage Central School. This January issue will feature the rural schools that were enveloped by the Carthage Central School district. They include 5 schools that are in Lewis County that we mention here but will not cover in the articles in this issue. They are Rockbound, Texas Road, Bear-town, Deer River and Denmark schools.

We want to again thank Lynn for allowing us to use this collection of work for our series on Jefferson County Schools. We are also especially proud that she is one of us at the Jefferson County New York Genealogical Society. Thanks Lynn!

THANKS!

Treasurer Hollis Dorr has again mentioned to the *Informer* staff that several renewals for JCNYS dues included donations above and beyond their dues and thought it might be worth mentioning in the *Informer*. While our dues for membership are only \$15, the membership application includes a "Support Donation" line and we are ever so grateful to those of you who also use this feature especially in these times of economic downturn. The following is a list of only those who have made donations from September 4, 2009 to October 1, 2009:
 Carolyn Whipple, Peter Sjoberg and Robert Carter Arnold.

A Reminder:

**The Jefferson County New York
 Genealogy Society**

**Meets monthly except for the
 Winter months of January
 And February!**

See you in March!

JCNYGS Minutes for October 10, 2009

Jean Coyne, Acting Secretary

The meeting, held in the Flower Memorial Library, was called to order at 1:10 by acting president, Jerry Davis. Nineteen members were present.

Past secretary, Elaine Jobson, read the minutes of the September meeting. A motion to accept the minutes was made by Clancy Hopkins and seconded by Lis Couch. Carried.

Hollis Dorr presented the treasurer's report. There is \$1399.85 in the savings account, \$2770.24 in the checking account, and \$4,567.89 in the certificate of deposit. The total is \$8737.98. Maggie Rood made a motion to accept the report and Bob VanBrocklin seconded it. Carried.

Phyllis Putnam reported for the Publicity Committee and the Program Committee. The usual notices were sent out regarding the meeting. Next month's program will be presented by Dave Shampine whose topic is "Going Full Circle with Focus." The meeting will be held Saturday, November 7 at 1:00 p.m. in the Flower Library. The December meeting will be held on the 12th, a Saturday, at 1:00 p.m. at the library. It will be an organizational meeting.

Jerry Davis reported for the *INFORMER* committee. The November issue is ready for the printer. Its focus is on the Carthage Central School District. Because there was so much material on the schools, the January issue will continue with the Carthage schools. Jerry also mentioned that the committee needs more people to help with the research. Any member interested in helping is invited to attend the Informer meetings, usually held at Hawn Library in Clayton on a Thursday afternoon. Contact Bill or Nan Dixon for specifics.

Clancy Hopkins reported for the Membership and Surnames committees. Everyone needs to return the yellow postcards with the names of the Jefferson County families they are researching as soon as possible. The surname issue will be published in December. Clancy also reminded those who are late paying their membership dues that the money was due by July 1. Following up on Jerry Davis' plea for more help on the *INFORMER*, Clancy mentioned that he and Patty do all the work on their committees, plus see that the *INFORMER* gets printed. He would like volunteers to help with the work of these committees. Please contact him if you are interested.

At 1:25 Clancy made a motion to adjourn; second by Hollis Dorr. Carried.

JCNYGS Minutes for November 7, 2009

Jerry Davis, Acting Secretary

The November meeting was called to order by President Terry Baker in the Trustee's Room at Flower Library with 26 people in attendance. Jerry Davis read the secretary's minutes as sent to the newsletter committee for inclusion in the next *INFORMER* issue and taken by acting Secretary Jean Coyne. Lynn Thornton moved to accept the minutes as read. Hollis Dorr seconded and the motion passed. Hollis Dorr gave his treasurer's report with a balance of \$8,328.22. Dick Kemmis moved for approval and Gerald Desormeau seconded. The motion was carried.

Turning to Committee Reports, President Terry asked Greg Plantz for a report from the Repository Committee. After Greg mentioned that there was nothing to report, President Terry enthusiastically told of taking an issue of our last *INFORMER* and its Civil War article to 406 Franklin Street and giving it to a gentleman who, after conversation and a house tour, returned Greg's favor by giving him a book he had purchased some time earlier entitled "*EARLY GLIMPSES AND SETTLERS FROM THE NEW BERLIN AREA.*" President Terry presented Gregg with the book to be added to the Repository.

Phyllis Putnam reported for Publicity and Program Committees that the usual notices were sent out and December's meeting will be an organizational meeting. Phyllis would especially like ideas on programs for next year to be included in discussions at the December meeting. She also mentioned that the March meeting will also be on a Saturday.

Bill Dixon reported for the Newsletter Committee that the January issue will finish the Carthage Central School and while 5 of the 32 consolidated schools are in Lewis County, they will be mentioned but not covered as completely as Jefferson County schools. This will allow for enough room to keep the *INFORMER* at 24 pages. March will feature the 1000 Islands Central School and Bill requested the Dan Grant help us with that issue and our meeting most likely will be at the 1000 Islands Museum rather than the Hawn Library.

For the Membership and Surnames Committee, Hollis mentioned for Clancy Hopkins that he was working on the December Surnames Issue.

There being no old or new business, President Terry had copies of our constitution and by-laws available for members as December's Meeting will address some changes.

The meeting was adjourned on a motion by Hollis Dorr and seconded by Lynn Thornton. David Shampine was introduced for our program on "Going Full Circle With Obits."

What's Going on with JCNYGS October 10, 2009

Jean Coyne, Acting Secretary



Lynn Thornton presented the afternoon's program. Lynn is the Historian for the Town of Champion. About a year and a half ago, she published a book called *AROUND CARTHAGE AND WEST CARTHAGE* in conjunction with Arcadia Publishers as part of the Images of America series. Her talk focused on some of the constraints of publishing for Arcadia, and she showed us some of the pictures, text and ideas that didn't make it into the book.

The publisher had several space limitations: Lynn was limited to 10 chapters, 126 pages, and limits on words per page. Also, Arcadia had specific criteria for pictures: no newspapers or photocopies were allowed, only original photographs were acceptable and the pictures had to be in excellent condition. For example, her first choice for a cover photograph was not used because of 'misting' on the photograph.

She is currently working on her second book for Arcadia: *CHAMPION, GREAT BEND AND DEFERIET*.

Lynn made two final points, which we as genealogists agree with completely:

If you have unwanted old photographs, check with family members or local historians to see if they want them.

NEVER throw away old items (books, papers, pictures, etc.) without checking with family members or local historians.

After her presentation, Lynn answered questions about the history of Carthage and West Carthage, concentrating on the fire of 1884 that devastated Carthage.

What's Going on with JCNYGS November 7, 2009



Bill Dixon asks David Shampine a question after Dave's program on "Going Full Circle With Obits"

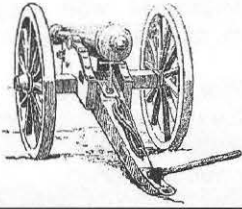
Our speaker was David Shampine. The title of his presentation was "Going Full Circle With Obits." Mr. Shampine had some signed copies of his new book, *REMEMBERING NEW YORK'S NORTH COUNTRY, TALES OF TIMES GONE BY* for sale at this meeting.

David C. Shampine is a native of Carthage and a 1966 graduate of Carthage Augustinian Academy, 1968 JCC and 1971 SUNY Brockport. He began working at the Times in 1971 as Carthage correspondent and moved into the "city room" in January 1972. His primary beat for most of the years has been crime. He has won awards from the NYS Bar Association, NYS Publishers Association, Associated Press, and JCC Alumni Association. He is a member of JCC Alumni Board of Directors and of the Bulletin staff at Jefferson County Historical Society.



**Only 2 copies of Dave's book left! Its his
*REMEMBERING NEW YORK'S NORTH COUNTRY,
TALES OF TIMES GONE BY***

CIVIL WAR BIOGRAPHY



A. Judson Marshall

Union Soldier - Distinguished Service

Judson Marshall was born in 1830 and at 28 years of age enlisted in the 94th New York Volunteer Infantry Company K on October 1, 1861 at Orleans. He was mustered out on August 30, 1865.

**MARSHALL DEAD; WAS GUARD
OVER LINCOLN'S BODY**
Syracuse Journal - March 5, 1911

WATERTOWN. MARCH 5 - A. Judson Marshall, a veteran of the Civil War is dead at his home in this city. Marshall was one of the guard that took charge of Abraham Lincoln at Washington after Lincoln had been shot. Sergeants from various regiments were designated to act as guards, and Marshall was one of these. He accompanied the body from Washington to Springfield, Ill., and was present at the funeral services. Mr. Marshall was 78 years old at the time of his death. He was a veteran of the 94th New York Infantry.

GUARDED LINCOLN'S BODY
Lowville Journal and Republican
Thursday, March 9, 1911

Judson Marshall, 78 years old, who had the distinction of having served as a bearer at the burial of President Abraham Lincoln, died last Thursday at his home in Watertown. It is said that he was the last survivor of a guard of twenty-five first sergeants who were chosen to guard and accompany the body of the President on its trip from Washington to Springfield. Mr. Marshall was given a medal in commemoration of the event. A widow, two daughters and two sons survive.

Mr. Marshall served with honor through the Civil war. After the assassination of Lincoln, a guard was chosen to stand about the body where it was viewed by thousands. At that time Mr. Marshall was a first sergeant and was selected to become one of that guard. Many interesting incidents were afforded Mr. Marshall while accompanying the remains to Springfield. Many stops were made en route, the guards standing about the car to keep away souvenir hunters. One man offered Mr. Marshall \$10 for a bit of crepe which draped the funeral car.

Thirty-Two Into One The Schools That Became The Carthage Central School District

Adapted from the newspaper series
Thirty-Two Into One, Histories of the Schools
Now Known As the Carthage Central District
by Lyle Raymond, Jr.
condensed and adapted by Lynn M. Thornton

PART II

You may wish to refer to Page 5 of the November 2009 issue of the *INFORMER* as we finish our coverage of the Carthage Central School District. In that issue we covered the Village Schools that became part of the district and we now cover the rural schools with the exception of the 5 that were completely in the county of Lewis. They were the Rockbound, Texas Road, Beartown, Deer River and Denmark schools.

THE RURAL SCHOOLS

The following 19 rural schools of Jefferson County were included in the Carthage Central School District: Little Red, Squash Hole, Castle, Rogers Crossing, Keyes, Sarvay, Sand Hill, Fargo, Old Stone, Old Church, Champion Huddle, Champion, Hadsall, Rutland Hollow, Harris, Line, Manchester, Martin Street and Lower Martin Street schools. Their stories follow.

Little Red School House; District 9



The Little Red Schoolhouse is located about two miles from Carthage on the Alexandria Road. Situated on the west side of the road, it is surrounded by a grove of small trees and brush, the immediate area about it being mostly low, swampy terrain. The traditional name, "Little Red Schoolhouse" was bestowed upon the District 9 building because it was painted bright red many years ago.

(Continued on Page 6)

(Continued From Page 5)

District No. 9 purchased its lot on March 18, 1850, from Edward and Mary Galvin for \$20. The district was represented by Trustees Isaac S. Crane, Charles B. Hosford and Edward Galvin. One eighth of an acre of land is contained in the parcel and the deed is recorded in the Book of Deeds 120, page 528.

Among the school's teachers prior to 1913 were: Fannie Lamphear, Letta Douglas, Clara Thoma and Mabel J Gayne (1909-1910). The roll from that point forward: Jessie Berger, 1913-1914; Myrtle Beebe, 1914-1916; Grace Pierce, 1916-1918; Kathleen Connelly, 1918-1920, Ada Forbes, 1920-1921; Sophia Clark, 1921-1922; Marion Wilson, 1922-1923; Cherra Countryman, 1923-1924; Marie B. Flynn, 1924-1926; Veronica Thompson, 1926-1928; Geraldine Clark, 1928-1929; Elizabeth Shortt, 1929-1930; Geraldine Clark, 1930-1931; Monica Martin, 1931-1932; Geraldine Clark, 1932-1934; Kathleen Murphy, 1934-1936; Viola Morisette, 1937-1940; Viola Morisette Bush, 1940-1941.

Squash Hole School Croghan District 14



District No. 14 was located partly in the town of Croghan and partly in the town of Wilna, with its schoolhouse situated in the town of Croghan on the River road leading from Carthage to Naumburg. It was known as the "Squash Hole" School because of its proximity to a small creek which enters the Black River just north of the schoolhouse.

The River Road crosses this stream on a small bridge now; but many years ago, before the road was improved for autos, the spot was a dreaded morass to cross with horses, especially during the wet season. A short distance south of the Squash Hole school, the old State road joins the River Road from the east. The Black River detours away from the River Road in a wide arc near the school site, approaching the highway again at the "squash hole".

The school building is parallel to the road, with its entrance facing north, and a cement sidewalk leading to the door. It is situated on a low bluff, overlooking the river, on the west side of the road. Originally, District 14 was known as No 16, having been created as such on May 5, 1848, by order of School Commissioner B.

R. Ellis. It became No. 14 on October 8, 1864.

On November 2, 1887, District No.14 acquired its lot of one-quarter of an acre for the sum of \$1, from David W. Ash and Orpha V., his wife. The deed is recorded in Book of Deeds, page 88. There is good evidence that District 14 was supporting a school many years before its deed was drawn.

A clothier and tailor shop proprietor of Carthage, the late John W. Clark, often said that he had taught school at the Squash Hole school before the Civil War, of which he was a veteran.

John Farr, Charles M. Holden and Edmond Stubbs were the trustees for District 14 when, in 1870, part of the district was siphoned off to form a new district, No. 17 whose schoolhouse was on the Wrape Road and was known, appropriately, as the Wrape school. No. 17 eventually was taken into Wilna District 13, which operated the Castle school at the time of centralization.

Little is known about the operation of District 14 school until about 1900. An old attendance record report, dated 1914 lists the school seating capacity as 21. Drinking water was brought from the neighbors' wells.

The last annual meeting at the Squash Hole school was held in 1953. Voters attending were plainly not deterred by talk of centralization for upkeep of their schoolhouse. District 14 adhered to this course for two more years, but its strength was waning, and as the spring of 1956 blossomed into summer, the last pupils passed out the door, the teacher gathered up her things, and the door of the Squash Hole school was locked shut, never to open again. At a meeting in 1959, attended by three voters, permission was given for the building to be sold at auction.

The long list of teachers associated with the school includes Mr. Clark, who taught before the Civil War; and Magdelene Lanphear, Bertha and Jennie Hubbard, Sophia Riley, Mabel Wisner, Mary Waite, Ida Slater and sisters Nellie, Agnes and Katherine Shea, all of whom taught there between 1900 and 1914. Thereafter, the roster reads as follows: 1914-16, Ruth Zecher; 1916-17, Mrs. Marie Bintz; 1917-18, Ethel H. Clark; 1918-19, Florence M. Brown; 1919-20, Ruth S. Dickenson; 1920-22, Mabel Waggoner; 1922-24, Dorothy Reffanacht; 1924-25 Mrs. Dorothy Reffanacht Bingle; 1925-28, Ruth Zahn; 1928-29, Frances Boursy; 1929-31, Susanne B. Gill. 1931-32, Beulah Perry; 1932-22, Mary L. Zahn; 1933-34, Beulah Perry; 1934-36, Ruth M. Patterson; 1936-38, Beulah L. Perry; 1938-39, Kathleen Bergin; 1939-40, Kathleen Bergin, Mary F. Zehr; 1940-42, Mrs. Mildred P. Goutremont; 1942-43, Mrs. Clara E. Hall; 1943-45, Mrs. Mona L. Tiffany; 1945-46, Mrs. Tiffany and Mrs. Loretta O'Neil; 1946-47, Mrs. O'Neil; 1947-51, Grace E. Sheley; 1951-54, Helen Zecher; 1954-56, Mrs. Beverly Siedlecki.

Castle School, Wilna District 13

The Castle school was located on the North Croghan Road, just past the junction of the Texas Road. In an arc, the North Croghan Road bends from the east to the northeast, and on the inner side of this bend is the school lot. Approaching from Carthage, one first notices the row of willow trees along the southerly side of the grounds, indicative of the bountiful supply of water to be found on the lot. Across the road from the school is the site of the Castle homestead, its buildings gone. The District 13 school took its name from this and also from the fact that Peter Castles built the new school. Peter Castles was the father of Mrs. Cyril McDonald, who is the fourth generation of her family to live in this district.

During the early years of the district's existence, the school was known as the "Irish Settlement School". One of the first areas to be settled and cleared in this section of the town of Wilna, it was first settled by immigrants from the "auld sod." The first schoolhouse on the site became too small to provide for all the pupils - numbering over 40 - and the frame building was in bad condition. It was torn down and Peter Castles was hired to erect a new larger structure. The entrance was at one end, facing the road and a woodshed was attached to the rear. On the porch, over the door, was painted the date of its construction - 1868. Drinking water was brought from a neighbor's well, until a well was drilled in more recent years.

That part of District 13 which indicated the Wrape Road was in a separate district for 25 years. On May 13, 1870, joint District 17 was created, including parts of River Road, the Wrape Road and the now abandoned Stream Mill Road. The schoolhouse known as the "Wrape School" was located in the town of Wilna on the rocks at the junction of the Wrape Road with the country road leading to the river Road. One of the teachers here was Mrs. Margaret Castles. The schoolhouse was destroyed by fire and on Aug. 4, 1896, the district was dissolved and divided among the adjoining districts; Nos. 1 and 16 of Wilna and No. 14 of Croghan.

Years after, there was some agitation promoted to have the Castle schoolhouse moved to the Wrape school site; however, the voters of District 13 forcefully rejected this proposal as the distances that some of the pupils would have to travel. Transportation to Carthage schools for high school pupils was inaugurated in 1936.

In 1949, its 121st year, District 13 closed its school by unanimous vote of the eight voters present. A special

meeting was held January 14, 1954 in which it was voted to sell the schoolhouse and it was sold to George and Elva Camidge for \$700. The Camidges remodeled the Castle schoolhouse and had just completed this tedious job when it caught fire and burned to the ground in September, 1955. It was only partially covered by its insurance. The lot was then sold to Norman Jones who then sold it to Mr. and Mrs. Ezra Greenfield.

Of the many teachers who were employed at the Castle School, the earliest known one is Mrs. Mary Castle. Following her were Margaret Foley, Emma Gaudin, Anna Toole, Ada Burns, Geraldine Burns, Margaret Castles, Katherine Murray, Anna Murray, Emma Burns, Mattie Nelson, Agnes Shea, Nellie Shea and Hattie Connell. Succeeding teachers and the years they taught were: 1917-18, Katherine Welch; 1918-20, Ruth Castles; 1920-21, Martha Foley; 1921-23, Marie Boyle; 1923-29, Edna Murphy; 1929-30, Geraldine Clark; 1930-32, Hazel Tiss; 1932-34, Florence Flynn; 1934-35, Florence Dalton; 1935-37, Hazel Tiss; 1937-40, Julia Driscoll; 1940-43, Margaret Roch; 1943-49, Mary Christman.

Rogers Crossing School District 11, Wilna and Croghan



In 1841, the first year of the organization of the town of Croghan, 73 children were taught in the township's original six districts - Nos. 1, 2, 3, 9, 11 and 15. Of these districts, only No. 11 has any bearing on the Carthage Central district. The area about Rogers Crossing, one of the oldest settled regions in the town of Croghan, was known as the Irish Settlement long before the coming of the railroad. There was a school district here, too, when this section was still part of the town of Watertown.

(Continued on Page 8)

(Continued From Page 7)

District No. 11, partly in the town of Wilna, had its school-house off the Texas road in the town of Croghan. Directly across from the school, a connecting road leaves the Texas Road, and goes in a direct line to Rogers Crossing, a short distance away. The school house can be seen plainly from the Crossing. The outlook on the northerly side of the school site is somewhat bleak, being mostly low ground, covered with brush and some woods.

Many years ago, this school was also known as the "Red School", because it was painted red. After the building was sided with green shingles it also became known as the "Green School". The term "Rogers Crossing School", only used occasionally years ago, became more prevalent in recent years.

What is Rogers Crossing? To be specific, it is where the road to North Croghan crosses the Adirondack branch of the New York Central railroad. There is also a four-corners of roads there, located just inside a corner of Lewis county. The railroad was first built in 1869, when the Black River and St. Lawrence Railroad company constructed a line from Carthage to Natural Bridge, using wooden rails.

The District 11 schoolhouse is at least 110 years old, though its actual date of construction is not known. No deed is recorded for the lot. The "Guyette deed" - to a plot of land adjacent to the schoolhouse - provided space for a playground. Inhabitants of the district used to hold such popular social events as box socials in the schoolhouse, and from the proceeds brought extra equipment for the school. A victrola was purchased in later years to make these events more entertaining. Drinking water was brought from nearby farms, but a well was dug before the school closed. There was a woodhouse in the rear and inside toilets were installed.

The Roll of Teachers: Teachers before 1900 included Maggie and Catherine Foley, Mrs. Lizzie Branagan, Katie Murray, Minnie Shaver, E. L. Foley, Ellen Delmore and Alice Howard. Among those who taught after 1900 were Jean Shetland, Emma Burns, Switzer Smith, Rose Mosher, Florence Douglas and Marie Shetland. The roll of teachers beginning in 1914-15 is incomplete. The late Mrs. Emmett A. Martin, for example, is known to have taught in the school some time in the 1924 to 1928 period. With omissions owing to incomplete records, the roll follows: 1914-15, Florence Fitzsimmons; 1915-16, Florence McAvoy; 1916-17, Edith M. Shaffrey; 1918-19, Ester B. Clark; 1919-21, Eulalie O'Brien; 1923-24, Blanche Clark; 1928-29, Veronica Thompson; 1931-32, Mary Pratt; 1932-33, Ruth Pratt; 1932-33, Ruth E. Clark; 1933-34, Doris Exford; 1934-35, Geraldine Clark; 1935-38,

Frances Shinbourne; 1938-40, Rose Charles; 1940-41, Suzanne B Gill; 1941-42, Mrs. Grace W. Martin; 1942-44, Mary S. Jarvis; 1944-45, Mary S. Jarvis, Mrs. Loretta O'Neil.

Cyril Kempney was trustee when, on August 23, 1945, it was decided at a special meeting to close the school. At the last annual meeting, held in 1953, it was voted to keep the school closed and the trustee was authorized to contract for transportation. Seven voters were present at that meeting.

Keyes School; Wilna District 10



District No. 10 was located partly in the town of Wilna and partly in the town of Croghan, with its school-house located near the county line in the town of Wilna. The site is at the intersection of four roads: the east west Avery road, the Rogers Crossing Road coming from the south, and the Natural Bridge road leading to the north. This area is known as North Croghan. About one-quarter mile east of the school, just across the county line, lie the tracks of the Adirondack branch of the New York Central railroad. In the corner formed by the Avery Road and the Natural Bridge road, sits the Keyes school, its entrance facing east. The school lot itself is on an acre of low ground, belying the fact that this is the highest school site in the town of Wilna, at an elevation of 860 feet.

The District No. 10 school derives its name from the Keyes family, early settlers in this area. Paul Keyes came to Wilna about 1820, and homesteaded north of the present school site, building a log house. On Sept. 1, 1848, the Keyes School district was erected as No.18. This was changed to No. 12 on Sept. 19, 1864. The final change to No. 10 occurred about 1914. Nothing is known about the first school, but the present building was constructed in 1869, this being carved over the inside woodshed door. Drinking water was procured from neighbor' wells. Clerks records for the Keyes school are non-existent.

(Continued on Page 9)

(Continued From Page 8)

With the advent of regular rail service in 1883, pupils from District 10 attended high school in Carthage by train. A small shelter, or waiting room, was erected for the convenience of passengers and was known as the North Croghan station. A nearby siding is known locally as Clearwater, was named after another old family of the district, the descendents of Jacob Clearwater. A statement of furnishings in 1954 included a merry-go-round, 17 desks, phonograph and records, 160 library books and 12 maps (10 of them outdated). The last class of the Keyes school (the 109th) passed through its doors at the end of the school year in 1957. There were six children present; Roberta and Carl Ward, Dean and Sue Ann Kling, Dorothy Fetterly and Joseph Woodside. In 1959, Mr. Raymond states, "The school is not operating currently, though never declared legally closed by voters of former District 10".

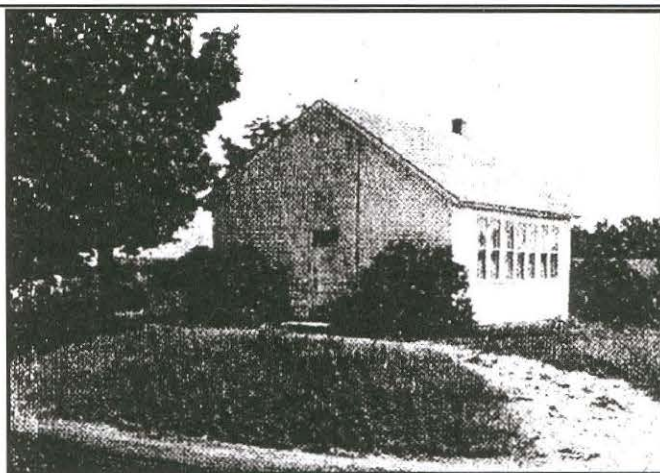
Teachers mentioned as having taught before 1913

were: Frankie Johnson, Margaret Castles, Minnie Dalton, Cal Traynor, Fannie Giblin, Anna Murray, Lizzie Branagan, Emma Peck, Mary Fogarty, Carrie Minister, Ford House, Hazel Romsay, Calista Hulburt and Rachel Weatherhead. **After 1912**, the school had the following teachers; 1913-14, Margaret L. Higman; 1914-15, Adeline McGrath; 1915-16, Emma S. Peck; Ruth M. Castles; 1921-22, Elizabeth Purkins; 1922-24, Ruth Lee; 1924-27, Grace Bintz; 1927-29, Iva Van Tassel; 1929-30, Susanne Gill. Also; 1930-32, Emma Emmett; 1932-33, Elizabeth Carpenter; 1933-35, Ruth Clark; 1935-36, Geraldine Clark; 1936-41, Ruth Clark; 1941-42, Rose Charles; 1942-46, Grace Bintz; 1946-51, Suzanne B. Gill; 1951-52, Mrs. Anna Maine; 1952-53, Mrs. Ethyl Geer; 1953-57, Mrs. Anna Maine.

In 1959, Mr. Raymond wrote that, "Today the Keyes school sits rather forlornly in its grass-grown yard - waiting. The windows, with their partially-drawn shades, resemble half-closed eyes as they gaze out from the faded white walls sealed with old-time vertical bats - waiting. ... Waiting for the teacher to come, waiting for the children to come trooping in, waiting for someone to start a fire and warm its innards. Waiting for the voters to come and decide its fate, and bring to an end the era of one-room schools at North Croghan."

Sarvay School; District 7

The Sarvay Schoolhouse is located in the northeast corner formed by the junction of the Hogsback or Ridge Road (Natural Bridge) and the Avery Road Fargo-North Croghan). This junction is a short distance east of Devois Corners, where West Street



meets the Avery Road and another crossroad leads northerly to Route 3. A small tributary of Black Creek crosses the Avery Road below and east of the schoolhouse. Perched on a steep-sided knoll (a retaining wall is used on the east side of the lot) the school is crowded closely upon the little Fulton Cemetery. The school building is parallel with the Avery Road with its entrance facing westerly; twin lilac bushes frame the entrance to the faded white building.

Sarvay is an old, familiar name about District No. 7. The Sarvays were among the early settlers of the vicinity, and at one time there were several "Sarvay farms" located near the school. Another early family name in this area is that of Fulton, for whom the little cemetery is named. The ancestor of this branch of the Fulton family was Caleb Fulton, who moved from Massachusetts to Wilna about 1810. Devois Corners was named for the Devois family, of French descent. John James Devois emigrated from Paris, France to Beaver River in 1797 and died there in 1803. His wife and son Francis moved to Wilna about 1808 and they and their descendents, by their long residence at the corners, permanently connected the family home with this location.

In April 5, 1869, District No. 7, represented by Trustee Alonzo Smith, purchased a quarter acre of land from Elisha Fulton. The deed is recorded in Book of Deeds 182, page 77. It is not known when the stone schoolhouse mentioned in the deed was abandoned and the present school built. Drinking water for the school was procured from a neighbor's well, even as it is now. Ninety years ago the Sarvay School was equipped with long seats or benches, made of basswood.

Teachers prior to 1908: Lena Redmond, Madda Crowner, Lucy Chaffee, Anna Jacobs, Rachel Salter, Jennie Hubbard, Jean Chatelain, Clara Trayner and Jane Fulton.

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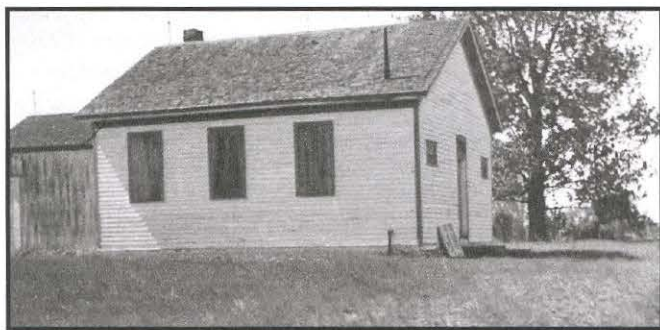
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Teachers beginning in 1908: Anna Harvey, 1908-11; Stella Kring, 1911-12; Nellie Snyder, 1912-13; Grace Pierce, 1913-15; Edith Shaffrey, 1915-17; Vada Carn-cross, 1917-18; Florence McCullem, 1919-21; Eliza Blanchard, 1921-23; Sara Hutchins, 1923-25; Sara Trembly, 1925-26; Ruth Gates, 1926-27; Mildred Lumley, 1927-29; Josephine Crouner, 1929-31; Lettie B. Tharrett, 1931-34; Phyllis Wicks, 1934-37; Lottie B. Tharrett, 1937-38; Inez Rowley, 1938-45; Laura McKinney, 1945-46; Margaret Blanchard, 1946-48; Marion Redmond, 1948-50; Anna Farley, 1950-58.

In 1934 Miss Aileen Vrooman began teaching vocal music in 20 one-room schools of the towns of Champion and Wilna. She was followed by Mrs. Katherine McKinney, Mrs. Marleah Hobkirk, Mrs. Ellen Mayo, Miss Eleanor Taylor, Mrs. Frances Vorce, Mrs. Kathryn McCormican Rich, Miss Elizabeth Miller and Mrs. Gladys Grunert. They taught in one-teacher, two-teacher, three-teacher and higher elementary schools.

In 1942 physical education was also inaugurated for the rural schools of this area, and this was taught by Kenneth Babcock.

Sand Hill School: District 5



Four miles from Fargo's, on Route 3, the road changes from its general northeastward course and turns directly east, shortly entering Natural Bridge. As the wheels of your car roll swiftly across a straight, flat stretch of highway, this inclined curve looms ahead, with a sand bank on the right crowned with a single tree. A second look reveals a schoolhouse behind the tree; a careful scrutiny discloses a sadly weather-beaten building, its entrance facing the road and containing a door hanging askew, held in place by a chain and padlock. (CRT, March 12, 1959)

The Weaver Road leads off into the Fort Drum military reservation opposite the school. A tributary of the Black Creek rises behind the school and about three-quarters of a mile toward Natural Bridge is the Sand

Hill cemetery. The Sand Hill school received its name from the large sand bank, or knoll, upon which it sits. It is said that the first schoolhouse of District No. 5 was located nearer Fargo's from the present site, on the other side of the road, close to the present John Phelps farm. Accounts of when or why the present structure was erected are long since gone. The schoolhouse is at least 150 years old. Drinking water for the District 5 school came from a spring below the schoolhouse. There were steps over the fence to enable one to reach the spring, which in those days was surrounded by a cedar forest.

For many years, District 5 had no document of any kind to prove its right to the property. On October 3, 1918, a lease was negotiated between Charles Smith and District 5. For \$30, Mr. Smith agreed to lease a parcel of land "for as long as there is a school building in use on that ground" and the district agreed to keep the lot fenced.

In 1941, the expansion of Pine Camp clipped off the northern portion of District 5. Route 3 forms the boundary of the military reservation through District 5. The resulting loss of revenue forced the premature closure of the Sand Hill school in 1943. District 5 transported its pupils to Natural Bridge. For the first year, 1943-44, transportation and tuition came to \$700. The Sand Hill school did serve some useful purposes during the period between closure in 1943 and centralization in 1954. In addition to 4-H meetings being held there, permission was gained from the trustee, Mrs. Hazel LaVine, to use the schoolhouse as a ground observer post, and a telephone was installed. In 1957, voters of District 5 gave their consent to sell the Sand Hill school.

Teachers before 1913 included Minnie Forbes, Bertha Hubbard, Tina Montondo, Clarence Mecker, Mollie Doyle, Rachel Salter, Elmer Vaughn, Joanna Austin, Emma Gaudin, Josephine Miller, Lalor Sarvay, Nora Swind, Carrie Lamb, Lucy Bemus, Nora VanDuzee, Clara Kelsey, a Mr. McCann, Eva Shoemaker, Grace Austin and Mrs. Sherman Balcom. Beginning in 1913, the Sand Hill school had the following teachers: 1913-16, Mrs. Desta Bolger; 1916-17, Adah Finley; 1917-18, Mildred Wright; 1919-20, Eliza Blanchard; 1920-23, Lora R. Redmond; 1923-24, Lora R. Short; 1924-26, Mrs. Grace Lewis; 1926-27, Mrs. Grace Lewis, Mrs. Julia Driscoll; 1927-29, Margaret Crouner, Ruth Parker; 1929-30, Hazel Redmond; 1930-32, Isabel Rice; 1933-34, Hazel Tiss; 1934-36, Donald Myers; 1936-43, Lena Cross.

Fargo School



The Fargo schoolhouse, town of Wilna, was located at the intersection of roads known throughout the area as "Fargo's". The road which passes by its door is an historic one, which, as the St. Lawrence Turnpike, was rated as one of the most important arteries of transportation to the first settlements in the Black River valley. It was a profitable business to operate an inn at strategic points on this road; and Lewis Fargo did so, adjacent to the District No. 3 schoolhouse, giving his name to the crossroads.

The lot for the Fargo Schoolhouse was taken from the homestead farm of Zuriel Penniman on April 26, 1861. It was sold to the district for \$15 and the deed was recorded in the Jefferson County clerk's office on January 3, 1862, in Book of Deeds 148, page 19. When the deed was recorded, the district was known as Common School District No 1 of the town of Wilna. It was changed to No. 3 in 1861. On August 15, 1886 an official order made it the Carthage Union Free school District No 1.

Fargo's was a meeting place of some importance in the locality, and besides Fargo Inn and the schoolhouse, there was a Select School for Young Ladies, of which little is known. There were about 12 pupils attending the one-room school in the early 1900's. Water was brought from a well near the Fargo Inn, until a well was drilled in more recent years. The entrance faced the road, with a woodhouse in the rear, and the windows on the north and south sides. Inside toilets and electric lights were installed to modernize the building.

District No. 3 operated its school continuously through the years, sharing many of the troubles common to the small country schools, but surviving good times and bad. It took a war to stop its operation, with the nation in the throes of a national emergency. When the Second World War began, the US government expanded Pine Camp through a huge land acquisition which included the greater part of District No 3 - there was little

to do but to close the school and transport the pupils to Carthage High School. At a special meeting of the voters on July 29, 1954, it was decided to sell the schoolhouse. On June 18, 1955 the building was sold at auction to Irving and Marie Bean for \$850. They resold it to Douglas Sears, who remodeled it into a private dwelling. On December 5, 1955, at 12:40 p.m. the former Fargo Inn accidentally burned to the ground.

A record of teachers beginning about 1913. A few people who attended the school before that time, have mentioned these teachers: Susan Gormley, Nellie Ford, Katherine Murray, Carrie Lamb, Ada Roderick, Bell Graham, Nellie Norris, Jean Chaplin, Mable Hall, Mrs. Crowner, Mrs. McDonald, Florence Foley and Anna Jacobs.

The roll of teachers beginning with the year 1913-14 follows: 1913-14, Nellie Snyder; 1914-15, Ruth Byer; 1915-16, Florence Wicks; 1916-17, Mrs. Florence Zecher; 1917-18, Elizabeth Perkins; 1918-19, Merle Sarvay; 1919-20, Mary E. Slaid; 1920-21, Mary Christman; 1921-23, Powers Hagan; 1923-26, Doris Crowner; 1926-27, Fern B. Roy; 1927-28, Gladys Bariteau; 1928-29, Milton Pierce, Lottie Tharrett; 1929 - 30, Desta Bolger; 1930-33, Grace Bintz; 1933-34, Grace Bintz, Ruth Cory; 1934-35, Powers Hagan; 1935-39, Grace Bintz; 1939-40, Grace Bintz, Henry Sweetman; 1940-41, Grace Bintz.

Old Stone School Champion District 5

The site of the Old Stone School was located on Route 3, between the villages of Great Bend and Deferiet, not far from the western bank of the Black River where Route 3 crosses it. Situated on the north side of the road, the site is opposite the lower entrance to Johnnycake Road (Jackson II Road) which leads up the western side of the Black River. A large portion of District No. 5 is encircled by the river known as the great bend, where it turns from the northerly course and swings west. A short, dead-end road leads into this area, leaving Route 3 near the Old Stone School site.

On July 25, 1835, this district was created as No.19. According to Jefferson County Book of Deeds, 113, page 220, Chauncy Coffeen and his wife Mary, sold 1000 square feet of land to District 19 for the sum of \$3, on July 27, 1838. The school building itself was located on a small rise, with a sharp drop-off behind it. The adjacent area has been built up quite thickly in recent years, being part of the thriving Deferiet village expansion. The schoolhouse was built of stone, with its entrance facing the road. Drinking water was brought from a neighbor's well. Around 1900, the school was being attended by 15 to 20 pupils.

(Continued on Page 12)

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Some of these pupils, not unlike many others, became convinced that the spelling lessons were too hard. Deciding to do something about it, they hid their spelling books in a pile of stones on Johnnycake Road, "finding" them again on the last day of school.

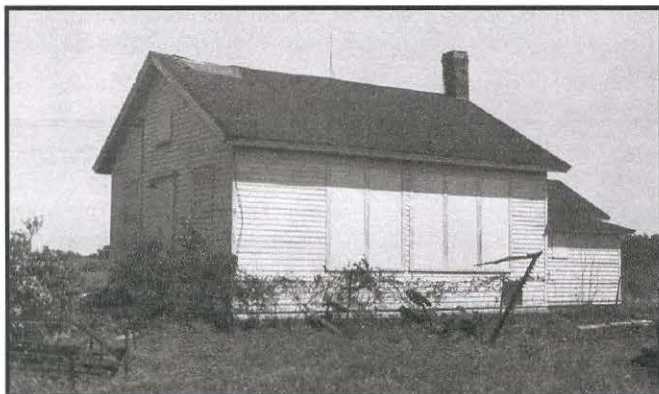
Among the recollections of some of the former pupils, three teachers Miss Stone, Nellie Ford and a Miss Gibbons were mentioned. The Old Stone School (having become part of District 5 on July 18, 1864) was closed about 1907, and the books in the district library were divided among the last pupils who attended.

After the school was closed, it stood idle for many years. Finally, in 1923, the voters decided to sell the building, feeling that it was in the best interests of the district to continue to contract its pupils to neighboring villages. A resolution to this effect was passed at the annual school meeting on May 1, 1923. The building was sold to John and Julia Soyak in July of the same year, with the condition that it was torn down. That was carried out and the stone was used for sub-basing for the dead-end road leading into the north end of District No. 5.

In the expansion of Pine Camp in 1949, the whole of the northern part of District No. 5, lying inside the great bend of the Black River was taken by the government. This area was not thickly settled and its loss to the district was not a stunning one.

District No. 5, by closing its school so early, was not confronted with many of the problems which had beset the other districts in connection with the operation of their schools, especially during their last 30 years. Of those long ago years when the Old Stone School was in operation, more is unknown than known.

Old Church School



Champion District 4

The schoolhouse of Champion District No. 4 is located on a four corners, the junction of the east-west Felts Mills road and the north-south Pennock road. These roads are paved except for the southwest continuation of the Pennock road, a gravel roadway that shortly crosses White creek within sight of the school. (This creek is variously called White, Deertick and Felts Mills Creek). On the southwestern quarter of the four corners is the Old Church School, its entrance facing north. Buildings of the Floyd Taylor farm are close to the lot which is surrounded by open farmland. A short distance to the south you can see the tower of the WCNY-TV station.

This school became known as the "Old Church" School because of its proximity of the old Methodist meeting-house which also stood near the four-corners.

When District No.4 was first organized the schoolhouse was located in the "V" formed by the Felts Mills and the Great Bend-Champion roads. This site was used until 1889, when the present lot was purchased. On May 24, 1889 Nathan Francis and Almira his wife, sold a parcel containing 42 rods of land to District 4 for \$59. Plans for the erection of a new school building were immediately drawn up by a building committee composed of G. P. Francis, William Davis, C. W. Taylor, and Robert Middleston. Josiah Drake of Rutland signed an agreement to build a building according to their specifications: the school was to be 25 by 20 feet with a woodhouse 12 by 14 feet. Seats to accommodate 40 scholars were to be installed. It was to be shingled and clapboarded - all for \$550.

In 1870 it was "voted to raise by tax \$85.70 for teachers' wages, wood and other expenses." A motion was made and carried in 1877 to use the following books for the school;" National Readers and Spellers; Warren's Geography; Green's Grammar; Davies' Arithmetic and Algebra; and Young's Civil Government."

At a special meeting on June 4, 1953 The Old Stone Church was closed for one year by a vote of 10 - 3. Elementary pupils were sent to Great Bend and Augustinian Academy. The school has remained closed.

Roll of Teachers:

1913-14 Ruth Slater; 1914-15 Julia Conroy; 1915-16 Lena Brown; 1916-17 Ruby Burnup; 1917-18 Mary L. French; 1918-19 Vera Merrill Clemons; 1919-20 Ruby Burnup; 1920-22 Sadie Clark; 1922-23 Marguerite Clark; 1923-25 Alice Fiestel; 1925-26 Ruby Gooding; 1926-28 Ruth M. Hoffman; 1929-31 Hazel E. Hoffman; 1931-32 Emma Couaineau; 1932--33 Hazel Hoffman; 1933-35 Marion Scanlon; 1935-38 Mrs. E. M. House; 1938-39 Betty Vincent; 1939-40 Mrs. Bessie House; 1940-41 Helene Casselman; 1941-43 Marion Scanlon; 1949-50 Mrs. House; 1950-51 Margaret Phillips; 1951-53 Mrs. House.

Champion Huddle Champion District 8



Champion Huddle is an historic place on the road between Champion village and Great Bend. Now only a collection of a few houses, in years past, it was of much more importance, although never attaining the prominence attached to the neighboring villages. In this little hamlet was located the District No. 8 schoolhouse, situated in the corner formed by the Champion-Great Bend road and a cross-road leading north-west toward Rutland Hollow. The site is part way down the hill over which Deerlick Creek comes bounding, passing under the main road near the school. In close proximity to the bridge is a spring. It is located on the south bank of the creek, with a stone retaining wall around it.

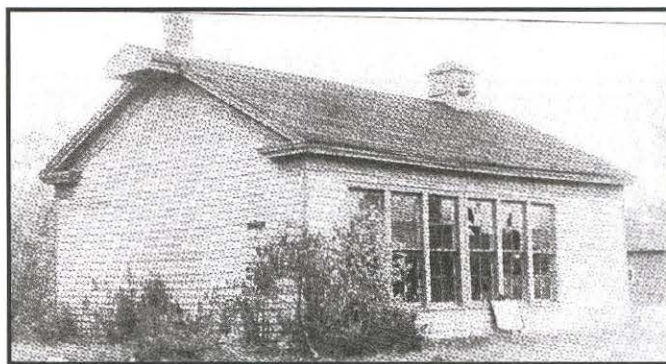
District No 16 (later 8) was formed June 24, 1848. The deed to the second school-house for District No. 16 is dated Feb. 19, 1862 and is recorded in Book of Deeds 169, page 301. The lot was sold to the district by William P. Babcock and Rocky S., his wife; there was half an acre in the parcel and the deed was signed by John Waite, justice of the peace. In the northwest wall of the building, there is a date scratched on one of the stones, but it cannot be interpreted with accuracy. At the 1890 meeting, it was voted to shingle the schoolhouse with the best Canadian pine. For a cost of \$36, the school-house was painted in 1896, and a chair and other fixtures were bought for \$1.70. A suitable U.S. flag was to be purchased and displayed. In 1900, total expenditures for the year were \$217.96. The teacher's wages were set at \$208 for the year.

A roll of teachers beginning about 1907 was found and older residents have remembered some earlier teachers. Those recalled were: Max Staples, Clair B. Burns, Elizabeth Hill, Stella Sage, Edna Merrill, Mamie Slade, Nellie Hubbard, Grace Chapin, Merle Sarvay, Maude Gates, Martha Crohn, Cora Harris, Nettie Flanders, Maude Happ, Mrs. Bell, Chanie Brainerd, Elizabeth Babcock, Mae Safford, Belle Hammond, Nora Swind, Joanna Austin, Pearle Noyes, Lucy Hardy and Mamie Merrill.

Teachers in Champion No. 8 beginning in 1902:

1902-03, Helen Woolworth; 1906, Cadwell Lewis; 1907-08, Miss Carrie Slack, Mrs. Marlett; 1908-08, Mabel Vrooman; 1909-10, Belle ...; 1912-13, Miss Sheldon; 1914-16, Miss Irene Cowan; 1919-20, Mrs. Leon Stott; 1920-21, Ruth Carter; 1921-22, Alice M. Galloway; 1922-23, Julia Driscoll; 1923-24, Valeta Whitaker; 1924-26, Julia Driscoll; 1926-27, Winifred B. Patchin; 1927-28, Rachel L. Waful; 1928-29, Julia Driscoll; 1929-30, Irene Scott; 1933-35, Nellie Woodruff; 1935-36, Portia M. Downing; 1936-41, Marion Scanlon; 1941-44, Hazel Smith; 1944-46, Minnie Rounds; 1946-47, Mrs. Helen Stott; 1947-48, Mrs. Vernita Shampine.

Champion School, District 1



By 1806 a frame schoolhouse replaced the original 1801 log schoolhouse. Both were on the Village Green. When the 1806 school on the Green burned down, the next elementary building was erected across the gulf on the Great Bend near the cemetery. After the church was brought down from the Green, the school on the Great Bend was taken down, and a new one built next to the church. This school is the one moved to Black River in 1893, then again by the Four Rivers Historical Society to its historical complex at Great Bend. It has been restored so students can come and learn how a one-room schoolhouse functioned.

The school commissioners' books for the town of Champion contributed some interesting statistics on the Champion School District. In 1820, the first year recorded, 55 pupils were taught; five years later the number had risen to 100. There were 81 pupils in 1847, and by 1870, the number of pupils had shrunk to 21. Many of the boys attended during the winter months until they were 21. It appears, however, that many of them regarded school as a "frolic" to fill up a few idle weeks in the farm work. Harassment of the teacher was the established custom; usually a male teacher was hired for the winter term when the older boys would be present, and a female teacher for the summer term, which was attended by only the younger children.

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Existing clerk's records for District 1 begin in 1903. The first entry is dated August 4, 1903 when it was voted to buy a dictionary for \$5, the state to pay the other half. Total expense for running the school in 1903-04 was \$464.56. The state inspector urged that the drainage of the school yard be improved but nothing was done about the matter until 1914 and was not completed until about 1920.

The first motion to transport high school pupils was introduced in 1932. It failed to carry. (High School students had to go to Carthage if they were to continue their education, and many people saw the burden as being "too much for the district in view of the times and nature of employment, and that it was not necessary to furnish transportation under the existing education law". However, the state education department disagreed and the transportation issue was carried in 1935. The eighth was also transported to village schools in 1939.

In 1939 it was also appointed a committee to look into installing flush or chemical toilets. If no toilets were installed, the money was to be used to paint the schoolhouse. After a special meeting in 1941, it was voted to install new toilets and a septic system.

The first move to close the Champion School came in 1947, but the move was defeated and the school stayed open. At a meeting held April 1, 1958 voters finally decided to bring to an end the public school in Champion. For the first time in 158 years there was to be no school in Champion village. The last pupils were Robert and Joan Haver, Timothy and Bradley Tripp; also two dogs.

The Champion School was constructed in the first half of the 1800's. At the time it stood next to what is now the grange hall in Champion. It was the first school in the Town of Champion. Classes were held in the building until the 1950's. The School was closed shortly after the Carthage area schools centralized. It was purchased and moved to the Black River Garden Center on Route 3.

In 1987 it was donated to the 4 River Valleys Historical Society with the understanding that the Society would have the building



moved. Major fund raising for moving and renovation of the school was kicked off in Nov. 1987. In June of 1988 the Champion School was moved to its present location, on the 4 River Valleys Society property in Great Bend, New York.

The school is 95% restored. It is hoped that in the near future we will be able to invite elementary classes for a day of local history. It will give these children a chance to use original desks and materials and learn a little about the area they live. (courtesy of the 4 River Valleys Historical Society Website <http://www.4ryhs.org/chamschool.html>.)

Hadsall School Rutland District 13



Former District No. 10 lies in the town of Rutland with its schoolhouse in the town of Champion. The Hadsall school is located on a four-corners; one road leads north into Rutland Hollow and another leads east to Champion village, both paved. The other two roads are now almost impassable from disuse. On the west side of the Rutland Hollow road is the school site, occupying a small piece of land between the four-corners and Townsend Creek. this is one of the most picturesque school sites in the town of Champion.

On June 8, 1816, District 10 was created, and the first schoolhouse was a log structure located on the same four-corners as the present building. Concurrent with the history of old District No. 10 is the history of old District No.5, one of the original districts in Champion, whose schoolhouse was located on another four-corners, situated west of the Carlton Whittaker property. District 5 was dissolved in 1850 and added to adjoining Districts 4, 10 and 16 (Champion No. 19 later became known as No. 5)

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The dissolution of District 5 was appealed, but the appeal was dismissed on the grounds that the district was small and weak and that it was "better to send the pupils two miles to a good school than a quarter of a mile to a poor one." The deed to the No. 5 school is one of the earliest recorded deeds for a rural school in this area. Dated Oct 5, 1822, it also noted that a stone school had lately been erected on the site.

In 1867, District 10 decided to build a new schoolhouse (the increase in the number of pupils caused by adding a large portion of No. 5 may have been a factor). First, a legal district owned lot was obtained when Solomon Hadsall sold a quarter acre to the district for \$50. The deed was recorded in Book of Deeds 169, age 474. A schoolhouse was constructed the same year.

The District 10 school always was known as "the Hadsall School", a very appropriate name, for the Hadsalls came to Champion two years after its settlement, and resided on the homestead farm until 1880. The Hadsall cheese factory was located across the road from the schoolhouse. As the result of a very fortunate chain of events, some of the attendance reports for the Hadsall school have been preserved, many of them more than 125 years old. Records exist recording the first class of thirty-three students to be taught in the new schoolhouse in 1867-68. In 1884, a motion was adopted that Steele's "Hygienic Physiology" be used in the school for the next five years. In 1889 the trustee was authorized to shingle the schoolhouse with "No. 1 pine or cedar shingles", if necessary.

In 1902, the trustee was directed to purchase a bell for the belfry, "not to cost more than \$5.00." Drinking water was brought from a spring near the bank of Townsend creek. (Being sent to fetch the drinking water was a privilege indeed; it provided a delightful break in the routine of the school day, and those who went never hurried, stretching to the limit the time allowed for the errand.)

In 1928 it was agreed to build a garage for the teacher's car. This was done and added to the rear of the schoolhouse. In 1930 it was voted to have a well dug and investigate "some way to get water for use at the schoolhouse". The first move to close the Hadsall school came in 1938 and the motion was defeated. In 1940 it was voted to contract the high school pupils to West Carthage. It was voted to wire the school for electricity in 1946.

District No. 10 went to its grave with the formation of the central district, but the Hadsall school did not close its doors until 1956 when Mrs. George Chisholm walked out the door, bringing to an end the 140 year line of teachers. In October of that year, the building was sold at auction to John T. Eddy for \$1100.

Roll of Teachers: 1867-68, Elijah Graves and Emma Coon; 1972-73, Elijah Graves, Frank Orvis, Aldie Schwartz; 1873-74, Clara Johnson, Julia Samson; 1884-1885, Frank Orvis, Mary Dunlap; 1885-86, Frank Orvis, Carrie Slack; 1888-89, Celinda Baldick; 1889-90, Celinda Baldick; 1893-94, George Duffy, Grace Harris; 1897-98, Carrie Owen; 1896-99, Carrie Owen. (It was the custom to hire two teachers each year- one for the winter term, one for the summer term.) Other early teachers, their years unknown, were Frances Giblin and a Miss French; 1901-02, Helen Woolworth; 1903-04, N. S. Churchill; 1904-05, Carrie Owen; 1907-08, Grace Colligan, Anna Slack, Edith Purcell; 1908-09, May Roberts; 1910-11, Nellie Crain; 1011-12, Katheryn Colligan; 1912-13, Nettie Merrill; 1913-19, Hazel Maxim; 1918-20, Hazel Feistel; 1920-22, Julia Driscoll; 1922-23, Marion C. Earle; 1923-24, Monica Beach; 1924-25, Hilda A. Sterling; 1925-26, Monica E. Beach; 1926-30, Jessie Purcell; 1930-32, Elizabeth Carpenter; 1932-34, Mary Pratt; 1934-38, Dorothy Lyng; 1938-40, Marguerite Garrison; 1940-41, Ruth E Wood; 1941-45, Julia Driscoll; 1945-46, Edith Graves; 1946-47, Mrs. Hubbard; 1947-1948, Flora Carlisle; 1948-50, Elsie Sullivan; 1950-54, Melva Cote; 1954-55, Mrs. Marion Redmond; 1955-56, Mrs. George Chisholm.

Passing the site of the Hadsall School in later years, one would have seen a neat appearing white building trimmed with green. Near the top of the building, in green letters, was the date it was built, 1867, plain for all to see.

Rutland Hollow School District 9



Original Rutland districts now included in the Carthage Central area are No.7 (Felts Mills) and No.9 (Rutland Hollow). No. 14 (Black River) was established at a later date. A few one-room schools were built before the advent of free common schools; one historical work notes that there were four framed schoolhouses in the town in 1813. (Continued on Page 16)

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"Deep down in the Hollow, about midway, a road comes spiraling down, crosses the Hollow road (not a four-corners; the roads intersect a few hundred yards apart) and abruptly "stands on end" as it struggles out of the valley toward the village of Black River. At this intersection is the Rutland Hollow schoolhouse, a white building with a cement porch and three trees in the yard; two maples and an elm. Behind the school is the narrow, flat floor of the Hollow, about an eighth of a mile wide, with farms strung along it like beads on a string. A small creek winds along; above it, to the south, the valley wall rises 300 feet in half a mile, literally rising to the sky." Description by Lyle Raymond, (CRT, 1959)

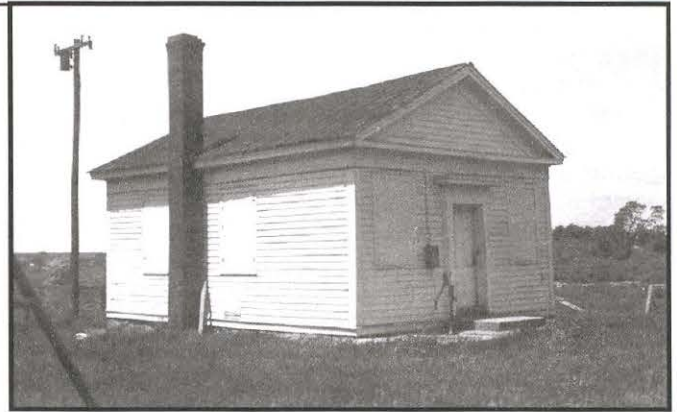
The first or one of the first, teachers in Rutland Hollow was Miss Naomi Blackmer. Others who taught in the Hollow schools were Curtis Mallory, Jacob Fuller, Zelotus Harvey, Charles Dayon, Jason Clark, Horatio Sherman, Gardner Towne, A. P. Sigourney, John M. Dunlap, John Felt, the Misses Cornelia Johnson and Adeline M. Brown and Elijah Graves.

The first schoolhouse for District 9 that we have definite record of was located on the opposite, or western corner, from the present site. A deed dated April 13, 1830, states that Reuben Scott and Susannah, his wife, sold .18 of an acre to District 9. About 1856, the present school-house was built. The district purchased a half-acre lot on April 17, 1856, from Jonathan Treadway and Mahala, his wife, for \$50. The deed was recorded in Book of Deeds 127, page 296. Total disbursements for 1864 were \$87.84. This included teaching for one term, \$73.50 and the purchase of one broom, 31 cents.

In 1954, the same year that the Carthage centralization took effect, the Rutland Hollow school was closed, ending at least 150 years of instruction in Rutland Hollow (excepting the short intervals that the school was closed). The schoolhouse, idle since that time, had not been sold at the time of Mr. Raymond's writing (1959).

In addition to teachers already mentioned, Mary J. Sterling taught in 1905-06. Other teachers, as disclosed in attendance reports, were; 1927-29, Mrs. Hattie Harter; 1929-30, Mrs. Monica Martin; 1930-34, Mrs. Blanche Quartz; 1934-36, Ella Corey; 1936-37, Marian Maxim, Florence Wilber; 1938-41, Florence Wilbur; 1940-43, Mrs. Lucy Porter; 1944-52, Mrs. Blanche Quartz; 1942-54, Laura J. Lowery.

The Harris School Former District 6, Town of Champion



In 1914 the town of Champion had 504 children over five and under 15 years of age. The township educated 572 in that year and matched the \$77.21 it received in state aid.

District No. 6, town of Champion, lies to the west of Champion village. Taking the road "over the hills" to Watertown from the village of Champion, one sights the WCNY -TV tower and as the old broadcasting studio is approached, a gravel side-road turns off to the left about one-half mile short of the studio.

The Harris Schoolhouse lies a short distance down this road, appearing as two white objects from the county highway - the large one being the school building and the tiny one the old outdoor toilets. The site is surrounded by fields and pastures of the neighboring farms and a 1,200 foot hill rolls upward on the southwest quarter. To the west and north appear the abrupt drop-offs of the Rutland hills, below which Townsend Creek winds its way, one branch of which has its source near the Harris School.

The first schoolhouse of District 6 was not located on the present site, but up the road a short distance, on a knoll. The present school lot was taken from the Harris homestead which was located opposite corner from the present home of Ms. Margaret O'Brien. Leonard Harris and his wife sold one-quarter acre to the district for \$7.96 on January 6, 1880.

Any records of the Harris school before 1900 have disappeared, but some information has come to us from memories of older residents. Sunday School classes in the building were under the direction of Seward Merrill. Attendance at the public school varied from 1 to 20 pupils. District 6 had its share of pupil pranks and strong measures were taken by the teachers to control them.

Drinking water for the pupils was procured from a nearby spring, until a well was drilled. There was a woodhouse, but the Harris School never had inside

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toilets, the outside ones being used until the day it closed. In 1934 the trustee was instructed to build a new chimney on the south side of the school from the ground up.

Harris school was closed in 1951. The pupils were contracted to the West Carthage school for \$1,200, with \$300 extra to bring the kindergarten children home at noon.

Teachers prior to 1913 included: Elizabeth Hill, Letta Douglas, Lena Fiestel, Cora Harris, Grace Harris, Julie Conroy, Mae Goodenough, Squire Snell, Cadwell Lewis, Miss Mallory, Emma Peck, Emma Dell Graves, and Carrie Owens.

Roll of teachers beginning with 1913: 1913-14 Jessie Purcell; 1914-17 Dora Lanphear; 1917-18 Magdalene Lanphear; 1919-21 Anna S. McAvery; 1921-22 Ralph Patchin; 1923-4 Anna E. Stewell; 1923-24 Lillian Williams; 1925-26 Jessie Purcell; 1926-28 Dora Baker; 1928-29 Rachel L. Watal; 1929-32 Mrs. Dora Baker; 1932-33 Marion Bradish; 1933-35 Mrs. Minnie Rounds; 1935-36 George A. Cutting; 1936-38 Mrs. Minnie Rounds; 1938-40 Mrs. Mary Burnash; 1940-44 Mrs. Minnie Rounds; 1944-45 Helen ?, Doris Evans; 1945-46 Elizabeth Engelhart; 1946-47 Helen Stracey; 1947-48 Lita Harris; 1948-50 Mrs. Florence Washburn; 1950-51 Mrs. Minnie Rounds.

In retrospect, it may be said that the Harris School was aptly named, for the Harrises were among the original settlers of Champion. They located in District 6 and sold the land for the school and generations of Harris children attended it. Indeed, the district had never been without a Harris family since its beginning.

Line School Champion District 11



Champion School District No. 11, a joint district in the towns of Champion and Denmark, encompasses what is commonly known as the "Pleasant Lake" sec-

tion. Lake Creek, outlet to the lake, bisects the district. About midway through the district, the creek cascades gently into a little valley. The hills of Champion and Denmark ring the valley, watching over the little schoolhouse at the intersection of roads. Several houses keep each other company in a small cluster around the school site. Straight as a string, the town line passes through, forming one boundary of the school lot; hence the name "Line School".

When the town of Champion was divided into school districts in 1813, there was no school site below Pleasant Lake. Finally more settlers arrived and on May 16, 1820, joint District No 11 was created. The Champion commissioner's records for 1820 report that there were 36 children of school age (5-15) and that the new district received \$15.99 in state aid. On April 25, 1825, most of the territory of District 11 in the town of Denmark was taken away and incorporated into a new district, with its schoolhouse located on one of the corners near the present farm of George Pridell. A note in the clerk's minutes of District 11 informs us that a stone schoolhouse was erected in 1826 on the present site.

At a special meeting on Feb. 11, 1850, it was decided that those who sent children to summer school should board the teacher throughout the term. A budget was made out with \$40 allotted for the teacher's wages; \$3.12 for wood; 75 cents for a pail and cup; 50 cents for brooms. A district library was established in 1857 with 157 books. In 1855 the district built a backhouse for \$16.

The school on George Pridell's corners was closed and the district known as Denmark No. 12, was dissolved Nov. 27, 1857. District 11 then got back more of its territory in the town of Denmark. The District 11 school site was appropriately located on a corner of land belonged to the Campbell homestead. The deed of the farm reserved one-quarter acre of land for a school site. In 1865, the schoolhouse was valued at \$300, the lot at \$25. Teachers were paid \$8 per week for the winter term and \$5 for the summer term.

Sometime about 1870, a new school was erected, but why it was needed is not clear; there are indications that there was a fire. On March 23, it was voted to tear down and build a new one on the same foundation. The new school was to be a one-room structure with a woodhouse. It was voted to raise \$800 and use "as much of the sum as necessary."

A motion was passed in 1875 allowing the use of the schoolhouse for meetings, but not for lectures. A vestibule was added in 1876 for a cost of \$40.

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This entrance was parallel with the road, contrary to the usual practice of having the entrance to a school face the road. It cost \$231.41 to run the school in 1885. Fred Parks was hired for \$45 to paper and paint the schoolhouse. Inside toilets were installed in the Line school in 1919, against vigorous opposition. Electric lights were installed in 1930. A motion to transport high school students lost in 1932 but four years later the same motion passed. The next year it was voted to also transport seventh and eighth graders to village schools.

On July 1, 1954, District 11 passed from existence in its 134th year. The voters approved the sale of the schoolhouse before the district was discontinued. On Nov. 24, 1956 the Line School was sold at auction to Perley Baxter, who converted it into a dwelling. Mr. Baxter dug a well, something that the school had never had, having obtained its water until the last from neighbors' wells.

Teachers' Roll:

About 1857, Harlem Dunlap, Olive Carpenter, Peter Royal; 1858, Ellen M. Powell, Susan Edwards; 1895, J. B. Loomis, Hattie Potter; 1860, Deborah Kimball; 1861, James Hartwell, Eliza Davis; 1862, Susan Herrick, Chester Carter, Ellen Locklin; 1863, John Francis, Elizabeth Phelps; 1864, Thomas Cummins, Augusta Freeman; 1865, Melvin Campbell, Elvira Osgood; 1866, ___ Humphrey, Carrie Hurd; 1868, R. E. Weaver, Ella M. Plank; 1869, B. Getman; 1870, Aldin Campbell, Mariah Joslyn; 1871, B. F. Brown; 1873, Mary Doud; 1874-75, Marian Cutler, Ada Loomis; 1875-76, Frank Evans, May Martin; 1875-77, Emelina Houghton, Jennie Draper; 1877-78, H. Rea; 1876-79, Frank Vebber, Carrie Cutler; 1879-80, Louisa Beazer, A. B. Westcott, A. Northrup; 1882-83, Letta Douglas, Hattie Peck; 1883-84, Frank Davis, Libbie Hart.

(Between 1884 and 1895, incomplete records indicate only two teachers, Bertha and Jennie Hubbard.) 1894-95, Joanna Fitzpatrick, Ferna Vrooman; 1896-97, Maude Severance. (Between 1897 and 1899, incomplete records list only two teachers, Vivian Pelletier and Lina Pierce) 1899-1900, Ida Slater; 1900-16, Clara Thoma, Julia Conroy, Mrs. George Garrett, Hilda J. Comstock, Veva Davis, Ruby Burnup; 1919-20, Hazel E. Maxim; 1920-21, Jennie M. Mack; 1921-22, Isabelle M. Arnot; 1922-24, Olive Flint; 1924-25, Ruth Zahn; 1925-27, Norma Pridell; 1927-28, Melburn C. Vrooman; 1928-30, Norma Pridell; 1930-31, Merle Swain; 1931-34, Gerald Woodruff; 1934-35, Mrs. Gladys Gilbert; 1935-40, Norma Pridell; 1940-43, Mary A Christman; 1943-44, Emma M. Gricith; 1944-46, Ella Vaughn; 1946-47, Vernita Shampine; 1947-53, Helen Steacy; 1953-54, Mildred Herron.

Manchester School Champion District 7

The site of the Manchester school is easily missed: traveling from West Carthage to Champion village, going up Draper Hill and on to the right turn to Champion Huddle, there may be a glimpse of a schoolhouse as you crest the small hill. It appears unexpectedly at the foot of the rise, perched on the right side of the road. Weather-beaten and old, with the customary coat of white paint, in 1959 it was framed against a backdrop of evergreens, into which flows the northward bound, wet-season stream that passes by the schoolhouse. This is a history of District No. 13, for it was known as No. 7 only for about the last 18 years of its existence. District No. 13 was created May 15, 1819, being taken from Champion District No. 2 (West Carthage).

The term "Manchester School" is not generally known, for it is the old, original name, and fell into disuse in recent years. School records of about 150 years ago referred to the district as the Manchester school. In 1855 the School commissioner used the name, "Peterville school". Nearby, on the hill above the school, is the Manchester homestead. It was settled by Joel Manchester, whose daughter, Julia, was one of the teachers at the District 13 schoolhouse. Julia married Orin Phillips and their son later resided in a house adjacent to the school.

There is no record of when the school was built. A resurvey of the Champion-West Carthage road in 1839 listed a stone school as a boundary marker and this presumably was the earliest Manchester school. Drinking water for the Manchester school was brought from the farm across the road. Later known as the Schreck farm, it was known as the Macumber farm before the turn of the century. The district never had a well on the school lot, nor were inside toilets ever installed. The outside toilets were sold after closing the school and were taken to the property of Howard Phillips. There were two entrances to the schoolhouse, one for the woodhouse, the other opening into the schoolroom.

It was at the Manchester school that teacher Frank Davis demonstrated his brand of discipline. The trouble-making of three Macumber boys had become particularly irksome one morning and by noon Mr. Davis decided to do something about it. He rang the bell to call school into session, and as each of the Macumber boys came in, he was grabbed and thrown bodily at least one-third of the way across the room. One grabbed his books and went home, but the others stayed and caused no more trouble after that.

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The Manchester school closed in 1927, opened again for the year 1928-29 and closed its doors for good in the spring of 1929. Attendance sometimes was as high as 25 pupils. The record of some of the children who attended here indicates that the quality of the education in District 13 was very good.

A few who taught around 1900 or before were; Laura Barr, Julia Manchester, Anna Phillips, Howard Macumber, Joanna Austin, Jennie Hubbard, Frank Davis, Frank Beebe, Adelia Barker, and her sister. Mrs. Emory A Forbes, later a first grade teacher in the Carthage elementary school, taught there in 1919-20. She was followed by Eldora Sheldon, 1920-21; Marion E. Bacon, 1921-22; Mildred E. Ashwood, 1922-23; Madeline C. Clark, 1923-25; Alice A. Garrett, 1925-27; and Gordon C. Myers, 1928-29. Beginning in 1929-30, District 13 contracted its pupils. The tax rate for 1930 was \$7.00 per thousand.

Centralization was discussed in 1952, along with the question of reopening the school. A special meeting was held June 8, 1954, at which it was decided to sell the schoolhouse after July 1. The district had a balance of \$442.28. The auction was held Oct. 2, 1954 and the Manchester school with .22 acre of land was sold to William and Harry Bryer.

From a point near the Manchester school, the Carthage Central Junior-Senior High school may be seen plainly. The contrast dramatically shows the progress which has been made in rural education during the past 75 years.



"Our school" September 23, 1924

Madeline Clark (Andre) teacher, Harry Bingle, Kathryn Bingle, Milton Dening, Genevieve Wisner, Bennie Wisner

Martin Street School Champion District 12



The site of the Martin Street School is located in the town of Champion, on Martin Street, the road leading from West Carthage to Great Bend. The plot is surrounded by open farm land and numerous farm dwellings. A short distance away flows the Black River and the Champion hills rise in the southwest. The earliest District No. 12 composed of elements from former Districts 2 and 3, was created May 15, 1819. About 1849, the district was dissolved temporarily and most of its territory was given to Champion No. 2 (West Carthage). The school had 31 pupils at the time.

The arrangement proved unsatisfactory and on May 1, 1855 District 12 was reborn. Later that week, trustees were empowered to find suitable room for a school and to hire a teacher for three months, to be continued if advisable. Five dollars was to be raised to rent a room from Theodorus Buck for a term of four months. Apparently, Mr. Buck had come into possession of the schoolhouse after the district dissolved in 1849. A week later (May 12, 1855) it was unanimously voted to re-purchase from Mr. Buck the site and schoolhouse of the old district and to repair it. At the third meeting, it was voted to raise \$30 to buy the building.

The trustee's financial report for the first year included these items: back-house, \$9.85; stove and pipe, \$9.30; broom, 25 cents; blackboard, \$1.50; pail, 18 cents; one pain of glass, 3 cents; and \$1.19 for library books. The teacher's salary for 13 weeks was \$18. In 1860, the teacher's wage for both terms was \$50. There were 29 children between the ages of 4 and 21 in the district that year.

A minimum of 14 weeks' winter school was approved in 1867. Public schools of this period generally held two sessions each year, the "summer" and "winter"

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terms. The summer term was about 10 weeks. Older pupils usually attended the winter term when farm work did not require so much of their time. They would leave at sugaring time, which coincided roughly with the end of the winter term. In schools where controlling the older pupils was a problem, it was sometimes the custom to hire a man for the winter term and a woman for the summer term when only the younger children were attending.

The Martin Street school was closed, at the edict of the annual meeting of 1899 and the children were sent to West Carthage. It was opened briefly in 1900, 1901 and 1908.

There is little record of the District 12 teachers before 1899. A few names gleaned from clerk's records; Miss Mix who taught in 1857; 1865, Gertrude B. Clark, Sarah Van Pelt; 1866, Althera Tasket, Rosalie A Rice; 1867, Mary L. Gates, Rosalie A. Rice; 1868, Miss Tildie Briggs, Miss Helen Thare; 1869, Ella M. Plank, Emogene M. Carter. In 1876, Mary Cratsenburg and Mary Doud taught; in 1877, Mary Doud and Jenny Wilmot.

The affairs of District No. 12 underwent a decided change in 1916, when it resolved at the annual meeting to quit sending the pupils away and to build a new schoolhouse on the site of the old one. At a special meeting on August 21, 1916, it was voted to borrow \$2,400 to erect a new building. Bonds were issued in a series of 12, one bond to mature each September 10, starting in 1917. They would bear interest at the rate of 5 percent. The old stone schoolhouse which had stood on the site for about 97 years was last used in the 1916-17 school year.

Total expense of operating the school in 1924 was \$1042.76. The teacher's salary in 1925 was \$900. It was voted to install electric lights in 1929 (it wasn't done for some reason, for the 1931 meeting again voted "to have the school wired") and to have the furnace repaired or replaced. It was decided to paint the schoolhouse and grade the yard in 1930.

Bus transportation for high school students was considered unnecessary at the 1932 meeting. Storm windows were installed for \$39.50. Bus transportation was again proposed in 1933 and it carried. A vote on whether the teacher should be married or single was overwhelmingly in favor of a single teacher. A motion for a single teacher was carried again in 1934. A motion for a music teacher was voted down, but the 1935 meeting reversed this decision. Transportation cost \$265 in 1936.

A motion to close the school was voted down in 1937

and 1938. It was decided, however to transport seventh and eighth graders. The music teacher was disposed of by a vote of 19-10.

Roll of Teachers:

1917-18, Ruby Canfield; 1919-20, Rena M Compo; 1920-21, Clarissa M Frasier; 1921-23, Mabel Carter; 1922-23, Mrs. Cheri B. Countryman; 1923-26, Mary E. Slaid; 1926-27, Dorothy Grosjean; 1927-29, Inez M. Arnold; 1929-31, Dorothy Grosjean; 1931-32, Inez Rowley; 1932-22, Francis Fritz; 1933-35, Marion Bradish; 1935-36, Mrs. Ethel Lewis; 1936-37, Ralph L. Patchin; 1937-38, Mrs. Ethel Lewis; 1938-39, Mrs. Minnie Rounds.

Lower Martin Street School Champion District 3



The Lower Martin Street school derived its name from the fact that its district was the farther downriver of the two Martin Street districts between West Carthage and Great Bend. The schoolhouse was built on a hill rising 80 feet above the Black River and 40 feet above the surrounding lands. Martin Street passes over the hill and by the schoolhouse, a connecting road leads directly to the shore of the Black River and joins Johnycake Road which parallels the river's western bank.

The earliest records of Champion District No. 3 begin on June 23, 1821, when a document which leased the school lot to the district for as long as "they shall use and occupy the same for a public school" was drafted, signed and recorded at the Jefferson County's clerk's office on January 29, 1829, in Book of Deeds B2, page 1829. In the 1860s there were references to the "Mix School", undoubtedly because of the proximity of the farm owned by Joel Mix, one of Champion's pioneer settlers. It is known that a new schoolhouse (the last one) was built in the 1890s and that an acre of land was bought from LeRoy Wood and added to the

(Continued on Back Cover)

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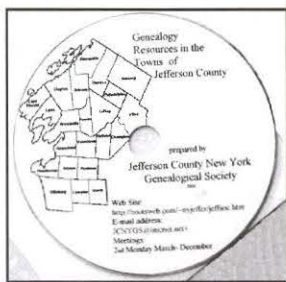
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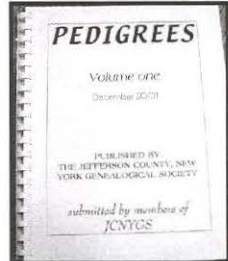
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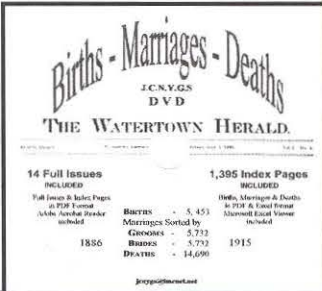
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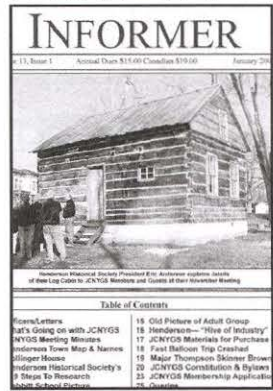
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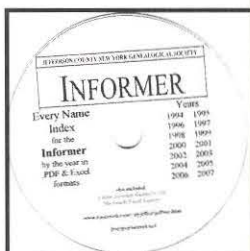
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Jefferson County Queries

Send Queries to: Lis Couch, 24670 County Rt. 159, Watertown, NY 13601; lcouch0624@aol.com

Subject: Jefferson County Informer Query

(Some readers don't have internet access. Please include mailing address &/or phone numbers as well as email.)

A QUERY ANSWERED!

INFORMER November 09, Page 22

Thank you very much for publishing my item in the Informer. Just received a message from Kevin Kieff, who knew some of the more recent members of the Cape Vincent Allen family. What a nice present his page was! Thanks again.

Jim Allen

BARNES, SKINNER

I'm looking for information on Mary A. **BARNES**, b. 4/1847 in Jefferson Co., dau. of Dan and Almeda Belinger **BARNES**. Almeda died in June of 1847 and Dan remarried in April of 1848. In 1860, Mary A., 13, is listed in Theresa in the census with her grandmother, Mary **BARNES**. When her grandmother died in 3/1864, Mary A. is mentioned in her grandmother's will. The will states: "I give and devise to my daughter Rhoda **SKINNER** and my Granddaughter Mary **BARNES** my house and lot on which I now live and situated near the upper falls, also all that other piece or parcel of land containing about 22 1/2 acres situated in the town of Theresa in the corner between the road leadingbow and the road leading to Philadelphia to be divided equally between them. Share and share alike, subject other conditions herein after mentioned." Rhoda is in Michigan. What happened to Mary A.?

Donna Barnes

3260 Seymour Lake Road
Ortonville, MI 48462
barnesd@chartermi.net

BENTLEY, EMIGHY

I am trying to find out where I might be able to look through hard copies of the Jefferson County Journal for the period 1875 to 1880! I have been trying for several years to find the date of death for my great great grandfather, Pardon **BENTLEY**. We have never been able to locate that. He and his wife are living in Sandy Creek in the 1875 census and someone in Adams mailed me a xerox of the Jefferson Journal listing his wife, Charity **BENTLEY**'s small obit stating she died in Sandy Creek on April 29, 1877! She is listed as "Wife of Pardon **BENTLEY**" so I assume he was still alive at that time but he is definitely dead by the 1880 census as he does not appear there. Pardon and Charity **BENTLEY** ended up living in Sandy Creek sometime in the early 1870's. In the 1870 census, they are in the Town of Adams. Pardon's brother, Stephen **BENTLEY** lived in Sandy Creek for a great many

years after coming there from Milton, Saratoga County in the 1820's. Stephen was married to Dianna **EMIGHY** who was Charity's sister so they each had a sibling living around the corner from them. If you have any ideas when Pardon **BENTLEY** may have died in the latter 1870's, I'd love to be directed where to look!

Robert Steingraber

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CHAPMAN, SEATON, CONGDON, COVEY, MARION

Levi **CHAPMAN** moved to Parishville, St. Lawrence county from Lyme, Grafton, New Hampshire in 1817. He has about thirteen children. Only four have been identified to date. All of them lived in Henderson and Ellisburg, Jefferson county in their adult years. The four children identified are: Sarah S. **CHAPMAN** (1811-1887) who married Leonard **SEATON** after his first wife died; John T. **CHAPMAN** (1814-1891) who married Miranda **CONGDON** and was the father of Dr. Eugene A. **CHAPMAN**; Daniel H. **CHAPMAN** (1820-1895) who married Marion R. **COVEY** and was the grandfather of Dr. David H. **CHAPMAN** (1915-1963); and Stephen W. **CHAPMAN** (1828-1860), who married Julia Marion **SPRAGUE**. I believe my direct ancestor to be one of his daughters. I would love to connect with anyone who has been researching this family or has any additional information to share.

Anna L. Hetzel

30028 SE 392nd St.

Enumclaw, WA 98022

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FRY, FRYE, BARRETT, HOSKINS, BROWN

I'm looking for information on the **FRY(E)** surname. My grandmother's father (Ray) was a **FRY** that was adopted out after his mother (Jemima(h) **FRY**) passed away. Ray's father was Thomas **FRY**. Ray also had a brother named Thomas **FRY**. The brother Thomas lived on Arsenal Street in Watertown and his father Thomas lived in Pierrepoint Manor. Thomas Sr. later married Marion **BARRETT**. I know that Thomas and Jemima(h) (**HOSKINS**) **FRY** immigrated to America from Cornwall, England about 1890 and shortly thereafter Thomas' brother James **FRY** also came over. Thomas and James' parents were Edmund (or Edward) and Mary (**BROWN**) **FRY**. Any additional information would be greatly appreciated.

Angie McDougal

P.O. Box 2,

Lacona, NY 13083

mcdougal16@frontiernet.net

CUPPERNALL, CUPPERNOLL, COPPERNOLL, CPPERNALL, EGGLESTON

I received an email stating that "William **CUPERNALL**, b. 1799, who appears on the 1830, 1850 and 1880 US Federal Censuses for Orleans as **CUPPERNOLL** or **COPPERNOLL** or **CPPERNALL**." I have found this William, supposedly moved from Otsego County to Jefferson County prior to 1825. He lived in the Town of Orleans. Before the 1850 census, no details were given for any but the head of household. It appears that the William **CUPERNALL** on the 1850 census may be the son of William, b 1799. Does anyone have any other information on William, b 1799? Who was his wife? I would be glad to correspond with anyone interested in him. I have information on his supposed son, William **CUPERNALL** b Aug 1838.

Continuing with this family, the same email said that George H. **EGGLESTON** (b. 1829) who moved into the area in the mid to late 1840s, married William **CUPERNALL'S** daughter Delaney and had his first child, James, in 1848. They lived on Wellesley Island in the Orleans township and appear on the 1850 and 1860 censuses. This is all the information I have on George **EGGLESTON**. What other children did they have? I have no proof at all of this marriage or son.

*Nan Dixon
15407 Dixon Road
Clayton NY 13624
nandixon@gisco.net*

WILSON, CLARKE

I am seeking the parents of Henry S. **WILSON**, b 3 Jul 1808, d 22 Mar 1872 in Brownville, buried in Brownville. He m1 Nancy **CLARKE**, b 1814, d 1862, buried in Brownville. By her he had seven children. She was the dau of Samuel and Martha Wait **CLARKE**. Henry S. **WILSON** m2 Sarah Ann **CLARKE**, Nancy's sister. She was b 1827, d 1884 in Brownville, buried in Brownville. Any and all leads will be very much appreciated.

*Steve Clarke
148 Greenway Blvd.
Churchville, NY 14428-9210*

TUTTLE

I am searching my maternal family and know by the family bible that my great, great grandfather Truman **TUTTLE** was born in Watertown 11 May 1811. His father's name may be Zebulon or Zebilen. Truman has a brother Zebulon also born in Watertown 11 Dec 1820. Truman was residing in Westmoreland when he married 11 Sept 1833. The 1850 census he is in Oneida county and then in Kaukauna, Wisconsin in 1855 and from there I have good knowledge of him.

*Jean Short
634 South Owl Drive
Sarasota, Florida 34236
941-373-9876
email: jeanflco@aol.com*

GATES, SHEDD, HARRIS, ROSS, TAYLOR, WRIGHT, BAGLEY, WATSON, CORNELL, DAVIES, STEVENS, SILVER

Jonathan **GATES** died August 4, 1835 in town of Champion, Jefferson Co., N.Y. He was born in 1762 at Harvard, Mass. to Capt. Jonathan **GATES** and Mary **SHEDD**. He married Zerviah **HARRIS**, daughter of Abner **HARRIS** and Jerusha **ROSS** in 1783 at Chesterfield, N.H. They resided there until about 1798 when they moved to Salisbury, Montgomery County, N.Y. About 1815 they moved to Antwerp, Jefferson Co., N.Y. and in 1818 to the town of Champion in the same county. They had the following children: Josiah, d. 1784; Jonathan; Charles; Roswell, b. May 28, 1798, m. Hannah **TAYLOR**; Zerviah, b. 1799, m. Charles **WRIGHT**; John, m. Bernard (?) **BAGLEY**; Sally, b. 1809, m. Alonzo **WATSON**.

My ancestor was a Jonathan **GATES** who settled in Scarborough, Ontario, Canada about 1815 coming from the USA. From his gravestone we are given January 1853 as his death, and February 1795 as his birth. He had three wives during his life. Hannah **CORNELL** and children Nelson 1817, Charles 1818, John 1820, Jonathan 1827, Rossel who died infancy, and Ann – birth date unknown. Next he married Lydia **DAVIES** (widow **STEVENS**) and had Hannah 1831 and Rossel 1834. Rossel moved to Pennsylvania, USA sometime after 1858. All other children remained in Canada. Widowed a second time he then married Huldah **SILVER** and had Henry and Elizabeth, both died in infancy.

I am trying to connect my Jonathan **GATES** with the former **GATES** family. It is believed he came from NY State. Any information on Jonathan and Zerviah's family, particularly son Jonathan would be most helpful.

*Judy Bradley
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Grande Prairie, AB, CANADA T8V 3V2.
jsbrad@telus.net*



Speaker Lynn Thornton talks with Bob Brennen after the October JCNYS meeting.

INFORMER

Jefferson County NY Genealogical Society
(JCNYGS)
P.O. Box 6453
Watertown, NY 13601

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Or Current Resident

(Lower Martin Street School Continued From Page 20)

lot. The new school was not built on the original 40-foot square lot.

The district voted in 1936 to spend not more than \$200 to fix the school grounds. The first vote to close the Lower Martin Street school occurred in 1938, and was defeated. Motions to hire a music teacher and a nurse were also defeated. A motion to have a public health nurse visit the school was again defeated in 1941, it was decided, however to drill a well on the school grounds. District 3 was awarded \$75 as compensation for damage to its property when the new cement highway was laid on Martin Street. The 1946 school meeting directed that electric lights be installed in the schoolhouse and in 1951-52 a new roof and siding were provided for in the budget. At the May 5, 1953 meeting, oil heat was to be installed if no janitor could be hired, but District No. 3 quietly passed out of existence with the organization of the Carthage Central school system in the fall of 1953. At a special meeting on April 6, 1954, 13 voters decided to close the school, 10-3.

The roll of teachers before 1919 is very scant. Among those who taught before 1900 were Letta Douglas, Lula Loomis and Mable Ash. In the period between 1900 and 1919 teachers included Adell Bossuot, Laura Barr, Mill Delmore, Miss Eugenia Burhanse, Miss Bertha Gates, Mary Gates, Mildred Rice, Ruth Reynolds and Elda Vrooman. A complete record of teachers from 1919 follows: 1919-20, Ruth M. Wood; 1920-22, Fleda Shorey; 1922-25, Mabel Bacon; 1925-26, Korleen C. Nichols; 1926-27, Hilda L. Wood; 1927-28, Ruth Williams; 1928-30, Mary Hoover; 1930-31, Desta Bolger; 1934-35, Vernita M Yerdon; 1935-6, Vernita M Yerdon Shampine; 1936-37, Susan A. Smith; 1937-44, Marion Hubbard; 1944-48, Margaret Phillips; 1943-51, Mary Christman; 1951-54, Marion Redmond.

At a special meeting Oct. 8, 1956, voters of former District 3 carried a motion to sell the school at public auction. At the auction Jan. 26, 1957, the building was sold to Vere L. and Margaret M. Humes of Great Bend.



Society members return name tags before leaving the November meeting.

Jefferson County New York Genealogical Society

A reminder that the society does not meet during the winter months of January and February. We return to regular meetings in March.

INFORMER

Volume 17, Issue 2

Annual Dues \$15.00 Canadian \$19.00

March 2010



Clayton St. Mary's School about 1918 (See page 3)

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INFORMER MARCH 2010

Correspondence about dues, memberships, and lost *Informers* should be directed to:
 Jefferson County Genealogical Society, P.O. Box 6453, Watertown, NY 13601
 E-mail: JCNYGS@gmail.com Web site: <http://jefferson.nygenweb.net>

President: Terry Baker, 493 Bugbee Drive, Watertown, NY 13601
tbaker.h2otown@yahoo.com, 315-788-0170

Vice President: Tracy Robertson, 26795 Clear Lake Camp Rd, Theresa, NY 13691
tracyrobertson19@yahoo.com, 315-486-2700

2nd Vice President: Rose Dillenbeck, 177 Haskins Road, Johnson City, NY 13790
dillenbeck177@att.net, 607-748-0001

Recording Secretary: unfilled (See President Terry if interested!)

Minutes will be taken by a volunteer at each meeting until position is filled!

Corresponding Secretary: Larry Corbett, 520 Binsse St., Watertown, NY 13601
lcorbet@gisco.net, 315-788-3044

Treasurer: Hollis Dorr, P. O. Box 297, Brownville, NY 13615
 No Email, 315-788-0959

The *Informers* Committee includes Bill Dixon, chairman; Nan Dixon, nandixon@gisco.net, editor; Clancy Hopkins, clancyhopkins16@gmail.com, publisher. Editorial members (alphabetically) are Lis Couch, lcouch30@twcny.rr.com; Jerry Davis, mari-davis@aol.com; Bob VanBroeklin, Rvan992@aol.com; and Pauline Zach, pinzach@aol.com. The *Informers* is published in January, March, May, July, September and November. A special Surnames issue has also been published in December.

Letters.....

Letters to the editor may be directed to nandixon@gisco.net or to Nan Dixon, 15407 Dixon Road, Clayton, NY 13624.

Additions & Corrections To your JCNYGS Directory

New Members:

Stephan P. Clarke
 148 Greenway Blvd.
 Churchville, NY 14428
 585-293-1678
sclarke@rochester.rr.com

(Note: Stephen is Past President of the Rochester Chapter—National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution)

Rande S. Richardson
 P. O. Box 42
 Watertown, New York 13601

Email Corrections:

Norma Wagner—whitepenny43@hotmail.com
 (no second "e" in penny)

Sally Whitmore—whitmore.sandy@gmail.com

Surname Search:

Darlene Cole is searching for **SIVER** (not SILVER)

More on This Issue's Civil War Bio

This issue's Civil War soldier on page 5 brings up a point not understood by today's descendants. The biography states:

Adolphus made his mark with an 'X' when the papers were offered to him. It was later reported in his pension application that his recruiter never corrected the issue and as a result, Adolphus was charged with desertion. This ultimately leading to the refusal of his pension when he later applied for it...The charge of 'desertion' would stick until three years before Adolphus' death.

Harold Sanderson, an expert on Civil War issues, stated that one of the main reasons for the founding of the GAR, the Grand Army of the Republic, the main organization for the veterans of the Civil War, was this matter of desertion. Like Adolphus, many soldiers were discharged from the overcrowded hospitals and sent home to recover. Like Adolphus, many re enlisted, but lacking guidance, neglected to go back or to notify their original outfits, which then charged them with desertion. The government, snatching at any reason to deny soldiers' pensions as a money saving measure, made no attempt to remedy this situation until the GAR with its thousands of members, forced the issue.

We have a note from JCNYGS member Pauline Zach that she has a paper book in good condition on the "*Genealogy of the Dewey Cousins / 1648 1934*" that she would like to sell. Her information is: Pauline Zach, 417 James Street, Clayton, NY 13624, 315-686-3712, pinzach@aol.com.

JCNYGS

Minutes for December 12, 2009

Notes by Jerry Davis

While the 4 of us had an enjoyable gathering at the Flower Memorial Library, no official business was transacted and any business for the society will be pursued at the March 2010 meeting!

FROM THE NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE

At our first meetings for this issue of the *INFORMER* devoted to the Thousand Islands Central School, we were again impressed with the material being made available to us both in volume and content. After some discussion it was decided once again to devote 2 issues to our featured school and we begin this issue with the emphasis on the Clayton Central School to Thousand Islands Central School transition. We will feature the Cape Vincent Central to Thousand Islands Central in our next issue.

We wish to make a special thanks for several who have helped us with our research. We were pleased to have Dan Grant, one of our own JCNYGS members, who has extensive material on especially the one room school houses in the early history of Town of Clayton education. Also Clayton Historian Norm Wagner and the resources at the Thousand Islands Museum where we also held our meetings. Former Thousand Islands Central School Superintendent Dr. George Forbes also joined us as well as Michael Bashaw who was an administrator in the District as well as a Cape Vincent resident. Jean Thompson joined us with her collection of information and ties the Cape Vincent Museum. We look forward to working more closely with her for our Cape Vincent issue next time.

A TIMETABLE FOR THE CREATION OF THE THOUSAND ISLANDS CENTRAL SCHOOL

(Our thanks to Dr. George Forbes for compiling the following information)

Fall 1964 Three districts, Cape Vincent, Clayton and LaFargeville met to consider a merger as recommended in the State Education Department manual on merging small school districts into one larger district. LaFargeville withdrew from further participation. Cape Vincent and Clayton continued to consider merger.

June 29, 1967 Cape Vincent and Clayton voted to merge into one district. The name of Thousand Islands Central School District was selected for the new district.

July 1, 1967 Thousand Islands Central School District came into existence. The combined Board of Education decided that there should be a new high school and each of the present buildings would become elementary schools.

October 29, 1968 A bond issue was presented to build a new high school between Cape Vincent and Clayton. This was defeated.

December 16, 1968 The bond issue was again defeated.

May 1, 1970 A revised bond issue was voted on and passed.

September 1972 The Thousand Islands High School was opened for students.

June 1973 The Thousand Islands High School had their first graduating class.

Our Cover Picture

We found our cover picture of a St. Mary's School picture from 1918 (with a question mark) in one of the many scrapbooks available at the Thousand Islands Museum in Clayton. It mentions that it is possibly a 1st Holy Communion picture and a multi-age group. While the list of names is obviously a work in progress, we offer it to you here:

First Row: Claude Monteith, John LeTarte, Jim Churco, Russell Leavery, Larry Monteith, Harry Lalonde, M. Lalonde, Corrinne Cerow, Stacia Marshall and Francis Fralee.

Second Row: John Thibault, Amos Bazinet, Chester Denning, Jerome Brabant, John Gillick, R. Denny, E. Brabant, Helen Bouchard, Marget Casselman and R. McCormick.

Third Row: S. Crenzer, William Brabant, Charles LaChance, Patrick Marshall, James Casselman, H. Churco, Bertha McVee, Matilda Longton, H. McCormick and R. Crenzer.

Top Row: Richard Wagner, Carl Longton and Robert Hayes

Available Back Issues of
The Informer 2009

JANUARY 2009

Eddy, Milan, Hit by lightning but survived it
 Flower Memorial Library Genealogy Dept. layout & resources
 Letters from Roswell Flower
 Photograph, Mills in Theresa
 Photograph, Roswell Flower home
 Photograph, Theresa Depot, 1923
 Photograph, Theresa School (Brooklyn Side)
 Photograph, Theresa school picture, 1900
 Photograph, Yost Cheese Factory
 R,W & O Railroad
 Sprague, Charles Herbert, Civil War biography
 Theresa history from F. B. Hough book, 1854
 Yost family recalled

MARCH 2009

Back issues of 2008 *Informer*
 Cook, Ernest info.
 Dee, Vince remembered
 Ellis, Hiram, gun & violin maker
 Haddock, John A., Civil War biography
 Photographs, early photos of present TI Museum
 Thousand Islands Museum history
 TI Museum, Family notebooks
 TI Museum, Resource notebooks

MAY 2009

Calhoun, Ebenezer, Civil War biography
 Calhoun, pioneer family
 History of Brownville from Emerson book, 1898
 History of Dexter schools
 History of Education in the General Brown School District
 Photograph, Brownville school 1896, names
 Photograph, Brownville-Glen Park grad class of 1927, names
 Photograph, Brownville-Glen Park graduating class 1934 with names
 Photograph, Brownville-Glen Park School 1915
 Photograph, Glenn Park School 1915, names
 Photograph, Melvin Dewey
 Photographs, common schools before General Brown
 Photographs, picture query
 Short history of public education in Jeff. Co. 1802-2001

JULY 2009

186th Infantry Reg., Civil War
 Calcium Schools
 Evans Mills School history
 Indian River Central School history
 Ives Seminary, from Emerson book 1898
 Pamela Four Corners School
 Philadelphia schools, from Emerson book 1898
 Photograph, Antwerp High School, 1914, names
 Photograph, Evans Mills Kindergarten 1958
 Photograph, Indian River Central School Board of Education, 1959
 Photograph, Theresa High 40th reunion, 1967
 Theresa schools, from Emerson book 1898
 Winslow, Bradley, Civil War biography

SEPTEMBER 2009

Genealogy of New York State Counties
 Hicks, Joshua family
 Orleans Cemetery cleanup
 Photograph, LaFargeville Basketball team, 1943
 Photograph, LaFargeville Class grads of 1948
 Photograph, LaFargeville class of 1951
 Photograph, LaFargeville graduation class of 1951
 Photograph, LaFargeville school, 1924
 Photograph, school picnic, 1906
 Rural Schools in the Town of Orleans
 Sloat, Charles W., Civil War biography
 Village Schools of LaFargeville, history

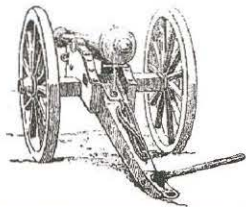
NOVEMBER 2009

Black River High School; District 16
 Carthage school district history
 Carthage School; District 3
 Deferiet School; Wilna District 14
 Felts Mills school, Rutland district 7
 Gage, William, Civil War biography
 Great Bend school; District 9
 Herrings School; District 8
 Natural Bridge school; District 4
 Photograph, Carthage High school grads 1907
 Photograph, Deferiet Elementary, last fifth grade
 Photograph, school class
 Photographs of many schools
 The village schools

Back issues (as available) are \$4 each including shipping. Make check payable to JCNYGS and mail to Greg Plantz, 21787 Reed Rd., Watertown, NY 13624

Our thanks to JCNYGS member Bonnie Borrello for compiling this list of articles in the 2009 *Informer* newsletters.

CIVIL WAR BIOGRAPHY



ADOLPHUS D. STERLING OF ELLISBURG

~*~
Union Soldier

Adolphus D. Sterling was born at Dutch Settlement, Evans Mills, Jefferson Co., NY on 23 April 1844. By the 1860's, his father had moved the family to Lorraine, NY. By 1870, they moved again, settling permanently in Ellisburg, NY. While living in Lorraine, at the age of 17, Adolphus enlisted with Company A of the 94th New York Infantry [3 Feb 1862]. He was wounded twice at the second Battle of Bull Run [August 30, 1862], receiving a piece of shell in his right ankle (which was not so severe as to compel him to leave the field), and on the same day having a rebel bullet strike him in the right thigh. This second wound completely disabled him. He was taken prisoner and paroled by the rebels as he lay wounded for 48 hours on the battlefield. Afterward, he was found by Union soldiers. As a result of lying on the field two days and two nights, he contracted rheumatism and also total deafness in his left ear. He was taken to Ryland Chapel Hospital at Washington D.C., where he remained about seven weeks. He was reported "missing" during this time. At the hospital, he was told it did not matter where he was because of the fact that he was a paroled prisoner, and was sent home to his parents (then living in Ellisburg). He was to use his own best efforts to heal said wounds. After nearly a year, even though he wasn't recovered...Adolphus was anxious to serve his country again. Not knowing where he could be exchanged, he took the risk of re-enlisting [14 Aug 1863]. If captured and recognized, he would have been shot by the rebels. He was placed in Company D, 20th New York Cavalry, and would serve faithfully until his honorable discharge was given near Manchester, Va. [July 31, 1865]. Adolphus died at the age of 81, December 24, 1925, and was buried in Dexter Cemetery, NY.

NOTE * Adolphus's father, Jacob Sterling, enlisted with him the second time, serving in Co. K. of the 20th New York Cavalry [September 9, 1863]. Jacob was 45 years of age at the time of enlistment. His son and



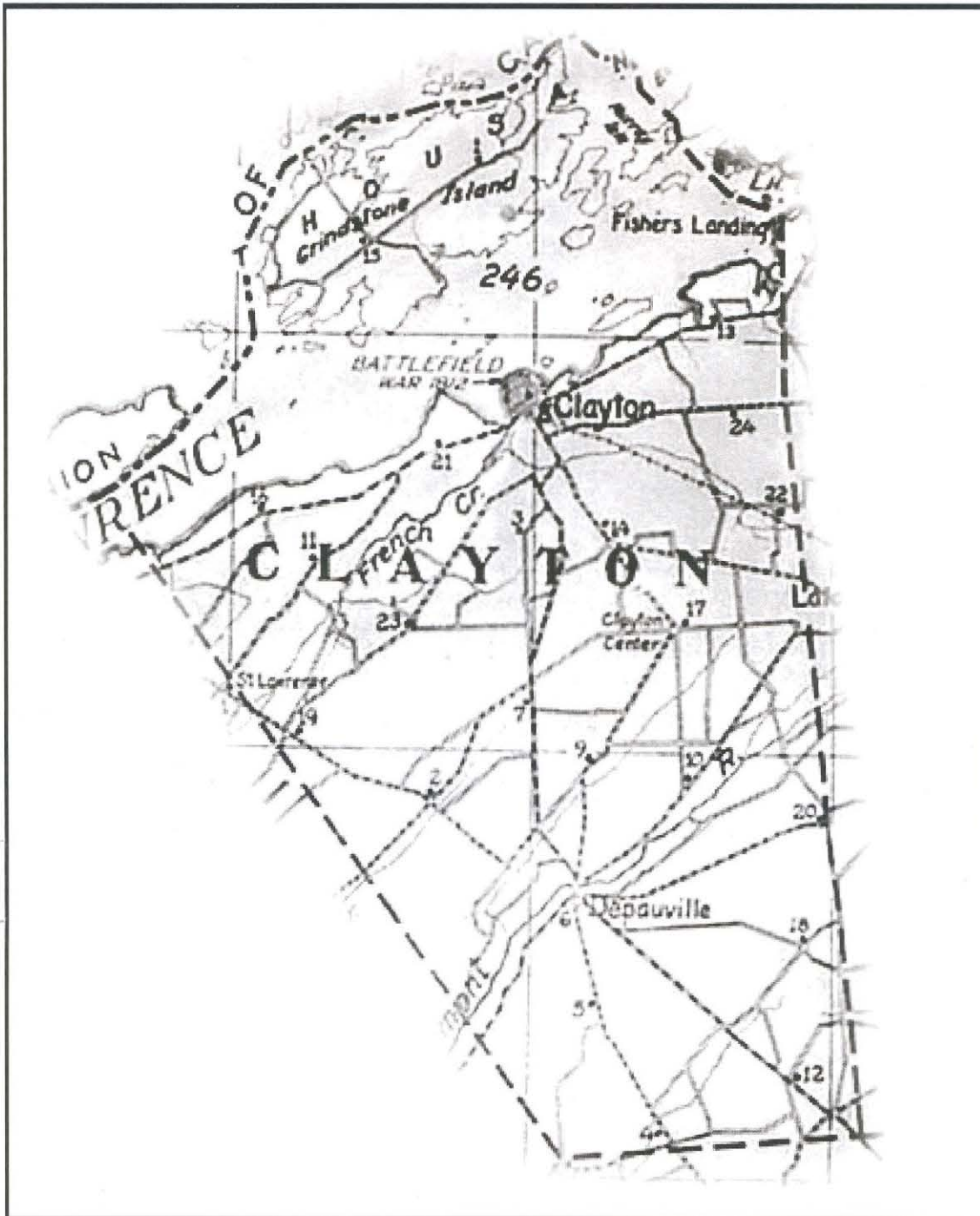
Adolphus & Martha Wilder Sterling

Submitted by Beverly K. Sterling

family could not know with his enlistment the effects that combat conditions [and military life] would have on Jacob's health. He would die three years after his return from the war of the rebellion [November 8, 1868] at the young age of 50. He was buried at North Boyleston Cemetery, NY.

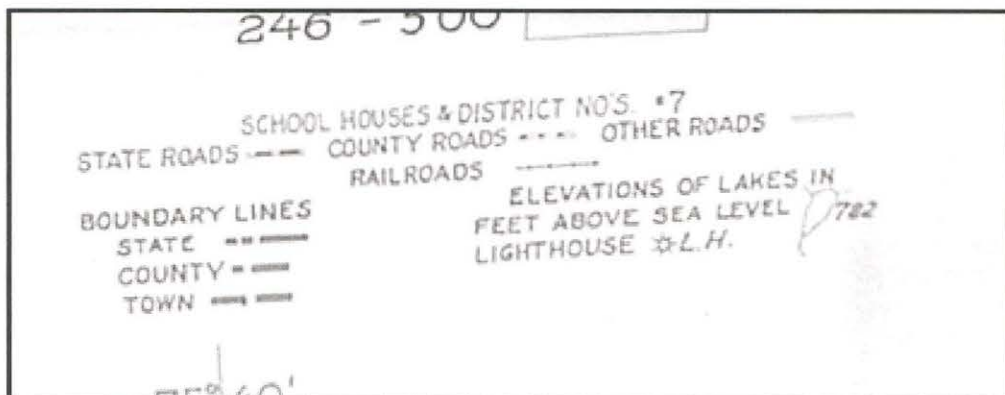
ADOLPHUS D. STERLING OBITUARY

Camden - Adolphus D. Sterling died Thursday evening at the home of his son, William Adolphus D. Sterling, of the "Sterling House". Mr. Sterling was born April 23, 1844 at Dutch Settlement, in the Town of LeRay, Jefferson County. His parents were Jacob and Mary Snyder Sterling. He was married about 60 years ago to Miss Martha Wilder. Mr. Sterling was a farmer and most of his life was spent in Mannsville and Dexter. He was a member of Broadbent Post, G.A.R. of Dexter. He was a private in Co. D., 20th New York Cavalry, enlisting from Mannsville and was discharged July 31, 1865. He was in a number of different engagements, and was wounded at the second Battle of Bull run. Mr. Sterling is survived by his widow, three sons, William of Camden, Gilbert of Berlin, N.H., and Claude of Dexter; and one daughter, Mrs. O. W. Reed of Rome. The funeral will be held tomorrow at the Universalist Church at Dexter, at noon.



SCHOOL HOUSES AND DISTRICT NUMBERS

This is the Town of Clayton portion of a map that Bill Dixon says his father acquired at an auction or sale and has hung in Bill's house ever since. It shows the school houses and district numbers of all of Jefferson County. Hopefully you can relate the district number with the descriptions that Dan Grant has given us and are printed on page 7.



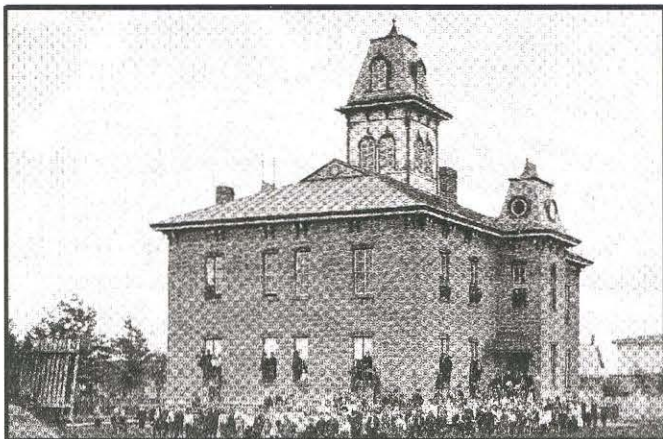
EARLY SCHOOLS IN THE TOWN OF CLAYTON

(From the Collections of Dan Grant)

DISTRICT	LOCATION
1	Lower Grindstone – at the foot of the island, closed in 1960
2	Liberty Pole – intersection of Co Rt 5 and Co Rt 9 – razed
3	Bald Rock – Bald Rock Rd, near entrance to old landfill, moved to Deferno Rd, Larkin residence
4	Reynolds Corners – Depauville-Brownville Rd, now Wilkie residence
5	Lee – Depauville-Brownville Rd, near VanAlstyne Rd, moved to a neighboring farm and torn down
6	Depauville Village – Stone school on School St until 1942 now the Christian School. New brick school on Rt 179 is now the library and community building
7	Line Rd – State Rt 12 south of Co Rt 5, Smith Corners now residence owned by Perley Edmonds
8	Village of Clayton – James St where Vergin house now stands, discontinued about 1866 when Clayton Union School built where Municipal Building now stands
9	Elm Flats – Depauville-Clayton Center Rd, moved to Carr farm, now a residence
10	Bluff – Underbluff Rd, Co Rt 11 at intersection of Ellis Rd, moved in 1948 to Clayton-Depauville Rd as home for Gushlaw family
11	Crystal Springs – near Frontenac Water Plant, Fred Ivey residence
12	Gunns Corners – Intersection NY Rt 12 and Woodard Rd, Residence owned by Al Bellavia
13	Spicer Bay – On top of hill on portion of Old Rt 12, Willard Farr residence
14	McCarn – County Rt 181 across from Walt Christensen's driveway. Now on Morris Felt farm toward Clayton used as a farm building
15	Upper Grindstone – Corner of Base Line Rd and Center Island Rd. Closed in 1989 and is

now Grindstone Heritage Center

16	Corp – Rt 12E near Pelo Rd intersection, Waterson Residence
17	Clayton Center – near intersection of Co Rts 5 and 10, residence
18	Miller – intersection of Hart and Miller Rds, razed years ago
19	Pine Grove – Rt 9 near Sam Adams Rd across from Bach & Co., now a residence
20	German Church – intersection Co Rt 12 and Wilder Rd, now a residence
21	Colon – Rt 12E on curve past Zenda, last used as a skating shack
22-1	Village of Clayton near Baptist Church, Consolidated with District 8
22-2	Black Creek – Intersection of Black Creek and Fox Hill Rd, moved to Church farm (Gene Fitchette) and used as farm building
23	Deferno – intersection of Deferno and House Rd, moved to a nearby farm and used as a farm building. Included in NYS DEC acquisition for French Creek lands and torn down
24	East Line Rd – Co Rt 3 across from Phil Ivey's. Burned in 1930 by grass fire
Clayton Union School – 1866, later Clayton High School, corner of Mary and Merrick Sts, razed in 1946. It is now the location of Clayton Municipal Building.	
Clayton Central School District No. 1 – Opened fall 1940 replacing Clayton High school.	
Thousand Islands Central School – at Sand Bay merger with Cape Vincent in 1967. Clayton building became Clayton Elementary in Fall of 1972, renamed Guardino Elementary on June 9, 1991.	
15	Town of Orleans – Fishers Landing – Rt 12 North of 180 intersection, moved to State Rt 12 near Pamela transfer site and used as a garage
1	Town of Cape Vincent – St. Lawrence Corners – intersection of Co Rt. 4 and Co Rt. 9, used as a farm building
*	St. Mary's School – burned in 1947, rebuilt and razed when new St. Mary's Parish was built



Old Clayton Union School
(From Dan Grant's Collection)

(The following is from the first Clayton Central School Year Book The Calumet 1940)

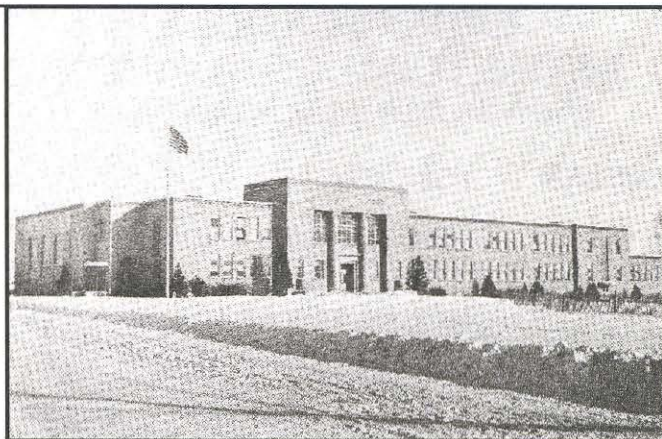
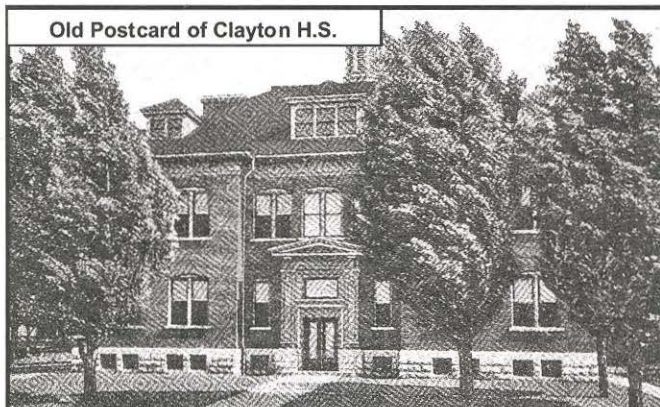
Clayton High School

In 1825, the first school house was built in Clayton. Between 1825 and 1855 another building was erected opposite St. Mary's parsonage. In 1867, the two schools united to form a Union School.

For many years Clayton High School was housed in a building which occupied the site of the present structure. In the early days there were tall chimneys and the old building was considered ugly from every point of view. Steam heat was used and a motor driven fan provided ventilation. The school grounds were well kept and were made attractive by the systematic planting of trees and ornamental shrubs.

Many a school boy wished that the school house would burn. This wish was fulfilled for Clayton boys when, on Friday morning in October, 1907, fire destroyed the major portion of the old building and damaged the remaining part, which is now occupied by the high school department. However, over the week-end the damaged section was temporarily repaired and quarters were secured elsewhere in the village for the other departments to meet, so that the Monday morning following the fire, sessions were resumed with out interruption.

Old Postcard of Clayton H.S.



Clayton Central School
(From the 1949 Calumet Year Book)

(The following is from the first Clayton Central School Year Book The Calumet 1940)

Clayton Central School

The fire proved to be a blessing in disguise, for a modern building to accommodate the grades replaced the burned structure and the high school part as remodeled and modernized as far as conditions permitted. Now, however, after a lapse of thirty-three years, the entire physical plant is outmoded and wholly inadequate to meet the needs of the present school situation.

The dream of Clayton pupils and townspeople has at last been realized as the new school building is practically finished.

Last March, 1939, the school was begun, but many obstacles have hindered the work. The ground in front is being leveled off into a wide, spacious lawn, while the ten acres of land in the rear of the building will be devoted to a playground and an athletic field.

The new Clayton Central School stands as mute evidence that success has crowned the labor of all those who helped to bring to this community a real temple of learning.

Old Postcard of Clayton H.S.





Board Of Education

(From the 1940 Calumet Year Book)

This year, 1940, twenty-three outlying districts are represented under the new centralized school plan. They include the towns of Clayton, Cape Vincent, Brownville, Lyme, and Orleans.

The first Centralized Board of Education for the various districts was elected in September of 1938. A representative group from the several districts compose the Board.

Mr. E. J. Carter	President	Clayton
Mr. Howard Rees	Clerk	Fisher's Landing
Mr. Norris Wetterhahn	Trustee	Liberty Pole District
Mr. B. B. Davis	Trustee	Depauville
Mr. B. T. Farrell	Trustee	Clayton

To the Board of Education much credit is due for their liberal policy toward the school and their interest in its activities and growth. They are aiming to secure the best available in teaching staff, and equipment. They are broadening the curriculum to be in keeping with new educational thought in order that the youth of the centralized district may have the best possible tools at hand to provide for full and useful lives.



Old Clayton High School from 1940 Yearbook



Board Of Education

(From the 1973 Islander Year Book)

Left to Right: G. Radley, E. Maloney, A. Walker, J. Eppolito, H. Wiley—President, J. Constance, J. Wilson, M. Johnson, M. Kenney

THOUSAND ISLANDS SUN, 14 May 1970:

T.I. Central Voters Approve Bond Issue

Clayton: Voters of the Thousand Islands Central school approved a \$3,088,200 bond issue Tuesday by a 71 vote margin, with 792 voting yes and 721 voting no. The approval followed the submission of a somewhat less expensive proposal after two previous defeats.

The bond issue approved Tuesday covers the acquisition of a site between Clayton and Cape Vincent, the construction of a 750 pupil junior-senior high school and renovations to the present Clayton and Cape Vincent schools to convert them for elementary schools.

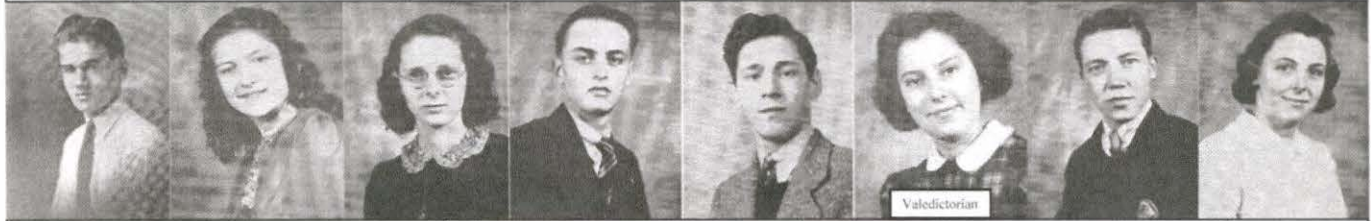
The new junior-senior high school will include 29 classrooms for instruction in English, social studies, mathematics, foreign language, business education, science, art, home economics, industrial arts and agriculture. In addition, there will be a music, library, gymnasium auditorium, cafeteria-study hall, guidance, health and office space.

The proposed renovations will include conversion of present coal burning furnaces to oil burners, new cafeterias and kitchens, and classroom lighting brought up to modern standards. Chalkboards will be adjusted to elementary grade height. Certain rooms will be converted to elementary use. State required safety features will be completed.



Jeanne Bailey Charles Bates Robert Bertrand Mary Blanchard Virginia Bouchard Theodore Buckley Gordon Cerow Isabelle Cheever

Salutatorian



Donald Collins Averill Comstock Eleanor Cummings George Cupernall LeRoy Cupernall Madora Dailey Ralph Dano Alice Delaney

Valedictorian



Eloise Deline Grace Denesha Frank Dick Melvin Dodge Harold Dorr Kenneth Dwyer Philena Dwyer Gladys Eager



David Eddy John Fowkes, Jr. Alberta Gale Lawrence Gifford Roger Grant William Hill Mary Kapples Ruth Kennedy



Genevieve Lewis Geraldine Lewis Marjorie Masters Hubert Morse Helen Natali Morton Palmer Winifred Palmer Ruth Patterson



Thelma Patterson Donald Powers Florence Putnam George Schafer, Jr. Medford Schnauber Elvah Scott Herbert Seymour Howard Smith



Winifred Spink Madelyn Stage William Stalker

**Clayton Central School
First Graduation**

Class of 1940



Dora Tufo Barbara Wells Stella Wetterhahn



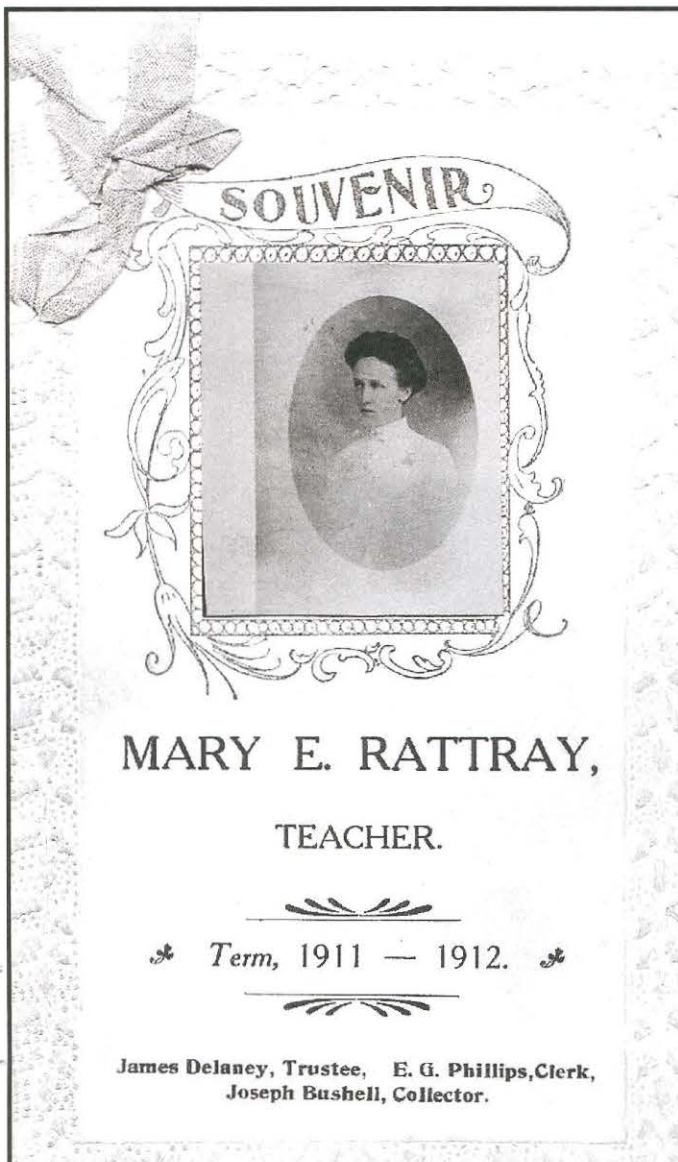
Deferno School District No. 23, Clayton, New York
 Taken down in 1911. The stone put in the road. It was Built of Native Limestone.
 (All photos and notes are taken from the collections of Dan Grant.)



Clayton District #23 Deferno School—1939-40. Boys in 1st and 2nd grade. Bottom Row Left to Right: Albert Hyde, Edwin Bevans (deceased), Leo Bond, Louis Wells and Larry Bevans. Top Row Left to Right: Dan Grant, Howard Weller (deceased), Ross (Buddy) Wells and Albert Weller.



**Deferno Road School District #23,
 Built in 1911 Replacing the "Old
 Stone School"**



Pupils.

* * GIRLS. * *

Ethel Edmonds	Alice Snyder
Florence Garnsey	Ona House
Amy Calhoun	Beulah Cosbey
Elsie Grant	Jennie Cosbey
Blanche Edmonds	Ermine May
Edith Edmonds	Jessie House

* * BOYS * *

Eddie Grant	Gerald Snyder
Walter Grant	Pearl Hyde
Charles Grant	Charles Hyde
Harold Grant	Lewis Calhoun
Stanley Jackson	Ray Calhoun
Harold Jackson	Bernard Dwyer
John House	Francis Dwyer
Robert House	Philies Fitz Gerald
Harry Garnsey	

Mary Rattray Taught In The Deferno School #23—1911-1912

East line Road School #24

(Tax List - 15 September 1843)

Asa Arnold, Henery Arnold, Ashbill Cook, Joseph and Nelson Deford, Joshua Morehouse, Simeon Cole, George Hawn, Frances Vinetto, J. Carrier, Sidney Fuller, James Skinner, Elias Peck, Israel Jones, Edward Elim, John Quain, Oliver Pressley, John H. Graves, John Pressley, Henery Eliot

Trustees: Asa Arnold, Simeon Cole, James Skinner

From a variety of documents at the TI Museum, we've compiled an incomplete but hopefully interesting list of people who have been mentioned as at some time being:

TEACHERS ON GRINDSTONE ISLAND

Millard Baxter, Nancy Bazinet (Taylor), Francis Bowman, John Broderick, Christopher Cain, Olive Comins, Gwenden Coswell, Mrs. Craig, Sara Delaney, Emmet Dodge, Francis Dodge, Glenn Dodge, Alfred Dorr, Leslie Eisenhauer, Ella Ellis, Mary Falk, Morris Fitzgerald, Joe Foley, Florence Fox, Patricia Gillot, Eliza Grant, Margaret Grant, Mary Grant, Nancy Grant, Nellie Grant, Frank Hallet, Marie Hanratty, Ruth Howe, Almira Kendal (The First Teacher), Kathy Kittle (Evans), Grace LaMora, Karen Luneau, Elizabeth Manna, Beth Marshall (The Last Teacher), Irma Marshall, Horace Mason, Grace Matthews, Bertha McRae, Louis Morrison, Hubert Morse, Oleta Potter, Frances Purcell, Georgia Rattray, Laura Scott, Fanny Slate (Hutchinson), Jerry Sullivan, Mildred Sullivan, Fred Vandewater, Elizabeth Wallace, James Waterson

To *Mr John Johnston*
Supervisor of the Town of Clayton

Pay to *Miss Easton Ellams* (or order,) _____
18 Eighteen Dollars and *67* cents, on
 account of wages earned by *her* while duly qualified as a teacher in *Teacher*
In School District No. *24* in said town, between the *27th*
 day of *April*, A. D. 186 and the *11th* day of *Sept*
 A. D. 186 *8*.

Dated *Clayton Sept 10*, A. D. 186 _____.

STAMP.

_____ } * _____ Trustee of
 _____ } School Dist. No. _____
 _____ } Town of _____

(*Insert "Sole," if the district has but one Trustee.)

School Facts

Clayton — In 1880 Clayton had a population of 4,214. The town was located in the third school district of Jefferson County and in 1888 had 25 school districts, in which 33 teachers were employed 28 weeks or more. The whole number of scholars attending school was 1,063, with the aggregate days attendance during the year 96,909. The total value of school buildings and sites were \$21,295 and the assessed valuation of all the districts was \$1,141,563. The whole amount raised for school purposes was \$7,704.21 with \$3,669.12 received by local tax.

We have taken a few of Dan Grant's newspaper clippings and paper artifacts to give our readers a little more insight into some early education related issues in the town of Clayton. The picture above offers an idea of the salary for a teacher in the East Line Road School on County Route 3 which burned in 1930 in a grass fire.

On the left is a small clipping that gives an enormous amount of information about Clayton and its schools in 1880 such as: population, that the Town of Clayton was in the 3rd school district of Jefferson County, had 25 school districts in 1888 that employed 33 teachers who worked 28 weeks or more, the total number of students, number of "aggregate" days attended during the year, the value of school buildings and sites, total assessed value of all the districts, dollar amount raised for schools and the amount received by local tax. Not bad for just 5 sentences.

On the next page we include an article that must have been dated close to 1938-9 that has a heading of "Clayton Fortunate In Getting P. W. A. Funds For New School." It mentions several other schools and their efforts to acquire funds for the building of new schools.

Clayton Fortunate In Getting P. W. A. Funds For New School

Watertown Loses Last Chance For Grant—Eight North Country Schools Turned Down—Cape Vincent Counted Out—Funds Exhausted

Clayton is one of the fortunate ones to get the P. W. A. grant for the new \$517,000 Central high school. The board is now working on completion of details and work is expected to begin this winter, greatly relieving an unemployment condition created last week when work on the county high ways in town was completed and fifty or sixty men let off.

(Watertown Times)

The last chance for Watertown to get P. W. A. assistance in building a new high school, or other schools, has passed, according to word from Secretary of the Interior Harold L. Ickes that no more P. W. A. funds are available. A grant of \$469,000 stood ready for use in building a \$1,100,000 school here last summer, but it was in effect turned down by the city council when it refused to sanction a referendum on a bond issue for the remainder of the cost.

Eight other north country school districts, which had applied for a total of \$906,952 in P. W. A. grants to help build new schools, also will not get that help. The P. W. A. administrator's announcement affects school building projects of \$1,914,560 in northern New York outside of Watertown already set up and approved by the districts, but still lacking P. W. A. allocation of funds.

Whether the curtailment of P. W. A. money will be permanent is not yet known, although the statement from Washington gives no encouragement of further funds. Also it is not yet known whether the school districts will go ahead with their building plans under some other method of financing.

The schools for which projects have been set up and P. W. A. grants sought but not yet granted include: Adams Center, \$140,000 project, \$63,000 grant sought; Cape Vincent, \$388,560 project, \$174,852 grant; Evans Mills, \$323,000 project, \$145,350 grant; Parishville, \$210,000 project, \$95,500 grant; Canton, \$308,000 project, \$179,000 grant; Dexter, \$200,000 project, \$90,000 grant; Brownville-Glen Park, \$250,000 project, \$112,500 grant; and Colton, \$95,000 project, \$42,750 grant.

Four other north country school districts received their

P. W. A. allocations shortly before the funds were exhausted, and have their projects now underway.

These schools include the \$670,000 building recently started at Pulaski; the Morristown \$80,000 project which opened about two weeks ago, the first in St. Lawrence county; the Adams \$194,994 project started last week, and the Clayton school, biggest job of the lot, which is to cost \$517,400 with W. P.A. grant of \$232,830.

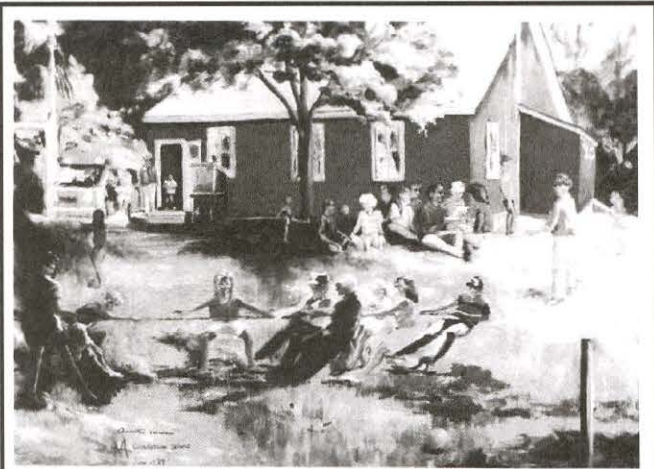
Elm Flats District #9



Elm Flats school house, District #9, sat on Clayton Center Road, approximately halfway between present Carr and Schnauber Roads. It served families on Clayton Center Road from present Dixon Road to the Matthews house on top of Depauville hill. It also took in the Schnauber road. According to the 1864 Jefferson County atlas, children from the Tisdale Babcock, G. Wetterhahn, and H. Hill families probably attended this school. Possibly H. Corbin and H. Haus families also sent children here.

Nearby schools included Line Road School, #7 to the northwest, Clayton Center School #17 farther along the Clayton Center road at Clayton Center, the stone school in Depauville to the south, Bluff school # 10 to the east on the Underbluff road .

In 1934, Elm Flats school, taught by Pauline Johndrow had as scholars Charles, Stanley, Morton, Winnie and Leslie Palmer, Barbara Schnauber, Robert Schnauber, Evans VanAlstyne. In 1936, Pauline Johndrow, who became Mrs. Fred Flick the following year, had as scholars Billy Dixon, Jenny and Lois Matthews, Barbara Schnauber, and Stanley Palmer. The presence of an ugly bull in a nearby pasture prevented some younger children from walking to school, as they were intended.



Last Day of School - 1989
by Aminta Marks

Grindstone Island Schools

(With special thanks to the
Grindstone Island Research & Heritage Center -
www.grindstoneisland.org)

The first school district in Jefferson County was formed on Grindstone Island in or around 1840. The location was on the Base Line Road, past the cheese factory, on the east side of the Billy Graham (August & Norma Couch Frazier) home. The school, named District #1, was built on the Cummings property, later the John Black Homestead. Pupils came from as far away as Washington Island, which is located just below the village of Clayton, a distance of four miles as the crow flies. Shortly there after, a second school was built for those pupils on the upper half of the island where the Base Line Road intersects Cross Island Road. This was called District #15 or the Upper School. Some forty years later, in 1880, the District #1 site was abandoned and another District #1 school was built further to the foot of the island where it still stands today. The property and building is now owned by Manley Rusho, a former student. He purchased the Lower Schoolhouse at the request of his wife, the late Mary Lou Nunn Rusho. She was a teacher and her wish was to see the building saved for posterity.

In 1885 the original District #15 school building was moved across the road and used as the "House of Good Temperance". It also served as the island church until it was destroyed by fire a few years later. A new school building was built on the same site as the original. The floor plan was simple. As you entered the school from the front door, there was an unheated cloak room for boots, hats and coats. Two doors came off this hallway into the large classroom: one at the farthest end by the sink and one to the right as you walked in the front door. This large area was the classroom. In the back right corner was a smaller room which provided lodging for the teacher during the week. The library was a homemade cupboard with four shelves about four feet wide. Slate chalkboards spread across the front wall. Along the top of the chalkboard was the alphabet in capital and

small case letters. A roll-up map system was fastened above the alphabet. It contained the world map and the map of the United States which were well worn from decades of use. The teacher's desk sat a short distance away facing the room. A recitation bench was positioned up front facing the teacher's desk. It held six children. The desks were double in width and two pupils sat together. The subjects taught were English, arithmetic, geography, history, spelling and reading. In later years a piano provided entertainment and music lessons for pupils. A round oak woodstove kept the school warm in winter during the coldest weather. Coal was put in for overnight. Four hanging Aladdin lamps furnished the only lighting. There was no electricity. Water was pumped from a well on the school grounds. Bathroom facilities consisted of an outhouse attached to the back of the building. A shed about 50 feet from the schoolhouse was used to store the wood and coal. The boys were assigned the task of replenishing the wood box everyday. Outside recreation consisted of baseball and field trips in the summer and a game of "fox & geese" in winter. Eventually a huge metal swing set was provided for the children.

Most children walked up to 6 miles daily to attend school. Transportation wasn't provided until the 1970s. The teachers stayed on the island during the week. In good weather they went home on Friday and returned on Sunday.

Districts #1 & #15 were filled with farm families so when the quarries were bringing the island its peak population, a private school for the workers children, was started by Miss Emma Kelly. At one time, ninety pupils attended this private school. Nettie McRae was one of those who helped with the tutoring. The school was located on Cross Island Road near the village of Thurso.

Two summer schools also existed on Grindstone in the early 1900s. One was below the upper town dock in Aunt Jane's Bay, just above Wright's Point and the other on the River or South Shore (Brown) Road at the summer residence of Lolita Pfeiffer. The purpose was preparing pupils for college. The students of both schools were mostly restricted to their prospective camps and did not associate often with the island people.

The lower summer school, "Camp Koenig", was started by Otto Koenig of New York City. Koenig, who had taught at the Sachs School for boys and the Collegiate Institute on East 59th Street, was principal of the Franklin School in New York City. In 1924 he sold his camp to two of his councilors. The name was changed to Frontenac Lodge in 1925. In the early 1930s Camp Frontenac was sold to Robert Garsey who farmed the property for a number of years. In the 1940s the main house was struck by lightning during the winter and burned to the ground. The property is now home for the Custis Family.

The upper summer school was know as "Camp Tip
(Continued on Page 16)

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Top" (Tip Camp) and was established in the early 1930s by Mr. & Mrs. Walter Crouch from Pennsylvania. Mr. Crouch taught at the Friends Central School in Western Philadelphia. The Crouches attended church regularly and became close friends with the island people. When Mr. Crouch died in the late 1930s the camp was closed. Mrs. Crouch summered on the island for a few more years. Upon her death in the late 1950s the camp was sold to Morris Fussell. It was eventually purchased by Raymond Pfeiffer.

Districts #1 and #15 schools taught grades 1 through 8. Some pupils stayed in the 8th grade until they were 16. Others went on to high school in Clayton. The families either paid board for their children during the winter months or moved off the island. In 1938 the rural school districts were invited to centralize with the Clayton school. This meant the island pupils had their winter board paid and more children were able to complete their education.

The Lower School, District #1, closed its doors June 16, 1960 with Fannie Slate Hutchinson as the last teacher. Fanny had attended this school as a student in the early 1900s. The two districts joined and consolidated with Clayton Central School. All of the island pupils, kindergarten thru 6 grades, would attend Dis-

trict #15 (the Upper School). Grades 7 thru 12 would now go to Clayton. This afforded more monies to be spent and new inside bathrooms were built. The wood and coal stove was replaced with a new furnace. The new well drilled for running water replaced the old hand pump and the earthen drinking fountain with its spigot.

Enrollment in the Upper School continued to decline. District #15, the last one room schoolhouse in New York State, closed its doors June 19, 1989. Rather than spend the estimated \$48,000 to keep the school operating, the school board decided to seal the building. Records indicate in 1871 it cost \$152.25 per year to operate the school. Beth Marshall, the last teacher, would have had only two pupils returning the next September. Any future school age children would now have to be transported to the Sam Guardino Elementary School in Clayton.

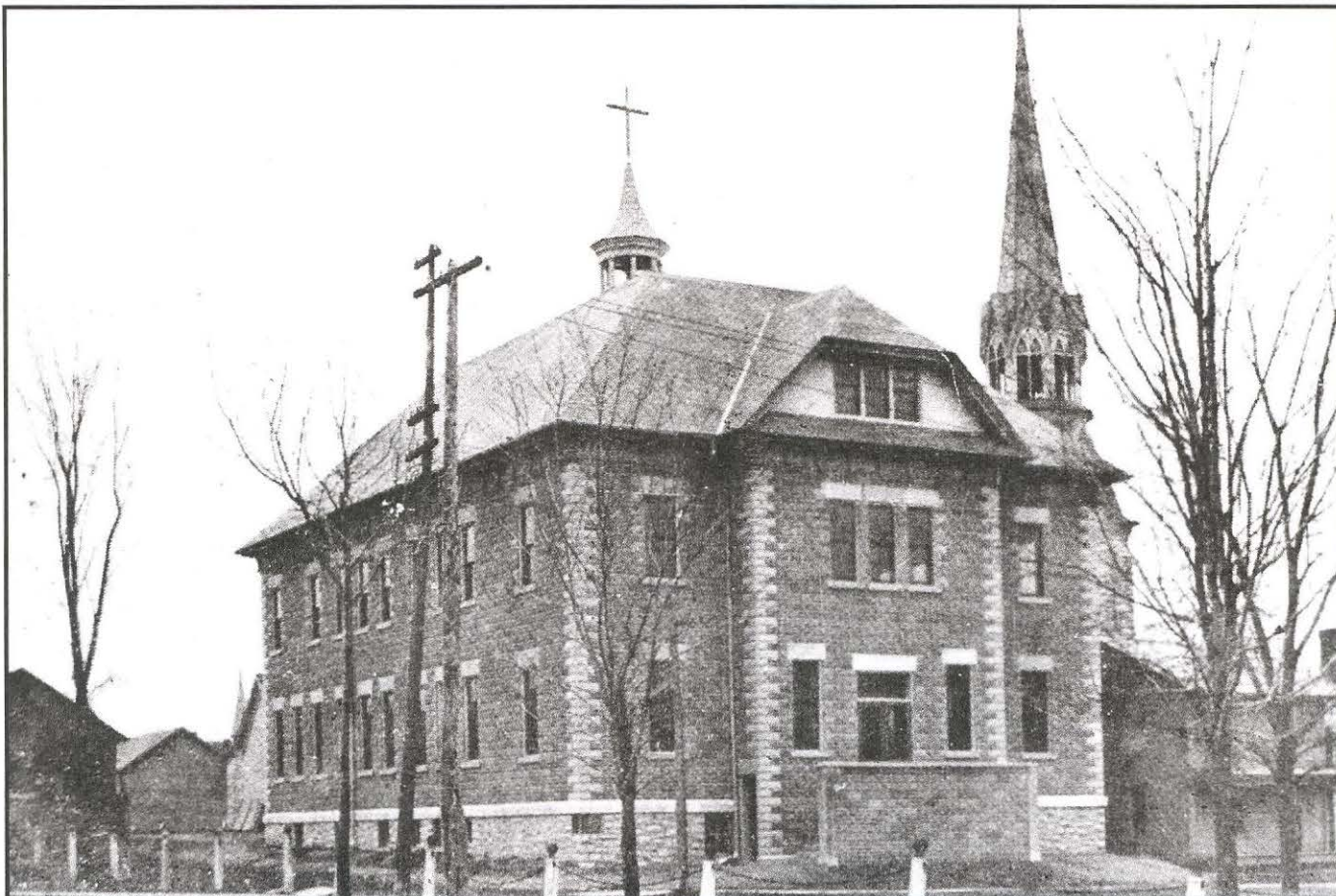
On August 23, 1998 the door of District #15 Schoolhouse swung open once again. This event was the accumulation of many years effort by island and area residents to restore the building prior to its closing in 1989. Its mission was to provide summer research internships, develop a resource library and preserve the legacy of the island. Welcome to the Grindstone Island Research & Heritage Center.



Lower Grindstone Island School About 1905

TI Sun? October 21, 1970

Lower Grindstone Island School about 65 years ago. First row, left to right, Irene McFadden, Paul Carnegie, William McFadden, Carl Blanchard, Josiah McAvoy, Mildred Kittle, Walter Kittle, Dora Slate, Fanny Slate and Willie Atherton. Second row, Bert McFadden, Ruth Blanchard, Harriet Robinson, Eva Black, Zuba McAvoy, Lillian Dano, Madeline Delaney and Ruth McAvoy. Third row, Harold Dano, Alice Atherton, Louise Atherton, Mary Robinson, Eunice Carnegie, Carrie Slate, Mabel Flood, Ernest McFadden, Byron McAvoy and Harold Delaney. Boy at left on first row partially show was Corbett Carnegie, Georgia Rattray was teacher. Picture loaned by Fan Hutchinson.



Clayton St. Mary's School Sometime Before The 1947 Fire

The History Of Clayton's St. Mary's School

By Sister Hilda

(From an undated newspaper clipping at the Thousand Islands Museum)

"Rome was not built in a day," and equally true is the fact that St. Mary's school at Clayton did not evolve over-night. When St. Mary's was but a dream in the mind of its pastor, the Rev. Phileas G. Garand, there was an influential group in the parish that did not favor a parochial school. These misguided people had succeeded in delaying the plan but had failed to erase it from the will of the indomitable pastor. Then one day, taking advantage of a lull at the end of a parish picnic, Father stood on a tree bole, and spoke with the determination that was his dominant characteristic. "Today" good friends, we break ground, and begin the diggin of the foundation of our school." All opposition was suddenly swept away before the stand of the zealous pastor. Having planned that a wagon-load of tools be at the site, Father led the men from the picnic area and set them to work. He himself, turned the first sod, and St. Mary's came into existence that day. The corner

stone was laid in August 1907.

It was in the summer of 1913 that he obtained the services of six Holy Cross sisters from St. Laurent, Montreal, to staff the school. Its opening in September brought in sixty-nine pupils for grades one through four. With this project successfully launched, the first elementary school graduation took place in June 1918.

Pending the erection of a convent, the Sisters were received into the homes of three families of the parish. The Foley House on Mary Street became the Sisters first convent. They then moved into the former home of Mrs. Wm. Delaney at the corner of James and Mary Streets. After three years of waiting, the convent was ready for occupancy May 1916. Within the convent building was a very attractive chapel, two stories high with frescoed ceiling.

As early as 1917, the pastor's tireless zeal formulated plans for the establishing of a high school. With the approval of the Board of Regents of Albany a proud quartet, E. William Longton, Doris Bazinet, Genevieve Delaney and Julia Pilon waved the blue and gold banner of Our Lady as the first graduates of St. Mary's.

Years rolled on during which St. Mary's, like Tennyson's "Brook" could say "Men may come and men may go But I go on forever." Alas, for one reason or another its career was all too short lived. The last

(Continued on Page 18)

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class was graduated in 1942, after which S.M.H.S. ceased to operate. The elementary department continued its apostolate with the younger generation until 1970. The major reason for closure was lack of finances and staff, to which may be added a cumulative loss of population.

In the interim St. Mary's had lived its darkest day on Aug. 5, 1947, when a blaze of undetermined origin swept through the convent and the school. Extensive damage, evaluated at \$100,000, the bulging wall in the ruins, showed that the building was practically a total loss. Out of this heart breaking tragedy Rev. Father George E. Racette caused to be built a new building of beauty and architectural simplicity. With the help of his parishioners, and his co-workers, the Sisters of Holy Cross, he succeeded in combining charm with the utilitarian features of a modern school.

The spirit of loyalty and patriotism which St. Mary's strove to inculcate in its charges was made manifest with several vocations to the priesthood and sisterhood over the years. No less worthy of mention is the fact that fifty three boys enlisted in the United States Army during World War II. Fifty one passed through the fray unscathed; John Casselman and Francis Leavery died heroically on the field of battle.

Many of the inevitable vicissitudes of life fall into oblivion with time, but cherished memories of dear old St. Mary's promise to live forever to brighten the dreary days to come.

At her widely known shrine, Our Lady of Clayton has lavished solace and peace, spiritual and temporal favors on her children as well as on countless visitors. Her presence constitutes a gentle reminder, "Look up, O Clayton people and esteem the blessings of your patroness."



Lee School #5
Depauville-Brownville Rd near VanAlstyne Rd



Depauville Village School #6—Stone School on School St. until 1842—now the Christian School.
New brick School on Rt. 179, now the Library and Community Building.



Clayton Center School in 1845

From a news article in the Watertown Daily Times
November 17, 1927

Interesting details of olden schooldays were uncovered recently when residents of LaFargeville discovered an old record book of Clayton Center Schools. The list of students jotted down, the records show November 17, 1845, include many names long since forgotten, while some are still no-doubt residing in this vicinity.

The following is taken from that record:

"In a little school-house by the road, the morning bell was ringing. The teacher closed the door and, after morning devotions were over, the roll call was heard. Those present: Milton Gloyd, Daniel Eldridge, Richard Smith, Chauncey Barney, Almond Barney (father of Mrs. Preston Ellis of Clayton and Mrs. Marritt Lingenfelter), George Dercoat, George Kibbie, Milton Arnold, Lyman Barney (uncle of Handley Ellis), Alcephus Carter, Hiram Ellis, Burton Vincent (uncle of Henry Vincent of LaFargeville), Edward Eldridge, Milo Barney, Burton Tuttle, John Becker, Robert Richardson, Seymour Joy, Charles H. Gloyd, Lydia Kibbs, Elizabeth Estes, Elizabeth Becker, Norsula Arnold, Cynthia Laster, Sarah Ann Smith, Alecta and Aleen Fox, Harriett Dixon.

Signed: R. D. Biddlecome, Teacher
"L. Bushnel, Justice of the Peace"

In the next list of pupils are found: Louisa Tallman, Eliza Smith, Oscar Smith, Cyrus Cook, Polly Ann Eldridge, which were added as well as this footnote:

"The scholars who attended less than two months were 46. Those who attended less than four months were 30."

In May, 1846, the writing changes and the teacher is Parmelia Smith. Soon it changes again, and A. U. Peck signs himself as teacher. In December, 1847, L. P. Uline appears as teacher. Here the pages are

turned, one after another -- blank. On one a scribbled note has been torn out.

The book opens again on November 14, 1848 with the large open-hand writing of L. L. Tallman, teacher, with a heavy underscore under the name Tallman. New names among the pupils were: Sophia Cline, William Martin, while L. Bushnel still signed himself as Justice of the Peace. In the year 1849, David Turner, Truman Merritt, Mary Sharp and Abner Smith were in school. J. W. Cline was the new Justice.

In 1850 the black ink changed to blue; the writing is excellent and Samuel Ellis (father of Handley Ellis) became the penman as well as teacher, with L. Eddy the Justice. A little footnote appears to the effect "This school has been visited once by the Town Superintendent." Martha Gordon is added to the already many named teachers. In the year 1852 names of Edward Walrath, Ella Walrath, William Ellis, Flora Fox, Eliza, Sarah and Wallstye Wright, Emma Oren, Albert Carter, Albert, James, Ella and Jane Snell and Samuel Arnold, most all of whom are living today some here, some there, some in the West, some in the Northland, with the late Hiram Beckwith, father of Earl Beckwith, contractor of Bedford Hills, Westchester County, Mrs. Mae Anthony and Miss Grace Beckwith of this place as teacher and Daniel Eddy, father of Dr. Elmer Eddy of Redwood as Justice of the Peace.

The next teacher was Melvina Barney, and following her came Martha Gordon. In 1860 Celia Halladay was the teacher. In 1862 Hiram Beckwith was employed again and later Irene Weaver and Josephine Andrus. The list of pupils changed again. Lucius Fox, Elbert and Flora Webb, Milford and Watson Arnold, John Sanderson, Emma Garlock, Julian and Martin Nester, Myron and Adelbert Daniels, Handley Ellis, Sophronia Gloyd.

In 1863, the school must have had a teacher who followed her copybook very closely, for of all the writing hers is perfect. Every mark of punctuation was obeyed. She signed herself most precisely, Delia A. Ackerman, Teacher.

Mercy Hill, sister of the late Elbridge Hill, was the next teacher, and in 1865 the interesting record of those bygone days closes with the signature of the late Fayette Webb, who was the husband of Mrs. Ella Putnam, now living in Clayton, as the teacher.

**"Old Schools" by George Patchin,
Aged 91 in 1926**

From a 1926 News Clipping in the Times

At Clayton Center, I had a large school. There were
(Continued on Page 20)

(Continued From Page 19)

the Linnells -- School Supt. Linnell came from that District -- the Carters, the Goulds, the Barneys, the Wrights and others. At one time, the section now known as Clayton Center was known as Carters Corners. The Carters were a pioneer family. It is said that the pioneer Carter was a great hunter, with many stories of his hunting experiences to tell.

I remember I had some very bright pupils. I remember especially Alice Rasbach. She became a successful teacher herself and, I think, taught right there in Clayton Center at one time. Her name is now Alice Bretsch, and she resides but a few rods from the Clayton Center schoolhouse.

Note by Mildred Bretsch Rarick:

Alice Rasbach was my mother. I recall her telling that she started school at Clayton Center at the age of three. The teacher was boarding with the Rasbachs and she teased them to let my mother start at this early age. My mother said she made out all right and just kept right on going to school there. She started school in 1863.

From the obituary of William J. Linnell, who died in 1942. He attended the Clayton Center School and, I believe, taught there.

William J. Linnell belonged to that pioneer group of teachers of the '80's and '90's who "boarded around" while teaching in rural schools for as little as \$12 a month and board. (That is \$3 a week). Hundreds of persons still residing in Jefferson County, and others who formerly resided in this county, received instruction from him at one time or another during his long career.

In an interview, while he was attending a convention of the Association of Academic Principals in Syracuse in 1926, Mr. Linnell reminisced interestingly of his early days as a teacher and told how, in the Fall of 1880, he went to Clayton to take over the district school. (I believe this was the Clayton Center School). His salary was \$12 a month. He "boarded around" at various houses.

"They always gave you the spare room, which in winter was as cold as ice", he recalled with a smile.

There were about twelve pupils in that class back in 1880. At least three of them were older and stronger than the teacher, and several teachers before Mr. Linnell had been obliged to give up the school because they were unable to maintain discipline, but Mr. Linnell recalled that he seldom had trouble with boys over 16.

Mr. Linnell maintained that children in rural schools

gain more from their early education than children in the city. Country children, he held, were more resourceful and accustomed to manual labor, thus being able to meet emergencies better.

"Mrs. Alice Bretsch, Teacher"

by Ernest G. Cook as published in the Watertown Daily Times about 1920

"My people were thrifty pioneers. When I was 17 I decided I was old enough, and educated enough, to teach school. So, I went to one of the examinations that Mr. Watson held in Clayton. At that time, there were fewer commissioner districts, and Clayton and Cape Vincent were with Theresa, Orleans, Alexandria and perhaps some other towns. I was a little fearful about that first examination, but came through with good marks and secured a school at Elm Flats - a school located out of Depauville, towards Clayton Center. It was a largely attended school at that time, but I came on well and remained there nine terms. I had an opportunity to teach here in Clayton Center, so decided to accept the offer. I taught here for nine terms. A term was a half-a-year in those days. It took two terms for the school year. (I figure my mother must have taught at the Clayton Center School from about 1881 to 1886.)"

"I remember when I first began teaching, it was for \$2.50 per week and it was always boarding around, and so we became well acquainted with the homes of the students. It was quite an experience for a young girl to start out finding a new home each Monday night. But, it gave one a comprehensive education in rural life and of human nature."

I attended the Clayton Center School from 1907 to 1914. I recall the following pupils -- there may have been others.

Mabel Baxter, Hazel Mather, Corrie Baxter, Edna Mather, Miner Baxter, Mildred Bretsch, Ruth Baxter, Glenn Bretsch, Earl Mattis, Harold Allen, Howard Mattis, Edna Allen, Ethel Mattis, (Another) Allen boy, George Rees, Kenneth Dana, Dan Rees, Evelyn Dana, Mary Rees, Ina Lindsay, Marjorie Lingenfelter, John Lindsay, John Walrath, Ione Littlefield, Perl Sprague, Marguerite Bovee, Milton Sprague, Howard Cole, Reta Dillenbeck, Glen Cole, Ethel Comins, Julia Smith and (Julia's brother) Smith.

Signed: Mildred Rarick

Teachers at Clayton Center School from 1907 to 1914:

Miss Breslau, Millard Baxter (1907), Gertrude Smith
(Continued on Page 21)

(Continued From Page 20)

(married), Mrs. Bertha Consaul, Blanche Eaton (married), Grace Sherman (married a Cantwell), and Ella Ellis.

The pupils of the Clayton Center School and their teacher, Gertrude Smith in 1909:

Mabel Baxter, Corrie Baxter, Miner Baxter, Ruth Baxter, Earl Mattis, Howard Mattis, Ethel Mattis, Marjorie Lingenfelter, John Walrath, Perl Sprague, Milton Sprague, Eta Dillenbeck, Hazel Mather, Edna Mather and Mildred Bretch.

My Recollections of the Clayton Center School by Mildred Rarick

I started school at Clayton Center at the age of seven. My seven years there were the happiest of my life. Here are some of the things that I recall about the school -- a one-room school.

The attendance was very small, from 10 to 15. I can scarcely imagine how the school could accommodate as many as 40 pupils at one time, as reported in the Times article.

Sometimes the discipline was good; at other times the kids just ran wild indoors and out. I recall that, at times, I was afraid for fear I would get hurt by the big boys -- and I did get hurt.

My first teacher was Millard Baxter. I can't recall that I learned very much from him. Anyways I was taught largely at home.

I recall the double seats and how we chose the partner we wanted to sit with. The books were kept in our desks and it seemed as if my inkwell was always spilling.

I especially liked spelling, and I recall how one teacher kept a chart with our names printed on it, and she affixed a star after each name that stood 100% in spelling for that day. I remember how my line of stars was much longer than the others. And we had spelldowns too, which I enjoyed.

I remember the cold winter mornings and how we nearly froze waiting for the teacher to get the fire started.

I remember the 15 minute recess forenoon and afternoon. The games in the schoolyard were lots of fun in the spring and fall. In the winter, we just stayed inside and amused ourselves in a variety of ways.

A lot of the pupils never got beyond the sixth grade. If

they did, they had to go to either Depauville or Clayton and take the exams to enter the seventh and eighth grades. Only a few did this. However, several from the enclosed list of pupils went through high school and graduated from college, after which they became teachers or took up some other profession. George Rees won a scholarship and graduated from Cornell University. Earl Mattis was also a college graduate.

Mildred Bretch and her brother, Glenn Bretch, both won Cornell scholarships and graduated from Cornell. Both became teachers, and Glenn became a high school principal and superintendent of schools. The one-room school laid a firm foundation for our work.

I recall the common drinking cup -- or rather dipper -- and how one day the teacher announced that from now on it was against the law to use the common dipper, but we must bring our own drinking cup.

Mildred Bretch Rarick was born 24 March 1900 and died 1 February 1979.

Note: In 1995 Evelyn Haas Charlebois gathered together this information and had it retyped.

Bill Dixon adds the following to this article on Clayton Center School:

Clayton Center school building was used as a community center for several years after centralization. Activities included progressive pedro parties, penny bingo, and square dances. They often included covered dish suppers. Bill, Thelma and Billy Dixon often furnished the music for dances. Some of the attendees included John and Anna Meeks, Harry Brown, Roger and Pauline Walti and some of the Dorr family. Some time after 1948 it was sold to be used as a dwelling.

LIBERTY POLE SCHOOL #2 Norris Wetterhahn, Teacher (Before 1917)

Students:

**Harley Dodge
Everton Ayerst
Emil Littlefield
Eliza Carl
Florence Bovee
Gladys Dulmage
Burton Dodge
Kent Dodge**

**Perry Ormsby
Hilton Hoan
Erwin Littlefield
Bertha Littlefield
Dara Littlefield
Thomas Dulmage
Mabel Dwyer**

Jefferson County Queries

Send Queries to: Lis Couch, 24670 County Rt. 159, Watertown, NY 13601; lcouch0624@aol.com

Subject: Jefferson County Informer Query

(Some readers don't have internet access. Please include mailing address &/or phone numbers as well as email.)

ALEXANDER, SPRAGUE, BENTLEY

I'm trying to track down some information for a James **ALEXANDER** (also called Jay R.) born in New York in July 1867. At some point the family (or he alone) was in Ellisburg, Jefferson Co. I am doing research for a friend in the **SPRAGUE** Family from Henderson and this James R. **ALEXANDER** married Catherine "Kate" **SPRAGUE** in September 1892 at her parents home in Henderson. I have found the newspaper article about this marriage. After that they moved to Clayton, NY. I also found several articles about "Jay R. **ALEXANDER**" being the "entire police force in Clayton." Then in March 1907 I found an article regarding some \$350 in missing "charges" and that Officer Jay R. **ALEXANDER** had disappeared "several weeks ago" "without resigning his post or saying good-bye" and his whereabouts were unknown. Then in 1910, Kate is listed as a widow (don't know whether this is a "cover" for desertion or whether he actually died.

I have been unable to find any mention of him or his family in the area in the 1880 census or before so am not sure if they were originally from the area. In the 1900 census (the only one he appears with Kate or at all, he lists himself as well as both his parents, as born in NY. Any information I could find, especially on whether he ever "re-appeared" after 1907 or did, in fact, die, would be appreciated.

I'm also looking to see if there is anything in Jefferson County newspapers about the death of Pardon **BENTLEY** (my ggg grandfather) who died in Sandy Creek, NY in late 1870's. I do have an obit for his wife, Charity, from April 29, 1877 in Jefferson County Journal and wondered if something might have appeared there for Pardon as well as they had lived in Adams for a time. We've never been able to discover when he died or where he and Charity are buried!

*Robert Steingraber
317 Hillview Ave
Syracuse, NY 13207
(315) 476-8823
Syracuse, NY 13207
wiccantank@netscape.com*

BABCOCK

John **BABCOCK** (born 1770-1780) in New York m. Nancy (?) (born 1770-1780) in New York. I do not know if they were born/married in Jefferson County however the death record of one of their sons, Robert **BABCOCK**, says that he was born in 1819 in Watertown, Jefferson County, NY. Robert was the 5th born child. The first born was Samuel K. **BABCOCK** born in 1802. John, his wife and 8 children moved to Crawford Co., OH in time to be enumerated on the 1840 Federal Census.

I've been trying to find information on this family for several years with no success. I'm hoping that someone might have even a small crumb of information for me to build on.

*Linda Talbott
pandora1790@ncats.net
Project Coordinator,
The USGenWeb Census Project @
<http://www.us-census.org/>*

HENRY (?) OR (?) HENRY, VERSAILLES

Does anyone remember a child getting killed at Camp Drum or Pine Camp, NY? It would be around the years 1948 to 1952. My family lived where the old housing units use to be, just before you get to Great Bend, NY. My sisters and brothers saw a boy get run over by a school bus. They think his name was **HENRY**. But, they can't remember if it was his first or last name.

Would anyone have any information on the Seventh Field Battalion Artillery? They were stationed at Sackets Harbor, Town of Hounsfield, NY. My dad, Joseph **VERSAILLES** was a soldier. They are listed on the 1920 or 1930 census.

*Patricia D. Burns
40438 Cross Road
Theresa, NY 13691
315-628-5421
cowpatty55@ridgeviewtel.us*

WHITE, TANNER

I am looking for information on the family of Mero L. **WHITE** who married Corporal James **TANNER** in 1866. I am writing a book on Mr. **TANNER** and need info on his wife's background. According to my sources Mero **WHITE** came from Jefferson County but there are no other details.

*Robert E. Yott
8610 CR 13
Bath, NY 14810
www.unionblueenterprises.com*

OLD CHAMBER OF COMMERCE BUILDING

The Alexandria Township Historical Society is looking for any and all information on the **OLD CHAMBER OF COMMERCE BUILDING** on the corner of Market and Sission Streets, next to the Giltz Funeral Parlor. Would like to know when it was built, who built it, and uses over the years.

*Mike Quencer
16 Crossmon St.
Alexandria Bay NY 13607
mquencer@northnet.org*

JCNYGS MATERIALS FOR PURCHASE

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The Will Book contains will abstracts dating from 1830 to 1850. The book contains 194 pages, two maps, and a chart showing the formation of Jefferson County Towns.

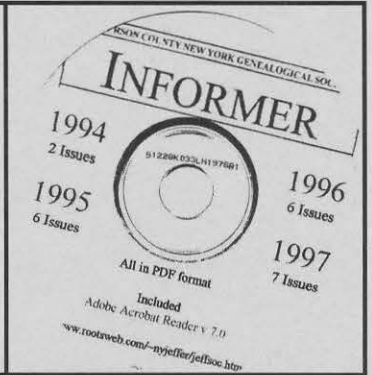
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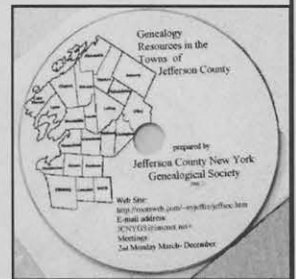
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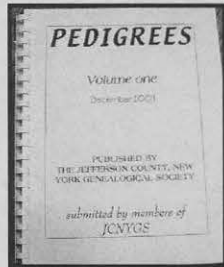


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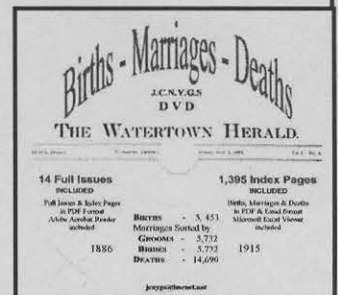
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21787 Reed Road
Watertown, NY 13601
tplantz1@twcny.rr.com
 Or for Book II: **Phyllis Putnam**
P. O. Box 58
Chaumont, NY 13622
Phyllis@putnamfamily.com



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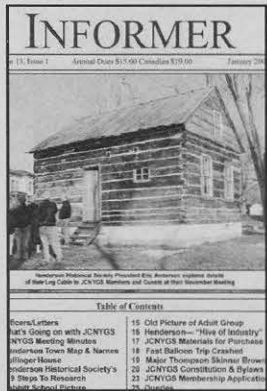
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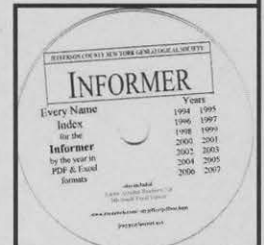
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INFORMER

Volume 17, Issue 3

Annual Dues \$15.00 Canadian \$19.00

May 2010



Cape Vincent Inter Nos Society 1907—See Page 5

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INFORMER MAY 2010

Correspondence about dues, memberships, and lost *Informers* should be directed to:
 Jefferson County Genealogical Society, P.O. Box 6453, Watertown, NY 13601
E-mail: JCNYS@ gmail.com *Web site:* http://jefferson.nygenweb.net

President: Terry Baker, 493 Bugbee Drive, Watertown, NY 13601
tbaker.h2otown@yahoo.com, 315-788-0170

Vice President: Tracy Robertson, 26795 Clear Lake Camp Rd, Theresa, NY 13691
tracyrobertson19@yahoo.com, 315-486-2700

2nd Vice President: Rose Dillenbeck, 177 Haskins Road, Johnson City, NY 13790
dillenbeck177@att.net, 607-748-0001

Recording Secretary: unfilled (See President Terry if interested!)

Minutes will be taken by a volunteer at each meeting until position is filled!

Corresponding Secretary: Larry Corbett, 520 Binsse St., Watertown, NY 13601
lcorbet@gisco.net, 315-788-3044

Treasurer: Hollis Dorr, P. O. Box 297, Brownville, NY 13615
No Email, 315-788-0959

The **Informers Committee** includes Bill Dixon, chairman; Nan Dixon, nandixon@gisco.net, editor; Clancy Hopkins, clancyhopkins16@gmail.com, publisher. Editorial members (alphabetically) are Lis Couch, lcouch30@twcny.rr.com; Jerry Davis, maridavis@aol.com; Bob VanBrocklin, Rvan992@aol.com; and Pauline Zach, pinzach@aol.com. The *Informers* is published in January, March, May, July, September and November. A special Surnames issue has also been published in December.

Letters.....

Letters to the editor may be directed to
nandixon@gisco.net or to Nan Dixon, 15407
 Dixon Road, Clayton, NY 13624.

Additions & Corrections To your JCNYS Directory

Email Corrections:

Paul McKinley (M8) - mckinley1460@bellsouth.net

Surname Corrections:

Jean Coyne (C21) has no GERU surname

Jennine Walts (W3) does have the GERU surname

Dear Editor,

I received the *Informers* today and see you did a nice job with the article on Adolphus Sterling. Just one correction for the next issue:

The name of Adolphus D. Sterling's son was "William D. Sterling of the Sterling Hotel". The article says "William Adolphus D..." which is incorrect.

Thank you for making a note of the correction as well as your time preparing this information.

Beverly K. Sterling
HarborSide Services
 PO Box 238

Sackets Harbor, NY 13685
Email: harborside@twcny.rr.com
Phone: (315) 408-0884
www.harborsideservices.com

The *Informers* committee wishes to offer a special thanks to several who have helped us with this issue on the history of schools in the Cape Vincent side of the Thousand Islands Central School. Kevin Kieff sent the picture of the Cape Vincent High School Inter Nos Society that we have used for our cover as well as his notes found on page 5. Our own JCNYS member Phyllis Putnam for her memories of the Laird School House found on page 13. Former TICS administrator Michael Bashaw for proofreading. The Cape Vincent Museum and Jeanne Thompson have been an enormous help with not only the material made available to us but for also for allowing us to meet at the museum for our committee work. Jeanne's memories of the Old Cape Vincent High School can be found on page 21. The amount of material we did not use for this issue is staggering! We encourage anyone to make a date to visit the Cape Vincent Museum to see Jeanne and the material that the museum has available for you to use.

JCNYGS

Minutes for March 6, 2010

Notes by Jerry Davis

President Terry Baker welcomed everyone back after the winter recess. The December meeting was attended by only 5 members and the only order of business to report was a discussion with Phyllis Putnam on future programs. Treasurer Hollis Dorr reported that our treasury has a present balance of \$6,915.44. Clancy Hopkins moved to approve the report and Larry Corbett seconded. It was passed.

President Terry asked if there was any committee that would like to present a report. Greg Plantz mentioned for the repository committee that one of the wills books is almost sold out and he was wondering if an additional printing might be advisable. After a short discussion Greg will check into which publisher and how much it would cost the society.

Phyllis Putnam reviewed the year's programs with some descriptions of why certain programs were scheduled for specific meetings. Some were acquired using the resources of the New York State Council on the Humanities. One included is that of Dr. Eisenstadt and his program on migration in New York State that was cancelled last year. It is now scheduled for our July 12 meeting. Other NYSCH programs include Dr. Milt Sernett and his program on "From Muscles to Motors on the Farm" that will be our June 14 meeting and Robert W. Arnold with a program on "1812: New York's War, New York's Impetus" that will be our November 6 meeting. Discussion followed concerning money available for some of the program expenses and the possibility of inviting other groups to participate. They might be our guests for some of the programs such as agricultural groups for the "Muscles to Motors" program in June and perhaps having the August 9 program on "Pirate William "Bill" Johnston" at Alexandria Bay. Nan Dixon will be our program for April and she will talk on researching Wagoners and other Palatines. President Terry offered the possibilities of more people attending that meeting by calling some people from the telephone book with the surnames that might be part of that program. Terry also mentioned the possibility of someone being on the early morning television news to promote the Palatine program.

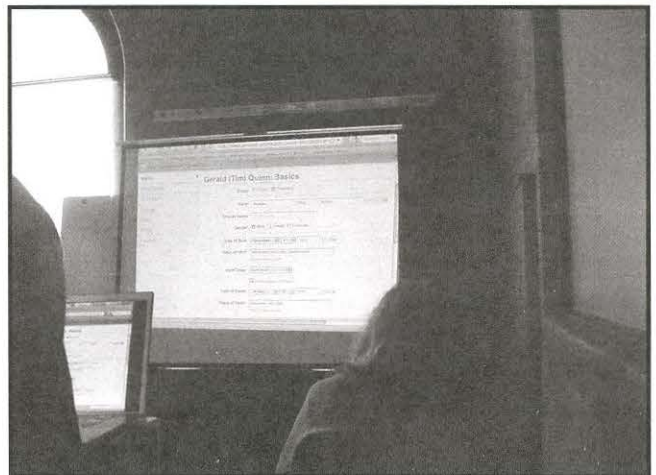
Bill Dixon questioned the 2010 Census possibility of destroying all but digital copies of the census and its future effect on people wanting that information. Clancy Hopkins mentioned that Phyllis Putnam had

sent out emails earlier about the Census question and he urged people to write letters. Clancy also mentioned what a great source of information was available at the Watertown City Historian's Office and encouraged people to take advantage of it. Clancy then mentioned the Central New York Genealogy Society has some good programs and maybe some of our members would like to attend those meetings. Clancy finished with a request of more support for the libraries in the county and he made a special request for support of the Flower Memorial Library.

The business portion of the meeting was adjourned and Tracy Robinson was introduced for her program on the web site GENI.com and the genealogies of the Quinn, Casey, Smith and Negus families among others.



Tracy Robinson starts her program on the GENI.com web site and her genealogy.



Tracy used her computer and projector to show her information on the Quinn, Casey, Smith, and Negus families among others.

ASK AUNTIE JEFF



Auntie Jeff wonders how many people read genealogical periodicals. New England Historic Genealogical Society has been putting out its *Record* for well over a century with valuable records and articles containing reliable information. Over the years it has published other periodicals maintaining a high level of accuracy, and one of the newest is *American Ancestors*. Recently *American Ancestors* has broadened its coverage with a regular column, Focus on New York State. In the winter 2010 issue Auntie Jeff has found that column particularly interesting with a mention of Jefferson County.

The column begins by stating a fact we all have found, to our sorrow: "for the hundred years following the American Revolution...virtually no civil records were kept...and church records are sparse." Then it mentions six sources we should check: census records, deeds, probate records, periodicals, and surprisingly *French's Gazetteer*. Lastly, and this is where Jefferson County is mentioned, is *USGenWeb.org*. Auntie Jeff is well aware that many of our readers do not have access to the internet, and if they do, they are crippled by not possessing high speed transmission. However, most of us are able to use libraries, and nowadays most libraries can provide you with both access to computers, and information on how to use them. For those of us who have decided that our genealogizing days are over, this gives us a new window to our obsession.

Since the article mentions the internet in almost every paragraph, it might behoove some of us to leave our prejudices behind and plunge into the twenty first century, and to forestall the frequent whine, "I'm too old to learn that," she opines that she's older than most of her readers. The census is out there, and while it may not be easy, if you are a dedicated family historian, you can use it. Auntie Jeff would like to scotch two widely held misconceptions, that everything you find on line is real and accurate (IT IS NOT!) and you have to pay money for your research. She is happy to assure you that what you find on *USGenWeb.org* is free, and is there for you to use. Also, she cannot stress too much that what appears on the internet must be verified.

First, the census: you may not be able to find every year. By using a local Family History Center, maintained by the Mormon Church, you may also be able to use the state census, available for the years ending in "5". The federal census is only for those years ending in "0". Most of us realize that if we are lucky enough to find the name we are looking for, we should also scan the families on both sides for relatives.

Deeds are useful for possible indication of when and where your ancestor lived, and perhaps even pointing to where they came from. A deed at the end of their residence might even tell you when they left the area.

Letters may be sent snail mail:
Auntie Jeff, c/o Dixon, 15407 Dixon Rd.,
Clayton NY 13624
or E-mail nandixon@Gisco.net

Probate records are at the county court house and can be found at the Family History Center. Also, the article states, "*New England Ancestors.org*" the online branch of NEHGS publications, has a "collection of probate abstracts for most upstate New York counties for the period 1787 to 1835." An index is included for all names.

Periodicals mentioned in the article include *Tree Talks* from the Central New York Genealogical Society, which many of us know and which does indeed contain information for Jefferson County. Jean D. Worden has published an index for the first 28 volumes, and annual indices for more recent years are available. *The New York Genealogical and Biographical Record* is an oldie but goodie, with reliable information.

French's Gazetteer has general information, as opposed to specific family names, enabling one to discover why a family lived in subsequent towns, never having moved, a conundrum Auntie Jeff took some years to figure out. While the family didn't move, the town boundaries did. The *Gazetteer* gives us each town profile, for the entire state, and "includes the founding date and parent town, and lists separate villages, dates of first settlement, early residents, the number of churches and their denominations, and newspapers by county." Do notice that they list *early* residents. The gazetteer makes no attempt to list *all* residents.

Lastly, the article discusses *USGenWeb.org*, a national online organization organized in 1993 first by state, and then by county, each county being autonomous, and having its own coordinator or coordinators. In some cases, it is further divided by town. GenWeb is a loose organization, with each county having almost unlimited leeway in what it presents and how it presents it. Most have search engines, allowing you to enter a name in quotes as "William Dixon" and then finding it wherever it appears on the site. No, it's not perfect; few things made by man are; but it is handy. Most NY-GenWebSites have cemetery transcriptions; many have transcribed county and local histories. Jefferson county GenWebSite (<http://jefferson.nygenweb.net>) is one mentioned by name as having hundreds of reader submissions on early pioneers, i.e. those who settled in the county before the 1850 census. The Ontario county site "offers a link to one of the largest collections of data on early settlers of any New York county."

A limited number of sites provide information from early New York State census records. Orleans County site displays 1855, 1865, and 1875 census. Jefferson County has 1810 Federal census, as well as partial 1850 and 1855.

CAPE VINCENT HIGH SCHOOL INTER NOS SOCIETY—1907

(Submitted by JCNYS member Kevin Kieff.
Our thanks to Kevin for the cover picture.)

1st Row: Left to Right: 1. Cora Robinson Horton. 2. Grace Willoughby Wooden. 3. Marion Jerome.
2nd Row: Left to Right: 4. Marion Holland Hughes. 5. Helen Wright. 6. Myrtle Rice. 7. Nina Foster. 8. Mary Parker Bliss. 9. Anna Grant.
3rd Row: Left to Right: 10. Lulu Willoughby McDermott. 11. Marion Brewster. 12. Grace Johnson Kieff. 13. Louella Bodette Bronson. 14. Ethel Grant Hammond.

The Inter Nos Society was a sorority, founded in 1901, at Cape Vincent High School. At a 1932 reunion held at Burnham Point State Park, the "Cape Vincent Eagle", the local newspaper, reported the Inter Nos Society was the oldest independent high school sorority in the United States having at no time been inactive.

A brief sketch of each of the young women in this 1907 photograph follows:

1. Cora Robinson Horton. Dau. of John and Elizabeth Bardol Robinson. She married F. Roy Horton. Horton's store was located on Broadway in Cape Vincent. The Hortons made their home in the house on James Street directly across from the Recreation Park driveway. Cora died in 1958. Burial was in Riverside Cemetery, Cape Vincent.

2. Grace Willoughby Wooden. Dau. of Byron and Laura House Willoughby. She was a nursing graduate of Rochester General Hospital. She married Dr. Warren Wooden. The couple went to France during WWI and worked in a hospital in Vichy. They made their home in Rochester, NY. It is believed that Grace died, possibly in France, at a young age, while pregnant.

3. Marion Jerome. Dau. of Charles and Hannah Davis Jerome. Marion's father, Charles, had the nickname of "Father of NNY Baseball." Marion and her sister, Emily, operated the Jerome House, now the present day Hotel Roxy, as a boarding house following their father's death. Marion did not marry. She died in 1954 and is buried in Riverside Cemetery, Cape Vincent.

4. Marion Holland Hughes. Dau. of Thomas and Sarah Drummer Holland. Another source lists Marion's mother as Isabella Gummar. Marion's father came to Cape Vincent in 1881. He was a baker. Marion was a school teacher in Watertown when she married Alfred Hughes, a Woolworth Company store manager. They had a son, Richard A. and a daughter, Gwendolyn. Marion died in 1943 at the age of 55. Burial was in North Watertown Cemetery.

5. Helen Wright. Dau. of John and Amelia Wright. Helen became a school teacher and once taught on Pt. Peninsula. She later moved to Rochester where she died in 1944. She is buried in the Mt. Hope ceme-

tery in Rochester.

6. Myrtle Rice. Dau. of Bertrand and Frances Morrison Rice. Myrtle was single and living in Ogdensburg in 1938 according to her mother's obituary.

7. Nina Foster. Dau. of Charles and Olive Brewster Foster. She graduated from the Albany Business College and was a stenographer and bookkeeper for firms in Watertown and Potsdam. Ill health caused her to return to her parents' Esselstyne Street home in Cape Vincent. Nina was unmarried and died in 1913 at the age of 27.

8. Mary Parker Bliss. Dau. of John and Mary Holmes Parker. Mary was married to Joseph H. Bliss and they resided in Niagara Falls, Ontario where Mary died at the age of 28. They had one son, Joseph Harry Bliss, Jr.

9. Anna Grant. Dau. of William and Sarah Horton Grant. She worked for many years for the Watertown Savings Bank. Anna and her sister Nellie lived in Watertown for a time with their brother, Surrogate Judge Fred Grant. Later, they divided their time between Florida and Cape Vincent. Anna was unmarried and died, in Westville, NY in 1973 at the age of 85. She is buried in Riverside Cemetery, Cape Vincent.

10. Lulu Willoughby McDermott. Dau. of Byron and Laura House Willoughby. She was a practical nurse often caring for patients in their own homes. Lulu married Arthur McDermott. She died in 1940 at the age of 50 and is buried in Riverside Cemetery, Cape Vincent. She was survived by two sons, Dean and Dennis, and a daughter, Doris (Mrs. John) Countryman.

11. Marion Brewster. Daughter of Wayne and Rosetta Stevens Brewster. Marion was a school teacher as was her sister, Miss Marguerite Brewster. Marion was unmarried and died in 1968 at the age of 79. She is buried in Riverside Cemetery, Cape Vincent.

12. Grace Johnson Kieff. Dau. of Fredric and Adelia Rienbeck Johnson. Grace attended the New England Conservatory of Music in Boston. She married Henry M. Kieff of Watertown and resided her entire life in Cape Vincent. They had one son, Henry J. Kieff. Grace was the last surviving classmate of this group when she died in 1984 at the age of 93. She is buried in Riverside Cemetery, Cape Vincent.

13. Luella Bodette Bronson. Dau. of Francis and Ellen Mooney Bodette. Luella and her sister, Harriet Bodette Hosington, moved to Venice, Florida in 1925 and operated a bakery. The sisters spent summers in Bear Lake, Michigan where they operated a restaurant.

14. Ethel Grant Hammond. Dau. of William and Sarah Horton Grant. She married Dr. Eugene Hammond. They had two sons, Dr. Willis Hammond of Earlville and Dr. Vincent Hammond of Binghamton and a daughter, Eleanor Hammond Wilcox. Ethel lived in New Berlin, N.Y. and died there in 1949.

A RESPONSE TO THE MARCH INFORMER

Edna Mitchell
6305 May Blvd, Alexandria, VA 22310
28 February 2010

Yesterday the March issue of the "Informer" arrived in my mail box. Again, another great issue! Many thanks to both of you and your committee.

In reference to the map on Page 6 of the March Issue, I'm glad that Bill's father latched upon the map at an auction or sale and that the Dixon family preserved this very historical item locating the once numerous one room schools.

My brother Dan and I were members of the fourth generation of our Grant family to be connected with the Deferno School # 23. I've been told by older, and now deceased, family members that my Great grandmother Grant was an early teacher at the original stone Deferno School. That would be ca mid 1840s! She was Roena Smith, daughter of Abner Smith (Sr) and Honor Loveland Smith, early settlers near the Perch River hamlet. While teaching at the Deferno School, she met my Great grandfather, Daniel Lyman Grant, son of Henry Grant and Sarah Hotchkins Grant, early settlers in Deferno area and buried in Corbins Corners Cemetery along with a trio of young unmarried children. Roena, apparently, taught the younger siblings of her future husband.

On page 19 of the March issue of the "Informer", I read that Parmelia Smith was a teacher at the Clayton Center School in May 1846. Parmelia and Roena were sisters along with Almena and Eliza. All four sisters were school teachers before marriage. Almena Smith married the original George Brigham and they lived on Bald Rock Road. Many of their descendants still live in the Town of Clayton.

A brother of the Smith sisters, Abner Smith (Jr) was a teacher prior to becoming a farmer at "Smith's Corners." My Grandfather, Edward Philander Grant, recalled his Uncle Abner having unusual animals, including a flock of peacocks. Another Smith brother named Isaac lived on the road between Smith's Corners and Clayton Center; I think where Howard Mattis lived. My Grandmother Elizabeth Keyes Grant, native of Howe Island said her mother-in-law Roena Smith Grant spoke of another brother named Orlow who "went west".

My Grandfather, Edward Philander Grant, named for the husband of his Aunt Eliza and his father's brother Philander, merchant on Public Square in Watertown, often told of his school days at the stone Deferno School, especially the "winter terms" where he attended until past the age of 21 years. One of his teachers was a Mr. Alonzo Nims whom the pupils called "Ole Lon" behind his back. Pupils never walked

in the space between the teacher's desk and the stove. Reason? Mr. Nims chewed tobacco and was expert at spitting the juice across to the hot surface of the stove where the liquid would sizzle! No pupil wanted to be caught in that "cross fire"!

I have plenty of other tales that my paternal grandfather spun. Until his death when I was ten years old, I was his captive audience. My parents were just too busy with farm and household tasks to sit down and listen to Grandpa's stories. Dan wanted the punch line *now!*

Grandpa's tale got better with each retelling and had so much detail before he got into the "meat of the story...sort of like the historical novels of the late James Michener! As my paternal grandfather was born in late 1859, his school era events would have happened in the 1870s!

Most of my father's schooling was in the original stone Deferno school, the only structure ever built in that District #23 from native limestone. My father, Edward Lyman Grant, did attend the "new" frame Deferno School for one year before taken out of school at the age of 14 to help on the family farm. Only teacher I ever heard him mention was his very first teacher, Miss Grace Sherman, niece of Deferno farmers Fred and Charles Sherman. Later she married John Cantwell and they lived for years on lower part of Deferno Road which was technically in the Bald Rock #3 school district. The Cantwells always attended the Deferno School Christmas programs, Pedro card parties, and other social events held in the Deferno School back in the 1930s.

I had never before seen the Deferno pupils' listing on Page 12 of the "Informer." (Was it rescued by my brother from the home our "pack rat" Aunt Elsie Grant?) My father is listed as "Eddie Grant" but his full name was Edward Lyman Grant. In young adult life he was often called "Edward Grant Jr" but he wasn't really a "junior" as middle names of him and his father were different. In the school listing, my father is shown along with siblings Elsie, Walter, and Charles and their second cousin, Harold Grant (uncle of Clela Whitmore Estes.) Clela's mother, Gladys, must have been still too young to attend school during that 1911-1912 school year. The members of the Grant, House, and Hyde families are the middle of three generations of those families to attend the Deferno School. The parents of the first generation were all neighbors.

Back to page 7 in reference to the East Line Road #24 one room school. I believe that the grass fire that got out of control and burned the building happened in spring of 1927 not 1930. My mother, then Rema Carter, was living with her parents on East Line Road until she married my father on 10 October 1927 and moved to his rented farm on the currently named

(Continued on Page 7)

(Continued From Page 6)

Bevans Road within the Deferno School #23 district. My mother used to tell that, following the fire that took the East Line Road School, there was a split between the residents of that school district in regards to the future of the school. Most of the tenant farmers, who didn't pay school taxes, wanted to rebuild. Families, such as the Carters, who paid taxes on property they owned, didn't want the burden of building and equipping a new building plus wages of a teacher. The Carters (my grandparents, Audrey's parents, and my great grandmother) were among those proposing to transport the grade school pupils to the Clayton School along with the high school pupils. Grandpa Leon Carter even felt that the era of the one room schools was on its "last legs!" Meanwhile, my grandfather and his mother provided a place to conduct classes until the end of the school year, which I believe was 1927. This temporary school was held in my grandmother's home place, known as the "Fuller Farm House." It happened to be vacant and in a convenient location for the pupils.

Several years ago an uncaptioned photo appeared in the "Thousand Islands Sun" which showed several children standing in front of a farm house. In a subsequent issue of the paper, the late Mrs. Rosalind Kittle Pecor identified the children by names, including hers, and said they were pupils from the burned East Line Road School that relocated in an area farm house until close of school year.

Because a meeting had to be held to decide the fate of the East Line Road School, sharp divisions occurred. The Carters felt they had five strong votes in favor of not rebuilding the school. Then Aunt Eva Carter discovered that her name was not on the deed for the home that she and Uncle "Pete" had purchased from his grandmother. So about an extra half of our family property was quickly deeded to Eva Carter (Audrey's mother). I recall Aunt Eva joking about wanting Uncle Pete to give her R.O.W. (right of way) to her property with no road access which adjoined the house and lot in his name!

Even though my Great grandmother Henrietta S "Ettie" Fuller Carter was aged and in failing health, the family loaded her into a car and carried her to that important school meeting. Result of the voting closed the school forever, decided not to rebuild, and to transport all pupils to the school in Clayton. My great grandmother died in September, 1928; therefore the fire that destroyed the East Line Road School happened before the "Informer's" date of 1930. (Probably these facts will certainly stir up a "hornet's nest" between my brother and me!)

During the school year of Sep 1940-Jun 1941, the student population was split into three separate schools: Deferno School #23, the new Clayton Central School, and St. Mary's Catholic School. Still attending the last year of the Deferno School, with Miss Margaret Tobin

as teacher, were the boys pictured on page 11, plus June Wells and Walter Hyde, younger brother of Albert. For a while, from Nov. thru Feb., there were several children of a Gregory family who were staying on the Fred Sherman tenant farm, after the Bond family departed. Rosemary Calhoun was already a high school student at Clayton. All 7th and 8th grade pupils were required to attend the "new" Clayton Central School, so that included Bobby House and his cousin Patricia House. Bobby's parents decided to send their younger daughter Joan to Clayton Central. Other Deferno parents decided to send pupils under 7th grade to Clayton Central and that included Fodora Dodge, Fred Weller, Jr and Edna Grant. The Bond parents decided to send George and Loretta to St. Mary's Catholic School while Leo remained at Deferno until the family move in November. For most of the pupils going to Clayton, our first school "bus" was a large shiny blue Century Buick driven by Mrs. George (Leona) Weller. This auto was still being driven by the Wellers as late as mid-1955!

The Deferno School #23 closed forever in June 1941. In the spring of 1942, an auction was held to dispose of the building and its contents. (The land returned to the farm from which it had been taken. In fall of 1942, my father acquired the former school site when he purchased the Fred Sherman farm at an auction held to settle Mr. Sherman's estate. Since 1942, the school site has been owned by three generations of our Grant family.) At the school auction, the building was purchased by Mr. Albert Commod who had it moved to his nearby farm. It was used for farm storage until purchase of the Commod farms by New York State for the French Creek project in the 1970s. After the other Commod buildings were torn down, the old former school building remained intact for a few more years. Then in January 1980, while north to be with my Deferno-residing mother, before and following her surgery, I learned that the old school building had "bit the dust."

Now in reference to East Line Road School #24 on Page 12. In the list of 15 September 1843 tax payers, I find the name of my Great great grandfather Sidney Fuller and also John H. Graves, ancestor of Dan's wife, Sue.

On Page 16 in the photo of Grindstone Island pupils ca 1905 are parents of Bill's and my 1947 C.C.S. classmates: Ruth Blanchard, mother of Evelyn Spalsbury Sutton, and Harold Delaney, father of Ruth "Sally" Delany Slate. Evelyn's mother once told my father that she started first grade at the stone school in Deferno when her family lived on currently-named Bevans Road.

By the way, after the fire at St. Mary's School in summer of 1947, the Clayton Grange rented their hall to St. Mary's for about a year, until the fire damage was corrected. Former Clayton Grange Hall is still standing...the furniture warehouse located across State

HISTORICAL NOTES (1980)

Nina O. Comins
Town Historian

CAPE VINCENT SCHOOLS

Our schools in the years past were a far cry from the centralized district we have today but none-the-less a good educational system. For the Village children, there was a two story stone school house built about 1853 on the corner of Point and Lake Streets. This building became over crowded and a wooden structure was built on the corner of Esselstyne and Joseph Streets in 1878. About 1910, this school was also over crowded so more rooms were added to the original building which became the first high school.

The Township was divided into districts; each district with a one room school house where the children attended the first eight grades and those going on to High School commuted to either Cape Vincent or Clayton. After the Centralization of the Township schools, each individual school house was finally closed and the building sold at auction along with the contents. It is interesting to note that not one of these district schools has been torn down by man but unfortunately some have deteriorated by neglect and nature. Most of them are used in some way today.

In 1938, the Town voted to centralize but it was not until 1942 that the present school (elementary) was finished and used as both elementary and high school for Cape Vincent. At this time, the rural schools that were still active began closing and the children were transported into Cape Vincent to the new school at the head of Esselstyne Street.

Now, we all know that there was another centralization, this time with another Township, Clayton, so we now have an elementary school in each village and the Junior-Senior High School at Sand Bay which opened in September 1972.

Note: We use the list of Cape Vincent Schools that Marsha Lawrence lists in her ***One Room School Houses, A Tribute To The History Of Cape Vincent***. Marsha is the daughter of Rick and Sheila Lawrence and, as a senior at Thousands Islands High School in 2004, did this paper related to the history of Cape Vincent for a Cape Vincent Museum challenge. Marsha's paper was the winning paper. While the list is similar to that of Nina Comins, Marsha's is more recent and adds a few comments that she found in her research for her paper. We will also add pictures and articles that we have obtained after the school for which they pertain.

#1 At St. Lawrence stands on its original ground, on the old Johnson farm, and was next to the last to close. It now belongs to Jack Thompson and is used for storage.



#1 St. Lawrence School

From an undated *T. I. Sun* and written by Eva Rexford as the Thousand Islands Museum News

One of the special joys of writing this column is the response from our readers – your comments, additions, and your own special memories. This picture and the accompanying letter, received a little over a week ago, are one of those rewards. Arlie F. Gorman, of Canandaigua sent us this great school picture (on page 9), with an accompanying letter. We quote:

“The enclosed photo is of the pupils in the one-room school in St. Lawrence Corners, in June 1928. All eight grades were taught in those rural schools. I have many memories connected with this photo. The inkwells in the desks, the pail of drinking water, where everyone drank out of the same dipper, the long recitation seat up front, where classes were held while others studied at their desks, the round oak stove in the center of the room, where the strongest boys in the room filled it with large chunks of wood, outside toilets surrounded by hollyhocks which attracted the bees and scared us stiff, recess time when we played ball, tag, and alley, alley, over.

“I remember Thomas B. Stoel was the superintendent of schools and once every year he traveled up a gravel road from Clayton to spend all day observing the teacher and children.

“When we had completed the eighth grade, we took our regents at the Clayton High School which was situated where the Municipal Bldg. now stands. At that time, J. L. Cummings was the principal. There were no buses for the children in the rural schools. We depended on parents or neighbors or walked to school.

“Martha Glass was the teacher. The picture was taken by Arlie Gorman's mother.

“The children are: front row, left to right: Gerald Halladay, Laurie Ingerson, Marjorie Cummings, Donald

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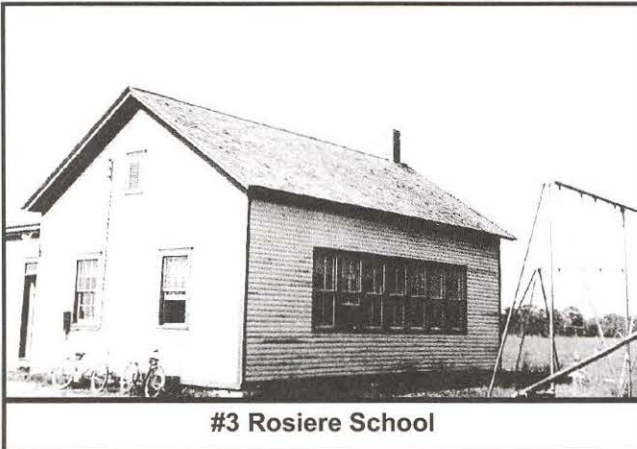
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Cummings, Esther Best, Roy Halladay, Arlie Cummings, Rosemary Cornaire (in front of Arlie), Jessie Joles, Ruth Joles, back row, left to right: Manley Johnson, Raymond Comins, Hubert Johnson, Elmer Best, Eric Ingerson, James Comins, Doris Joles, Bessie Joles, Margery Knight, and Eleanor Garnsey."



#2 Was on Carleton Island and fell down some years ago from neglect. However, this school was closed before the centralization of the districts and the children were boated to the main land to the Millens Bay school first and then into Cape Vincent.

#3 Located at Rosiere, stands where it always has, on the corner of Mason Road and County Rt. 4, and is a permanent residence.



#3 Rosiere School

(From the paper of Marsha Lawrence)

Mr. Edward Lawrence attended the Rosiere School House (#3)

Marsha: Who were your teachers?

Mr. Lawrence: Francois Beshaw and Vera Hurley

Marsha: How many students were in your school/grade?

Mr. Lawrence: There was 4 in my class and maybe 16 to 18 in the whole school.

Marsha: Can you describe a typical day?

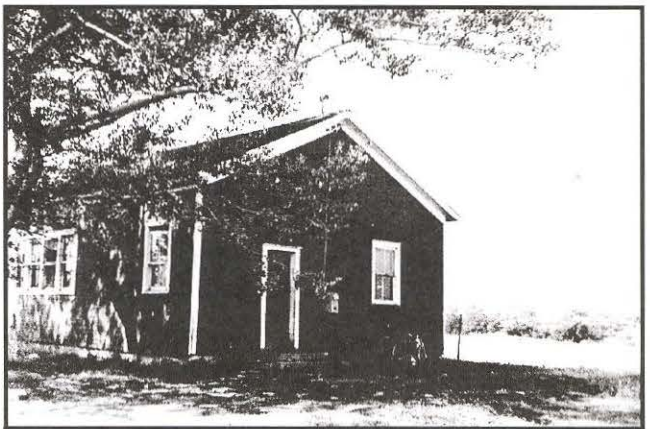
Mr. Lawrence: There were chairs up front that you sat in when it was your grade's turn to do their lesson.

The classes were grouped together. The only library was a large wooden cupboard. There was a coal stove in the center of the room and when it was real cold in the morning we would all set around the stove for 3 or 4 hours until the school heated up.

Marsha: Do you have a favorite memory from your one room school house days?

Mr. Lawrence: I lived with my grandparents when I attended that school. That was fun, but my least favorite memory was on Friday nights when my ride home to my parents would miss me and I would stand there on the corner waiting for hours. A couple of times I walked home.

#4 Known as the Brown School, stands on the State Road (Rt. 12 E) and is a summer home.



#4 Brown School

(From the paper of Marsha Lawrence)

Mr. Kent Wiley attended the Brown School House (#4)

Marsha: Who were your teachers?

Mr. Wiley: Mrs. Ruth Stanley, Sarah Grenisen and Irene Randal

Marsha: How many students were in your school/grade?

Mr. Wiley: There were 2 or 3 in my class at any one time. In the end it was just Florence Bourcy and me in the eighth grade. There were 10 to 18 kids in the whole school. A lot of share cropping was done back then, so families were always moving in and out of the area.

Marsha: Can you describe a typical day?

Mr. Wiley: We would have one recess in the morning, play at the noon hour, and have another one in the afternoon. You started out at 6 years old in the 1st grade—there was no kindergarten. My sister and I would walk a half mile and I would protect her.

Marsha: Do you have a favorite memory from your one room school house days?

Mr. Wiley: We put on Christmas plays for the families

(Continued on Page 10)

(Continued From Page 9)
in the neighborhood. We would go to somebody's woods and help ourselves to a Christmas tree. Nobody cared in those days whose property you were on. It got us out of school anyway. An Oh Henry candy bar salesman used to come through sometimes and he would give us free samples.

#5 At what used to be known as Wilson Settlement is on its original site and is used for storage by Donald Mason.



#5 Wilson Settlement School

(From the paper of Marsha Lawrence)
Mr. Alfred Lawrence attended the Wilson Settlement School House (#5)

Marsha: Who were your teachers?

Mr. Lawrence: Valentine Ryan who became Mrs. Fred Wiley, Mrs. Gray and Mrs. Blanche Webster,

Marsha: How many students were in your school/grade?

Mr. Lawrence: About 4 in my class. 15-16 total.

Marsha: Can you describe a typical day?

Mr. Lawrence: Everyone had little chores to do before school started like carrying wood, getting water from the well, sweeping the floor and washing the windows. We took turns with the chores. We had 15 minutes of recess in the morning, a half hour for lunch and 15 minutes in the afternoon. We carried our lunch in a bag to school. I have always thought it was a good education because you were there for all the classes. You could listen to the other grades reciting their lessons and either learn things ahead of time, or review what you had already learned. We had good teachers, too.

Marsha: Do you have a favorite memory from your one room school house days?

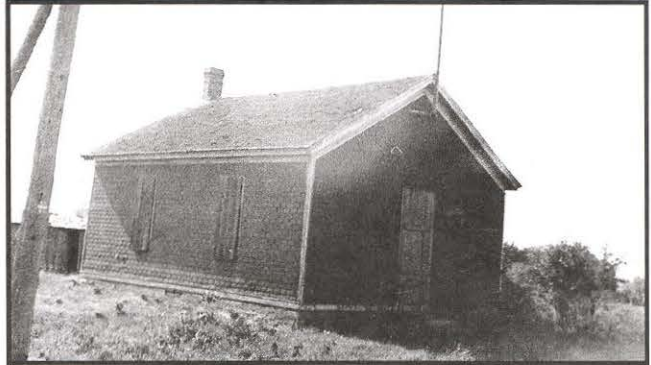
Mr. Lawrence: We used to have a lot of time outdoors, like planting trees on Arbor Day. I used to check my trap line on the way to and from school and one morning I was sprayed by a skunk and the teacher sent me home.

#6 Used to stand on what was the corner of Warren Settlement. It was purchased by Frank Docteur, who moved it to Millens Bay (on the old road) where his son, Francais, used it for a repair garage. The building is now overgrown with vegetation and has not been used in some years.



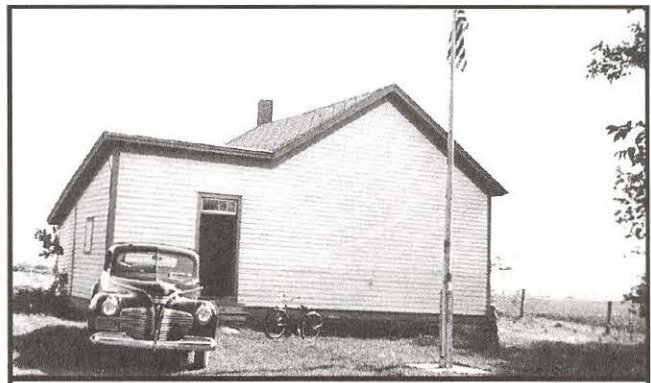
#6 Warren Settlement School

#7 The Bedford School (or Pond School) was purchased by Percy Klock and moved to his farm, but is in disrepair.



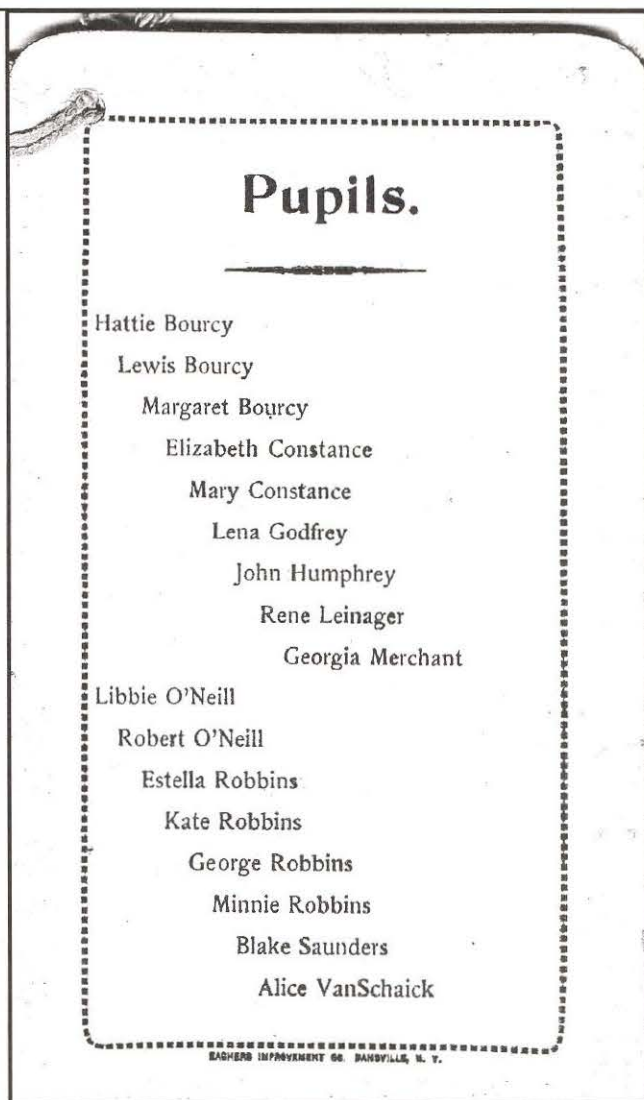
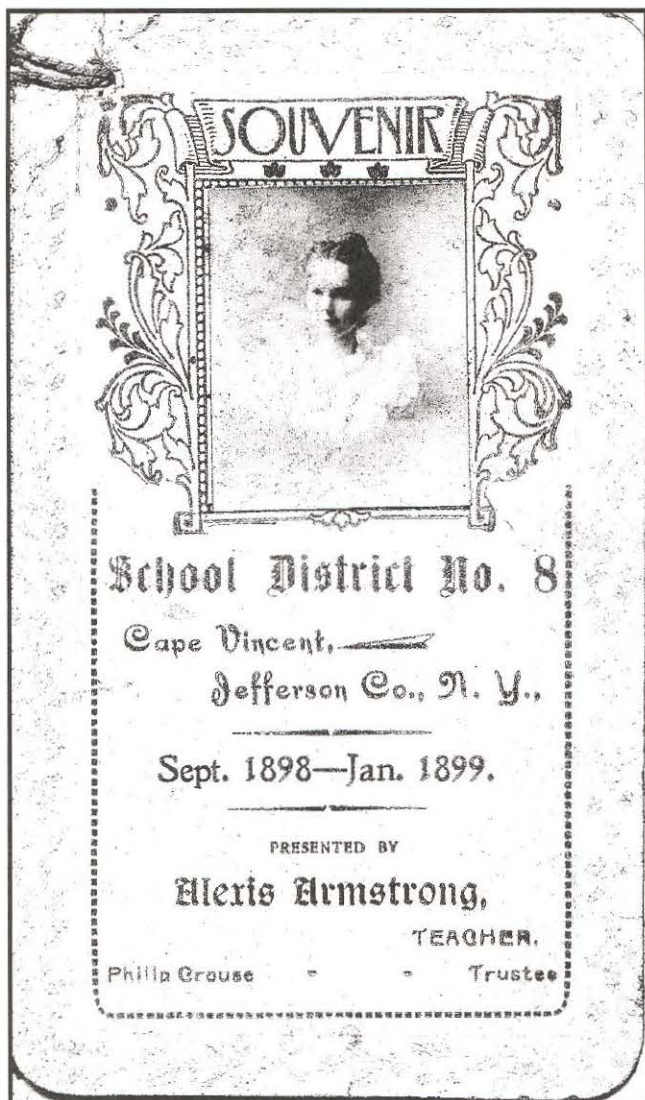
#7 Bedford (or Pond) School

#8 Located on Dablon Point Road, it is now used as a summer home.



#8 Pleasant Valley School

(Continued on Page 11)



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#9 This building used to stand south of Rosiere [by Bourquin's] but was moved to the farm of Adrian White after he purchased it for a garage.



#9 French Settlement School

(From the paper of Marsha Lawrence)
Mr. Adrian White attended the French Settlement School House (#9)

Marsha: Who were your teachers?

Mr. White: One teacher—Elizabeth Dunlay

Marsha: How many students were in your school/grade?

Mr. White: 28 kids in school, 6 in my age group.

Marsha: Can you describe a typical day?

Mr. White: The older boys took care of the stove. My dad sold them wood for the school. We did what we were supposed to do and studied. The teacher had quite a heavy ruler and that helped. Nobody challenged her authority and if they did they hoped it didn't get back home. We studied reading, writing, arithmetic and geography. For writing we were taught the Palmer Method. It was very readable. I took civics and algebra my last year, because if you finished your other classes the teacher would start you on high

(Continued on Page 12)

(Continued From Page 11)
school courses.

Marsha: Do you have a favorite memory from your one room school house days?

Mr. White: My best memory was when I quit! The noon hour was a favorite part, though. We had lunch and recess. My corner was always very cold back there. We would huddle around the stove when we first arrived in the winter. It was a little over a mile to walk—we had no buses.

#10 Was the Village School at the corner of Joseph and Esselstyne Streets. For many years this was a vacant lot used as a skating rink in the winter time. There now stands a summer home on this spot.

Excerpts from

The History of Education in Our Community

Miss Elizabeth Dunlay

(Taken from the 1946 *Lighthouse*)

Schools have been in existence since the early settlement of the town. Before 1820, R. R. Hasler, a noted engineer and mathematician, planned a normal school but failed to see it established. Many of our ancestors attended school in log structures.

The first school in Cape Vincent was located on upper Market Street near the old cemetery. Little is known about this school. In 1832, a school was built at the corner of Lake and Point Streets. The children who attended the classes upstairs went in the Lake Street door. The younger children entered by the Point Street door. The boys sat on one side of the room and the girls sat on the opposite side.

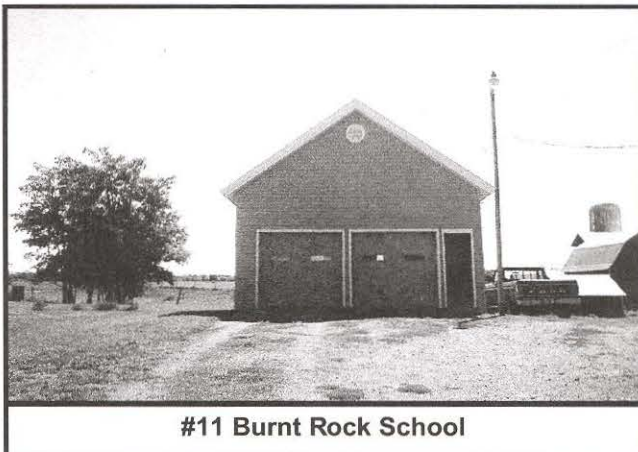
In 1867 schools in New York State were made free to both the rich and poor. An over crowded condition in the school developed about 1872. It was necessary to use two other buildings in the village. A larger school became another necessity. In 1878 this stone structure was abandoned as a school. It was then used as a two family dwelling until 1894 when it was razed. A boarding house was erected on the site. (The present residence of Alfred Green.)

In 1878 the school was completed at the corner of Esselstyne and Joseph Streets. At that time there were two class rooms on each floor with cloak rooms off each room. The two rooms upstairs were separated by rolling doors so that they could be made into one big room. The building was heated by four stoves. Some of the subjects taught were the 3 R's, General History, Latin and Steel's Physics. About 1886 there were a principal and five teachers. The first graduation exercises from this school were held in 1893 in Quinland Hall (Over Aubertine's Electric). There were two graduates. Each gave an address.

About 1905 two wings were built on, a high school department organized, the numbers of teachers increased, a steam heating system installed and other improvements were made. By 1915 the faculty had been increased to eight teachers, a laboratory installed, library increased and basketball, football and baseball teams organized.

For many years this building was inadequate in size and facilities. One of the first steps in obtaining a new school was to centralize the rural districts of which there were 17. As the plan of centralization was rather new to a majority of the people, progress was slow in the beginning. Finally in 1938 a vote for a new building was taken. In July 1941 the new building was started. It was completed in September, 1942 at a cost of \$207,324. Dedication ceremonies were held on Oct. 28, 1942.

#11 Was located on the corner of the Millens Bay Road and Burnt Rock Road but was purchased by Carl Mason and moved to his farm for a garage. His grandson Greg lives there today.



#11 Burnt Rock School

(From the paper of Marsha Lawrence)

Mr. Buster Margrey attended the Burnt Rock School House (#11)

Marsha: Who were your teachers?

Mr. Margrey: Gladys Weber

Marsha: How many students were in your school/grade?

Mr. Margrey: There were only 5 kids in the whole school in 1933/34. When my father went to school there, there were 48 kids. In the schools last year there were only 2 students.

Marsha: Can you describe a typical day?

Mr. Margrey: It really was the best education you can get. If you were in 4th grade you listened to the 5th and 6th grade lessons and learned a lot more, if you paid attention. We had a couple of recesses, one in the forenoon and one in the afternoon. We would go

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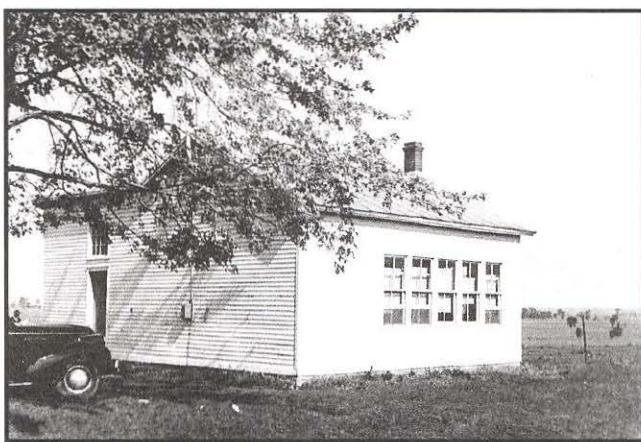
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and chase the girls and bother them. We packed our own lunch. It was rough, but we got through and it made us better people.

Marsha: Do you have a favorite memory from your one room school house days?

Mr. Margrey: I would go down on Sunday afternoon and start the fire so that it wouldn't be so cold the next day. We had to go down the road to a neighbors to get drinking water. That was one of my jobs. It was only about 100 to 200 yards down the road. All the windows were on one side of the school house because some big wig from Albany came up and said that was how it should be. The toilets were out back. That was great in the winter time. Ha Ha.

#12 Known as the Laird School, this building stands on its original site. It was purchased by Willard Stumpf to use for storage.



#12 Laird School

(By JCNYGS member Phyllis Putnam-March 2010)

I was 5 years, 10 months, when I started first grade at the Laird School, on the Willard Stumpf farm, in September of 1939. Willard Stumpf was my father and the school was just up the hill from our house. My mother walked me across the road (now 12E) and up the hill, along a path that ran beside the pasture, to the school. My mother handed me over to the teacher and left. My memory is that there were 13 kids at the school at that time, but the only ones that I can remember are Betty Hollenbeck, Gertie Jones, Jerry Jones and possibly 2 Patchen boys who lived either where Maloney's live or in the house across the road from them. If there were 13, there must have been 6 more, but I can't imagine who they were.

The second year Donna Docteur and my sister, Eunice, would have gone too. But there still must be more kids that I don't remember. Then when I was in 3rd grade (1941), I think there was a law or something that kids had to go to the Central school for seventh grade, because that year there was only Donna,

Eunice, Gertie Jones and myself as students. Then for my 4th grade in addition to me there was just Donna, Eunice and Bobby Gosier.

When I first went to school, no one had talked to me about using the outhouse. We always had a bathroom at our house and I don't think that I quite knew about using the outhouse. A couple of times I wet myself in school and I didn't say anything until the teacher noticed it and sent me home.

Eunice says that the same thing happened with her. She was afraid to use the outhouse too. Wouldn't you have thought that either mother or teacher would have taken us out to show us the outhouse? You would have thought that they would be especially vigilant with Eunice after their experience with me. One thing that I was afraid of was that one of the boys would come out too. I do not think that the boys would have been allowed out at the same time, would they? Something that I hadn't thought of before - the teacher must have had to use the outhouse too, but when would she have gone? During recess? Wouldn't we have noticed?

Speaking of the outhouse - I remember that my father cleaned it out once a year. It seems to me that the cleaning may have been in the late summer just before school started in September. I suppose that that was when it would have been the driest. The outhouse was a two-holer with a cement pit below. I think that there was a trapdoor in the back that opened to let access to the pit for cleaning. What a job! Was it only my father that did it, or did other fathers pitch in also? He pitched it out by hand into the manure wagon. But then where did he dump it. Oy.

When I was in school my first year Eunice would sneak away from my mother and come to school. It wasn't that far to go, but what a scare that must have been for my mother, especially the first time. The teacher didn't have a phone or anyway to contact her or anyone. Suppose there had been a real emergency. In the spring of my first year Eunice turned 5 and she wanted to go to school so badly that the teacher let her come regularly from about April on. I wonder if she was officially registered, or if the teacher just let her come?

I remember there was a recitation bench in the front of the room, just a bench, right? Did we just hold our books on our laps? How did we write there, or didn't we? One wall was all windows and the teacher's desk was in the back corner opposite the windows. And the big wood burning stove took up a good deal of space. I remember my father brought wood in the fall to fill the school wood shed, but did other fathers bring wood too? Or did my father get paid to fill the wood shed? Or did he just do it out of the goodness of his heart? And apparently there was no coal, or the fire wouldn't have been so totally dead in the morning. I think that my father did these chores around the school because the school was on his property and we lived so close.

(Continued of Page 14)

(Continued From Page 13)

Plus he was just good hearted and also he had more children in school than did the other fathers. Speaking of the wood burning stove: In the winter that stove would be totally cold when school started in the morning because the teacher had to start it when she got there and sometimes it would be hours before the room would warm up enough to take our coats off. Those wintery days were started with us kids sitting around the round oak stove while the teacher (I remember Mrs. Hollenbeck in particular) reading to us, and I believe that we sang also. She couldn't do much in the way of teaching while we all, including the teacher, were bundled up. One reason that it took so long to heat the room was because of the high arched ceiling. Why would you have high ceilings in a school that was used mostly in the winter? At home our father 'banked' the furnace in the evening with coal so that there were embers in the morning, but the school had no coal. Maybe if we left school at 3 or 4 in the afternoon, the coal wouldn't have lasted through the night anyway.

I don't think that we ever had a snow day while at the 'little' school. What happened if the teacher couldn't get to school? Later I remember storms that closed the roads so that the 'big' school was closed, so it would seem that in the four years that I went to the 'little' school there must have been some serious snow storms that closed the roads.

I remember that first time at school Betty and Gertie and some of the other kids played a game with me. Betty would tell me a secret and tell me not to tell Gertie. Then Gertie would tell me that she wouldn't be my friend unless I told her the secret. So of course I told - I was 5. Then Betty would scold me for telling, and I would promise to keep the next secret, and so she told me another and said not to tell Gertie, but of course I told.

Then there was Eely Olly Over, throwing a ball over the school. It was "All the way over" or "Half way over." I'm not sure now how the game went. We students played by ourselves during recess, with no teacher supervision. We seem to have made up our own games. I can't say that I ever remember a teacher coming out at recess with us or teaching us any games, or providing us with equipment though there was a ball. Whether the ball belonged to the school or a student, I don't know. In the winter we took sleds and slid down the hill behind the school. Again, no adult around. I suppose that we had hour long recesses. When recess was over, the teacher had a long-handled bell that she stood in the doorway and rang to call us back to classes.

My teachers were

First and second - Mrs. Hollenbeck
 Third - Marie Branch
 Fourth - Mrs. Webster
 Fifth (at the 'big' school) Marie Branch
 Sixth - Mrs. Chisamore
 Seventh - Miss Dunlay

Eighth (and Algebra) - Mrs. Webster
 Math and Science- Mr. Clough
 English - Paul Sullivan
 Social Studies - Sheridan Sullivan
 Business - Mr. Wetterhahn
 Language (which I didn't take) - Mr. Bosco
 Industrial Arts - Mr. Edsall
 Music - Mrs. Beckwith & Mr. Eastman
 Principal - Mr. Youmans

This next picture is in the little school house on the hill. Eun is in the first seat, then Phyllis, Donna, and I think that must be Danna sitting with her, but Donna says no. And the last girl is Gerty Jones. When I started first grade there were 13 kids in this school, so there must have been another row or two to the right of these. The teacher's desk is on the left. Notice the school bell sitting on the desk. There was a recitation bench across the front of the room. How was this picture taken inside the room, because I don't think there were even flash bulbs at this time? Maybe the sunlight shining in was enough. This must have been first, second or third grade for Eun because she went to the 'big' school for 4th grade. There was no kindergarten at this time.



About 1940 at the Laird School on the Stumpf farm: Donna Docteur Abbass, Phyllis Stumpf Putnam, Gerty Jones, Eunice Stumpf May



On the back of the following picture (on page 15), it says: School Picnic 1941. Back Row: Betty Hollenbeck, Vera Hollenbeck (teacher), Jerry Jones. Front Row: Bobby Gosier, Phyllis Stumpf (must have been in 2nd grade), Eunice Stumpf (first grade), Donna Docteur (first grade), Gertie Jones.

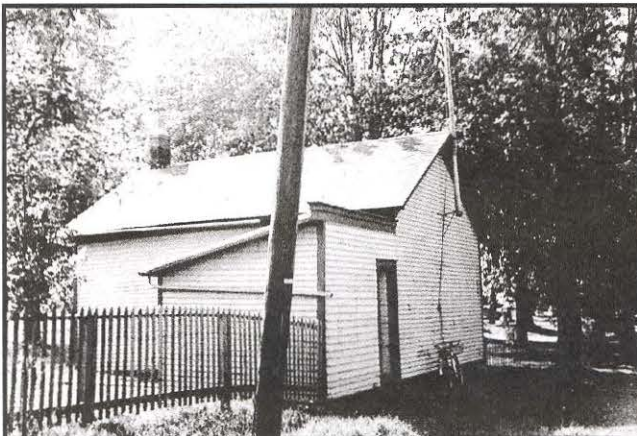
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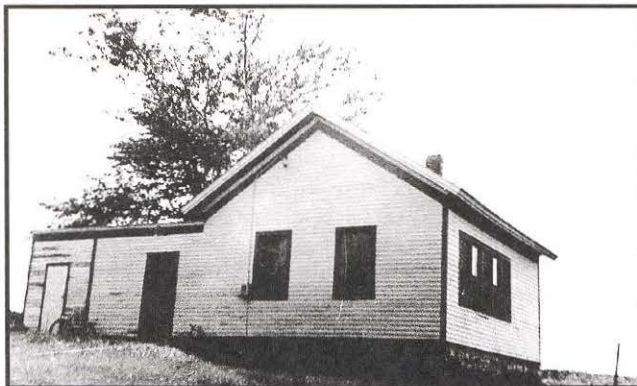
(Editor's note: The original picture does not allow us to improve Vera Hollenbeck's face.)

#13 The Scotch Brook School was purchased by Howard Radley and moved to his farm for a garage, where it still stands.



#13 Scotch Brook School

#14 The Sand Bay School was the last of the schools to close. It was first purchased by someone from the Three Mile Bay area but later was sold to Robert Lennox of the Halfway Chalet. This building burned down in 1982.



#14 Sand Bay School

One Room School House Remembered

Mrs. Melrose Pelow

On March 28, 1979 there appeared in the Town and Country News, a picture loaned by Helen Marsh Seymour, of some children on the top of the boulder in the yard of the Sand Bay Schoolhouse. This picture was of special interest to me because I snapped it, as I was teaching there at that time. I am sending in another picture taken the same day with older pupils of the school standing in front of the boulder.



Children of Sand Bay School taken 1932, Front Row: Doris Cornaire; 2nd Row, from left, Genevieve Marsh, Helen Marsh, George Marsh and Howard Maloney; Third Row, (sitting) - Verna Constance, Helen Lennox, Vera Constance and Ella Lennox; Fourth Row (standing) Harold Zimmer, Reggie Giltz and Carlton Marsh.

This little one room school house itself is of special interest to me, not only because I taught my first day of school there 50 years ago this past September 3, but because my father, Alfred Docteur attended the school as a boy of seven years in 1871. The school house had just been built and was opening its door for the first time for the winter term. The summer term of that year he had attended the 'old school' which was located on the north side of the Clayton Cape Vincent

(Continued on Page 16)

(Continued From Page 15)

Road on the Robert Percy land now owned by Mr. Vincent DiRuzzo. Mr. Percy deeded the site of the present school in exchange for the old building and grounds. I understand the old school was later used as a granary. This building can be seen in the picture behind Genevieve Marsh's head. Little did that seven year old boy, who spoke no English, only French, dream as he stepped into his new school that exactly 100 years later another new school, considerably larger, would be being built almost across the road on the next hill towards St. Lawrence Corners which would open its doors the fall of 1972 and be called Thousand Island Central School.

Not only did my father attend this little school with his brothers and sisters but the older of his own children did too. His grandchildren also, the children of his sons John and Fred, were attending the school when it was closed because of centralization. If centralization had not come about his great grandchildren, the children of Lyle Docteur (Fred's son) would also have attended this same school for part of their elementary education.

It was the same for almost all of the families in the district. At the time of its closing in 1953 the children of the school represented from the second to the fifth generation of their families to attend one or both of those old schools. Little wonder that sentiment played such a large part in the struggle of the people of the district to keep their school from closing and it was, in fact, one of the last of the one room schools in this part of the state to succumb to consolidation.

It is an interesting coincidence, to me at least, that my father who, the year before the "new" school opened, was shedding his little boy ways and getting ready to start on his life's journey by becoming a schoolboy the next year, finished his 90 year journey the year after the school closed.

I never attended this school, as we younger members of our family went to the one at St. Lawrence Corners, our land being in both districts and our home midway between the two schools. The structure of this building was somewhat different from the one at Sand Bay, and yet they were similar, as were most rural schools.

Four teachers taught this school during the years I was there, namely, Florence Beadle, Ethel Farr, Martha Glass and Noreen Cornaire.

I couldn't know either when I left there at the end of the eighth grade that I would return ten years later as teacher.

Our art work consisted of sand box arrangements, pictures drawn and colored at the desks or drawn with

chalk on the blackboard during snowy or rainy noon-times or recesses. Some seasonal projects were carried out also.

Our music was the usually happy shouts and laughter coming from the school yard or an occasional sing-along at the old piano.

Our gym began by walking to school, then lugging a pail of water from the nearest neighbor's well for the day's use. There was the splitting of kindling and carrying of fuel from the school shed to the stove, as well as doing our own janitor work. At school's closing there was the walk home and the allotted chores awaiting there.

Our sports were games such as allie, allie over, baseball, pom pom pull away, tag, stealing sticks and others, as well as skating on the pond and skiing and sliding on the surrounding hills.

Perhaps we were underprivileged, gymwise and sportwise but if we were we didn't know it and somehow our kind produced some pretty sturdy bodies and some keen minds too. Many of these country children went on to high school and some on to college.

I was very fortunate to have as pupils, such fine young people in both schools. They were cooperative, pleasant, unselfish and willing workers. Those who did well in one subject helped some one else who was having a difficult time with it. The older students helped the younger ones and if the helper needed a little information, the teacher was called upon.

The rural school, as I knew it as teacher was a place where the day's schedule could be scrapped and the lessons fitted in where they best belonged in order to cover the work of all eight grades in a nine to four day. It was a place where a pupil who was having trouble with an assignment at his desk could come to the teacher's desk for a little help while the reciting class waited quietly and patiently for their fellow student.

It was a place where boys and girls could go beyond their present grade if they were capable of doing so and some did.

It was a place where an eighth grade boy or girl could study harder and take more regents in January instead of waiting until June. Some did and one boy, with the permission of our Superintendent, Thomas B. Stoel, came to school in the forenoon only and went home at noon to help his father on the farm in the afternoon.

It was a place where on one cold winter day we decided that a cold lunch on a cold day was not the

(Continued on Page 17)

(Continued From Page 16)

world's greatest treat so we brought dishes, cocoa and sugar to school. Then the children and I took turns bringing milk for hot cocoa, soup or whatever was easy to heat on our stove and so, we enjoyed hot lunches.

It was also a place where we discovered that we were not doing our best work the last half hour of the day so we cut our noon time in half and dosed at 3:30.

I believe all this taught those children to work together as a group for the best interests of one and all.

I could go on and on telling of happenings in these two old schools but will relate one incident from each one.

I went to Wolfe Island one weekend with my brother and his wife. We left there Monday morning in time to reach Sand Bay for beginning of classes but Lady Luck didn't ride with us that day. We had not one, but two flat tires. When we reached the school, it was past nine o'clock. Not a pupil was in sight and not a sound was to be heard. Perhaps, I thought, they had all decided to go home when they found no teacher but when I opened the door I beheld a heart warming sight. Most of the children were at their desks quietly working while one older girl was up front hearing the small folks read. That was their way in both schools where, except for minor and infrequent incidents, discipline was just a word in the dictionary.

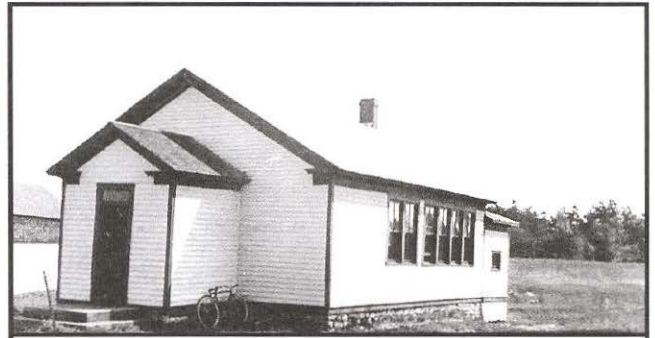
In the St. Lawrence school year we had a large first grade. We decided we needed a table for them to work at. Somewhere we found an old flat surfaced door to which we nailed lengths of 4" x 4"s for legs. Then we covered the top with bright linoleum. We found that the table was too high for little folks on orange crate chairs so one morning I took a hand saw to school. Recess time found us busily cutting off one of the legs. The door opened and in walked Mr. Stoel. He must have found our project worth while for he took the saw in hand and finished the task for us. Many hours were indeed spent around that sturdy old table.

In these days when the old rural schools are either disappearing or being converted into homes or workshops, it pleases me to note that the two in which I played my small part are still standing just as they were meant to be—schoolhouses. Although the centralized schools offer many opportunities and advantages the rural school never could, I still feel there was much to be said for these small, abandoned places of learning.

If schools could talk perhaps that little one at Sand Bay might say something like this to the one on the next hill. "New School, you are much larger and more magnificent than I, but remember I was here helping children learn for a full century before you. I have seen so many things you will never see. I have seen woodlands become farms, trails become roads and

then those dirt roads, (often mud), turn to hard pavement. I have seen motors replace horses and a little log cabin on the corner, built from a splendid growth of pines on that same corner, grow into the Haff Way Chalet. I am now very old with a hole in my roof and windows broken by thoughtless people. However, I still stand proud and erect on my hill and remember back 108 years when I was new and for my day, magnificent too. I am still in pretty good shape for my age and I am content to spend my remaining years listening to school sounds and young voices floating down from your hill to mine."

#15 Located at Millens Bay this school is now a summer home on its original site.



#15 Millens Bay School

(From the paper of Marsha Lawrence)

Ms. Mary Docteur attended the Millens Bay School House (#15)

Marsha: Who were your teachers?

Ms. Docteur: Mildred Docteur—good teacher, Mrs. Tobin and Ruth Stanley

Marsha: How many students were in your school/grade?

Ms. Docteur: There were 10—15 total in the school. Quite a bunch of kids. Two or three would be in one grade.

Marsha: Can you describe a typical day?

Ms. Docteur: The day lasted from 9:00 to 4:00. All the kids were in one room and the teacher went from class to class. There was spelling, English, arithmetic, and geography. We learned a lot more back then, than kids do now.

Marsha: Do you have a favorite memory from your one room school house days?

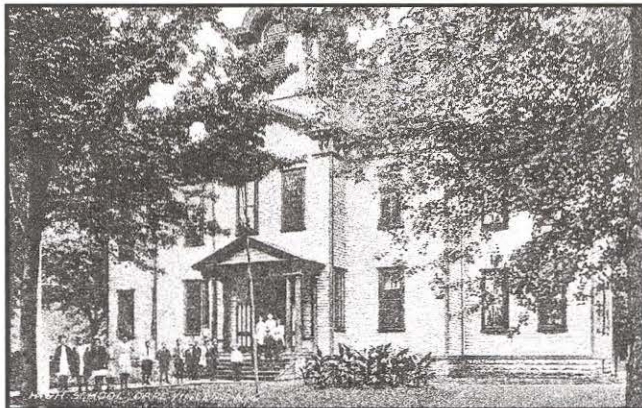
Ms. Docteur: I hated school. I would have much rather been out running in the woods. I guess arithmetic was my favorite class though.

#16 Located on Grenadier Island where it still stood in 1981.

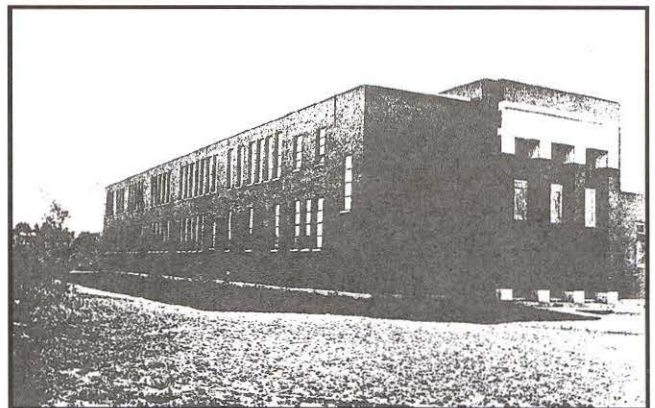
#17 Was located on the corner of Mason and Gosier Road. Purchased by Elmer Gosier, it was moved to his farm for a garage. The building is now owned by Ennis Mason and used for storage.



Old CV School 1897 - **Front Row:** Mary Fitzgerald, Ethel Grant, Isabel Wenborne, Fred (?), Berton (?). **Second Row:** Harry Smith, Ruth Pigden, A. Van Louven, Florence Blum, Marguerite Brewster, Ulalia (?) Gibbs, (?) Barry, Evelyn Bryant, Grace Johnson. **Third Row:** Phil Cole, Grace Willoughby, Franklin Kilborn, Clarence Mance, Cameron Gravelle, Leo Murphy, Charles Roat, Courtland Van Louven, Edna Kesler, Thomas Brewster. **Fourth Row:** Art McKinley, Cornelius Mance, Cora Robinson, Doris Clark, Florence Millen, Emily Blum, Maud Londraville, Mary Beth Parker, Rose Gamble, Amie Mance, John Londraville. **Fifth Row:** Johnny Dennee (head turned – soldier in World War I). **Sixth Row:** Robert Gault, Fank Fruman, Robert Dunning, Karl Kesler, Herbert Schram, (?) Dennee, Fred Rivers, Harry Downey, Ella Gault, Fannie Wills, Katie McGowan, Maud Barry, George Romang. **Top Row:** Charles Horne, Alice Hinman Armstrong (Teacher), Ethel Freeman.



Old Cape Vincent High School



New Cape Vincent High School (1942)

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For more information - please call 785-7769 during the hours of 1-4 p.m. and 785-7780 at any other time.



6th and 7th Grade 1912 CV Old School—Front Row: Gladys Mentry, Margaret Joyner, Anna Fitzgerald, Mary Mason, Helen O'Neil, (?) Hollenbeck, Angeline Willoughby, Nellie Horton, Aileen Fitzgerald. Middle Row: (?) Brady, UNKNOWN, Gradon Reo, O. Mason, UNKNOWN, C. Gregor, Saunie (?) Downey, L. Hurst, Everett Robbins. Top Row: UNKNOWN, Edgar Cody, Lester Majo, L. Hurst, K. Steblin, T. Best, UNKNOWN, Frank Willoughby, Tom O'Neil, UNKNOWN. Teacher: George Radley

TEACHER'S CONTRACT

SECTIONS 561 TO 566 INCLUSIVE OF THE EDUCATION LAW OF 1916

I Herna F. Favret of Cape Vincent county of Jefferson a duly qualified teacher, hereby contract with the board of trustees of district no. 17 town of Cape Vincent county of Jefferson to teach the public school of said district for the term of 38 consecutive weeks, except as hereafter provided, commencing Sept. 4 1917 at a weekly compensation of 7 dollars and 50 cents payable at the end of each thirty days during the term of such employment. One per cent of the amount of each order or warrant issued in payment of the compensation required to be paid hereunder shall be deducted as provided by article 43 B of the Education Law relative to the State Teachers Retirement Fund.

And the board of trustees of said district hereby contract to employ said teacher for said period at the said rate of compensation, payable at the times herein stated.

Said board of trustees reserve the right to provide for a vacation or vacations of not more than.....weeks in the aggregate, during said term, which vacation shall not count as a part of the term of service above referred to.

Dated July 30 1917
Herna F. Favret

Teacher

W. H. Reasoner

Trustees

This contract shall be executed in duplicate and one copy thereof given to the teacher and one retained by the board.

TEACHER'S CONTRACT

SECTIONS 561 TO 566 INCLUSIVE OF THE EDUCATION LAW OF 1916

I Blanche B Zimmerman of Cape Vincent county of Jefferson a duly qualified teacher, hereby contract with the board of trustees of district no. 10 town of Cape Vincent county of Jefferson to teach the public school of said district for the term of 40 consecutive weeks, except as hereafter provided, commencing Sept 6th 1927 at a weekly compensation of 30 dollars and _____ cents payable at the end of each thirty days during the term of such employment. Four per cent of the amount of each order or warrant issued in payment of the compensation required to be paid hereunder shall be deducted as provided by article 43 B of the Education Law relative to the State Teachers Retirement Fund.

And the board of trustees of said district hereby contract to employ said teacher for said period at the said rate of compensation, payable at the times herein stated.

Said board of trustees reserve the right to provide for a vacation or vacations of not more than.....weeks in the aggregate, during said term, which vacation shall not count as a part of the term of service above referred to.

Dated Mar 7th 1927
Blanche B Zimmerman

Teacher

E. J. [Signature]
J. W. [Signature]
Chas. [Signature]
Trustees

This contract shall be executed in duplicate and one copy thereof given to the teacher and one retained by the board.

Remembrances of the old Cape Vincent High School from the years 1936 through 1949

I am Jeanne Branche Thompson and was born on Oct. 24, 1932, daughter of Lewis V. and Doris Branche. I was the sixth of their seven children – Betty, Bill, Tommie, Jack, Pat, Jeanne and Mary Lou.

In September of 1936 when I was four I started the first grade (there was no kindergarten) in the Insurance Company Office on the corner of Broadway and Market Street. There were two rooms on the left side of the building with the big room with the stove as the classroom and the other room was our cloakroom. Miss Hicks was our teacher.

I vividly I recall my first day because I did not want to go. My brother Tommie had told me how awful school was and I believed everything he said. I remember that my Mom walked me to school and when we got to Market Street I sat down, cried and said I didn't want to go. My mother and some of the other mothers tried their best to get me to move. My grandfather Grimshaw (Mom's father) came along in the Village truck (he was the Street Commissioner as well as the Village cop) and stopped to see what the problem was. He picked me up, gave me a slap on the butt and carried me into the school and sat me at a desk. I think I cried everyday for the next two weeks.

We learned to read and write as we sat in rows of desks. Our big treat was that we were given a small bottle of chocolate milk every day. The big deal was to be the student that got one of the bottles that had the name of the company raised on it. Most of them were just plain bottles and I do know I got it several times in the beginning to make me happy about being in school. The Improvement League furnished the milk.

After first grade I went to the High School building where I was in a room that had second and third grade students with Miss Powell as the teacher. She was really a very mean little pinched nose lady. For instance when all the other grades got to have a Halloween party, we were given a bar of lifebuoy soap and a chart to be used to check off rather our hands were clean or dirty each day when we came to school. I was scared of her.

I then passed into the other half of the third grade and the fourth grade room. Kay Pilmore taught these two grades. Another teacher most of us were afraid of. We all remember her long fingernails because she drove them into your shoulder if you were doing something she felt was wrong. I lost my place in a lesson we were reading and I got the fingernail – believe me I never lost my place again.

My favorite teacher, Kathryn Gates, taught fifth and sixth grades. She was a wonderful teacher and she

read wonderful stories to us and that is where I learned my love of reading. I went from a 75 grade student to a 90 grade student when I got in her Class and was no longer afraid of a teacher. I had Miss Gates for the Fifth grade and then when in 1942 we moved in the "new school" which still stands at the end of Esselstyn Street, I was in her sixth grade class.

The "old" school had combined second, third, third-fourth-fifth, six, seventh and eighth grades downstairs. Upstairs was for the High School students and there was a Library there. In the basement of the school there were two bathrooms, boys and girls. There were pipes running across the ceiling which we could reach so the big deal was to swing on the pipes. The playground consisted of a swing set and a slide. We had no gym there so once a week we were walked to the old Fire Hall on Broadway where we used the upstairs hall for gym class. On the corner of Point and Lake Street (it is now a forever wild lot) was an open field that was used for outdoor games in the good weather. I do remember one school bus that was driven by Mr. McKeever to bring in the kids that went to High School. It was bright orange so of course was called The Old Orange Crate. There were still a lot of country schools so most of the country students went there until the eighth grade. We had an hour for lunch so most of us went home for the meal. The room teacher also taught us what little music we had.

When we went to the new Cape Vincent Central School in 1942 it was like a whole new world. We had a gymnasium with a stage, a cafeteria where we could buy our lunch, a shop classroom, a big cloakroom in the upstairs, a Nurse with an office, a principal's office and locker rooms with showers.

I was in the 6th Grade when we went into the new school. One of the great things was that we had a regular gym class and we had a music teacher. There was also a ball field. We had hooks to hang our coats on in the cloakroom with the promise of lockers to come at a later date. I graduated in 1949 and there were still no lockers.

The Library was a big room full of great books and reference material. We had our music class in the Cafeteria. We put on operettas and plays. We had basketball games and baseball games. When we finally had a JV basketball team some of us younger girls decided they needed a cheerleader team too, so with encouragement from the gym teacher, we started the first JV cheerleading team. Later I was the scorekeeper for the basketball games for several years.

Don Youmans was the school Principal. He wasn't very good at discipline. He would sit on the edge of the desk reach down pull up his socks then whip out his comb and comb his hair. When we had activities in the school gym and the bleachers were full he would come out and announce that we should all be like bananas and bunch up. He was also very nice.

(Continued on Page 22)

Jefferson County Queries

Send Queries to: Lis Couch, 24670 County Rt. 159, Watertown, NY 13601; lcouch0624@aol.com

Subject: Jefferson County Informer Query

(Some readers don't have internet access. Please include mailing address &/or phone numbers as well as email.)

LYNCH, HICKS, LAIDLAW

I came across a border crossing into the USA that states that my g-g-grandfather was actually born in Watertown in 1862 although he moved to Canada in 1868 with his family and on all Canadian census records from then on, they are quoted as being Canadian births. I believe that he was born in Watertown as I can find birth records on siblings born after 1968 in Carleton Ontario, but not for those siblings born before 1968.

Where can I find birth records and marriage information on the parents as they may have been married in the USA as well?

John **LYNCH** 1832 - 1901 Father born in Canada, died in Canada (his father: Patrick **LYNCH** mother: Catherine **HICKS**)

Katherine **LAIDLAW** 1842 - 1878 Mother born in Ireland, died in Canada (father & mother unknown). Children: Floride b.1861; John Franklin b, 1862 in Waterfall; Nellie b. 1866; Catherine M. b. 1868; Ann Christine B. 1869; Margaret B. 1874; Frank D. L. b. 1879. Where can I obtain birth certificates for those born in Waterfall? Where can I find local information for Waterfall families during 1860-1868. I have exhausted my resources on the internet, including Ancestry.com.

Lori Clarke
7311 Lynn Drive
Lantzville, British Columbia
V0R 2H0
lori7311@shaw.ca

NOV. 20, 1804 MEETING IN DENMARK, NY

I would like information about a meeting that was held Nov. 20, 1804, in Denmark, NY. Delegates representing Brownville were Jacob Brown, John W. Collins, and Benjamin Cole. Are there existing minutes from the meeting? Landon, in his history of the *North County*, describes this meeting on page 141.

DuWayne H. Hansen
1055 Top of the Hill Drive
Akron, Ohio 44333
dorhansen@roadrunner.com

KELLOGG, MCKELLOGG

I am looking for information on Clinton M. **KELLOGG** who was born October 8, 1827 in Jefferson County, New York. I know he came to Huron Co, Ohio with an uncle (no name). He was an orphan, age about 17, in abt 1844. The 1850 Census list him as Clinton M. **KELLOGG**. His son and succeeding generations have the **MCKELLOGG**. I did find a Jacob **KELLOGG** as an early settler in Adams, Jefferson Co., NY. Is there any connection to Clinton? Any help would be greatly appreciated.

Laura McKellogg
6074 Mines Road SE
Warren, OH 44484-3807
LMCK516@sbcglobal.net

CHAPIN, ELLINWOOD

I am looking for the parents of Chloe **CHAPIN** who married Jacob **ELLINWOOD** about 1837. Their first child, George **ELLINWOOD** was born in Adams, 24 July 1838. Chloe apparently had died by 1854 because Jacob married a second wife in 1854. Jacob later moved to Henry County, Ohio, where he died in 1863.

Joanne Nicita
24867 Melody Lane
Taylor, MI 48180
nicita29@aol.com

BROWN, LARKINS

I am looking for the parents of John M. Brown who married Sophia Helen/Ellen Larkins. They appear on the 1850 census in Wilna, Jefferson, New York.

Pam Lavoie
287 Forest Park Road
Pembroke, Ontario, Canada, K8A 6W2
lavoie@nrtco.net

HOLKINS, HAWKINS, CARTER

I am seeking to find a possible relationship to my ancestor, William **HOLKINS (HAWKINS)**, (1814-1842) of Enoch **HOLKINS**, both of Philadelphia, Jefferson County. Enoch and his wife Cornelia (**CARTER**) lived on **HOLKINS** Road north of Philadelphia. William owned 21 acres across the road and must surely have been a close relative. The 1850 Census lists Enoch's age as 39. William would have been 36 at that time and must have been either a brother or cousin. William is buried in the Quaker Cemetery at Philadelphia. There were other **HOLKINS** in the area and they surely must have been closely related, considering the uniqueness of the spelling of the surname. William's children and wife later used the spelling "**HAWKINS**."

Robert E. Keim
79 Hotchkiss Circle
Penfield NY 14526
585-586-8153
rkeim@rochester.rr.com

(Continued From Page 21—Remembrances of the old Cape Vincent High School)

One time he took a few of us girls to Syracuse for some sort of school event. Afterwards he bought each of us a gardenia for our coats. I had never had a corsage nor had I ever heard of a gardenia. I can still smell the sweetness of the flower.

One time in High School several of us girls decided to be brave and wear rolled up jeans and our fathers' shirts to school. We were all sent to the office and then home to change our clothes. So much for being rebellious.

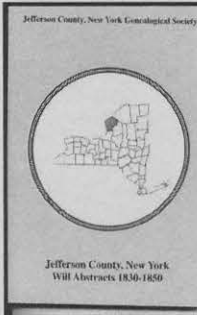
We Village kids were made to stand outside the door before school started to wait for the buses to arrive with the country kids and they got to go in first, even in the rain. We weren't happy about this.

JCNYGS MATERIALS FOR PURCHASE

JEFFERSON COUNTY NEW YORK WILL ABSTRACTS 1830 - 1850

The Will Book contains will abstracts dating from 1830 to 1850. The book contains 194 pages, two maps, and a chart showing the formation of Jefferson County Towns.

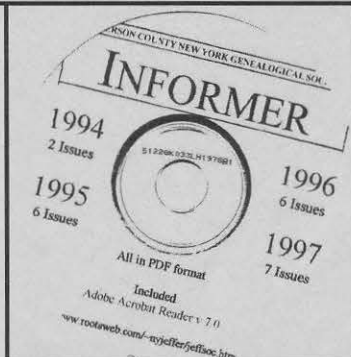
Sale Price \$15.00 + \$5.00 for postage. Checks made out to **JCNYGS**
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Watertown, NY 13601



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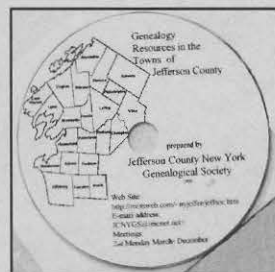
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al@seymour.net

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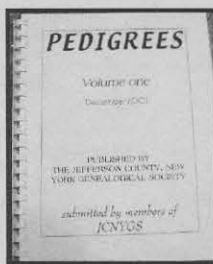


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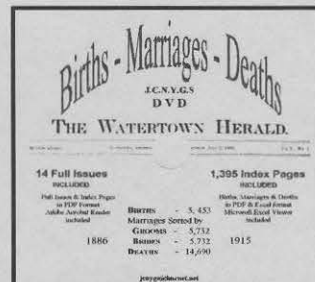
CONTACT: **Greg Plantz**
21787 Reed Road
Watertown, NY 13601
tplantz1@twcny.rr.com
Or for Book II: **Phyllis Putnam**
P. O. Box 58
Chaumont, NY 13622
Phyllis@putnamfamily.com



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JCNYGS FUTURE PROGRAMS FOR 2010

(nysch = New York State Council on the Humanities)

MAY 10 (Monday at 6:00 at Flower Library)
Roberta Calhoun-Eagan—**THE EVANS OF EVANS
MILLS** with over 200 Evans spouse surnames.

JUNE 14 (Monday at 6:00 at Flower Library)
(nysch) Dr. Milt Sernett - **FROM MUSCLES TO MO-
TORS ON THE FARM.** The mass produced tractor
had long term consequences for American life. This
program will encourage the sharing and preservation
of memories of early farm life.

JULY 12 (Monday at 6:00 place to be announced))
(nysch) Dr. Eisenstadt - **MIGRATIONS IN NEW
YORK STATE.** No state has had as many immigrants
and no state has lost as many residents as has New
York State.

AUGUST 9 (Monday at 6:00 place TBA)
Jim Eagan - **PIRATE WILLIAM "BILL" JOHNSTON**
whose actions during the war of 1812 were truly he-
roic. The true story is far more interesting than the
legend. Jim has 7 generations of Johnson descen-
dents.

SEPTEMBER 13 (Monday at 6:00 Flower Library)
Stephen Clarke—**BLACK SHEEP IN THE FAMILY
BARNYARD, OR JUST WHAT DO YOU DO WITH A
DRUNKEN SAILOR.** Common-sense tips on how to
cope with the data when you find it.

OCTOBER 9 (Saturday at 1:00 Flower Library)
Janet Fish—**TECHNIQUES OF RESEARCH.** She
has discovered relatives who came over on the May-
flower and other distant relatives dating to the 1200's.



Our thanks to Kevin Kieff for these pictures. The "Old"
Cape Vincent school is above. Below is school
teacher Miss Olita Stewart, daughter of George and
Minnie Cornwell Stewart, taught in Cape Vincent
(Scotch Brook and Lairds Hill) and later in Chaumont
(Chaumont Creek) and Town of Brownville schools.
She was a graduate of the Adams Training Class of
1911.



INFORMER

Volume 17, Issue 4

Annual Dues \$15.00 Canadian \$19.00

July 2010



In this Chaumont Union picture of 1898, the students with their bicycles are Minnie Getman Horton, Julia Enos, Gertie Adams, Grace Adams, Iva Arnold Steel, John Knapp and Walter Ryder

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INFORMER JULY 2010

Correspondence about dues, memberships, and lost *Informers* should be directed to:
 Jefferson County Genealogical Society, P.O. Box 6453, Watertown, NY 13601
E-mail: JCNYS@ gmail.com *Web site:* http://jefferson.nygenweb.net

President: Terry Baker, 493 Bugbee Drive, Watertown, NY 13601
tbaker.h2otown@yahoo.com, 315-788-0170

Vice President: Tracy Robertson, 26795 Clear Lake Camp Rd, Theresa, NY 13691
tracyrobertson19@yahoo.com, 315-486-2700

2nd Vice President: Rose Dillenbeck, 177 Haskins Road, Johnson City, NY 13790
dillenbeck177@att.net, 607-748-0001

Recording Secretary: unfilled (See President Terry if interested!)

Minutes will be taken by a volunteer at each meeting until position is filled!

Corresponding Secretary: Larry Corbett, 520 Binsse St., Watertown, NY 13601
lcorbet@gisco.net, 315-788-3044

Treasurer: Hollis Dorr, P. O. Box 297, Brownville, NY 13615
 No Email, 315-788-0959

The **Informers Committee** includes Bill Dixon, chairman; Nan Dixon, nandixon@gisco.net, editor; Clancy Hopkins, clancyhopkins16@gmail.com, publisher. Editorial members (alphabetically) are Lis Couch, lcouch30@twcny.rr.com; Jerry Davis, mari-davis@aol.com; Bob VanBrocklin, Rvan992@aol.com; and Pauline Zach, pinzach@aol.com. The *Informers* is published in January, March, May, July, September and November. A special Surnames issue has also been published in December.

Letters.....

Letters to the editor may be directed to
nandixon@gisco.net or to Nan Dixon, 15407
 Dixon Road, Clayton, NY 13624.

Dear Ms. Dixon,

A few days ago, I received a copy of the May 2010 *Informers*. Since I have not been a member of JCNYS for several years now, I am wondering why I received it. I suspect it has been sent erroneously, and therefore, wanted to make you aware of the incident.

Since I am on the subject of the *Informers*, I will tell you one of the reasons that I found my JCNYS membership no longer fruitful. For all the years I was a member, never once did the *Informers* address information on any of my zillions of ancestors from Jefferson County. My ancestors were some of the original settlers of the area (depending on which line one is looking at) and one would think at least one of them would have been mentioned at some point. I am aware that very few early records were kept, but since I do still have distant cousins there, I would think some sort of representation of my family lines would exist.

Therefore, I have often wondered if organizing the *Informers* in different ways might be helpful. For example, instead of cycling through the various townships repeatedly, might it be an interesting change to organize some issues by thematic headings like careers, while subheadings would include different areas, i.e., families of lawyers, farmers, country doctors, black-

smiths, casket/furniture/carpentry (as in my case), harness makers, and then identify them by area? Or identify them by area as you do now, and then have subheadings that discuss the various careers and who was practicing in those areas across time?

Naturally, since I am neither a resident or former resident of Jeff Co, nor do I have the clear understanding of information deficits that the JCNYS *Informers* staff would, I can only make a suggestion based on an outsider's observation. Thank you for listening.

Sincerely yours,
 Letha Chunn-Mendivil

REMINDER!!

**All membership renewals
 Were due by July 1st
 \$15 a person; \$20 a couple
 \$19 Canadian subscription**

**Send to:
 JCNYS, P.O. Box 6453
 Watertown, NY 13601**

JCNYGS

Minutes for April 12, 2010

Notes by Jerry Davis

President Terry Baker called the April 12 JCNYGS meeting to order at the Flower Memorial Library and read the minutes from the March meeting. Phyllis Putnam moved to accept the minutes and Greg Plantz seconded the motion. Passed.

Treasurer Hollis Dorr reported a balance of \$6,871.54 in the treasury. Sue Grant moved to accept the treasurer's report and Nan Dixon seconded. Passed. Greg Plantz reported his findings for reprinting the Pedigree books and Phyllis Putnam made a motion to order 20 copies each of the Pedigree I and Pedigree II books at a cost of \$520. Nan Dixon seconded and the motion was passed.

Phyllis Putnam reviewed the future programs for the society. Phyllis handed out posters for members to make available to their local libraries and businesses where the public might be made aware of our programs. Our July and August meetings will not be able to use the Flower Library as its meeting place. Phyllis has spoken with people at the LDS Church on Ives Street and they have invited us to meet there for our July meeting. After the July meeting the society will discuss the possibility of meeting there on a regular basis. As our August meeting is on the pirate Bill Johnston, there was interest in having the meeting in Alexandria Bay. Phyllis will check on the Alex Bay library for the possibility of meeting there in August. The motion to adjourn was made by Phyllis Putnam and seconded by Nan Dixon.

Nan Dixon was introduced with her program on the Palatines.



On the Web: <http://jefferson.nygenweb.net>

JCNYGS

Minutes for May 10, 2010

Notes by Jerry Davis

President Terry Baker called the May meeting of the Jefferson County New York Genealogical Society to order at the Flower Memorial Library and read the minutes to the April meeting. Hollis Dorr moved to accept the minutes and Phyllis Putnam seconded. Passed! Hollis reported a treasury balance of \$6,227.90. Al Seymour moved to accept the report and Anne Davis seconded. Passed!

Phyllis Putnam reviewed the publicity sent out for the meeting. She then reviewed the up coming programs for the society. The July and August meetings will not be able to be held at the Flower Library. July's meeting is set to be at the LDS Center in Watertown and the August meeting will be held at the Macsherry Library in Alexandria Bay. Phyllis also passed out directions to both the LDS Center and the Macsherry Library.

President Terry mentioned that he had met several people in the Clayton-Cape Vincent area who were very impressed with the last issue of our *Informer* newsletter. Terry complimented the committee on their work with the newsletter and a discussion followed concerning promoting the society with copies of the newsletter being more freely distributed with copies of our future meetings and the membership application.

A motion to adjourn was made by Tracy Robertson and seconded by Nan Dixon.

Phyllis Putnam introduced Roberta Calhoun Eagan and her program on the Evans of Evans Mills.



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What's Going on with JCNYGS April 12, 2010

What's Going on with JCNYGS May 10, 2010



Nan signs a copy of her book *Palatine Roots*



Roberta Calhoun Eagan begins her program



A nice display of Palatine information



Returning badges and a final word with Terry



A good turn out for Nan's program



Phyllis hands out flyers for the next meeting

1 Chaumont Creek

2 Three Mile Point

3 Putman Corner

4 Chaumont

5 Three Mile Bay

6 Four Corners (Point Peninsula)

7 Point Peninsula Village

8 Taft Corner

9 Macomb settlement

10 Bell (Point Salubrious)

11 The Wells Settlement

12 The End of the Point
(Point Peninsula)

13 North Shore

14 The Toad Hole

15 Fox Creek (at one time Town of
Lyme No. 19. This district
became No. 15 on Aug.1, 1864.

16 End of Point Salubrious

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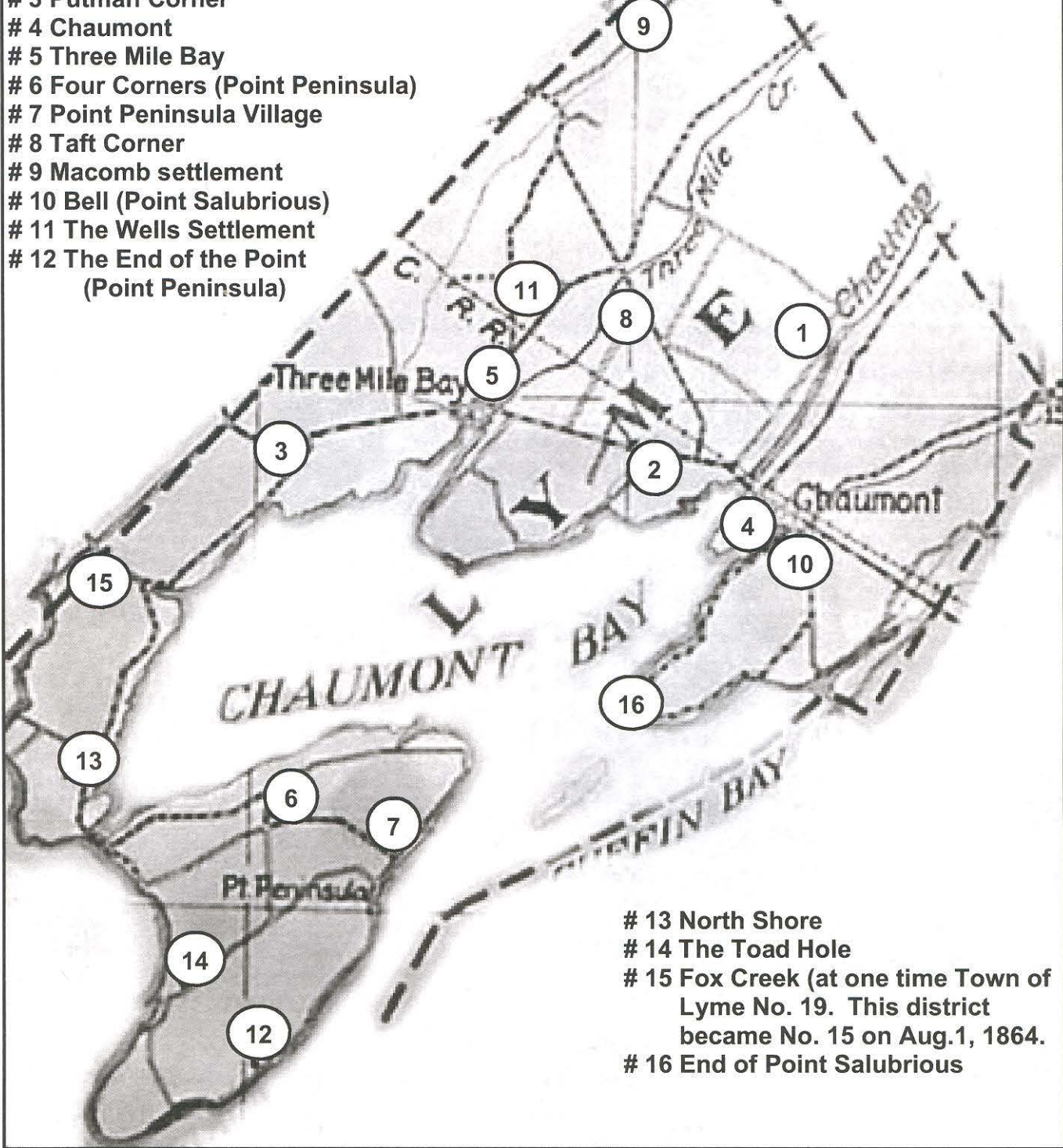
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13 North Shore

14 The Toad Hole

15 Fox Creek (at one time Town of
Lyme No. 19. This district
became No. 15 on Aug.1, 1864.

16 End of Point Salubrious

TOWN OF LYME SCHOOL DISTRICTS



Madge Ryder and her first bicycle (1910)

School Times and Old Times Madge Ryder Remembers

(From *The Founding Of The Schools In Lyme
And The Pioneers Who Built Them*
by Joyce Lance)

Mrs. Madge Ryder who in 1911 taught at the Old Town Springs country school related how she rode her bicycle to the school house when she taught there. When it rained the dirt roads were impossible; she would arrive home with her skirt wet and splashed with red clay. At times she would walk to school; perhaps a distance of six miles a day to and from school. She lived in the east end of the town, so she walked the length of the village, crossed the bridge and up the Old Town Springs Road. Once in a while she was given a ride but not very often. "I was a fast walker when I was young" she says. She was eighteen when she got her first bicycle and began to teach. She was a pretty girl with long auburn hair who later attracted the attention of Walter Ryder; she had been his pupil at the Bell school. They were married on March 30, 1912.

Mrs. Ryder tells of her heritage; she is a descendant of the Hays family, spelled without the "e" from Scotland and her mother's family, the Hortons, who came from England to Long Island and by 1808 they were early settlers on Point Salubrious. The corner stone on the Horton homestead appears to be dated 1811, the house was built by Henry Horton, Mrs. Ryder's great-great-grandfather.

Mrs. Ryder recalls the earlier days when she was growing up and remembers when there were dances at the Crescent House, and the dancers as they danced by the windows. Sometimes the guests came in costumes and these were called mask parties. Mrs. Ryder says that you could easily attend one of these without an invitation. Not only were there dances held at

the Crescent House, but basketball games as well. There was an outside stairway used for that purpose. Among the other events were the Box Socials, where the girls brought a boxed lunch all nicely wrapped to be auctioned off and there were poverty socials where you came dressed poorly and were fined if you didn't.

She remembers going on the "Little Mac", built in 1886 in Buffalo, N.Y. Bought by a lake captain, Capt. Pearl Phelps, this boat was used for excursions to the various points for picnics and other parties. Also it was used to haul grains and other supplies and was in use until 1929. It was moored in lower Chaumont Bay; when no longer in service it remained there where it gradually rotted.

Thelma Mattis Eves attended the Chaumont Creek School (Old Town Springs) from March 1921 to Jan. 1923. The teacher was Anna Giles. The families she remembered were Brown, Ayerest, Rusho, Leiterman and Lear. Nelson Brown was trustee at the time. Among the Brown children in attendance were; Leola, Harold, Claude, Ida, Glen and also Lester. The odd thing about that district was that part of it was across the creek. Mrs. Eves' aunt, Dorothy McCracken, taught there one year 1923-24. It was a large school, twenty or more students. The water for the school was brought from a spring up and across the road. The soil was clay and every night in the spring and the fall an inch of that clay was on the floor.

Mrs. Eves, (Thelma Mattis) taught at the End of the Point School on the south shore of Point Peninsula. The year was 1927, and she tells of her experiences there. Under the history of the Wells School, Mrs. Eves tells of her Wells ancestry, and the prominence that they played in the settlement of the town of Lyme.

Mrs. Eves' father was Clifford Mattis (Mattice) born in Canada, the province of Ontario, he came to Clayton, N.Y. to work. Everyone there said and spelled his name Mattis, so he did too. His mother's people's name was Bryan and they came from Ireland, Wexford county, to work on the Rideau Canal in 1930. His mother's mother was a Whaley. Thelma Eves' mother was Rena McCracken.

**I have never let my
schooling interfere
with my education.
- Mark Twain**

Schools In Chaumont

(From *Our Heritage 1874—1974*

prepared by the

Chaumont Centennial Committee)

In 1805, four years after the first attempt to settle the town of Lyme, Nancy Smith opened a school in her father's house on the south side of Point Salubrious in the approximate location of land now owned by Mr. and Mrs. Richard Benson.

In 1812, a fort which had been erected in Chaumont for protection from Indian attacks was taken down and the logs from this blockhouse were floated to Point Salubrious. In 1813 these logs were used to build a school at the end of the Point on the west corner of land belonging to Henry and Abigail Horton. For twenty years it served for school and religious purposes. A large rock on the shore of the Scharch curve still bears the initials of some of the early scholars. The last teacher, Jessie Kissel Valley, lived in Chaumont and walked the distance daily until 1909. The school house is now the summer home of Mr. and Mrs. Victor Joy of Watertown.

In 1818 the first commissioners of schools, James M. Cran, R. M. Esselstyn and Benjamin Bliss were chosen at the first town meeting. In 1825 James Cran and R. L. Lee were authorized to determine boundaries of school districts. In this same year a stone schoolhouse was erected in Chaumont at the corner of Washington and Main Streets. Until 1849 Lyme and Cape Vincent territories were included in this area.

In 1849, after the township of Cape Vincent was formed, Cran and Lee established school districts in Lyme. The following sixteen districts were formed: No. 1 Chaumont Creek, No. 2 Three Mile Point, No. 3 Putnam Corners (Pt. Peninsula), No. 4 Chaumont, No. 5 Three Mile Bay, No. 6 Four Corners (Pt. Peninsula), No. 7 Pt. Peninsula Village, No. 8 Taft Corners, No. 9 McComb Settlement, No. 10 Bell (Pt. Salubrious), No. 11 Wells, No. 12 Toad Hole, No. 13 North Shore, No. 14 End of Point Peninsula, No. 15 Fox Creek, No. 16 End of Point Salubrious.

District No. 10 was the Bell District. The Bell School was built on land owned by Silas Davis. It was so called after its tower. The school served the pupils in the eastern area of Chaumont, sometimes referred to as "Brooklyn" since the district is across the bay from the main village, and the pupils on Point Salubrious.

According to the earliest available records, Sarah (Haas) Adams was a teacher there in 1887. As many as fifty-four pupils have been enrolled at one time in the Bell School in grades one through eight. When the

present Lyme Central School was completed in 1938 the Bell School was closed and the dismantled bell stored in the new building.

The Chaumont Union School was erected at the corner of Washington and Academy Street by Ira Inman in 1880 and cost \$600.00. It was a wooden structure, consisted of three classrooms with 125 scholars. This school was under the able principal-ship of Professor John T. Delany. Eventually this building became a six classroom structure. Increased enrollment compelled third and fourth grade students to attend classes in the Daniel's house adjacent to the school.

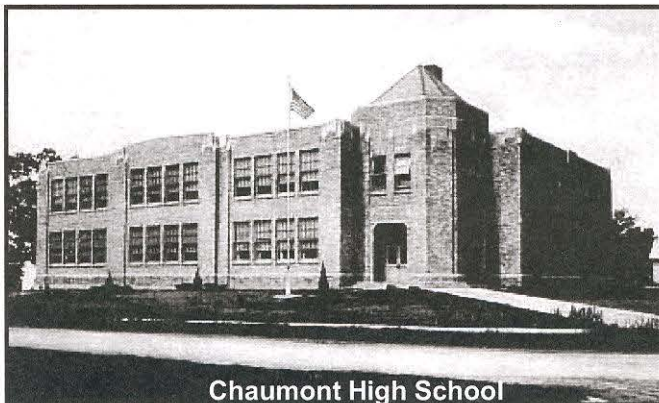
In 1935 District No. 10 joined with District No. 4 to form a consolidated district. Later District No. 2 joined consolidation bringing the assessed valuation to nearly one million dollars.

A new yellow brick building was completed in 1938 and dedicated in 1939. During its construction students attended classes in the Masonic Hall and the Daniels' house. Centralization of the Town of Lyme districts occurred in 1942. Until this time students living outside the Village of Chaumont attended grades one through six in rural schools throughout the area. The Three Mile Bay School remained in operation for grades one through six until 1967 when it was officially closed.

An addition to Lyme Central School, completed in 1958, contained six new classrooms and a nurse's office.

Kindergarten began in 1951. The Methodist Church on Washington Street served as an annex to the school during 1951-1958, housing the Home Economics department and kindergarten. At the present time, kindergarten classes are in session in the parish hall of All Saint's Church because of increased enrollment and lack of space in the main school. Four hundred students now attend Lyme Central School which is staffed by four part time teachers and twenty-seven full time teachers.

(Continued on Page 8)



Chaumont High School

(Continued From Page 7)

This is an interview with Mrs. Mabel Herrick of Three Mile Bay a former teacher of many years who taught in the Centralized District. In the early schools in our vicinity the approach to education was simple and direct. Students didn't need to be entertained between the hours of nine and four. The curriculum consisted of reading, writing, spelling, arithmetic, history, language and nature study. Music was not part of the program and the inclusion of art depended directly on the talent of the teacher. The teacher was responsible not only for the education of six or eight levels of students but also the janitorial work.

Students carried lunches often consisting of home-made bread, cookies and canned venison. They walked to school. During recess children organized their own games or wandered on the shore or in the woods. At Christmas children often recited a "piece" before Santa distributed candy canes. Although approximately the same as current ones, the school calendars allowed for a longer midwinter vacation. Snow days as we know them were nonexistent.

Although no kindergartens existed, some precocious children were permitted to enter first grade at age four. Less distinction was made between grade levels, two grades often being combined. A student was encouraged to proceed according to his demonstrated ability. By today's standards those country schools might be considered progressive.

News Notes – From a 1914 Newspaper Teachers at Watertown

Chaumont, May 2 – Teachers from here who attended the Jefferson County Teachers' Association at Watertown were principal J. Stewart Dascomb, Miss Gertrude Horton, Miss Pearl Corp, Mrs. Christopher Ervine and Miss Mabel E. Daniels from the Union Schools; Miss Bessie Rogers from the Bell school; Miss Ruth Gordon from the Combs district; Miss Gladys McKenzie of the Putnam district; Miss Constance Phelps of the Scott district (Cape Vincent) and Miss Olita Stewart of the Perry district.

Chaumont, May 2 – A very good time was had on Thursday evening at the dancing party given by the seniors and juniors of the Union School for the benefit of the seniors. About thirty couples were present. The music was furnished by Miss Ruth Adams on the piano and Charles Lowe on the violin. Refreshments were served.

From a 1914 newspaper clipping If you would live long Make tracks for Chaumont, NY

The list of which Chaumont is justly proud is as follows: Delos d. Reed, age 82; Kellar Diefendorf, 83; James Liddy, 84; Mrs. James Liddy, 81; Aaron Brougham, 87; John Favry, 84; Mrs. Nancy Smith, 86; Mrs. G. M. Phelps, 88; Mrs. Thomas Silver, 88; Mrs. Elizabeth Lyon, 81; Mrs. Emeline Giles, 89; Mrs. McWayne, 86; Mrs. Garlock, 84; Mrs. Mary E. Rogers, 83; Mrs. Charles Horton, 83; Mrs. Hiram Copely, 80; Leonard Carey, 83; Charles E. Connell, 83; John McRae Horton, 82; Jay Calhoun, 87; John Freeman, 81; D. C. Reed, 83.

The Septuagenarians are: Peter Van Doren, 74; Miss Mary Van Doren, 79; Charles Smith, 78; Henry Haas, 79; Hiram Copely, 79; Miss Maggie Lacy, 70; Mrs. Seth O. Adams, 73; George P. Swind, 73; Alonzo Diefendorf, 74; William Armstrong, 73; Riley E. Horton, 70; Mrs. Mary Allen, 79; Mrs. Mary Quencer, 71; John Eckert, 72; Mrs. John Eckert, 71; Mrs. Childs McPherson, 76; Mrs. Roach, 74; Miss Phebe Lansing, 70; Jacob J. Dillenback, 74; William O. Thompson, 72; Mrs. Stephen Williams, 71; Mrs. Grooms, 70; Mrs. Riley E. Horton, 70.

The combined ages of the 48 persons total 3,821 years.

Editor's Notes:

We have separated the information made available to us into two issues for the *Informer*. The following pages of this issue are devoted to the schools in the Chaumont area. Our September issue will be devoted to the schools in the Three Mile Bay area.

We again thank the Lyme Heritage Center for allowing us to have our committee meetings at their new location in Three Mile Bay and especially to Phyllis Putnam for her continued contributions and support of the newsletter committee.

Included here are the following Town of Lyme School Districts: #1 Chaumont Creek or Old Town Springs; #2 Three Mile Point; #4 Chaumont; #8 Taft Corners; #9 Macomb Settlement; #10 Bell (Point Salubrious); #11 Wells Settlement; and #16 End of Point Salubrious.



Old Town Springs School 1911—Madge (Hays) Ryder taught at this school in the fall of 1910 and the fall of 1911. These were her students in this numbered picture, Miss Hays is seated in their midst. 1. Georgie Litz, 2. Katie Litz, 3. Henry Holliday, 4. Mabel Thompson, 5. Irene (Hentz) Putnam, 6. Leona Hartman, 7. Myrtle Lawton (married Don Whitney), 8. Edna Vandewalker, 9. Douglas Adams, 10. Madge (Hays) Ryder, 11. Clarence Thompson—drowned in the creek when 16 yrs. old, 12. Francis Scott, 13. Millie Hartman, 14. Georgie Carey, 15. Kathleen (Holliday) Easton, 16. Lula Litz, 17. Julie (Hartman) Miller, 18. Ralph Adams, 19. Chester Scott. Not in this picture are Lucy and William Hartman, Lyle Hartman, Freeman Rusho, Isaac Adams, and Wilazina Scott. Isaac Adams attended this school from 1911-1918. Later were—Myrtle Yerdon, a sister of hers, ? Giles, ? Sprauge.

(The pictures and the information for the following schools have been taken from *The Founding Of The Schools In Lyme And The Pioneers Who Built Them* By Joyce Lance, available at the Lyme Heritage Center, see page 22.)

Old Town Springs or Chaumont Creek School District #1

About 1845 along the left bank of the Chaumont River near Cold Springs was a settlement consisting of several Mormon families. Every Sunday their leaders, Grand and Daniels, held services at the log school. In 1848 with several of their adherents, the Mormons sailed from Chaumont on the schooner "Oxford", des-

tine for Nauvoo, Illinois. On this site the later school house was built.

Some of the teachers were: Winnie Bearup, before 1911; Madge Ryder, 1911-fall of 1912; Vanessa Hill, early 1920's; Anne Giles, 1923; Dorothy McCracken, about 1923; Isabel Prior, 1926; Elizabeth Allen, about 1927; and Mabel Daniels; Glen Doull 1937-1939; Olita Stewart until 1946.

Information from an end of the year remembrance card kept by Ida Brown, for school District No. 1, Lyme Twp., Jefferson Co., N.Y.; the year 1926 is as follows: The teacher, Isabel M. Prior, the school officers were, Trustee, Walter N. Brown; clerk, Merrit Robinson; Collector, Charles Arnold.

(Continued on Page 10)

(Continued From Page 9)

The pupils were: Gertrude Randall, Mildred Mellon, Hazel Mellon, Ida Brown, Sarah Lear, Ellen Sweet, Marie Kirby, Sarah Crandall, Alberta Mellon, Evelyn Baker, Vera Robinson, Ruth Brown, Cecil Brown, Albert Brown, Lester Brown, Roy Crandall, Frank Crandall, George Mellon, Frederick Kirby, Edward Sweet.

Others attending the Chaumont Creek School in 1927 were: Harry G. Kirby, Helen Kirby Blair, Glenn Kirby, Joseph Kirby, Grace Mellon, Phyllis Lear and John Lear. Also, the Gordon Brown family, Chester, Mildred, and Arnold. Arnold attended the same time as the Walter N. Brown family.

Mr. Glenn Doull taught at the Chaumont Creek School for two years, 1937-1939, before going to teach at Chaumont High School. While teaching there Mr. Doull boarded at the home of Glenn Brown who's father was Nelson Brown. The only one attending while Mr. Doull taught was Charles Brown and a granddaughter of Nelson Brown, Alberta, daughter of Claude Brown. Of the Mellon family were two children, Harold and Grace.

Three Mile Point School District #2

I have found very little information on the Three Mile Point School, probably due to the fact it has been a long time since it has operated as a school. However Mrs. Irwin Fournier told me that Irv's mother attended this school and that she was born in 1800. Her name was Maude Ruttan, her father's was William Ruttan. Maude Ruttan would have started to school about 1807. Also Mrs. Siegel Becker (Estelle Sponable) went at the same time as did Rollo Van Doren.

This school building is now situated on the highway between Chaumont and Three Mile Bay. It was made over into a nice little house by John Richards. Mrs. Howard Jackson now lives there. Formerly it was on the property of Robert Fournier, but all that is left in the original location a few years ago were the stones of the foundation and of a well.

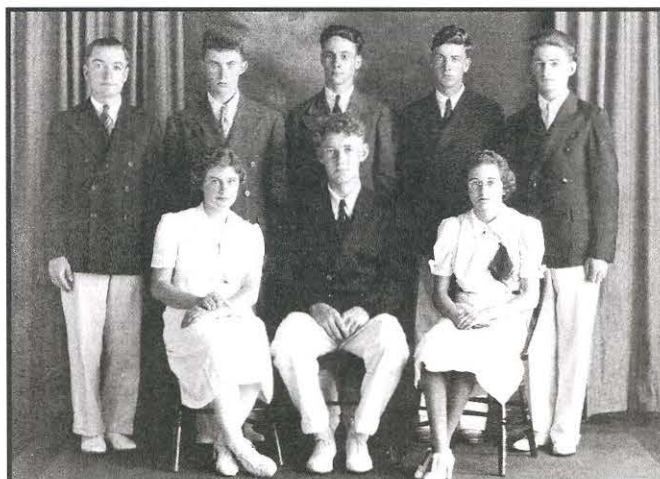
The Chaumont Union School District No. 4

This school was built in 1880 by Ira Inman at a cost of \$600. It was a wooden structure, located at the corner of Washington and Academy and had three class rooms with 125 scholars. John T. Delaney was the principal. Mrs. John T. Delaney was one of three teachers. Then there was Deforest J. Hubbard and Jeannie M. Byam. Also early teachers were Miss Jennie Haas and Miss Sarah E. Haas.

This building eventually became a six room structure. Increased enrollment compelled the third and fourth grade students to attend classes in the Daniel's house adjacent to the school. In 1935 district No. 10 joined district No. 4 to form a consolidated district. Later district No. 2 joined the consolidation.

In the early years when only three years of high school were taught, the students went to Watertown and elsewhere for their fourth year. Later when four years of high school was taught it became known as Chaumont High School.

In 1938 this building was torn down and the new high school of cinder block construction was built. During this time classes were held at the Masonic Hall. Ed Walrath tells about a fair sized room that the coal was stored in. When it became empty and cleaned out, the students played basketball in that room. The class of 1938's graduation took place in the Presbyterian Church of the Village of Chaumont.



The Graduation Class of 1938—seated from left: Anna (Merz) Jackson, Edison Walrath, Audrey (Bongard) Borne, Allen. Standing: Milford Haas, Jr., Arnold Van Ness, Francis Chauvoustie, Ervin (Lefty) Barr, Ray Gale.

(Continued on Page 11)

Chaumont Votes to Build New School

(From the Cape Vincent Eagle, February 25, 1937)

The Village of Chaumont will have a new \$100,000 school building. Voters of Chaumont Union Free School district No. 4, at a special meeting at the High school on February 16 having approved a proposition authorizing the construction of the building and the raising of \$100,000 by bond issue.

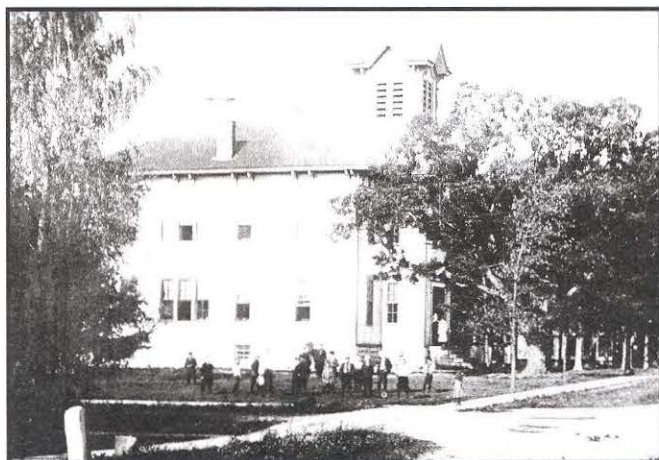
There were 204 ballots cast at the special meeting. One hundred and ninety-nine were in favor of the proposition, four were opposed, and one was void.

Approval of plans by the state department of education is the next step to be taken; it was pointed out in this village. Preliminary sketches have been made by the office of D. D. Kieff, Watertown, whose representatives were present at the meeting and displayed a model of the school and blue prints.

The new school will be erected on the site of the old High School, according to plans, and will be a ten-classroom structure, constructed of brick. It will include a combined gymnasium and auditorium with lockers and showers and will have a kitchen.

The new structure will replace three separate wooden structures which are now used to house educational facilities in this village. Now being used for classes are the old High School, the Myron Daniels dwelling next door and the old District No. 10 school building.

The special meeting was called to order by James Allen Sr., and R. S. Clark was named chairman. Wesley Daniels was chosen clerk of the meeting and Horace G. Shepard and Roswell Wallace acted as tellers. The polls were open until 10 p.m.



High School, Chaumont, N.Y.

Taft Corners School District No. 8

From Mrs. P. T. Woods of Depauville, N.Y., I received this information, and from her letter I quote: "I began my school days in the Taft District No. 8, not far from Three Mile Bay, N.Y. and my teachers were as follows: George Hamilton, Three Mile Bay, N.Y., my first teacher; Emma Ressigue, Sulphur Springs, N.Y.; Mattie Mount, Three Mile bay, N.Y. (taught there in 1904); Lucy Dick, Three Mile Bay, N.Y.; Maude Empie, Three Mile Bay, N.Y.; Mae Mount, Three Mile Bay, N.Y.; Lucinda Aubertine, Rosiere, N.Y.; and Ray Hamilton, Three Mile Bay, N.Y.

"So you see, the little village of Three Mile bay gave its quota of teachers. Even later ones were Beulah Hewitt and Nellie Lance, also of Three Mile Bay, N.Y.

Mrs. Woods, formerly Helen Armstrong, further writes: "In those days the teacher was usually her own janitor, building the wood or coal fires and sweeping out on Fridays. The children didn't seem to mind a bit the cold as we gathered around the stove and waited for the heat before going to the seats, each for two. We drank from the common water pail using a tin cup but didn't worry about germs."

Nellie Lance's practice teaching was at the Taft Corners School. Nellie taught there for sixteen weeks in the spring of 1909. Miss Lance boarded at the Heasley farm some of the time, but on nice days she rode her pony from her home just outside Three Mile Bay Village. These were her students: Mrytle Armstrong, 2nd reader, Ethel Armstrong and Fred Armstrong who was the oldest. Then there was Lyle Riley, Ruby Randall, Hazel Favry, and five children of the Haggerty family and two little girls by the name of (Dillenbeck?) and Walter? Hall. Wells Linnell taught there ahead of Nellie and also Beulah Hewitt. Wells Linnell later became the District Superintendent.

Nellie along with riding her pony from her home near Three Mile Bay had these experiences to relate: One time she took the children on a field trip. After walking some time in the fields near the woods she suddenly noticed that the two little girls were missing. After considerable consternation on her part, calling and looking for them, the two lost girls came back. "Where have you been she asked?" Nellie found that they had cut cross lots and gone home for a drink of water. They knew where they were all the time.

The children liked Nellie to play with them during the noon hour. Nellie tells of one boy leaning on the bat in the doorway, pleading with her to come play ball, "If

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you aren't going to play with us we aren't," so Nellie did. Doing so she ripped her black mourning skirt. Her grandmother had died not long before and in those days you wore a black mourning dress for quite some time.

Miss Lance taught three years at Boon Street School in Watertown, N.Y. and following a year at Potsdam Normal, instructed six years in schools in Riverside and Camden, New Jersey. Returning to Three Mile Bay, N.Y. in 1919, she taught one year at Three Mile Bay Union prior to returning to Watertown schools. She spent the years of 1920-1929 at Cooper Street School, and from 1930 until her retirement in 1957 at North Junior.

Miss Lance was educated in the local schools, Putman's Corners and Three Mile Bay Union, and after high school attended the Watertown Training School before beginning her life long career as a dedicated teacher. In November of 1984 Nellie will be 94 years old; her birthday being Nov. 25th.

More Teachers at Taft Corners

Myrtle Armstrong 1916; Gertrude Cummings 1917-19; Louise (Carpenter) Dixon—a half year between 1916-1920; Nina Dingman; Mable Daniels about 1920; Ruth Congdon after 1920 from Dexter, N.Y., married to Milton Lee; Lyle Riley 1920; Rena Emery; Laura Lowery about 1931; Anna Poth; Grace (Richard) Patterson; Olita Stewart was teaching here when the school was closed in 1948 or 49. Miss Stewart was taken in to teach at the Lyme Central School.



Nellie Lance



The Macomb Settlement School in its new location on the back street of Three Mile Bay, owned by Harry Gould Jr. and used for a shop

The Macomb Settlement School District #9

The Macomb Settlement School was located on the corner of the Macomb Settlement Road and the cemetery road. The school house was acquired by Harry Gould. He moved it to the village of Three Mile Bay, about thirty years ago. It now stands on the back street, in its venerable state, a gray weather beaten, staunch example of its sturdiness in withstanding time and the elements. Mr. Gould bought the building for the purpose of using it for a shop.

The first teacher of the Macomb Settlement School was Sally Pickle, the time she taught is not known. One teacher who was well remembered was one by the name of Stakem. He was noted for his control of a rowdy classroom with the use of a rake. The settlers were mostly German extraction and put up with his unusual punishment, but when he removed to another district, a student confronted him with this: Stakem you are—Stakem you be, You can stake the devil but you can't stake me."

Another teacher was Russell Gardner or Gardener, the son of a Methodist minister, about 1922-23. Also a Miss Smith, the daughter of the school Principal of Brownville. She taught for the years 1935-36.

Hester Adams provided me with this information, saying her mother knew the name of the first teacher and one of her great grandfathers was tutored by Sally Pickle. She also said her ancestry was of the early Macomb's, who were Irish and that her grandmother Adams was a Schuyler. A Schuyler settlement farm was on Three Mile Point where the Knight family used the live. Hester Adams says the Adams family came here from Michigan. Her father was Sam Adams.

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In 1909 Anna Barron was the teacher, her practice year. There were about 7 to 9 pupils, all different grades. Among them were Edna Rickett, Spencer Linkenfelter, Alice Luther and Ethel and Lena Mitchell.

Macomb School Teachers

Anna Barron, Ethel Ladd Farr, Elsie Grant, Olive Comins, Martha Glass, Helen Wilbur, Evelyn Bovee 1933, Mary Walker 1928, Eva Ackerman 1929, Cora Hughs, Dorothy Smith, Lavilla Chauvoustie.



Macomb Settlement School—1929. First Row: Helen Barth, Anna Merz Jackson, Harold Adams, Kenneth Barth, Carl Barth. Second Row: Hester Adams, Kathleen Comins, Eva Ackerman (the teacher), Eugene Comins, Cecil Fisher, Florence Barth Allen.



The Bell School, 1912—front row, from the left: Floyd Benney, Fremont Wallace, Raymond Potter, Delency Wallace, Lyle Warner, Gerald Shaw, Ethel Benney, ? Fredenburg, Fannie (Lowe) Pike. Middle row: Inez (Kissel) Cean, Delia (Hayes) King, Dorcas (Warner) Pennock, Fenton Horton, Robert Hayes, Regina (Adams) Bergner, Roland Shaw, Back row: Nellie (Lowe) Wallace, Hattie (Kitto) Coglein, Margaret (Lewis) Nichols, Dura Warner, Jessie (Kissel) Valley, the teacher, Clarence Grooms, Louis Robbins, Myrtle Shaw, Gertrude (Cummings) Frazier. (Absent was Ruth Kissel)

The Bell School District #10

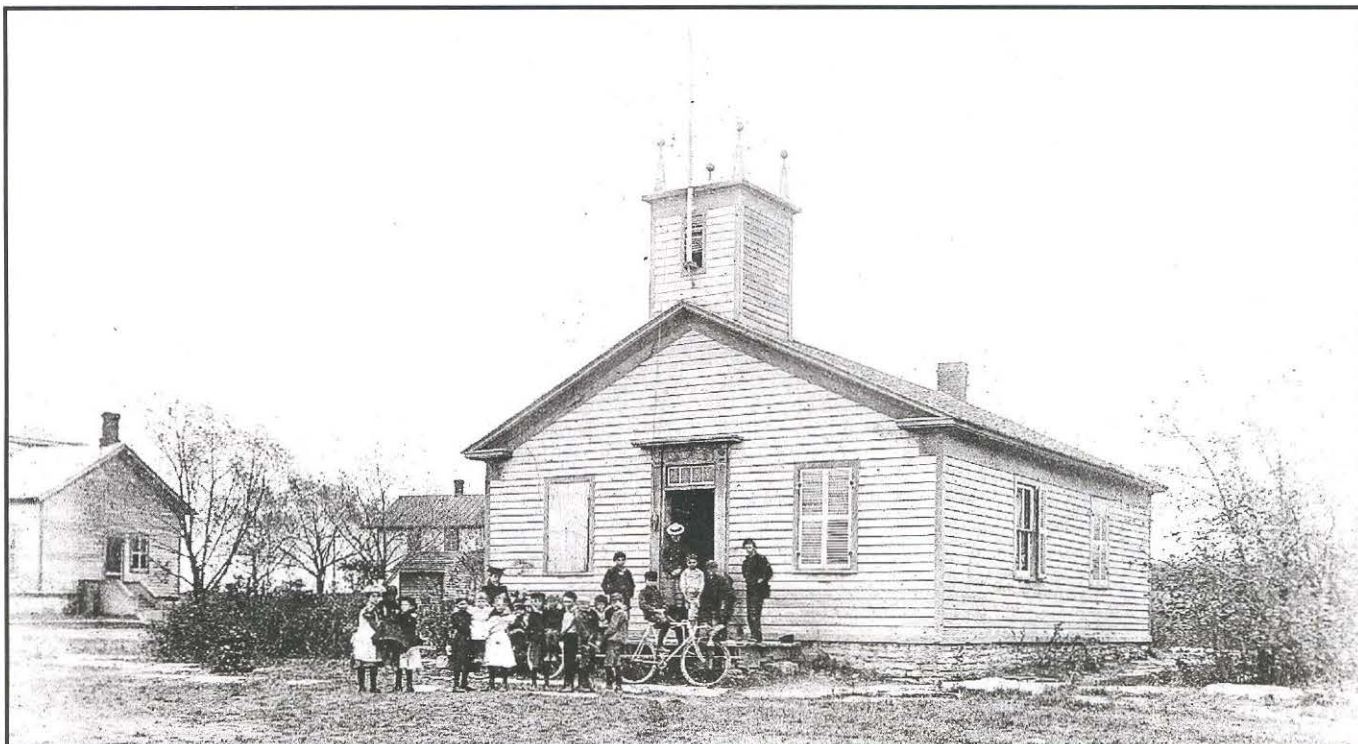
From a letter Mabel Herrick wrote to me June 20th, 1979; relevant to the following schools: Chaumont Union, the Bell School, and the End of Point Salubrious.

"I started to school in the old Chaumont Union. I was in about the third grade when I entered the Bell School. There is a picture in the Chaumont Library taken in 1921, when I taught there, the year I came to take the place of Nellie Lance at the Bay. She wanted to go back to the Watertown schools. I couldn't begin to tell you all the pupils and teachers at the Bell school from about 1918 to 1922, when they sent 7th and 8th grades to Chaumont Union, it was a large school. At that time the stone quarries and lime kilns were running with many Italian workers. I remember the La Tempa family ho lived across from the high school. These children spoke only Italian at home and they knew more about Latin than the ones trying to teach them. The Bell school had many teachers; most teachers staying only one year. I remember a Miss Selter from Three Mile Bay. Walter Ryder was a teacher for quite a few years around 1900. It was a tough school to handle but then the teachers were tough, too.

George Hamilton was my teacher in the Bell School about 1900. One day he was provoked with me. He shook me and made me sit on a big box that held the waste paper. Years later when I came to teach, I was introduced to him. I told him he should remember me because I remembered the waste basket. He had forgotten but I never did. I wonder how many of my pupils have things like that they remember."

The Bell School Teachers 1887—1921

Sarah Haas Adams according to old records taught in 1887. Gertrude Armstrong Diefendorf was the teacher circa 1896. Mrs. Pitcher who was the wife of the Principal of Chaumont Union tutored in the fall of 1898. Gertrude Selter, from Three Mile Bay, N.Y. was a teacher there around 1900. Then there was Ina Arnold Steele, also teaching there in the early 1900s. George Hamilton taught in about 1900. Walter Ryder taught from 1901-1906; Jessie Kissel Valley in 1912; Bessie Rogers in 1914; Lillian Irvine in 1920 and Mabel Yerdon Herrick in 1921



The Bell School House, 1899

Bell School built before 1869. From another copy of this photo are the names Beth Hayes, Hannah Carpenter, Jessie Bovee, Grace Horton, Mabel Yerdon. Then the names Elinor Sprague, George Walrath, Annette Bevins, Dan Fisher, Charlie Robins, Arthur Yerdon, Frank Dunham. Then on the steps are Roy Fisher, Laura Golden, Clarence Yerdon, Roy Robbins, Fred Horton and on the bike is Arthur Hayes.

The Wells Settlement School District No. 11

The school house was built around 1840. Maria Knapp was the first teacher. She married Oliver Taft. Their daughter Adah died at the age of one year and fifteen days on February 25, 1854 and is buried in the Wells cemetery.

The books used were Olney's geography and Atlas, Ruger's Arithmetic. Kirkham's grammar, Cobb's spelling book and an English reader. The first thirty-one pupils all had the surname Wells.

The school house was first located across the road from where it was moved to the Reed farm (once Gilbert Wells farm) to be used as a machine shop.

In the 1890's Maude Harder attended and later taught that school. Zadie Cornaire, Claude Rickett's mother went to that school; later Claude and Clarence Rickett went there. Other families were: The Southwells, the Fortens, and the Valleys.

The teacher in 1903 was Elena Halliday. She was born Elena Herrick. After her mother died she was raised by her aunt Mrs. Halliday (she was Claude's cousin). The school officers that year were Clarence Herrick, trustee (Claude Herrick's father), Byron Harder, collector and Joseph Mount, Clerk. The pupils were: Claude E. Herrick, Roswell H. Herrick, Mrytle Mullen, Mabel Wells, Leonard Petrie and Martin Eselin. In 1906, George Yerdon, Mrs. Mabel Herrick's brother, attended this school. At about the same time Bill Constance and Ross Wells went there.

In about 1915 Hazel Dick was teacher. She taught the Fleury family, Martin and Emerance Eselin, and some of the McConnells. Nora Byers Bowyer taught here as did Eva Cross – Ackerman 1925-1926. Her students were: Francis Chauvoustie, Robert LaLonde, Howard Mattis, Wealtha McConnell Prior, Jessie McConnell Majo, Jennie McConnell Brown, Leland McConnell, Chester McConnell, Doris McConnell and Elta McConnell.

Wells Settlement School and The Herrick Family

All the Herrick children had attended the Wells Settlement School. The Herrick's who were English came from Lyme, Connecticut. Some came in ox carts, first to Vermont then across the mountains to the St. Lawrence Valley, and on to a little place called the Town of Lyme after their old home in Connecticut.

Oscar Herrick, Claude's cousin, says that this family came from Lyme, Connecticut by the way of Herkimer and settled on Three Mile Point. They still call the waters there "Herrick's Shoals."

Claude Herrick's people, the Gibbons family cleared the farm land on the Gibbons Road between Three Mile Bay and Chaumont. They were Mohawk Dutch.

The Wells students in 1912

The pupils were: Lavilla Chauvoustie, Nora Vosler, Margaret Fleury, Floyd Clark, Lyman Cranston, Gladys Cummings, Doris Cranston, Lyman Cranston, Ross Wells, Grant Mount, Joseph Mount, Mildred Fleury, Emerance Eselin, Martha Cranston, Anna Fleury, Irene Wells, Clarence Herrick, Claude Herrick, and Frances Fleury.

Robert Bowman was the District Supt., Earl Cranston Trustee, William Constance, Clerk and William Wells, Collector.

The previous was from a souvenir book given to the pupils of the Wells School in 1912, by their teacher, Earl Riley.

Point Salubrious School District No. 16

(Written by John Solar, deceased)

Early deeds to stable settlers on Point Salubrious bear dates of recording from 1820-1830, but these deeds are in most property records; dates of the completion of land contracts for the installment payment. Any deed or contract recorded before 1805 was filed in Utica as an Oneida County deed and after 1805 is in Jefferson County Clerks office in Watertown. Actual settlement about 1805 by Henry Horton began a period of 15 years before his deed was recorded. Excepting the few instances of family records made and preserved, of children of age in 1812, not enough data exists to closely estimate the number of school children living in or near 1812, on the Point within two miles of the school site.

Conflicting assumptions of location of the first school on the Point form three different versions of school location. One was near a corner where Point Salubrious road turns from southwest to southeast passing Mrs. Verna Scharch's property; a second at the top of an elevation across the outer Point and a third at the site of a later school house, after 1890, north of the Point Salubrious Cemetery near the basin.

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A fourth assumed site was on Fir Point on the former Isthmus at that point now washed away by water. Seth Hunter and other early summer residents related that Dr. Adelbert Getman had stated that remnants of a log building on Fir Point were plainly visible for many years. Mrs. Ralph (Eliza Horton) Rogers, one of the early teachers, stated that when the first settlers fearing British invasion during the war of 1812 and built a block house on Fir Point, they gathered to listen to gun fire at the battle of Sackets Harbor.

They dismantled this war refuge after 1812 and moved its logs to a school site which Rogers mapped near an existing building owned by Clifford Gould.

Rolla Van Doren records preserve a statement that the log blockhouse built by the Chaumont residents at the north end of Long Bridge was raised by agreement with the British force and Point Salubrious residents hauled the logs and necessary materials to the school site on the Point.

The two blockhouses that provided material for the one room school house raise the question, why. Settlers were few in number in 1812, three families raising a total of more than 30 children of school age. The log school served for nearly a hundred years and was replaced by a frame building soon after 1900. This site was west of the Diefendorf house, on the north side of the road near a former small waterway, south of a moderate elevation. In need of a school ten families solved the problem of demolishing two blockhouses for logs for one school.

No one can now realize how keenly these settlers longed for any kind of education, school or no school. Their major source of communication was verbal conversation with any known person or stranger who bore news. Those left on the fringes of settlements in Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont and New York-Ontario border region had grown in school years, far from any school, in need of reading and writing. Documents from the war and property records bore the awkward X of illiterates, whose education was lessons taught by nature's terms for survival, exacting adverse terms requiring foresight of adversity 12 months ahead.

Scrapbooks, a merchants old ledger as late as 1860 bears labels from tomato cans, pickle jars, thread and needle packets, every sentimental poem from weekly newspapers that passed through the neighborhood, besides drawings of gunboats, naked Indians prone holding bows with their feet and stretched bow strings pointing arrows at their enemy. Even confederate money decorated ledger pages. Any printed or pictured page was a textbook. Any room blessed with any kind of light was a school room for the household crafts and daylight outdoors lighted the home factory for preparing raw materials. Each family seemed to

have at least one person who impressed the passion for education on succeeding generations and on schools in spite of a family's reserve of a few cents of money, few changes of clothes and sometimes meager meals. They brought schools from whatever sources were perceptible and available. Textbooks preserved as long as the pages were intact served several students each. School district No. 16 the first in the north, Ralph Rogers claims, was certainly the first known on or any where near Point Salubrious.

Whenever the older, more venturesome boys disrupted classes and teacher or other person could not calm the protestors, the teacher sent by neighborhood grapevine for "RH" Ralph Rogers, to restore discipline. Local legend preserves an incident in which the rioters evicted their teacher from the school house. She sent for RH, who left his tools, wiped his hands on wood shavings and accompanied the distressed school teacher to the log school. The protestors waited at the doorway and seized Rogers as he entered. Quietly and patiently waiting until the leader lunged to evict him, Rogers seized him by collar and pants, calmly tossed him into a corner. The second lunger received similar treatment. Watching protestors stared amazed. Rogers walked calmly to the teacher's desk, glanced at the open book and announced without a show of ranker that lessons would begin on page 46 of their grammar. The non-combatants accepted discipline. The two attackers reappeared in an hour in custody of unsympathetic parents. Rogers said simply, "get to work" and returned to his shop. Teacher and students resumed grammar.

Some persons feared and resented his stern treatment of dull workers. He never lost a man or horse during his extensive fishing operations nor failed to foresee and prevent any known and severe adversity to any of his family or relatives welfare. His children and neighboring children needed a school on the end of Point Salubrious. He gathered help and materials.

No reliable records exist of the first schools at Brownville, Sackets Harbor or Rutland Center. Settlers from 1800 to 1820 were so grateful for any school possible for their children that competition for a first was no part of their lives. Theirs was the choice of illiteracy and its confinement to the simplest experience or school language and mathematics. Teachers needed a sense of reading wilderness around them to transform meaning words for survival. To be worth standing among others they learned to serve the needs of others, needs that exacted language and mathematics, to live and keep well with the demands of surrounding wilderness they had to use letters, words and symbols of measurements. Demands of the wilderness required help of teachers and pupils in warmer months; winter months were a season for "schooling." School books were used as long as intact. Essential education by which communities grow was served on Point Salubrious."

Editors Note: The Brownville School District #15 (The VanAylestyn Road School) and District #16 (The Rice's Road School) sent students to the Lyme Central School. See our May 2009 issue of the *Informer* for the articles on the General Brown Central School.

At School #15

(Our thanks to Marilyn Peters for preparing this article for us. Marilyn presently teaches at Lyme Central School and Isabelle Cheever Howard is her mother.)

Morris Tract Road, once narrow, winding, and sleepy, has been renamed, repaved, and widened. Cars fly on County Route 125, and few pause to remember what used to be...

Isabelle Cheever Howard lives on County Route 125, on land purchased by her ancestors in 1853; in her kitchen, the memories linger. By the table hangs a photo of the cabin which her house replaced in 1866; under this is a photo of the house, c. 1900, her father the little boy on the front porch. On the bookcase rests a hand bell, the very bell which summoned her father, Howard Cheever, from this home each day, down the dusty road to the corner of Morris Tract and VanAlstyn Roads, to School #15.

When Howard was fourteen, the bell began also to summon a new student, Grace Halliday, newly emigrated from Wolfe Island, Ontario. Howard "set his cap" for the pretty Canadian lass; they were married for 53 years. Their daughter, Isabelle, did not attend School #15, but the next one down at Reynolds' Corners, on the Brownville-Depauville Road in the town of Clayton. Still, Isabelle has memories of School # 15, often intertwined with those of her days at Reynolds' Corners.

Isabelle's strongest memory is of their teachers. In Isabelle's time, the trustees of School #15 tended to hire young, pretty teachers. They boarded at the Cheevers (hence the bell in Isabelle's house), married quickly, and were replaced with regularity. Rumor had it that because of the teachers' youth and inexperience, discipline at School #15 was lax; the children took advantage. Such was not the case at Reynolds' Corners. They had Calla. The children did not call her Calla, of course, at least not until they were safely home, with doors and windows closed. Miss Leiterman was a tall, large-framed lady of German descent. She towered over the diminutive Cheever family, adults included, and she was there to stay. She ran her school with firmness and precision; she saw everything and tolerated nothing. Her young charges were receiving an excellent education, of course, but still they envied their lucky little neighbors. Those kids were having a lot more fun.

Even with Calla, there was time for play at Reynolds' Corners too, often together with the students of School

15. Isabelle remembers year-end picnics, typically on her grandparents' farm, half-way between the two districts. One such picnic took place on an outcropping of flat rock by the side of the road, on the edge of what is now Parker Farms. Isabelle was comfortably seated on a warm rock, beside one of the numerous and deep rock holes. She tried a green olive, her first, and she did not like it. Politely, she placed it on the rock beside her. A few moments later, she glanced down to see a snake slithering up from the crevasse to steal her olive. "I learned that day," she says, "not to eat by the side of a deep hole," a lesson that must extend into all sorts of life situations.

Another picnic was held at Southwick's Beach, near Henderson. The students from both schools were loaded into the back of an open farm truck, precariously seated on school benches. In the very back by the tailgate, ready to keep the youngsters from pitching each other off the truck and into the road, sat the trustees of School # 15. Unneeded, Calla's trustees stayed at home.

It was not all sunshine and picnics at School #15. The country schools were close to the homes, never more than a mile or two away, and they never closed despite the brutal North Country winters. Isabelle remembers that their father drove them to school on one day: total. It was extremely icy that day, and he feared that they would be injured in multiple falls. Isabelle also remembers vividly the sandwiches. "When we came into the school each morning," she relates, "we would put our lunchboxes over by the outside wall. In cold weather, our lunches would freeze solid, but Calla would gather us close in by the round oak stove and keep us there all day. Toward noon, she would set a large wire rack on the top of the stove, and she would lay our sandwiches on that rack. When they were thawed, we would eat our lunch."

The water bucket and communal dipper are legendary, not even worth mentioning, but at Reynolds' Corners, the outside toilets were history. The children were proud of their modern luxury, indoor toilets, connected to a large holding tank. No slogging through the snow, rain, and slush for them! The toilets were attached to the schoolhouse and under a nice, tight roof—way better than the situation the young scholars faced at home.

Hardiness was not enough. Students and teachers in a country school needed to be brave and self-reliant as well. Isabelle's parents told their children of the day a rabid dog began circling the building, holding everyone captive within. Finally, one of the boys, having waited until the dog was on the other side of the building, made a dash out the door and ran for help.

Rabid dogs were not an everyday occurrence, of course, but bulls were. Nearly every neighborhood family owned a farm and a dairy. Every farmer kept a

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Jefferson County Queries

Send Queries to: Lis Couch, 24670 County Rt. 159,
Watertown, NY 13601; lcouch0624@aol.com
Subject: Jefferson County Informer Query

(Some readers don't have internet access. Please include mailing address &/or phone numbers as well as email.)

(We print the following query as it was received without changing any spelling or grammar.)

From: Monika Lindahl
To: nandixon@gisco.net
Sent: Sunday, May 02, 2010 10:54 AM
Subject: From Sweden

Hi, I am from Gotland in Sweden. I look for Claes Gustaf Wilhelm Malm b 18700203 Gotland. He went to USA

1890 Married 1894 Lorraine Township Jefferson NY to Jane E Brith b 1868 NY

1900 they live in Lorraine Jefferson NY

1910 they live in Hounsfield Jefferson NY

They ger 3 children 2 daid

Cora T Malm b 1903 NY.

Do you think same can help me to find Gustafs dieth, plase and date?

The same on Jane and Cora?

And relatives today?

Monika Lindahl

symolija@telia.com

**Empty places
on your family
tree?**

Send a query!

**You never
know until you
try!**

**The informa-
tion you need
may just be a
query away!**



(Continued from Page 17)

large, ill-tempered bull, put out to roam freely with the cows. Long before the day of electric fences, small children had to walk the road alongside these pastures, and sensible children were terrified. Isabelle arrived home early one day to find such an animal tearing up the Cheever turkey yard. She made it safely to the house, whereupon her mother promptly dispatched her on two errands: one, go back to the school to hold small Mary Cheever there safely until the neighbor retrieved his bull, and two, stop at the neighbor's barn to tell him where the beast was. Dodging a grisly death became Isabelle's problem. In later years, Mrs. Howard has been known to boast of her speed as a runner in country school. She left all in the dust, even Dutch Grant. Dutch was four years older than Isabelle, tall, raw-boned, and a fine athlete. As a senior at Springfield College, he received bids from two pro-football teams, but back at Reynolds' Corners, little Isabelle Cheever had also been given compelling motivation to ramp up her running speed.

Incorporated into the Lyme Central District when the schools were centralized, School # 15 still stands, a small, yellow cottage at the end of a dirt road, just inside the Town of Brownville line. The students and the teachers are gone, and the bell will summon memories only for those who know its past. The lessons learned there, though, do not die.

The center of a country school was the teacher, and certainly School #15 must have had its share of Callas. An incident decades later reveals the lasting influence of such a person. Grace Cheever had died, and Calla, of course, came to the calling hours. In her mid-eighties, still tall and arrow-straight, she paused to speak to Grace's children. In ingrained habit, five middle-aged adults quietly and quickly moved into a neat semi-circle before their teacher. Eyes up, hands folded, lips closed, they listened intently as Calla spoke—spontaneous and unspoken tribute to their teacher and to a time gone by.

Marilyn Howard Peters



The VanAylestyne Road School #15 Today

Another Letter To The Editor

Good Morning Nancy,

After reading the *INFORMER* on it's arrival yesterday I was impressed by the clarity of the photographs and text with them. The *INFORMER* issue is appreciated for its excellent format and diligence.

I am inspired to add this:

Could genealogy format used in the attached file be of interest to the *INFORMER*, or the *Lyme Heritage Center*?

Surnames such as:

JOHNSON, PHELPS, SMITH, are multi-national surnames that can frustrate researchers in need of more identification, or surnames in files filed according to origin, such as geographical.

*My best to you both,
Cuz Randy*

Descendants of Elkanah Johnson-2511

1. Elkanah Johnson-2511 (b.1673;d.Aft 24 Oct 1748)

sp: UNKNOWN

└ 2. Elisha Johnson Sr.-2512 (b.Ab. 1700;d.Ab. Jun 1774)

sp: Abigail Reynolds-2513 (b.1730;m.Ab. 1990)

└ 3. Elisha Johnson Jr.-2475 (b.18 Dec 1728;d.11 Mar 1816)

sp: Abigail Greene-2476 (b.22 Mar 1729;m.29 Nov 1750;d.10 Dec 1803)

└ 4. James Johnson-1300 (b.3 May 1779;d.8 Feb 1835)

sp: Anna Tanner-1301 (b.Ab. 1780;m.18 Aug 1799;d.20 May 1836)

└ 5. Benjamin Gorton Johnson-1302 (b.15 Jan 1800;d.Aft 1841)

└ 5. Mary Gorton Johnson-1303 (b.21 Jul 1801;d.19 Mar 1825)

└ 5. Waterman Johnson-524 (b.8 Sep 1803;d.19 Dec 1883)

sp: Mary Myers-525 (b.7 Nov 1805;m.13 Apr 1823;d.20 Apr 1883)

└ 6. James Johnson Hon.-36 (b.3 May 1824;d.6 Feb 1900)

sp: Deborah Frye-37 (b.10 Mar 1824;m.1 Jan 1843;d.9 Mar 1905)

└ 7. Avis Deborah Johnson Dabbo-26 (b.8 Jan 1845;d.9 Dec 1925)

sp: Solomon Vincent Frame MD-25 (b.22 Jan 1841;m.8 Oct 1862;d.6 Oct 1898)

└ 8. Merton Elvin Frame-16 (b.2 Feb 1864;d.13 Apr 1902)

sp: Fannie Lynda Hills-17 (b.30 Jan 1864;m.28 Oct 1886;d.15 Oct 1941)

└ 8. Herbert Johnson Frame MD-27 (b.10 Sep 1866;d.10 Jan 1927)

└ 8. Vivene Beulah Frame Viva-28 (b.15 Jul 1870;d.20 Oct 1970)

└ 7. Waterman J. Johnson-2027 (b.Ab. 17 Nov 1853;d.17 Dec 1854)

└ 7. Solon H. Johnson-1296 (b.8 Sep 1855;d.27 Oct 1931)

sp: Celinda Barker-2132 (b.1855;m.21 Dec 1882;d.1950)

└ 8. Katherine Barker Johnson-2803 (b.1888)

└ 8. Beulah May Johnson-1297 (b.Ab. 1890;d.31 Oct 1931)

sp: Henry W. STREETER M.D.-2309 (b.31 May 1845;m.Ab. 1920;d.29 Nov 1903)

└ 7. Rose M. Johnson-2028 (b.15 Dec 1857;d.1 Feb 1858)

└ 7. J. Morton Johnson-2029 (b.Ab. Nov 1859;d.23 Apr 1860)

└ 6. Abigail Johnson-1321 (b.22 Jun 1826;d.25 Oct 1904)

└ 6. Mary Johnson-2471 (b.3 Dec 1828;d.29 Nov 1871)

sp: Leonard Vincent-2654 (b.1823;m.Ab. 1846;d.1915)

└ 6. Waterman Horace Johnson-2388 (b.17 Dec 1832;d.20 Dec 1835)

└ 6. Willard Johnson-1299 (b.17 Jul 1835)

└ 6. Welcome F. Johnson-1298 (b.27 Jan 1839;d.1924)

└ 6. Marcella Johnson-2474 (b.8 Oct 1841;d.29 Mar 1859)

└ 5. Willard Johnson-1304 (b.20 Aug 1805;d.Aft 31 Jan 1881)

└ 5. Miranda Johnson Meran-1305 (b.5 Jun 1807;d.Aft 13 Jun 1841)

└ 5. Horace Johnson-1306 (b.26 Apr 1809;d.Aft 1841)

└ 5. Avis Johnson-1307 (b.28 Apr 1811;d.Aft 1881)

└ 5. Obediah Johnson-1308 (b.3 Mar 1813;d.16 Jan 1855)

└ 5. Abigail Johnson-1309 (b.26 Jan 1815;d.4 Mar 1831)

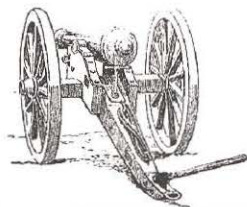
└ 5. James L. Johnson-1310 (b.6 Apr 1817;d.8 Oct 1835)

└ 5. Henry Carter Johnson-1311 (b.15 Apr 1819;d.Aft 23 Jan 1849)

└ 5. Sarah Ann Johnson-1312 (b.4 Mar 1822;d.Aft 1841)

└ 5. Mary Johnson-1313 (b.21 Oct 1825)

CIVIL WAR BIOGRAPHY



Eugene Adelbert Chapman Union Soldier

Eugene Adelbert Chapman, son of John T. (See Pioneer on page 21) & Miranda N. (Congdon) Chapman was born 9 Dec 1839 at Belleville, Jefferson county and died Jan 1917 Stafford Springs, Tolland, Connecticut. He was buried Jefferson County, New York.

He was a physician. Dr. Chapman was one of the best known veterans of Jefferson county, and was prominent at all reunions of the Tenth New York Heavy Artillery, of which he was a member. Death was due to apoplexy of the throat. He had been living in Stafford Springs for the last three years. His health had been gradually falling for some time and death was not entirely unexpected.

Burial Near Belleville. The body will arrive at Adams Wednesday morning and it will be taken to Woodside Cemetery about two miles west of Belleville, where burial will take place. The Belleville Lodge of Masons will have charge of the burial service, which will take place Wednesday afternoon. Dr. Chapman was born in Belleville in 1839, a son of John and Miranda Congdon Chapman. Dr. Chapman's grandfather, Levi Chapman, was a native of Lyme, N. H., and settled in St Lawrence County in 1817. Dr. Chapman's father was born in 1814 and settled in Robert's Corners in 1835. Dr. Chapman was the second of a family of five children.

Studies Medicine. He received his early education in the old Union Academy, an institution which has had many graduates who have been successful. After finishing his course at the academy he entered the medical school of the University of Michigan, after which he was graduated from the medical school of the University of Buffalo.

Enlists In the Tenth. The young doctor at once took up the practice of medicine, locating in Clayton, and soon built up a substantial practice. The Civil War had just begun, and the patriotic fever ran high. Dr. Chapman abandoned his fine prospects for a medical practice and responded to the call for volunteers. Instead of

seeking a commission as a surgeon he chose to belong to one of the fighting units, and entered the service as a private in Company G of the Tenth New York Heavy Artillery, Aug 11, 1862. One month later he was commissioned first lieutenant and appointed adjutant. In July, 1863, he was promoted to be captain. In November, 1864, he was ordered to appear before the medical examining board in Washington, where he passed the medical examination and was made an assistant surgeon. Although this step reduced him in rank it enabled him to keep in touch with his medical profession. He was ordered to report to General Benjamin F. Butler at Fortress Monroe, where he was mustered out as captain and was re-mustered as assistant surgeon. Shortly after reporting for duty at Fortress Monroe he was ordered to Deep Bottom and was assigned to duty with the 127th United States Infantry. Shortly afterwards he was ordered to Point of Rocks Hospital, where he remained in service as an assistant surgeon until April, 1865 when he received orders to 127th Infantry which was sent to Petersburg, Va. and with this command he went to Appomattox. He was a participant to many spirited skirmishes incidental to the Shenandoah Valley campaign. He was in the bloody battle of Cold Harbor and at the siege of Petersburg when a mine explosion took place. He was at Appomattox at the time of the surrender of Lee. Dr. Chapman was ordered to Texas and he was made quarantine officer at the port of Brazza Santiago, holding that office until the summer of 1865 when he was mustered out of the service.

O. B. Cadwell, associated with Dr. Chapman in army life and later as a member of the Tenth New York Heavy Artillery Veteran Association, said today: "When I first became acquainted with Dr. Chapman he was an adjutant in the Tenth New York Heavy Artillery. Soon after he was appointed captain of C company. I remained at headquarters but our friendship continued. He was a man of unblemished character and very much a gentleman in every way. He was a man who stood very high and was thoroughly capable. He was one of the organizers of the Tenth New York Heavy Artillery Veteran Association and was always most interested in the organization. He served as president of the association from 1885 to Oct 20, 1910 when he gave up the office voluntarily. He was elected secretary and remained in that office until he departed from the city in 1912."

Dr. Chapman was married in 1865 to Philinda M., daughter of Philo and Caroline Davis Hungerford. Three children were born to them: Clara M. who died in 1897; Florence L. and Walter E. Mrs. Chapman died in 1874 and in 1877 Dr. Chapman married Agnes G. McClure. Five children were born to them: Ross McC. of Washington, D. C., John H. who died in 1901; Margery C. wife of Richard Valentine of Stafford Springs, Conn.; Sanford T, who died about four years ago, and Donald C, a non-commissioned officer in the United States Army.

JOHN CHAPMAN PIONEER FAMILY

1. JOHN T. CHAPMAN, son of LEVI and BETSY (MASON) CHAPMAN was born 1814 Lyme, Grafton, New Hampshire, United Sates. He died 17 May 1891 and was buried at Evergreen Cemetery Henderson, Jefferson Co., New York. Listed as Levi's son in letter from Levi's grandson Dr. Eugene Chapman dated 1909. He worked as a blacksmith in Roberts Corners, Jefferson Co., and was a postmaster from 1850 to 1852 in Roberts Corners. He appeared on the tavern keeper census in 1850 in Henderson, Jefferson Co. as JOHN, his wife and 4 children, sister Lydia, plus Helen Overton (19) and William Sampson (18). Margin indicates residence was a hotel. Was William Sampson a relative through John's grandmother's side? He appeared on the census in 1865 in Henderson, Jefferson Co.

Biographical notes: 1 May 1866. Marine disasters near Cape Vincent, NY: John Chapman of Henderson had a schooner fouled by the *Hiawatha*. (nnylin.net/stlawrence-republican). He was supervisor from 1876 to 1878 in Henderson, Jefferson, New York, USA. (history.raysplace.com/ny/henderson-ny.htm). He was a proprietor of saw and shingle mill, and a farmer in Henderson, Jefferson Co. He married 1836 Henderson, Jefferson, MIRANDA N. CONGDON who was born 1819 Vermont and died 13 Dec 1891 Henderson, Jefferson Co., buried. Evergreen cemetery. She appeared on the census in 1865 in Henderson, Jefferson, New York, USA.

CHILDREN,

2 i JULIAN B. CHAPMAN b Apr 1838 Henderson, Jefferson Co. d 26 Sep 1841, bur Evergreen Cemetery, Henderson

3 ii EUGENE ADELBERT CHAPMAN (See Civil War Biography on Page 20), b 9 Dec 1839 Belleville, Jefferson Co. d Jan 1917 Stafford Springs, Tolland, CT; bur Jefferson Co. m (1) AGNES G. McClure (Cir 1851-1941), m (2) Philinda M. Hungerford (1842-1874) 1865 - Ellisburg, Jefferson Co. He worked as a MD.

4 iii EUGELIA A. CHAPMAN AKA ANGELIA or EUGELIA, b Jul 1842 Henderson, Jefferson Co. m 1866 - Jefferson WALLACE WILLIAM GLEASON (1841-) She appeared on the census in 1870, 1880, 1900, and 1910 in Henderson, Jefferson Co.

5 iv FLORENCE E. CHAPMAN, AKA FLORENCE L., b 1845-1846 Henderson, Jefferson Co., d 1865, bur Evergreen Cemetery, Henderson, Jefferson Co. She was still living on the 1865 state census in 1865 in Henderson.

6 v WASHINGTON IRVING CHAPMAN AKA IRVING W., b 19 Feb 1848 Henderson, Jefferson Co., d 7 Aug

1906 bur Roberts Corners, Jefferson Co., m 25 Feb 1872 - Henderson, Jefferson Co. EMMA SNOW (1851-1930). He appeared on the census in 1865 in Henderson, Jefferson, New York, USA. Listed as ERNEST in census. His cousin Ernest died in 1862, but Ernest's mother and her surviving son, Arthur, were living with or near IRVING'S parents. He worked at a boat livery in Henderson, Jefferson Co.

COMPUTER CORNER

FamilySearch

Over 300 Million New Names Added Online

There were over 150 new collections added or enhanced in late April at FamilySearch.org. FamilySearch volunteers indexed over 120 million records -- over 300 million new names -- from original source documents to accomplish this great feat. The massive release was announced recently at the National Genealogical Society annual conference in Salt Lake City, Utah. The records can be found at FamilySearch.org, click Search Records, and then click Record Search pilot or Beta.FamilySearch.org. Be sure to share the good news with family and friends.

None of this would be possible without the great contributions of many online FamilySearch volunteers. These individuals donate the time and effort needed to make these collections freely available to FamilySearch patrons. If you would like to become a volunteer in the FamilySearch community, please go to FamilySearchIndexing.org. Many hands produce great work. Thank you for your support!

Additions Include:

Canada

- Births and Baptisms, 1661--1959
- Deaths and Burials, 1664--1955
- Marriages, 1661--1949
- British Columbia Death Registrations, 1872--1986
- British Columbia Marriage Registrations, 1859--1932
- New Brunswick Births, 1819--1899
- Nova Scotia Births, 1702--1896
- Nova Scotia Marriages, 1711--1909
- Ontario Births, 1779--1899
- Ontario Marriages, 1800--1910
- Quebec Births, 1662--1898

Other additions were from Germany, Gibraltar, Great Britain and USA

Submitted by Lynne Cook UE, St. Lawrence Branch

BOOKS FOR SALE

**Lyme Heritage Center
P. O. Box 369
Chaumont, NY 13622**

1. Roster of Jefferson Country's Absent Sons and Daughters. An alphabetized list of about 4,000 people who left the county before 1905, the town they moved from and town to which they moved

..... \$10.00 + \$3.50 S. & H.

2. Ernest Cook Vol. 1. Compilation of Ernest Cook's interviews with Jefferson County's elders. Series such as: "Talks with Men of the North Country," "The famed Goodenough School," and "Forgotten Post Offices." This last series is especially useful for the genealogist because Cook names all the families who received mail at these remote locations. One hundred and twenty articles, 118 pages, with index

..... \$19.00 + \$3.50 S. & H.

3. Ernest Cook, Vol. II In this volume there are a total of 100 articles; 42 on Theresa, 10 on the French nobility in the North Country, 5 on the Edus emigration which tells why and how the non-noble left Europe, 15 articles on the Champion area, 28 on the Scotch Pioneers. There are 113 pages, many of them retyped for easier reading. With index

.....\$19.00 + \$3.50 S. & H.

4. Ernest Cook, Vol. III. One hundred nineteen pages, completely retyped for easy reading, with 30 articles from March 1910 to July 1929, many on Chippewa Bay area. Cook's technique was to interview the elders of a community. If he were interviewing an 80 year old in 1920, the man would have been born in 1840 and could give an oral history of the area from those early days. With index

.....\$19.00 + \$3.50 S. & H.

5. Point Salubrious 1802 - 2006 by Clara Van Doren

..... \$ 8.00 + \$2.00 S. & H.

6. Ernest Cook, Vol. IV. Thirty three articles, 117 pages, completely retyped for easy reading. There are

articles on some of the famous names in the North Country; Bonaparte, Coffeen, Cooper, Flower, Irving, LaFarge, LeRay and Remington. The book also includes 20 articles on the diary of a Scot immigrant relating the hardships that the early pioneer encountered in this uninhabited region. With Index

..... \$19.00 + \$3.50 S. & H.

7. Ernest Cook, Vol. V. Forty articles, 128 completely retyped pages, from August 1929 to November 1929, mostly on the Rossie, Hammond, Theresa areas

..... \$ 19.00 + \$3.50 S. & H.

8. Ernest Cook, Vol. VI. Forty one articles, 121 completely retyped pages, including a 13 article series on the Copley's of Chaumont and Antwerp, a 17 article series on the Town of Lyme and an 11 article series on Point Peninsula.

..... \$19.00 + \$3.50 S. & H.

9. The Historical Journal of John Bedford. A gripping saga of the difficult life of the pioneer in what was a nearly uninhabited Northern New York State. This is the story of Bedford's life between 1810 and 1844

.....\$25.00 + \$4.50 S. & H.

10. The Founding of the Schools in Lyme and the Pioneers who Built Them, by Joyce Lance. Includes a 3,000 + item index

..... \$22.00 + \$4.50 S. & H.

11. Follow the North Shore by Joyce Lance. Stories of the Early Settlers of Point Peninsula

..... \$18.00 + \$2.00 S. & H.

12. Schermerhorn Park Memories by Frank Schermerhorn

..... \$22.00 + \$3.50 S. & H.

The Heritage Center has two new books for sale. **"The Heritage Center Cookbook"** is a compilation of old time recipes and stories. Both the recipes and stories are a glimpse into the past. The second book is **"Chaumont History in Old Postcards."** This book contains about 70 postcards of old village of Chaumont with a bit of commentary about the scene depicted. Contact the Lyme Heritage Center for availability and price.



Lyme Heritage Center New Location



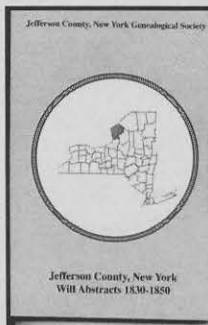
Lyme Heritage Is In The Back

JCNYGS MATERIALS FOR PURCHASE

JEFFERSON COUNTY NEW YORK WILL ABSTRACTS 1830 – 1850

The Will Book contains will abstracts dating from 1830 to 1850. The book contains 194 pages, two maps, and a chart showing the formation of Jefferson County Towns.

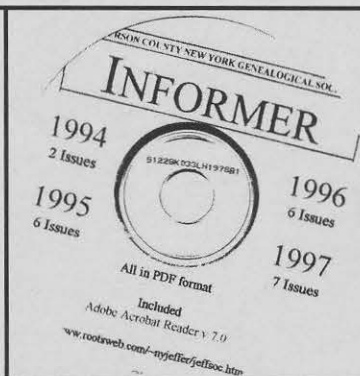
Sale Price \$15.00 + \$5.00 for postage. Checks made out to **JCNYGS**
Mail to: **JCNYGS**
Attn: **Robert VanBrocklin**
PO Box 6453
Watertown, NY 13601



Informers

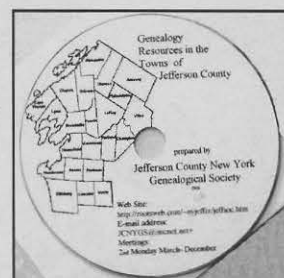
\$20 or \$23 if mailing is required
Al Seymour
110 Marian Drive
Mattydale, NY 13211
al@seymour.net

(If you buy 2 CDs, only a single \$3 Mail fee!)



Genealogical Resources of Jefferson County

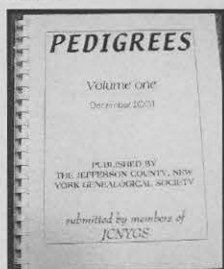
Collected by JCNYGS Genealogical Resources Committee
\$7 plus \$3 Mail fee
Al Seymour
110 Marian Drive,
Mattydale, NY 13211
al@seymour.net



PEDIGREE BOOK I & PEDIGREE BOOK II Each Book \$20.00 plus \$4.05 Shipping

A collection of pedigrees Submitted by members of the JCNYGS with an every name index

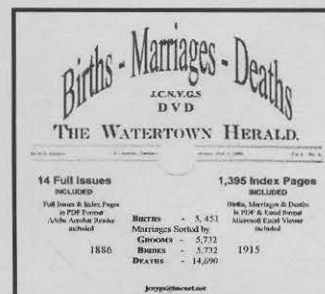
CONTACT: **Greg Plantz**
21787 Reed Road
Watertown, NY 13601
tplantz1@twcny.rr.com



A DVD of the Births-Marriages-Deaths from The Watertown Herald 1886-1915

\$25 or \$28 if mailing is required to JCNYGS at

Al Seymour
110 Marian Drive
Mattydale, NY 13211
al@seymour.net



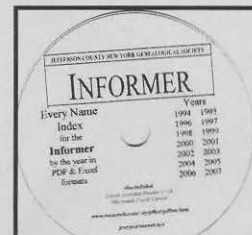
THE INFORMER

BACK ISSUES (As Available) \$4.00 EACH
Payable to JCNYGS
CONTACT **Greg Plantz**
21787 Reed Road
Watertown, NY 13601
tplantz1@twcny.rr.com



EVERY NAME INDEX INFORMERS 1994—2008

\$7 or \$10 if mailing is required
Al Seymour
110 Marian Drive
Mattydale, NY 13211
al@seymour.net



JULY 2010 PROGRAM JCNYGS

(nysch = New York State Council on the Humanities)

JULY 12 (Monday at 6:00 LDS Center on Ives Street in Watertown)

(nysch) Dr. Eisenstadt - **MIGRATIONS IN NEW YORK STATE.** No state has had as many immigrants and no state has lost as many residents as has New York State.

DIRECTIONS:

To reach the LDS Church from Rt 81, take exit 44 to Rt 232 towards Watertown. Drive 1.1 mile and take the second left hand turn on to Ives Street Road. Continue straight into the city. The LDS temple is the second building on the right when you enter the city limits, across from IHC.

From Watertown: Take Washington Street to Barben Avenue. Turn right on to Barben and take it until it ends at a T. Turn left and the LDS will be 300 yards on the left across from IHC.

REMINDER!!

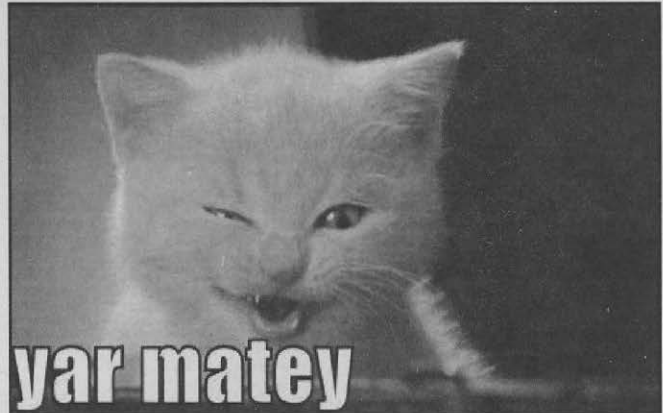
**All membership renewals
Were due by July 1st
\$15 a person; \$20 a couple
\$19 Canadian subscription**

**Send to:
JCNYGS, P.O. Box 6453
Watertown, NY 13601**

AUGUST 2010 PROGRAM JCNYGS

AUGUST 9 (Monday at 6:00 Macsherry Library in Alexandria Bay)

Jim Eagan - **PIRATE WILLIAM "BILL" JOHNSTON** whose actions during the war of 1812 were truly heroic. The true story is far more interesting than the legend. Jim has 7 generations of Johnson descendants.



DIRECTIONS:

Take route 81 north from Watertown to the Alexandria Bay exit, turn right to Alexandria Bay. Continue on route 12 through the Alex Bay light to Old Goose Bay Road. Turn left on Old Goose Bay road, which becomes Walton Street. The library is at 112 Walton Street, on the left.

If you turn left at the light in Alex Bay, turn right on Otter St., then left on Church St., take the first right onto Bolton Ave, then right on Walton St. The library is at 112 Walton Street on the right.

INFORMER

Volume 17, Issue 5

Annual Dues \$15.00 Canadian \$19.00

September 2010



Names on Picture are (from left): Nellie Gale Vogt, Peg Kessler with daughter and Mary Gale VanDeWalker

No date! District No. 2 on bus would be Three Mile Point School.

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INFORMER SEPTEMBER 2010

Correspondence about dues, memberships, and lost *Informers* should be directed to:
 Jefferson County Genealogical Society, P.O. Box 6453, Watertown, NY 13601
E-mail: JCNYSGS@gmail.com *Web site:* http://jefferson.nygenweb.net

President: Terry Baker, 493 Bugbee Drive, Watertown, NY 13601
tbaker.h2otown@yahoo.com, 315-788-0170

Vice President: Tracy Robertson, 26795 Clear Lake Camp Rd, Theresa, NY 13691
tracyrobertson19@yahoo.com, 315-486-2700

2nd Vice President: Rose Dillenbeck, 177 Haskins Road, Johnson City, NY 13790
dillenbeck177@att.net, 607-748-0001

Recording Secretary: unfilled (See President Terry if interested!)

Minutes will be taken by a volunteer at each meeting until position is filled!

Corresponding Secretary: Larry Corbett, 520 Binsse St., Watertown, NY 13601
lcorbet@gisco.net, 315-788-3044

Treasurer: Hollis Dorr, P. O. Box 297, Brownville, NY 13615
 No Email, 315-788-0959

The *Informer* Committee includes Bill Dixon, chairman; Nan Dixon, nandixon@gisco.net, editor; Clancy Hopkins, chopkins@imcnet.net, publisher. Editorial members (alphabetically) are Lis Couch, lcouch30@twcny.rr.com; Jerry Davis, maridavis@aol.com; Bob VanBrocklin, Rvan992@aol.com; and Pauline Zach, pinzach@aol.com. The *Informer* is published in January, March, May, July, September and November. A special Surnames issue has also been published in December.

Letters.....

Letters to the editor may be directed to
nandixon@gisco.net or to Nan Dixon, 15407
 Dixon Road, Clayton, NY 13624.

Additions & Corrections To your JCNYSGS Directory

Email Correction:

Clancy Hopkins (H-17) - chopkins@imcnet.net

Owed to the Spell Checker

I have a spelling checker-
 It came with my PC
 It plane lee marks four my revue
 Miss Steaks aye can knot sea.

Eye ran this poem threw it,
 Your sure reel glad two no.
 Its vary polished in its weigh-
 My checker tolled me sew.

A checker is a bless sing.
 It freeze yew lodes of thyme.
 It helps me awl stiles two read,
 And aides me when I rime.

To rite with care is quite a feet
 Of witch won should be proud.
 And wee mused dew the best wee can,

Sew flaws are knot aloud.

And now bee cause my spelling
 Is checked with such grate flare,
 Their are know faults with in my cite;
 Of non eye am a wear.

Each frays come posed up on my screen
 Eye trussed to be a joule.
 The checker poured o'er every word
 To cheque sum spelling rule.

That's why aye brake in two averse
 My righting wants to pleas.
 So now ewe sea why aye dew prays
 Such soft wear for pea seas!

Author Unknown

REMINDER!!

All membership renewals
 Were due by July 1st
 \$15 a person; \$20 a couple
 \$19 Canadian subscription

Send to:

JCNYSGS, P.O. Box 6453
 Watertown, NY 13601

JCNYGS

Minutes for June 14, 2010

Notes by Jerry Davis

President Terry Baker opened the June genealogy society meeting at the Flower Library with a Flag Day story from his experience at the Evans Mills Elementary School in 1990. President Terry reviewed minutes from the June meeting and they were accepted by a motion from Phyllis Putnam and seconded by Larry Corbett. Hollis Dorr reported a treasury balance of \$5,766.30. Gerald Desormeau moved to accept the treasurer's report and Dick Kemmis seconded.

Correspondence Secretary Larry Corbett mentioned that he had received an email informing us that Pat James was closing down her web site and was having a "fire sale" on her publications. Gregg Plantz reported for the Resource Committee that 20 copies each of the Pedigree books were deposited upstairs. Phyllis Putnam reported for the Publicity Committee and reviewed her work with 25 posters for the meeting. After a short question and answer session, a survey demonstrated that the emails from Linda Malinich were our best source of information for those present at the meeting. For the Program Committee, Phyllis reported on the upcoming programs and especially the directions to the LDS center and the Alexandria Bay Macsherry Library as our next 2 meetings will not be held at the Flower Library. July's meeting will be with Dr. Eisenstadt on MIGRATIONS IN NEW YORK STATE and will be held at the LDS center on Ives Street. August's meeting will be with Jim Eagan on PIRATE WILLIAM "BILL" JOHNSTON and will be held at the Macsherry Library in Alexandria Bay.

For old business: Bob VanBrocklin reported that he had just sent out copy number 98 of the Wills Book. Bob questioned where extra copies might be.

For new business: Nan Dixon opened a discussion on the society being represented at the Jefferson County Fair. Nan mentioned that years ago we had a table at the Oswego County Fair. President Terry volunteered to make a couple of phone calls and find out more information. President Terry also asked if there was still interest in cemetery tours in the fall on Saturdays.

Larry Corbett mentioned the Sackets Harbor 1812 Re-enactment would like help. Phyllis Putnam mentioned the upcoming Lyme Heritage Center Open House and a Lyme Library program on a new Wolfe Island Book. Clancy Hopkins mentioned that Dues are due July 1st.

The meeting was adjourned and Dr. Milt Sernett was introduced for his program on FROM MUSCLES TO MOTORS ON THE FARM.

JCNYGS

Minutes for July 12, 2010

Notes by Jerry Davis

President Terry Baker opened the July meeting of the Jefferson County NY Genealogical Society at the LDS Church on Ives Street in Watertown. The minutes were read and approved by a motion by Larry Corbett and seconded by Bob VanBrocklin. Hollis Dorr presented a treasury balance of \$5777.90. Dick Kemmis moved to approve the treasurer's report and Gregg Plantz seconded.

Bill Dixon reported for the newsletter committee that they were about to schedule a final proofreading of the next INFORMER. Jerry Davis mentioned that the May issue of the INFORMER had no extra copies and there have been requests for additional copies. Jerry made **a motion to have Jefferson County New York Genealogy Society purchase from AMF Printing an additional 50 copies of the May 2010 issue of the INFORMER at a cost of \$78.89.** Bill Dixon seconded and the motion was passed.

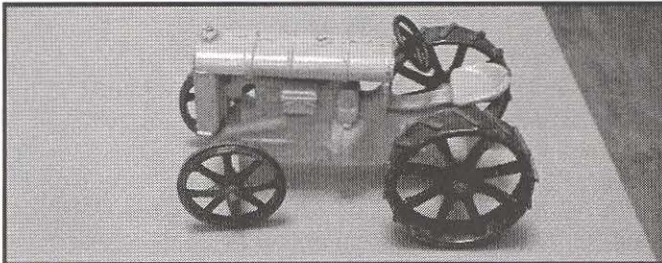
Under new business President Terry called for interest in being an officer for the coming year as all the present officers have filled their 2 year commitment of service. A nominations committee is also needed. Terry also mentioned that with the lack of time and a \$140 fee most likely would not allow us to have a table at the Jefferson Country Fair this year. Bill Dixon suggested that we begin now to perhaps be able to participate in next year's fair.

Phyllis Putnam reminded everyone of next month's program to be held at Alexandria Bay and the Macsherry Library. The program will be Jim Eagan and his presentation of PIRATE WILLIAM "BILL" JOHNSTON. Phyllis passed out brochures for people to put in local store fronts to advertise. The September meeting will be Stephen Clarke with his program on the BLACK SHEEP IN THE FAMILY BARNYARD OR JUST WHAT TO DO WITH A DRUNKEN SAILOR.

Phyllis then adjourned the meeting by introducing Dr. Eisenstadt with his program on NYS MIGRATION.

"It's hard to be humble with ancestors
like mine!"
"Life takes it's toll. Have exact change
ready!"

What's Going on with JCNYGS June 14, 2010



"FROM MUSCLES TO MOTORS ON THE FARM"
With Dr. Milt Sernett

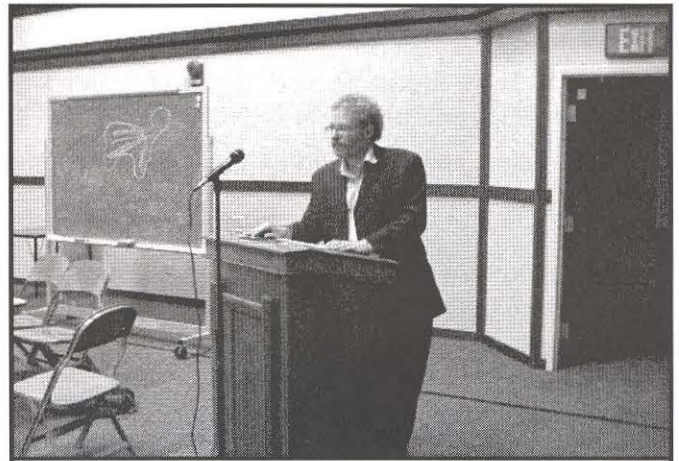


**Dr. Sernett speaks from behind his projector
at the June Jefferson Country Genealogy meeting**



**Dr. Milt Sernett and his wife pose for a photo
after presenting his program**

What's Going on with JCNYGS July 12, 2010



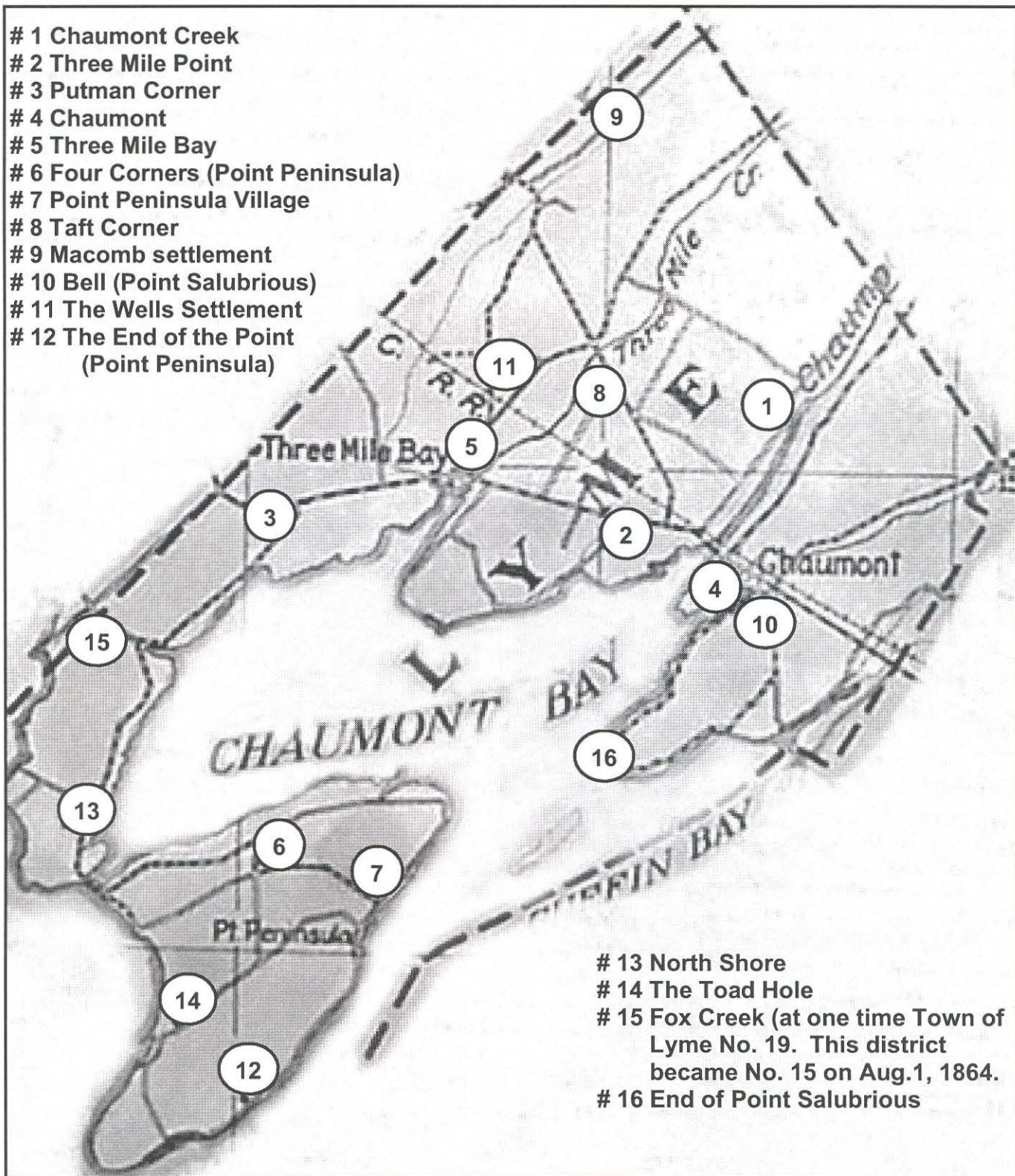
Dr. Eisenstadt Presents His Program



**Our July Meeting Was Held at the LDS
Church on Ives Street**



**Much Discussion and Many Questions
Followed Dr. Eisenstadt's NY Migration Program**



TOWN OF LYME SCHOOL DISTRICTS

Editor's Notes:

We have separated the information (on early schools in the Lyme Central School District) made available to us into two issues for the *Informer*. The following pages of this issue are devoted to the schools in the Three Mile Bay area. Our July issue was devoted to the schools in the Chaumont area.

We again thank the Lyme Heritage Center for allowing us to have our committee meetings at their new location in Three Mile Bay and especially to Phyllis Putnam for her continued contributions and support of the newsletter committee.

Included here are the following Town of Lyme School Districts: #3 Putman, #5 Three Mile Bay Union, #6 Four Corners, #7 Point Peninsula Village, #12 End of the Point (Peninsula), #13 North Shore, #14 Toad Hole and #15 Fox Creek.



(The pictures and information for the following schools have been taken from *The Founding Of The Schools In Lyme And The Pioneers Who Built Them* by Joyce Lance, available at the Lyme Heritage Center)

PUTMAN CORNER SCHOOL

District #3

The old records spelled the name Putman and was spelled that way by the first clerk of the records, Levi Putman, also the stones in the Putman-Putnam cemetery spelled the name this way, so I am doing likewise. Watertown telephone directory reveals the name to be spelled in either of these two ways.

Putman Corner School Records

Lyme Dec. 14, 1840

At the meeting of the taxable inhabitants of school district No. 13, Philip Putman was chosen chairman, Nathan Lake, clerk, Henry Klock, John H. Smith, Thomas Klock, chosen trustees for said district, Levi Putman, collector.

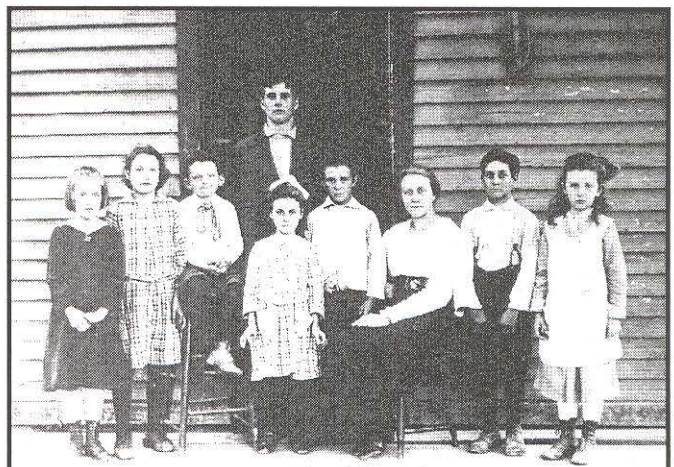
It was agreed that the site for the school house should be on the northeast corner of Asa Richardson's farm and likewise agreed that said Richardson is to sell to said district a piece of land for the school house, 20 feet by 48 feet at the rate of thirty dollars an acre. It is also agreed that the trustees are to direct how the school house is to be finished and the form of the seats and the writing desks. It is also agreed that the trustees shall have a right to tax each of the inhabitants proportionate parts of the tax in lumber and materials for building said house. Meeting is adjourned till called again on the 10th of July 1841 for the purpose of electing in the room of Levi Putman, moved out of district No. 13 and John Sponable elected. Meeting to be called again on the 27th day of November and said to be our annual meeting.

Nathan Lake, District Clerk

Nov. 27th, 1841 - Annual Meeting

Henry G. Klock chosen chairman; Peter Estus, chosen clerk; John Snell, Edward Curtis, Asa Richardson, chosen as trustees and John P. Putman chosen collector for the ensuing year. Voted that there be four months school kept and to commence on the sixth day of December next; that there should be a woman teacher; that there is to be one half cord of two feet wood furnished to each scholar by the first of January next and if not furnished to be furnished by the trustees and charged to the delinquent one dollar per said cord. Voted that there be one half of the public money applied to winter school and the other half to the summer school. Voted that Nathan Lake be librarian for the ensuing year. The next annual meeting shall be on the first Monday of October next. Voted that the meeting be adjourned till next Saturday at six o'clock in the afternoon at the school house. Kept by Peter Estus, District Clerk.

Henry G. Klock, Chairman



Putman Corner School 1916 – left to right: Blanche (Klock) Rickett, Evelyn Bellinger, Laurence Warner, on stool; Dorothy Weaver, Ted Klock, Laura Lowery, teacher; Clifford Weaver, Hazel Warner, Ralph Weaver, standing in the doorway.

CATALOGUE
of Three Mile Bay
Union Free School



1905-1906

HUNGERFORD-HOLBROOK CO. WATERTOWN, N. Y.

Three Mile Bay Union Free School,
THREE MILE BAY, N. Y.

BOARD OF EDUCATION.

GEORGE W. COMBS CYRUS J. LOTT

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THREE MILE BAY UNION FREE SCHOOL.

The Board of Education of the Three Mile Bay Union Free School invite attention of the public to this catalogue of the school, believing that in location, equipment, and the character of the work done, it offers excellent advantages for securing a sound education.

The school was organized under the Union Free School act in 1897 and incorporated under the Regents of the University of the State of New York, March 22, 1898.

The school meets the requirements for receiving the tuition of non-resident academic students from the State, hence, those non-resident students eligible to the academic department will be admitted free of tuition. Students who do in the school the prescribed work for admission to the City Training Schools for teachers will be admitted to such schools without further preparation or examination.

The design of the school is to provide the conditions necessary to the formation of correct habits of thought and of action, and to give the pupils a sound and practical Education as a preparation for business life, or for entering higher institutions of learning.

Location and Building.

The school building is pleasantly situated in the most healthful part of the village of Three Mile Bay. It has been recently papered, painted and thoroughly renovated. The rooms are provided with modern desks and have an abundance of blackboard space of good quality.

Library.

The school is supplied with a library of about 450 volumes. Besides a large and well selected collection of representative books of fiction, poetry and the drama, it contains many valuable works of reference in history, science, pedagogy, ethics and travel. Additions are made from time to time.

There are also globes, charts and numerous maps, both flat and relief, in addition to gazeteers, dictionaries and encyclopedias.

The books are new and up-to-date, of good print, and occupy convenient and elegant cases. Students are urged to use this library daily in the preparation of their work.

Apparatus.

Over \$500 has been expended in the purchase of modern apparatus to aid in the work. Here may be found apparatus for illustrating the more important principles in physics, the Gardner Season apparatus to assist in physical geography, models of the ear, eye and heart to help in physiology, and the Tiffany Natural Science Cabinet which is very useful to aid in the teaching of the industries of the world.

Expenses.

The expense of living in Three Mile Bay is moderate. Good board with lodging can be secured in desirable places near the school building for \$2.50 to \$3.00 per week. Those wishing to room and board themselves can secure rooms for that purpose at reasonable rates.

Requirements for Graduation.

The Regents' Academic Diploma is required for graduation. No student who has not the required counts will be allowed to appear at graduation.

Regulations and Suggestions.

In order for academic students to do well it is necessary for them to spend at least two hours in study at home. In the other departments a suitable amount of home work should be done.

Regularity of attendance cannot be too strongly emphasized. Irregularity in this respect is the most common cause of failure in school work. Parents should not only allow, but enforce, the attendance of their children every day that they are able to be in school.

Courses of Study.

The course of study for the grades is that prescribed by the Department of Education.

Academic Department.

ADMISSION.

For admission to the academic department pupils must possess one of the following:

1. Regents' preliminary certificate or
2. Ninth Grade certificate.

Academic Course.

	1ST. YEAR.
English	Latin
Algebra	Biology
	2ND YEAR.
English	Caesar
Geometry	Physical Geography
Ancient History	Drawing
	3RD YEAR.
English	Cicero
Physics	English History
Elementary French	Advanced Drawing
	4TH YEAR.
English	Elementary French
American History with Civics	Advanced Arithmetic
History and Principles of Education	Bookkeeping

Creditentials.

Preliminary certificate.—Reading, writings, spelling, arithmetic, geography, English and U. S. History with Civics.

The Education Department has decided to base the academic diploma upon a four year curriculum which requires a student to pursue four subjects of study at a time with at least 18 lessons a week.

This increase of requirements makes necessary a corresponding change in the system of counts. Hitherto 12 counts have been given for a year's work of 15 lessons a week—48 counts for a diploma. Hereafter 18 counts will be given for a year's work of 18 lessons a week—72 counts for a diploma.

The proposed increased requirements of 18 lessons a week will go into operation in September 1905, but is not to be retroactive. Therefore the number of counts required under the new scheme of value for an academic diploma will be as follows:

- To June 1, 1906.....48 counts.
- Between June 1, 1906, and June 1, 1907.....63 counts
- Between June 1, 1907, and June 1, 1908.....66 counts
- Between June 1, 1908, and June 1, 1909.....69 counts
- June 1, 1910, and thereafter.....72 counts

All credits earned before June 1, 1906, will be recorded as hitherto. When these credits are applied to creditentials issued subsequent to June 1, 1906, their values will be increased 25%, since 12 counts under one scheme of values are exactly equal to 15 under the other.

To enable the Department to issue examinations that shall fully protect the rights and interests of weak or slowly developing students and at the same time test adequately the knowledge and training of the most capable, it has adopted the following system of differentiated creditentials which will go into operation with the class that shall be graduated in June, 1909.

1. A diploma based upon a general average of 65.
2. A diploma, with credit, based on a general average of 75.
3. A diploma, with great credit, based on a general average of 85.
4. A diploma, with highest credit, based on a general average of 95.

THE SCHOOL WILL OPEN SEPTEMBER 5TH, 1905.

Program of Examinations---January and June.

MONDAY 9:15 A. M.-12:15 P. M.	TUESDAY 9:15 A. M.-12:15 P. M.	WEDNESDAY 9:15 A. M.-12:15 P. M.	THURSDAY 9:15 A. M.-12:15 P. M.	FRIDAY 9:15 A. M.-12:15 P. M.
French, 2nd year Advanced Arithmetic Algebra Advanced Drawing Latin Composition	Rhetoric American Selections Latin, 1st year Greek History	Plane Geometry Physics U. S. History Commercial Law	Sallust Arithmetic Commercial Geography	Writing Elementary English Cicero
1:15 P. M.-4:15 P. M.	1:15 P. M.-4:15 P. M.	1:15 P. M.-4:15 P. M.	1:15 P. M.-4:15 P. M.	1:15 P. M.-4:15 P. M.
Advanced English French, 1st year English Composition Roman History	Caesar Botany Business Arithmetic	Physiology & Hygiene Zoology Economics Bookkeeping English Selections	Geography Physical Geography English History Civics	Spelling English Reading Hist. of Literature Drawing Business Writing

March.

WEDNESDAY 9:15 A. M.-12:15 P. M.	THURSDAY 9:15 A. M.-12:15 P. M.	FRIDAY 9:15 A. M.-12:15 P. M.
U. S. History Plane Geometry Physics	Rhetoric Arithmetic Algebra	Writing Elementary English Latin, 1st year Cicero
1:15 P. M.-4:15 P. M.	1:15 P. M.-4:15 P. M.	1:15 P. M.-4:15 P. M.
Advanced English English Composition Physiology and Hygiene Bookkeeping	Geography Physical Geography English History Civics	Spelling Caesar Economics Drawing



Three Mile Bay Union classes of 1911-1912—row one, from the left: Ella Salisbury, Martha Miller, Agnes Gosier, Nona Wells, Ruth Constance, Gretta Putnam, Hazel Farret, Florence Muckian; row two, Hazel Cranston, Florence Beadle, Anna Sponable, Ruth Cornaire, Florence Wells, Christine Young, Amelia Gosier, Bessie Shaw, Vannessa Hill, Mamie Bardol; row three, Arch Branch, Edna Rickett, Barbara Sullivan, Mabel Wells, teacher; Martin Eselin, Clay Dick, Leonard Huck, Sherman Tucker, Hugh Muckian, Carl Hubbard, Jessie Van Doren, Mary Failing; row four, Schyler Doolittle, Charles Van Ostrand, Hiram Crouse, George Pettit, Elmer Chauvoustie, Alfred Reinagle. Three others not identifiable.

Three Mile Bay School Holds Closing Exercises

The closing exercises for the Three Mile Bay Elementary School were held Monday night, June 20 at 8:00 p.m. The invocation was given by Rev. Waterman. The program opened with a piano solo by Majken Gifford. The salutatory address was given by Pamela Phillips. An operetta "Goldilock's Birthday Party," was presented by all the students. This consisted of three acts, "The Party," "Lost In The Woods," and "The Bears Home." Lori Mount played the part of Goldilocks and LuAnn Chauvoustie her mother. Solo parts were taken by Lori Mount, LuAnn Chauvoustie, Jennifer Lance and Daryl Waterman.

The valedictory address was given by Susan Hyde. Mrs. Herrick presented diplomas to the following sixth grade students: Pamela Phillips, Dawn Mount, Susan Hyde, Majken Gifford, Donna Weaver, and Gary

Waterman. Mr. Brown, principal of Lyme Central School gave a brief talk. Each member of the graduating class was presented with a gift from the local P.T.A. Two awards were given students in each grade 1 through 5, a scholarship award for the student with the highest average and an achievement award for the student showing the most improvement during the year. These awards were won by LuAnn Chauvoustie and Mark Hyde for fifth grade; Marget Hewitt and Lori Mount for fourth grade; the third grade winners were Jennifer Lance and Perry Hyde; second grade, Cathy Weiler and Ann Hyde while awards for the first grade went to Daryl Waterman and Cecil Mellon.

A clarinet solo "Our Alma Mater" was played by Pamela Phillips. Benediction was given by Rev. Gifford. Miss Wilcox extended an invitation to all friends and parents to attend the annual picnic on Tuesday.

This account was taken from a newspaper article. The year was 1966.



The Four Corners School House built on the approximate site of an earlier school.

The Four Corners School

District #6

An early teacher of the Four Corners school was Alma Barnes. She was born on Point Peninsula, Sept. 25, 1853 the eldest child of the late George A. Barnes and Sophia Enders Barnes. Alma Barnes was the wife of Wallace Harris, and the mother of John Harris, who was a former Mayor of Watertown, N.Y. Wallace Harris was known as a great man with the horses. He was the breeder and owner of the light harness racer Lucille, winner of the world's speedway championship. He won many races when horse racing was quite the afternoon event on Point Peninsula. Sometimes the schools were let our early so the pupils could attend. The teacher also went.

On April 19, 1946, Milton Lance, Kenneth Lance's grandfather was ninety years old. An article in the observance of his birthday had this to say. Milton Lance was born on Point Peninsula, April 19, 1856, a son of Peter and Gertrude (Klock, Warner) Lance. He was a student of Ives Seminary at Antwerp, and at the Point Peninsula school. Mrs. Wallace Harris of Sackets Harbor is believed to be the only surviving member of Mr. Lance's class at Point Peninsula. He went to the Toad Hole School.

Mrs. Harris lived to be 107 years old. She died in 1960.

Teachers at the Four Corners School

Charlotte Lance who many years ago lived here on Point Peninsula was the daughter of Len Lance and Jen Merrill. Jen Merrill was a most interesting person;

her hobbies were varied and went along with country living in those early days. The porch of her home was filled with plants of all kinds, she kept bees, and trapped in the marshes for animal skins. Jen was also a taxidermist. Around their home would be different specimens, on the organ would be an owl looking at you and somewhere else a stuffed fox.

Those were the days of hired men, who had separate quarters in the house (upstairs by a separate stairway and apart from the family). When they were not working they entertained themselves with racing the farm horses. There can still be seen traces of the racing tracks if you know where to look for them.

There were better things in store for Charlotte, than living on a farm. While home she learned to play the organ, and when there were no further advance education here, she attended Potsdam Normal School, where she did exceptionally well.

Teachers at the Four Corners School

A letter from Charlotte Lance Mrs. Frank Hewitt

"Teachers as I remember them at the Four Corners: Tinnie Vincent, Julious Foster, Anna Barber and Emmet Collins. I can't possibly recall the years the teachers taught. Tinnie Vincent was Fred Vincent's sister and she taught for several years as also did Emmet Collins. Julious Foster was there only one year and I think Anna Barber was there one year. I also taught there a year before going to Normal School at Potsdam. The students: Bob Collins, "Babe" Vincent, Mina Salisbury, Emma Cranston, a Failing boy, the Moore twins, but I can't remember their first names. It is all of 75 or 80 years ago and my memory is not good. Point Peninsula was some different in those days—prosperous farmers and a real live community."

This letter was postmarked Dec. 27th, 1978. This remarkable lady is now 96 years old and makes her home in Pittsburgh, Pa., living with her son and family. Her son is Norman Hewitt.

I have found that the Moore twins mentioned in her letter were Sydney and Seeber Moore. Their parents were Mr. and Mrs. E. B. Moore.

Note: On February 16, 1983, "Lottie" Lance celebrated here 101st birthday.



Point Peninsula Village School 1928—In front, Roy Barr. The middle row left to right, Ervin Barr, Marion Gosier, Dorothy Cheal, Rhoba Dodge, Gerald Cheal. In back, Morven Barr. Eva Ackerman was the teacher.

Point Peninsula Village School District #7

Two early families who must have attended the Village school were the Graves family and the Gosiers. Mrs. Nina (Mayhew) Gosier's brother, Lena Graves and her brothers E. Graves, William Graves, who was a doctor, and a sister Fannie Phillips. The Gosier family moved from Rosiere to the Point in 1897. Howard was born in 1892 in Rosiere, his sisters, Laura, Emma, Stella, and Clara were 8, 10, 12 and 14 years old when they came here to live. Archie was nine years old when he died. He might have attended school at least a couple of years.

Note: The Gosier name originally spelled, Gaugiens, and no doubt came from Rosiere, France, along with many other French settlers from that place.

Teachers: A List Provided By Mrs. Gosier

Mrs. Flora Sills (was her first teacher)	1913
Mollie Atwater Gosier	before 1915
Naomi Defoe	1916
Tracy Vincent	1921
Lillian D. Failing	1923
Cora Chase Paul	
Eva (Cross) Ackerman	1928
Helen O'Brien	
Mrs. Cassidy	1925?
Nina (Mayhew) Gosier	1928
Mrs. Elsie Ellis	1931
Jessie (Buskirk) Case	1934
Dorotha Northrop	1939
(she had only 2 students enrolled)	

Nina Gosier's Classmates

Hazel (Gosier) Cheal
Lyle Bonney
Earl Rector and Ralph Rector, his brother
Jack Mandigo
Maude, Laura, Cecil, Glen and Harold Brown—all one family
Gladys (Maynew) Hayes
Nina (Mayhew) Gosier

Pupils of Mrs. Gosier

Morven, Ervin and Roy Barr, brothers from Canada
Dorothy Cheal
Marion Gosier

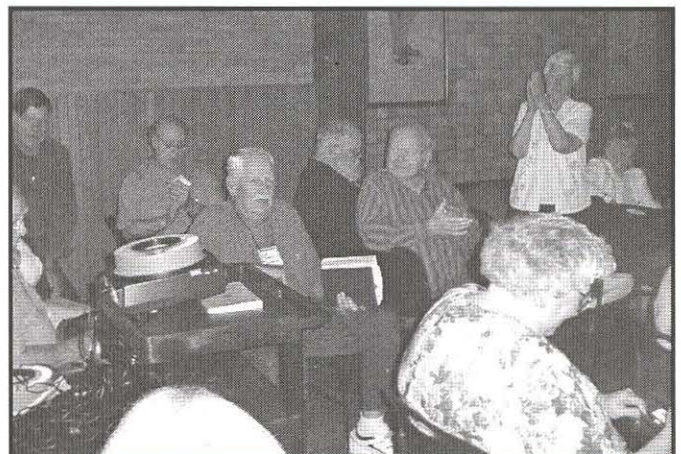
Teacher of the Village School

Eva (Cross) Ackerman was the teacher in 1828. Her pupils were: Rhoba J. Dodge, Marion E. Gosier, Dorothy R. Cheal, Arthur Morven Barr, Edgar Ervin Barr, Roy Wilbert Barr, and Gerald A. Cheal.

The school board members were: H. G. Ciegler, Dist. Supt.; Leon Failing, Trustee; Clayton Bongard, Collector; and Nora Zellwager, Clerk.

In 1933, Jessie (Buskirk) Case was the teacher of the Village school. Her students were: Robert Gillette, John H. Failing, Gerald Cheal, Eugene Blanden, David Blanden, Anne McAdam, Gloria McAdam, and Philip McAdam.

John Zellwager was trustee in 1933 and 1934. Linus Collins was trustee of this school and Clayton Bongard was at one time collector of the district. This school must have closed in 1941 or shortly after.



A good turnout for Dr. Sernett's June program!



End of the Point School—the children of the End of the Point School, in about 1917, doing fresh air exercises. They are from the left: Maude Harris, later to become Mrs. Oswald Mason, the O'Conner girls and Lillian Graham who married Russell Luff. Flora Sills was probably the teacher at this time.

End of Point Peninsula School District 12

Letter From Mabel Herrick

Mabel Herrick's account of the times, the people and the "End of the Point" school, where she taught her first year, the first of many years of teaching. This letter to me was dated August 27, 1978.

Dear Joyce,

I hope you like this little sketch of the Point, I know I enjoyed writing it. Hope you enjoy reading it.
M. Herrick

It began in September 1910, when I was nineteen years old. I had just graduated from the Watertown training school for teachers. I was placed on three years probation, after that if I had been successful I would be given a ten year certificate, which had to be renewed every ten years by the Watertown Board or the District Superintendent, if you taught in a country school. I think this old way is much better than the new way which requires a Masters Degree to start with. One year in J.C.C. of review of grade subjects and modern teaching would give students a better chance to earn money at a more reasonable cost.

Well, to go back, my District Superintendent was W. J. Linnell. He placed me in a small rural school for a start. That's how I happened to go to the "End of the Point" school. I was receiving ten dollars a week for thirty two weeks of school. He found me a boarding place with the Bryon Harris family for three dollars a week. For the other twenty weeks of the year I contin-

ued working on farms as a "Hired Girl". Most of the time I received two dollars and fifty cents a week plus board and room. So on a September morning I started from my home in Glen Park. I took a street car to Brownville, then the train to Three Mile Bay, a horse and light wagon took me and the mail from the old depot to the village. I ate lunch at the "Town Tavern". About one p.m. the stage (light wagon) started for Point Peninsula Village and again I rode with the mail and an assortment of packages, boxes, and groceries. Mr. Harris met me at the "Hotel" and I finished the trip in a buggy. When I reached my new home the lamps were lighted. It had taken me all day to make the trip and each time I took a new means of travel, I had to pay. Usually not more than a dime or quarter.

The weekend was spent getting acquainted with my new surroundings. I found myself in, I think, the first summer boarding place on the Point. It was a beautiful place with flowers, garden, well kept lawns, a croquet set and many well kept buildings. It was a dairy farm; the milk went to a factory at the village. In winter, the milk was separated and such products as butter, and cottage cheese were made from it. In one building Byron had his hens. He had a flock of pure-bred hens and he took very good care of them. He did no farm work, just cared for the lawns, garden and over see the help.

Mrs. Harris was semi-invalid, she didn't seem to have any sickness, but she did no work and had to be waited upon. Next after her was another Mrs. Harris, a Mrs. Anna Harris, she had charge of the household affairs. She had two little girls, Mildred, age 10, who later became Mrs. Benjamin Countryman, and Maude, age 2, who became Mrs. Oswald Mason. I soon learned that their father was also Byron's father. So these two little girls were Byron's half-sisters. Their father was James Harris and he married Anna Marsh.

There were two hired girls, Carrie and Mamie Gibbons. Theo Miner who lived nearby used to come and help if needed. Before I had been there very long I was working also and paying only a dollar fifty a week for my board.

Mamie taught there the year before and wanted the job but her license had run out so Linnell wouldn't let her have it, she later married Wayne Hewitt. There was an assortment of hired men, Frank Cheal, Ted Mephram and others, some could hardly speak English. Byron used to sponsor them at Ellis Island and bring them to the Point where he and other farmers hired them. He liked to get Swedes if he could because they knew dairy cows. They had rooms in an outside building.

(Continued On Page 14)

(Continued From Page 13)

Now to summer boarders, two men had spent the summer there; I could hardly believe it when they told me the men were George Primrose and his brother. They spent a carefree summer with no reporters to broadcast their every move. Now to the people on the Point they all knew the Primroses were there but no one told. How long would people keep a secret now-a-days?

The Harris home was a fine stopping place for many travelers. Peddlers of all kinds came for meals, a place to care for their horses and a room for the night. No matter how late they came they were sure of a warm meal and a welcome. After the supper work was done, this soon became my task so the other girls could go to bed and be ready to get up at five or even before. I remember getting a meal for Ira Pellman who many years later started the "Boys and Mens Specialty Shop" in Watertown. That night he was a very tired young man of about my age. He had walked all day with a large pack on his shoulders and a smaller one in each hand. He sold cloth, pins, needles, jewelry, and many such items. He was a pack peddler and a very tired one. He always remembered me when I came into his store. Before he had the store he graduated to a horse and cart and from then on life became easier.

Other people came from England to make their homes in America. Some like the Cheal family made their first stop at the Harris home. First came John and William Cheal followed later by their two sisters, Carrie and Nancy, later two younger brothers Frank and Horace. Frank Cheal said later, "we were just a couple of kids." All the children working together, rented and furnished a house on the Point. While I was there Ted Mephram brought his sister Mae from England. She came to the Harris home. In England she had been a parlor maid in the city of London. Her sister had just married and gone to Australia to live. Mae thought she would like living in the "wilderness" so she came to the Point where Ted lived. I guess she liked it. Later she married Ken Bongard, but it must have been some change from the city of London. I don't suppose she ever saw her sister again.

Well, I've wandered allover the Point. I guess I was supposed to tell you about the school. Monday morning came and we wandered down the shore to the school house. We walked, it was only a mile and everyone walked in those days, with me was Mildred Harris, 10 years old and Harley Dingman about 15. At the school house we met my other big boy, Milford Collins, about 16, Judson Kilborn about 12, and Wilford Kilborn, about five pupils in all and only one girl. Clarence Kilborn was the trustee. It was a small one room school, heated by a long wood stove. You could put a log of wood in that stove. My two big boys took charge of the fire, filling the water pail and such chores. They

never thought of leaving work like that for me to do. Not like boys now! The teachers desk was on a raised platform at the one end. You sat there as if you were on a throne. So we started out in quest for education. The lake was right at our front door. We were never cold in winter after we started the old wood fire, we were all healthy as bear cubs from walking to school in the pure air every morning. Also we wore enough clothes to keep us warm. No nylon underwear for us. Our books were ordered by mail. The superintendent visited us once a year. We had teachers conference that year in Sackets Harbor. The last year they held it for a full week. There you listened to reports on new methods and had a chance to stock up on supplies. I went from my home in Glen Park on the street car to Dexter. There a group chartered a boat to take us and bring us back each night. I left home Saturday morning to allow a full days trip to get back to the Point. Years later at a meeting in Chaumont about centralization the principal remarked that if they closed Three Mile Bay, Point Peninsula high school students would have to come to Chaumont. I told him not to be too sure, Point Peninsula could go to either Cape Vincent or Sackets if they were pushed around. Mildred Harris and Milford Collins both graduated from Cape Vincent High School. One interesting thing about the school in 1910, the children are all dead only the teacher is left. (Note - Mrs. Herrick died December 19, 1981 at the age of 90.)

On page eight I crossed out the word power because I couldn't be sure it was a power boat that took us from Dexter to Sackets Harbor but I still feel the boat that took us to the teachers conference was a power boat, but maybe I am mistaken, that was a long time ago.

On the farm the only power we had was the wind mill pumping water. Everything else was turned by hand. The Grange Hall was the recreation center; here we joined the Grange and went to all the meetings which were followed by feasts which they called "suppers". We went also to dances there. I have danced many times with Frank Cheal before he came to regard it as a sin. Sometimes we attended the "Little White Church" by the Lake but I must admit we were not a very religious group. I think there was a resident pastor on the Point then.

In the evening Carrie would play the piano and Frank would sing. We loved that because we had never heard of radio or TV. At that time the Point was a unit set-apart. They lived their own lives, entertained themselves, helped each other, worked hard, were strictly honest and asked nothing from the outside world or paid for what they asked.

I told Jennifer (Jennifer Lance) about the long ring on the telephone. That meant news for everyone. To me
(Continued On Page 15)

(Continued From Page 14)

it might be a warning that the District Superintendent just crossed the Isthmus. It might mean the game warden had landed at the Village dock. It might mean someone needed help or most any news of interest to all. At that time there was a saying: "All Laws stop at the Isthmus."

1910-1911 was the end of the school for Harley Dingman, but he became interested in the new auto and he sold one to every farmer on the Point. He went on to establish the Chevrolet place in Carthage. It makes you think, the teachers in that little school must have done good work.

Sunday was ice cream day. Carrie made the custard, the boys froze it in the two or three gallon freezer turned by hand. There must have been an ice house among those buildings. The girls had to take care of all the clean up work. I enjoyed my year on the Point and I think I learned a lot from them. Sometimes even now at night I seem to hear the groaning of the wind mill and the sounds of the waves lapping on the shore.

Mabel (Yerdon) Herrick

"Now as to my family, the Yerdon's were Mohawk

Dutch. My grandfather always claimed some Indian ancestors. If you travel in the Mohawk Valley, you will see many stores, business places etc. with the name Yerdon".

"My mother's people were French Canadians, who did exactly what the Priest told them to do, no questions asked. They crossed the St. Lawrence River to get away from the rule of English protestants".

Mabel Herrick's own comments.

Mrs. Mabel Herrick was born in Chaumont, N.Y. March 25, 1891, the daughter of Charles and Carrie (Bushnell) Yerdon. She married Claude Herrick, Dec. 23, 1912 at Chaumont, N.Y. Mrs. Herrick was a teacher for 43 years, first teaching at the "End of the Point" school on Point Peninsula, then at the "Bell" school, Chaumont, N.Y., the "Three Mile Bay Union" school, and later at Lyme Central. She retired in 1968. Mrs. Herrick died Dec. 19, 1981 at the age of 90. Mr. Herrick died Mar. 24, 1981 at the age of 93 years. He was born in Three Mile Bay, Sept. 12, 1887, the son of Clarence and Annette (Gibbons) Herrick. They have two sons, Clarence of Verona and Henry of Norfolk, Va.



Three Mile Bay Graduates 1919. Seated in front—Anna Fleury and Viola Klock. Back Row—Laura Sponabale, Edna Reed, Anita (Favret) Dick, Tracy Vincent, E. J. Bennett and Edna Pennock.



The North Shore School

District #13

When the early settlers began arriving, they asked directions on how to get there. They were told to follow the north shore. So this became known as the North Shore.

The deed to the North Shore school property was obtained March fourteenth, 1840 for the sum of one dollar. Vincent Le Ray de Chaumont was the party of the first part, by his attorney Patrick S. Stewart, and Jonathan Selter, Andrew Lucas, and Peter Wheeler, Trustees of school district No. 13, of the Town of Lyme in Jefferson County and the State of New York of the second part. This property, near the Isthmus was previously contracted to Andrew Lucas.

North Shore School Teachers

Miss Forentine Vincent (Tinnie Vincent) taught at the North Shore School before 1915 and boarded at the home of Horatio Warner, and grandfather of Elizabeth Warner Cramer who taught there at a later date.

Edith Cummings, Florence Wells, a Miss Cavanaugh, Florence McCormick, Alma Greene, Albert Northrop, Ann Fleury, a Miss Anderson, Georgia (Crouse) Klock (1923 & 1928), Claude Bates (1927), Iva Bates, Grace Richards, De Etta Northrop (1929), Pearl Congdon and Elizabeth Warner (1940).



North Shore School, July 20, 1914

Left to Right: Florentine (Tinnie) Vincent—teacher, Everett Flander, Myrtle Flander, Leland Becker, Emma Flander, De Etta Northrop.



Toad Hole School

District #14

Schools of the Toad Hole Vicinity

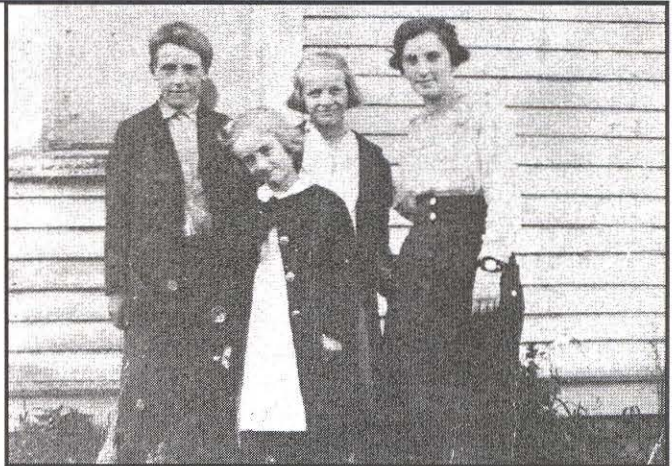
I have been told by those who have heard it said that there was a log school located on the shore side toward the Angell homestead; where Maynard Cheal now lives. Later it was located across the road in the field and this school was known as the Thompson Mayhew school. It was on a bend in the road between the T. Mayhew site and the Peter Lance homestead as can be seen on the Lyme map in the 1864 Atlas of Jefferson County. Later this school was again relocated and became known as the Toad Hole school; situated near the Toad Hole.

Of the Thompson Mayhew school, I have seen mention of it in two old diaries. In M. A. Manley's diary, Feb. 24, 1869 it said: "school kept 56 days by Thompson Mayhew; delivered one cord of wood, half to the Thompson Mayhew school for 750 cents. In 1870 it says "Paid T. D. Mayhew \$27.50, school tax.

A book used in this school was entitled, "Life and Times of Daniel Boone," and is dated 1837. This book belongs to Mrs. Linda Bartik of Cary, North Carolina. Windsor Angell was her great grandfather and he attended this school. He married Julia Manley, the daughter of M. A. Manley.

The T. Mayhew school is also mentioned in a diary of Emily Dingman. The Dingmans came to the Point to farm on March 3, 1857, Abram and his wife Emily. They had sons; Porter, Hanley and Randall. In Emily's diary of 1891, Jan. 5, she wrote, "Porter drew a load of wood to Dode Mayhew's school." He was the son of Thompson Mayhew so it was most likely the same school where his father taught.

Thompson Mayhew who came to Point Peninsula in 1827, from Saratoga, N.Y., was born at Plymouth, N.H., the son of William and Hannah (Harriman)



Toad Hole School about 1919—In front: Marjorie Buchanan, now Mrs. Maynard Cheal, at the back, from the left: Allan Buchanan, Katherine Buchanan, now Mrs. Francis Luff, the teacher, on the right is Iva Pennock, who married Garret Van Ness.

Thompson. He married Cornelia Hardy of Henderson, N.Y.

William Thompson, born at Plymouth, N.H. was among the first settlers of this place arriving in 1822. He stayed for twenty years before removing to Indiana, where he died in 1860 at the age of 88 years. He was the son of Peter Mayhew, a native of France, who emigrated while young to Plymouth, New Hampshire and died there about 100 years of age. He had married a Miss Thompson.

Theodore "Dode" Mayhew, son of Thompson Mayhew, was the father of Frank C. Mayhew, born on Pillar Point, who was a well known farmer in this vicinity. Frank Mayhew's mother was Minnie Crandall. Frank Mayhew married Lena Graves of Point Peninsula. He died at his farm home here in 1935.

Nina Mayhew, the daughter of Frank Mayhew, carried on the teaching tradition of the Mayhew Family. She taught at the Village and the End of the Point Schools on Point Peninsula.

The Toad Hole School The Teachers

Merton Angell - fall of 1899?
Arthur Washburn - about 1900, Sackets Harbor, N.Y.
Homer Dick - Three Mile Bay, N.Y.
Henry Northrop - Three Mile Bay, N.Y.
Jennie Shaw - 1906-1907
Beulah Hewitt - 1907-1908, Three Mile Bay N.Y.
May F. Crouch - 1908-1909, Sackers Harbor, N.Y.
Marion Brewster - 1909-1910, Cape Vincent, N.Y.
Floy Dodge - 1910-1911, Cape Vincent, N.Y.
Lula Niles - 1912-1913, Clayton, N.Y.

(Continued On Page 18)

(Continued From Page 17)

Pearl K. Gibbons - 1913-1914, Camps Mills, N.Y.
 Jenny Bennett - 1915-1916
 Flora Sills - 1916-1917, Dexter, N.Y.
 Mrs. Goodrich - 1917-fall term
 No teacher - 1918-spring term
 (Students went to the End of the Point district, Katherine Empie, teacher).
 Helen Dixon - 1918-fall term
 Iva (Pennock) Van Ness - 1919-spring term
 Ruth Gordon - 1919-a substitute for a short time?
 Nina Dingman - 1919-fall term
 Tracy Vincent - 1920-spring term
 Ola Anstead - 1920-fall term
 Alta Lane - 1921-spring term
 Mrs. Mary Carr - 1921-1922
 Mildred (Harris) Countryman - 1922-1923
 Julia Allen - 1923-1924
 Mildred (Harris) Countryman - 1924-1925, Pt. Peninsula, N.Y.
 Mrs. Ruby Gooding - 1925-spring term
 Helen O'Brien - 1925-1926

1926 was the last year of school held at the Toad Hole school. In the fall of 1926 this district sent the scholars to the End of the Point School. De Etta (Northrop) Gordon was teaching that school, and boarded at the Kenneth Bongard home, as did several others who taught at the End of the Point School.

Mr. Elmer Frye who furnished some of the names of the above list is a resident of Point Peninsula. He was trustee of the Toad Hole School for the years 1925-1927. Mr. Frye went to the Toad Hole school beginning in 1907, when his folks bought the farm where he now resides from James Harris. He ceased to go in winter of 1915-1916, when he moved to Three Mile Bay. Later he returned here to live and is now one of the elder citizens of this place.

Added Note: Lewis Lance taught at the Toad Hole at one time when a teacher was needed. This would probably have been about 1847. He was born in 1820 and died in 1900.



Old Town Springs School Picnic 1911 (No names)

Old Town Springs School or Chaumont Creek School District #1



Fox Creek School (District 17 of the town of Cape Vincent) 1887

Front row left to right are: Walter Bates, Alton Northrop, Pewilla Rogers Dick, Marion Bates Dick, Ella Northrop Flanders and Augusta Guile Foster.

Second row: Ralph Rogers, Lloyd Rogers, Perl Hayes, Pearl Angell Majo and Mabel Bicker Hayes.

Back row: George Wilcox, Lewis Bates, Charles Persons, Adams Bates, Warden Hayes and May Lucas Scales, teacher.

Fox Creek School

District #15

Log School at Fox Creek

Mrs. Julia Humphrey Merchant, in an article written to the Times in January of 1946, made reference to the fact that at one time there was a log school at Fox Creek before a later one was built. She mentions cottages along the shore and the disappearance of the log school house. The later school built on the same site as the old log school was removed from the original location and used a few years as a cottage before it was destroyed by fire. Mrs. Merchant spoke of the old families who probably attended this school, saying: "Across the road from the school house is a large cemetery where the old families are buried, some of them being the Shulers, Vincents, Fish, Lewis, Lance, and perhaps the Persons and Selter families and many more. Some no doubt attendants of the old log school."

The Fox Creek School Records 1845 – 1913

Pages one and two of this clerk's book is missing. A table of contents at the end of the original record indicate that there were two earlier meetings. The missing ones from the front of the book are: Page 1., A special meeting held Nov. 30, 1844; and Page 2., an annual meeting held Feb. 22, 1845.

Imagine the interest of the surrounding homesteaders as they gathered to discuss the building and location of a much needed school to accommodate the growing community.

They had no way of knowing that the school they proposed to build would span an era from shillings and pounds to U.S. dollars and from adjournment of their early meetings as - "Resolved that we adjourn till the second Thursday at early candlelight" to electric power.

Anecdotes and Happenings

Capt. Charles Van Ostrand (Charlie) who was born June 14th, 1860 had these instances to relate concerning his school days.

There was a time a lady school teacher could not control the children of the Fox Creek School. The board of education decided something had to be done about it; having come to this conclusion they made the decision to hire a man teacher.

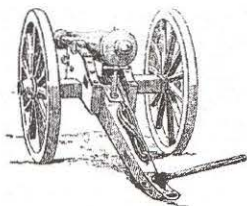
The man teacher (cannot mention names) knowing well the attitude of the children presented himself in this way. He introduced himself saying, "I am the new school teacher," at the same time taking a revolver from his coat and laying it on the desk. Needless to say he had no trouble with class behavior.

Another time this long ago the school children and the teacher too, put on skates, skated down Fox Creek to the lake and then over to Fox Island. There one of the boys went off by himself to some buildings where some folks had farmsteads. While he had wandered off, the teacher and the rest of the children, (I expect in the form of punishment) picked up the boy's skates and left, leaving him to walk all the way back, a considerable distance.

These stories were told by Capt. Charles Van Ostrand at a birthday party where "Capt. Charlie," born in 1860, "Tune" Bates, born in 1870, and John Reed born in 1880, had a celebration together. Ward Reed, also present told me these stories.

Near the Fox Creek School at one time was located a cheese factory. The whey from which was discharged into the creek. A boy one day not wishing to be apprehended by the teacher, led a merry chase criss-crossing the creek, jumping from side to side with the teacher in close pursuit. This all ended rather abruptly, when the teacher miss-stepped and fell into the whey. The boy seeing his chance ran for home, where he stayed two days. He had told his father that he was not feeling well, so as to avoid facing the teacher, who he thought was ready to punish him.

CIVIL WAR BIOGRAPHY



Gustavus Hardy

Union Soldier - Distinguished Service

Gustavus Hardy was born on Aug. 3, 1823 in the town of Rutland, the son of the late Robert and Abigail Stone Hardy. At the age of 41, Mr. Hardy enlisted in Company A, 10th New York Heavy Artillery on August 26, 1864, in the town of Rutland. He served the greater part of his enlistment at Petersburg, Va. He was honorably discharged June 23, 1865.

Watertown Daily Times March 19, 1918

GUSTAVUS HARDY

AGED 94, DIES

OLDEST MEMBER OF THE EXEMPT FIREMEN
WAS VETERAN OF CIVIL WAR.

Was Contractor In His Early Days and Worked on
Some of the Best Known Buildings of the City.

Gustavus Hardy, a veteran of the Civil war and the oldest member of Watertown Exempt Volunteer Firemen's Association, died at his late residence, 329 Jay St., Monday night at 6, aged 94 years. Mr. Hardy was also one of the three oldest Odd Fellows in Jefferson county. He had been in good health up to seven weeks ago.

Mr. Hardy had been a resident of Watertown since 1848. At that time he came to this city at the age of 26 years, from the town of Rutland, where he was born on Aug. 3, 1823, the son of the late Robert and Abigail Stone Hardy. His parents were among the early settlers of that section. His father was a carpenter and was the first man in this section of the country to use the square in erecting buildings.

When Mr. Hardy came to this city he learned the carpenter's and joiners' trade. He served as an apprentice for Benjamin Gibbs of State street, an old time contractor. After mastering the trade he was associated with Mr. Gibbs for several years. Construction was altogether different from the present day method. Buildings were frame entirely, put up with huge beams,

held together by wooden pins. At the time Mr. Hardy first arrived in Watertown the city looked little as it does today. On the north side of Public Square there was but one building, the one at the corner of Mill street long known as the Streeter block and now known as the J. B. Wise building. There were but few buildings on the north side of the river except those at the eastern part then known as Juherville. On the north side in the vicinity of Mill street about the only building of consequence was the old flouring mill property known as the Checkerboard mill, where the electric light plant is now located. It was called this because the exterior was painted in two colors with a checkerboard design.

Mr. Hardy had always resided in Jay street, living on the same plot of ground where his late home is located. He worked as a carpenter on the Woodruff house, the old Iron Block and the American buildings. The latter was two years in the process of construction. He also worked on the Taggart Block, originally known as the Commercial Block, and helped to build the Crouner house. In 1864 while working on what was long known as the Mundy house, now occupied by the Agricultural Company in Lower Washington Street, Mr. Hardy enlisted in Company A, 10th New York Heavy Artillery. He served the greater part of his enlistment at Petersburg, Va. He was honorably discharged in 1865. He then returned to Watertown and resumed his trade. He retired when he was 75 years old, working at only small jobs for a few years later. Mr. Hardy was married to Miss Emily C. Gibbs, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Gibbs in 1862. Mrs. Hardy died in the spring of 1897. Mr. Hardy joined the Odd Fellows 50 years ago, becoming affiliated with Jefferson Union Lodge. He was recently presented with a pin in commemoration of his long membership.

Mr. Hardy was also one of the oldest veterans from this city to attend the Gettysburg reunion in 1913. He was a member of Joe Spratt Post, G. A. R. On May 20, 1861, Mr. Hardy enrolled as a volunteer fireman and was assigned to Joe Hancock Hook and Ladder company, No. 1. He received his discharge in 1870. He was also a member of the Lincoln League and was formerly a member of the Middle Road church in Rutland. For many years Mr. Hardy was the first man to pay his taxes in the city. Mr. Hardy's grandfather Hardy and grandfather Stone were Revolutionary soldiers. The former served at the battle of Bunker Hill, at Bennington and at Trenton, and was present at West Point at the time of the treason of Benedict Arnold.

Mr. Hardy was the last of the three brothers of a family of eleven. The youngest, John C. Hardy, died two

(Continued On Page 21)

(Continued From Page 20)

years ago at the age of 81. Robert C. Hardy died in 1915, aged 94 years. On Thanksgiving day, 1914, the three gathered at a turkey dinner at the residence of Edward L. Mitchell, 113 North Pleasant street. Mr. Hardy is survived by two sons Charles S. Hardy, with whom he resided, and Benjamin R. Hardy, of this city; one daughter, Mrs. Cornelia Miller of Auburn and seven grandchildren. The funeral services will be held from the late residence, 329 Jay St. Thursday afternoon at 2. Rev. W. P. Moody pastor of the Stone Street Presbyterian church will officiate. Interment will be made in the Brookside cemetery. Three members of the Jefferson Union Lodge I.O.O.F. and three from Joe Spratt Post G.A.R. will act as bearers.

Sources:

Newspaper - Watertown Daily Times - March 19, 1918
Jefferson County NYGenWeb, US Civil War Service Records, for Gustavus Hardy

From *Taft Tree Talk*

"So How Do We Find Them?"

by Brad D. Lawhead

"When I talk about doing genealogy research, I only hope that others are skeptical as I am. Too many times I've run across the novice "genealogist" who questions nothing and makes connections across family generations as though millions lay in trust, or who acts like there's a prize for completing a 10-generation tree in 3 weeks. The odds are, finding out you're the long lost heir to a fortune just isn't going to happen--that's stuff for T.V. -- and the "just add water" family tree doesn't exist except for the actual tree you planted in the back yard. Accurate family research takes months, oftentimes years, and a healthy mix of skepticism / optimism, more than a dash of ingenuity and 100% honesty! Oh, and yes, money." - Brad D. Lawhead

BRAD'S RULES FOR RESEARCH

- 1) Confirm EVERYTHING! (and with more than one-source type whenever possible!)
- 2) Remove all preconceived notions of fame or notoriety -- view only the facts!
- 3) Keep accurate notes on all research!
- 4) When research on a line is conjecture, state that it is!

5) When research on a line is proven, documented sources are REQUIRED!

6) Trust no one else's work! When sources are provided, and especially when they're not, go back to Step #1 -- if they found the source you can too -- it's amazing how many times the source being cited is someone's unsupported third-party GEDCOM conjecture (yikes!)

BRAD'S RULES FOR BREAKING DOWN THE WALL

- 1) Change what you're researching to break the monotony and frustration
- 2) Change the research source (e.g. use the internet today, call funeral homes tomorrow)
- 3) Don't let frustration take over -- be creative -- try something you haven't tried before
- 4) Don't discount information because it cannot be proven -- list it as conjecture and work to prove it; it might lead to a break where it CAN be proven
- 5) Budget for expenses; you will inevitably have to fork out some cash for that death certificate or courthouse record, or a trip to your state or national archives, or a genealogy website subscription
- 6) Research lateral lines (great-grand siblings and their descendants, etc.); researching only the direct ancestor or decedent lines is a limiting view -- the more you see the more you know!
- 7) Research the unlikely (someone listed as "boarder" in a census might end up a relative)
- 8) Hone your skills (interpreting census handwriting / evolution of census forms / evolution of townships and counties in the state you're researching / how various website query tools work and how to use wildcards / how county courthouse records are indexed and stored, etc.)
- 9) Ask for help (there are others in your boat that are willing to help or provide tips)
- 10) Sometimes you just gotta get up from the desk and leave it for a week or two

Jefferson County Queries

Send Queries to: Lis Couch, 24670 County Rt. 159,
Watertown, NY 13601; lcouch0624@aol.com
Subject: Jefferson County Informer Query

(Some readers don't have internet access. Please include mailing address &/or phone numbers as well as email.)

HENIFIN, CHAFFIN

I found your Web Site on the internet as I have been researching my family History. I noted that you have neither the resources or the personnel to do searches, but, I would like to ask a question.

I have traced back to my ggggrandfather Calvin E. **HENIFIN** DOB 7-9-1831 New York State. He was married in Watertown New York to Melinda Rose **CHAFFIN** DOB 4-24-1837 in Watertown, Jefferson County New York 8-23-1853 .

I tried to print the data sheet off of the internet for Jefferson County but, it only prints one side of the sheet. Any ideas as to how, what, or where I can get the full sheet to submit my information as to the marriage records of Calvin and Melinda?

I have been at this road block for several years now and I am hoping to break the deadlock prior to my death. I am 81 years old now and would like to get back further on my family history.

Thank you for any help you might be able to give me.
Sincerely

Eugene R. Henifin
13508 NW 13th Avenue
Vancouver, Washington 98685
360-573-4738 or Cell 360-936-1543
bandbethenifin@yahoo.com

HERRICK, THURSTON, CURTIS, STERNS, WOOD, BRAMAN

I am interested in exchanging information on Edward **HERRICK** and his family. The 1850 census says he was born in Vermont. Gravestone gives birth date as 5 June 1805. He died 16 Oct. 1857 in Theresa, NY and

is buried in Oakwood Cemetery in Theresa. Almira (**THURSTON**) **HERRICK** was born 14 Feb. 1817 in NY and died in 1907.

Names of children I have found for him are Delos Albert **HERRICK** married Sophronia Ann **CURTIS**; Reuben Crandall **HERRICK**, died 13 Oct. 1862 in the Civil War. His mother received a pension for his service; Angeline Relief **HERRICK** married John C. **STEARNS**; Hannah Matilda **HERRICK**, born 14 April 1845; Mary, born 29 Oct. 1851, married Orvil Brayton **WOOD**, she died in Vassar, Tuscola Co., MI; Josephine Cornelia **HERRICK**, born 13 June 1848; William M. **HERRICK**, born April 1854; Emogene, born 1858 in NY.

I am hoping that he might be a son of an Edward **HERRICK**, born 26 June 1761 in Preston, CT who was in Poultney, Rutland Co., VT in the 1791 and 1800 censuses; in Rodman, Jefferson Co., NY in the 1810 census. I haven't found him since. If this is the right family, his grandparents were Ebenezer and Esther (**BRAMAN**) **HERRICK**.

Hope someone recognizes this family and is interested in exchanging information.

Joann Nichols
110 Chestnut Street
Brattleboro, VT 05301-6579
jnichols1930@myfairpoint.net



**Lyme District #3 Putman Corners School
(November 9, 1939)**

**Left to Right: Vesta Weaver, Beverly Weaver,
George Lorabee, Irma Burroughs, Albert Klock,
Pat Klock**

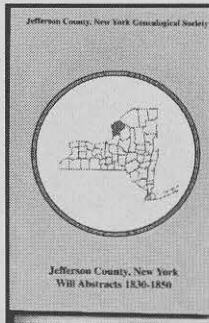
**A list of Putman School teachers lists a M. J.
Marks as teacher in 1939.**

JCNYGS MATERIALS FOR PURCHASE

JEFFERSON COUNTY NEW YORK WILL ABSTRACTS 1830 – 1850

The Will Book contains will abstracts dating from 1830 to 1850. The book contains 194 pages, two maps, and a chart showing the formation of Jefferson County Towns.

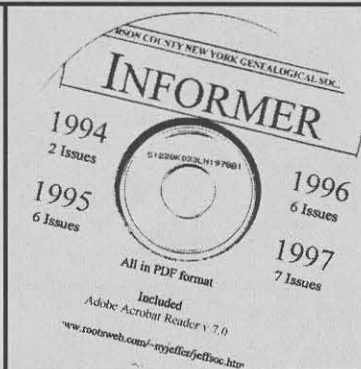
Sale Price \$15.00 + \$5.00 for postage. Checks made out to **JCNYGS**
Mail to: **JCNYGS**
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PO Box 6453
Watertown, NY 13601



Informers

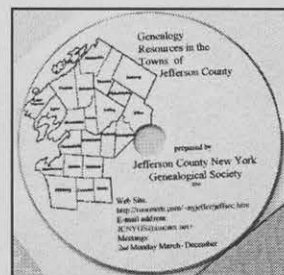
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(If you buy 2 CDs, only a single \$3 Mail fee!)



Genealogical Resources of Jefferson County

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Mattydale, NY 13211

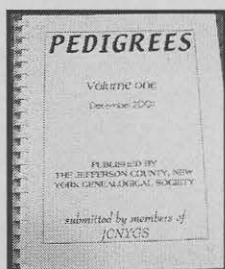


al@seymour.net

PEDIGREE BOOK I & PEDIGREE BOOK II Each Book \$20.00 plus \$4.05 Shipping

A collection of pedigrees Submitted by members of the JCNYGS with an every name index

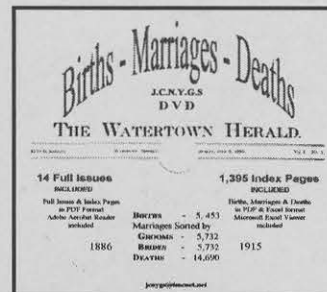
CONTACT: **Greg Plantz**
21787 Reed Road
Watertown, NY 13601
tplantz1@twcny.rr.com



A DVD of the Births-Marriages-Deaths from The Watertown Herald 1886-1915

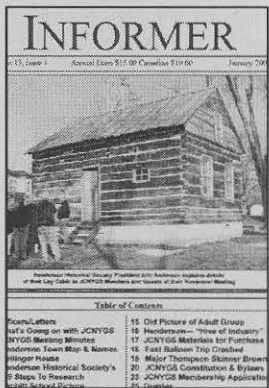
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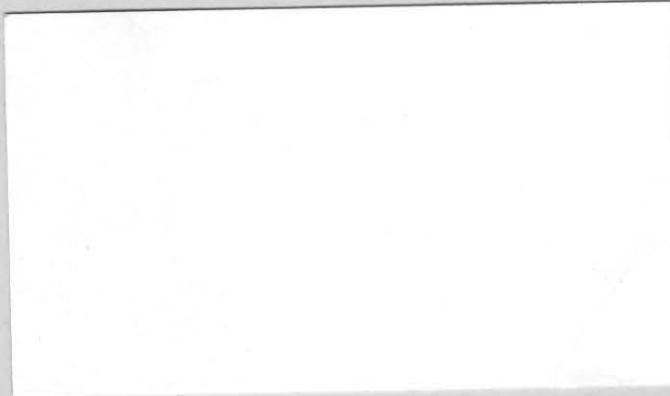
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(JCNYGS)
P.O. Box 6453
Watertown, NY 13601

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Or Current Resident

SEPTEMBER 2010 PROGRAM JCNYGS

SEPTEMBER 13 (Monday at 6:00 at the
Flower Library)

Stephen Clarke—**BLACK SHEEP IN THE
FAMILY BARNYARD, OR JUST WHAT DO
YOU DO WITH A DRUNKEN SAILOR.**

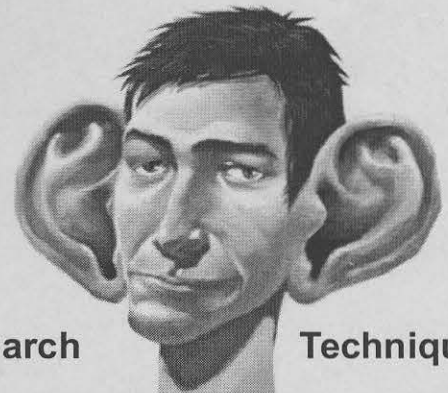
Common-sense tips on how to cope with the
data when you find it.



OCTOBER 2010 PROGRAM JCNYGS

OCTOBER 9 (Saturday at 1:00 at the
Flower Library)

Janet Fish—**TECHNIQUES OF RESEARCH.**
She has discovered relatives who came over
on the Mayflower and other distant relatives
dating to the 1200s.



Research

Techniques

REMINDER!!

All membership renewals
Were due by July 1st
\$15 a person; \$20 a couple
\$19 Canadian subscription
See Page 2 for address!



INFORMER

Volume 17, Issue 6

Annual Dues \$15.00 Canadian \$19.00

November 2010



1910 Sacket Harbor High School (See page 2 for names)

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INFORMER NOVEMBER 2010

Correspondence about dues, memberships, and lost *Informers* should be directed to:
 Jefferson County Genealogical Society, P.O. Box 6453, Watertown, NY 13601
E-mail: JCNYSG@gmail.com *Web site:* <http://jefferson.nygenweb.net>

President: Larry Corbett, 520 Binsse St., Watertown, NY 13601

lorbet@gisco.net, 315-788-3044

Vice President: Tracy Robertson, 26795 Clear Lake Camp Rd, Theresa, NY 13691

tracyrobertson19@yahoo.com, 315-486-2700

2nd Vice President: Temporarily Vacant

Recording Secretary: Temporarily Vacant

Corresponding Secretary: Temporarily Vacant

Treasurer: Terry Baker, 493 Bugbee Drive, Watertown, NY 13601

tbaker.h2otown@yahoo.com, 315-788-0170

The *Informer* Committee includes Bill Dixon, chairman; Nan Dixon, nandixon@gisco.net, editor; Clancy Hopkins, chopkins@imcnet.net, publisher. Editorial members (alphabetically) are Lis Couch, lcouch30@twcny.rr.com; Jerry Davis, maridavis@aol.com; Bob VanBrooklin, Rvan992@aol.com; and Pauline Zach, pinzach@aol.com. The *Informer* is published in January, March, May, July, September and November. A special Surnames issue has also been published in December.

Letters.....

Letters to the editor may be directed to nandixon@gisco.net or to Nan Dixon, 15407 Dixon Road, Clayton, NY 13624.

THANKS!

We wish to give a special thanks to three people who have given us permission to use their material in this Sackets Harbor Schools issue of our newsletter.

Mark Wentling and Shirley Farone are names that most of our readers will be familiar with as we have often been given permission to use their material. We encourage our readers to visit both Mark's web site at:

(<http://www.usgennet.org/usa/ny/county/jefferson>)

and Shirley's web site at:

(<http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~twigs2000>).

We are so very pleased that we have researchers and genealogists like Mark and Shirley available to us.

The *Informer* committee was pleased to visit the Sackets Harbor Central School and have Superintendent Fred Hall personally make a huge amount of material available to us for this issue. From old photos, alumni records, display case trophies, all the old year books, graduation announcements for 106 years and so much more, we thank Mr. Hall for all of his help and interest in the history behind the Sackets Harbor Central School.

Names for our cover picture:

Sacket Harbor High 1910:

(As we can best interpret the names on the back)

Back Row from Left to Right: 1— ; 2 Leon Brundrage; 3 Mark Miner; 4 Henry Cugler; 5 Eddie Ruder; 6 Bryan Stearns; 7 Edward Herron

Middle Row from Left to Right: 1— ; 2 Iva Parker (Whitaker); 3 Hattie Gibbins; 4 Violet Lehman; 5 Loretta Stoodley; 6 Isabella Hillong George; 7 Marion McClary; 8— Gibbons

Front Row from Left to Right: 1— ; 2 Lyle Phelps (?); 3 Irene Symonds; 4 Adah Holloway; 5 Elizabeth

JCNYGS

Minutes for August 9, 2010

Notes by Jerry Davis

The August meeting of the Jefferson County New York Genealogical Society was called to order at the Macsherry Library in Alexandria Bay by 1st Vice President Tracy Robertson. A written copy of the July Minutes was passed around the meeting for the approval of those in attendance. Treasurer Hollis Dorr reported a treasury balance of \$6,388.15. Hollis presented two concerns for the information of the society.

First — Hollis mentioned that this past year he has had to transfer about \$1000 from the savings to the checking account to meet financial obligations. This included figures of about \$550 for the surnames issue of the informer which was published in December and about \$518 for 40 copies of the pedigree books. Hollis mentioned that perhaps when the CD becomes renewable in December, we consider taking \$1000 from the CD and putting it into the savings account.

Second — Hollis mentioned that our financial output is bigger than our income and while our present balance would sustain us for 4 or 5 years, we would eventually have a \$0 balance. He mentioned that this past year we had an unusual year of good donations, but we shouldn't expect that to continue. Ordinary expenses continue to creep up. Hollis finished by suggesting that some time soon we should consider a dues increase.

Bill Dixon reported for the newsletter committee that the September issue was ready to go to the printer. Phyllis Putnam reported for the publicity committee that all the regular notices were sent and that she had put ads in the Thousand Island Sun for the past 2 weeks. Vice President Tracy then requested information on nominations for next year's officers as all positions will be vacant having fulfilled the two year commitment as called for in our by-laws. Any suggestions for nomination committee or for officers can be given to any of the present officers.

When new business was called for, Bill Dixon asked that a dues increase of \$5 (presently \$15 & \$20 to \$20 & \$25) be put on the September meeting agenda (our annual meeting).

Gerald Desormeau moved to adjourn and while speaker Jim Eagan set up his projector for his program on **PIRATE WILLIAM "BILL" JOHNSTON**, Phyllis Putnam passed out flyers for our September program with Stephen Clarke and his program entitled **"BLACK SHEEP IN THE FAMILY BARNYARD OR JUST WHAT DO YOU DO WITH A DRUNKEN SAILOR."**

JCNYGS

Minutes for September 13, 2010

Notes by Jerry Davis

President Terry Baker brought the September meeting of the Jefferson County New York Genealogical Society together at the Flower Memorial Library. After a review of the minutes for the August meeting, Treasurer Hollis Dorr presented his report. We have a total balance of \$6521.57. Hollis also mentioned some figures that might warrant the society considering transferring \$1000 from the CD when it comes due in December to the savings account. Sue Grant made the motion to make the transfer and it was seconded and passed.

There were no committee reports at this time. Tracy Robertson did mention work being done on a future program. Terry Baker asked for any comments on inviting local area high school students to the War of 1812 anniversary meeting.

The results of nominations for officers in the coming year confirmed as president – Larry Corbett; as 1st Vice-President – Tracy Robertson; as Treasurer – Terry Baker. This leaves empty the positions of 2nd Vice-President, Recording Secretary and Corresponding Secretary for the time being.

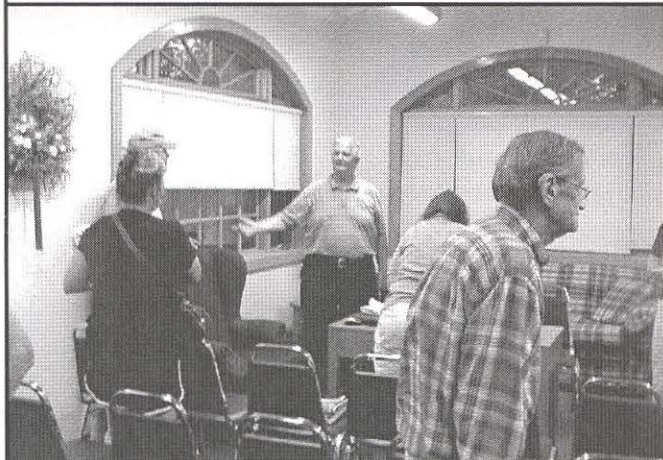


There was a good turn out for the September meeting held at Flower Memorial Library. After a short business meeting, those in attendance were both entertained and informed by Stephen Clarke and his presentation titled "Black Sheep In The Family Barnyard or Just What Do You Do With A Drunken Sailor."

What's Going on with JCNYGS August 9, 2010



Sue Grant asks speaker Jim Eagan a question

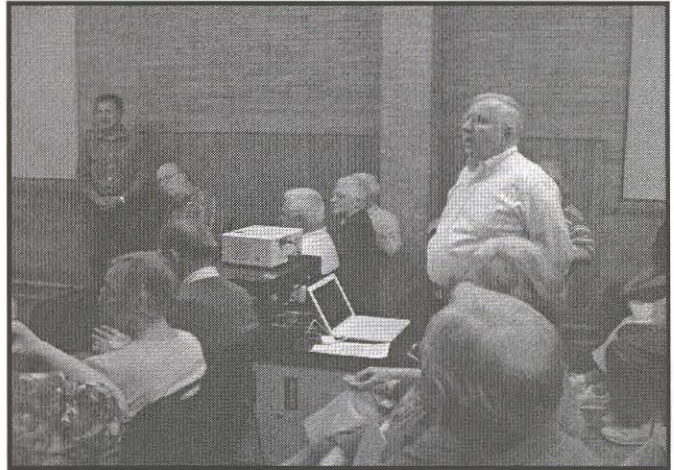


Jim Eagan still telling stories after his program



Alex Bay's Mascherry Library made an excellent meeting location

What's Going on with JCNYGS September 13, 2010



Stephen Clarke presents his "Black Sheep"

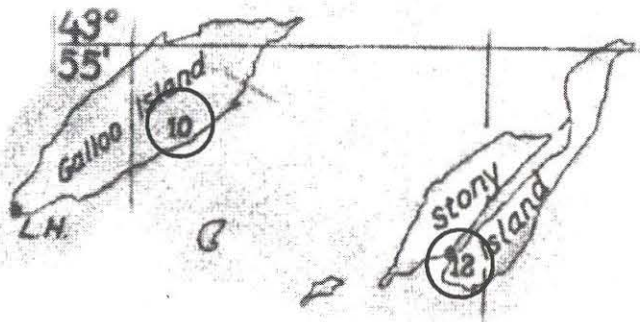


There were lots of questions afterwards

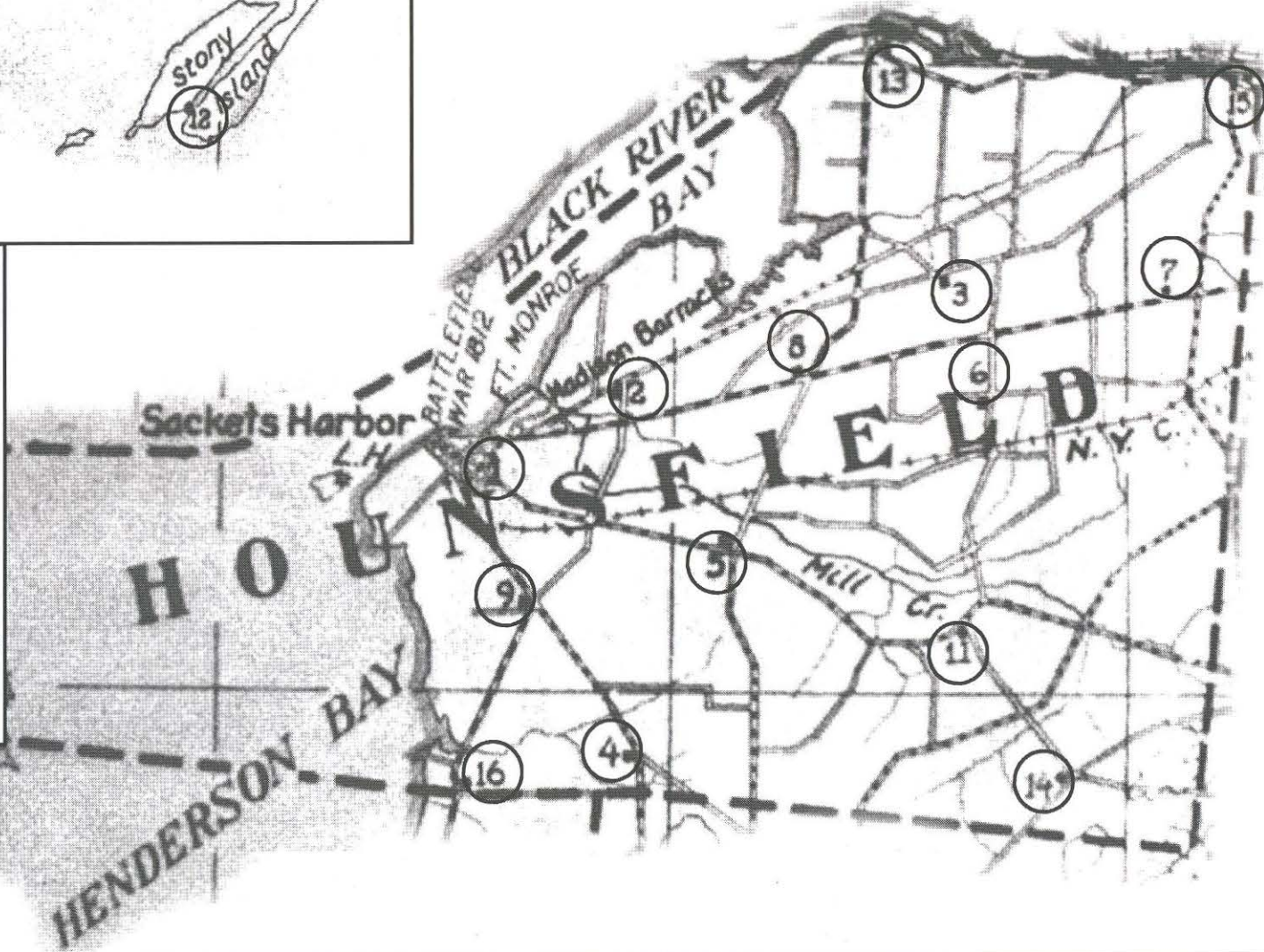


Members discuss Stephen Clarke's program before heading home

TOWN OF HOUNSFIELD SCHOOLS



- 1—Sacket Harbor Union
- 2—Jewettsville
- 3—Muscallonge
- 4—Torrey
- 5—Camp Mills
- 6—Jericho
- 7—East Hounsfeld
- 8—Baggs Corners
- 9—Stone School
- 10—Galloo Island
- 11—Sulphur Springs
- 12—Stony Island
- 13— ? (Near Dexter)
- 14—Rice's Corners
- 15— ? (Near Brownville)
- 16—Chestnut Ridge
- 17—Purpura Corners
(Possibly #9 ?)



SOME EARLY ACCOUNTS OF SCHOOLS IN THE TOWN OF HOUNSFIELD

(From Shirley Farone's web site:
From Spafford's Gazetteer of 1813:)

"We were unable to determine the number of mills, etc., that were in town about 1810-11. Sackets Harbor was a port of entry and delivery; had a collector of revenues and a post-office; and contained about 40 families.

The same author in 1824 says of Hounsfield in 1820: -- "The taxable property was \$230,348. There were 5,813 acres of improved land, 158 cattle, 383 horses, 3,235 sheep; 10,472 yards of cloth were made that year in families. The town contained one grist-mill, six saw-mills, two fulling-mills, three carding machines, one distillery, and four asheries. The school districts were nine in number, where 547 children received education; the schools were in session eight months in the year.

"Sackets Harbor had become a prominent village, and contained two churches, three school-houses, one printing office, 10 stores, and several mechanic shops. For the times the commerce of the place was quite extensive. There were 10 schooners owned there, engaged in the lake trade, aggregating about 700 tons tonnage. There were also two steamboats on the lake, which made regular stops here. There was at that time laid up at the port of Sackets Harbor a frigate of 68 guns, three ships of 28 guns each, four brigs, and a number of gunboats. The village then contained 2,020 inhabitants, including about 600 United States troops stationed at Madison Barracks."

In 1880 Hounsfield had a population of 2,770. The town is located in the first school district of Jefferson County, and in 1888 had 17 school districts, in which 14 teachers were employed 28 weeks or more. There were 667 scholars attending school, and the aggregate days attendance during the year was 65,316. The total value of school buildings and sites was \$12,105, while the assessed valuation of all the districts was \$1,101,059. The whole amount raised for school purposes was \$4,753.40, \$2,279.15 of which was received by local tax. S. Whitford Maxson was school commissioner.

(From John Haddock's "The Growth of a Century" 1893)

William Rowson was the first white male child born in the town of Hounsfield. His birth occurred at Sackets

Harbor, September 18, 1804, and he still survives (1889). His father, Rial Rowson, was one of the first settlers at the village, having located there about 1802 from Connecticut.

Squire Reed, a native of Rhode Island, also came from Connecticut to this county in 1802, first locating in the town of Adams, whence he removed to Sackets Harbor in 1806 or '07, and became prominently identified with the affairs of that village. He served in the Revolutionary war. After the breaking out of the War of 1812 he removed to Brownville, where he died. His son Daniel, who came to this county with his father, was a captain on the lakes for many years.

Daniel De Wolf was a blacksmith in the navy yard at Sackets Harbor from 1812 to 1815, in the employ of the government. After the war he moved away, but returned with his family in 1822 and located permanently.

The first school in the town was opened in Sackets Harbor in 1807 or 1808, by a man named Mitchell. Outside the village the first school was opened in the "Muskalonge" neighborhood, in 1808, by Amasa Fox. The next year a frame school-house was built there. No school-house was built at Sackets Harbor until after the War of 1812-15, when a one-story frame building was erected on the site of the present union school building. About 1816 a log school-house was built at Blanchard's Corners (now East Hounsfield), which gave place to a frame house which was burned. A stone house was next erected, which was finally torn down and a frame building erected instead.

(From Edgar Emerson's "History of the Town of Hounsfield" from "Our County & Its People" 1898)

Another of the important local institutions, and one which antedated the village incorporation, was the Public school. The first school here is said to have been taught by one Mitchell in his dwelling house about 1807 or '8. No school house was built in the village until after the close of the war, when a one story building was erected on the present academy site, and was used as school, church, lecture room and for public gatherings. The old structure stood the wear of years, but about 1840 was replaced with the large, comfortable brick building which, with subsequent modifications and repairs, is still in use. For many years the village has maintained an excellent union free school (District No. 1 of Hounsfield), and in 1896 was taken under the supervision of the state regents. About 200 pupils are now enrolled, and five teachers are employed. The present board of education comprises L. W. Day, James A. Wilson and H. J. Lane.



Colonel Elisha Camp

(From Child's Gazetteer of Jefferson County, NY 1890)

One of the prominent and deservedly recognized leaders among the early settlers in Jefferson County was Elisha Camp, born in Catskill, N. Y., in 1786, and in what he playfully claimed a Stone Jug. A spendthrift, renegade Englishman squandered a fortune there during the war of 1776. His stone mansion (in which Mr. Camp was born) and elegant grounds went into history as the Stone Jug and dies folly.

The mother of Elisha appears to have been one of that resolute and superior class who could make any sacrifice to advance the welfare of a dependent family. Especially marked was her desire to favor the ambition of this son, who, at the early age of 14, entered Columbia College, graduating one year in advance of his class.

The distinguishing traits of character there exhibited fathered the man, possessing as he did a masterly determination to meet any responsibility, trust, or condition of circumstances. About 1802 he entered the law office of Judge Storrs, Whitestown, N. Y., where he attracted the attention of Bishop Hobart, who pressed upon the young aspirant to the law the importance of giving his talents to the church, and to enter the ministry. Mr. Camp did not discover in himself qualifications to assume the responsibilities of so sa-

cred a calling, for the office of which he held profound respect.

Judge Augustus Sacket, of New York, and brother-in-law of Elisha Camp, made extensive purchases of land in the "Black River country" in 1801, comprising the present village of Sackets Harbor and part of township. We find Mr. Camp here in 1804, at 18 years of age, as attorney, actively entering upon his profession. In 1807 he was appointed surveyor of the town. Mr. Sacket sold his interest inlands in this locality in 1809 to a syndicate in New York city, who appointed Mr. Camp their resident agent. This brought him in contact with that influential class of distinguished names who figured so prominently in the affairs of our state and country. In every enterprise that engaged their attention he was more or less associated. Their enlarged views and the times stimulated the young, ardent, and patriotic agent to untiring devotion to the wants of the new comers to this region, who were seeking homes and citizenship. Whatever demands were made upon his splendid physical endowments, matched by his mental vigor and powers, were met without stint or tire. Mr. Camp was supervisor in 1809-19. In 1811 he organized an artillery company, and as captain offered their services to Gov. Tompkins on the declaration of war in 1812, to have a taste of battle in July following. As a speaker and leader among men he commanded an acknowledged position. He delighted in holding up the Roman as one proud of his citizenship, the Spartan for exalted patriotism, and Washington and associates as examples possessing like, and all the added, qualities desirable for emulation. On civic and national celebrations he exalted these deeds and virtues. As a result, some one facetiously remarked upon a grand fete day, "Make way for Greece, Rome and 1776 -- three guns!"

The establishment of schools in our own and neighboring counties gave him great satisfaction. Lowville Academy, Belleville Union Academy, and Watertown Institute received their stimulus from his encouraging patronage and princely gifts for those days.

Commercially Mr. Camp engaged with associates in building the steamer Ontario in 1816, which was the first built upon any lake, to "test the possibility of a boat being propelled against waves." Success led to the building of steam and other craft, which secured an active commerce, that made Sackets Harbor for many years a place of note.

The want of water-power for manufacturing purposes was taken into serious consideration by the citizens of Sackets Harbor in 1828. Mr. Camp undertook the direction of constructing a canal from Black River, above Watertown, which was completed in 1832.

(Continued on Page 8)

(Continued From Page 7)

He gave his untiring energies to this work, proving his faith in the enterprise by creating saw-mills, a paper, plaster, and flouring-mill, and also a furnace and machine shop. About this time the surplus waters of Black River were diverted at Boonville as a feeder to the Erie Canal, causing all the outlay, individually and collectively, a failure. His extensive purchases of land here and abroad were sacrificed with their largely increased value, to a considerable degree, in his endeavors to advance the importance of this and neighboring localities.

The Presbyterian and Episcopal churches were built in the early stirring times, in which Mr. Camp took a decided interest, accompanying his material aid with official membership in each. His family were among the first and prominent members of the Presbyterian Church; Mr. Camp later on. Nelson's work on infidelity established his belief in Christianity: to promulgate its views he purchased a complete edition and sent them out by the hands of young men studying for the ministry, supplying horses and conveyance to expedite the work.

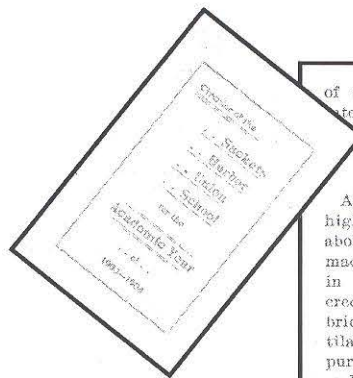
His marriage to Sophia Hale, of Catskill, was a most happy event. She was as lovely in character as in person. A large family blessed the union--six sons, and four daughters, two sons dying in infancy. Elizabeth, lately deceased, married Rev. Dr. J. R. Boyd, Geneva; Sophia, Edgar Day, Catskill, N. Y.; Mary, Hamilton Spencer, Utica; Harriette, F. F. Folger, Esq., Hudson, N. Y.; George, Elisha, Edgar, and Erskine married most estimable ladies, who, with their families, survive them. Mr. Camp's military spirit was infused into his sons as a ruling force. George was educated to the law, taking part in the war of the Rebellion. Elisha E. and Erskine M. reached to captaincies in the U. S. A. Edgar entered into commercial and banking enterprises before finding a home in the West.

Politically Mr. Camp sympathized with the early founders of the government, of the Washington and Hamilton school. As a Whig he was foremost in pressing the claims of his party, once running for Congress when the state was too strongly Democratic to secure a seat. When the border war of 1838 disturbed our relations with Canada his influence was felt in quelling the excitement on the frontier. Age and infirmities had stolen upon him when the South began the war to dissolve the Union to which he had been so devotedly attached. This aroused his indignation and old-time patriotism, but the "old set," with whom he had celebrated our victories and national achievements in the past, were all gone. He felt keenly the want of their sympathizing presence, to fight their battles over again in words if not in deeds. At the time Vicksburg was besieged the writer, unseen, recognized his stalwart figure as it was

disclosed at momentary intervals by flashes of lightning, as he stood partially hidden by the foliage about his mansion. His manner was as impressive and dignified as if standing to review the armies of heaven. The storm beat upon us with glaze and report of fearful intensity, to which a saddened yet commanding voice replied, "Yes, God's artillery is warring grandly with the elements, grandeur and sublimity attest His power, but just now give me Grant's artillery to sweep this cursed rebellion and its flag to perdition."

Colonel Elisha Camp, by which title he was familiarly known, survived Mrs. Camp only 12 days: September 13, 1866, aged 77 years; September 25, 1866, aged 80 years.

From the 1903-4 Sackets Harbor Union School Circular:



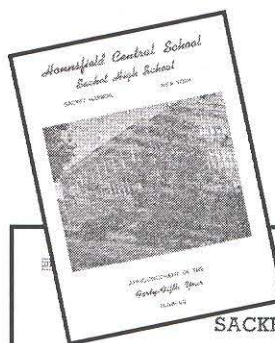
of the people, their culture, and the interest they have always taken in national matters.

The School

A union school house, two stories high, besides a basement, was built about 1840. The growth of the school made a larger building necessary, and in 1901 an addition, 25x32 feet, was erected. The present building is a brick structure well lighted and ventilated and admirably adapted to its purpose. It is heated by hot water, and the health and comfort of the pupils are provided for in all its appointments.

In 1896 the school was organized under the University of the State of New York, and in 1898 was advanced to its present rank.

1948-49 Hounsfield Central School Sacket High School Circular:



SACKETS HIGH SCHOOL

In 1896 the Regents of the University of the State of New York granted to the Sacket School a certificate of admission as a union school and in 1903 invested it with all the powers and privileges of a full four year high school.

From that time until June 28, 1938, the school continued to function as a union free school of high school grade. At this time eleven districts of the Town of Hounsfield voted to establish the Hounsfield Central School.

In July, 1944, former common school district No. 3 entered the centralization.

Selected Pages From The 1903-4 Circular Of The Sackets Harbor Union School

Circular of the
. . Sackets
. . Harbor
. . Union
. . School
 for the
Academic Year
 . . of . .
1903--1904

Sackets Harbor

The village of Sackets Harbor is situated on Black River Bay and is connected with Watertown, the county seat of Jefferson County, by a branch of the R., W. & O. railroad. It is in the midst of a region teeming with historical interest. It was here that Gen. Prevost, commander of the British forces, was defeated by Gen. Brown, in a closely contested battle, on the 29th of May, 1813. It was the station where the expeditions against York (now Toronto), Ft. George, and the enterprise under Gen. Wilkinson were fitted out. The surrounding country was traversed by the early French explorers and their Indian allies. In 1816-19, the government erected Madison Barracks, and since that time thousands of dollars have been spent in enlarging and improving the post, until now it has quarters for an entire regiment.

Aside from its historical interest, this section is noted for its general healthfulness, the universal prosperity

BOARD OF EDUCATION.

O. M. Stearne, President
 H. H. Conlin, Clerk
 James Galloway, Charles Gamble,
 Dr. A. L. Ladd.
 Treasurer, C. C. Earl

FACULTY.

Thos. B. Stoel, Principal
 Minnie D. Pitcher (Pd. B.), Assistant
 Clara M. Butler, 7 and 8 Grades
 Mae E. Gaudin, 5 and 6 Grades
 Armitta A. Grimshaw, 3 and 4 Grades
 Estella A. Blanchard, Primary

CALENDAR.

Fall term begins Sept. 8, 1903.
 Christmas vacation, Dec. 18-Jan. 4.
 The legal holidays will be observed.
 The school year is divided into two terms of 20 weeks each.

EXAMINATIONS.

Regents', January-March-June.
 Grade, January-June

TRIPLE PRINT, GAGE VINCENT.

of the people, their culture, and the interest they have always taken in educational matters.

The School

A union school house, two stories high, besides a basement, was built about 1840. The growth of the school made a larger building necessary, and in 1901 an addition, 25x32 feet, was erected. The present building is a brick structure well lighted and ventilated and admirably adapted to its purpose. It is heated by hot water and the health and comfort of the pupils are provided for in all its appointments.

In 1896 the school was organized under the University of the State of New York, and in 1898 was advanced to its present rank.

Courses of Study

After completing a course of eight years in the grades, the pupil enters the Academic Department. For admission to the latter a Regent's Preliminary certificate is required. To

obtain this the pupil must pass the Regents' examinations in Reading, Writing, Spelling, Geography, Arithmetic, and Elementary English. A pupil may, with the principal's consent, begin an Academic subject upon completing a preliminary subject.

To graduate, students must have earned the forty-eight count Academic Diploma. Each count represents ten weeks of work in one subject.

Course of Study

ACADEMIC DEPARTMENT

FIRST YEAR
 First Term
 Algebra
 U. S. History and Civics
 Drawing
 Adv. Eng. and Eng. Comp.
 First year Latin
 First year German

Second Term
 Algebra
 Physiology and Hygiene
 Advanced Drawing
 Adv. Eng. and Eng. Comp.
 First year Latin
 First year German

SECOND YEAR

First Term
 Plane Geometry
 Rhetoric and American Selections
 Caesar
 English History
 Physical Geography
 Second year German

Second Term
 Plane Geometry
 Rhetoric and American Selections
 Caesar
 Roman History
 Commercial Geography
 Second year German.

THIRD YEAR

First Term
 Adv. Eng. Comp. and Eng. Selections
 Cicero
 Physics
 Third year German
 Civics
 Greek History

Second Term
 Adv. Eng. Comp. and Eng. Selections
 Latin Composition
 Physics
 Third year German

(Continued on Page 10)

(Continued From Page 9)

Geology

General History

FOURTH YEAR

First Term

Solid Geometry

Advanced Arithmetic

History of Literature

Chemistry

Economics

Second Term

Advanced Algebra

Book-keeping

Business English

Chemistry

Botany

Examinations

In addition to the regular Regents' examinations, grade examinations will be held each term. A record is kept of the proficiency of each pupil. This record is sent to the parent or guardian at regular intervals throughout the year.

Library

The library is well supplied for general reading and with reference

books. The present library contains about 600 volumes.

Books cannot be retained longer than two weeks without renewal.

No person can have more than one book from the library at the same time.

A reading table is open to the pupils.

Laboratory

The laboratory for the use of the classes in the sciences is well supplied with the necessary apparatus for the prescribed work.

English

Particular attention will be given to the study of English, and the pupils will be encouraged to become acquainted with good literature. Rhetorical work will be required.

Drawing

A regular course in Drawing will be pursued throughout the grades and in the Academic Department.

FREE SCHOLARSHIPS

A recent act passed by our legislature and approved by our governor practically establishes an unlimited number of free scholarships for non-resident pupils. This law reads in part as follows:

Chapter 542.

An act to provide for free tuition of non-resident pupils in schools maintaining an academic department and making an appropriation therefor.

Became a law May 11, 1903, with the approval of the Governor. Passed, three-fifths being present.

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

Section 1. The sum of one hundred thousand dollars, or so much thereof as may be necessary, is hereby appropriated for the payment by the comptroller of the tuition of non-resident pupils from schools in this state not maintaining an academic department who shall be admitted to schools maintaining an academic department

without other expense for tuition than that provided in this act. Such payment however shall only be made upon the joint certificate of the state superintendent of public instruction and of the chancellor of the University of the State of New York in accordance with regulations jointly established by them to such schools as maintain a course of study approved by them.

Board may be obtained in private families at \$3.00 to \$3.50 per week.

DAILY PROGRAM OF REGENTS' EXAMINATIONS

January and June (76, all) Subjects.

MONDAY.

Morning

Afternoon

German, 2d year

Advanced English

French, 2d year

English, 1st year

Virgil's Eclogues

German, 3d year

Adv. Arithmetic

French, 1st year

Algebra

French, 3d year

Adv. Drawing

Eng. Composition

Latin Composition

Roman History

TUESDAY.

Morning

Afternoon

English, 2d year

Caesar

Rhetoric

Latin, 2d year

General Remarks

Students will find it to their advantage to enter at the beginning of the year.

The morning session shall begin at 9:00 a. m. and close at 12 m.; the afternoon session at 1:00 p. m. and close at 3:30 p. m. There will be no regular recess except in the lower grades.

Students above the grades should pursue at least three academic studies.

To graduate, students must attain a minimum standing of 75 per cent in each subject, in class work.

Partial examinations and written recitations will be held from time to time throughout the term, with or without notice to the students.

When three-fourths of all the counts for any academic certificate or diploma are won by at least 90 per cent, the credentials will be recorded and marked as having been earned "with honor."

The Regents of the University of the State of New York have advanced the rank of the Sackets Harbor school. It is now graded as a High School.

Books to the value of forty dollars will be added to the library and needed apparatus for the laboratory purchased.

The courses of instruction are designed to give thorough preparation for subsequent study in college, normal, or technical schools, and for the immediate duties of life. Students will be able to prepare for the uniform examinations for teacher's certificates.

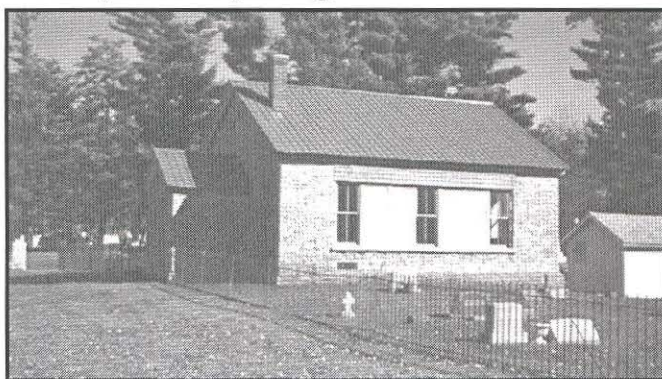
Purpura Corners School

(From Mark Wentling's Internet Site)

The following photographs were taken 8 October 2007 in the Purpura Corners neighborhood of the Town of Hounsfield, Jefferson County, New York, by Mark Wentling. They depict one of four schoolhouses in the area erected in the 1830's, built from limestone donated by Elisha Camp from his quarry at Chaumont. The Purpura schoolhouse was built in 1837, according to signage. It is labeled "S.H." on an 1855 map, "S.H. No. 20" on Beers' 1864 map, and "S.H. No.17" on Robinson's 1887 map. Today it is used for storage and is private property.



Sulpher Springs Schoolhouse



The Sulpher Springs Schoolhouse is one of four one-room schools built of limestone donated by Elisha Camp from his quarry at Chaumont during the 1830s.

Teacher's Memories . . .

As young women in the early 1930's, sisters Esther and Margery Washburn became teachers—Margery at Sulpher Springs Schoolhouse No. 19 for three years, and Esther just down the road at Camps Mills Schoolhouse No. 5 for two years.



Ester (Washburn) Fee, now 90, at left, and her sister Margery (Washburn) Gordonier, now 88, at right, shown here at Esther's home in 1999, were teachers at Camps Mills Schoolhouse No. 5 and Sulpher Springs Schoolhouse No. 19 respectively. (See Margery's comment on teaching at Sulpher Springs School on page 13)

Muscallonge Schoolhouse

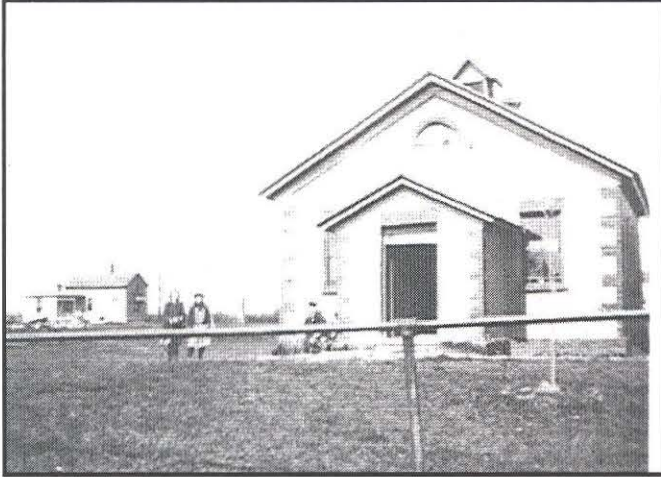


Shirley Farone says: "This was taken about 10 a.m. . . My Dad attended the Muscallonge schoolhouse as a child and went to Brownville in 9th grade. . . Notice the tools shed out back -- that has been moved since the days of its usage. Used to be to the rear left of the schoolhouse. At the time I was in there, a farmer had stored hay there."

Child's Gazetteer of Jefferson County, N. Y., for Town of Hounsfield, page 471: "Outside the village the first school was opened in the 'Muskalonge' neighborhood in 1808, by Amasa Fox. The next year a frame school house was built there."

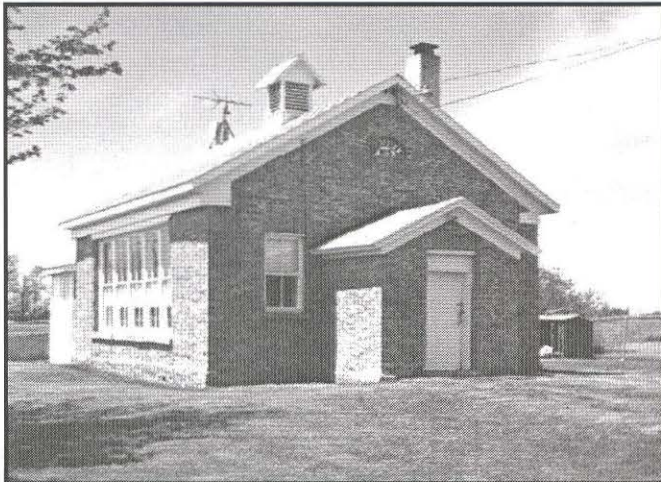
Camps Mills Schoolhouse No. 5

(From Mark Wentling's Web Site)



(Editor's notes: We have Mark Wentling's permission to use the material from his web site <http://www.usgennet.org/usa/ny/county/jefferson/hounsfield/>. You will recognize Mark's name as we have often been pleased to use his material in our newsletter. We thank Mark and encourage our readers to look up his web site.)

The **Camps Mills Schoolhouse** is one of four one-room schools built of limestone donated by Elisha Camp from his quarry at Chaumont during the 1830s. The school serves as a private residence today, for which the row of windows was an addition.



Teacher's Memories

Siblings Esther, Margery, Beulah, and Leon Washburn, were born and reared upon the Washburn Farm situated less than a mile south of the school on Salt Point Road, and all were students at Camps Mills Schoolhouse No. 5 during the 1910's and 1920's. In

good weather they used to walk to school, and in wintertime, when snow was too deep, their father William drove them to school by horse-and-sleigh or buggy. As young women in the early 1930's, both Esther and Margery became teachers—Esther at Camps Mills Schoolhouse (below) for two years, and Margery just down the road at Sulpher Springs Schoolhouse No. 19 for three years.



In a telephone interview on 13 February 2000 with the author (Mark, their sister Beulah's grandson), Esther Fee and Margery Gordonier, both now widows in the town of Adams, recounted their memories of teaching in those early days:

Mark: What made you decide to teach? Were you influenced by your grandmother, Esther Stoodley Washburn, who was also a teacher?

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Margery: Well, I always wanted to teach as long as I can remember. . . .

Esther: Yes, so did I; I always wanted to teach too.

Mark: Did you need to attend special training in order to teach?

Esther: Yes, after graduating high school we went to Dexter School for Teacher Training for one year. After that you were allowed to teach for up to three years. Then, you had to go back to special school for more training if you wanted to continue.

Mark: I see. So after the first year of training did you get to pick what school you wanted to teach at or were you assigned one?

Esther: Oh no, we were on our own to find a job!

Margery: Yes, you were on your own.

Mark: How long did you each teach?

Esther: I taught at Camps Mills for two years.

Margery: Yes, and I taught for three years at Sulpher Springs.

Mark: Which grades did you teach?

Esther: I taught kindergarten through seventh grade; after that you went to the school at Sackets.

Margery: Yes, and I taught first grade to seventh grade.

Mark: Were the grades taught all together, or were they split up into morning and afternoon? What was the arrangement?

Esther & Margery (together!): Oh, we taught them all at the same time!!!

Margery: Yes, all of them at the same time.

Mark: That's quite a job! How long was the school day? When did it start and end?

Esther: Well, as I recall, I taught Monday through Friday from 8 o'clock in the morning until 4 in the afternoon. . . .

Margery: Yes, the same at my school.

Mark: So you were left alone all day in a one-room schoolhouse with children in kindergarten through sev-



Esther (Washburn) Fee and her sister Margery
(Washburn) Gordonier

enth grade -- what a task!

Esther: Yes, well, we were supervised too. Mr. Ceigler checked on you. He'd travel around to the different schools and make sure everything was alright.

Margery: Yes, that's right, Mr. Ceigler did. . . .

In an earlier telephone conversation that took place in about 1996, Margery Washburn shared the following paraphrased description of her time at Sulpher Springs Schoolhouse No. 12—one of the other limestone schools built in the 1830s:

"When I was much younger, I used to teach at the Sulpher Springs Schoolhouse. In back of the school was a cemetery -- I remember being a brand new teacher and being scared to death because in the winter time it was too cold to bury the bodies and they used to store them in the building for the winter until the ground thawed!"

An anecdote from Shirley Conklin Farone:

"That school was known as the Camps Mills Schoolhouse. In the 50's there was a family of Alcombracks who lived next door going to Bagg's Corners. Wesley Alcombrack, whose mother was a Resseguie, is still alive and attended the school before it closed. His wife's name is Alice -- she was a Branche.

"[An] old pump organ [was] stored in the back room during the late 40's and early 50's -- they used to have Pedro parties in that schoolhouse when I was young and we kids used to go back there and play it while our parents were playing cards. Spent many of fun evening playing on the swings there, too.

"A Pedro game is a card game which was very popular in the 1940's thru 1960's, mostly played from people in the farm communities -- Mom and Dad used to go to the Ferry on Pillar Point, Camps Mills, Rutland Community Hall and Perch River Grange -- probably more places, too, but I can't remember them now. It was sort of like Rook if you remember that game. Rook was the game sanctioned by the staunch Methodists (not officially!!) -- for some reason it was okay. <grin> "Might also check with Edward Cobb, Jr. at Camps Mills Rd. -- he or his father (not sure?) was the Town Supervisor for Hounsfield -- the Cobbs lived the first farm down from the Schoolhouse and undoubtedly his Dad went to school there.

". . . a couple more people . . . the Mains and Natalie Parker (both Resseguies.) Natalie Parker . . . lives in Watertown with her daughter, Shirley, a retired teacher at Black River Elementary. They were great friends of my parents - provided lots of competition for my Dad who THOUGHT he was pretty good at Pedro."

Sackets Harbor Union School



From a postcard mailed in 1902

The Sackets Harbor Union School was a wood and brick structure that stood at the southwest corner of Broad St. & West Washington St., just east of the George Tisdale Home. The building was demolished in the early 1900's and replaced by the present school building which stands on South Broad St.

Below is the graduating class of 1890 at the Sackets Harbor High School. The two young men in the first row, seated, are, from left to right: Albert Washburn and Homer Washburn.

Those in the second row, seated, from left to right, are: Edward Cobb, Helen Godfrey Wyke, Lizzy Wilson, Elva Harris McWayne and Kern McKevey.

In the third row, standing, from left to right, are: Gertie Boulton Eveleigh, John Tyler, Nettie Waterbury Bonner, Anna Godfrey Bronsen, William Maxson, teacher; Olin Green, Nellie Clark Holbrook.

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Notes on Students:

- Edward Cobb married Martha, and in 1923 purchased the old Membery Home in Camps Mills.

- Albert Washburn, born 1875, died 1912, was son of Theodore Washburn & Jeanette Rice, daughter of Gen. Albert Rice of Adams, after whom Rice's Corners Cemetery is named. Albert Washburn married on Wednesday, 11 September 1901, Winifred Armstrong Vincent of Point Peninsula, at her home, Rev. F.H. Richardson officiating.

- Homer Washburn, born 1873, died 1924, son of Silas Washburn & Esther Stoodley, was Albert's first cousin (above); he lived on the Washburn Home Farm until his death. He never married.

- Annie Godfrey, wife of Prof. John Bronson of Long Island, was daughter of Capt. Ralph Godfrey & Jane Stoodley, thus also a first-cousin of Albert & Homer Washburn (above). Jane occupied her parents' home at 205 West Washington St., Sackets Harbor, known as the Dyer Burnham House. Capt. Ralph Godfrey, along with Jane Stoodley's first cousin Manuel Jeffrey (sexton of Sackets Harbor Presbyterian Church), were both injured in February 1884 during the dismantling of the War of 1812-era ship-of-the-line New Orleans at Sackets Harbor.

- Helen Godfrey, was likely a sister of Annie (above).

The following list of names comes from a two-page typed document in a binder relating to the Town of Hounsfield at the Genealogy Department of the Flower Memorial Library in Watertown, Jefferson Co., New York.

Be sure to scan the entire list for variant name spellings. For example, Fralick and Fralic are clearly the same surname, but a correlation between Van Plech and Van Fleck may not be so obvious at first glance:

"Scholars who attended Sackets Harbor Union School during the spring term 1856 and closing July 25, 1856"

Alexander, Augusta	Bracy, Fred
Bacon, Caroline	Brayton, Henry
Bacon, Fred	Brice, Catherine
Barney, Delos	Burr, Edwin
Barney, Frederick	Burr, Oscar
Barrows, Frances	Bursley, Nancy
Barrows, Henry	Butts, Adaline
Barrows, William	Butts, Caroline
Boyd, Antony	Butts, Chloe
Boyd, James	Butts, Fanny
Boyd, John	Camp, Emma

Chamberlain, Sophia	Morris, Sarah
Conley, Anna	Morrison, Mary A.
Conlin, Ella	Morsman, Marenus
Conlin, Martha	Myers, Elizabeth
Conlin, Richard	Myers, Silas
Cres, Edith	Noonen, Francis
Crippon, Sarah	O'Brien, Helen
Day, Lewis	O'Brien, Michael
Dey, Murray	Palmer, Frances
Ellenwood, Mary	Parker, George
Ellinwood, Diantha	Parker, James
Eveleigh, Elvina	Parsons, Elizabeth
Eveleigh, Mathew	Payne, Delia
Fairbrother, Eddy	Payne, Fanny
Fairbrother, Henry	Perigo, Charles
Fisher, Emma	Perrigo, Jane
Folsome, Catherine	Perrigo, Josephine
Fralic, John	Perrigo, Julia
Fralich, Harrist	Phillips, Elizabeth
Fralick, Mary	Puffer, Celinda
Fuller, Betty	Redfield, Byard
Gambal, Eddy	Redfield, Elizabeth
Gracy, Oliver	Redfield, Susan
Greenlief, Mary	Robbins, Clinton
Griswold, Mary	Robbins, Elmira
Hadley, Samuel	Robbins, Forrest
Hall, Charles	Robbins, Granger
Hall, Clarie	Root, Cynthia
Hall, George	Root, David
Hammond, Elmina	Root, John
Hammond, Frances	Root, Lemuel
Harlow, Anna	Rowlson, Malcolm
Henagy, Mary	Scroxtton, Benny
Henry, Lemuel	Scroxtton, John
Heron, James	Scroxtton, Joseph
Herron, Mary	Scroxtton, Lucy
Hilley, Bridget	Sheehan, Thomas
Holbrook, Walter	Shepherd, Eli
Holdridge, Herbert	Simpson, Cleanthia
Hooker, George	Smith, Charles
Hooper, Andrew	Stewart, Eddy
Jooker, Frank	Stoodley, Sarah
Kelley, Catha	Stuart, Albert
Kelley, Hugh	Stuart, Caroline
Kelley, Patrick	Stull, John
Kellogg, Helen	Swift, Libbie
Kennedy, Ackley	Thum, Amanda
Kennedy, Sarah	Thumb, James
Lane, Albert	Tracy, Frances
Lane, Anna	Tulley, Elen
Lane, Henry	Tully, Margaret
Lawrence, Elman	Tyler, John
Lawrence, Emma	Umber, Henriette
Lawrence, Mary	Van Fleck, Amelia
Lewis, Edgar	Van Fleck, Isaac
Lewis, Sarah	Van Plech, Gule
Loomis, Charles	Van Winckle, Emeline
Loomis, Hobert	Vaughn, Walter
March, Sophia	Viorins, ELiza
Marcomb, Josph	Ward, James
McDowell, Mary	Westcott, Jenette
McKee, Webber	Westcott, Livonus
Morcumb, June	Westcott, Shuble
Morris, Minny	Winni, James
Morris, Samuel	Winnie, Walter

Jewettsville Schoolhouse

(From Mark Wentling's Web Site)

Jewettsville Schoolhouse is one of four one-room schoolhouses in Hounsfield, which were built out of limestone donated by Elisha Camp from his quarry at Chaumont during the 1830s. In recent years it has served as a private residence.



(From The Watertown Daily Times)

100 At Reunion At Jewettsville

Sackets Harbor, Aug. 20 (1937 ?)

About 100 persons attended the first annual reunion of Jewettsville district school teachers and pupils on the school lawn Sunday. Dinner was served at noon and Burt Pettit of Sulpher Springs acted as toastmaster and presided at the business meeting.

The following committee was named to have charge of getting the reunion together in 1937. Richard Duggan, Jessie Field, Walter Lee, George Perry, Zilpha Holsenberg and Carrie Lee. The oldest pupil present was George Hamilton, aged 84, who attended the school in 1858 and Burt Pettit was second oldest, having attended the school in 1868.

The Jewettsville school was one of the largest district schools in the county having a registration of from 75 to 100 most of the time.

Teachers of the school, most of who were present at the reunion were: Mrs. Anna Godfrey Bronson, of Sackets Harbor, 1890; Leonard L. Allen of Watertown, 1893-1894; Harriet Boyd, Mrs. Semper of Watertown, 1889; Mrs. Carrie Field Lee of Dexter, 1896-1897; Mrs. Cora Gould LaFountain, of Watertown 1899; Burt Alverson of Dexter 1892; Mark Sprague of Watertown 1900; Mrs. Lettie Penny Galloway of Adams 1893; Claude Alverson 1901-1902; Clarence Todd, Eugene Livermore, George Foster, Byron DeWitt, L. T. Houston, H. J. Lane, John Turner, John J. Pettit, Martha

Pettit, Elizabeth Pettit, Eva Luff, Sarah Damoth, Clara Butler, Laura Butler, Cynthia Butler Bronk, Ann Phelps Sanborn, Mary Bowles Daily, Anna Bowles Taylor, Minnie Fitzgerald Parker, Almon J. Sargent, Edith Noble McLaughlin, Elizabeth Damoth Hickok, Harvey C. Barton, Nan Conlin Hungerford, Mathilda Luff, Eunice Read, Mary Barrows, Elizabeth Tracy, Robert McNeil, Cornelia Moffett Luff, George Ranney, Burt Ranney, Mr. Erwin, Oliver Robbins, Orville Greene.

Pupils present were: Fred Lammon, Minnie Warwick, Signor Warwick, Edith Hess, Eva Woodside, Sadie Sprague, Zilpha Holsenberg, Lee, C. E. Lonsdale, George Hamilton, E. E. Hicks, George E. Hess, James Wright and Sanford H. Brass.

At the close of the meeting Burt Pettit gave a recitation that he gave when a small boy while attending Jewettsville school entitled, "My Sunday Breeches," which brought forth a storm of applause.

Who were the Teachers?

Lane, Henry J. or "H.J.", born 14 February 1841 in Sackets Harbor; married Rosaltha S. Payne, daughter of Worden Payne and Rhoda Warren. He was engaged in the dry goods trade at Sackets for over 24 years. He was elected supervisor of the town for the second time in 1887 and was a member of the New York State Assembly. He served as the town clerk 3 years, assessor 3 years, and justice of the peace one term. He was president of the village of Sackets Harbor for upwards of four years and served as Worshipful Master of the Sackets Harbor Lodge #135 of Free & Accepted Masons.

Submitted by Mark A. Wentling at legends@hotmail.com

Sprague, Mark was my Great Uncle who was listed with the Teachers and under Former Pupils were Sarah "Sadie" Sprague or Aunt Sadie as we knew her, my Grandmother's youngest sister. Mark Sprague was a principal at Brownville High School or Watertown, N.Y. (believe it was Brownville) after he left the job at Sackets Harbor. They owned the big white house on State Street in Watertown, with the pillars in the 1930's and I was born in their house. Aunt Sadie owned a Millinery "Hat" Shop near the Arcade in Watertown Square and later they moved in retirement to Florida. Their gravesites are in Sackets Harbor Cemetery. They did not have any children and my father was more or less their favorite as her sister had died when he was a young lad.

Submitted by Pat Regan at PNUTREG@cs.com

Who were the Students?

Sprague, Sarah "Sadie" or Aunt Sadie as we knew her was my Grandmother's youngest sister. She was

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Sarah D. Whalen of Sackets Harbor, before her marriage to Mark Sprague, daughter of Sarah D. Greene and Thomas Whalen of Sackets Harbor. Aunt Sadie owned a Millinery "Hat" Shop near the Arcade in Wassertown Square and later they moved in retirement to Florida. They did not have any children and my father was more or less their favorite as her sister had died when he was a young lad. They are both buried in the Sackets Harbor Cemetery. Sadie's sister Emma Jean Whalen ran a seamstress shop at Sacket's Harbor years ago on the Main Street. She never married and she also is buried next to her mother and father in Sackets Harbor Cemetery.

Submitted by Pat Regan at PNUTREG@cs.com



1911 Graduation Class of Sacket Harbor HS
Teachers: Miss Gibson, Mr. Ceigler
Graduates: Isabella Hilling, Violet Lehman

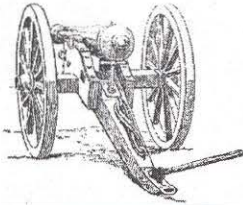


Hounsfield Central Buses



1950 Outdoor Graduation

CIVIL WAR BIOGRAPHY



WALTER WALRATH

Union Soldier - Distinguished Service

Walter Walrath was born in Shantytville, (Orleans 4 corners), NY, and at the age of 19 enlisted in the 94th N. Y. Volunteer Infantry, Company F, for 3 years at Cape Vincent, NY on August 20, 1864. He was honorably discharged June 2, 1865. He died February 17, 1929 in Lafargeville, NY.

Guard In Fenian Trouble, 83, Dies - Man Who Served At Cape Vincent Expires

W. H. Walrath Passes Away Lafargeville Resident Served Under Captain J. B. Ainsworth Also Was Engaged as Teacher Many Years Ago.

Lafargeville, Feb 18. - W. H. Walrath, 83, died at his home here Sunday morning, after an illness of ten days. Mr. Walrath was born June 9, 1845, the son of Alonzo and Katy Maria Walter Walrath. His parents then lived in a log house of two rooms one half mile from Shantytville, now Orleans Fours Corners, on the Henry Walrath farm. When he was two years old he, with his parents, moved to a farm two miles from Depauville, known as the Augustus Schnauber place. It was while here that he started his education. Isaac Mitchel and Jacob Shepherd, two noted teachers in their day, were his first instructors. His parents later moved to a farm near St Lawrence and here he entered school under a teacher by the name of Aaron K Tuttle, an honor student and graduate of the Normal school at Albany; also he had a term at Warren Settlement, under A. E. Cooley of Adams Center, then a noted teacher and later a prominent lawyer. Mr. Walrath walked three miles to and from school and did six hours of farm work each day during this term. One winter term at Clayton and later a term in Eastman College, a business school at Poughkeepsie, completed his education.

At 16 he was a licensed teacher and taught country schools in four adjoining districts and one term in the lower school at Cape Vincent. While teaching he re-

ceived from \$20 to \$30 per month, boarded around and taught every other Saturday at Warren Settlement. Here he had over 80 scholars, many grown up and some teachers themselves.

In 1864 his father and a younger brother enlisted in the 186th regiment, and left Mr. Walrath and two still younger brothers the care of the farm. He was soon called himself to help guard Cape Vincent during the Fenian raids. Here he belonged to the 94th regiment, Company D, Captain J. B. Ainsworth in command. This was during the winter of 1864 and 1865. Later Mr. Walrath served 14 years in the same regiment of the National Guard, meeting once or twice a year.

On Feb 20, 1868, he married Marian E. Henry, daughter of Charles and Elida Henry. Three years later he bought the George Combs farm on the north shore of Three Mile Bay, and began farming. Mr. Walrath joined the grange, then just coming into prominence. He held many offices in this organization and then became master. A few years later Mr. and Mrs. Walrath moved back to St Lawrence on a farm and while here he organized the St Lawrence grange and was master here until he moved to Clayton Center, where he purchased a stock farm. This proved a success and was noted as having the best blooded Jersey cattle for miles around.

For many years Mr. Walrath was a director in the Grange Fire Relief association and helped place that company on a firm basis.

Because of failing health, Mr. Walrath was obliged to sell the stock farm, and shortly after he purchased a hardware and grocery store of W. C. Hill, to which a millinery department was added under the management of Mrs. Walrath.

In the spring of 1915 Mrs. Walrath passed away and Mr. Walrath soon sold out the business which they had carried on for nearly 28 years. Mr. Walrath was a member of the F&AM lodge, having joined that organization at Clayton in 1878. Later he was demitted to Lafargeville lodge, F&AM, No 171. In 1903 he joined the Theresa chapter, Royal Arch Masons, and the Watertown Commandery, KT, No 11, as well as Media Temple AAONMS. At the same time he joined the Lodge of Perfection, Council of Princes of Jerusalem, Chapter of Rose Croix and central City Consistory, SPRS Valley of Syracuse, NY, 32nd degree Mason. Mr. Walrath was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and for 46 years was on the official board of St Lawrence, Clayton and Lafargeville churches and an usher in the church from 1893 until within the past year. His first vote was cast for General Grant as president. Mr. Walrath supported the Republican ticket.

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On Thanksgiving Day, Nov 29, 1916, he married Mrs. Frances Fuller. They have resided in this village since their marriage.

He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Frances Walrath; one daughter, Mrs. Jerome Darling, and one grandson, Lawrence Snell; also one brother in Troy. Funeral services will be held Tuesday at 1 pm, at the house and at 1:30 pm at the Methodist Episcopal Church. This will be a Masonic funeral and the Knights Templar will act as escorts. Rev B. J. Davison will officiate at the church. Interment will be in Grove cemetery, Lafargeville.

Sources:

Jefferson County NYGenWeb, US Civil War Service Records, "Electronic," for Walter Walrath
Newspaper - The Watertown Daily Times - Monday, February 18, 1929

Biography of Walter H. Walrath

FROM OUR COUNTY AND ITS PEOPLE
A DESCRIPTIVE WORK ON JEFFERSON COUNTY
NEW YORK

EDITED BY: EDGAR C. EMERSON
THE BOSTON HISTORY COMPANY, PUBLISHERS
1898

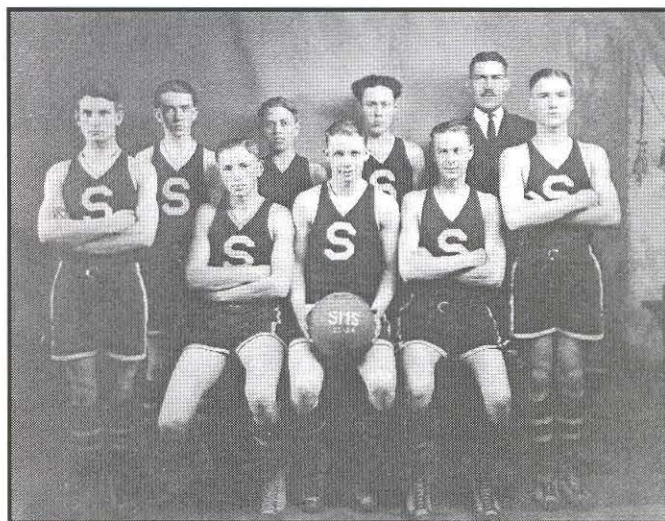
Walrath, Walter H., the subject of this sketch, was born in the town of Orleans, June 9, 1845, a son of Alonzo Walrath and Kate M. (Walter) Walrath. His grandfather, Martin Walter, was a soldier in the war of 1812 and was at the battle of Sacket Harbor, having marched from the Mohawk and saw the British retreat at that battle.

His grandmother, Polly Walter, survived to the good old age of ninety six years. His father, Alonzo Walrath, was a soldier in the war of the Rebellion, a member of Co. E, 186th Regt., and was honorably discharged at the close of the war. Mr. Walrath at the age of sixteen years began teaching and followed that occupation till his twenty third year. In 1868 he married Marion E. Henry of Depauville, N. Y. Two children were born to them: Ethel B., wife of C. A. Snell, and Charlie A., who died in 1888.

Mr. Walrath followed farming in the towns of Lyme and Clayton, being a noted breeder of Jersey cattle, till 1888, when he went into the mercantile business at Lafargeville, N. Y., which he has successfully conducted to the present time. Mrs. Walrath, in connection

with her husband's business, has a millinery department which attracts an extensive trade in Lafargeville and vicinity. At the first organization of the Grange in Jefferson county, Mr. Walrath identified himself with the order and was master of Three Mile Bay and also of St. Lawrence Grange for several years.

He was also director of the Jefferson County P. F. R. Insurance Company for sixteen years and helped to place that institution on a firm basis. He has been a member of the M. E. Church for twenty-two years and has been a member of the official board of the church nearly all of the time. Politically Mr. Walrath was a Republican prior to Grant's second term, since which time he has worked with the Democrats and the Prohibitionists. For several years he has been the efficient secretary of Lafargeville Lodge No. 171, F. & A. M., and is a consistent believer in the principles of the order. He is an esteemed citizen and enjoys a large circle of acquaintances in the county and State.



1923-1924 Sackets Basketball Team Photo

Standing from Left to Right: George White, Norman Kienam, Harold Brooks, Carlton Douglas, Proff James Beha, Clyde Sorrell

Seated from Left to Right: Robert Hayden, Kenneth Patrick, Norman Gurney

ASK AUNT JEFF



Editor's note:

This is a departure from Aunt Jeff's usual column.

.....

"Aunt Jeff, I want to do a genealogy!"

"Whose genealogy, dear?"

"Why, mine, of course! How do I start?"

"Well, if it's yours that you are talking about, then you start with yourself. But if you start with yourself, you're likely to end up with your family history, which is a lot more fun, anyway."

"But I want to do my own genealogy. Joanie's Aunt Linda has done hers, and there's a lot of interesting people on her family tree. So how do I start?"

"Joanie's Aunt Linda has done a splendid family history of Joanie's family, but it's far from a genealogy."

"Well, they call it a genealogy!"

"You can call Joanie's kitten a jaguar, and though they have similarities, I'm not going to run and hide when it prances into the room. You want something like Joanie has? I'm not going to do it for you..."

"I want to do it myself!"

"You're not going to get very far unless you can learn not to interrupt. Not interrupting is very important when you are working with older people, and if you are going to do this thing yourself, you WILL be working with older people."

"You mean you can't just go to the library and get it out of a book?"

"No."

"But Joanie's Aunt Linda spent lots of time in libraries."

"I know she did. But the family history she made didn't come out of a book. Joanie's Aunt Linda put it into a book. To start over: you begin with yourself. You are going to be the most important person in the book. Everything starts with you, and since you know every thing about yourself, that step is easy. Just get paper

Letters may be sent snail mail:
Aunt Jeff, c/o Dixon, 15407 Dixon Rd.,
Clayton NY 13624
or E-mail nandixon@Gisco.net

and pencil, or pen, or your laptop, or whatever you want to use, sit down and make out a chart like this:

Name (make sure you include all your names, especially your middle name.)

Birth day. Many people making their family trees abbreviate it as DOB

Birth place. Here's where you find out how important the county is. It should read Alexandria Bay, Jefferson County, NY, or Town of Alexandria, Jefferson County NY if you weren't born in the Bay. Most people will have a hospital here, and the hospital might not even be in the same county as where your parents lived at the time. A while ago many women went over to Canada to have their children, because the facilities were better, or they liked the doctor, or whatever, so their children were born in a different country. Just be sure you have the correct town and county and state, because that's where their births will be registered.

"So now you have your D.O.B. And P.O.B. If you were married you'd do the same for your spouse. And when I said full name, if you are married you use both your maiden name and your married name, like Joanie Hephzibah (Wagoner) Bennett.

"The next step you can probably do without books or library also. This is where you use your manners, like not interrupting old folks, who can easily lose the thread of their thought with too many interruptions. You do the same thing with your father and mother, that is, get their P.O.B. and D.O.B., and add their P.O.M. and D.O.M., that is their marriage place and date. This is where you are lucky. They are both alive, and can give you that information. Now you have the first two generations, and you can fill in some pages in your "genealogy", which is really your family history. You have yourself and your parents."

"But I want some important people on my tree. Joey Washington says he's descended from George Washington..."

"Interesting, but now you have to make some decisions. George Washington never had chick nor child. He's the Father of his Country, but not of boys or girls. Let's take this up another time."

COMPUTER CORNER

The Tech Side -- Spring Cleaning Your Monitor, Keyboard and Mouse

By Wayne Scott

Do you eat breakfast in front of your computer? How about snacks? It is quite possible that tiny crumbs have been left behind and are gumming up your desktop peripherals. The cleaning process is easy and could be done often.

Cleaning Kit
Distilled Water
Isopropyl Alcohol (Rubbing Alcohol)
Q-Tips
Small dish for mixing
Can of compressed air
Soft cloths
Glass Cleaner

The first step is to shut your computer off, and to disconnect the monitor if easily accessible, the keyboard and mouse. The mechanical mouse is connected to your computer by either a USB wire or a plug. Write down which sockets the mouse and keyboard are connected to.

The Monitor

If you have one of the old style monitors which is boxy and heavy, it is likely a CRT (cathode ray tube). With power disconnected, first use a dry cloth to wipe the surface completely. Spray some glass cleaner onto a soft cloth and gently clean the glass surface. Do not spray the cleaning solution directly onto the screen as some may run behind the plastic molding and into the wiring inside. A vacuum works well to suck up any dust that is in the crevices. The newer flat panel and laptop screens can seem like dust magnets. Using a soft cloth, wipe the entire surface of your disconnected monitor gently. Do not use cleaning sprays. Mix some distilled water and rubbing alcohol in equal parts. Dip a soft cloth into the solution to dampen the cloth; do not wet the cloth too much. Please do not use a spray bottle to apply the cleaning solution. Gently rub screen, not applying too much pressure. Damage can be done to the LCD screen if too much pressure is applied. Be sure to wipe off any excess liquid. Paper towels and napkins are not recommended as they often leave trace amounts of the paper behind.

The Keyboard

Please make sure the keyboard is not attached to the computer that has already been shut down. Gently turn your keyboard over and let the majority of dust and crumbs fall out. You might want to gently press

the keys to dislodge some of the debris. Now turn the keyboard onto its side and use the compressed air to blow out more dust etc. Be sure to get between the keys. Dip a Q-Tip into the distilled water and alcohol cleaning solution and rub all sides of the keys to get rid of dust and grime. A vacuum can be used to help remove deep down dust. A soft cloth dampened with your cleaning solution can be used to clean the key tops and the sides of the keyboard.

More next issue.

Progress on the Jefferson County Genwebsite may appear to have stalled, but behind the scene, Nan and Bill have been desperately playing catch up. Months of just marking time in the last few years have set them way behind their non-existent schedule. Gus Rogers has sent them his last batch of death notices from the Watertown Daily Times. They cover 2008 (already posted), 2009 (a work in progress) and part of 2010. At that point Gus sent an email stating "As of this date I am shutting down my Computer for good, for many reasons which I won't elaborate on. It has been a long ride and it has to end sometime. Gus R."

Gus was a founding member of the Jefferson County New York Genealogy Society, and guided its first faltering steps as our first president. Always quiet, always decisive, he gradually faded into the background as new members took over the active direction of the organization. Unfailingly courteous and helpful, Nan and Bill have relied heavily on his computer base for the accuracy of their website. He is already missed.

A new volunteer has appeared on the email screen. Where Marilyn Sapienza gets her information is something of a mystery (well, not really: much is from county histories and such.) The mystery lies in the number of them from various states she appears to be able to lay hands on! Some of her material goes right into Jefferson County Pioneers. The Canadian Marriages series is a straightforward transcription of marriage records, each covering a citizen of Jefferson County. We have not, as yet, decided how to arrange the migration.

**It's hard to believe
that someday I'LL
be an ancestor.**

Jefferson County Queries

Send Queries to: Lis Couch, 24670 County Rt. 159,
Watertown, NY 13601; lcouch0624@aol.com
Subject: Jefferson County Informer Query

(Some readers don't have internet access. Please include mailing address &/or phone numbers as well as email.)

HERRICK, THURSTON, CURTIS, STEARNS, WOOD, BRAMAN

I am interested in exchanging information on Edward HERRICK and his family. The 1850 census says he was born in Vermont. Gravestone gives birth date as 5 June 1805. He died 16 Oct. 1857 in Theresa, NY and is buried in Oakwood Cemetery in Theresa. Almira (THURSTON) HERRICK was born 14 Feb. 1817 in NY and died in 1907.

Names of children I have found for him are Delos Albert HERRICK married Sophronia Ann CURTIS; Reuben Crandall HERRICK, died 13 Oct. 1862 in the Civil War, his mother received a pension for his service; Angeline Relief HERRICK married John C. STEARNS; Hannah Matilda HERRICK, born 14 April 1845; Mary, born 29 Oct. 1851, married Orvil Brayton WOOD, she died in Vassar, Tuscola Co., MI; Josephine Cornelia HERRICK, born 13 June 1848; William M. HERRICK, born April 1854; Emogene, born 1858 in NY.

I am hoping that he might be a son of an Edward HERRICK, born 26 June 1761 in Preston, CT who was in Poultney, Rutland Co., VT in the 1791 and 1800 censuses; in Rodman, Jefferson Co., NY in the 1810 census. I haven't found him since. If this is the right family, his grandparents were Ebenezer and Esther (BRAMAN) HERRICK.

Hope someone recognizes this family and is interested in exchanging information.

Joann Nichols
110 Chestnut Street
Brattleboro, VT 05301-6579
jnichols1930@myfairpoint.net



Sophomore Class at Sackets Harbor High in 1938-39

Back Row L-R: R. Hicks, J. Rogers, M. Brodie, J. Kauffman, N. Osborn, R. Goodale, A. Neville

Middle Row L-R: A. Banche, G. Ashwood, C. Weaver, H. Searle, F. Youell, G. Morris, A. Redden, H. Root

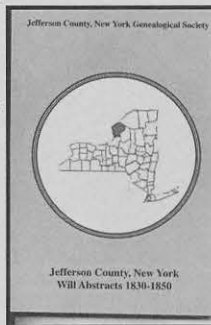
Front Row L-R: H. Sawchuk, L. Filiatrault, A. Barkley, O. Burnup, K. Metcalf

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JEFFERSON COUNTY NEW YORK WILL ABSTRACTS 1830 – 1850

The Will Book contains will abstracts dating from 1830 to 1850. The book contains 194 pages, two maps, and a chart showing the formation of Jefferson County Towns.

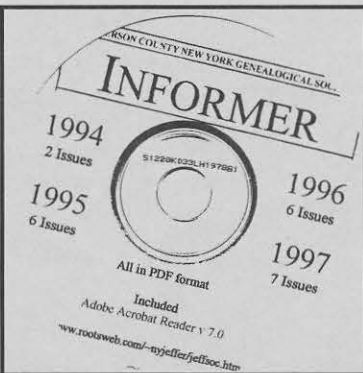
Sale Price \$15.00 + \$5.00 for postage. Checks made out to **JCNYGS**
Mail to: **JCNYGS**
Attn: **Robert VanBrocklin**
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Watertown, NY 13601



Informers

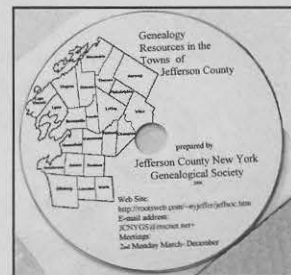
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(If you buy 2 CDs, only a single \$3 Mail fee!)



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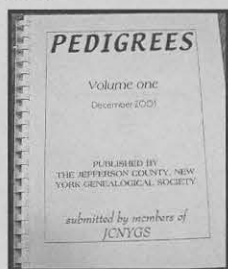


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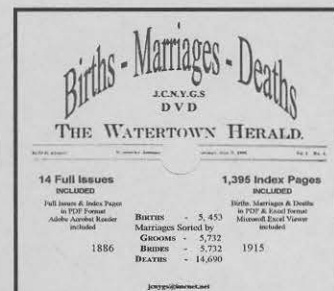
CONTACT: **Greg Plantz**
21787 Reed Road
Watertown, NY 13601
tplantz1@twcny.rr.com



A DVD of the Births-Marriages-Deaths from The Watertown Herald 1886-1915

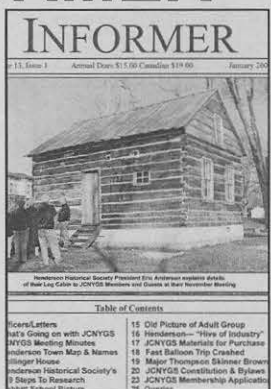
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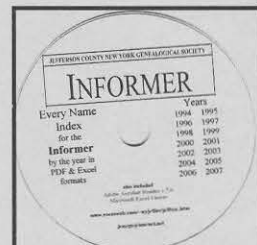
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INFORMER

Jefferson County NY Genealogical Society

(JCNYGS)

P.O. Box 6453

Watertown, NY 13601

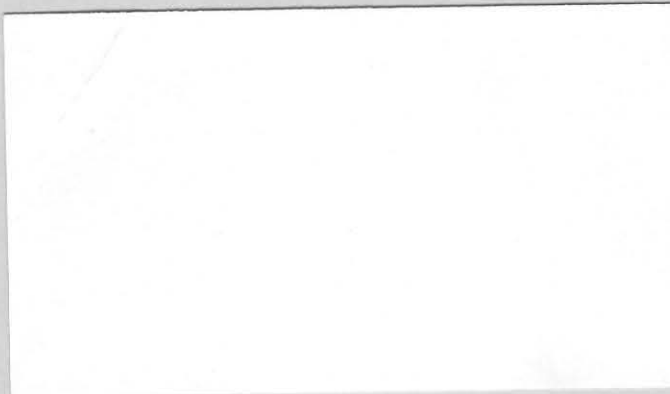
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2nd Row L-R: Eva Ramsey, Alberta Dunbar, --unknown--, Olga Davies, --unknown--, Ruth Boulton, --unknown--, --unknown--

3rd Row L-R: Milly Washburn, Emma Backus, Edith Lindsay, Georgia Child, --unknown--

4th Row L-R: Floyd Illingsworth, Leon Washburn, Lewis Fields, Carl Nadlon, --unknown--, Harold Brooks, Gus Kienan

5th Row L-R: Gorden Frink, Clyde Sorrell, Parker Illingsworth, Clarence Wescott

6th Row L-R: --unknown--, --unknown--, Carlton Douglas, Kenneth Patrick