

THE QUARTERLY

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION



JULY 1975

THE QUARTERLY

Official Publication Of The St. Lawrence County Historical Association

JULY, 1975

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COVER PHOTO
 A family camps at Terrace Park.
 Note even the bird cage.

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Century Mark for

TERRACE PARK

By Mary H. Biondi

Over one hundred years ago an organization was formed for the purpose of providing camp meeting grounds for the Ogdensburg and Potsdam Districts of the Methodist Episcopal Church. On Feb. 9, 1870 the District Stewards of the Ogdensburg District of the Black River Conference met to form a corporation to secure property for the use of the district, under an act of the Legislature which had been passed in 1868. The corporate name was "Ogdensburg District Parsonage and CampGround Corporation." The stewards: John Morris (Ogdensburg), Jeremiah Van-Brocklin (Canton), John Hockens (DePeyster), James Graham (Rensselaer Falls), Joseph Firth (Hermon), Elbert A. Wood (South Canton - Pierrepont), Nathan F. Giffin (Heuvelton), A. W. Temple (Gouverneur), James Clark, Jr. (Spragues Corners - Somerville), Thomas Boothroyd (Lisbon), Frederick Howe (Potsdam - Bucks Bridge) and Lyman Breckenridge (Macomb) met and appointed nine persons as trustees of that Corporation: Lemuel Clark, presiding elder; Joel M. Woolley, F. C. Murphy, E. L. Wright, David Pierce, Andrew Merrithew, James Graham, Clark Baker and James Clark, Jr.

Apparently this corporation was not completed as on May 31st of that same year another group gathered for the same purpose: Lemuel Clark, presiding elder of Gouverneur, and stewards David Day II, of the Macomb charge; Charles H. Drury, So. Canton - Pierrepont; Moses H. Hunkins, Hermon (residing in Russell); Elliot Lynde, Indian River charge (residing in Rossie); A. W. Temple, Gouverneur; Christopher Walker, DePeyster; Robert Render, Antwerp; William H. Smith, DeKalb, and John Whitney, Spragues Corners - Somerville (residing in Antwerp).

The papers in the Court House in Canton do not show further activity on the question until June 1, 1875 when a group met following a reorganization of the Districts and the two districts of Potsdam and Ogdensburg met in Potsdam Junction with presiding elder Samuel Call to arrange the purchase of land. The new district now known as the St. Lawrence District, wished to form a corporation to "manage the temporal matters and affairs of the Camp grounds under Chapter 26 of the Laws of 1874 and their Amendments."

The incorporation would be called "The St. Lawrence International Camp Ground" and would be managed by fifteen trustees, namely: George McRitchie, William Coats, and Simeon Manhard of Brockville, Ontario; A. G. Ferguson of Prescott and A. D. Traveler of Lynn, Ontario; Clinton H. King, Hammond; Wm. H. Johnson, Morristown; Wm. Whitney, Gouverneur, Joel M. Woolley and Dan H. Davis of Ogdensburg; H. T. Tilden, Massena; C. D. Meigs, Malone; Barney Whitney, Lawrence; James Miller, Louisville and Samuel Call, Potsdam, New York. The certificate of incorporation was dated July 1, 1875.

Following this, a piece of property, appropriately along the St. Lawrence, was purchased from Ellen J. Carpenter, which deed was not recorded until Feb. 7, 1877. Located in milesquare No. 6, it contained 23.65 acres in Morristown, bounded by the English Settlement road, the old turnpike and the River. Hilly and wooded, it was laid out in lots and platforms for tents which were erected and camp meetings of giant proportions were held. August was the special month for large gatherings, with the GAR reunions held for two weeks then. The men many times brought their entire families to the white and red and white striped tents. At the reunion of 1898 the men marched from the lodge rooms in Morristown with the Morristown Community Band leading. Prominent speakers were General Newton Martin Curtis of



DePeyster and Senator George Z. Erwin of Potsdam. Just a few of the others using the grounds were Black Lake Sunday School, the Foresters, patients from the State Hospital in Ogdensburg and many lodges and clubs and church groups.

The railroad which came through from Watertown about 1871 included a stop at Wadhams Park, Edgewater Park and Perch Curve (all flag stops) but Terrace Park had a depot. Even a turntable at Morristown for the special train from Ogdensburg for commuters and shoppers was built. A commodious boat dock provided morning for steamers and private boats. Steamer Captain David Lyon of Ogdensburg purchased the lot from the first buyer George T. Watt within an hour after they went on sale.

Imagine if you can the excitement of the celebration the day of the opening of the great Terrace Hotel on June 21, 1882. The steamer "Algona" arrived in Brockville with the Montreal City Band, and held a street parade there. They then returned to the Camp Grounds and the band took the "Rothsay" to Ogdensburg, returning in the evening along with four other bands. There were also in attendance other bands including two from Prescott. Crowded from bow to stern the boat held 750 passengers in addition to the bands.

The steamer "Chaffey" ran back and forth from Brockville all day, and the "Armstrong" made a trip, too, after leaving Allen's Dock (between Oak Point and Chippewa Bay). AT ONE TIME the following boats were lying at the wharf: Rothsay, Algona, Armstrong, Cresco, Plumb, City of Belleville, Chaffey, Massena, Omata, Myrtle, Spray and Rawson!

An immense crowd gathered and weather was "un-charitable" sending down rain in abundance. The new hotel was managed by Captain John LaVigne, a Civil War veteran. It was leased to E. L. Lockwood of Madrid, and had cost \$15,000 to build.

The nearly 4,000 persons attending were disappointed by the fizzle of fireworks, but there was enough to keep them entertained. The large tabernacle was over-flowing while the bands played. The hotel and several of the cottages were illuminated by Chinese lanterns holding white candles. No fires ever resulted from these candles.

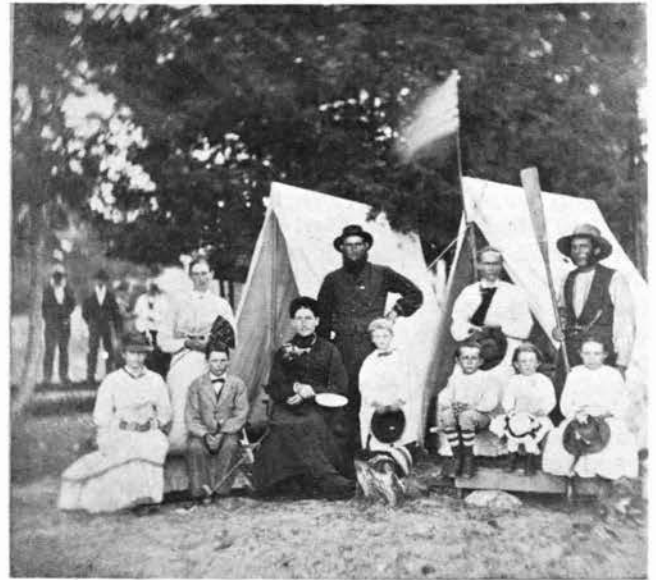


Cottages at Terrace Park.



In 1878 a tornado in July blew down some trees, damaged two cottages. In 1879 the Reverend W. O. Simpson of London, England, preached one of the sermons. Prayers and conference meetings were held until late in the evenings. Songs resounded and listeners were fired up by exhortations. "Wanderers were reclaimed and sinners converted." The grounds were much improved in 1881. In 1889 a grand pavilion was erected in front of the stand rendering the speakers more audible and gave protection from heat and rain. Hundreds of tents graced the grounds. On Jan. 11, 1889 assignee and grantee for the Association James R. Bill offered for sale parcels of land which by default of rent payments over a year were held to be eligible. These had been held under a lease from the Association which provided for sale by bid at a public auction in case of rent default. Sales were also held in succeeding years.

Sometime after 1900 on a midsummer day a fire started in the basement of the Terrace Hotel with a hot south wind blowing directly toward Canada. Suddenly without warning it veered and took the handsome Hotel and eleven cottages. Two young men visitors pumped water heroically from the two deep wells relaying the pails to the firemen gathered from all points on both sides of the river. For the first time Ed Thomas' team of horses was hitched to the Morrystown hook and ladder wagon and hauled it to the park. It had always before been drawn by hand.



The GAR encampment at Terrace Park.



The platform for band entertainments and get-togethers. Homes and cottages along the edge of the clearing at Terrace Park after 1900.

(Continued on Page 22)

Note: 'Terrace Park is being recorded for the Register of Historic Places.



Visit Quilt Exhibit at Museum

Dr. Franklin B. Hough, Reformer

By Thomas L. Jenison

Both historians and casual observers have an interest in why certain areas of a country increase in population. There are, of course, many reasons for changes in growth: an abundance or lack of natural resources; excellent farm land or the depletion of such land; transportation facilities; proximity to cities, to name a few. Since population growth was synonymous with wealth in the early 1800's, all towns and counties hoped for an annual increase in population. Town rivalry often justified fabrication of population figures. While both the state and federal censuses since 1800 have enumerated the population of St. Lawrence County, it took the efforts of one man, Dr. Franklin B. Hough, to ensure that population statistics were correct.

Recognizing that errors in reporting population influenced the laws of the State of New York, Dr. Hough sought to change several procedures that perpetuated such violations. The practice of letting local officials appoint the marshals who went door-to-door collecting information for the census was ended, and the appointments were made by the secretary of state of New York. Although the marshals earned only \$2.00 per day, the information they gathered was accurate. Dr. Hough noted that he received many a complaint from local officials that their towns lost population.

Dr. Hough's name should be familiar to many as the author

of *A History of St. Lawrence and Franklin Counties, New York*, in 1853. He practices medicine in Somerville, St. Lawrence County, before starting a full writing career, and he wrote numerous books and articles on far - ranging subjects that included the compilation of minerals, reptiles, fishes, ancient art, and mining interests in St. Lawrence County.

The census for 1855 represents an amazing amount of work and effort. For those who have never had the opportunity to peruse an early census, the wealth of information available can only be described as staggering. Not only was the population of each town and county noted, but a detailed breakdown of each town's assets was cited. These are only a very few of the categories analyzed in the 1855 census: the number of various types of houses; number of tanneries, factories, farms; number of churches; number of deaf, dumb, lunatics; and Indian census; number of voters, aliens; all newspapers in the state. Each main heading is further broken down into subheadings.

Below is a partial chart for churches of St. Lawrence County in 1855 taken from the 8th census. Notice the number of different categories listed under the main heading, "churches."

CHURCHES.

TOWNS.	Number of churches.	Value of church and lot.	Value of other real estate.	Number capable of being seated.	Usual number attending.	Number of communicants.	Salary of clergy, including use of real estate.
St. Lawrence Co.							
Fowler,.....	1	\$200		200	100	21	
Gouverneur,.....	1	4,500	\$1,200	500	200	208	\$500
Hermon,.....	1	1,200		300	250	80	300
Lawrence,.....	2	2,900		500	200	115	500
Madrid,.....	1	1,000	700	400	75	112	500
Massena,.....	1	300		300	50	50	300
Oswegatchie,.....	1	5,000		700	200	170	600
Parishville,.....	1	350			200	160	400
Russell,.....	1	900	100	300	100	46	300
Stockholm,.....	1	500	400	200	60	56	250
Total,.....	14	22,250	2,900	4,650	2,035	1,188	4,700

(Continued following Page)



Market Street, Potsdam.

(Gift of Nina Walton.)

Another chart compares the growth of all towns in St. Lawrence County from 1790 to 1855.

Comparative Population of Towns and Counties at different Periods.

CITIES & TOWNS.	When formed.	FROM WHAT TAKEN.	1800.	1810.	1814.	1820.	1825.	1830.	1835.	1840.	1845.	1850.	1855.	
Brasher,	1825	Massena,					401	826	929	2, 118	2, 218	2, 582	2, 968	
Canton,	1805	Lisbon,	*24	699	815	1, 337	1, 898	2, 439	2, 412	3, 465	4, 035	4, 683	4, 995	
Colton,	1843	Parisville,									466	506	1, 040	
De Kalb,	1806	Oswegatchie,		541	487	709	766	1, 268	1, 200	1, 531	1, 723	2, 389	2, 676	
De Peyster,	1825	Oswegatchie and De Kalb,					787	813	788	1, 074	1, 138	906	1, 663	
Edwards,	1827	Fowler,						633	739	956	1, 064	1, 023	1, 180	
Fine,	1844	Russell and Pierrepont,									243	293	316	
Fowler,	1816	Rossie and Russell,				605	1, 671	1, 447	1, 571	1, 752	1, 840	1, 813	1, 620	
Gouverneur,	1810	Oswegatchie,		224	862	765	1, 267	1, 430	1, 796	2, 538	2, 600	2, 783	2, 856	
Hammond,	1827	Rossie and Morristown,						767	1, 327	1, 845	1, 911	1, 819	1, 875	
Hermon,	1830	De Kalb and Edwards,						668	870	1, 271	1, 580	1, 690	1, 648	
Hopkinton,	1805	Massena,		372	453	581	884	827	910	1, 147	1, 435	1, 476	1, 554	
Lawrence,	1828	Hopkinton and Brasher,						1, 097	1, 241	1, 845	1, 970	2, 214	2, 365	
Lisbon,	1801	.....	*135	820	626	930	1, 474	1, 891	2, 411	3, 508	4, 376	5, 295	5, 109
Louisville,	1810	Massena,	13	.....	235	831	864	1, 076	1, 315	1, 693	1, 970	2, 054	2, 120
Macomb,	1841	Gouverneur and Morristown,									1 113	1, 197	1, 466	
Madrid,	1802	Lisbon,	*13	1, 420	1, 184	1, 930	2, 639	3, 459	4, 069	4, 511	4, 376	4, 856	4, 862	
Massena,	1802	.....	*102	955	384	944	1, 701	2, 068	2, 288	2, 726	2, 798	2, 870	2, 701
Morristown,	1821	Oswegatchie,				1827	1, 723	1, 600	2, 339	2, 809	2, 328	2, 274	2, 111	
Norfolk,	1823	Louisville and Stockholm,					755	1, 039	1, 373	1, 728	1, 544	1, 753	1, 804	
Oswegatchie,	1802	Lisbon,	*159	1, 245	789	1, 661	3, 133	3, 993	4, 656	5, 719	6, 414	7, 756	10, 060	
Parisville,	1818	Hopkinton,			273	594	959	1, 477	1, 657	2, 250	2, 090	2, 132	2, 114	
Pierrepont,	1818	Russell,				235	558	749	922	1, 430	1, 450	1, 459	1, 834	
Pitcairn,	1836	Fowler,									396	553	531	
Potsdam,	1806	Madrid,		928	1, 317	1, 911	3, 112	3, 661	3, 810	4, 473	4, 856	5, 349	6, 631	
Rossie,	1813	Russell,			368	869	1, 074	641	722	1, 553	1, 386	1, 471	1, 480	
Russell,	1807	Hopkinton,		394	.....	486	480	541	655	1, 373	1, 499	1, 808	2, 108
Stockholm,	1806	Massena,	*8	307	459	822	1, 449	1, 944	2, 047	2, 995	3, 293	3, 661	3, 790	
Total,				454	7, 885	8, 252	16, 037	27, 595	36, 354	42, 047	56, 706	62, 354	68, 617	74, 977

Not only is it noted from which town(s) each town originated, but totals of population for each census are noted on the bottom of each column.

As mentioned earlier, many factors influence the growth of a county. In 1855, the population of St. Lawrence County totaled almost 75,000. There were some 3,466,000 residents of New York State in 1855, and St. Lawrence County ranked tenth in total population. All nine counties that had higher population figures also had major cities; St. Lawrence County had none.

Times have obviously changed, and St. Lawrence County has not continued to experience the growth or wealth of those early days. But for those interested in historical research,

whether it be changing population statistics or any other facet of early town life in St. Lawrence County, the early New York State census is a valuable tool.

Dr. Hough became Superintendent of the U.S. Census for 1876. He also wrote numerous articles and books on forestry, history, science, and legal matters. To him we owe our thanks for demanding that such important historical data be compiled and placed in proper perspective for future historians to use and enjoy.

(Historian's note: The Compendiums of 1845, 1855, 1865, 1875 New York State census figures are at the Historian's History Center. No name censuses exist, except fragmentary, for these years in our county).



Commercial House,
Nicholville, N.Y.

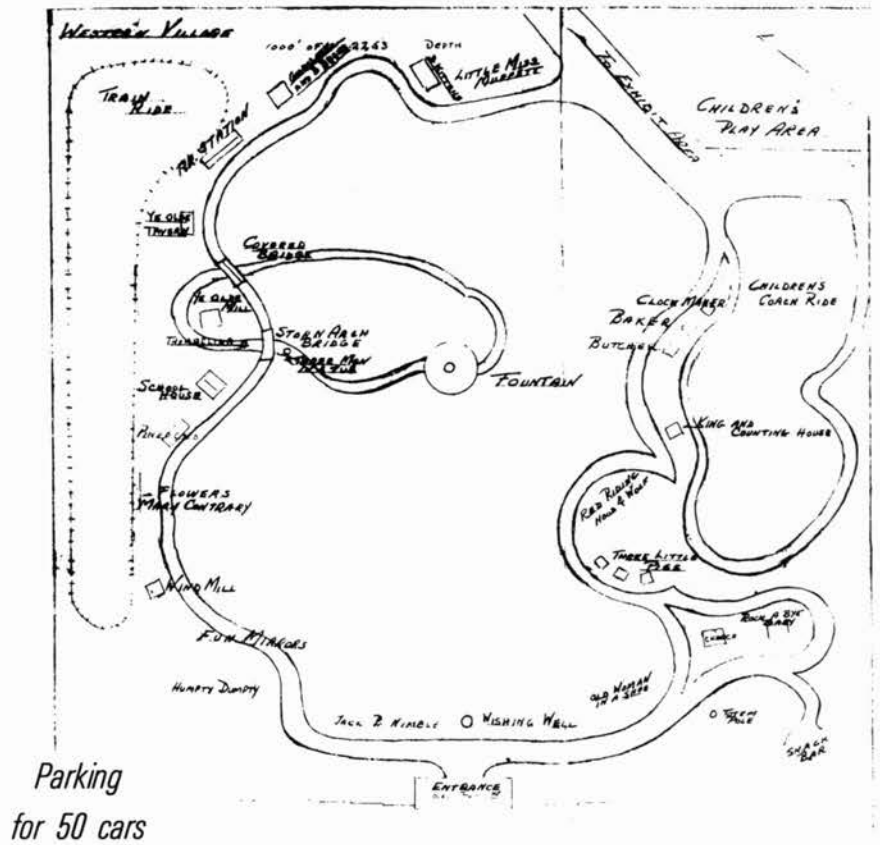


*Heritage
Preserved*

**Turn of the century views of the
Park in Canton hopefully to
included in the National Register.**



WONDERLAND



WONDERLAND
 Mr. Patrick J. Carey
 Rt. 37, Town of Louisville
 St. Lawrence County, N.Y.

← 635 feet →

To Waddington →

← Route 37 →

(Map from Lorraine Bandy, Louisville Historian)

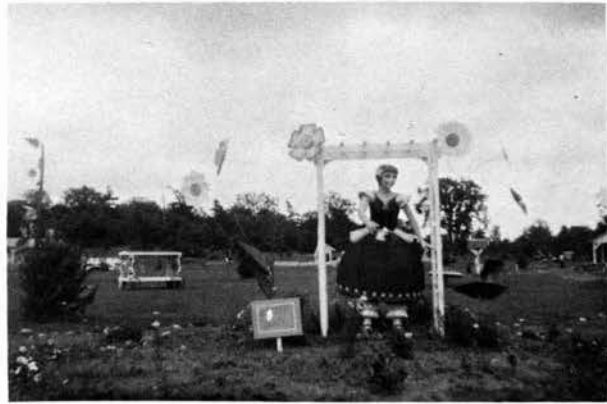


Entrance Castle

(Photos by Millard Hundley.)



Humpty Dumpty



Mistress Mary



Pumpkin House



Crooked House



Dutch Windmill



Old Woman in the Shoe



Lighthouse on Island



NICHOLVILLE GIRLS, Nicholville, N.Y. — Top left to right: Mable Chandler (never married); Alice Wood (Mrs. Judson Mosier); Mary Chambers (Mrs. Sumner Sweet); May Stacy (Mrs. Loren Hawkins); Pearl Western (Mrs. George Munson); Clara Bibbins (Mrs. Ernest Erwin); Daisy Chambers (Mrs. George Kingston); Anna Chandler (Mrs. Leon Samson); Valma Sanford (Mrs. Norman McKim); Roba Bibbins (Mrs. George Ellithorpe). Second row: Ruth Sheldon (Mrs. Frank Bibbins); Addie Adams (Mrs. Clark Tharrett); Grace

Merrell (Mrs. Frank Tremble); Frankie Griffis (never married); Jennie Sanford (Mrs. George Carter); Grace Wood (Mrs. Dwight Cutler); Alice Blake (first Mrs. George Blanchard). Last row: Bell Western (Mrs. Joel Weller); Bertha Blake (Mrs. Welford Hamlin); Linnie Day (Mrs. Rollie Hens); Myra Blake (second Mrs. George Blanchard); Edith Day (Mrs. George Quinell); Bertha Smith (Mrs. Silas Sanford). (Sent by Anna Matthews Cole, Historian, Town of Lawrence).



Colton Training Class 1907-8 — Front Row: Bernice Roach, Julia Sullivan, C. Judd, Martha Hester Parks, Patia Arquitt, Grace Bouck. Back Row: Rennis Colemand - died 4-5-71,

Anna O'Leary, Cressie Peet, Iva Hayes, Grace Pearl, Laura Hart, Mae Copeland, Ada Welch.

ghost village

Frier Settlement

By Charlotte Popp, Clare Historian

In the 1800's there was a small community known as Frier Settlement. It was just about one mile as the crow flies from Clare on the other side of the Grass River.

One person who recalls the settlement is Audrey Colton, who lives in the town of Clare. Mrs. Colton came to this town as a bride and has lived here ever since. Her husband was Vernon Colton who was born and brought up here. Mrs. Colton lives alone now, her husband having passed away several years ago. Audrey was 82 last November 30, 1974.

She recalls visiting her grandparents as a very small child in the Frier Settlement. Their names were Phil and Milia Spicer. They had five children, three boys, two girls, named Fred, Leslie, Manton, Ellen, and Emma who was Audrey's mother. Audrey's father and mother were John Cornel and Emma Spicer Cornel. They had two children, Artie and Audrey. Her brother passed away a while back.

Mrs. Colton recalls that about 14 families lived in the area at one time. Some of the names she remembers are Fred Spicer, John Cornel, Judd Goodell, Sam Paro, Leon Bohall, George Clink, Will Ells, and his son George Ells, George Cobb, Jimmy Gadis, and Billie Nolen.

The only remaining evidence that the area was settled is an occasional old foundation or some old dump. This area is now all state land which has been reforested. The only people who might go there now are hunters, trappers or some one traveling by snowmobile.

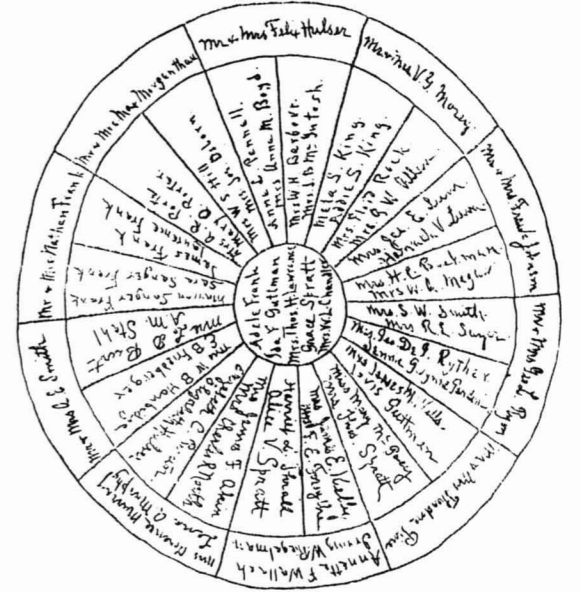
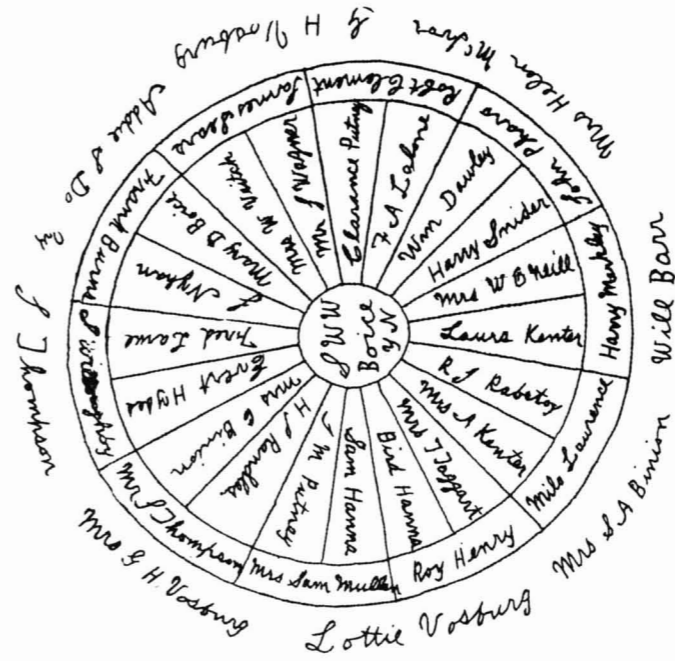
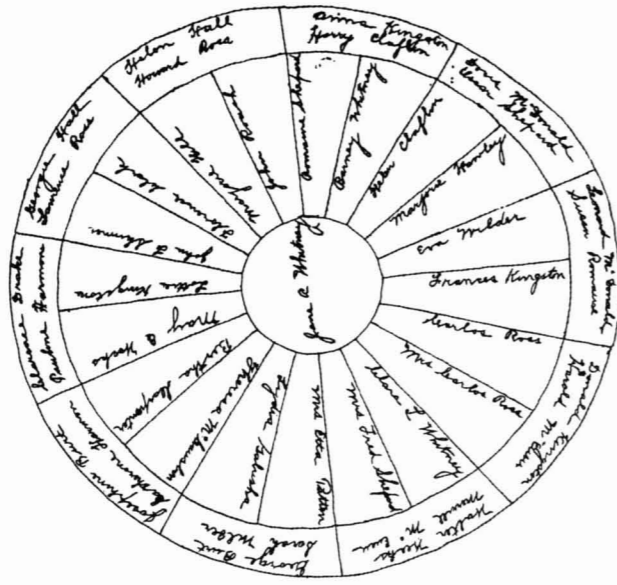
Audrey loaned this old picture of her grandfather and grandmother in front of their home. The Frier Settlement is located in the Town of Russell, not in Clare as one might think by reading the above. It is or was the borderline between the two townships.



Phil and Milia Ann (Pike) Spicer with granddaughter Audrey (who married Vernon Cornel), and her aunt and uncle Edith (Parish) and Manton Spicer. (Emma Spicer and John Cornell were Audrey's parents).



From left to right, Mr. Ross, Nina Brown, Miss Brown, Ida Hart, Mr. Hitter, all clerks at Mr. Lockwood's store, Potsdam. (Picture was donated by Nina Walton.)



FRIENDSHIP QUILT

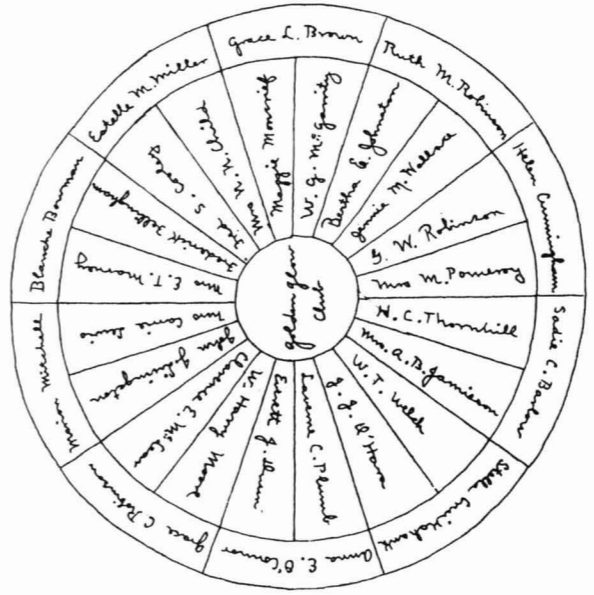
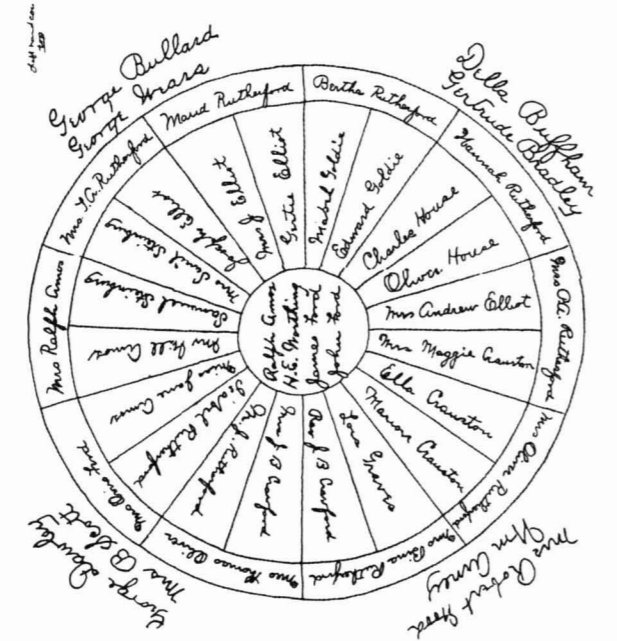
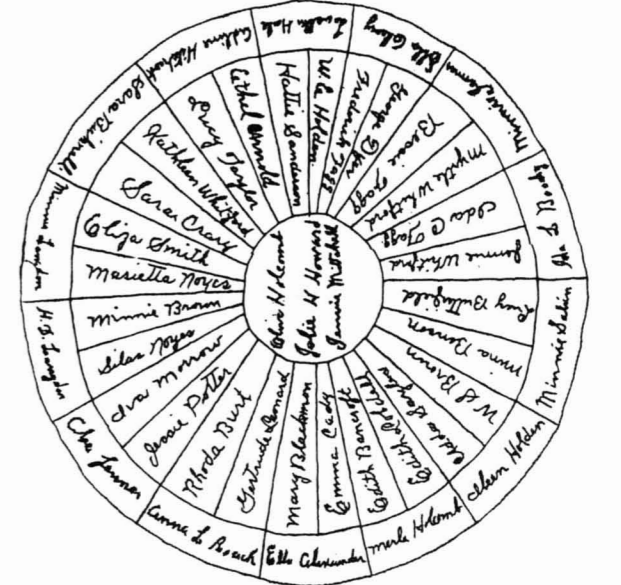
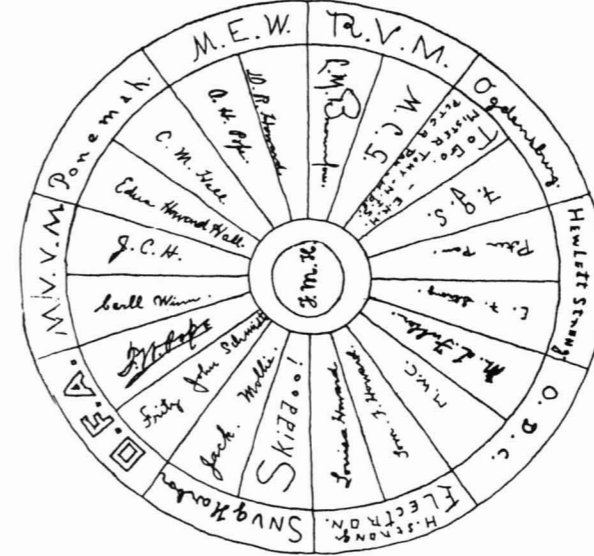
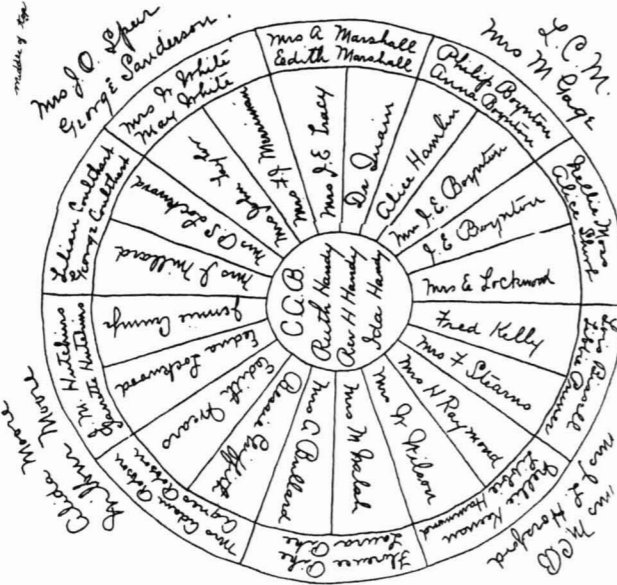
Visit Quilt Exhibit

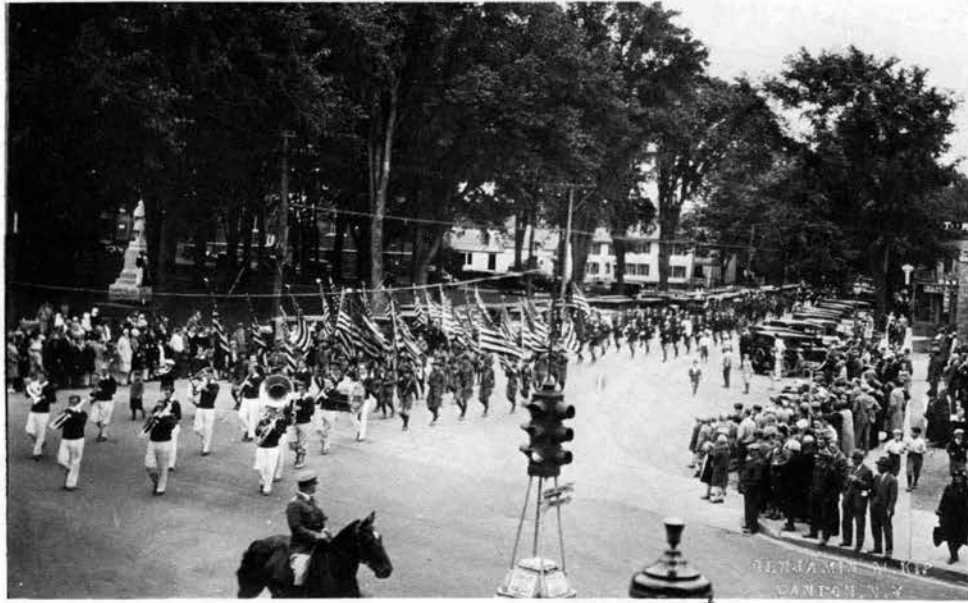
at Museum

(This Quilt Top

from Archives

of County Historian.)





Boy Scout parade in the center of Canton Village, June 1, 1929.



Street Carnival in Potsdam. Does anyone recall this carnival? (Gift of Nina Walton.)

Fun and Vacation Time in St. Lawrence County



by
KEITH
BLAKE

All definitions requiring two or more word answers are indicated by separate lines marking the spaces to be filled. For example: "— — as the hills" Otherwise, two or more words are labeled in parentheses.

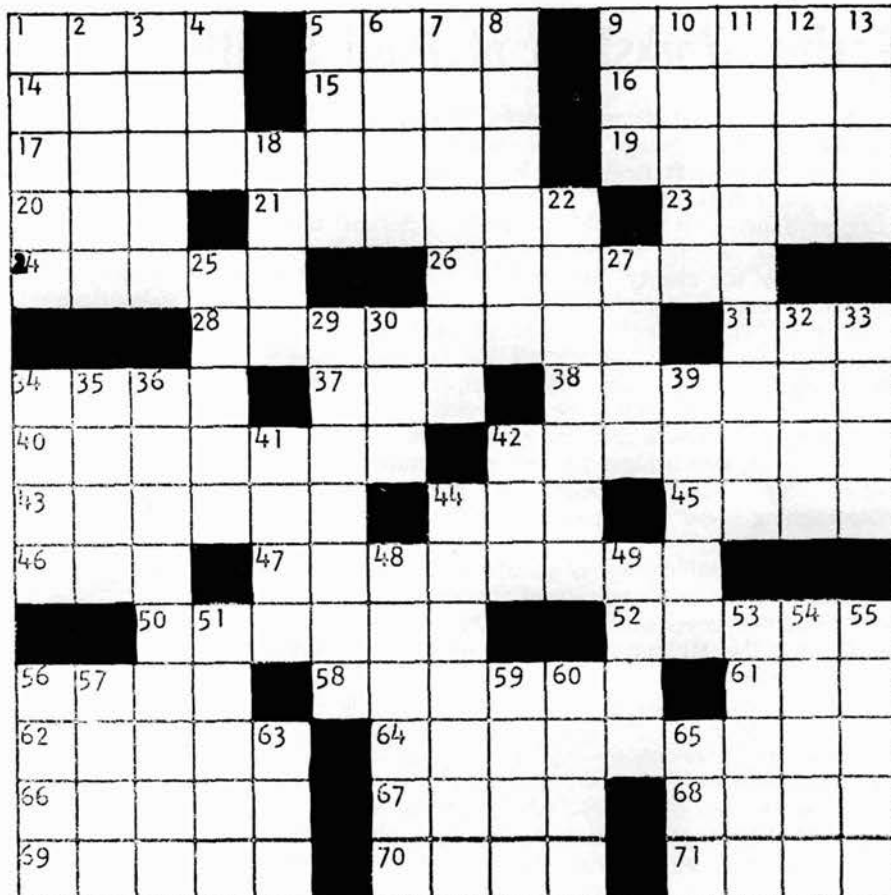
(Solution to Vacation Time on Page 20)

ACROSS

- 1 Ending for pano or cyclo
- 5 The abbreviation for mister — —
- 9 Blurt in Scotland
- 14 As like as — — of pins
- 15 Rake
- 16 Proportion
- 17 Campfire treat (two words)
- 19 "— — as the hills"
- 20 Prefix for inner
- 21 Actor Henreid (Cockney pronunciation)
- 23 Child's vehicle put away until winter
- 24 They are high for summer cottages
- 26 Crustacean appendage
- 28 Vessels once used on large waterways (now seldom seen)
- 31 Limb
- 34 What not to get on vacation
- 37 Face in France or French face
- 38 Family Cemetery in DeKalb
- 40 What weight watchers want to get
- 42 Favorite activity at Black Lake
- 43 Goes for picnic food enthusiastically (2 wds.)
- 44 Morsel left after the picnic
- 45 African Elephant Embalmers Society Abbr.
- 46 Favorite —
- 47 Crafts for fishing and pleasure
- 50 They — — to be tied
- 52 Duck famed for downy feathers
- 56 One kind of vacation transportation
- 58 Signal or warning lights; Variant spelling
- 61 Period of time
- 62 Foam at the bottom of the falls
- 64 Summertime "fireworks"
- 66 Religious laws; variant spelling
- 67 Son of Seth
- 68 Continent visited on round - the - world tour
- 69 About, concerning
- 70 Migraine Sufferers Tolerance Society; Abbr.
- 71 Summers in France

DOWN

- 1 Vehicle in Indianapolis event
- 2 Red as — —
- 3 Person with very low I.Q.; (does use seat belts)
- 4 Tender bristle in barley, oats, etc.
- 5 "— horse" (mode of travel)
- 6 Fly aloft as an eagle
- 7 Buildings for historical or other displays
- 8 Go to bed
- 9 Part of bikini swimsuit
- 10 Rodeo rope
- 11 Confession of fish story teller (4 wds.)
- 12 Disturb water in a spring
- 13 Mary — Lincoln
- 18 What some hope to do on vacation
- 22 "Little —" — novel by Dickens
- 25 Thunderstorms; Abbr.
- 27 Greek letters
- 29 Level (2 wds.)
- 30 Travel by —
- 32 French mademoiselle
- 33 Mid York Genealogical Society; Abbr.
- 34 Landing ship docks; Abbr.
- 35 Entertainment between vaudeville acts, mixture
- 36 What a visitor puts in a guest book
- 39 City in east central China
- 41 Wet, spongy earth
- 42 To and —
- 44 Secures
- 48 Hendrik — van Loon
- 49 Examination
- 51 Fourth of July candle
- 53 Believer in deism
- 54 Tennessee — Ford
- 55 Patterns in Hindu music
- 56 Dog in "Thin Man" series
- 57 Once — a time
- 59 "— — Rhythm" (Gershwin tune)
- 60 Rossie's Hibernian Tennisplayers Society; Abbr.
- 63 Time zone: Abbr.
- 65 No; Variant form



Spring Workshop at Paul Smiths

The seventh annual historians Spring Workshop has been held at Paul Smith's College at Paul Smiths. Now a tradition, this lovely setting on St. Regis Lake is only slightly marred in June by black flies.

Prepared, designed and held for and by historians themselves, it has become a learning - with - fun weekend, sponsored by the county historians of Franklin and St. Lawrence counties together with the State Education Department. The subjects are always suggested by the participants themselves, usually for the following season. Local appointed historians, their helpers or spouses, historical association people are all invited.

Home styles and hotels and inns, as well as outbuildings on the homestead, iron bridges and other structures were all studied this year. Instruction in documenting and photographing these was given to the several dozens of participants.

Each year something new is discovered at Paul Smiths. One year the group photographed the area (on a given theme) and then developed their film. Once they visited the Six Nation Indian Museum at nearby Onchiota as an added free-time pleasure.

Under the 1975 theme of local architecture, the group visited lovely St. John's - in - the - Wilderness chapel. In 1930 it replaced the log chapel destroyed by fire in 1928. Stained glass windows dedicated to many people enhance its beauty. The non-sectarian cemetery serves the community.

The first little chapel seated only about 40 people, services being held only when a clergyman guest at Paul Smith's Hotel could be persuaded to preach. When completed it was deeded to the Board of Missions of the Episcopal Church and consecrated in 1877 by the Rt. Reverend Wm. C. Doane, D.D. who preached on the text, "Lo, we heard it as Ephrata and found it in the wood."

When the congregations outgrew the chapel, it was altered and enlarged, Dr. E. L. Trudeau persuading many of his friends and guests at the Hotel to donate funds. Trudeau's cousin, J. Lawrence Aspinwall, was entrusted with the transformation, enlarging and changing it in style to seat 150 people. Dr. Trudeau was warden of the Mission, his wife caring for the Sunday additions of flowers or autumn leaves on the altar. Presently the affairs are managed by a committee of which Dr. F. B. Trudeau is chairman.

The church is open daily for visitors and services of worship are held during July and August and on the first Sunday in September. Baptisms, marriages and committal services are held, serving the entire community. For years the Paul Smith's College commencements were held there. Many a well-known minister or bishop has preached in this setting to tourists, natives, campers, lumberjacks and city executives alike all seated side by side, and without rank. It's well worth a visit.



Dr. Trudeau's monument, Saranac Lake



Dining hall at Paul Smith's College



St.-Johns-in-the-Wilderness.

Star Lake Inn

By Harriet Colton

For many years a landmark, Star Lake Inn was razed in 1962 after an auction to sell buildings and contents.

Built in 1887 by Mr. Freeman at an approximate cost of \$7300, it was known as Edgewood House. Sold to Winslow and Lee in 1895, they added 40 more rooms. In 1896 Hiram Inglehart, who owned other hotels, and Charles Brown, President of Watertown Carriage Company, announced purchase of Edgewood House and changed the name to Star Lake Inn. In 1900 John M. Sayles and Grace Inglehart were married and as a wedding present Charles Brown deeded his cottage at Star Lake to the bride and entered into an agreement to sell his share of the Inn to the groom. Inglehart and Sayles built an addition to the Inn in 1901. Later a son, Charles Sayles, son of John and Grace, was associated with the hotel.

The Inn was host to many. It was easily accessible from New York, Boston, Washington, Baltimore, and Philadelphia; The New York Central Railroad brought passengers by Pullman each Friday, Peoples Line & Citizens Line connected the area with Albany and Troy. Guests were met at the Benson Mines Station and transported to the Inn, "For a modest fee." At first there was no electricity, only lanterns hung on the walls on screwhooks. No window screens, but flies and bugs likely were kept away by the breezes blowing across that point of land. With progress came electricity and window screens.

Many TB patients came to the Adirondacks, however Star Lake Inn accepted no cases of pulmonary disease according to the brochure about 1914.

Available for guests were Fishing, Music—a small orchestra in attendance the musicians usually doubling as bellboys, bathing—a beach gently sloping with attendant in charge, and cottage—for those who desired more retirement than the Inn offered, Clay Tennis Courts—the clay was brought by freight and dust blew from the clay when dry and

when wet was soggy, (thus cement courts were made), Boating and Hunting. Rates were \$17.50 to \$25.00 per week or \$3.00 to \$5.00 per day for room and board. The Inn officially opened June 24 and closed Sept. 15th.

About 1924 students in Hotel Administration at Cornell University were required to obtain summer work in hotels and write reports on various aspects of the operation, and many came to Star Lake Inn.



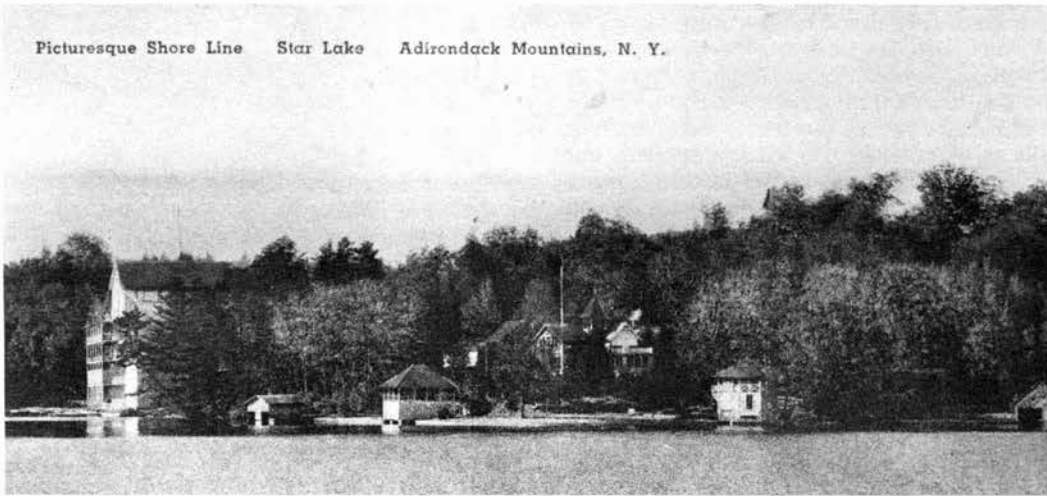
Courtesy Lester Ward, Star Lake



Courtesy Lester Ward, Star Lake



Star Lake Inn, Star Lake, N. Y.
(View by D. P. Church)



Picturesque Shore Line Star Lake Adirondack Mountains, N. Y.



TERRACES OF STAR LAKE INN AND COTTAGES STAR LAKE, ADIRONDACK MOUNTAINS, N. Y.

Mt. Alone's

Romantic Double Meaning

Mt. Alone near Heuvelton deserves its name because it is the only peak in the area and apparently is not a part of the Adirondack chain. Legend goes, however, that the name is from a sadly romantic source unrelated to the peak's geographic isolation.

According to the tale, in 1757, when the area held only a few settlers and Heuvelton was not yet a village, a handsome and charming young man who called himself Erie Schact arrived in the environs, apparently planning to stay a while but silent as to what business brought him there. He had plenty of gold and did not attempt to work for a living. Rumors circulated that he was an agent for land speculators interested in investing in the region. Schact soon became well known and popular.

He withstood the charms of the lasses who set their caps for him until he met Sarah Roylson for whom it was love at first sight and marriage soon after. Sarah lived with her elderly father in a small dwelling far up a rocky hillside of the peak that would become known as Mt. Alone. After their marriage Schact moved in with Sarah and her father and began to improve their humble home. Their idyll was brief. One day Schact received a bulky letter; thereafter his joy turned to melancholy and within two weeks he had vanished from the area, leaving Sarah and her father on their mountainside. Schact never returned, though Sarah occasionally received a packet which included money, for she and her father were financially well off for the rest of their lives. Apparently she never saw her husband again or communicated with him though she knew he was responsible for the packets she received.

Local lore tells us that Schact went to Quebec where he joined General Montcalm's forces and was killed in 1759 defending the heights of Quebec, though there is no proof for this story. According to legend, Schact was not his real name; rather, he was the son of a high-ranking English officer charged with conspiracy against the king who had sent his son to the wilderness to escape the disgrace. The letter Schact received told of his father's execution. To avenge his father he went to Canada to aid the French and was killed on the field of honor.

His Sarah lived alone after her father's death, avoiding all contact with her neighbors. Alone she cherished the memory of her husband until finally, alone, she died. Alone she was buried without ceremony in a grave cut into the barren soil of the mountainside. A lone cross marked her grave for many years. And finally someone suggested that the mountain held such a melancholy air it should be called Mt. Alone, as it has been thenceforth.

Black Lake's

Tavern Island

Anxious to discover the best site for a sawmill in his wilderness land, David Parish sent Daniel W. Church to explore Black Lake. Church decided to ask a local resident to come along as guide, hoping he might find someone who could tell him if the area held any unusual waterway or source of water power. At the foot of Black Lake he stopped at the Judson home. The Judsons' ten-year-old son, who knew the country well, gladly agreed to serve as guide.

Church and the boy sailed to the head of the lake and continued up Indian River until they reached the falls at Rossie. Church concluded that this would be the best place for Parish to locate the sawmill he planned to build, and the two started for home. But the day was getting late, and they decided to camp overnight. This meant they would have to find their meals in the woods and lake. Church told the boy to take a line and fish, and he would take his gun and watch for game as the boat sailed down the lake. In the meantime, they would watch for a good camping place as darkness was falling.

The boy shouted that he had a bite, and he pulled in a good-sized pickerel. A little later Church shot a fat duck. Just then they came to an island which seemed a likely campsite.

Church built a roaring fire and dressed the duck and fish. After their long trip, the two were very hungry, and the duck and fish seemed like the best food they had ever tasted. After their feast, they rolled up in blankets on beds of moss beside the fire and slept soundly. They awoke to a bright, clear day in their idyllic campsite. The remains of the duck and fish made a hearty breakfast.

As they reluctantly shoved off from the island, Church remarked that it was as good a tavern as he had stayed in for many a month. "We will have to call it Tavern Island," he told the boy, and it has been Tavern Island ever since.

Edited by Trudie Calvert from archives collected by town historians and filed at the County Historians' History Center.

Other Names in Legend and Fact will be appreciated by the editor for future issues.



Brasie Corners, N.Y.

looking west.

Poetical Portraits

Old Time Picnics

(Church or Grange or Reunions)

How many remember the picnics we had
Back there in the olden days?
A good shady spot near a stream or a lake,
Out of the hot summer's rays.

A green level place was chosen you see
For tablecloths were spread on the ground,
While ladies set tables by bending their backs,
The kiddies would just play around.

Station cans to the brim with that delicious drink;
The men did the lifting and pouring.
Lemonade in the dipper, you could hear the ice clink.
Lemon rings tossed to the kiddies exploring.

Baked beans, berry pies, homemade pickles and jell,
Salads, and cakes so enticing:
Watermelons at last and of course I must tell,
The men did the serving and slicing.

We were all sitting down you know on the ground,
So it wasn't amazing or surprising
That freely they spoke, we all laughed and joked
When ladies needed help in the rising.

Hay ropes men would bring, from the trees hang the swings;
The adults joined in on this fun.
A gunny sack race and a three legged race,
When the afternoon sports had begun.

The fat gentlemen's race and the fat ladies race
Were two of the greatest attractions,
And if there were swimming, bloomer suits on the women
Was always a cause for distraction.

There were no picnic tables in those happy days;
Any place they could meet for the choosing;
Some farmer's back woodlot near a bubbling stream
With nature itself more amusing.



Terrace Park in Morristown.

The songs of the birds overhead in the trees,
Wild flower patches blue violets adorning:
The meadow lark tunes coming in on the breeze,
With fresh scented air like the morning.

And when I look back to those days 'twas a fact
The families all came there together.
On that picnic day they wouldn't miss it no way,
Unless 'twas postponed by the weather.

I think folks have tried but only in vain,
To bring back those picnics of yore.
Now attractions are bigger at a much larger figure,
Entertainments of all kinds by the score.

Fond memories we have of those fantastic times
When living was a much slower pace;
Amusements were saner and picnics much plainer,
But we like to think back to those days.

By Rose Tripp





Dear Mary,

I read with interest the story about the Hannawa Railroad and I thought of two Clarkson students about 1920 who were taking a course in photography.

One day near the River they were searching for objects to photograph and came upon an old hand car near the defunct railroad. With much huffing and puffing they lifted the handcar onto the tracks and with some back bending and youthful muscles went pumping "gaily" toward Hannawa Falls on their quest for pictures.

An avid Reader



Dear Mrs. Biondi,

Thank you for remembering my uncle, David R. Thomas, and his Welsh background.

I could hardly wait to surprise him with the cover picture — and articles (January 1975). He recognized the church instantly, and reminisced about going "to the Welsh church with Grandfather". He chuckled over (his) memory of the Mon. (Thomas Davis?) who always led the singing with one foot on the bench in front of him.

I tried to make my uncle understand that the church was being renovated and suggested he might go to Richville with us sometime to hear the Welsh singing —(the trip) just a dream though —

I will try to jot down anything he says about the older residents of Richville as he remembered them.

Many thanks for your thoughtfulness!

Sincerely,
June Casler
6777 Gowanda State Road
Hamburg, N.Y. 14075

Dear Mary,

I surely enjoyed your April issue of the Quarterly. Those letters of the Civil war soldier were very good. I was surely astounded to learn how deserters were shot before a firing squad of 12.

Do you remember Let Heath of Bigelow? Let told me he ran away and enlisted when he was 14 and lied his age to get in as many other boys did. He often was homesick as he had never been away from his farm home near Collins Landing before, and there were no furloughs in those days. Is it any wonder these boys would desert?

Sincerely,
Rose Tripp
Depot Box 23
Richville, N.Y. 13681

(Continued from Page 4)



Party at Terrace Park

(History Center Archives)

The old bell long used to draw the faithful as well as the curious to meetings was relegated to only announcing fires. The beauty of the park had gone, a large black gap in the grounds was left. People still came, however, to hold ice cream socials and church picnics and camp outs at their cottages. Later untenanted cottages and public buildings gaped and the remarkable mural paintings were exposed to the elements. Terrace Park's train depot was no longer needed.

Old timers remember it with love and nostalgia.

(See former Quarterlies for views of Terrace Hotel and the Algona, and GAR members camping.)



THE SUPERVISOR STORY
St. Lawrence County
1802-1973
Write Box 8, Canton
with donation of \$1.75.

researchers

Recently I came into a historical document dated Feb. 1, 1766. This was an inventory or "return" of the barracks and bedding of Fort William Augustus and Oswegatchie. Can you advise where these Forts were? I have been told that Oswegatchie was the present Ogdensburg. According to the "return" the Forts were much decayed and bedding was of small size, also 24 axes were out of repair.

The document was signed by William Watson (can't make out title) and George Turnbull, Lt. 2nd Battn 60th Regt.

Any historical advice you can recount will be greatly helpful to me.

Karl Z. Smith
R.D. No. 2
West Liberty, Ohio 43357

FAMILY TREE CLIMBING



ROOTS

We meet monthly at the History Center — Join us and climb your family tree!

For indication of interest, or information, drop a postal card to:

Green as Grass ROOTS
Box 43
Canton, N. Y. 13617



ROOTS group planning first field trip — to Montpelier, Vt., the last week in June — at their May meeting held at the Hepburn Library in Madrid.

Heritage Preserved

By MASON JAHRS

Buildings are falling all around us — either with the help of the wrecker's ball and bulldozer's blade or through natural deterioration. Every time we see a building in dilapidation and decay we have only to go to the local lumber dealer checkbook in pocket to get a jolt. The expense and waste of materials are achingly brought home.

What becomes expendable and an anathema to one person is beauty and challenge to another. Thank goodness there are a few young couples around who appreciate the values of older houses and are willing to put some expertise and hard work in to save them. Not all youth belongs to the trailer set.

Often the preservationists rally 'round a public building too late. Public buildings are in some cases being documented and registered. But what about that sound, but perhaps somewhat old-fashioned home down the block? What does your neighborhood look like? Do you encourage young people to fix up and pass on a home that preserves a bit of our heritage while providing comfortable living through little waste? Join us in this endeavor.



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in
Civic Center

History Center Museum

Ground Floor

Research Center

Second Floor

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