

Bethinking of Old Orleans

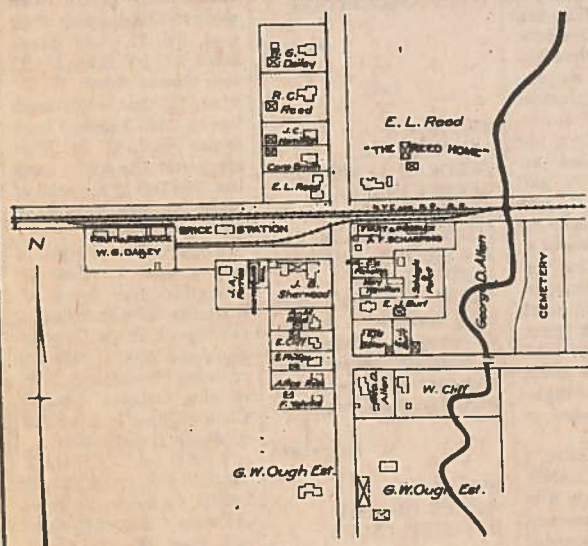
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FOLKS OF KENT



This human interest photo was taken in 1929 at the home of Ed Reed in Kent, N.Y. Mr. Reed is the old gentleman seated in the wicker rocker on the porch. The occasion was his 80th birthday. Back in '29 when anyone reached "the ripe old age" of eighty it was cause for a celebration. Remember now, that the average age of life expectancy has greatly risen over the past sixty-five years.

These down home folks who posed for this picture, beginning in the back row from left to right are: Marv Corbin, a net fisherman, J.C. Morrissey, Albert Ferries the Kent Blacksmith, Mr. Perkins, Cy Phillips who picked up the mail, Clarence Haight garage owner, and J.C. McCarthy who ran the Kent hardware store at the time. In the next row we find Will Corin, "Rastas" Burt, Will Haight, Al

Covell who lived where the fire hall now stands, Mr. Reed, Ballard Face, J.C. Hamilton, D.L. Jones and Fred Cahoon. Seated in the next row are: Marion Reed, Olive Haight, wife of Clarence, Edith Reed, wife of Ralph Reed, Ralph Reed with dog "Skippy," Clifford Reed, Fay Reed, Clifford's wife, Palmer Wilder who ran the dry house in Kent and Charles Clark, the grocer. In the front row we see Marguerite Hunt, Phyllis Hunt, Myron Reed, Patsy Granson, Olive Haight's niece and Myrtle Reed, Twin of Myron Reed.

In fact, this photo is compliments of Myrtle Reed Marsielje whose parents are Clifford and Fay Reed who were afore mentioned in the photo.

The map which is inserted here shows Kent as it appears from the 1913 new Century Atlas of Orleans County. Although this is sixteen years prior to the date of the photo, we can clearly see "the Reed Home." Several of the people in the photo are listed on the map such as J.A. Ferries and Rastus Burt. "Rastus" Burt and his wife Belle were staunch members of the Kent Baptist Church. They never swore and always used very prim and proper language. However, one day "Rastus" fell down the steps and his wife asked, "Did you hurt your assie?" "No" he replied "I hurt by elbow!"

From the map we notice two fruit and produce businesses and Brice Station which was the name of the depot on the Rome, Watertown and Ogdensburg Railroad, better known as the "Hojak." Note that next to J.A. Ferries there is a Good Templars Hall and institute of the temperance movement. We also see here Marsh Creek and the Kent Cemetery.