

Bethinking of Old Orleans

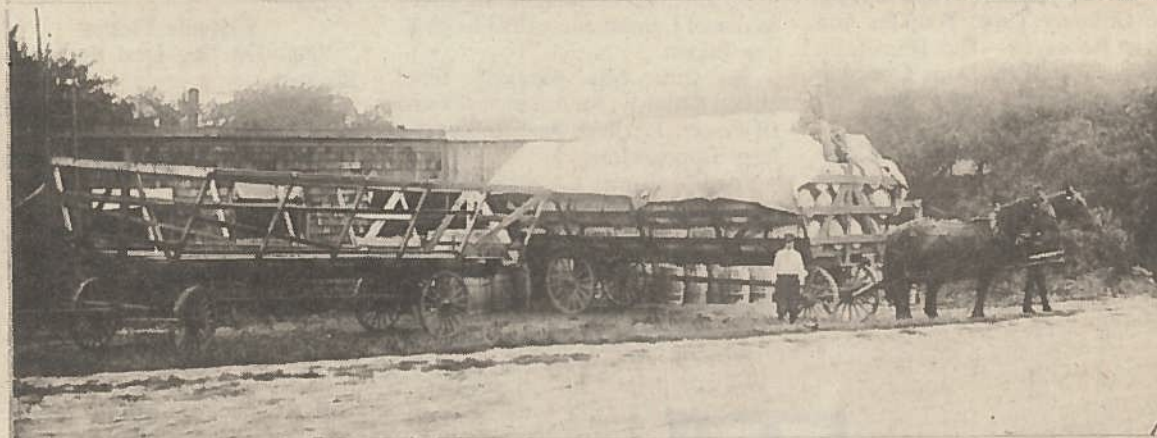
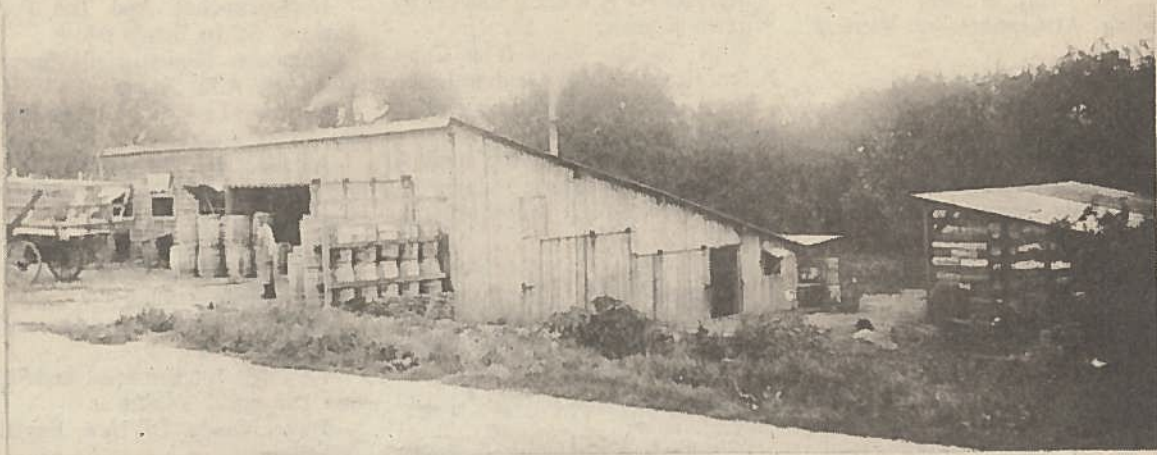
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COOPER SHOP



COOPER SHOP

Built and operated by G.G. Staines 1913 to 1918. (On Pask farm)

These three photos show the Guy G. Staines Cooper Shop which was on F. Pask farm at Childs, N.Y. The shop was located on the Ridge Road just west of the Village Inn on property now owned by C. Eugene Leigh.

Thousands of barrels were produced each season in rural communities where great quantities of apples were grown. Mr. Staines operated this shop from 1913 to 1918. Barrels filled with apples like these were shipped on canal boats and railway cars to far off markets out of this region. After the barrels were faced with the best looking apples on the top in circular rows, the purchaser got the impression of perfection packing. The barrels you see here are all empty and simply being delivered to a local farmer. Note the type of wagons being used to hold the barrels.

Many years ago there were stave and heading mills locally as they were known, which produced the raw materials that the coopers used in assembling barrels. The staves were soaked in water before the barrels were set up so they would bend into the curved contour. To hold them in that shape coopers had stoves which were used to quickly heat the barrels to dry them out rapidly so as to retain their shape. These stoves were of course, known as cooper stoves and were built so a barrel could be placed right over and around the stove, the smokestack coming from out of a lower portion of the stove.

As we get into the harvest of apples at this season, we recognize through pictures like these, how much farming has changed.