

was 250 miles from Albany by stage, and the trip required about 43 hours.

"The East Gaines Hotel or Perry House, was erected by Peter Runion in 1826. It was a two-story wooden building with a veranda in front and stood on the south side of the Ridge, just east of the corners. At one time one of the most popular stopping places along the Ridge, it has long since disappeared. Successive proprietors were Silas Perry, Hugh Doyle and D.S. Rockwell.

"The first tavern at Fair Haven was kept by Noah Burgess. It stood on the south side of the Ridge road one-quarter mile west of the corners. It was subsequently occupied by William McCollister, Ebenezer Hutchinson (father of Hon. Almanzor Hutchinson) and Gershom Proctor. The present Fair Haven Hotel was built in 1824 by Samuel Percival.

"Travel had now increased to such an extent that from eight to ten coaches passed through daily, carrying emigrants, business men and visitors to Niagara Falls. Gaines was probably at this time the most important village on the Ridge and when the stage driver blew his horn as he reached the eastern boundary of the Hutchinson farm, and, cracking his whip over his six-horse team, made a grand entrance into the village, a general bustle ensued.

"The crowd usually centered around the Mansion House which was erected by William Perry in 1816 and stood on the northwest corner of the Ridge.

"It has been described as a large three-story wooden building with high Grecian columns, and was one of the oldest and most imposing structures of the kind between the Niagara and Genesee Rivers.

At this hotel stages stopped for refreshments and to change horses. Among the many hotel guests entertained under its roof, perhaps the most distinguished were General Scott and Henry Clay, the latter of whom gave an informal reception in its parlors to many leading men of the county."

The only known picture of the Mansion House or Gaines Tavern is the one shown here which is a drawing done in the 19th century by H.C. Ruggles. Obviously, the attached shed and barn were for lay-over and exchange of stage coach horses.

Few of these historic old taverns remain. Those that come to mind are the Historic Village Inn at Childs, the old Cobblestone Inn at Oak-Orchard-on-the-Ridge and the former Hotel at Ridgeway.



Industrial Site From Sigma International

"The sale of the Sigma property to Medina Memorial Hospital is a win-win situation for Medina," Hungerford said. "It will allow the hospital to continue improving services to the residents of eastern Niagara and Orleans counties, and eliminate expensive property rental costs.

"It will further upgrade the economy of the community through the creation of more jobs at Sigma International and be the foundation for the newly formed industrial park," he added.

In addition to moving Sigma International to the Park Avenue facility, Hungerford said some of the 450,000 square feet will be used as an industrial park for new business in Medina.

Business Names

July 12—Lost and Found Antiques and Collectables, 15542 Route 18, Kent, owned by Steryi Bertoni, same address.

July 13—Main Street Impressions, 13559 Albion Eagle Harbor Road,

The hospital hopes to be opening this center by late summer of 1996 after appropriate renovation is complete.

"This renal center will provide 10 treatment stations and be open six days per week," Becker added.

The Western New York Health Systems Agency indicated that over 75 renal patients are currently residing in Orleans, Genesee and Wyoming counties, with another 20 living in neighboring Lockport.

Because the state Health Department has strict controls over the number of site locations, the Medina renal center may be the only one serving the three county region. The hospital is evaluating relocating the MMH Long Term Home Health Program to this site as the program is further expanding services to Orleans County residents. Currently the program is approved to serve 125 clients, and there is a waiting list.

32-Month