

Bethinking of Old Orleans

C.W.Lattin County Historian

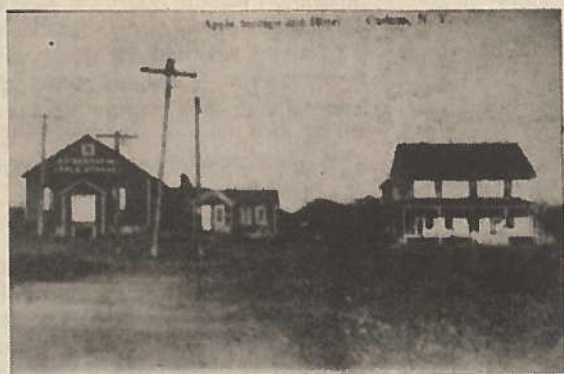
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CARLTON STATION

Part II



We continue this week with the second and final part of a story about Carlton Station as remembered by two elderly life-long residents of that community. The left picture taken at the railroad crossing looking south, shows the Maggie Magin Store and Post Office. The other photo shows the A.F. Scharping apple storage to the left and hotel to the right which burned. This is now the site of Cattin's Garage.

Remembrances of Carlton Station
By
George Callard and Robert Kelsey.

At one time Carlton Station had three grocery stores. One was in the house north of Balcom's building owned by a Mr. Fuller. Maggie Magin was in the building, now the Oak Orchard Fly Shop. It was later taken over by Tom Magin. Joe Lynch operated a store in the front of Balcom's building. There was a meat market in the basement operated by Mr. Waite. Joe and his family lived on the second floor over the store. Gerald Lynch, his son, told that his bedroom was on the south side by the tracks. The train would back into the siding which was very close to the building. The engine sat outside his room throwing out occasional sparks. He wondered why the building did not get on fire. Several times the sparks from the engine set grass fires along the right of way. Joe had routes that he ran. He would go around in the mornings and take orders, come back to the store, put up the orders and deliver them in the afternoon. Tom Magin was pleased when the A & P started selling articles, so much for one and three for a little lower. He decided to do that with condensed milk. He made it 8 cents each and three for 25 cents. Lots of people took advantage of the bargain.

Joe Lynch built a building which is now the front part of the Carlton Grill for his store. One time after Joe closed the store, and left a back window open, three local children went in and ate some candy. Two of them did not go to school the next day because the candy turned out to be Feen-A-Mint. The third child tells us she didn't like the taste of the candy and didn't eat much. She went to school the next day but didn't feel too good. At one time there were two dry houses in Carlton Station. One was located east of the depot and the other was south of the depot. The east one burned many years ago. The other is now gone. There was a cider mill at the east one that was saved. John Youngs ran the cider mill for a couple years for people to make their cider so they could make vinegar. John Youngs' wife Susie, ran a nursing home of several years in the home now occupied by the Tillmans.

Edward Hinkley lived on the west side of Main

Street and drove a Pierce Arrow auto. He bought wool and produce which was stored in the stone building on the second floor. That floor has been removed. Menzo Ward lived south of Ed Hinkley and had farms and a cider mill on the Marsh Creek Road. The Ward House at the Cobblestone Museum was once owned by his wife Inez. Joe Dekoss was a bookkeeper and had many hives of bees.

Carlton Station got its Post Office in 1877. The mail came in by train which was met by the postmaster. Location of the Post Office was determined by the party in power in Washington. The Post Office closed in 1935. Harry Dean was Supervisor of the Town of Carlton for two terms. Olin DeMay owned the cold storage for years. He said in 1928 he shipped 500 cars of apples. It took a large amount of water to process the apples. At one time they used a well on the Dean farm. We can also remember a pipeline going up the roadside to Proctor Brook. The apples were packed in barrels. This made them easy to handle and gave work to a couple of coopers making barrels. Larry Ennis had a shop on Station Drive where he made barrels and did blacksmith work.

One of the local celebrities was Ben Howes. He was a veterinarian and a collector of artifacts. Every year he had students from the school come to his place and he gave a talk on his collection. We are sure there was a skeleton of a horse. Doc was a traveler and had taken a Ford truck chassis and built a camper on it. The driver was inside the camper and used a wicker chair. He and his wife Clara traveled all over the U.S. They even went to Alaska and this was way before the Alkan Highway. Doc was Santa Claus at the local school many years.

Henry Thomas went out west and bought cattle and sheep. He unloaded them at a ramp east of the depot. He drove them down the road to his farms north of Baldwin's Corners. Hank bought cattle and the scales were run by his wife Belle. At one time there was a lodge in Carlton. All the information we have is that it was Carlton Lodge 247. There was a very active organization called the Carlton Improvement Society. They had ball games, suppers, and other money-raising events.

At one time there were two wooden warehouses on the west side of Main Street north of the fracks owned by Mr. Sharping. After the back one burned, a hobo camp was in the middle of the foundation. There was a Mr. Hadstead who lived in a small building behind Kelsey's garage. It got on fire and he was burned in the blaze. There was a murder in Carlton back by the depot when Mike Kelly shot a hobo who was trying to break into a home.