

# Bethinking of Old Orleans

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## SCENIC ARTIFACT



The beautiful scenic artifact shown here has recently been brought to light. Its original purpose was a curtain or backdrop on a stage in Murray Grange No. 1292. The advertising and scene with deer in a landscape was painted by the Anderson Scenic Co. of Buffalo, N.Y. around 1930. This has been in the possession of the Murray-Holley Historical Society for several years but because of very limited hanging space, it was impossible for it to be displayed. Recently, officials at the Cobblestone Society Museum in Childs were contacted by Marsha DeFilippo, a representative of the Murray-Holley group, asking if they would like it. With no hesitation, it was immediately accepted for hanging in the Farmers Hall at the Cobblestone Museum Complex. Our photo shows it as it hangs there. I must say it adds a great deal of color and character to the collection of agricultural tools displayed in the Farmers Hall. The painted drapery around the advertising is a bright red while the individual rectangular spaces for ads are bright blue, pink, and yellow. It is indeed a charming and rare piece of Americana. The Murray-Holley Historical Society is to be extolled for sharing this unique piece of local history rather than hoarding it away where no one would ever see it.

Advertisers on it are: F.G. Buell Footware and Clothing, Holley, N.Y. -- F.W. Newman, Lincoln, Ford, Fordson -- Duffy Mott Co. Cider and Vinegar -- W.J. Hawkins, Drugs, Rexall Store, Holley -- Hudson & Co. Inc. Packers of Fancy Canned Goods, Holley -- Holley Canning Co. -- B.L. Geyo Garage, Holley -- Henry M. Clarke Drugs, Holley -- McCrillis & Co. Farmers Supplies, Produce, Holley -- McCrillis & McKechnie Plumbing and Heating, Holley -- C.M. Webster Clothing, Holley -- Ira Edwards Sons, Winchester Store, Paints, Holley -- Charles' Barber Shop, Chas. Padaman Prop., Holley -- Magin's Department Store, Holley -- State Exchange Bank, Holley, N.Y. -- Evarts and Salisbury Furniture and Undertaking, Holley -- Warren & Lee, International Harvester Tools, -- Bauch Chevrolet Co., Brockport, Holley, Hamlin -- Bruce Seager Hudson, Essex -- N.L. Cole, Lumber, Coal, Building Materials, Holley, Albion -- J.B.

Merrill & Son Furniture, Funeral Directors, Holley, Albion, Kendall -- W.J. Hatch, Feed, Seeds, Holley, N.Y.

In the course of over sixty years business names have changed a lot. To my knowledge, the only one listed here still operating under any part of the same name is Merrill-Grinnell Funeral Directors. However, the N.L. Cole Lumber business has been carried on through the name Stockham.

Murray Grange, No. 1292, was organized in December, 1912, by District Deputy Broadwell of Waterport. Its first Master was Leigh Walters. The Grange held their meetings in the "Modern Woodman Hall" at Murray. This Grange existed until April 1917, when it surrendered its charter, some of its members joining Clarendon Grange and other members just taking dimit cards. About ten years later on January 12, 1927 Murray Grange No. 1292 was reorganized by District Deputy Milford Hakes of Albion with the enrollment of 32 charter members. Its first Master then was William Groth. Murray Grange held their meetings in the same hall previously occupied by the former Grange. The members continued holding their meetings in this hall until its large membership forced it to seek a larger home.

In February 1928, Murray Grange No. 1292, purchased the building at the northeast corner of Rt. 104 and 237 in Murray which for many years had been owned and operated by William H. Fuller as a second hand store. The building was then modernized and wired for electric lighting. The Grange used this facility until 1962. Meetings were carried on however, until the mid-1960's when Murray Grange was dissolved.

The National Grange was organized in December 1897 with such purposes as to foster a more prosperous agriculture, a more practical education, a better community life and higher ideals of manhood, womanhood and citizenship. The National Grange claimed to be the first secret organization to admit women.

The Cobblestone Museum is open daily 11-5 except Mondays and 1-5 Sundays until Labor Day.