

# Bethinking of Old Orleans

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## COBBLESTONE SCHOOL SESQUICENTENNIAL



The historic Cobblestone School at Childs, N.Y. I celebrate its 150th anniversary on Sunday, September 12 at 3:00 p.m. People who went there when it was known as District No. 5 of Gaines, are invited to come back for an hour of reminiscence. Senator George Maziarz and assemblyman Charles Nesbitt are expected to attend. Local Girl Scouts will conduct a flag-raising ceremony. An historic marker will be dedicated which states:

GAINES District No. 5 1849  
School House  
Was Used Until 1952 Made  
Of Lake-Washed Stone It Is  
One Of Over 900 Cobblestone  
Masonry Buildings Built In  
N.Y. State From 1825 to 1860

Marker in memoriam to Elwood Lawrence, teacher 1951-52.

Elwood Lawrence was the last teacher to teach Gaines No. 5 replacing Mrs. Phoebe Beales. It is his first year of teaching. He later went on to become a school administrator in Brockport and served on the Cobblestone Society Board of Directors.

A booklet on the Cobblestone School entitled Scrap Album will be released for this occasion. Photos and other memorabilia are included. Assemblyman Nesbitt is to be thanked for making possible a grant to the Cobblestone Museum for educational purposes.

Several municipal historians will participate along with Janice Barnum Thaine who will present

one of her delightful talks about attending this school. This 150th recognition ceremony on September 12 is part of the annual Old Timers Day festivities at the Cobblestone Museum. Between the hours of 1:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. old time skills and crafts will be demonstrated in the various buildings at the museum complex located at the intersection of Rts. 104 and 98 in Childs, N.Y. However, no admittance fee is required at the school house celebration.

The photo included with this article, shows a group of students in front of the school in 1900. The only person who is identified in the picture is the teacher. He is the young man at the far left who is Carl P. Hakes (1877-1955). He doesn't look any older than one of the pupils standing in the back row. Obviously there is quite an age range in students shown here. Several of the girls appear to be wearing white aprons. Both entrances are open. The left was for boys, the right for girls. Lake-washed cobblestones were used as veneer over vertical plank in the construction of this building in 1849. It is most unusual to find cobblestone veneer just as a facing to plank. Normally cobblestone veneer was used in conjunction with a thick masonry rubble wall.

The Cobblestone Society Museum acquired the school house in 1961 as part of its mission to preserve this specimen of unique regional architecture. It continues to serve for educational purposes as over 1000 area 4th graders visited the one-room school this past spring.