



8-30-12

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Main Street, Kendall, 1900

BY C.W. LATTIN
Orleans County historian

Vol. XXXIV, No. 35

Bethinking of Olde Orleans

With the Town of Kendall celebrating its bicentennial this season, let's take a look back in time. Our photo which accompanies this article is taken from a post card view posted in 1903. The description on the card notes: "East side of Main Street, Showing I.O.G.T. Hall, Kendall, NY".

Actually there is a lot more in the picture than what is described. From left to right we do see the I.O.G.T. Hall which for many years was the home to Good Templars, a temperance lodge. The

structure was built in 1844 by the Congregation Church which during the same year voted to adopt the Presbyterian form of government. This congregation only endures however for 35 years, then the building was sold and used thereafter for secular purposes. Its final use was by the fire department and has subsequently been removed.

The next building known as the "Stone Jug" built of cobblestone was erected in 1850 by the Sons of Temperance Lodge. From 1874 - 1911 Social Lodge F&AM used the building as a Masonic Temple. Finally in 1947 the fire department acquired the building for which purpose it remains today.

The next building in line was a shed.

The last building in the distance with a tower was built in 1855 for a Universalist Church. In the late 19th Century German Lutherans used it as a house of worship before Concordia Lutheran Church was erected. For many years following this it was the Kendall Town Hall.

In 1978 this building was taken apart and reconstructed at the Cobblestone Society Museum in Childs where it is known as Farmers Hall. Here 19th Century farming tools are displayed. The site in Kendall is now a parking lot for the Kendall Town Hall.

C. W. Lattin is the Orleans County Historian. His column runs every Thursday in the Journal-Register and Albion Advertiser.