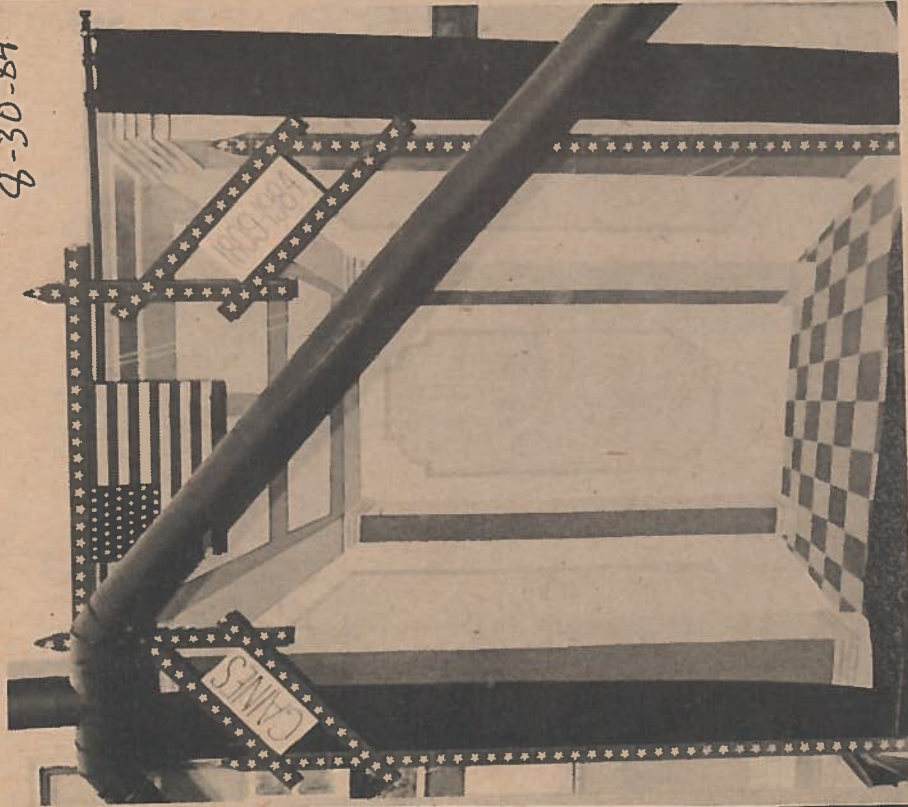


Bethinking of Old Orleans

C.W.Lattin • County Historian

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(L. Monacelli Photo)

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HISTORIC GAINES CELEBRATES

On Sunday, Sept. 2 the Town of Gaines will celebrate its 175th anniversary of permanent settlement. A grand parade beginning at 2:00 P.M. will lead off the celebration. The parade, which will line up in Gaines has for its easterly destination, the Cobblestone Museum Complex in Childs. Dave Snyder is parade chairman. Many houses and buildings on the Ridge Road (Route 104), route of the parade, will be decorated in an old fashioned manner with bunting. A reviewing stand with Ted Swierczynski announcing, will be located near the State parking area west of Childs. Other announcing podiums are expected to be placed at Gaines and Childs.

Following the parade, at 4:00 P.M., an old-fashioned Musical Review under the direction of Janice Barnum Thaine, will take place in the Cobblestone Church at Childs. Many old-time favorites will be sung with appropriate stage effects and costumes. During this time, awards and prizes will be given to the best entries in the parade. Judges for the parade are: Ed Salvatore, Harry Parker, Howard Bowen, Alan Isselhard and Mary Basinait.

Following the Musical Review, other activities are in store.

Town of Gaines Historian J. Howard Pratt will demonstrate the art of pioneer cooking on a fireplace. A facsimile of an early 19th Century log cabin will be erected to the rear of the Cobblestone Church where Mr. Pratt and helpers will be churning butter and preparing veal stew.

At 7:00 P.M. a vesper service is scheduled in the Cobblestone Church. Those participating are: Rev. I. J. Carnegie of Shilo Baptist Church, Rev. Kenneth Brown of Christian Missionary and Alliance; Rev. Richard Dowd, Eagle Harbor United Methodist; and Rev. Lawrence Wager, Gaines-Carlton Community Church. The Rev. Janet Southcott of the First United Methodist Church in Albion will deliver the message. Music will be provided by the Shilo Choir and pianist Robert Monaghan organist, will be at the antique pump organ.

Throughout the day, members of the Cobblestone Society will be serving hot dogs, pop, snacks, pie and beer in an outdoor cafe set up behind the Cobblestone Church and adjacent cobblestone house. Historic Gaines Jubilee hats, buttons and books will be on sale throughout the day.

Buildings which make up the Cobblestone Museum Complex at Childs will also be open. The Village Inn also located at Childs will be passing out wooden nickels good for 25- off on drinks.

The Town of Gaines first celebrated the anniversary of settlement on September 2, 1909 with a Centennial. On August 15, 1959 a sesquicentennial took place, both times with major parades down Route 104. 1984 now marks the 175th anniversary. Other anniversaries which are a part of the year's Historic Gaines Jubilee are: 1814 first improvement of the Ridge Road; 1824 Village Inn erected; first Masonic Lodge; digging of canal through Gaines; first church west of the Genesee; 1834 building of the Cobblestone Church; formation of Gaines Congregational Church; 1849 building of Cobblestone School at Childs and finally 1829 residence of DAR in their Chapter House. All these Gaines anniversaries are being celebrated along with the 175th year of first permanent settlement. The photo here shows an arch on the stage of the Cobblestone Church which proclaims "Gaines 1809 - 1984."