

Bethinking of Old Orleans

C.W.Lattin County Historian

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Local 1986 Highlights

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With input of each municipal historian in Orleans County, we have selectively compiled a few highlights which have occurred in our county and villages during 1986.

Albion Town Historian Edith Anderson reports that one of the best things to happen in Orleans County during 1986 was the announcement that Anchor Bank plans to create an office complex in Albion.

Village of Albion Historian Neil Johnson notes the demolition of the Waterman Building which greatly improved downtown Albion. A new heating plant is being installed in the Albion High School and a fire wrecked the interior of Perfecto Cleaners.

Barre Historian Helen Mathes indicated that one highlight for her township was the building of a telephone tower on East Barre Road which is a base station so you can have a phone in your car. The tower is 190 feet high. The Oak Orchard Water Shed Flood Control Project was completed. Norm Phillips, local building contractor has established Barre Knoll, a small housing development which is underway. In spite of problems in the agricultural business, there are still 15 dairy farmers in the town of Barre.

Carlton Historian Lysbeth Hoffman and her deputy, Clare E. Jones, Town Justice Retired, report that the town offices are being enlarged by a 40x50 foot addition. Kenyonville and Kuckville churches were closed and sold in anticipation of a new church to be built by a newly formed congregation including Waterport Church, which will be known as Carlton United Methodist Church. Archaeological excavation took place at Oak Orchard On The Lake by the Rochester Museum and Science Center, assisted by Stanley Vanderlaan. Artifacts were unearthed dating back to 800 A.D. The Lakeside Park Community Association dedicated an historic marker commemorating an encampment of Sir William Johnson and troops at Lakeside in 1759. Ricci Meadows Golf Course has increased their play area from a 9-hole to an 18-hole course.

Clarendon Historian Alan Isselhard indicates that new zoning laws were passed in 1986 and that controversy occurred over the issue of a mobile home park. The Clarendon Beautification Committee was formed as an outgrowth of the Clarendon Jubilation in 1985. They have cleaned up the town park and planted an attractive garden in front of the Town Hall. A second group was also formed out of the Clarendon Jubilation known as the Clarendon Historical Society. They have plans for creating a small museum. During 1986 continuation of the Jubilation came about in "Farwells Legacy". This event consisted of a Flea Market, parade for children and a dinner. A marker was unveiled in honor of Carl Akeley in front of his birthplace on Hinds Road. Mr. Isselhard feels that one of the greatest problems faced by residents of Orleans County is the problem of landfill.

Gaines Historian J. Howard Pratt notices increased freight traffic on the Ridge Road. Deputy Historian Delia Robinson

notes the retirement of Mr. Pratt as Gaines Historian after many years of service. Three buildings at the Cobblestone Museum were reroofed in 1986 and almost 1000 Fourth Graders from four counties visited the Cobblestone Museum Complex in 1986.

Following the resignation of Warner Schiek, the Town of Kendall appointed Frank Clow town historian. Mr. Clow is retired principal for the Kendall Central School System.

Murray-Holley Historian Marcia DeFilipps notes the opening in April of a new museum known as the Murray-Holley Historical Society located in the American Legion building. United Methodists removed stained glass windows and a bell from their former church on the Square. In November a Veterans Memorial was dedicated in the Holley Square.

Ridgeway Historian Evelyn Allen mentions what sadness the closing of Abex in Medina caused.



Medina Village Historian Celia White notes the Very Rev. R. Benjamin Moss, Rector of St. Johns Church in Medina for twenty years has vacated his position. He will be greatly missed as he will now be working for the Episcopal Diocese. One of Medina's highlights each season is the continuation of the Medina Canal Festival. The Medina Historical Museum received a grant from the N.Y.S.C.A. for a project.

Shelby Historian Alice Zacher indicates that a new housing development is planned off Bates Road at East Oak Orchard Street by Walt Zacher and Sons, General Contractors. A new minister assumed duties at the Millville United Methodist Church. Shelby has discussed the cost of a proposed Water District. Lillian Schrader won a 1987 Oldsmobile given away by Marine Bank, WBEN and the Buffalo Bills. Susan McMahon was promoted for Vocational Training Specialist to Work Program Officer at the Iroquois Job Corps, making her the first woman ever selected as a Work Program Officer at a Job Corps Civilian Conservation Center.

Yates-Lyndonville Historian Virginia Cooper reports that everything is serene and copacetic in her sector which is a fair appraisal of Orleans County as a whole in 1986.