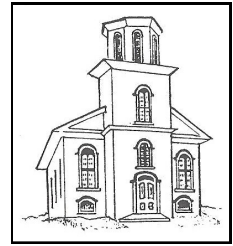


PRESERVE THE PAST FOR THE FUTURE

CLINTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER



October 2012

ST. JAMES CHURCH HISTORY

Clinton's early settlers firmly believed in God and organized churches. The Stone Presbyterian Church began in 1791, and our October meeting will highlight the sixth church formed here: St. James Episcopal Church at 9 Williams Street.

Church historian Donald Potter has just written a booklet commemorating the 150 years of St. James in Clinton. He will share the story, via a Power Point program, of the unique church building, the history of the church, and its rectors since 1862.

Don Potter is a retired geology professor at Hamilton College after a distinguished career there between 1954 and 1988. He has spoken to the Society twice in recent years about the geology of the Kirkland area.

Join us at 2 PM Sunday, October 14, 2012 for Don's account of St. James at 150 years. It's been celebrating the sesquicentennial since June.

NOVEMBER MEETING DATE CHANGED

The Society has held joint meetings with our friends from the New Hartford Historical Society since 1976.

The date for this year's program, which will be about the Underground Railroad in a Paris Road home, has been moved up from November 18 to **November 4**. Please make that change on your calendar.

The meeting place remains the same: the new Willowvale Fire House on Oneida Street in Chadwicks.

BRIEFS TAKES

1- New members are James and Mai Sultenfuss of Norton Avenue, Reed Coghlan of Fountain Street, and Susan Klein of Snowden Hill Road. Welcome!

2- "Clinton is 225 Years Old" signs have been distributed to area merchants thanks to Brad Paulson's efforts. This revives the signs used back in the 1980's leading to Clinton's bicentennial in 1987.

3- Thanks to Carolyn and John Kozak for a 1956-7 Clinton New York Telephone directory. This was just prior to dial phones which came with the Ulysses (853) exchange in 1957.

Clinton Historical Society
Founded in 1962

DIRECTORS

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Faye Cittadino
Frank Cittadino
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OPEN HOURS

Wednesday 1-4, and
Saturday 9-12

Editor

Richard Williams

NEW SATURDAY HOURS

The Society will change the open hours for Saturday beginning October 6. Instead of 11 to 2, the doors will be open from 9 to 12 noon. Let us know if this change better suits the membership's needs.

ONEIDA COUNTY HISTORY DAY 10/6

This year's History Day will be held in the Town of Lee Town Hall off state route 26 north of Rome. Time is 11 to 3 on Saturday, October 6, 2012. Various societies will have table-top displays of their history.

CLINTON/CLARK MILLS BAND ON 12/7/41

Recently in these pages Arthur Easingwood, Clinton architect, has been featured. His grandson Richard Easingwood has sent this reminiscence by his mother Mary Emma Creamer written about Bill Easingwood's band playing on Pearl Harbor Day, 1941.

"Our combo was Bill and I and our drummer, Donn Harrington, who was a pilot who took us flying several times. Bill sent out word to local musicians to "come out and jam" on Sunday December 7, 1941 at a small hotel in Oriskany run by Papa Trinkaus.

The place was packed with fine music and a dancing crowd. One musician was a young Japanese boy who sat in on drums occasionally. Mr. Trinkaus called Bill over to tell him the Japanese had bombed Pearl Harbor, and we were at war!

Our little Japanese drummer quietly left but the music went on."

Donn Harrington, who lived at 12 Mulberry Street, was an only child and was a 2nd Lieutenant during the war. He was killed in a glider accident. His parents were George and Mae Harrington.

VOLSTEAD ACT

Prohibition came closer when Congress passed the Volstead Act over President Wilson's veto on October 28, 1919 ushering in 14 years of banning alcoholic beverages over a certain percentage.

KOZAK ROAD LOCATED

The mystery is over about Kozak (Cozak) Road whose story was in the last two Newsletters.

Thanks to Carol Ford McLaren, Gordon Hayes, John Kozak, Joan Jones, and Yvonne Brady for the help in solving the puzzle.

Kozak (Cozak) was the current Bryden Road which goes west off Skyline Drive opposite Reservoir Road. The John Kozak family farmed at Bryden Road and Skyline Road in the 1930s and 1940s.

In a 1944 Clinton School tax roll for district # 15 on College Hill Road (the one-room school house still stands on the corner of Skyline Drive), a few taxpayers lived on Red Hill Road, namely some Kitchens and Petries. Also on this tax roll was the name John Kozak, who owned on a farm Red Hill Road, which was on the corner of Bryden just off Skyline.

Red Hill Road was the section of Skyline Drive between State Route 5 and Bryden Road. Red shale is seen when driving that portion of Skyline today. Hence, the name Red Hill Road.

Do not confuse this with the Red Hill Road between Chuckery and Willowvale east from State Route 12.

Through the years road names have changed all over the town and village, and this is just one example.

**KOZAK Road Found;
Mystery solved; See
story at right**

Reminiscences of Prospect Hill

While we are on Skyline Drive, we excerpt some words from Seth Kirkland Blair which appeared in the *Clinton Courier* in 1894 about the area around Prospect Hill or Point. Today several radio antennas sit atop it, and a tall radio tower is across Skyline.

Prospect was one of 500 state survey stations, is 1380 feet above New York harbor, and is 376 feet above the dome of the Hamilton College Chapel. The formation of the hill is limestone rock. A lime kiln there was worked by Daniel Fuller. Lime burned there was used in an early Hamilton College building.

Originally Oneida Indian land, they gave this area to Missionary Samuel Kirkland in 1788. Rev. Kirkland sold 50 acres to Charles Bartholomew in July 1796.

Kirkland also sold to Seth Blair in 1797 and then to Seth's brothers Amos and Edmund. Other early owners in the area were John Byrden, James and William Chaney, Levi Merritt, James Hinds, Josiah Simons, George Buck, Calvin Hill, and F. Leroy Hathaway.

Nearly all the first homes were built of logs, and the barns were "thirty-by-forty." A pod auger was used that had no screws to draw logs together, and all had to be done by the downward pressure of the carpenter's hands.

President's Letter

Summer is over and our interns have gone back to school. Emma and Garrett did an incredible job. Now we have to continue the work of cataloging, sorting and organizing the collection. Volunteers are always welcome.

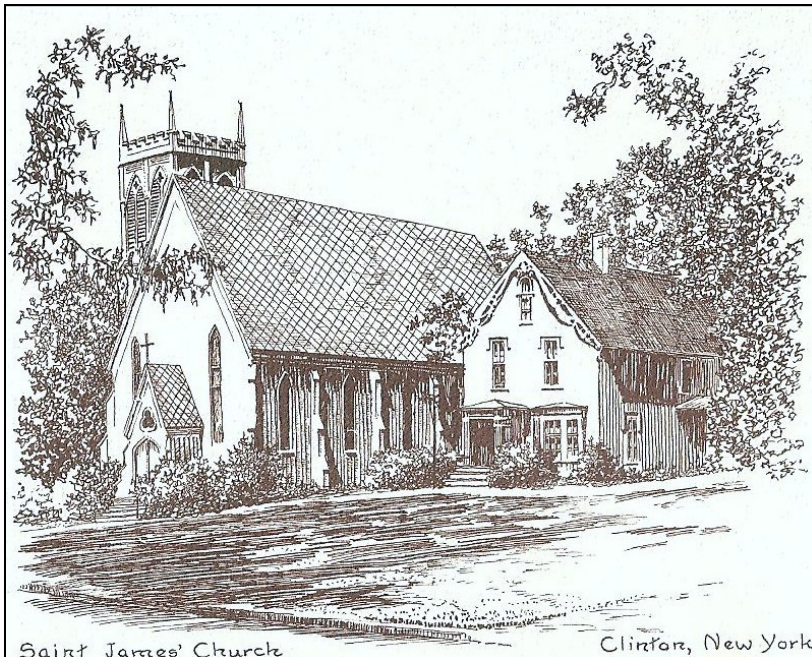
In August and September we had a tent on the green during the Farmer's Market. It was a great success with two new members joining and sales amounting to \$174! This is something we should consider continuing next year. We will be looking for people to man the booth next summer. It is a great way to spend an afternoon - meeting and talking to old and new friends. Please give it some thought.

Wade Lallier did a wonderful job with his presentation on the Chenango Canal; about 50 people attended. He has done and continues to do a great deal of research on the canal.

We will be open on Saturdays from 9:00 - noon this fall but to do it we need your help -could you spend a Saturday morning helping us to manage the building? Please contact me at 982-1015 if you can help. We rely on our membership to carry out our mission and we really need and appreciate your support.

Hope to see you at our October meeting—should be a good one!

Robert Tegart



At left- St. James Church and Rectory at 9 Williams Street from a sketch by an unidentified artist. The church was completed in March 1865 as the Civil War was ending. The Rectory was completed in 1867.