

NNHS NEWS LETTER

Northville Northampton Historical Society

Issue 93
June 2018
Editor
Gail M Cramer



NORTHVILLE POST OFFICE

The first established post office was in 1824. Joseph F. Spier was the first postmaster. At that time, Joseph renamed the community from Sacandaga to Northville. He named it Northville because it was the most Northerly village in the county. The post office was housed in Spier's store for 21 years. This store was on South Main Street near the corner of Washington Street.

The first mail route was from Fish House to Northville a distance of 6 miles. William Smith was appointed postmaster in 1845. He kept the office in a small building between the old Northville Bank and the old Hard Pan Store/now 'Just Because Boutique.'

William Fayette Barker became postmaster from 1861 to 1877. The post office was located in his general store.

William D Smith was the next postmaster, for 8 years. Adolph Robitchek was appointed in 1885. Following Robitchek; Frank Satterlee, Charles G. Bacon. Charles G Bacon moved the post office to the Heath Block in 1891. There have been many postmasters since then. In 1917, the post office was moved to the north side of the Allen and Palmer building.

William Grennell carried the mail by horse drawn sled to Hope Falls, Wells, and Lake Pleasant, three times a week

In 1875 the F J & G RR carried the mail north to the railroad station which was across the river from the village. The mail was brought to the post office by "hacks" driven by Henry Reed, I. C Lawton, Charles Lawton, Walter Weaver Sr. and George Martin.



Inside the P. O. on the north side of Allen and Palmer's.



Main Street in front of the Post Office

Mail bags ready to be hauled by sleighs to the Northville Train station and F.J. & G R. R. to points south and beyond.

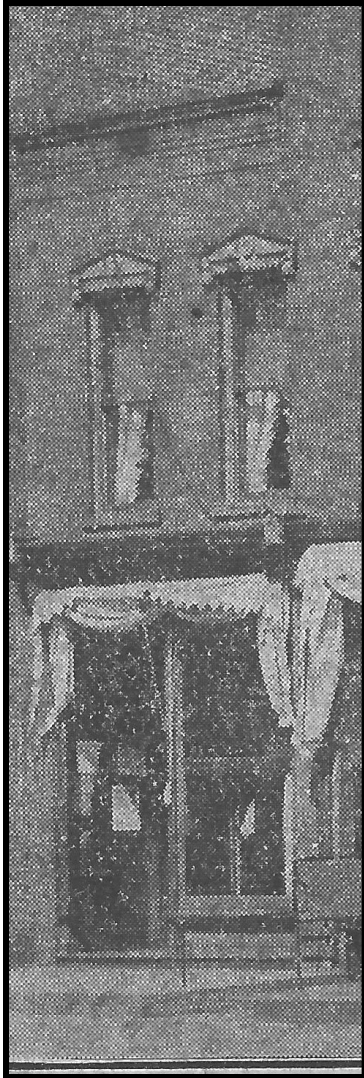


Mail rig transporting the mail to the village from the FJ & G RR station. 1919

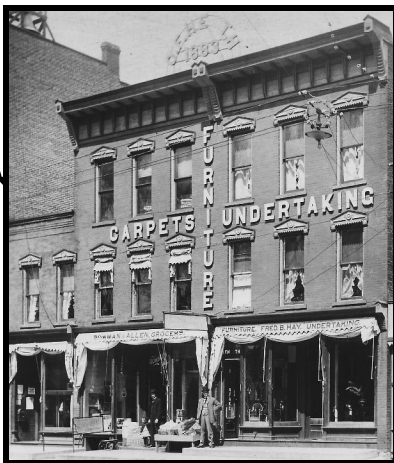
MUSEUM
Open June 30

July
and August,
Wednesdays
And Saturdays
10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Also open on
Request. Call 518
863 2628 or
518 863 4040
Ext 0



Post Office from 1891 to 1917



Heath Block on Main Street

BURGLARS AT NORTHVILLE. —. The gang of burglars which has been operating around this section for the past few weeks without any success, broke into the Northville post office last night and blew open the safe containing government property. The burglary was discovered this morning when Deputy Postmaster Wm. I. Smith arrived at the office and found the front doors open and the door of the safe shattered into a multitude of pieces, while the interior of the office had a general appearance of isolation. An examination showed that the burglars had gained entrance by prying off the casings of the front doors, after which they knocked off the knob of the safe and plugged the hole with some powerful explosive. The effect of the explosion was to blow the door from its hinges and completely wreck it. The interior of the safe was then rifled and the burglars took about \$30 worth of stamps, two registered letters and a quantity of small change, consisting mostly of pennies. They also took a large pocketbook which, however, contained nothing of value. The other letters in the post office were not molested or disturbed. A further investigation showed that previous to the burglary the robbers entered the wagon shop of W. H. Blowers and the blacksmith shop of Edward Roberts and from both places secured a wrench, a chisel, a bit brace and bits. The robbery must have occurred shortly after midnight, as shortly before 12 o'clock Edward Palmer, while on his way home, saw two men who acted in a suspicious manner and tried to avoid him. No suspicious characters had been seen about the town, however, during the evening. Prior to the robbery the burglars visited the house of Philo Conkling, which is on the opposite side of the street from the post office, and closed the blinds. After the discovery of the robbery this morning the officials of the post office department at New York were notified and it is expected that the department will try to catch the burglars. The post office is located in the Heath block on Main street in Northville and the postmaster is A. J. Smith. *Gloversville Daily Leader* October, 21 1899



Inside of the grocery store. The man on the left appears to be Hiram Allen but the other man is either Brownell or Bowman. Picture donated by Gale Buyce Poole from her father, Gerald Buyce's collection.



Ward Bowman and Claire Brownell operated a grocery store on the north side of the Heath Block. In 1907 Hiram Allen purchased the interest of Brownell and became a partner with Bowman.

The picture on the left shows a sign, on the store; BOWMAN AND ALLEN GROCERIES

The Orlando Heath block, located where the fire station is today, was built in 1883 and burned in 1933. It was a three story building housing two stores on the bottom floor A furniture store and undertaking business of O. F Heath was on the two upper floors. Fred B. Hay took over the undertaking business after Heath retired. In the basement of this building , William A Foote Sr. and son had a plumbing business. There were many other businesses that operated in this building over the years between 1883 and 1933.

SCHOOL HOUSE MUSEUM TOUR
 June 19, 2018
 Second grade from NCS



Donavan arriving with his class
 38 children 7 adults



Gloria Jensen Fulmer showing Zoey
 Jensen the year book with a picture of
 Zoey's grandfather, Owen Jensen.



Linda Thompson
 "Kids love to ring the bell"



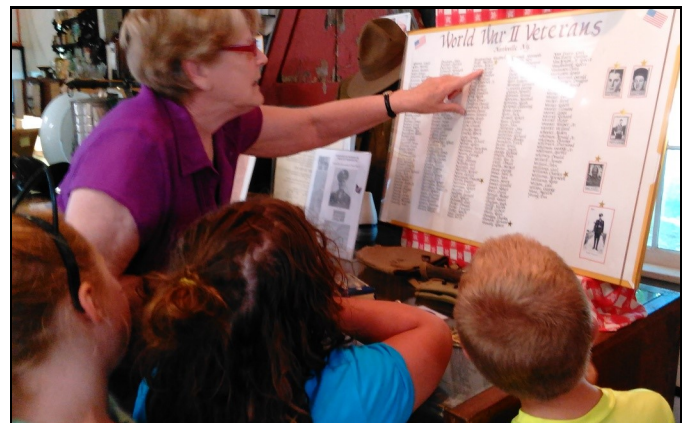
Fascinated with
 The old typewriter



Lots of questions



Skip Thompson sharing history with the students



Gloria Fulmer showing the kids
 the name of a WW II veteran in their family