

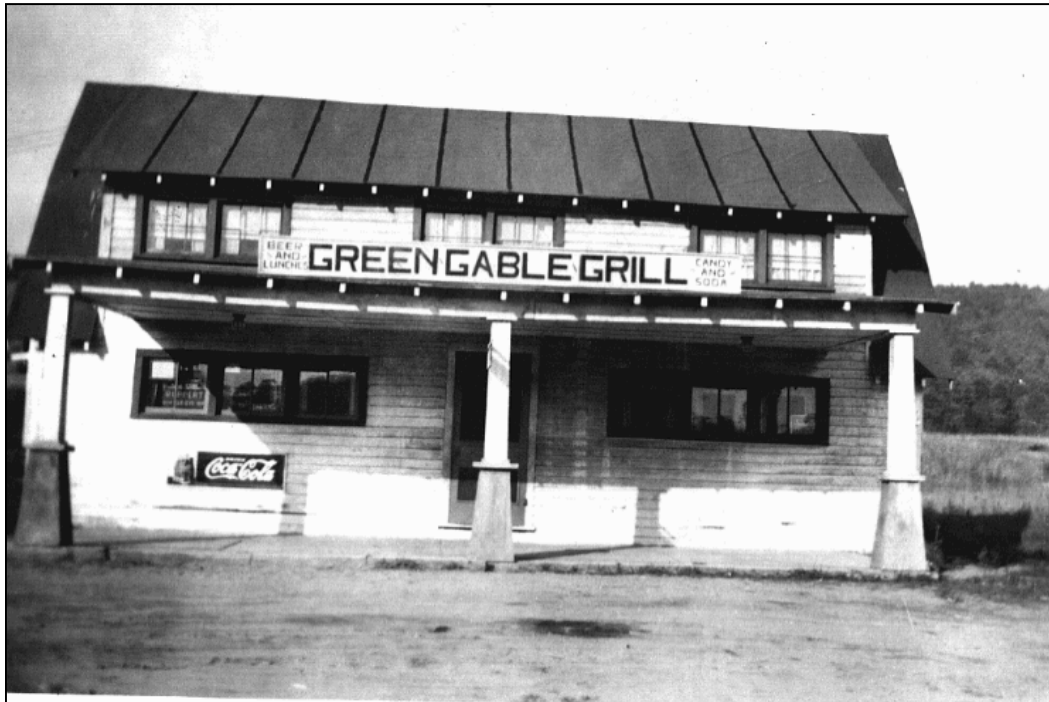
NNHS NEWS LETTER

Northville Northampton Historical Society

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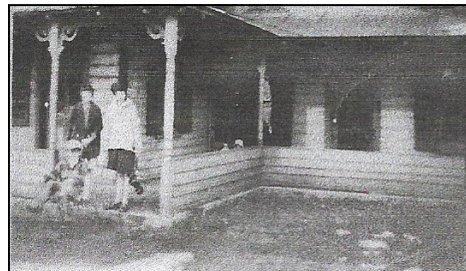


GREENGABLE GRILL 1942-1951



This owned and run by the Thompson family, who's home was next door. This was located on old route 30, going north from Reed Street.

The Thompson house was moved from Parkville when the Conklingville Dam was closed, which flooded the valley including Parkville.



Thompson House in Parkville
1928

Moved to old route 30 , north
on Reed St. toward Wells

MUSEUM

Much to do to get ready for the 2019 season.

Displays to be moved and covered to get ready for the ceiling to be painted.

Addition to be added to the rear of the museum.

Reorganizing displays as we move into the new addition.

Two new members added to the society.

Hopefully we can open on schedule, July 6th.



Thompson House today
2019

DAMAGE WILL MOUNT TO THOUSANDS AS RESULT OF SACANDAGA FLOODS

1929 Headline of the Gloversville "Morning Herald"

The following was taken from an article in the Morning Herald newspaper

For the first time in many years, the Sacandaga river valley was swept by one of the worst floods in its history, with damages which it is estimated will mount into the thousands of dollars. This occurred in the year when contractors are at work on the Conklingville Dam for the Hudson River Regulating Board.

Saturday, Northville was marooned from the world, as much as though it had been located on an island in the center of the vast lake which is to be created by the Conklingville Dam.



Unusually high temperatures for this time of the year were recorded last week which caused the flood. A heavy thunder storm evidently proved the turning point in the conditions along the river. The crunch of ice as cake ground on cake was heard echoing and resounding through the Sacandaga Valley.

Warning had been issued by the engineers of the board to beware of possible severe flooding, these warning were taken lightly by those who knew the valley.

Ralph Gifford and Ralph King had been asleep in the filling station that Gifford owned on the road to the Sacandaga Park, when the wall of ice and water crashed against the building, tipped it over and tossed them out of their beds. Hurriedly they put on outer clothing, and climbed out a window onto the roof of the building. Rapidly the building was swept by the current while the two

men were clinging to the roof of the building, while two dogs were inside. As it moved down the flooding waters, it finally hit a tree and came to rest across from the Park Dance Hall.

In the mean time, word had gone through the village about the men being marooned on the building. Stephen Stuart and George Burdette, Jr. found a boat and launched it in the raging water to rescue the men. They managed to bring the boat along side the tipping building. The two men jumped into the boat and was returned to shore. When the rescuers learned of the two dogs in the building they paddled back to building and returned with the dogs.

A sedan seen in this picture, owned by Gifford was swept along in the flood waters and ended up on Sport Island.



Jesse Blowers, taxi operator in the village, found himself marooned on the center span of the bridge. The water got into his engine and stalled it. The water was now 2 or 3 feet on the bridge floor. The water and ice was pounding against the bottom and sides of the car. He obviously was in danger, before the ice would form a jam against the car, and force the car over the side of the bridge.



Robert Van Arnam, a Northville High School student and Lewis Smith were the first to discover the danger Blowers was facing.

With a long rope the two boys set out to rescue the marooned taxi driver. Van Arnam tied the rope around his waist and with Smith holding the end of it, waded across the bridge towards the stalled car. When he got to the car, Blowers became excited and instead of holding on the rope grabbed Van Arnam around the neck. The lad however kept his head and managed to cling to the rope and the rail. Smith however, was having a rough time keeping hold of the rope with the two men tugging on it. Fortunately other residents of the village happened along by the bridge at that time. They helped pull the men to safety.

But that did not get the car off the bridge and relieve the danger of a jam. Van Arnam returned to the car a second time. This time he fastened a rope around the axle of the car and a gang of men pulled it off the structure.

With the water sweeping over the bridge in a depth of three or four feet there was danger every minute that the ice jam would form against the upper part of the bridge.



Ice and water flowed along the lowlands on River Road along the north west side of the river where it entered the homes of Mrs. Matilda Graham and Myron Lindsay, filling the cellars and covering the first floor.

Ice piled up against the summer homes of Seymour H Willard of Northville and Joseph Moses from NYC. The lower floors in both homes were inundated by the water.

An Ice dam closed the road going north to Hamilton County, thus blocking travel from the north and cutting off all travel to the north.

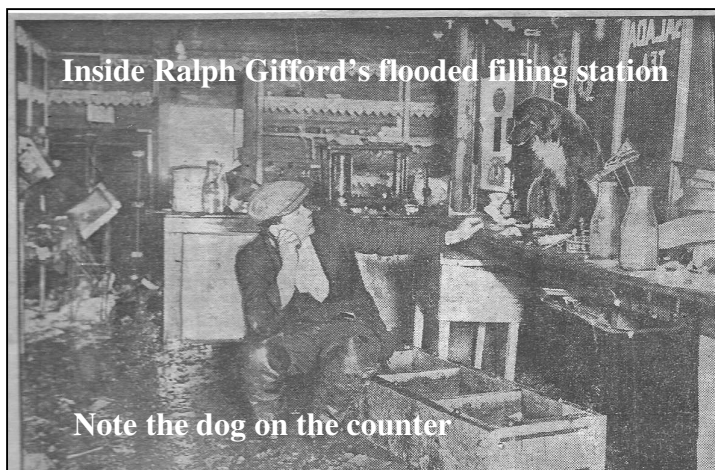
The stage from Lake Pleasant came down as far as Fish Rock in Parkville. Not able to travel into the village. Scott Downing of Northville however, was equal to the occasion. When the stage arrived at the rock, Scott was on hand with a team of horses and a wagon. The horses were forced to swim when they crossed certain sections of the road. The mail was delivered safely.

The road to Hope Falls was completely cut off, as well as the road from Fish House to Northville and Northville to Mayfield. On some roads the ice was piled up 8 to 10 feet high, as huge ice cakes were deposited on the road. Northville was cut off. Huge cranes were brought in to help open up the roads



Crane
Clearing
a
Road-
way
jammed
with
Ice
Floes.

While the floods danger , increased in Northville, dangers increased at the dam in Conklingville where work was being rushed to save the part of the dam already completed. Contractors had stretched a huge boom across the river to hold back the ice from smashing the walls of the dam. The boom did go out which washed out the trestles of the temporary bridges the trucks used to get to the dam to pour the cement. Huge steam shovels were used to throw rocks and dirt in the gap in the dam, but that proved to be ineffective. As the water receded all got back to normal





**Gifford's Filling Station
Down the River**



Mystery Couple
From a collection of
pictures of the
Hollearn Family

Can anyone identify
the metal? The pic-
ture was taken at
Bowman Studio in
Northville. It looks
like a hat on the
floor beside the
man's feet.

