

NNHS NEWS LETTER

Northville Northampton Historical Society

Issue 121
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Editor
Gail M Cramer



Written By Joanne Blaauboer,
Deputy Historian of Northampton

All summer long Gail Cramer and I had been looking for a vintage fence for the Fish House graveyard. She went up to Willard Cemetery in the Town of Hope, to visit a grave and they were tearing down an old fence. Most of which was gone, but some still stood. She contacted the town of Hope Highway Supervisor. He told Gail that the Town of Hope Board would have to vote on whether we could have the fence. They voted and agreed to give us the fence. Then Larry Cramer and Terry Warner took the fence apart, and the Northampton Town Supervisor, Jim Groff and Larry, delivered it to our little graveyard! Larry Cramer, Terry Warner and Peter Sefton put the fence up. The Northville museum also had two very old metal posts from a long gone estate in Northville. They brought those too! It took several hours, but this Civil War-era fence now has a new home and I couldn't be happier! The fence didn't quite reach the south property line so Jesse, of 'Beyond Your Garden' donated a plant and sent down his brother to plant it for us! What a wonderful community effort!! Thank you to everyone!

The Town of Northampton Historian recommends that you stop by and view this historical cemetery on Fish House Road, in Fish House. The historical stones have been cleaned, most are repaired and more are being worked on. Perennials have been planted, and stone steps have been added for better access to the cemetery. This week a wrought iron bench has been added to the property.

*Many thanks to the Fish House community:
Joanne Blaauboer, David Floyd, Kathy & Bob Reese, Peter Blaauboer, Jesse Walter, Cheryl Gauthier, Janet Keesler, Pat Weaver-Gutierrez, Ellen Neno, Cindy Clemens, Dean Detweiler, Mary Jane Wilson, Megan Floyd.*

MUSEUM

Our NNHS historical museum was unfortunately closed this season because of Covid 19. Last Fall we added a 10 x 24 ft. addition. We had hoped to have an Open House this Spring, but of course that couldn't happen. But what did happen was the roof on the middle section of the museum was replaced. And the sides of that section was painted by volunteers from the Northville Rotary Club. The outhouse also got a new roof and was moved back near the museum.

Darcy and Kyle Morehouse

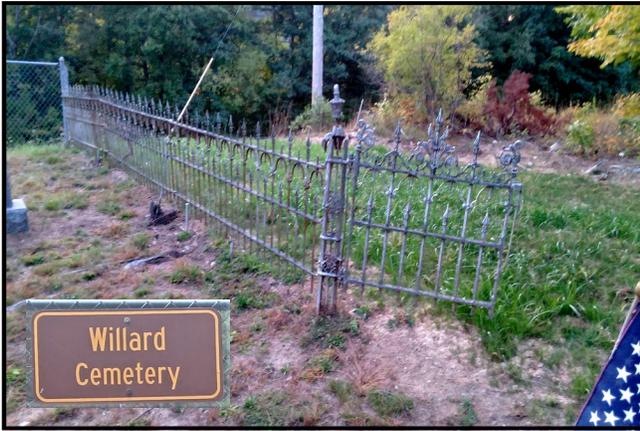


John Sartin, roofer



Terry Warner





The fence at Willard Cemetery in the Town of Hope



Larry and Terry carefully removed the bolts between the eight foot sections to prevent any damage to the fence. It would be interesting to know how old this fence is.



Larry C and Jim Groff

The fence being delivered to the Fish House Cemetery. Note stone steps



Terry, Larry and Peter Sefton
Installing the fence



The two end post from the former house on the corner of Bridge and Main Street, now stand at each end of the fence in Fish House Cemetery



The gate with a fresh coat of paint by Joanne Blaauboer



Vintage re-furbished bench from Larry and Gail before it was painted

James "Jim" O. Aston wrote: This picture came as a post card to my folks from Roy Sothern who bought their first house on Third Street. Hence, I have also made a copy of the back which shows it was mailed July 5, 1951 just a day after the shot was taken That was possible because Roy was a professional photographer who had a small studio in his house. I remember him showing me his studio and the developing equipment in it. As I remember, he moved to Northville from Groversville where he originally had his business.

Jim grew up in Northville and graduated with the class of 1953. Here is a picture of Jim in the 1953 NCS yearbook.



The judges of those entered and floats in the July 4th 1951 parade are from left to right. Harry Lawton, (the mayor of Northville at the time) Mabel Van Arnam, John Houghtaling (owner of the station on the corner of Bridge and Second, as well as the Justice of the Peace), my mother Jane Aston, Jim Wasson, and George Horton. Back of Harry is Carleton Nellis (The sound technician. I remember he was the projectionist at the Star Theatre and had a radio repair business on Third Street) Wendell Thompson, behind Jim Wasson, was announcing. Wendell partially hides Arnold Whitman. Seated on the hood of the truck is Steve Van Arnam, below him is Clark Jewell, then left to right: Mrs. LaPraire, and that is possibly her daughter Bunny with her back to the camera. Then (I'm guessing) two Jewell daughters, Mrs. Clark Jewell, Tommy Giblin seated on the flat bed, next to him is Dickie Jewell and then in the right hand corner are, Joyce Cramer, Peggy Cramer, and Ruth Olmstead. The young boy could possibly be Keith Cramer. JOA

Thanks Jim for sending a memory of the July 1951 parade, especially as we recall the folks in the picture. Some have left us, some still live in Northville and others have moved on to other places.

FOLLOW-UP ON THE SEPTEMBER NNHS NEWSLETTER

A great article in the Sept. issue about Clarence Davison by Patsy. Seeing the shot of Clarence on duty at a 4th parade reminds me I have somewhere a postcard Roy Sothern produced of the judges for the 4th parade in 1951. Email me your address and I'll try to find it and send a copy along to you. (J.Aston)

I agree with Patsy's Memorable Character article about Clarence Davidson since I too was born in Northville and remember him well. I can attest to the sincere interest Clarence had for the youth of Northville - me being one of them. (Fred Fischer)

Thanks for another wonderful walk down memory lane. I too remember how kind Clarence was to all the kids in the village. And the photo of the Chutes with the lovely women in her gorgeous white dress and the fancy Victorian looking baby carriage is adorable. (Pat Weaver- Gutierrez)

As usual- another great newsletter! Thank you Patsy, for the article on Clarence Davison. Wonderful job! In my high school years in the late 1950's I remember him well. He had a way with the kids, especially the boys and I think they all respected him. More than once I remember seeing him standing on the sidewalk with 2-3 young fellows chatting. Makes one wonder how much guidance he gave to young folks in those 34 years, steering them in the right direction (Priscilla Edwards)

Thanks Gail, never knew Northville had a police force. I didn't see any local cops in the 60's. (Mel Meter)

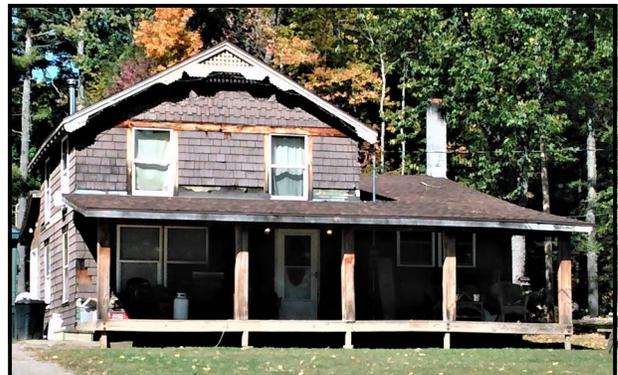
Thanks Cuz, I must have seen the "constable" that year I spent there, but since I was always well mannered he never saw me !!! I can only imagine what fun you, me, and Bill would have had chuting the chutes. (Tom Moulton)

In last month's newsletter (September 2020) There was an article about Chute the Chutes. Apparently a man by the name of Alex Joseph bought property in 1929 on the Mountain Road not far from where the Sacandaga Park Amusement park was located.

In 1929 the Hudson River Regulating District had bought property where they were going to be damming up the Sacandaga River at Conklingville. The amusement park fell into the taking-line, so all the buildings had to be moved, torn down or burned. Mr. Joseph bought the chute-the-chutes for the lumber and built a cottage on the land he had purchased.

John Ferguson happened to have heard of Mr. Alex Joseph and knew where he had lived. Today I ventured up to the house which is presumed the cottage built from the Chute-the-Chutes. The occupant/owner, Damian Lamphear, did not know about the chute-the-chutes but said he doesn't doubt it from what he has seen in the structure of parts of the house.

I wonder how many more camps, cottages, maybe barns, sheds etc have history of the amusement park, within the walls of their structure.



The cottage that Mr. Joseph built in 1929 as it looks today on the Mountain Road.