

Marshall Historical Society

Looking to the Past to Inspire Our Future

August, 2024

Marshall Historical Society
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Amy Buchholz (2028)

Website:

www.marshallhistsoc.org

Next Meeting

**September 19, 2024 –
6:30**

**Chenango Canal – Diane
VanSlyke**

Join!

Provide your name and
address (and email, if
applicable) to the secretary
and pay the membership
fee:

Individual: \$10:00

Family: \$15.00

**HAVE YOU PAID
YOUR YEARLY DUES?
GET YOURS IN
TODAY!**

Donate!

Your donations to the
Marshall Historical Society
are tax deductible.

Greetings Friends:

Maureen Boscoe gave an informative and interesting program on helping to find out the age of our houses at the Historical Society Meeting on August 15. She gave as an example her own house, the age of which she began researching after she retired. She went back to the Abstract of her house – and, she said, that was the first important thing to do when trying to find out just how old our houses are: find the Abstract, which should have been available when then house changed hands and which often is not. They are also on file in the Oneida (or whatever county where the house is located) County Clerk's office.

With the Abstract in hand, Maureen was able to research every former tenant of her house, and in her case the land on which her house is located. She did that through looking at old wills, maps, and checking with the Town Clerk, and found some fascinating stories, which she shared with us. She also checked Ancestry, which is available at most public libraries, she said. Fulton History and the New York State Archives were also very helpful.

These are all guides for us follow when researching our own homes. Maureen related all the histories of those people who were at that location before her. She said it was a lot of work but was well worth it. Maybe that will lead us to find out the histories of our own homes!

Next month, on Thursday, September 19, Diane VanSlyke, Town of Madison historian, will present a program on the Chenango Canal. She is also a member of the Chenango Canal Association.

In October, Brian and Erin Brewer will tell us the history of their house, what is known as the Dean Homestead on the corner of Route 12b and West Hill Road.



Original Dean Homestead
built around 1799

**WELCOME TO NEW MEMBER DAVE HAZELDEN! THANKS TO
EVERYONE WHO RENEWED THEIR MEMBERSHIPS, AND DONATED TO
THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY. YOU ARE ALL VERY SPECIAL TO US!!!**

We are VERY grateful to Mark Hazelton of Florida, formerly of Waterville, for sending us a whole box-full of letters, journals and other fascinating materials from his ancestors, the Barton family of the Town of Marshall. In our presentation August 15, Maureen Boscoe mentioned Clara Barton who lived nearby in Clinton. Clara Barton is a relative of David Barton Jr. and all the rest of the Bartons, down to Mark Hazelden (whose grandmother was Ruth Almira Barton Hazelden and whose father is David Barton Hazelden of New Hartford). Clara, or Clarissa, Barton was the daughter of Stephen Barton and the great-great-great-great-great granddaughter of the first Edward Barton. One of Edward's grandchildren was Samuel Barton born in 1664. His son, Elisha, was the father of David, who fought in the Revolutionary War, and David's son is the David Barton Jr. we know as one of the first settlers in the Town of Marshall. He donated money to the fire department when it was formed in the late 1800s, and it is now known as the Barton Hose Company.

Road Names Named, County Already Knows

Intentions to finalize street naming in Marshall at the June 7 Board meeting were thwarted by the revelation that Oneida County may believe that road names were officially accepted in April 1964.

Road Superintendent John Cornelius stated that he had seen an authorization signed by board members for the names commonly used on county maps.

Examination of the Town Clerk's minutes for May 14, 1964, showed an inventory had been accepted and three copies sent to the Oneida County Department of Public works, with one for James Kelley, then highway head. The reporter's notes on the same date recorded that a state resolution had been "sanctified" and "adopted" for the "name and length of each road (town highway)" "inventoried a year ago," "44.93 miles of town roads; 16.96 miles . . . country roads, less town bridges and county bridges."

Disbelief was general, but only William Doyle had been present at the May 14 meeting. At that time, Town Clerk Emma Bishop was in the hospital. Justice J. E. Hughes, who attended the 1964 meeting was not on hand.

An article in the Waterville Times, 5/21/64 covering the meeting stated: "A resolution approving the State's inventory of town highways was approved. They total almost 45 miles. Cornelius said there was supposed to have been a public hearing too, but Mrs. Bishop said she knew of no such meeting."

The possibility that the county would not accept new names discouraged plans for a final public hearing and vote of acceptance. A spectator, Mrs. George Kennard, describing herself as familiar with county and state methods, said that revisions were made frequently and no previous road naming would be irrevocable.

Two communications were presented.

A letter from the Misses Ella and Margaret Cleary reviewed the historical importance of the Barton family, for whom they wished their road to be named.

A petition signed by over 50 people favored the name "Fuess Road."

The Cleary letter indicated that they would accept the name "Fuess-Cleary" road, which is the name on the county map which Cornelius said had been adopted.

Justice Curtis Cook described the Cleary communication as a very fine letter. It will be retained by the clerk. The Barton family established itself in Marshall in 1793 and has been well-known for public service and benevolence.

DEANSBORO NEWS NOTES

Waterville Times, October 10, 1957

Recent dinner guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Hughes were the Misses Shirley Eisenhut from Vassar; Esther Eisenhut of Keuka; Joan Upcraft of Waterville; and Pete Hughes of Clarkson.

The Deansboro PTA will meet at the school on Monday evening, October 14 at 8:00 p.m. The program will start at 8:30. Mr. Frank Senior, County Deputy Director of Civil Defense, will be the speaker. The public is invited.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Seelow celebrated their 45th wedding anniversary recently by dining at Frank & Eddie's.

Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Seelow, Gloversville, were recent week end guests of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Seelow.

The Deansboro Fire Department held their meeting on October 7. Discussions were held on Fire Prevention Week and the new fire house. Chief Gerald McMullen said that the volunteer firemen are eligible for shots to prevent Asiatic Flu and to notify him.

The Deansboro area has been canvassed for the United Fund. Anyone who was not contacted and wishes to give, please notify the chairman, Mrs. Morris Sturdevant.

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Jones and Mrs. Jones' father, Mr. William Burnham, enjoyed the autumn coloring of the state of Maine, where they toured over the past week end.

Mrs. Norman Ingersoll and son, Kenny; and Mrs. Williams Larson of Waterville spent an enjoyable day in Ithaca on Tuesday with their relatives there, Mr. and Mrs. Albert McWerthy.

The Brownies met Monday at the school. Plans are being made to attend the circus in Utica.

Mr. and Mrs. George Kennard gave a party in honor of the 40th wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Keston Kennard on Friday Evening, October 4. Those attending were Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Kennard, Forge Hollow; Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Hosie, Baldwinsville; and Mrs. William Kennard of Deansboro.

The Deansboro Congregational Church will hold a Great Halloween Auction on October 19 at 1:30. For sale are foodstuffs, furniture, market and farm produce, wearing apparel and much more. Floyd Harrington will be the auctioneer.



The Old Mill
(picture
undated)

ADELAIDE FOOTE GREENHOUSE

Around the same time plans were being made to build a condensery in Deansboro in 1902, and the Blanding Feed and Grain Company was underway, another little-known business was just starting up: Adelaide Foote's Greenhouse.

Miss Foote lived with her family on Mill Street (2673 State Route 315) with her parents, Orin and Mary Foote, and her sister and two brothers.

She was a great-granddaughter on her mother's side of John Failing, who allegedly was held captive for four years during the Revolutionary

War by an Indian tribe in 1776 and subsequently sold to a British officer in Canada for whiskey (he walked to his home in St. Johnsville). She was also Carol Barker Koren's (and her sisters') great-aunt, their mother Minerva Foote Barker's sister, whose husband's name was John. Mrs. John (Minerva) Barker's father was Oren Foote. He built the flat-roof homes in town, for example the former Deansboro Hotel and the house next to it. Many of us remember Mrs. John Barker's son, J. Oren, who ran a TV and Appliance center in the center of Deansboro, which was formerly the Hamilton House, where his family lived: Oren Jr.; Joan (Benedict), Carol (Koren) and Sandy; and later was operated as an antique shop called Ye Olde Canal Shoppe, started by the late Joan Barker Benedict and her husband Allen.



From a relatively early time, Adelaide Foote was recognized for her skill in landscaping and her eye for color and decoration, and she transferred these attributes to opening a greenhouse at the Mill Street location. The greenhouse was built in 1902, and at first she intended to provide only roses and carnations but later branched out to all floral varieties. In later years, she drew up plans for a large extension to the greenhouse, added an iron gate in front of the main house, changed the heating from steam to a hot water system, and had a driveway built from the road to the greenhouse, with the result that the enterprise was called "a credit to the community."

Miss Foote supervised the growing of the flowers and shrubs around the McAdam (Brothertown) Stock Farm on Gridley-Paige Road, which was known for the breeding of pure, prize Holstein-Friesian cattle. Several varieties of orchids had been transplanted, and she experimented with various other beautiful wild growths. She also was a judge at many garden club exhibits and competitions. But outstanding among the flowers in her gardens were dahlias, with stalks up to 5 feet high and some blossoms six inches across, of all colors which, Miss Foote asserted, were grown from seeds from California.

Adelaide Foote placed an advertisement in the The Deansboro Holler in 1922 for her greenhouse which reads, "Rouge up your house and ground with some flowers." She offered geraniums, vincas, petunias, verbonas, pansies and more for window boxes, lawns and gardens. The ad went on to state that Miss Foote also conducted a "magazine subscription agency," where patrons could subscribe to a magazine of his or her choice.

That same year, a fire broke out in the Feed & Lumber Company, which threatened the greenhouse; however, quick action by the fire department saved the building from ruin.

The business was so successful that at one point, Miss Foote commented that rumors she was going out of business were "much exaggerated." She was very much in demand as a speaker and expert on horticulture, and there were many reports that her business was steady and growing.

Miss Adelaide Foote became ill in 1937 and was taken to Rome Hospital. I could not find an obituary for her, but mention was made in 1938 that the property was sold to Clement and Emily Smith, who planned to operate a green house. The next transaction was in 1943, when the Smiths moved to Main Street, Deansboro – at 2791 State Route 12b - into the house now owned by Betty Hughes and Dave Georgius. They moved the large greenhouse, which had been at the back of the house on Mill Street, with them. Dale Tuttle Lints, who lived there as a girl, tells me that a



smaller greenhouse located in the front of the garage was later moved to 12b. The Tuttle family lived there until the 1960s, then the Lewis Brood family were there; and then the Willard Marsh family. Chad Seifert, who now owns the property, showed me around his back yard where, he said, the outline of the former greenhouse could be seen.



Adelaide Foote's home is shown to the right on today's Route 315 (or Mill Street or the Deansboro-Waterville Road). You can see the bridge ahead. The white building on the left is the old cheese factory, since burned, and the drive off to the left leads to the Blanding Feed Mill, later Hinman Mill, also burned. The house next to Adelaide Foote's house is owned by Justin Gorton.

