

# NNHS NEWS LETTER

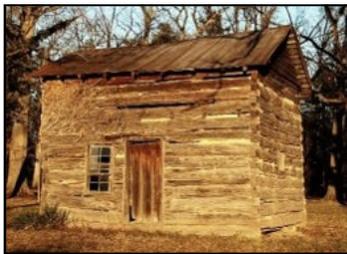
Northville Northampton Historical Society

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Editor  
Gail M Cramer



## ONE ROOM SCHOOL HOUSES TOWN OF NORTHAMPTON AND VILLAGE OF NORTHVILLE 1798 to 1941

**1798** was the first school house which was in Fish House (aka Northampton). Fish House was the first settlement in the Town of Northampton. It most likely was a log building similar to the picture below.



The first school house in the village of Northville was also a log building. It was located on the lot just north of the village cemetery, which is across from the Methodist church on South Main Street.

As the population grew in the village there was a need for a larger building. A lot was purchased on the northeast corner of First Street and Bridge. More about this schoolhouse on page 3.

In **1813** the local school administrators realized the outlying areas were becoming more inhabited, so there was need for schools for children in rural areas.

The town was divided into **13 Sole Trustee Common School Districts**. A District would be formed when there were sufficient number of children in that area to warrant a school.

Each District was labeled with a number. I'm not sure that the numbers were in order of when each were organized. Schools were located so that the children didn't have to walk more than a mile and a half.

*Take note that the history about the schools in this newsletter is basically an outline. There is so much more that could be written. One of my goals is to write a book much more detailed. Mr. Eschler has recorded much of it, which I'll include in the book, with his permission.*

### Museum News

The museum will official open June 22. It will be only open on Saturdays in June.

July and August it will be open Wednesday's and Saturday's from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m.

The museum will also open by appointment for individuals or group tours. Call 863 2628 for information.

The museum has been cleaned and ready for the opening in June.

Volunteers are needed to help even if just for an occasional filling in for the regular museum guides. Let Gail know if you are willing to help out.



## DISTRICT # 1

### MAPLE GROVE SCHOOL HOUSE

Maple Grove Road

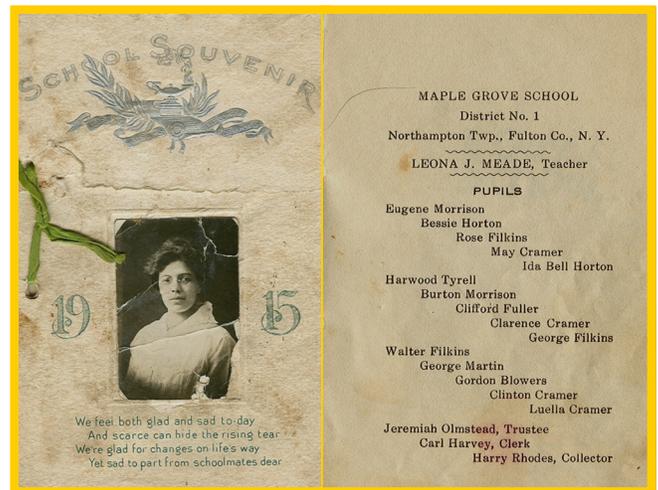
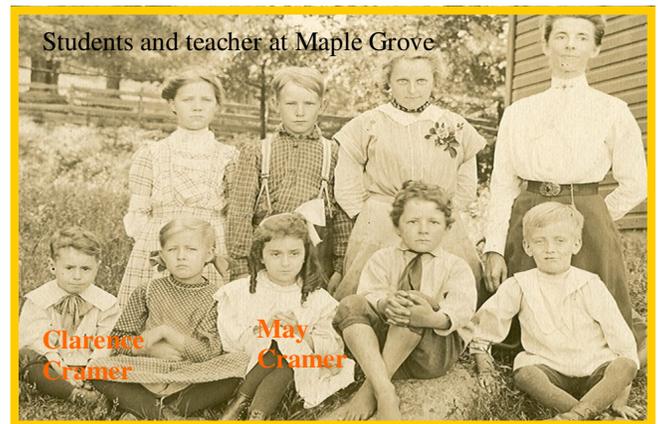
**1853** land was given by Mr. And Mrs. Fuller and a schoolhouse was built.  
**1904** (June 2) the first school burned.  
 June 18th a special meeting was held at the school grounds and it was decided to build a new school house on the site of the old one.



**1941** the Maple Grove School was closed and the pupils were transported to Northville. There was a discussion that the building be used for a Mission Center, but none of the local churches were interested in it. December of 1941 the school was sold to Perry Cramer for \$130.00. The Cramer's lowered the ceilings, built partitions and added a front porch.



Cramer's added an addition to the east side of the house in 1954. Cramer's sold it in the early 70's to a nephew. At present, Mr. and Mrs. Phil Spaeth live there and are current owners.



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## DISTRICT # 2

(also sometimes records say it was #12)

### MOUNTAIN ROAD SCHOOL HOUSE

866 Mountain Road, Mayfield, NY

**1838** the property for the school was given to the Mayfield district by William Collins

**1929**, it was voted to transport pupils from grade 7 through high school to the Northville Central School.

**1932** the school was abandoned and all pupils were transported to Northville.

**1941** the school was sold to Laura Castelas for \$40. At some point in time it was converted into a private home. In early 1990's a wood burning stove caused it to catch on fire and it burned to the ground. A mobil home now occupies the site of the school house.

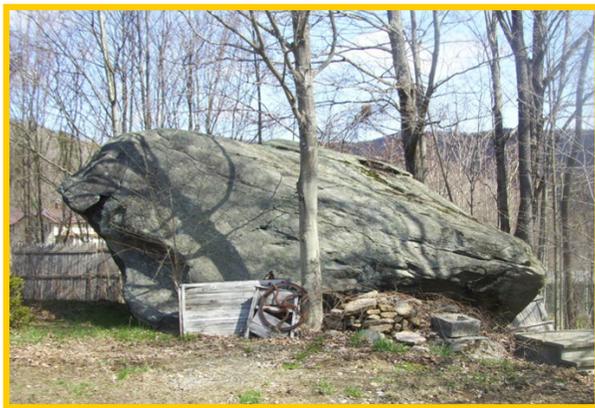
This school was also known at the Collins School.

## District #2 continued

The school house was converted into a private home. There had been two front doors. The windows on the left replaced one of the doors



Milton Sweet, Ernest Edwards, Bob Stuart, & Lewis Edwards



The children's playground beside the school house was a huge boulder. Henry Edwards told about playing on and around this boulder when he was a student there. I imagine it became many things in the creative minds of the children. It can be seen today from the road.

## DISTRICT # 3 TRUAX SCHOOL HOUSE

On the old Fish House to Batchellerville Road  
(Now the corner of Elmer Brown and Sinclair Roads)



This school is shown on the  
1868 Town of Northampton Map

January 13th 1933 a check for \$500 was received from the Hudson River Regulating District for sale of the school property. It was moved to it's present location

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## DISTRICT # 4 SECOND SCHOOL IN THE VILLAGE

Located on the north east side of First Street and Bridge Street where Mosher's Grocery use to be and at present , Colorful Collections.

No picture or record of the date this school house was built, except we know it replaced the first little log school house that was on Main Street.

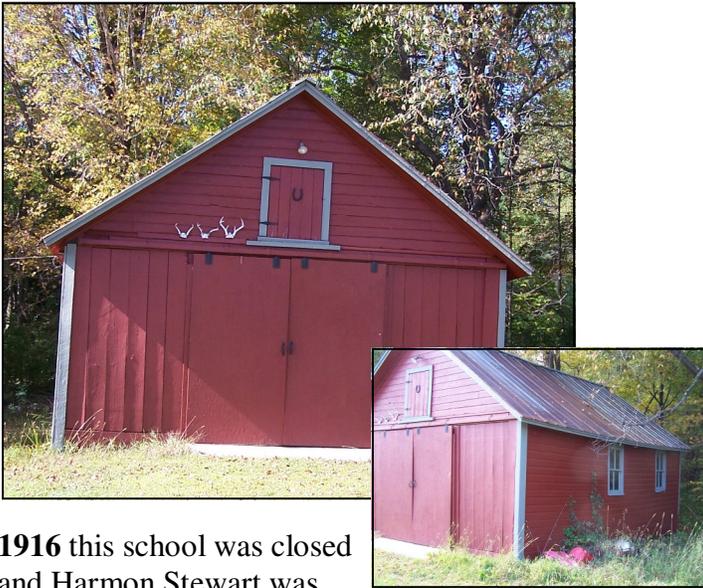
Around 1875 it became apparent that more class rooms were needed. The old Methodist Church was the most suitable and could be rented for \$65 a year. This was agreed upon and Miss Fanny Slocum was hired for \$5. per week. Her duties also included building the fire, sweeping, and keeping the room in good order.



The old Methodist Church where classes met. This church was moved from the corner of Main and Washington where the present Methodist Church now stands.

**DISTRICT # 5**  
**CARPENTER'S CORNER SCHOOL HOUSE**

It was located on the east side of Route 113 between Carpenter's Corner and Fairchild's Corner



**1916** this school was closed and Harmon Stewart was engaged to transport the pupils to Northville at a price of \$180.

**1929** it was sold to John P Gruet for \$100.

The building was later moved to 468 County Hwy 113 where it still stands. The front door has been removed and replaced with a barn type door.

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**DISTRICT # 6**  
**NORTHAMPTON/FISH HOUSE SCHOOL HOUSE(S)**

The first school house was build in 1798.



Second School House  
 1867



The second school house was sold to Dexter Ryder and moved. In 1928 it was moved again to Ryder Road It was incorporated into a larger residential house. Note the arrow...that is the roof line of the old school house.

The third school house in Northampton/Fish House was built across the road from the first two. (Highway 110). It was a two room building, built by Leon Stoddard, a contractor from Gloversville in 1908—09

In the 1930's this school was consolidated with the Broadalbin Central School District. By 1959 all the students in Fish House were attending the Broadalbin School, so this school was closed.



The Northampton Methodist Church purchased the building for a community center. According to Mrs. Sleezer, the partition between the two rooms were removed, making one large room. The building is still being used today as a community center.

Some of the activities there include benefit breakfasts, a large rummage sale, Christmas parties, showers, meetings, I'm sure there's other activities that the building is used for.

## DISTRICT # 7

### BUNKER HILL ROAD SCHOOL HOUSE

1933 the voters of District #7 met and voted to abandon the school and have the pupils all transported to Northville. The school was moved from the south side of Bunker Hill Road to the north side. It is now a summer camp.

Agnes Hunter (Manzer) grew up on Bunker Hill Road and went to this school, according to her daughter, Marilyn. She had to walk to school, but if it was real bad weather in the winter, her father would hitch up the horse and cutter and take her to school. He would pick up other kids along the way. The center portion of this picture is the former school house. After it was moved additions were added for use as a camp.

I have located a picture of the school prior to it's conversion into a camp but have not been able obtain it from it's owner yet. As soon as I get the picture I'll print it in the newsletter.



## DISTRICT # 8

### GIFFORD'S CORNER SCHOOL HOUSE(S)

Located on Route 152 around the corner from near the old stone gate to the Park.



The first school built in **1825** on the left before it was moved. The second schoolhouse was built in **1866**.

**1867** the first school house was moved 250' south and was used for a chapel. At some point it was sold and was converted into a summer cottage and then was winterized for year round. A few years ago it was torn down and a new house built in it's place.



In 1940 a for sale sign was posted on the front door of the schoolhouse. It was purchased, renovated and converted into a year round home.

**DISTRICT # 9**  
**GIFFORD'S VALLEY SCHOOL HOUSE**



Classes were held many years in G.V. before this school house was built. Mostly like in homes or other small buildings.

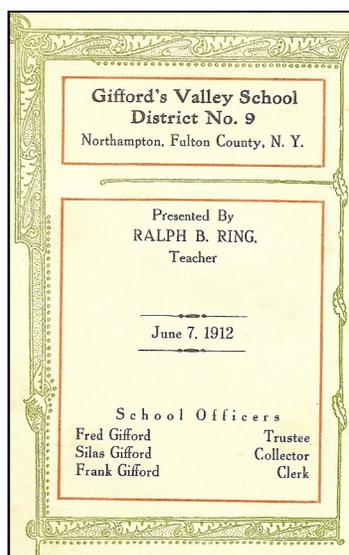
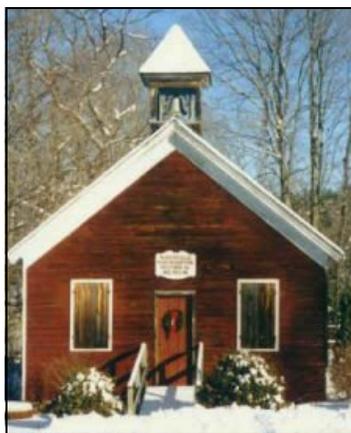


This school house is Circa mid 19th century

Dec 9, 1929, it was arranged to transport the pupils in grade 6 through high school to the Northville School.



1930 the school was closed and the property sold. The school bell was transferred to the Mountain Road



This school house was moved into the Village of Northville in 1990 and is now the Northville Northampton School House Museum. The museum is open during the summer months. Wednesday's and Saturday's 10 to 2

**DISTRICT #10**  
**PARKVILLE SCHOOL**

In 1901 the Parkville School was consolidated with the Northville Union Free School. The children walked to the village in all kinds of weather carrying their lunch pails containing their mid-day meal to be eaten at their desks.. The children who lived in the village walked home for their lunch.

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**DISTRICT # 11**  
**CRANBERRY CREEK SCHOOL**  
 No picture or records

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**DISTRICT # 12**  
**OSBORNE'S BRIDGE SCHOOL HOUSE**



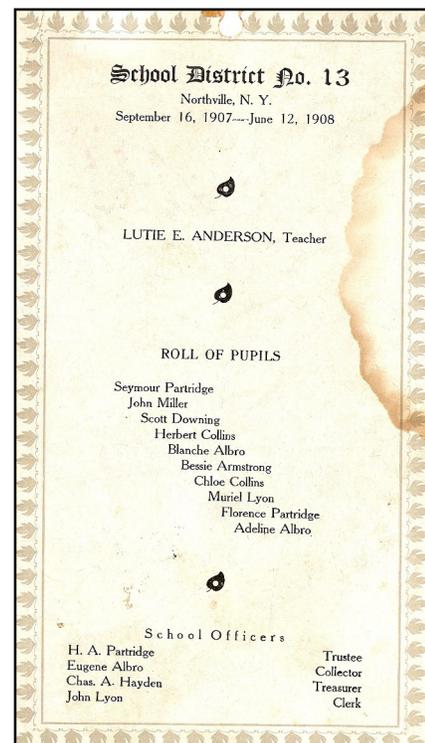
The foundation of this school house can be seen when the water level is low.



**DISTRICT #13**  
**PARTRIDGE SCHOOL**

1928 this school house was sold to the Hudson River Regulating Board for \$500.

If anyone has a picture of this school, I would like to copy it to add to this history.

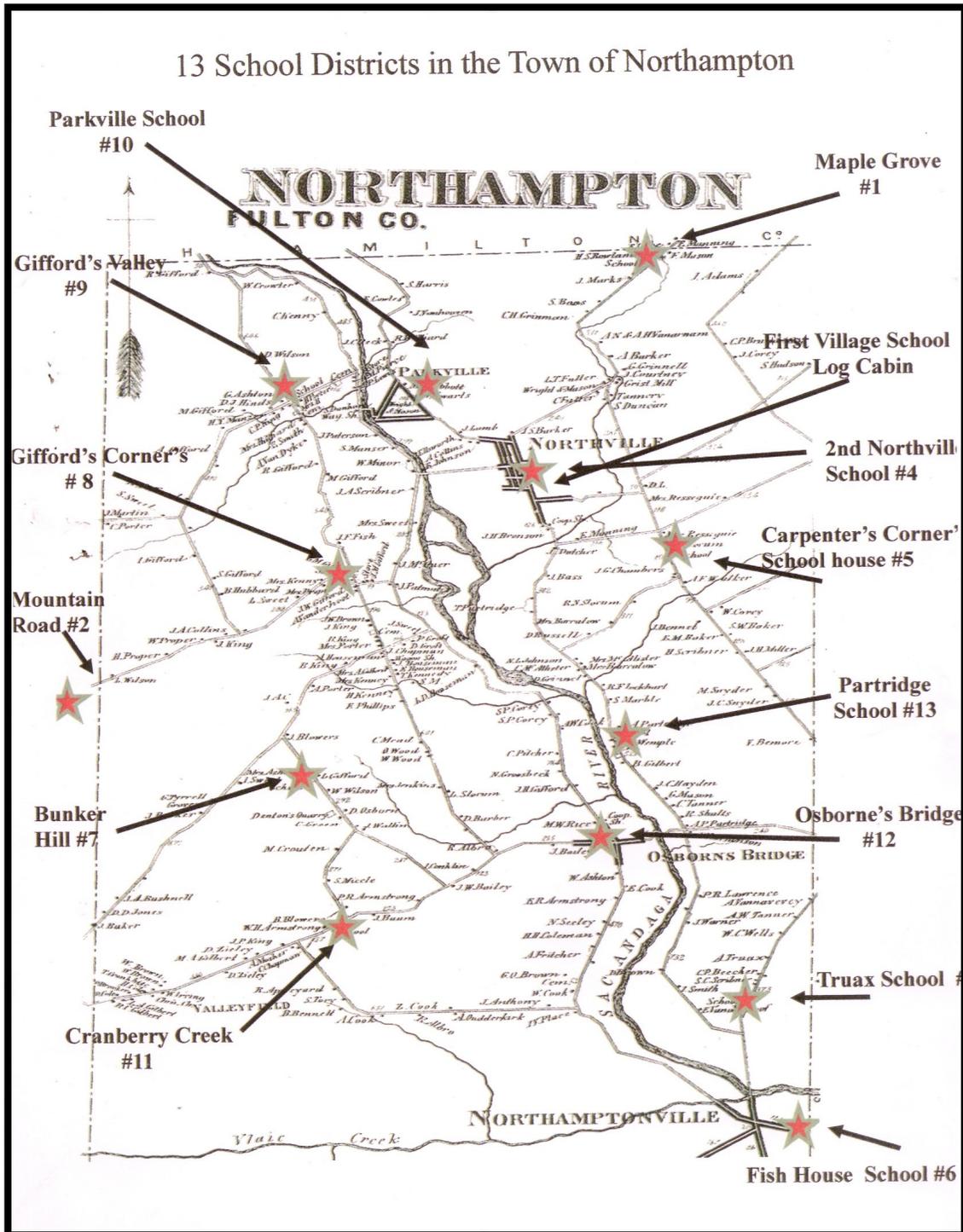




1887 the school board voted to build a new larger building on South Main Street. This became the Union Free School which consolidated all the one room schools to one building. This building was in use until 1933 when the present Northville Central School was built.



THE 1856 MAP OF NORTHAMPTON SHOWING THE LOCATION OF THE 13 SCHOOLS





*In Memory of two of our faithful members,  
friends and co-workers in the Historical Society  
we will miss you*



**Channing H. (Rocky) Rockwell** entered into eternal rest following a courageous and valiant battle with Mesothelioma Lung Cancer surrounded by the love of his family.

He was born on April 7, 1926, the son of George L. and Ada B. Rockwell at the family home in Edinburg, NY. He attended school at Northville Central and subsequently entered the Army Air Corps, serving from 1944-1945, at which time he was honorably discharged. He worked in several different positions, and retired from General Electric Company after 33 years of service. Channing was married to Gladys M. Novotny on January 25, 1952, and made Northville his home. They shared 39 years of marriage.

Channing was a giving, loving man who devoted his time to his family. He was actively involved in the American Legion Post in Northville, devoting most of his retirement years in building the Legion Pavilion and maintaining and caring for the property. He was involved with the Northville Historical Society and was proud of the accomplishment of relocating and assisting with the Red School House. Channing spent many happy hours metal detecting in the area, and found many "treasures", as well as assisting friends and others who lost precious possessions. He loved time spent helping his family members with projects, and prided himself on a job well done. He will be greatly missed by his family and friends, especially his morning coffee group at the Kitchenette in Northville

Chan was always willing to volunteer as a guide in our historical museum, he was a faithful attendee to the meetings, closed and opened the shutters on the museum, helped maintain the museum building, and shared his knowledge of local history. Thanks Chan, we will miss you

**Loretta Hook Darling** was called to her eternal home, May 8, 2013. Born October 18, 1942. in Stewartstown, NH to Harley and Mabel Hook. She went to a one room school house until she moved to Northville in first grade.

Loretta's earthly treasures were her family and friends. She married George W. Darling who died in 1990. Her 7 children are Shawn, Heidi, Seth, Trina, Naomi, Bodie and Aaron.

Loretta was employed at the Allen and Palmer Hardware Store where all the employees were like family to her. She was very visible on Main Street as she planted and watered the flowers and ran next door to the Kitchenette for coffee, and greeted all she met with a smile and a hello.

She was also active in the Northville Girls yearly reunion.

She was a member of the Northville Baptist Church serving as Sunday School Teacher, VBS teacher, singing in the choir, missions committee and other capacities. She will be remembered as a faithful member to the church and her love for missions and missionaries.

Loretta was a faithful member of the historical society from its very beginning. She was the societies secretary. Loretta took detailed notes at the meetings and especially of the content of the speakers subject. She loved hearing about local history.

We will all miss her at NNHS. We have some great memories and we're thankful that she was part of our group. We will always remember when we had potluck dinners she always brought a huge casserole, or her special meat balls..and was more than generous in the amount. Thank you Loretta for your part in the NNHS.