

# NNHS NEWS LETTER

Northville Northampton Historical Society

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Editor



## MECHANIC STREET BRIDGE



According to Walt Weaver Sr., he was one of the local young boys who drove the village cows out to pasture, across this bridge, over to the hillside on the other side of Hunter Creek. Walt and his brother would drive the cows every morning on their way to school and pick them up after school. He got paid \$2.00 a cow per season. Mr. Frank Kested, a local harness-maker, watched the young men each day as they drove the cows down Main Street. He observed that they needed something other than the sticks they had to encourage the cows to move along, so made them whips from his shop to help steer them. The bridge was built on the edge of Lee Anibal's property, over Hunter Creek.

Lee Anibal was a well known local lawyer. He lived on South Main Street a couple of houses north of the cemetery. He also built the brown shingled insurance building on north main street, where Morrison's Ins Co. is located.



## MUSEUM

The latest donation to our collection is an FJ & G memorabilia. Come in and see it next Spring.



Lee Anibal

Mr. Peter Shew of Ohio sent the pictures to me of the building of the bridge. He didn't have a picture of the finished bridge. The historical archives did, so a copy was sent to him.

Mr. Shew has informed me that he has boxes of pictures of our area, including some from Fish House. He will be bringing them to our archives next summer

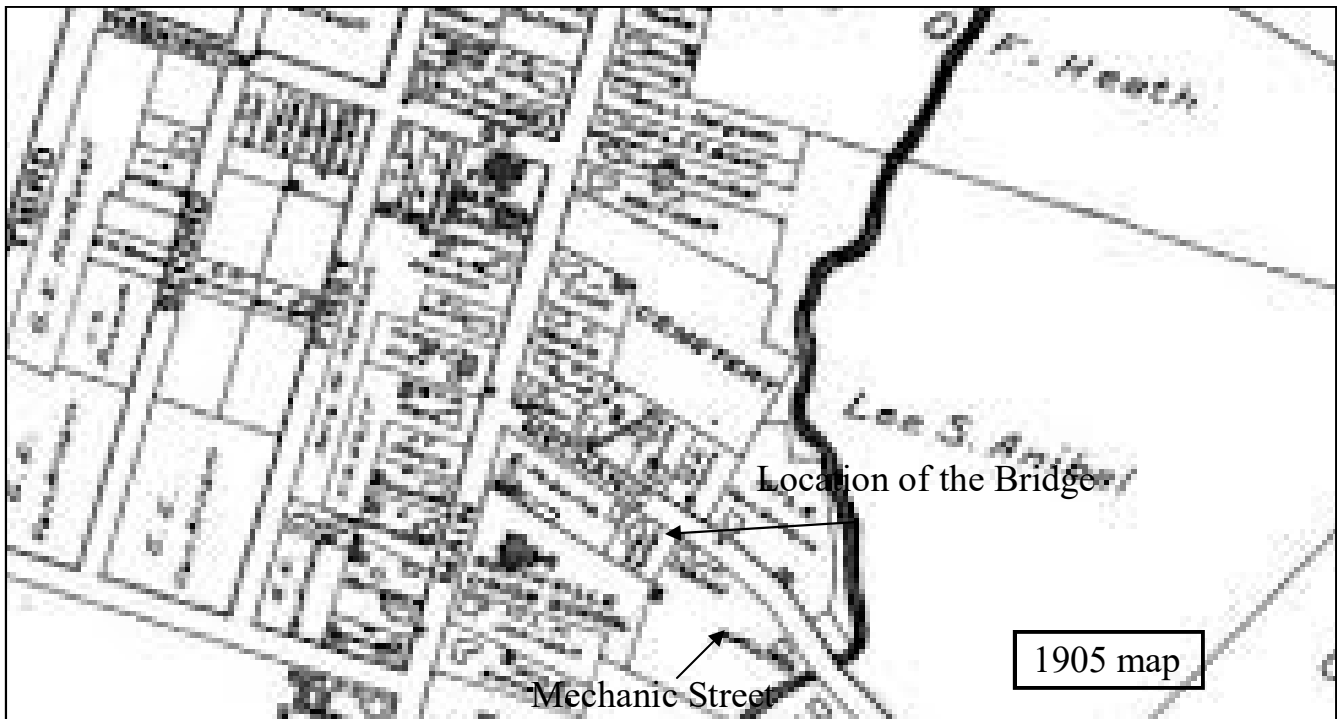
Lee Anibal is Peter Shew's great grandfather..



## BUILDING THE MECHANIC STREET BRIDGE



Lee Anibal



The road continued on over the bridge to Ridge Road before the Little Lake, aka Northville Lake was built.

# ADIRONDACK FURNITURE CORPORATION

Maple Grove Road, just outside of the village

This business was started in 1964 by Mr. Claude Lipe of Northville and Gerald Cohn of Brooklyn. The original building was 10,000 square feet with approximately 15 employees. Over the progression of 12 years, the building was increased in size to 40,000 square feet where 40 people were employed. The second addition to the factory was done in 1970, the third in 1972 and the last edition in 1975.

The product manufactured was formica furniture on particle board which was used for residential and commercial purposes. Customers were mostly from the northeast area of the United States.

The residential furniture consisted of correlated bedroom furniture, some lines were extensive to the inclusion of forty different pieces. Contract furniture such as beds, desks, dressers and wardrobes were made to the customer's specifications. One of the largest orders turned out was fifteen hundred pieces for a refurbished hotel in NYC.

John Olson, a native of Northville, was General Forman. The factory employed many Northville people, which was handy, being so close to their homes. Today the furniture factory is closed and the buildings are being used by Steve Naples of Fish House. He refurbishes computers and computer parts.



The former furniture factory as it looks today (2017)

## Interesting stories from the past

Harry Lawton tells a story about going to the market. He was not quite 5 years old when his parents gave him a nickel to get some meat for his pet cat. Mr. Cook, the meat man, gave him the meat and handed back the nickel with the remark, "it isn't any good". Lawton took the meat and the nickel and when he got outside, he threw the money in the road. When he got home he told his parents and to prove the truth of the story, they looked and found the nickel.

Rube Gray lived on Main Street and had a heavy clothing exchange in one room of his house and frequented lumber camps to sell clothes. He also drove his one horse wagon around Northville in the summer to peddle fresh fish. He let his presence be known by blowing a trumpet.

I wonder how well that went over with his new bride.





# CAMPFIRE GIRLS

The Campfire Girls organization was active in Northville after 1915. Mrs. Sidney Lowrie (Baptist minister's wife) formed the group with Mrs. Nathan E Lincoln and Mrs. James Carpenter as assistants. Evening meetings were held in rotation at the homes of the members. By common consent the meeting place was not publicized in advance, but the boys would eventually congregate and let their presence be known.



Laura Washburn, Alice Chequer, Bernice Auerbach, Emily Moore, Hilda Nellis, Lena Young, Anita Duncan, Gladys Hinkley, Marie Kested, Winne Proctor, Margaret Van Brocklin, Gertrude Sandner, Leona Graham, Mrs. Lowrie, Mrs. Lincoln (not in order)



**Front row:** Ruth Lindsay Craig and Esther Johnson Langworthy,  
**Back row:** Eleanor Brownell, Marion Van Arnam Mosher, Nancy Morrison Treillet, Anita Duncan Kuhne, Sybil Harris Remonda, Ruth Simmons Mace, Marion Abrams, Lorraine Fowler

Reunion of some of the Campfire Girls, at Esther Johnson Langworthy's home in Schenectady. 1961

Don't forget. You can download all the past issues of the NNHS Newsletter from the Northville Public Library website, under genealogy.