

NNHS NEWS LETTER

Northville Northampton Historical Society

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Editor
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MURDER

A 11 year old, third grade student, at Northville Central School witnessed the murder of her mother on the old Hardscrabble Road just off Maple Grove Road.

Maple Grove Road continues east from Prospect Street. Hardscrabble Road is still a dirt road that travels north off from Maple Grove Road, still accessed only with a 4 wheel drive vehicle. There are a few camps still on this rural road leading to a camp at the top of the mountain. The road starts off in Fulton County but the camp/old farm, is actually in Hamilton County.

It was in the year 1945 that Maizie Williams and her daughter, Laura moved into the old farm house. Delbert Getman from Lasselsville, later moved in with Maizie, first as a farm hand.. Apparently Delbert thought there was more to Maizie and his relationship than Maizie did. The relationship was a bit rocky according to daughter Laura.

Maizie had been approached by a man who offered her a job at Blue Mountain Lake. On Saturday night of September 8th, Maizie and her daughter Laura, met at a tourist camp in Cranberry Creek with the man offering her a job. They stayed there overnight and returned to the old farm house on Sunday morning. Maizie started packing up to move out. Mr. Getman became extremely outraged that she was apparently packing to leave him.

After at least an hour of heated argument, according to Laura, Mr. Getman threatened to kill both Maizie and Laura. According to a newspaper article he had a gun in his pocket. Finally Mrs. Williams saw a chance to get out of the house with her daughter. The two of them ran across an open field leading to the road

down the mountain. Getman started running after them. The first shot he fired went wild, the second shot misfired. Laura told that her mother pleaded with him for their lives. Getman fired again, and it hit Maizie in her eye. Laura bent over her mother to protect her. Getman then ran back toward the house. Laura said she heard another shot and saw Mr. Getman fall to the ground. Laura then ran down the old road to safety and to get help for her mother. (About a mile)

Hardscrabble Road is a lonely, narrow road, especially for an 11 year old to travel on at any time, in fact she had to walk it to meet the school bus during the week. It's rocky, rutted, and crooked. It was Sunday morning so the Perry Cramer family who lived at the bottom of the road were at church, so Laura ran down Maple Grove Road about a quarter of a mile to John Walton's house. She told them what happened. They didn't have a phone so they drove her into Northville where they contacted Clarence Davison, the State Police, and Doctor Durand. Maizie was still alive when the doctor arrived but she died on the way to the hospital.

An interesting incident connected with the tragedy is the fact the gun belonged to a son of Mrs. Williams who secured it while he was at a CCC camp in the West, and later used it to commit suicide. The gun had been in an old trunk in the old farm house, where Getman had found it and kept it.

MUSEUM

Our NNHS School House Museum has had a huge make over inside and out.

A 10 X 24-foot addition has been added to the rear of the original museum building..

Many many hours have been spent re-arranging, cleaning, and labeling new and old exhibits.

A committee is working on planning an open house in the near future. We are hoping that our Northville folks will come and see for themselves, their history displayed in a new and better way.

Rev. Byrd Springer pastor of the Baptist Church officiated at the funeral. Maizie was buried in the Prospect Hill Cemetery.

Getman was buried in a small rural cemetery in Ephratah, NY

This story was written by permission from a family member of Mrs. Maizie Williams

NCS THIRD GRADE CLASS IN 1945



Class of 1953

Bottom row: Ralph Youngren, Zina Wilson, Bobby Banker, Ivory Knapp, Glen Brownell, Jack Quimby, Marlin Shields, Jim Aston Second row: Bill Weaver, Buzzy Heath, Larry Serfis, Larry Cramer, Dave Morrison, Eugene Davenport, Francis Canfield, **Laura Williams**, ?, Loretta Warner. Third row: Ileana Knowles, Sheila Berry, Gloria Brooks, Maurene Shaw, Bernice Wilson, ?Blowers, Shirley Abbey, Joyce Springer, Gail Crannell. Top Row: James Fraiser, Don Gardner, Jim Gifford, Roger Sauve, Virginia Chase, Pat Giblin, Janice Van Every, Cynthia Marcucio, Mrs. Sybil Remonda

SOUTH MAIN STREET CEMETERY CLEANUP

Sponsored by the Northville Northampton Historical Society

Historical Society member, Sue Sedon, is heading up the project. She has researched the cleaning process of the historical stones. There are several products that are easily applied to the stones to clean the moss, dirt, mold etc on the stone so it will be readable again. Do not give money to Sue, but do inform her that you would like to help.



The Historical Society is asking for donations to buy the product. It is quite expensive. A check to the NNHS designating the donation for the cemetery project, will be used only for the cleaning product.

Sue is organizing a work day on September 28th. If it rains that day or the following day, a new work day will be scheduled.

This cemetery contains our earliest settlers who we should honor by preserving the memory of them. Please help Sue with this worthy project

PIONEER IN TUBERCULOSIS And Public Health work in Fulton County

DR. J. EDWARD GRANT Northville Physician

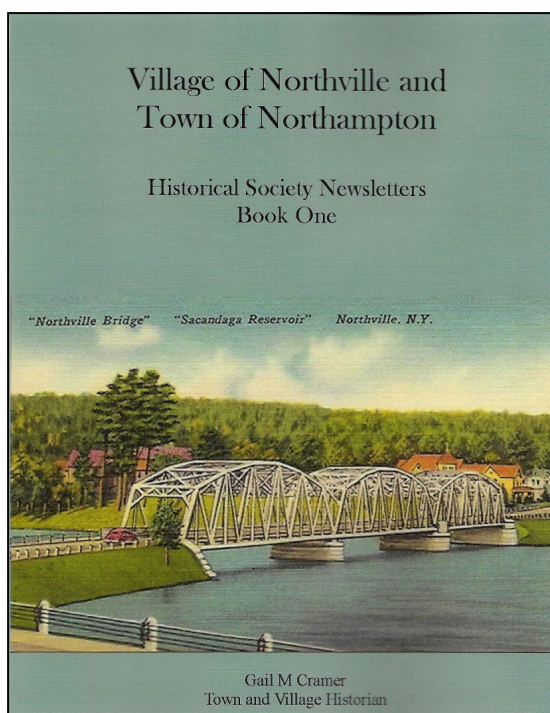
Dr. Grant was a much loved physician in the village of Northville. A gentle caring man. He was very involved in many aspects of the community. He moved to Northville in 1908 to set up his practice.

Dr. Grant served as Mayor of Northville for two terms.

Dr. Grant's office and home was located on the corner of First and Bridge Street.

He Graduated from Colgate University and Columbia University. He Received his doctors degree in 1900.

He was born in 1873 in Westfield, NY. and died in 1955 at his home in Northville.



CHRISTMAS IS COMING.
Here's an idea for a gift for those
who have grown up in Northville..

Available
at
Red Barn
Town Clerks Office
Historian Office
ADK Country Store
Museum

\$15.00
Profit is for the NNHS