

# NNHS NEWS LETTER

Northville Northampton Historical Society

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Editor  
Gail M Cramer



# BARNHS



The American barn is quickly disappearing in our country. Rural life in America depended on their barns. They were built in many different styles and for different purposes. Early barns were very important because without agricultural buildings to protect the animals or the crops, early settlers could not survive. Sadly today many of these barns have fallen into disrepair or been knocked down. With the loss of the American barn we have lost a part of our history.

## *Local Barns*

Some barns, especially in Pennsylvania were often built against a hill so the farmer would have two accessible levels. Wagons and animals could enter the barn from the lower side, which would take them right into the main floor.

Building of the barns were often built with helping hand from neighbors. The Amish are known for “barn raisings” where the neighbors often built a barn in one day. The farmer often had the frame work done by someone before he and maybe his neighbors would complete the building of the barn.

Doors needed to be large to permit wagons, trucks and larger animals to enter through. Most often they would be sliding doors so the farmer didn't need to always swing open a door all the way, which would let in the cold air.

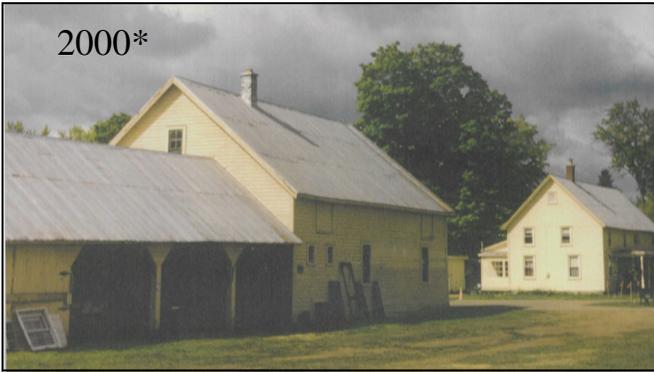
Why are most barns in the northeast, the color red? Iron oxide (a reddish color) was readily available and easily accessible. It also acted as a wood preservative and an insecticide. Thus the color “barn red”. Iron Oxide can be found in Hope Falls, Middle Lake, where at one time it was mined by Knickerbocker Co. of N.J. circa late '39 to '41. Owned and incorporated and operated by John A Willard. It went bankrupt at the beginning of WWII.

Some of these pictures were taken 20 years ago. Some have been kept up, some restored and some are falling down. Hopefully our local barns will not disappear but will be preserved. If you own one, check and see if there is a grant out there to help in your restoration .

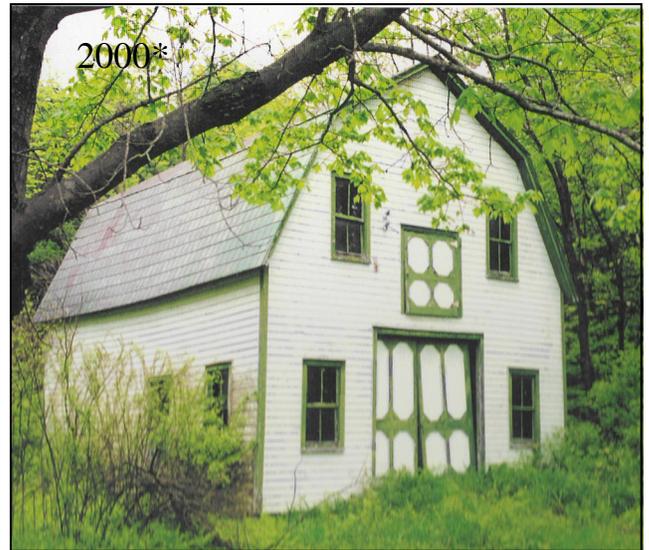


Maple Grove Road  
Former John A Willards and Solid Rock Barns





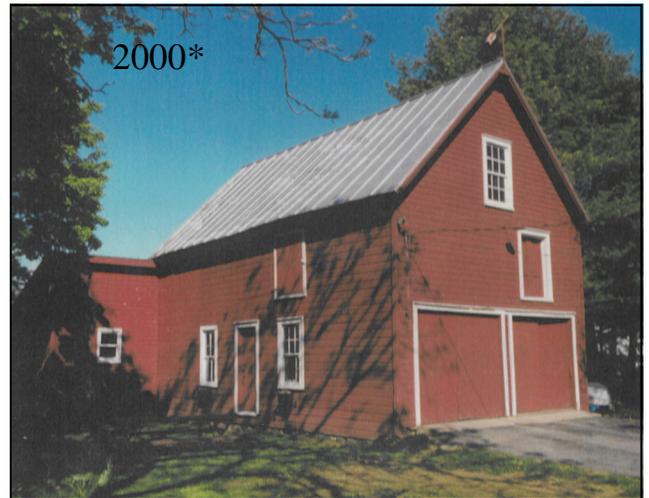
2000\*  
 South Main Street Part of the Winnie Hotel Out buildings. Used for storage, and antique business



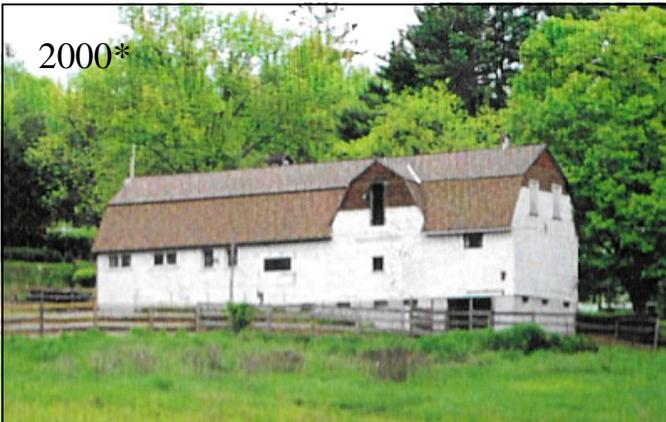
2000\*  
 Corner of Mountain Road and Route 30



2000\*  
 Maple Grove Road. Originally Charles Groff barn and for many years the Frank Cramer barn



2000\*  
 4th Street Former Charles Peek Barn .



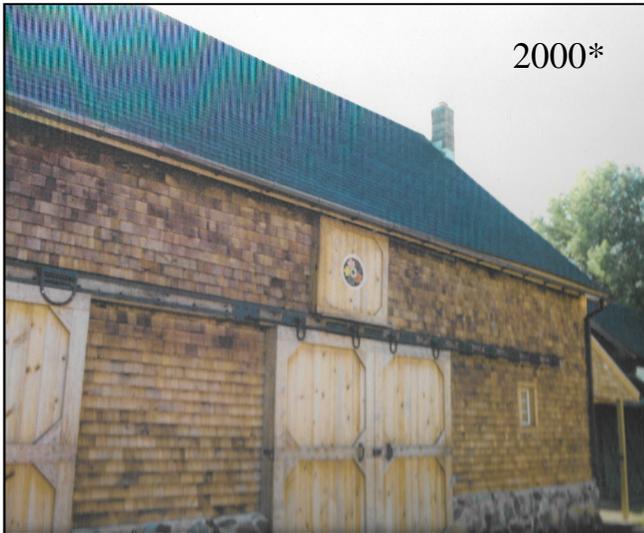
2000\*  
 High Rock Road Originally High Rock Lodge Barn



Above barn today 2019

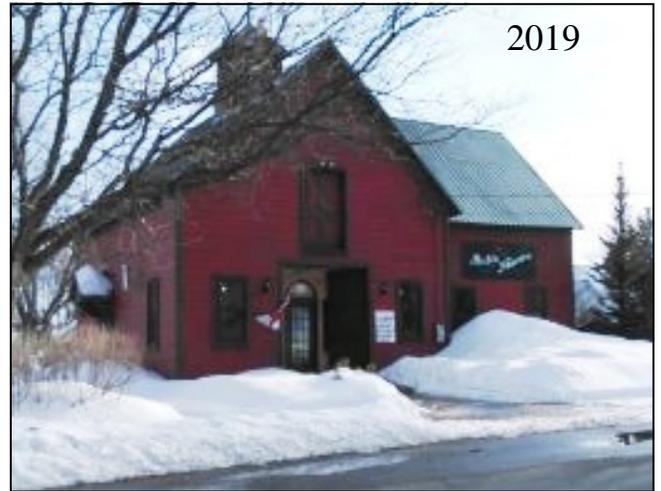


2000\*  
 Former Baldwin Farm restored Bunker Hill Road



2000\*

3rd Street. This barn was thankfully moved from Parkville and has been restored Former Groff Barn



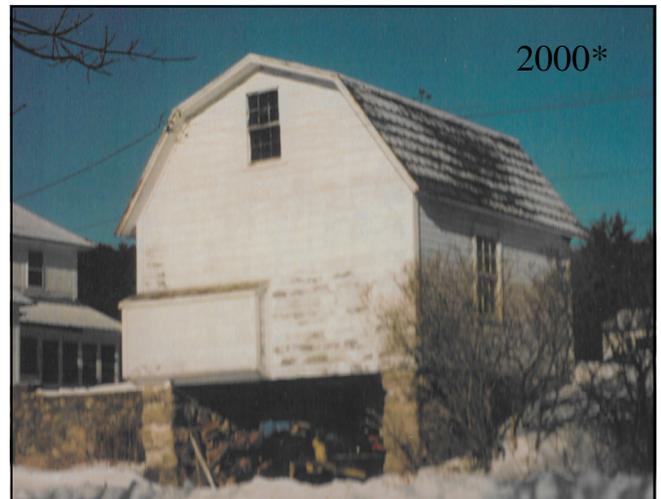
2019

Former Van Arnam Barn  
Restored as a Florist/gift shop



2000\*

West Division Street



2000\*

Former Aldrich Barn on Maple Grove Road



2000\*

Former Smith Barn on Smith Beach Road



2019

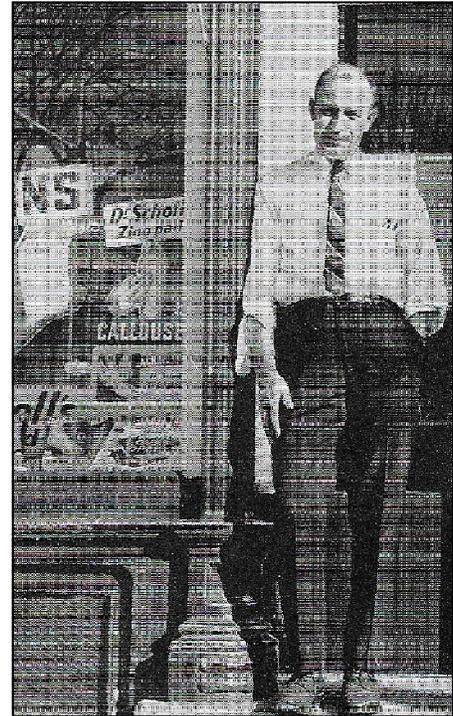
Town Barns on route 30  
Formerly barns from Sacandaga Park

*\*Barn pictures taken in 2000 were from the "Barn Project" of the Sacandaga Valley Arts Network. SVAN has given permission to reproduce them in this newsletter. Dave Cook headed up the Barn Project.*

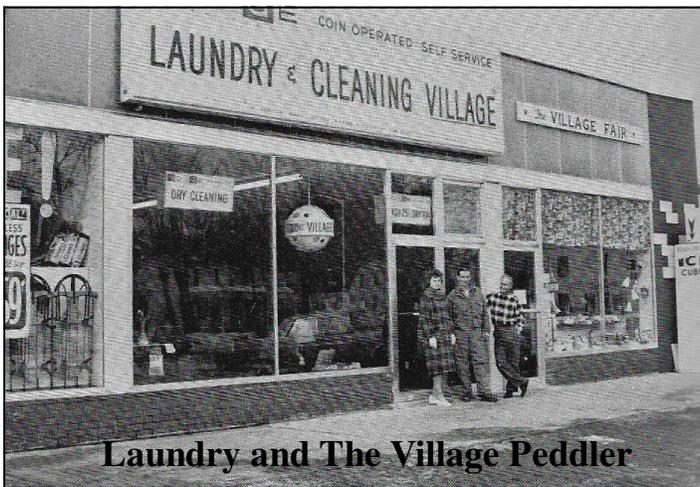
# GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN



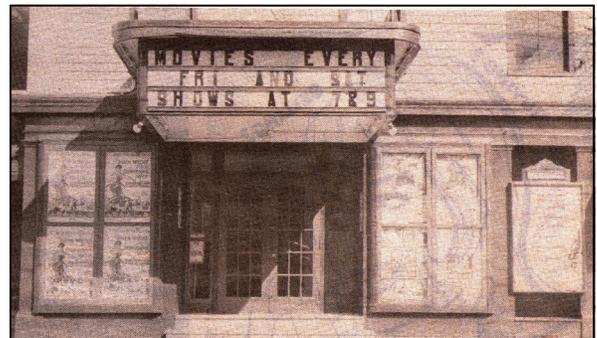
**The Blue Bridge**



**Lewek Drug Store**



**Laundry and The Village Peddler**



**The Star Theater**

## THE BEEHIVE North Main Street

It was a multiple dwelling about one-third of the way up the east side of Prospect Hill. Numerous families moved in and out of the building. The cost of rent was on the low side. It was torn down in the 1960s and replaced with a 4 unit apartment building near where the Beehive stood, only facing the Main Street. A wooden beehive was carved by Lyndon Harvey Jr. of Gloversville and was placed over the front door.



The New Beehive, built after the original Beehive was torn down