

NNHS NEWS LETTER

Northville Northampton Historical Society

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Editor
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WATER STREET

What memories come to mind about Water Street? As someone who grew up in the '40s and 50s in Northville, I have wonderful memories of skating on the Little Lake, riding down-hill with runner sleds, Water street was blocked off from all traffic and of course the entertainment and racing on the ice from skaters all over the state. Olympic skaters came here to practice. Remembering the little building where we could put our skates on and go in to get warm around the big fat woodstove in the middle of the room.



Ice skating shack
on Water Street

BUT THAT ISN'T ALL THAT TOOK PLACE ON WATER STREET

Northville's first jail was on Water Street.

MURDERER WAS QUICKLY CAUGHT
Sept 29-1916

Seymour Ronnold, who Shot William Travis at Northville, Speedily Captured by Under Sheriff Getman.

The little town of Northville was agog with excitement yesterday over the fatal shooting of William Travis by Seymour Ronnold late Wednesday evening, briefly chronicled in yesterday's Morning Herald. Both of the parties bore poor reputations in the village, but of the two Travis was by far the best man.

The tragedy occurred at the foot of Water street hill, a locality which is avoided at night by the respectable citizens of the village. There are several families residing near the place of the shooting who are held in ill-repute by the citizens of the village on account of their morals and manner of living. Most of them are related in one way or another and both the dead man and his slayer were members of families living there, being cousins to each other. Of the Travises, William, was considered the most industrious member of the family and though a drinking man seldom had trouble with them, not being of a quarrelsome disposition.



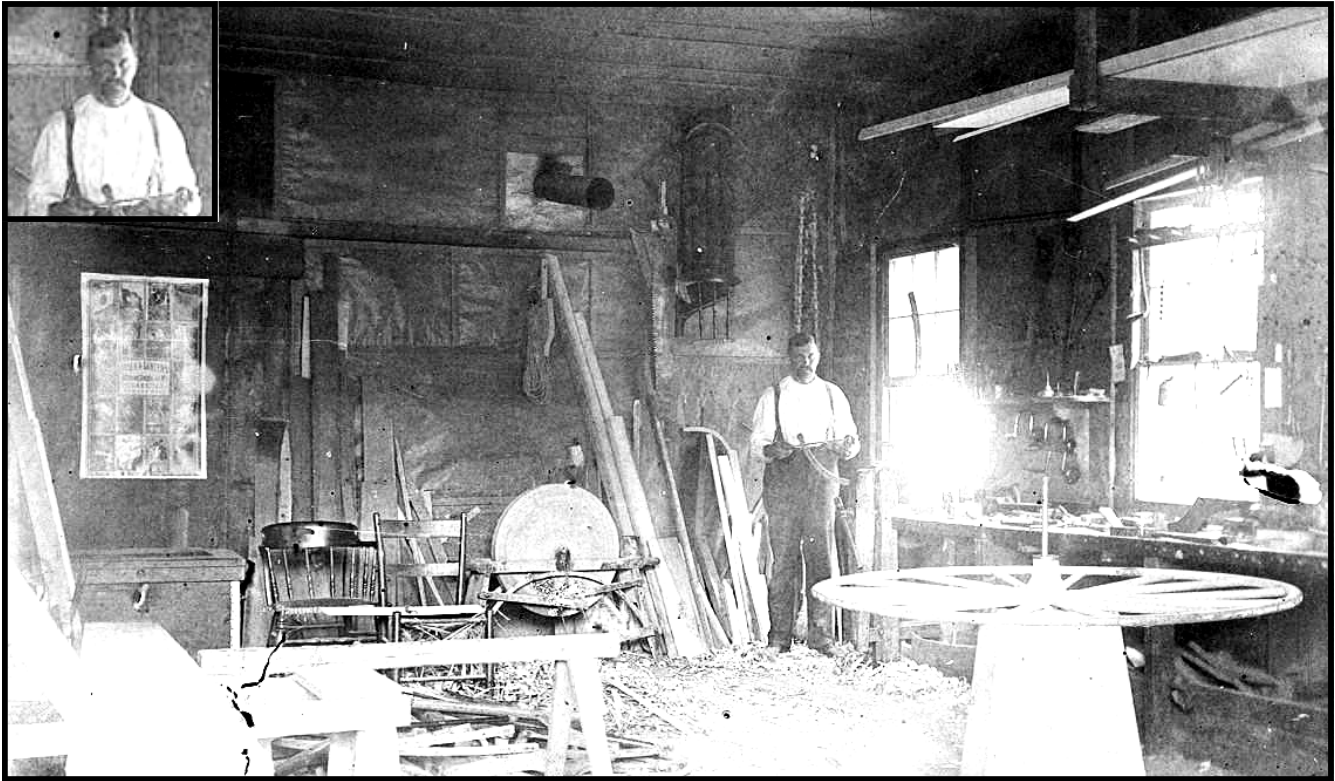
Did you know that Northville had a speakeasy? It's location was on Water Street on the right-hand side, going East up the hill. The term is believed to be derived from the idea that people patronizing such an establishment needed to stay quiet or "speak easy" to avoid detection by the police or neighbors. Speakeasies" were popular during prohibition days, often in old buildings, dilapidated houses, or in basements of a business. It was illegal to sell alcoholic beverages during this time.

This was a small stone building built back from the road a bit on Water Street, near the Speakeasy house. I had often seen it and wonder what it was. Years later I found out it was where they kept the illegal alcoholic beverages. If you look closely, you can still see it on Water Street

(There is more detail of this incident in the historians archives)

BLACKSMITH SHOP IN FISH HOUSE

Looking for information about this family. Are any of the local Morrisons or Rhodes (Rhoads) related? Is that George Morrison in the picture? The Deputy Historian in Fish House obtained this picture years ago and doesn't remember where she got it, perhaps off of the internet. She is researching those who are buried in the Presbyterian Church Cemetery. A young child of George and his wife is buried there. She would like to know if this is George Morrison's blacksmith shop and possibly a picture of George.



George Andrew Morrison Sr. was born in 1823 in Stockport, New York. He married Julia A. Rhoads and they had 9 children starting with George Morrison Jr. in 1845 and ending with Hugh Morrison in 1868. By 1860, George and his family were living in Northampton, NY. The 1860 census lists him as being a blacksmith. By this time, George and Julia had 6 children. On the 1860 map in K.B. Shaw's book, Northampton, Then and Now, you can see that the Morrison family was living near the center of Fish House, on the road to Broadalbin. In 1862, George and Julia buried their three year old son, Romeo, in the Fish House Presbyterian Cemetery. In 1863, George enlisted to fight in the Civil War. He returned home from the war and was listed in the 1870 census. He continued to be a blacksmith.

In 1878, George and Julia Morrison had moved to Cedar Creek, Delaware. George was still working as a blacksmith. In March of 1878, his daughter, Julia, married George Clendaniel. In July of that same year, his daughter Kate died at the age of 17. In 1884, George Morrison Jr. married Ann Clendaniel. Sadly George Jr. died just four years later (1888) at the age of 43, due to tuberculosis. George Morrison Sr. died two years later, 1890,, also of tuberculosis. Julia Morrison lived for another 27 years. She was buried in Lincoln Cemetery, Lincoln, Delaware, next to her husband and five of her children. *Joanne Blaauboer*





When Ruth May Shepard was born in 1901, her father, Frank, was 27, and her mother, Mamie May Carpenter, was 23. She married Charles B. Hollearn in 1925 in New York. They had three children during their marriage. (Daniel, Nancy, and Nora) Ruth died in 1954 at the age of 53, and was buried in Northville, New York

Here is an adorable picture of Ruth, probably around 4 years old. The writing on the back of the picture identified Ruth but not the young boy.



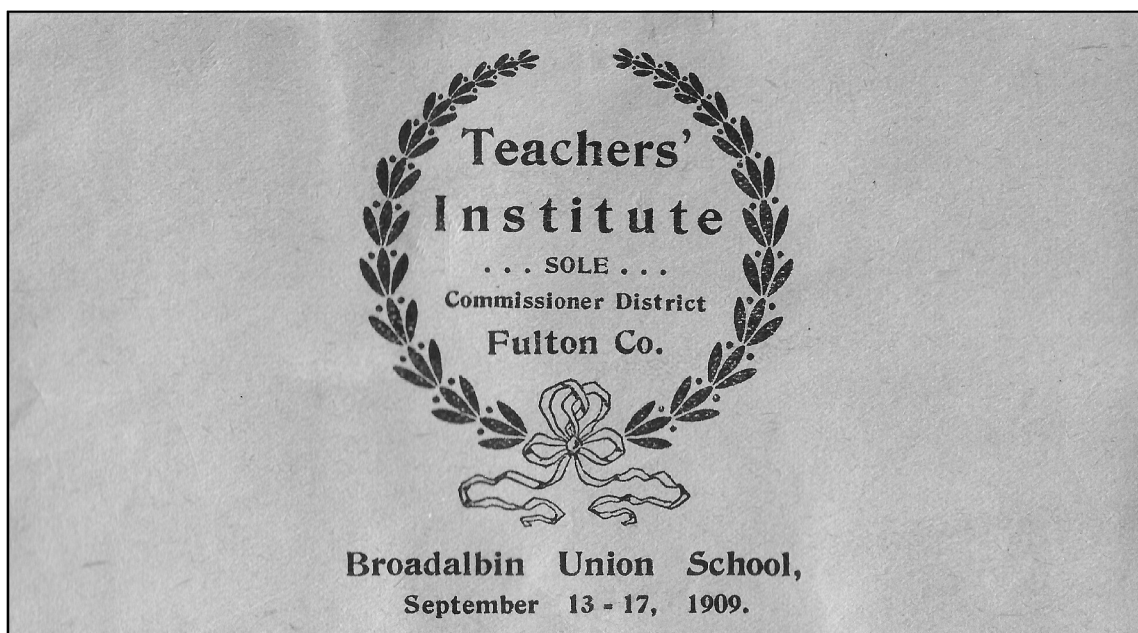
Ruth
with her
mother,
Mamie



Mamie
Carpenter
Shepard

Ruth and her
husband,
Charlie,
and their
first born





IMPORTANT DATES.

ACADEMIC EXAMINATIONS—REGENTS
January 17-21, June 13-17, August 10-12 1910.
Elementary Examinations for Rural Schools, June 7-8, 1910.

RAILROAD TRANSPORTATION.

A special train will leave Gloversville for Broadalbin on Monday, September 13th., at 10:45 o'clock a. m. and returning will leave Broadalbin on Friday, September 17th., at 1:00 o'clock p. m.

Teachers should send to the School Commissioner, not later than the 4th., of each month, the attendance report of the preceeding month.

All teachers under contract and those expecting to teach in this County are required to attend the institute.

A wilful failure to attend is sufficient cause for withholding or annulling a license. No one will be registered after 2 p. m. Monday, except by consent of the conductor.

A report of the attendance of each Teacher at every exercise will be sent to the trustees as a basis for pay.

Trustees and others interested in educational work are cordially invited to attend day and evening exercises.

In the early 1900s, Many of our teachers in Northville, attended the Broadalbin Teacher's Institute to qualify as New York State teachers. Obviously, other teachers in Fulton County also studied there for their License to teach.

The Institute was close by, making it very available for Northville, Mayfield, Gloversville and of course Broadalbin and other nearby communities. Note that there was a special train for this particular event. In 1910 not everyone had a vehicle to travel, so the availability of the train was much needed.