

# NNHS NEWS LETTER

Northville Northampton Historical Society

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Editor  
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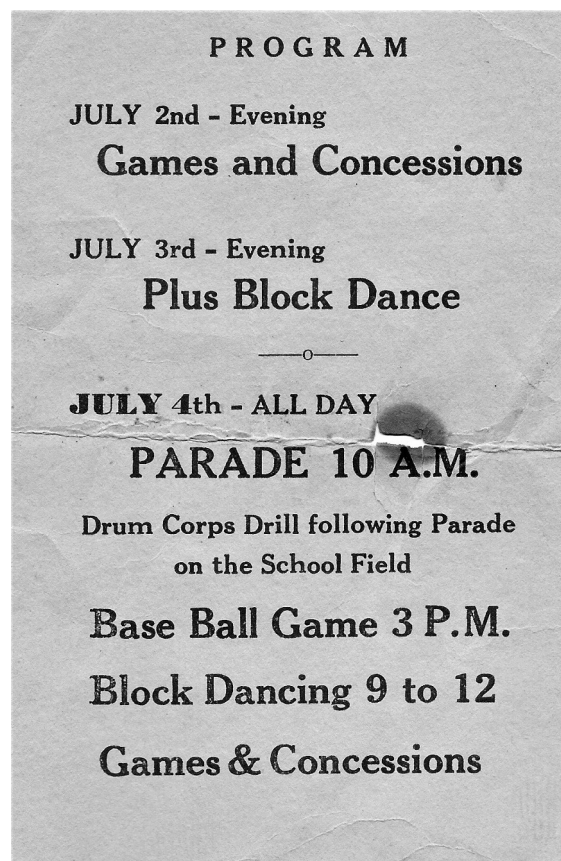
## INDEPENDENCE DAY

NNHS Historical Society Museum will open July 2 and will be open Wednesdays and Saturdays 10 -2, July and August

Next month we'll be celebrating Independence Day, also called Fourth of July in the United States. It commemorated the Declaration of Independence by the Continental Congress.

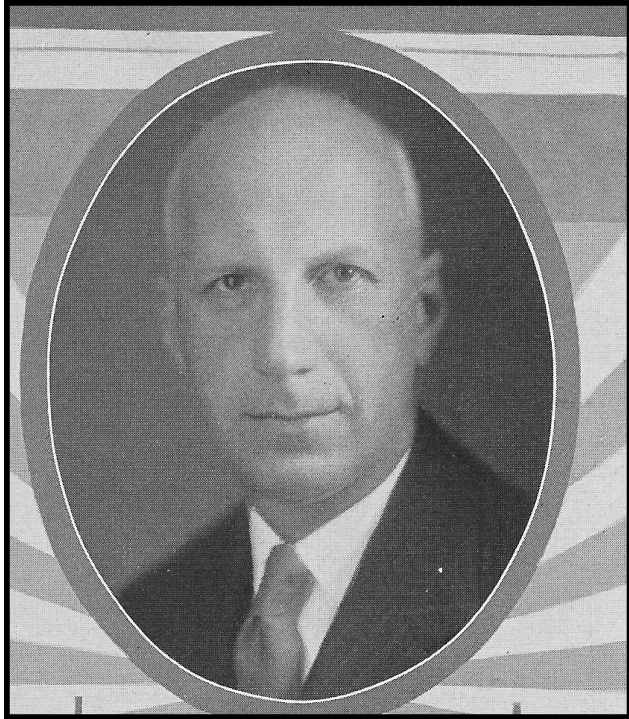
Cities, towns and villages across the United States celebrate our independence from Great Britain with parades, dancing, games, and fireworks. and of course, July 4th became a national holiday.

The Northville Firemen's Association, Inc., took on the responsibility of organizing the celebration activities some time in the early 1940's, or late 30s. Below is one of the programs they gave out to the public. They continued sponsoring the celebration until 1958. In 1959 the local civic association took over organizing the 4th of July parade, programs and concessions. This year 2022, we will again be celebrating with a parade, vendors, and fireworks, as we "Remember When".



### PARADE JUDGES FOR THE ABOVE

Mr. and Mrs. Herman Serfis  
Mr. and Mrs. Claude Lipe, Jr.  
Mrs. Frank Hubbell



EDWARD HAYNES SARGENT  
1885 - 1954

Chief Engineer and  
Designer  
of the  
**SACANDAGA  
RESERVIOR**

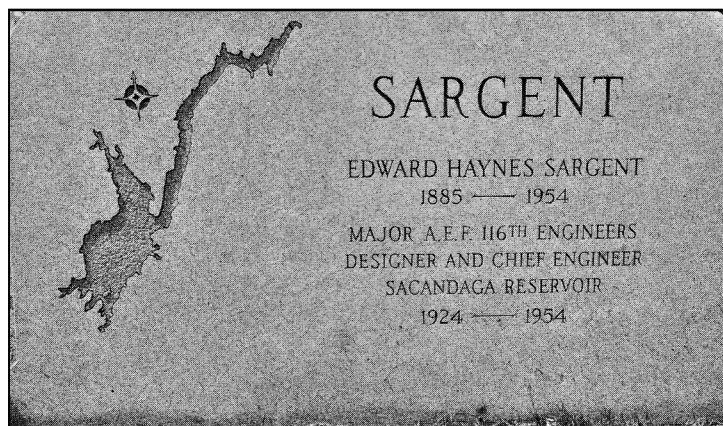
Born in Newburgport, Massachusetts. Son of Sam and Mary Haynes Sargent.

Edward received his technical education in the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Class of 1907.

Edward married Emma Olmstead. They had three children; Edward Jr. and daughters; Ruth Sargent Loeb and Neale Sargent.

He had been a major in the American Expeditionary Forces of World War I in the 116th Corps of Engineers.

The reservoir today is a living memorial to Mr. Sargent, whose grave lies in the north-east corner of the Edinburg Cemetery. A map of the reservoir is drawn on left side of his grave marker. His grave marker faces west toward the Reservoir (Great Sacandaga Lake)



## EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE OF EDWARD H SARGENT

Written by Edward H Sargent in 1950

I received my technical education in the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Class of 1907. From 1907 to 1921, except, during the War, I was engaged in various engineering capacities for the State of New York, finally being engineer in charge of the water storage and power investigation in New York State conducted by the NYS Water Supply and Conservation Commissions and the State Engineer. These investigations covered all the principal watersheds of the State of NY and included detailed surveys and studies for their water power and storage possibilities. During these investigations, field surveys and examinations were made of proposed storage reservoirs and power projects and comprehensive plans prepared for their development. As consequence of these investigations, elaborate printed pamphlets which I prepared were issued by the various state departments showing in detail the water power and storage possibilities of the Hudson, Sacandaga, Schroon, Genesee, Black, Raquette, Oswegatchies, St. Regis, Saranac, Ausable and other rivers.

During World War 2 I was detailed from my regiment for six months to arrange for the supply of electricity to American hospitals in France and to make a study of water power projects in France that might be available for development by the United States should the War have been prolonged.

In 1921 I was in charge of the Water Power Bureau of the New York State Engineering Department, also serving as Engineer to the New York State Power Commission in supervision of licenses granted for power development at Niagara Falls. During this period I was also in charge of the design of the hydro-electric plants built by the State of New York at the Canal Dams at Crescent and at Vischers Ferry on the Mohawk River.

In 1923 I was appointed Chief Engineer of the Hudson River Regulating District, which position I have held to date. As Chief Engineer

Of the Hudson River Regulating District I prepared the General Plan for the Regulation of the Hudson River and certain of its Tributaries which called for the eventual construction of some sixteen storage reservoir projects; the first of these to be constructed was the Sacandaga Reservoir costing \$12,000,000 and having a capacity of 870,000 acre feet (283 Bil Gallons) and an area of 29,000 acres, and I was in charge of its design and construction. The construction of this reservoir was completed in 1930 and since that time as Chief Engineer I have been in charge of its maintenance and operation and also making plans for the construction of other reservoirs in the Hudson River Regulating Districts.

Since 1922 I have also served as consulting engineer on hydraulic projects, including extensive consultation and expert testimony for the Tennessee Valley Authority, particularly in connection with Norris Dam and Reservoir. The New York Central Railroad, the State of New York, The Niagara, Lockport and Ontario Power Company and numerous other cases, including water power design and estimates, flood damages and general engineering consultation.

I am a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers and served as Chairman of the Power Division of that Society in 1927. I was a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers Committee on the design and operation of multiple-purpose reservoirs and a member of the Task Committee on flood Control and Flow Retardation of the National Water Panel.

I have been a licensed engineer in New York State since the licensing law was passed in 1923. I am a member of the New York State Society of Professional Engineers and have frequently written papers for the Technical Issues.

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# GENEALOGY

**Genealogy** (from [Ancient Greek](#) [γενεαλογία](#) (*genealogía*) 'study of family trees') *Wikipedia*

Genealogy is the study of family history, and the tracing of their lineages. Looking and finding ones family history can be interesting, fun, and educational. There are many avenues of searching; census records, historical records, oral history, DNA test, historians records, old Bibles with family records, local county offices, deeds, military records, museums, cemetery records and many other sources.

## DO YOU KNOW YOUR FAMILY HISTORY?

## WHERE DO YOU START?

If you have relatives that settled in the town of Northampton, your local historian has many resources for you to research. She has available records, family genealogy files, pictures, and local historical books to get started on and she can also refer you to other places to research.

