

NNHS NEWS LETTER

Northville Northampton Historical Society

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Editor
Gail M Cramer



A LIGHTHOUSE on the SACANDAGA?

According to an article in the May 7, 1930, Gloversville Leader-Republic, "New Lighthouse at Northampton will be guide to Mariners on the reservoir."

"Eugene Faille, of Northampton, has been elected president of the Northampton Improvement Association which has taken up the construction of the first inland light house in this section of the state and which will be located on the shores of the Sacandaga Reservoir near Northampton (Fish House)"

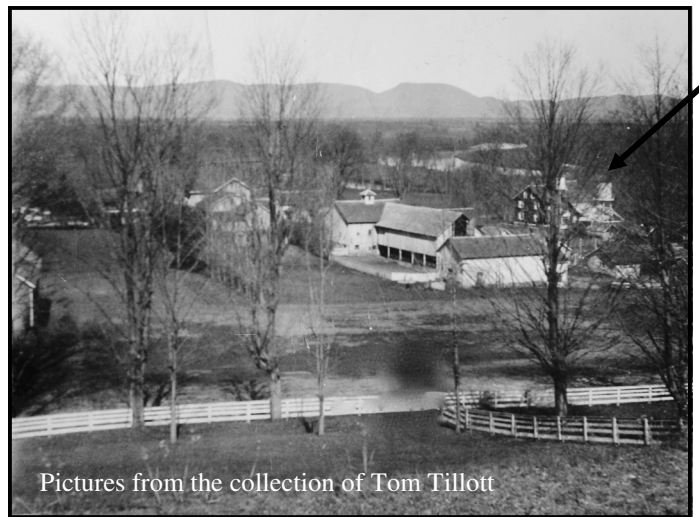
The article suggested that it was to be built on the concrete base of the old water tank that supplied the village with water in days gone by.

The association believed that the lighthouse was needed to guide fishermen and others who might take trips over the reservoir at night.

It was to be 100 feet high, while a 1,500 watt lamp would be placed on top of it. The lamp was to be equipped with a 180 degree prism lens and will be electrically lighted.

The site where it was to be built was located near the site of the old Sir William Johnson Lodge. The Hascy house was later built on the property. Note how the house is boarded up and ready to be moved, according to Joanne Blaauboer, Fish House Historian, it was later torn down.

The Northampton Improvement Association collected donations to build the lighthouse, also referred to as a beacon.



Pictures from the collection of Tom Tillott



Water tower and lighthouse /beacon

A May 19, 1930 article mentions that the tower had been reached to 50 feet and hopefully would be completed by July 4th for the upcoming boat regatta on the new Sacandaga lake.

Water tower in upper right with the lighthouse/beacon next to it. The Sinclair house barns are in the foreground. The Sacandaga River can be seen in the background. This whole area was flooded for the new reservoir.

I could not find any information on how effective this beacon/lighthouse was to the local boaters or fisherman but apparently the winter storms of 1931 took its toll on the tower which damaged it enough to not repair it or to rebuild. Thus the end of a Light House on the Sacandaga.

Circa 1950's Remember this? Thank goodness we don't have to do this any more. I remember tossing it around in the kitchen with my brother. It helped to soften it and mix it at the same time (and an excuse to throw something at your sibling and not get into trouble.

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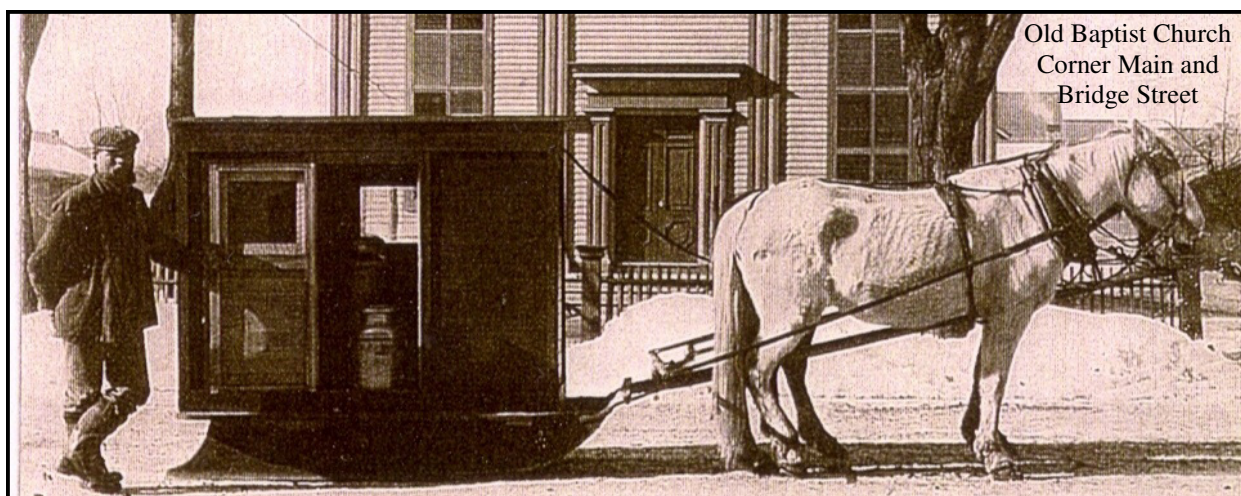
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DELIVERING MILK TO LOCAL FAMILIES. THIS MIGHT BE BROWN'S DAIRY, LATER KNOWN AS SKIFFS

REMEMBERING ANOTHER LOCAL CITIZEN MYRON H. LINDSEY 1876 - 1971

Some of us remember Myron and his wife Anna. Anna taught 8th grade and art in NCS. Myron was a well known local person, as he was involved in the community, and was known by most everyone.

Myron was born in Greenfield Center, Saratoga County but resided most of his life in the Northville area.

Myron served many years as trustee with the Gifford's Corner School District. He was a member of the Board of Education of the NCS when it was constructed in the early 1930s.

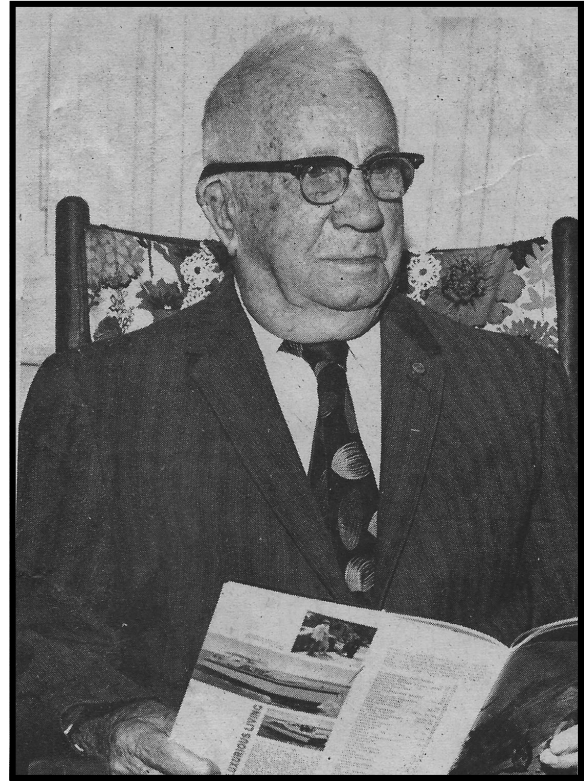
Lindsey and his father, J. H. Lindsey, operated all the food concessions at Sacandaga Park. He will be remembered for the popcorn wagon, taffy and home made ice cream they sold.

Later Myron operated a saw mill near the Northville Depot for about 20 years. He also made and sold portable garages and hand rakes. In 1930 he sold the saw mill to the state when properties were inundated by the construction of the Sacandaga Reservoir.

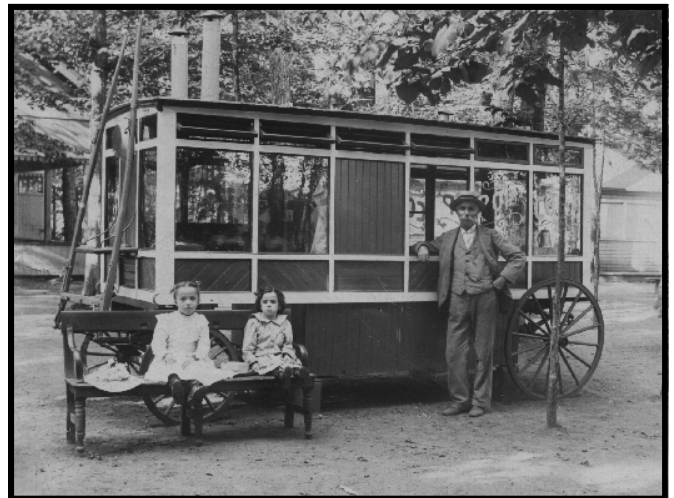
After the sale of his saw mill, he turned his hobby of poultry raising into a business. He operated the "Top of the World Poultry Farm" on the Northville/Edinburg Road for 36 years.. He raised white faced black Spanish fowl for 71 years exhibiting and winning prizes at many regional fairs.

Myron and Anna had two daughters, Margaret Lindsey Jewell, and Ruth Lindsey Craig.

Myron was obviously a very active and industrious man who contributed much to the community of Northville/Town of Northampton.



Myron celebrating his 92 birthday



Popcorn Wagon at Sacandaga Park

SOME LOCAL MEN ON A MISSION?



D. Weaver, C. Durant, ?, D. Wood, M. Groff

MORE LOCAL MEN: NCS BOARD OF EDUCATION 1955



Angell, Russell, Lipe, Owens, Storer, Hayden, Corey

INDIAN MASSACRE VICTIMS FOUND DURING EXCAVATION IN AGED BURYING GROUNDS

One of Bodies Found by R. D. Noble's Workmen Is Petrified; Remains of Indian Is Found in Sitting Position; One of Oldest Inhabitants of Section Gives Great Assistance in Locating Old Cemetery

According to a local newspaper article in 1930, an Indian burial ground was found along the shore of the Sacandaga River.

When the engineers in the employment of the HRRD first began to make a survey of the cemeteries in the region to be flooded by the Sacandaga Reservoir, they were informed that there was an old Indian burial ground located in the vicinity of Osborne's Bridge.

According to legend, there was an Indian camp located on the lowlands across the river and about a quarter of a mile from Osborne's Bridge. Suddenly out of the woods swooped a raiding party of English and Canadians. According to the legend, they descended upon the Indian village and killed 18 of its inhabitants before they could flee. The warriors put up a terrific fight but were outnumbered.

The squaws and children hid in the safety of the woods, and remained hiding for a period of time until their enemies departed.

Bones were found in 16 graves, no relics were found or anything belonging to the Indians. Records have not been located where they buried the Indians.

No information to back up this story from the old newspaper articles, has not been found to verify that there really was an Indian Burial Ground near Osborne's Bridge. Former Fulton County Historian, Lew Decker doubted it was true. I researched in the archives of the Hudson River Regulating Board files but found nothing about digging up Indian graves or where they might have reburied them.

The HRRB has extensive records of all the graves removed, but I found nothing about an Indian burial ground. This story could very well be true, or not. One of these days maybe I can "dig" up more information to confirm the legend to be true.

Our NNHS schoolhouse museum exhibits a large stone mortar and pestle that was found in that general area by a Mr. Arch Dunham while he was working with the HRRD in 1929. Could it be possible that this could have belonged to this group of Indians.



Professional archeologist that works for the state in Albany, inspecting the stone. He confirmed that it was Indian and was probably at least 400 years old and maybe much older.



1922 Snow Plow

Picture sent from Betty Saltsman one of the NNHS newsletter readers. How appropriate this week.