

# Bethinking of Old Orleans

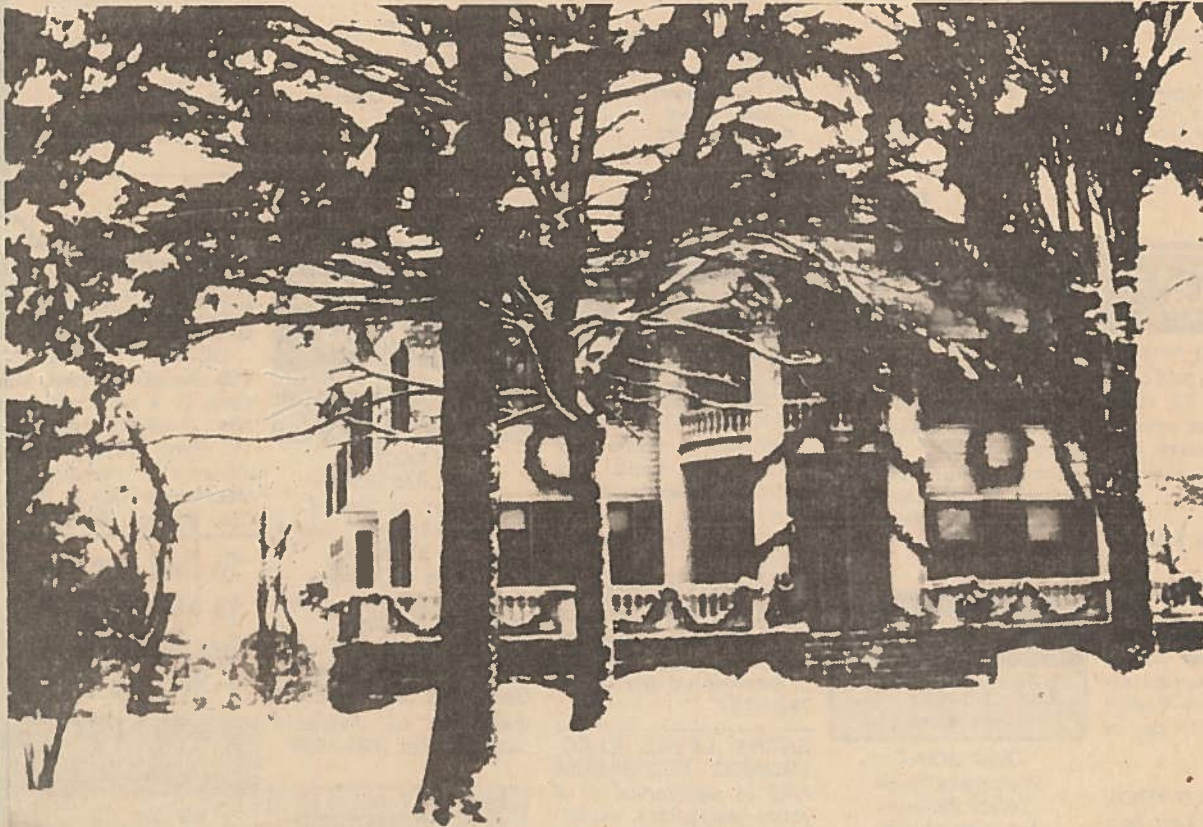
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## 1996 Municipal Highlights As Noted by Historians Part I



For this week and the column which follows, there will be a sampling of town and village highlights as noted by the official historians of the respective municipalities.

### TOWN OF BARRE

Helen Mathes, Historian

The Town of Barre received a HUD Grant to establish another water district. This will be the fourth since 1991. Mull-Barre Park has been a nice addition to the West Barre Church and community. Barre Center Presbyterian Church was happy to greet Rev. Karen Allamon on July 15 as their new pastor. Due to lots of wet weather the Farmers had a frustrating year getting crops planted and harvested. At present we have 13 Dairy Farms in the Town. The 4-H Fair celebrated 50 years in July, with many of the young people in the Town showing animals. Recognition was given to David Mathes as the first chairman in 1946. Shirley Walters was elected as a Councilman to fill a vacancy on the Town Board. The E-Mail address for the Historian office is hbm@vivanet.com.

### TOWN OF YATES/VILLAGE OF LYNDONVILLE

Virginia Cooper, Historian.

Lyndonville has a new drug store called Provisions, the first drug store in the community since Kermit Fraser operated one several years ago. The new 300,000 gal. water tower is up and working. Water to customers has not been shut off when mains have needed repairing. Through grants, water lines have been extended into the town. The Beecher Cemetery on Marshall Road has been cleaned up with the help of several work parties and graded and seeded by the town highway department.

### TOWN OF ALBION

Edith Anderson, Historian

Several new businesses have opened in the town during 1996 including: Helix Tool on West Avenue, Thistlewood Gifts on East Bank Street and also a new Coffee Shop on East Bank Street. A Vietnam War Veterans War Memorial was erected and dedicated on the Albion Central School Campus in front of the Middle School. The steeple of the Albion First Baptist Church was repaired and the finial restored, thus capping a community landmark. Two Mt. Albion Cemetery tours attracted many visitors.

### VILLAGE OF ALBION

Neil Johnson, Historian

Old canning factory structures were demolished on Platt Street. The former Hunt Foods property, now AVON on East Avenue was rejuvenated,

greatly improving its appearance. The Dime Bank operations center was refurbished and dedicated also on East Avenue. Likewise, downtown business buildings were painted and restoration of facades was completed. Small specialized boutique businesses are beginning to move in. The Revitalization Committee placed benches in downtown Albion and strives to improve appearances. The anti-landfill issue continues with a lawsuit against the town.

### TOWN OF MURRAY/VILLAGE OF HOLLEY

Marsha DeFilipps, Historian.

Controversy occurred in Holley between the new village board and the Chief of Police being reappointed. The village board also saw the resignation of Douglas Heath as Village Attorney, a firm which represented Holley for over seven decades. The Holley Cold Storage was annexed to the village. The Holley Boys Soccer Team reached the State playoff and for the first time the local field was used in the playoffs. In Murray Water District #8 was completed which is a loop that now joins all the other districts. Town voters rejected a site for a new town hall. Holley Supervisor Jim Piedmont has since donated land outside the village off Rt. 31 to the town for a new building.

### TOWN OF GAINES

Delia Robinson, Historian and Janice Thaine, Deputy.

Water Districts 2 and 3 have been closed out while Water District #4 is over 90% completed. A \$600,000 grant was awarded for water District #5. Edith Downey celebrated her 100th birthday in early December. Ruth Drew announced her retirement as Town Clerk and Jay Stratten also announced his retirement from the highway department after working thirty-four and a half years. The Lake Ridge Fruit Co. expanded its storage facility on Rt. 104. Cobblestone Buildings of Orleans County, a book jointly published by the Cobblestone Society and the Orleans County Historical Association, was released on Dec. 20. It was announced that the Eagle Harbor Post Office will close after serving the public since 1833. The Eagle Harbor lift-bridge was reopened after major repairs kept it closed for around two years.

PHOTO Our photo this week shows the once beautiful residence of Albert Burrows which was located on South Main Street in Albion. It was built in 1905 and demolished in 1967. It is presently the site of the Windmill Restaurant. Here we see the mansion decorated for Christmas around seventy years ago. My thanks to Alice Coan Daifuku for this picture.