

DRYDEN HISTORY HOUSE AT SOUTHWORTH HOMESTEAD

April, May, June
2015
Volume 36 (2015)

Dryden Town Historical Society
14 North Street, Dryden, NY 13053
607-844- 9209

2015 Raffle to benefit the Southworth Homestead

This year there are two items in the Benefit Raffle. Buy a ticket and take a chance on either an antique quilt or a framed copy of a locally famous photograph.

- The colorful pieced and tied quilt is signed : *C J Knettles, 1891*, donated by Gina Prentiss.
- The photograph shows Dryden Lake and many surrounding farms. Ross Sherman took the photo from Carpenter Hill in 1955. It was Hand tinted by Mildred Sherman. This framed copy was donated by Bob Watros.

Tickets are \$5.00 each or 3 for \$10.00. Each ticket is a chance to win either the quilt or photograph.



Corner block, "Pieced by C. J. Knettles, 1891"

HOURS

Saturdays, 10am - 1pm



UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

Antique~Flea Market

Saturday, July 11

8am - 5pm

We are having an Antique ~Flea Market Saturday July 11, 2015 8AM-5PM at the Southworth Homestead, 14 North Street, Dryden. There will be antiques, collectables, crafts, food, raffles and more at this event. If you have an interest in selling any of your own items please contact Shirley Price at 844-8700 to reserve a spot for a minimal fee. We will also have a space selling items for the DTHS, so if you have a donation contact Mary Hornbuckle at 898-3461 or Shirley Price at 844-8700. We are also giving tours of the Southworth House Museum that day. Stop by and enjoy the day.

Dryden Lake framed photo, 1955. Copy of original photo taken by Ross Sherman and hand



Pick a Project

In addition to the major construction and rehabilitation that has been ongoing at the Southworth Homestead, it is often asked if there are specific items or a “to do” list that needs support. Some projects are listed below. Just specify “the specific project” if you would like to direct a donation toward a repair/restoration.

Here is a partial list of projects that await funding.

- Conservator to evaluate of parlor wallpaper
- Conservation/restoration of wallpaper
- Replace built in china cupboard
- Cover storm windows with UV film
- Window shades for 2nd floor stair landing

OP Sale 2015

From set-up on Thursday until we packed away the remainders on Saturday afternoon, it was a hectic three days but we pulled off another successful OP Sale. Shirley and Mary want to thank everyone who donated items (or cash) to make this sale happen and to the “helping hands” who made the work so much easier: Barb Bartsch, Barb Carnes, Skeeter Heidt, Joan Keno, John Kiefer, Muriel and Fred Likel, Sue Quick, Gina Prentiss, Mary Lou Taylor, Joan Van Pelt, Joan and Bob Watros, and Nancy Werany.

Thanks also to the Dryden Fire Department for letting us use their tables.

Just in case you’re wondering, the sale brought in **\$2,585.78!!**

Mary Hornbuckle



Southworth Homestead Facility Update (Spring 2015)

This installment of the Facility Update includes a list of ongoing repair and maintenance projects at the Southworth Homestead. But first, a quick review of work completed shows how far we have come since starting work in spring of 2013. Two years ago the Trustees approved a proposal to repair and add to the east wing and to conduct critical repairs in the main brick building. Goals for the work included preserving the historic fabric of the building with the sometimes conflicting goal of minimizing long term operating and maintenance costs. Our first project was to prepare the east wing to become the home of the Historical Society. We replaced rotted structural timbers, duplicating the post-and-beam materials and methods of the original building. Then we supported the building on steel beams while we replaced the crumbling foundation with a full basement for archive storage. We repaired the windows and replaced the siding and trim using materials consistent with the original building. A new 500sf addition provided much needed office and meeting space. We replaced the heating, plumbing and electrical systems throughout the entire building. The Historical Society moved from the History House into the Southworth House in spring of 2014.

Last summer we turned our attention to the second floor of the east wing and also the badly deteriorated foundation and basement windows in the brick part of the house. Foundation/window repairs are complete and the apartment was occupied June 1, providing much needed funding for the operation of the Society. Work on the site has been ongoing and included filling the low area east of the barn and installation of parking and circulation. We're planting grass this spring and will soon have a full lawn.

Ongoing Southworth Homestead Capital Renewal Projects are shown in the following table. The project at the top of the list, shutter replacement, is our top priority for the exterior of the House. The project will repair/replace the badly deteriorated shutters. Perhaps more important, while the shutters are removed we will correct a problem in which water seeping into the joint between the window frames and brick is damaging the brick and the windows. We will paint the window frames and caulk the perimeter of the frames. We will also repair damaged brick under some of the windows.

(continued on Page 3)

Muriel Likel, Shirley Price and Mary Hornbuckle still going strong during the Op Sale

Stabilization of the west parlor wallpaper is the highest priority interior project. The wallpaper, imported from Europe by John Southworth, has further deteriorated even in the relatively short time we have occupied the Homestead. We currently have a grant to evaluate the wallpaper and establish a program to stabilize and possibly restore it.

The Southworth Capital Renewal fund is nearly exhausted. We are actively seeking donors/project sponsors so that we can begin work on the Shutter and Wallpaper Projects and other work. If you are interested in helping fund our work please call. We would be happy to meet with you to provide additional details. Contributions are tax deductible. And for those who have already donated your time and/or money we extend to you a grateful Thank You!

**Southworth Homestead Capital Renewal Projects
May 2015 Update**

MAIN HOUSE

		Status/Priority
SHUTTER REPAIR/REPLACE, CAULK WINDOWS	\$20,000	High
STABILIZE WEST PARLOR WALL PAPER	\$10,000	High
RELOCATE/ENLARGE ATTIC ACCESS	\$2,000	High
EXTERIOR MASONRY REPAIR/REPOINTING	\$90,000	15% Done, Med/High
EAST AND WEST CHIMNEY REBUILD	\$10,000	Med/High
SOUTH PORCH REPAIRS, SEAL BRICK	\$1,000	Medium
WEST PORCH REPAIRS	\$8,000	Medium
NORTH PORCH REPAIRS	\$15,000	Medium
WINDOW INSPECTION & REPAIR	\$25,000	Medium
INSTALL FLOOR IN OLD STAIRWELL	\$2,500	Medium
TRANSOM REPAIRS	\$10,000	Low
RESTORE EXTERIOR DOORS	\$5,000	Low
STABILIZE/LEVEL FIRST FLOOR	\$2,000	Low
INTERIOR PLASTER REPAIR	\$5,000	Low
EXTERIOR TRIM INSPECTION & REPAIR	\$10,000	Low
REPLACE ROOF	\$15,000	Low

Total Main House \$230,500

EAST WING

REBUILD EXHIBIT ROOM HALL CHINA CABINET	\$1,500	Medium
REPLACE ROOF	\$15,000	Low

Total East Wing \$16,500

BARN

PAINT EXTERIOR	\$5,000	Medium
REPAIR FOUNDATION	\$10,000	Medium
REPAIR/REPLACE STAIRS	\$1,000	Medium
REPLACE ROOF	\$5,000	Low

Total Barn \$21,000

SITE

SITE CIRCULATION / SIDEWALK PROJECT (RELOCATE ENTRY DRIVES & COLUMNS)	\$15,000	Med/High
SITE LANDSCAPING MASTER PLAN	\$10,000	Low/Medium

Total Site \$25,000

GRAND TOTAL \$293,000

CURRENT EXHIBITS

"For the Young People: Mementos of Youth"

Games, building blocks, play costumes, and marionettes are a few mementos from five generations of Southworth youth who lived at the Homestead.

"Civil War Union Infantry Accoutrements"

on loan from Brad Griffin

Fancy Woven Coverlets from the Southworth collection

Coverlets made by Archibald Davidson and Jacob Impson, 1836 - 1839

Silver from the Southworth Homestead collection

4 piece coffee set and tureen, Meridian silver-plate, ca. 1870s

Beautiful small objects: silver, glass, and china

Becky's collection of smalls



Guests view the displays in the DTHS Exhibit Room



French gendarme puppet, Hazelle marionette

SPRING ACTIVITIES AT THE SOUTHWORTH HOMESTEAD

Although bitterly cold and deep with snow, Spring activities at Southworth Homestead began on March 28th with a pruning workshop lead by Monica Roth of Cornell Cooperative Extension. More than 20 people braved the cold to learn pruning techniques. The Rhododendron and Carolina Allspice at the Homestead got a much needed trim.

In April Westlake Conservators of Skaneateles, spent four hours assessing the French scenic wallpaper in the parlor. Their conditions report and recommendations will start the process of addressing the future for this unique historic wallpaper.

The first tours of the Southworth House were held on May 2nd. **The House will be open for tours on July 11, August 1, September 5, September 19, and October 3.** A \$5.00 Donation per person is requested again this year. We welcome the opportunity to share the story and treasures of the Southworth Homestead. In addition to tour days, to arrange a tour for your organization or private group, call Gina 844-4691.

On May 3rd DTHS partnered with Historic Ithaca to host a talk by Grey Osterud, author of the book, Putting The Barn Before The House. Ms. Osterud's research gave insight into the need for all members of a farm family to share the work load and operate with cooperation in order to make a farm prosper. DTHS appreciated the opportunity to host this "Book Talk."

The month of May ended with a very successful two day Opportunity Sale on May 29 and 30. Shirley Price and Mary Hornbuckle were aided by a group of strong volunteers. For the record, DTHS "1st Annual Opportunity Sale" was held at our former History House on May 4th, 1991.



Moya Dumville, conservator from Westlake Conservators, evaluates the scenic wallpaper in the parlor

Listings of APPRECIATIONS and CONTRIBUTIONS

Ending: June 2, 2015

FOR THE SOUTHWORTH HOMESTEAD PROJECT:

- Alan Avery** — Loan of a portable man-lift unit.
- Beck Equipment Co, (c/o Roger Beck)** — For two days usage of heavy excavating equipment.
- Reginald Brown** — For the usage of dump truck.
- Ronald Cornell** — For operating a borrowed 320 Cat backhoe.
- Dryden Apartment Co. (c/o Mark Goldfarb)** — Being DTHS' apartment consultant.
- Dryden Apartment Co. (c/o Jim Lane)** — Gift of an apartment Washer-dryer unit.
- Dryden Lawn & Recreation (c/o Steve Carpenter)** — Loan of York rake.
- Martha Feger** — For the project.
- Albert "Skeeter" Heidt** — For 100 plus hours pf painting.
- Mary Kirkwyland** — For serving as a trees and shrubs consultant.
- Brad Perkins** — For the use of a small backhoe tractor.
- Joyce Perkins** — For the project.
- Ron Shipe** — For plumbing work..
- Mary Ann Sumner** — For the project.
- Town of Dryden (c/o Rick Young)** — For moving Beck's 320 Cat backhoe.
- Diane Vernon**— For the project.
- Village of Dryden ((c/o Ronald Moore)** — For Furnishing topsoil.
- Jeff Waldon** — For use of a small backhoe for an electric ditch.
- Robert "Bob" Watros** — For landscaping. (In memory of George Price).
- Harry L. D. Weldon** — Designated for purchase of 120 lbs. landscape grass seed.
- Janice Williams** — Plants for garden.

FOR MEMORIALS:

- Ronald & Carol Beck** — In memory of Sibley Stewart.
- Lois E. Chaplin** — In memory of Willis Marion.
- Patrick & Joan Costello** — In memory of Sibley Stewart.
- Joan W. Cox**— In memory of Sibley Stewart.
- Gene & Jean German** — In memory of Kathleen Elliott.
- Roseanne Hyde** — In memory of Sibley Stewart.
- Patricia Kiefer** — In memory of Willis Marion.
- J. E. & Rena Fever** — In memory of Sibley Stewart.
- Rene A. Murray** — In memory of Sibley Stewart.
- Red Hat Group (c/o Connie L. Mastronardi)** — In memory of Molly Adams.
- Bard and Gina Prentiss** – in memory of Willis Marion.
- Harold Shepard** — In memory of Sibley Stewart.
- Robert S. Slocum** — In memory of Robert B. & Christine Slocum.
- Reba & Ken Taylor** — In memory of Mary James.
- Denise Teeter** — In memory of Audrey O'Connor.
- Steven & Janis VanBorstel** — In memory of Sibley Stewart.
- Harry & Eleanor Weldon** — In memory of Sibley Stewart.
- Fred "Ben" Williams** — In memory of Sibley Stewart.

FOR MONETARY DONATIONS TO THE DTHS:

- Ray & Rita Harris** — To the General Fund.
- Marsha Smith**— For Honorarium on behalf of David & Phyllis Smith for many years of service to DTHS.

FOR GIFT MEMBERSHIPS:

- Robert S. Slocum** — A Family Membership for: Robert Goodwin & Kathryn Slocum.

FOR COLLECTIONS-GENEALOGY:

- Gwen Christensen** — Fee donation for family history research.

	In Memoriam:	
Willis Marion	Robert Fox	Shirley Armitage



Grey Osterud, author of the book, Putting the Barn Before the House and speaker at "Book Talk" program chats with Phyllis Smith



Cooperation in Progress - all donated! Widening the swale between Southworth Homestead and Willowbrook properties Cornell drove the backhoe loaned by Roger Beck which was transported to the site by the town of Dryden. Skeeter Heidt drove the dump truck on loan from Reggie Brown. Bob Watros and the village laid out the site work.



DTHS Volunteer, Joan Keno does some spring spruce-up in the parlor



DTHS volunteer, Joshua Prentiss lends a hand



The Tompkins County History Center staff visits Southworth Homestead. Front left: Rod Howe, director, Donna Eschenbrenner, archivist, Carol West, education. Rear: Leslie Chatterton, MaryLou Taylor, Southworth guides



Dryden Village Beautification Brigade and some DTHS members planted the small garden at the front of the Southworth Homestead, and filled the urns with beautiful pansies



Monica Roth, from Cornell Cooperative Education leads the Pruning Workshop at Southworth Homestead on a very cold March 28th.



Dairy Day parade, Walter Torello and Ray Harris in a rare late 1931 model Model A pickup truck. *Photo credit Bob Ellis*



Leslie Chatterton, right, leads the first Southworth Homestead tour of the 2015 season.



Two shopper/helpers take a break during the Op Sale



Small roly-poly top found under the stairs in the second floor of the east wing during construction.



Colorful wallpaper covered the walls of the play room in the east wing of the Southworth House where the exhibit room is now located.



Hand pieced and tied quilt, 1891

SCHOOL DAYS, by Shirley (VanPelt) Price

My mother, Nancy (Dedrick) VanPelt was born in 1912 and attended a one room schoolhouse at Willow Glenn. My father, Harold VanPelt was born in 1911 and he also attended the one room schoolhouse at Willow Glenn, starting there when he was 7 years old. My mother would walk from the Dedrick Farm at 220 Dryden-Freeville Road down the crossroad (George Road) to Route 13 near the intersection of Irish Settlement Road, approximately 1 mile each end of the day during school days, whether it was sunny, rainy or snowy. She talked about the year the railroad bridge over the crossroad burnt, due to the embers from the steam engines of the trains, and she had to go down and back up at Updike Cut for the entire school year. She remembered in really bad weather going either to her Grandfather Loomis's house on Route 13 next to the crossroad (George Road) or to her Uncle Carl & Aunt Minnie Mott's farm on Irish Settlement Road (on the s-curves). My father had a shorter walk from 136 West Main Street (Route 13 top of the hill coming out of Dryden) approximately ½ mile each way. I remember him talking about riding a horse to school and that there was a shed for the animals at the schoolhouse. He also told a story about someone putting a buffalo from a nearby farm into the schoolhouse and the teacher having to get someone to take the animal out of the building. The schoolhouse is still there on Route 13 next to Scottie's Auto. My mother, as a child, had a blonde braid down her back and remembers my father, sitting in back of her, dipping her braid in his inkwell. My father only attended school until around Grade 10 due to his father having a heart attack and his taking over the running of the farm. My mother attended Dryden Academy and graduated in 1931 being the salutatorian of her class of about 12 students. I just came across my mother's graduation ring from 1931 and passed it on to my daughter, Annette, who graduated Dryden High School in 1992.

My Grandmother, Edna (Shevalier) VanPelt, was born in 1889 and attended the one room schoolhouse on Lake Road in the 1890's. There is a picture of her and her sisters in front of the schoolhouse at the Dryden Town Historical Society. I do not believe that they went on to attend the Dryden Academy, which was common in those days. The children would attend school long enough to learn to read, write and do arithmetic, and then worked the farms with their families.



Willow Glen School, circa 1924

My mother-in-law, Doris (Morse) Otis, was born in 1918 and attended the one room schoolhouse on Midline Road near the corner of Ringwood Road with her sisters and brother. There is a picture of them in front of the schoolhouse at the Dryden Town Historical Society. They lived on Mineah Road and could see the school from their house. The schoolhouse is still there and is a residence now.

My father's grandfather, Elmer VanPelt, attended the one room schoolhouse near the corner of Irish Settlement Road on Midline Road. At one time it was called the VanPelt schoolhouse due to the number of VanPelts that attended school there. That house also is still there as a residence.

I also graduated from Dryden Central School District, as well as my three daughters. My daughters would be the fifth generation to attend our school district.

In 1936 the one room schoolhouses were consolidated to the location of the former Dryden Academy at the intersections of Union and James Streets. Dryden, Freeville, Lake, Brown, Canaan, Daisy Hollow, Willow Glen, Irish Settlement, Dusenberry, Bradshaw, Gee Hill, Lacey, Ballard, Midline and West Dryden one room schoolhouses' students were sent to Dryden and Freeville. I believe that this change involved the purchase of buses to make this possible.

Continued on page 7

The Dryden Academy building was added on to and an elementary school was constructed at Freeville becoming the Dryden-Freeville Central School District No. 1. In 1951 McLean Central School District merged with Dryden-Freeville School District No. 1 to become the Dryden Central School District No. 1. The McLean building, built in 1930, became an elementary school for the district. Also Etna #11 and Brick #5 centralized with the Dryden Central School District No. 1 in 1951. The Etna School was used as an elementary school for the district. In 1954 the main building with grades K through 12 on Union & James Street had a fire that partially destroyed the building. This began a renovation period from 1955 to 1959 where the building was renovated and additions were added. In 1965 land was purchased at 118 Freeville Road, the former Norris Crispell farm, prior to that the Wheeler farm, to build a new Junior-Senior High School and construction was completed for the fall start of school in 1966. Also in 1966, the Etna elementary school students were merged into existing elementary schools and the Etna Elementary building was sold. The Middle School/High School was restructured in 1998 and the High School had an entire addition added to the north side of the structure. The Dryden Central School District now has four locations; the Elementary School at 36 Union Street Dryden, the MS/HS at 118 Freeville Road Dryden, the Cassavant Elementary School at 32 School Street McLean and the Freeville Elementary School at 43 Main Street Freeville. In 78 years we have gone from the numerous one room schoolhouses to only 4 consolidated locations in our district.



Dryden Lake District School - circa 1902



Dusenberry Hollow School, circa 1928

The Green Grass of Southworth Homestead

Have you noticed all the fresh new grass at Southworth Homestead? This spring Bob Watros devoted hours, day after day to this project. He took clay soil covered with gravel and rocks and turned it green. After grading, topsoil was spread and seeded. But first Bob created a small mountain of stones, each stone hand picked from the grounds. Joan Watros was observed raking and bending, too. It looks great.

SOUTHWORTH HOUSE TOURS

Starting Saturday, May 2

Beginning May 2nd, tours of the Southworth Homestead will be offered. On the first Saturdays of the months of May through October, tours will be given at 10 am, 11am and 12 noon.

With the gift of the Southworth house came many treasures. This year, we can look forward to seeing more unique objects that were used by the family over the decades. Beautiful hair combs, interesting playing cards, and family photographs are some of the treasures we'll see this year.

Dryden Town Historical
Society

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DRYDEN TOWN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

14 NORTH STREET OPEN HOURS

Every Saturday 10 AM – 1 PM

or by appointment

TOURS AT THE SOUTHWORTH HOUSE

JULY 11, AUGUST 1, SEPT. 5, SEPT. 19, OCT. 3

Saturday 10 AM, 11 AM, 12 NOON

Would you prefer to receive the newsletter electronically, as an attachment in an email, instead of the print version that arrives in the mail?

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Dryden Town Historical Society

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Dryden, NY 13053

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