

DRYDEN HISTORY HOUSE AT SOUTHWORTH HOMESTEAD

October, November,
December
2015
Volume 38 (2015)

Dryden Town Historical Society
14 North Street, Dryden, NY 13053

607-844- 9209

Program and Annual Meeting

Thursday, May 19, 7PM

Dryden Village Hall

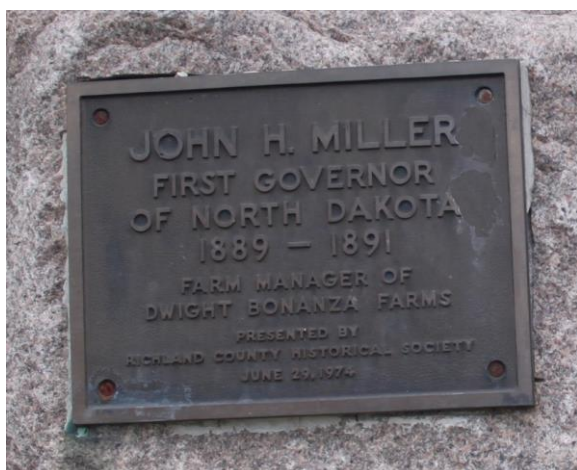
A Visit to Dwight, ND

Join John and Patti Keifer as they share history, photos, and entertaining stories of their fun and informative visit to Dwight.

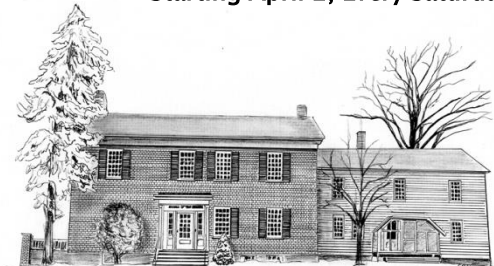
In 1879 Dryden resident Jeremiah Dwight purchased several thousand acres of land in the Red River Valley of the Dakota Territory which would become the largest and most successful Bonanza Farm in the county. John Miller, the farm's supervisor, went on to become the first governor of North Dakota when it achieved statehood in 1889.

In 2013, John and Patti Kiefer visited Dwight, ND (POPULATION 81) to learn more about the history of the farm and area. With the help of local residents, they explored the remains of the farm and learned about the history and heritage of the community.

FREE AND OPEN TO ALL



1ST AND 3RD Saturdays, 10am – 1pm
Starting April 2, Every Saturday



Upcoming Events

Saturday, April 2 at 1 – 3 pm

Dryden Beautification Brigade will hold another Pruning Workshop. This year it will be held at two locations, 19 Union Street and 27 East Main Street.

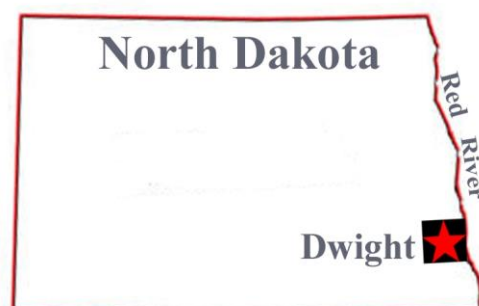
Monica Roth of Cornell Cooperative Extension will lead this workshop. For more information, please contact Mary Kirkwyland
kirkwylands@twcny.rr.com

Saturday, May 7

Southworth House Tours begin in May and continue the first Saturday of the month through October.

Tours are scheduled at 10, 11, and 12 noon.

\$5.00 Donation. There is always something new to see as we unpack and display more treasures.



2016 DTHS QUILT RAFFLE

AMISH QUILT

9' X 9'

(FITS HIGH QUEEN OR KING BED)

Tickets ~ \$5.00 each

or 3 for \$10.00

Proceeds benefit Southworth Homestead

Drawing: December 3, 2016



Bold and Beautiful Amish Quilt

“OP”PORTUNITY SALE

Friday May 27th, 8am – 5pm

Saturday May 28th, 8am – 3pm

At the Southworth Homestead

As you do your Spring housecleaning, think about donating to our Op Sale. We will accept all saleable items. No clothing, mattresses or large TVs please. Your donations are tax deductible. If you need items picked up, please call me at 844-8700, Shirley Price. Every year our members make our Op Sale very successful. Thank you.

MEMBERS! WE DON'T WANT TO LOSE YOU!

Please check the date on your address label. If you haven't renewed your membership please do so soon. Your dues go toward maintaining the Southworth House, educational programs and maintaining the collections. Thank you everyone who has renewed their memberships and keep in mind we are always looking to grow our membership, so if you know someone who is interested in local history, please give them the enclosed membership form.

GRANTS

DTHS has recently received a grant from The Museum Association of New York (MANY) for a consultant to conduct a long range strategic planning activity with the Board of Trustees, which will shape the vision of the DTHS In the coming year.

And recently we have applied for a Conservation Treatment grant from the Greater Hudson Heritage Network, to start the rehabilitation and repair of the French wallpaper in the Southworth House.



Deborah VanPelt, with her husband Roger, was 2015 DTHS Raffle winner of the Dryden Lake photograph.

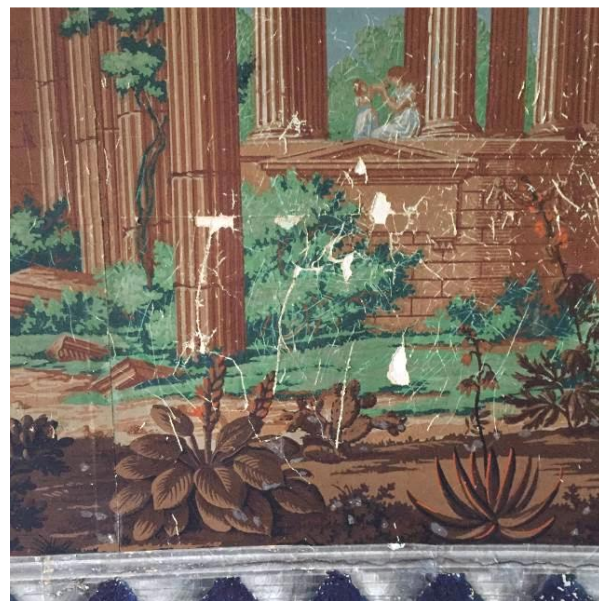
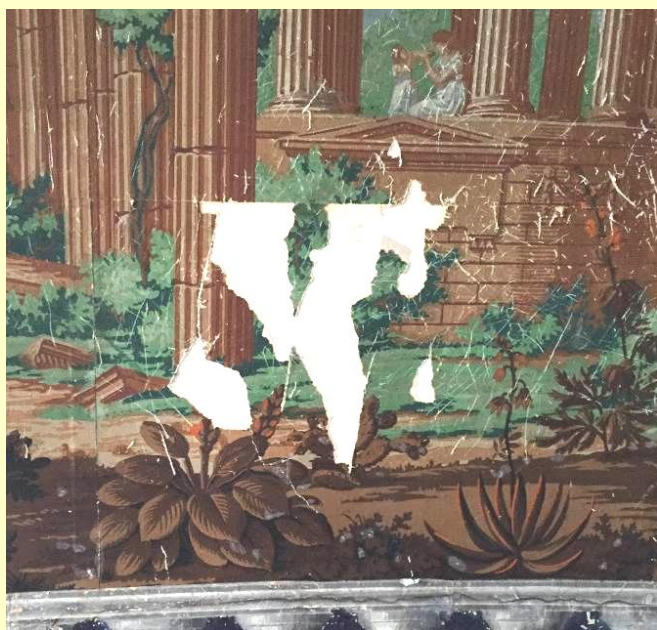
Dryden Town Historical Society Winter 2016 Southworth Homestead Facility Update

This installment of the Facility Update includes the recently completed stabilization of the historically significant wallpaper in the west parlor, a description of the upcoming rebuild of a built-in china cabinet that was disassembled in preparation for the east addition rebuild, site work that will accompany a Village of Dryden sidewalk project, and some photos and background for our next big exterior repair project.

The French Scenic Wallpaper in the west parlor is special. When the Historical Society sent images of it to the Smithsonian's National Design Museum, they responded saying, "This is one of the lesser known scenic wallpapers, and especially if it is an early addition, is definitely worth having conserved". At the time the historical Society acquired the Southworth House in 2012, the wallpaper was in obvious need of conservation. This historic wallpaper is still bright and covers all four walls, but age and changes in temperature and humidity have caused general deterioration. There were areas of paper hanging loose and pieces missing. Thanks to the continued support of a DTHS member, the conservation has begun. Westlake Conservators have repaired the loose paper and reattached the saved pieces. Because the paper is old and fragile, the process is slow and costly. The Historical Society Grants Committee is currently preparing a grant application to continue the work to repair and conserve the wallpaper. We estimate the process will take about 5 years, assuming a favorable response to grant applications.



The above photo, taken in May 2013, shows a china cabinet on the west wall of the addition. The cabinet was carefully disassembled in preparation for the 2013 rebuild of the addition. Work include replacement of the floor, joists and sill under the cabinet and replacement of the corner post behind the right side of the cabinet. Historical Society staff saved the cabinet pieces in anticipation of reassembling the cabinet when funding became available. Enabled by gifts from our Society members, Historical Society staff have hired master cabinetmaker Chris Lowe, CCSN Woodworking, from Freeville to do the work. Chris recently rebuilt the balustrade at the grand staircase and he also made the windows for the 2014 basement wall project. The cabinet work is scheduled for this spring.



Southworth wallpaper showing an area after repair

As many of you know, we've had a tenant renting an apartment at the Southworth House since last June. With last spring's completion of the apartment, work on the addition at the Southworth House is essentially complete. However, stabilization and repair work on the main brick part of the house and the barn is just beginning. The last Facility Update included a prioritized listing of projects totaling over \$300K, most of which is to fund repairs on the brick part of the Southworth House. Our highest priority is to begin repairs to the mortar joints in the brick itself. Failure of the mortar joints is a particularly serious matter because, unlike newer brick construction techniques, the brick at the Homestead is structural. The brick supports interior beams which carry the floor joists. It also supports the upper plates that carry the roof rafters. The photo on the right shows failed mortar underneath a window. The photo on the left shows the poor condition of the mortar, not to mention the shutters, over a larger area of the building. The joint between the window frames and the brick has failed in many locations letting water into the wall. While there are about a dozen locations where missing mortar allows water into the interior of the brick wall, a close inspection of the brick clearly indicates that the entire building needs to have the loose grout removed and replaced, a process known as repointing.

Our overall plan for the building exterior is to repoint the deteriorated areas of the building as funding allows. Then we plan to replace the shutters and paint the window exteriors. In total there are 39 shutters on the building. While not all are as deteriorated as the one in the photo, all have rotted wood and peeling paint. While the shutters are original to the building, the hardware is not. Historical Society staff believe the original hardware, consisting of hinges and holdbacks, was removed and replaced with steel brackets when the storm windows were installed. We cannot find any of the original hardware. We plan to replace the shutters with solid wood replicas as funding permits.

Site work at the Homestead over the past three years included filling the low area and planting of the east lawn, addition of two parking areas with interconnecting drive and walkways, outdoor lighting, and lots of work on trees and shrubs. Historical Society staff are currently working with the Village of Dryden on a Village project to install a sidewalk along North Street in front of the Homestead. Scheduled for late this year or early next, we anticipate the project will include the relocation and rebuild of the four brick columns that define the entrances to the Homestead. Concurrent with the sidewalk project, we are planning to shift the north entrance to align with Elm Street, and widen the south entrance to allow two-way traffic flow to the large parking area. Much of the site work is done by volunteers. The rest is funded by ongoing gifts from one of our Society members.

Our budget cost estimate to repoint the building is \$60K. The shutter replacement and painting work is budgeted at \$25K. The Southworth Capital Renewal fund is nearly exhausted and we are actively seeking donors/project sponsors so that we can begin work on the brick repairs.

The Dryden Town Historical Society is a volunteer-based organization. We have no paid staff and we do not hire fundraisers. Consequently 100% of your gifts go to enabling the mission of the Society and the maintenance and operation of the Homestead. 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!



My Life in the Flower Gardens

By Shirley (VanPelt) Otis Price

I remember my mother's flower gardens very vividly. She had a rock garden shaped like a pie cut in four pieces with flat stones dividing the four pieces and a walkway made of flat stones to the garden. My father hauled the stones and built the garden for my mother. It was a shade garden under two very large pine trees. There were lily of the valley along the walkway, and chives that I remember tasting. My brothers and I would play tag jumping from rock to rock while my mother was weeding or planting something new. I don't remember my mother disciplining us when we had a misstep and trounced on her plants, which happened often. My father built a trellis with benches at the beginning of the walkway and planted clematis on each side of it. Over the years the clematis grew so that it covered the entire trellis. She also had a wire trellis outside of her kitchen window that was about 100 feet long and 6 feet high with red and white old fashion climbing roses. Alongside of the roses my mother planted daffodils, narcissus, tulips, crocuses, snowdrops and hyacinths that bloomed every spring. At the end of the trellis outside her window was a huge red bleeding heart plant that would get bigger every year.

In the front lawn she had a row of peonies, at least 10-12 plants, which multiplied every year and my mother would wrap string around them to keep them up. Alongside the row of the peonies she had planted more spring bulbs.

I remember my father planted a lily garden in front of the old shop. He loved the smell and sight of all the different lilies that he planted and weeded for many years in his retirement years. That section of the yard also grew current bushes and a huge asparagus patch. He also kept a ¼ acre vegetable garden that he shared with all of us.

It was in my heredity to love flowers and establish my own flower beds at my home. I love greeting each new bloom in the spring, the narcissus, the tulips, the crocuses, the Virginia bluebells, the hyacinths and the iris, than later as the perennials start to grow. I have neglected my beds the last couple of years due to keeping up with the lawn mowing of 4 acres. I am hopeful that this is the year to reclaim my beds. I have my special flowers that have been transplanted from other friends and family gardens. I have the climbing old fashion roses from my mother's trellis that I dug up in the early 1970's planted along my fence by the road. I also have the Japanese quince bushes along my fence transplanted from my parent's bushes. I have many varies of peonies that were transplanted from my mother-in-law's property that I placed along the railroad bank. I love the memories that these flowers give me because they were given to me by someone special. I planted hollyhock seeds by the outhouse hoping to have them grow so that I can show my grandchildren how to make dolls out of the blooms as my mother showed me as a child.

There is something therapeutic for me while working in my flower beds. Pulling weeds is very satisfying and when your life is complicated, this is a great time to think about what is important or not. It is also solitary, as you will notice that usually no one comes to help.

I almost made it to the Philadelphia Flower Show last year, but missed it due to a family illness. This year is the 100th year of National Parks and the flower show is going to be different park themes. Again I will be missing the show due to family, as I am going to LEGOLAND with my grandsons, which is the former Busch Gardens and I am told is full of flowers.

My favorite gardens are Longwood Gardens in Kennett Square Pennsylvania. They have 5 acres under solariums where there are full size trees growing with lawns and over 300 acres of outdoor gardens and trees and shrubs and ponds and a couple of tree houses. I have visited the gardens five times at different times of the year. There is always something different and I have yet to explore the entire gardens and look forward to return trips. They are only 4 ½ hours away and well worth the drive.

HOLIDAY WORKSHOP



Making a Holiday Ornament



Patti Kiefer and Mary Lou Taylor get set up for the Holiday workshop in the lower level activity room. When completed, each special paper ornament was tucked into a colorful bag.



Gwen Beck and Linda Clouherty



Cynthia Waterman works on this year's holiday ornament. Coming to the DTHS Holiday Workshop has become a tradition for Cynthia. "I wouldn't miss it."



December 5th DTHS president, Bob Watros and member, Gwen Beck draw the winning tickets for the 2015 Raffle



Vern Glann, plasterer, at work repairing plaster cracks in the office at the Southworth House
3/5/2016

Listings of APPRECIATIONS and CONTRIBUTIONS

Corrections to Listing in October, November, December 2015 DTHS Newsletter:

For monetary donations to the Southworth Homestead Project:

* **Rose Marie Southworth** — For the Project.

For monetary Memorial donations:

* **Larry & Carol Taylor** — In memory of Horace "Ace" Shackelton.

* **Stephen & Christina Graves** — In memory of Horace "Ace" Shackelton.

* **Don & Marcia Slocum** — In memory of Horace "Ace" Shackelton.

* Error correction --Please, accept our apology

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NEW --- ending: February 29, 2016

Monetary Donations

Patricia Ard — for the DTHSociety general fund.

David & Brenda Armstrong — A Gift Membership.

Sharon Andrus — for the Southworth Project.

William G. Bailey — 1) for the Dryden Town Historical Society and 2) In memory of Willard Downey.

Ann Brady — In memory of Philip & Julia (Weed) Brady.

Leslie Chatterton & Allyson Ford — for the Southworth Project.

Dryden Pet & Home — for the Southworth Project.

Brian O. & Jo Ann "Jody" Earle — for the Dryden Town Historical Society.

Cynthia M. Elberty, D.D.S. — for the Dryden Town Historical Society.

Martha Ferger — In memory of Dr. John Ferger.

George & Maureen Finn — In memory of Waneta Downey.

Maureen Finn — In memory of Willard Downey.

Deborah Fisher — for the cupboard project.

Jean H. German — 1) In memory of Sue Cardwell and 2) For the Southworth project.

Mark & Alice Goldfarb — for the Southworth Project.

Bradley E. Griffin — for the Southworth Project

Elsie Gutchess — unspecified

James Holman & Dorothy Buerk — In memory of Betty Marion.

Jim & Judy Hogan — In memory of Jean Warholic.

William "Bill" & Mary Hornbuckle — 1) In memory of Betty & Willis Marion and 2) In memory of Willard & Waneta Downey.

John & Patti Kiefer — In memory of Betty Marion.

Charles L. Logan, Jr. — For the Dryden Town Historical Society.

Joyce McAllister — In memory of Willard Downey.

Louise McGee — for the Southworth Project.

Sam & Sue Morrie — for the Southworth Project.

Annette Otis — for a Gift Membership.

Bard & Gina Prentiss — 1) for the Southworth Project and 2) for the Southworth project.

Shirley M. Price — 1) In memory of Betty & Willis Marion; 2) In memory of Willard Downey and 3) In memory of Phil Hurst.

Ronald & Kathryn Prouty — In memory of Horace Shackelton.

Frank & Sandra Prugh — for the Southworth Project.

Gerald & Bonnie Roe — In memory of Ray & Irene Dedrick.

Carol T. Rogers — 1) for the Southworth Project and 2) In memory of Harold R. Turk

Shirley Shackelton — In memory of Willard & Betty Marion.

Barbara Shew — for the Southworth Project (in memory of Randall Shew).

Pamela Shoemaker — In memory of Belle (Snyder) Wolcott.

Listings of APPRECIATIONS and CONTRIBUTIONS (continued)

Monetary Donations (continued)

Donald A. & Marcia C. Slocum — In memory of Horace "Ace" Shackelton.

Charles R. Smith — for the Southworth Project.

Diantha S. Southworth — In memory of Dr. & Mrs. C. R. Southworth.

John & Carolyn Strong — In honor of "Robert Bob" Watros.

Richard Sweetland — 1) In memory of Judge Edwin Sweetland and 2) A Gift Membership.

Donald Turk — for the Southworth Project.

Elizabeth J. Warmbrodt — In memory of Lee Alexander

Robert I. Watros — for the Southworth Project.

Fred A. (Ben) Williams — 1) In memory of Betty Marion and 2) In memory of Horace "Ace" Shackelton.

Susan R. Yanoff — for the Dryden Town Historical Society.

Donations in Kind

John & Patti Kiefer — Quick Book Accounting software program

Fred & Muriel Likel — Wreath & exterior railing decorations.

Mary Ann Sumner — 10 x 10 Canopy Tent.

Grants

Town of Dryden, NY — 1) Community Award: for Dryden Town Historical Society and
2) Heritage Day Festival

IN MEMORIAM

Sue Cardwell

Willard and Waneta Downey

Willis and Betty Marion

Burr Ripley

Many Thanks to:

- Patti Kiefer, MaryLou Taylor and Gwen Beck for the Holiday Workshop
- Muriel and Fred Likel for the greens and barn wreath
- MaryEllen Rumsey for the 4 wreaths on the Southworth House doors
- Betsy Van Sickle for her continued support for wallpaper repair
- Bob Timmerman for the DTHS banner update
- Albert "Skeeter" Heidt, for donating the steel shelving in the lower level (200 sq. ft, including the former "coal bin")

Planned Giving to Dryden Town Historical Society

We have developed a booklet to help you to decide ways that you can help the DTHS, and shape your legacy. It is called *"Shape Your Legacy and Our Future: A Guide to Planned Giving, Your Opportunity to Leave a Lasting Impact"*. It is available at the Southworth House, and can be mailed to you if requested. The booklet allows you to explore opportunities that combine your philanthropic giving with your financial needs and tax-planning strategies. Through creative gift planning, you can secure your own financial future and help support the mission of the historical society.

Southworth Homestead Holiday Gala

The Holiday Gala at the Southworth Homestead was celebrated on a beautiful evening this past December 5th. For this biennial event, the House was decorated for the holidays. The mantles were festooned with glittering bows and pale dried hydrangea blooms. There was a candle light in every window, a tree, decorated with Victorian ornaments reached to the ceiling in the center of the parlor, a beautiful wreath on every door and fresh evergreens covered the entrance railings. Grace Scarpino played softly on her harp in the sitting room. Refreshments, savory and sweet, hot and cold were treats. This event was the result of the time and effort of many DTHS supporters. Thanks to Betsey Cleveland (caterer), Charles Logan (server), Brad Perkins (for the harpist), Bob Jacobson (for providing Six Mile Creek Wines), and Mary Ellen Rumsey, Muriel and Fred Likel for the decorating, and for making this Fundraising event so successful and special.

Memorial Tribute



The phrase "In Lieu of Flowers or Gifts" appears quite frequently in obituaries, wedding announcements and other events. Memorial gifts are gifts to the Dryden Town Historical Society, Inc. in memory of a friend or a loved one; Honor gifts are in recognition of an individual's accomplishment in the Historical Society and/or community.

Such contributions are recognized by listing in our newsletter and receipt notices are sent to the donor and where appropriate acknowledgement to the family, organization or business. Congratulatory announcements are sent direct to the honored individuals.

**Dryden Town Historical
Society**

14 North Street
PO Box 69
Dryden, NY 13053

Phone:
607-844-9209

E-Mail:
drydennyhistory@gmail.com

DRYDEN TOWN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

14 NORTH STREET OPEN HOURS

Starting January 2015

1st and 3rd Saturdays, 10 AM – 1 PM

Starting **APRIL 4**

Every Saturday, 10 AM – 1 PM

or by appointment

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

If so, please send us an email with “Prefer Newsletter Electronically” in the subject line to drydennyhistory@gmail.com.

Dryden Town Historical Society

14 North Street

PO Box 69

Dryden, NY 13053

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Gina Prentiss, Vice President

John Kiefer, Treasurer

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Ann Zwart