

Yesterday & Today

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Downtown Holley as it appeared prior to 1900. Note the open square, awnings on all the buildings, and the horse-drawn vehicles. From an old postcard recently donated by Sandy Shaw.

The museum recently received a donation of photographs from Sandy Shaw, Holley Librarian who just recently retired. Among the photographs were several postcards, newspaper articles, and a group of individual class photos from the Holley classes of 1949, 1950, and 1951. President Mawn helped to identify and label them, and I filed them with their respective classes. The museum has a file for every Holley class from 1893 until now for which to file such items. If you happen to have old photos, news articles, yearbooks, trophies, awards, or anything related to the school, I would encourage you to donate them to the museum. In return, if you need information about a particular class, student, or teacher, stop by the museum to see if we can be of help. As a museum and interpretive center, we are here to serve the Holley and Murray residents and anyone else who would like to stop in.

Raymond Santoro
Newsletter Editor

BASKET RAFFLE

The Society now has tickets for our annual basket raffle for sale at the museum and from our members. The Basket Raffle has become our largest annual fundraiser. For the past three years we have raffled off baskets filled with cash, lottery tickets and gift cards. The tickets are \$2 each or three for \$5 and the raffle will be held the week before Christmas on December 20 at the Public Library. If you have donations for the baskets they would be very much appreciated.

Holley High's Class of 1910 Remembers Good Old Days

(The following article is reprinted from the Rochester D&C, 1969)

"It was hotter than the devil" that June night when the 16 members of the Holley Class of 1910 got up to give their commencement addresses. Each graduate gave one in those days. "And everybody was bored," said Mrs. De Elte Smalley Carey of 7 Stonewood Park, Greece, as she recalled her commencement with three of the eight surviving members of the class at the 59th reunion yesterday. Members of the class of yesterday's reunion were: Mrs. Carey, Mrs. Jessie Baldwin Straight, Dr. McNaughton Wilkinson, and C. Willard Burt. The 59th reunion, at Dr. Wilkinson's home, was Burt's idea. "Time is passing," Burt said. "I guess you could say that this is a preliminary for next year's 60th reunion." Twelve of the class and two of their teachers attended the 50th reunion in 1960.

"We were a very sober and sedate class with only four boys," Burt said. He was valedictorian of the class and is a retired principal of West High School in Rochester.

Mrs. Carey wasn't so sure the class was sedate. She remembered when Dr. Wilkinson "went around at 10pm with Willard Burt to visit all the girls."

The Holley High School of 1910 wasn't quite like the one today. "We didn't have the award-winning bands then," said Dr. Wilkinson, a retired obstetrician. "In fact we didn't even have a band. But we had a baseball team with just nine members," Dr. Wilkinson said. "If one was sick or injured, we usually just had to play with eight." Burt remembered when he was delegated as a substitute on the team and managed to catch a fly ball.

The Holley classmates used to walk to the dances and football games, but they used the horse with saddle or carriage for longer distances. "One weekend I went home with Willard," Dr. Wilkinson said. "We went and went and finally I asked him how far it was. He said 'just around the corner.' Well, it turned out that corner was six or seven miles on the horse."

All wasn't reminiscing at the reunion. The classmates traded stories about grandchildren and about the signs of growing older. And the events of today were a topic of debate. Mrs. Straight and Dr. Wilkinson weren't so sure about "the long hair and whiskers of the hippies."

Space was important back then too. "Years ago," Burt said, "I signed up for a trip to the moon for \$10,000 one way, but I haven't heard yet."

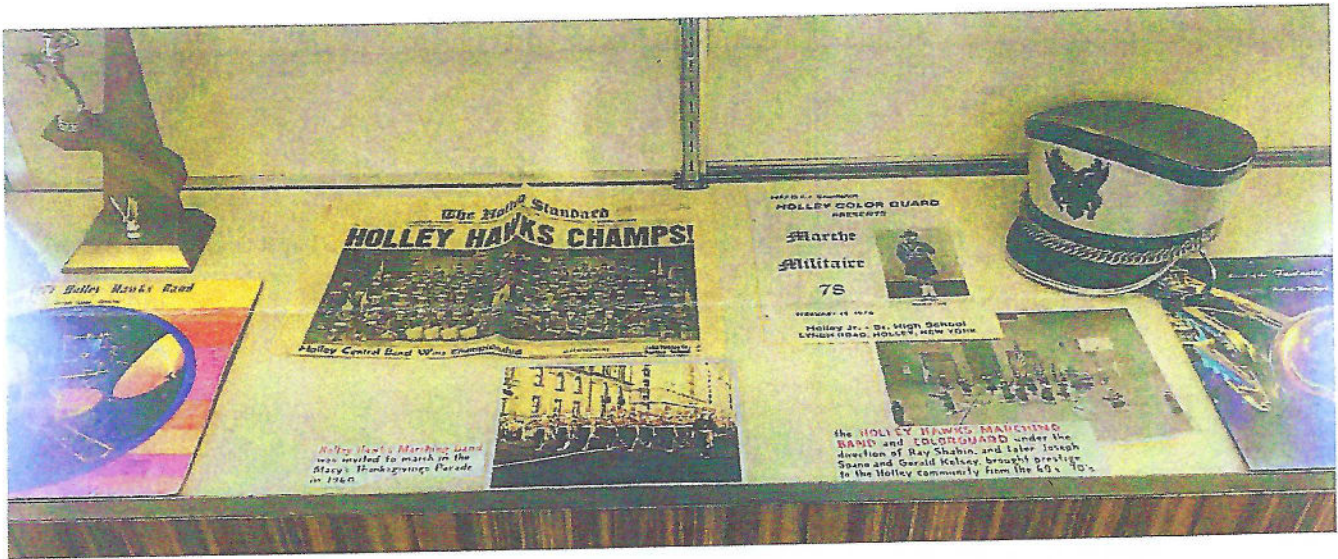
"Do you remember Haley's Comet?" Dr. Wilkinson asked the group. "We might live to see it again," Burt said.

"I guess we just lived the right kind of life when we were young," Dr. Wilkinson, the class president said, as he looked around at the group.

Other surviving members of the class are Mrs. Eva Butcher, of Holley; Mrs. Lila Bartlett, of Albion; Dr. Velma Coye, of Brockport; and Mrs. Isabel Clark, in Florida.

DISPLAY CASE AT VILLAGE OFFICE

The Historical Society's display case at the village office has recently been changed to highlight the award-winning Holley Marching Band and Color guard from years past. One of the photos shows the Holley Band marching in the 1960 Macy's Thanksgiving Day parade. The band was a source of pride in the area for many years, as was the color guard well into the 1980's.



MURRAY-HOLLEY ANNIVERSARY

Just a reminder that 2025 marks the 40th anniversary of the Murray-Holley Historical Society. While no firm plans have been made yet, we can report that our spring newsletter will have an article detailing the origins and establishment of our prestigious organization.

Hamlets in the Town of Murray: HINDSBURG

While Holley is recognized as the primary village in the Town of Murray, there are several smaller settlements, some of which have been around as long as Holley if not longer. Murray stands out as it has had more hamlets than the other towns in Orleans County. These early places are listed as villages in Arad Thomas' book *Pioneer History of Orleans County* which was published in 1871. In Murray we had Murray, Hulberton, Fancher, Brockville, and Hindsburg. I wanted to write a bit about the hamlet of Hindsburg, which has no traces remaining of its existence except for the name of the road on which it was once located. Remnants of Hindsburg remained well into the 1930's. The two-story brick building was originally built to be a hotel.

Originally spelled Hindsburg (with an 'h'), this little community was born of the Erie Canal and located on land first settled by Jacob Luttenton, who built the first home there. In 1829 Luttenton sold out to Jacob Hinds (hence the name), who then proceeded to build a warehouse in 1830 and a tavern in 1835. Jacob and his brother Joel added a store for fry goods and groceries, which they opened in 1836. A hotel was added in 1838.



Much remained of Hindsburg into the 1930's. The two-story stone building was originally built as a hotel. Several buildings can be seen behind it in the picture on the right. Today all that remains is the road that bears its name.

Hindsburg was the central point from which people would disembark to head to Kendall and other points north. Because of the growing produce trade, a second warehouse was built in 1836 by a Mr. W. Whitney of Rochester. The produce trade helped Hindsburg continue to thrive.

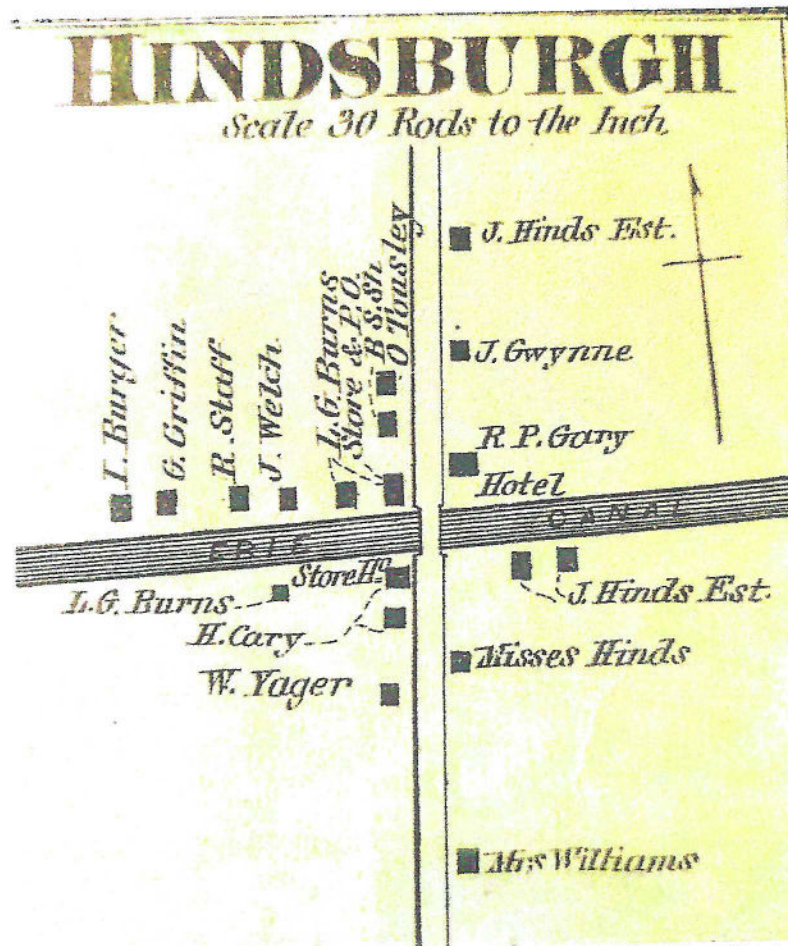
With the death of the Hinds brothers, growth in the community slowed. The beginning of passenger rail service to the south in 1852 further impacted Hindsburg, pulling travelers off the canal and into the much more efficient trains. While the community managed to hang on as a shipping hub for produce, that too began to be impacted by rail service.

A post office was established in Hindsburg in 1837, with the first postmaster being John Whitney. The post office served Hindsburg for almost 70 years, with the final postmaster being George Baldwin.

Baldwin served from April 1899 until December 14, 1906, at which time the post office was discontinued. Starting in January 1907 mail from Hindsburg was routed to Albion.

One benefit to Hindsburg was the BL&R trolley, which passed just south of the community. Beginning September 1908, the trolley had a stop in Hindsburg until 1931. The trolley couldn't survive the Great Depression and ended its service in April 1931. It is interesting to contemplate that had the trolley come through Hindsburg a few years sooner the post office might have hung on for awhile longer.

Hindsburg men served their country during the Civil War. Men such as Samuel Anderson, Christian Burger, Henry Briggs, John Corbett, John Gumne, John Kelly, and John Longhney all served, and many were seriously injured. All listed Hindsburg as their home.



This map of Hindsburgh is from the 1875 Niagara-Orleans County Atlas. At the time Hindsburgh was a small but bustling community. By 1913 when the next county atlas was printed there was little left of the hamlet.

PRESERVATION AWARDS

The Murray-Holley Historical Society was honored to receive one of the prestigious Historic Preservation Awards, presented annually by the Cobblestone Society. The awards recognize outstanding efforts in the community to save, renovate, and preserve historic architecture. Our museum building, housed in an original 1907 New York Central train depot, was restored after its move in 1988 until it opened as a museum to the public in July 1994. Just this year the Society replaced our aging roof which more accurately reflects the original construction. On Friday evening, October 25, 2024, the

Murray-Holley Historical Society was presented the award by Doug Farley, director of the Cobblestone Museum. Representing our Society were Dan Mawn, President; Wendy Kenny, secretary; John Kenny, Treasurer; and charter member Raymond Santoro.



President Mawn proudly displays one of the honors received at the 2nd Annual Preservation Awards. Cobblestone Society director Doug Farley honored the Holley Train Depot, which houses our museum.

FALL HALLOW FEST

Saturday, October 26 saw the Third Annual Fall Hallow Fest celebrated in the village. This year's event featured numerous activities. A parade for the little ones started at the grocery store building across from the museum at 10am, and thankfully the weather cooperated. Also starting at 10am, our museum sponsored our second bake sale of the season. This year a number of our members donated a wonderful



selection of baked goods to sell, and the public responded with a healthy number of sales. Waffles and pizzelles were the usual big hits for us. Wendy Kenny set up a Halloween scavenger hunt for the children, where they had to locate 12 pumpkins hidden throughout the museum. Once that was accomplished they got to pick out a prize. Well over fifty visitors signed our guest log, and we received a Life Membership from Jeff and Clara Martin along with a generous donation. Basket Raffle tickets were a hot item as well.

A game for the little ones was the always popular duck pond, sponsored by the Boy Scouts.



TOP LEFT: Delicious baked goods into the hands of Kathy Clarke, Ingrid Lestorti, and Joyce Potote.

RIGHT: Village Clerk Rainey Losee shares a laugh with recently retired librarian Sandy Shaw.



LEFT: Three women who are longtime members of the MHHS: Betty Robishaw, Debbie DeFilippis, and Mary Jo Mele.

Donna Bopp (holding her grandson), member Raymond Santoro, and Diana Flow get reacquainted after not having seen each other for several years.



The festival ended with an outdoor performance of live music and smores in the square.

Alland's Sweet Shoppe

Teddy Alland's Sweet Shoppe was a popular village ice cream store located in the Oddfellows building on the northeast end of the square. I thought it would be fun to take a look at some of the prices on his menu, which was sitting in the booths and on the tables of his popular hangout some 70 years ago:

Banana Split	.20	Fruit Salad	.20
Ice Cream Sundae	.10	Hot Fudge Sundae	.15
Milk Shakes	.10	Walnut Sundae	.15
Soda (true syrup)	.10	Coca Cola	.05
Hot Chocolate	.10	Pecan Frappe	.15

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Membership type (check one): **Annually**

SINGLE \$ 5.00

FAMILY \$10.00

LIFETIME \$50.00

Clip and mail to Murray-Holley Historical Society, P.O. Box 346,
Holley, New York 14470. Attention: Membership Secretary.

Have any ideas for our newsletter? We'd love to hear from you!
Next issue: Spring 2025