



Carriage House Crier

WOLCOTT HISTORICAL SOCIETY • 5994 Jefferson St., Wolcott

Fall 2019

www.wolcottny.org

315-594-9494

P.O. Box 51, Wolcott, NY 14590

FREE

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THE BUILDING OF LEAVENWORTH IN 1934

(This article originally appeared in THE LAKE SHORE NEWS, dated November 1, 1934.)

“Masons are busy at the new Central School building, dozens of them it would seem. They are now at work on the second floor of the north wing, but are not quite so far advanced elsewhere. If all goes well, the brick-laying should be completed in about three weeks.

Structural tile is also being put in and concrete poured for the second floor. That in the north wing was finished the forepart of this week.

The roof steel over the gym and auditorium is in place and the last steel erection and riveting should be finished this week. The big girders weigh eight, ten and twelve tons respectively. The one that overturned its truck at the Four Corners last week and blocked traffic for a time weighed twelve tons.

The floor of the garage is finished, and the

doors, that slide overhead, are on their way here from the factory. As soon as they arrive, they will be hung, and glass put in the windows. In front will be a concrete apron, with approaching roadways constructed of stone in graded sizes with the top bound with liquid bitumuis (a new patent compound and name.)

The outside plumbing is complete and that inside will be finished as fast as the construction work progresses and permits.

The steel work now in place weighs 290 tons. When the side walls are up, more will be required for the roof, but till then, work of this character is about over for the present.

Anyone looking at the building in its present state might fear that mid-winter would find the structure unenclosed; but those in charge say that more rapid apparent progress will be made from now on; and that when winter comes the workers will be inside where the storms cannot reach them.”

More on the next page



November 1934, the work on Leavenworth was at this point. The contractor's plans are stated in the main article. They worked all winter inside to complete many things.

To go backwards the following article appeared in the *Lake Shore News* of October 11, 1934, "**School Cornerstone Laying Held On Sunday Afternoon.**" At some date

in the future (let us hope it may be in the long-distant future, and it should be) local historians will open the cornerstone of the Leavenworth Central school building in this village and carefully inspect the contents of the metal box sealed inside. This is what they will find, as certified by Miss Wynona Tyrrell, secretary of the district:

- *Copy of cornerstone-laying program and invitation to ceremony.*
- *Copies of Lake Shore News containing articles on new school project.*
- *Copy of Democrat and Chronicle under date of October 7, 1931.*
- *Prospectus of school in connection with bond issue.*
- *Catalogues of Leavenworth Institute and Wolcott High school for the years 1899, 1906, 1913, and 1929.*

- *Photographs of Wolcott high school baseball team champions of 1923, soccer team champions of 1925 and 1930, and basketball team champions of 1921 and 1922.*
- *Photographs of original Leavenworth school and also school erected in 1894, taken by H.C. Whitford, and a list of the board of education.*
- *List of faculty of Leavenworth Central school, the school clerk, legal advisor, superintendent of schools, 'bus drivers, janitors, and attendance officer.*
- *List of students of school, comprising personal signatures, except first grade, the latter being typewritten.*
- *List of citizens' committee from school district co-operating with the school board on school project.*
- *List of contractors, foremen conducting operations and government inspector.*
- *Statement of source of inscriptions to be used over school entrances.*
- *Picture of Main Street, Wolcott, taken in 1934.*
- *Blueprint of first and second floors of former school building found Oct. 3, 1934, by carpenters repairing porch on old Peter Waldorf house in Auburn street, Wolcott.*
- *Copy of Grip's Historical Souvenir of the Village of Wolcott" presented by Mrs. Cora Bevier.*

Following stormy, cold and cloudy weather, clearing skies and bright sunshine greeted the exercises on the school campus beginning at 2:30 p.m. on Sunday. Something over 1,000 spectators were present, including about 600 pupils. A system of electric loud-speakers had been installed so that everything said might be heard even by those occupying cars at the foot of the campus on New Hartford Street.

Cashier George C. Stevens, of the First National Bank, presided, being inducted into office following a musical selection by the School band. After a few remarks by the chairman, the student body sang and the Rev. Arthur E. Morey offered prayer. This was followed by a selection by Flower City quartet, of Rochester.

Mrs. Ida E. Cosad, district superintendent of schools, next read a very interesting history of the movement which has resulted in the building of the new Central school. Having been interested in the matter from the

outset, covering a period of years, Mrs. Cosad was conversant with everything that had happened and was well qualified to tell all about it.

Principal Ralph S. Herre then presented the members of the faculty Vice-President Homer S. Osborn of the Wolcott Rotary club, gave the trowel to President Ralph C. Paddock, of the board of education, who accepted it with a few appropriate remarks.

The box was then deposited in the niche in the cornerstone by Howard B. Palmer, of the board of education, and Miss Tyrrell read a list of the contents of the box.

The cover of the cornerstone was lifted in place by L. Earl Henry, Alfred C. Lander and Arthur Eynor, of the board of education, while a selection was sung by the quartet.

President Paddock then sealed the stone with the trowel, after which the Rev. William T. Ivey pronounced an invocation, followed by a selection by the band.

Rochester Chamber of Commerce and a member of the Board of regents of the State of New York. Mr. Woodward pointed out that faculties were even more important than buildings, and said no matter how fine and perfectly appointed the latter might be, they could not educate our children. For that we must depend upon the staff selected to operate them.

Wolcott is indeed fortunate to have a fine faculty to

take over the new structure when it is completed.

The exercises closed with a song by the Flower City quartet, a benediction by the Rev. R.D. Brownell, and "The Star Spangled Banner," played by the band.

The committee in charge, consisted of F.C. Conklin, C. F. Terpening, B.T. Moore and R. Hayes Catchpole, had worked hard in preparing this interesting program and received many compliments at its close."

New Members

We have 2 new memberships!

Lorraine Bassett

Ron Galloway

Thank you!

Thank you for joining!

Wolcott Historical Society

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Upcoming Events



— SAT., OCTOBER 12 —

11:00 A.M - 1:00 P.M.

ANTIQUe APPRAISALS

BY JACKIE SPIEGEL

\$3.00 per item, limit 3 items

At the CARRIAGE HOUSE MUSEUM

5994 Jefferson Street, Wolcott, NY

— SAT., OCTOBER 26 —

1:00 P.M - 3:00 P.M.

BOOK SIGNING BY DICK CAMP

Book is "Ringed by Fire, U.S. Marines

& The Siege of Khe Sanh"

Refreshments and no charge

At the CARRIAGE HOUSE MUSEUM

5994 Jefferson Street, Wolcott, NY

— SAT., NOVEMBER 23 —

8:00 A.M. - Gone

BAKESALE

at BOB'S SUPERMARKET

— SAT., DECEMBER 7 —

FESTIVAL OF TREES

in the VILLAGE PARK

and TREE LIGHTING at 7:00 P.M.



COMPARING NEWSPAPERS



Going through our archives of newspapers I found many changes. In 1907 the *Lake Shore News* was 40" wide and 26" in height. That's a good stretch to hold and read. Maybe hide behind too. Today the same paper is 23" wide and 17" in height. The column widths have stayed the same. In the older papers lines were drawn between the columns. However, the print was smaller in the older papers, but more space between the lines and larger in today's editions making it a little easier to read. There were no colored pictures

in the older editions. The price for the 1907 edition was \$1.00 per year. Today it is \$1.00 per copy!

The news in the older papers was of people and what they were doing. This would include who they visited or who visited them; who was ill and what their ailments were; real estate transfers; marriages; births; deaths; advertising was larger and more wordy; school news; news of surrounding town and places. Today papers report deaths in more detail; the police blotter; sports; school news; lengthy news articles; ads are short and to the point.

The following are examples of some of the articles that appeared in the 1907 papers:

Disturbed the Congregation

The person who disturbed the congregation last Sunday by continually coughing is requested to buy a bottle of Foley's Honey and Tar. J.R. Waldorf.

Among Dr. S.W. Houston's grip patients in this village are Mrs. Judson Dowd and M.P. Conner.

Just received , a car of corn. Price 56 cents bushel. Meal

and cracked corn, \$1.10 cwt. All kinds of feed on hand. H.L Rumsey.

Mrs. Hezekiah Easton, who has been suffering with cancer for months, is in a critical condition and there are no hopes for recovery. Dr. Tillapaugh is the attending physician.

Mr. and Mrs. William Phillips spent Sunday with their daughter, Mrs. Bert Stanley in Wolcott.

The following items were printed in the 1921 issues of the *Lake Shore News*:

"How large is the average truck and how fast does it travel? This question and others of interest to truck owners and users of the highways are answered by information obtained in a recent traffic census taken by the bureau of public roads, United States department of agriculture, on one of the most traveled highways in New England. The census discloses that 40 percent of the trucks were of 1 ton capacity or less; 33 percent between 1 and 1 1/2 tons; 5 percent between 2 1/2 and 5 tons; and that less than 2 per cent of the trucks were more than 5 tons capacity.

On a level stretch of road, over which the speed of motor vehicles was timed, it was found that more trucks traveled at a speed of 20 miles an hour than at any other rate. Thir-

ty-seven per cent, traveled 20 miles an hour or faster. One truck, whose driver said he was in a hurry to get there, was found to be traveling at a speed of 45 miles an hour.

Chester Slaght and Claude Reyn have gone to the North Woods, deer hunting.

Fred Huntley is helping DeWitt Fowler finish his fall work.

Dr. Mack's two sons, of Auburn, were recent guests of their cousin, Mack Park.



The Architects of Rochester, Gordon and Kaelber, were hired to prepare plans and specifications for the new school, at an estimated cost of \$395,000.00. To finance this project the district officials planned to float a bond. This didn't happen as the prevailing general financial conditions in the market weren't good. The matter "hung in the air" for 2 years. On April 23, 1934, a Federal Loan and Grant was secured, which necessitated that the building be erected under N.R.A. rules, with Federal inspection, which increased the cost to \$462,000.00. Bids for construction were advertised and opened on June 11, 1934. Building Construction was awarded to Benz Engineering Co., \$333,000; Electrical Work, Conheady & Langschwanger, \$20,329; Heating and Ventilating, Fred Brandt, Inc., \$36,980; Plumbing, E.G. Snyder Co., \$36,192, making a total of \$436,501.

The old building was demolished beginning August 1, 1934, and construction began very soon afterwards. As seen in the September 1934 photo the ground is being prepared. In the October 1934 photo shows the progress and the photo on page 2 the progress made by November 1934.

The dedication was held on August 30, 1935. The graduating class of 1935 held the ceremonies at the Presbyterian Church, as there still some things that needed completion. So technically the class of 1936 was the first to graduate from this brand-new school.



President's Message



Dear Members,

Fall is here and our Planning Committee has several programs set for the remainder of this year.

Two years ago we had Jackie Spiegel of Spiegel and Associates come to the Carriage House to give appraisals. Jackie has been a personal friend of mine for 40 years or so. She is an experienced antiques dealer and appraiser. Since her first visit we have had many requests to have her return. She has agreed to come on October 12, 2019 from 11:00a.m. - 1:00p.m. There is a charge of \$3.00 per item she appraises, with a limit of three items per person. Jackie kindly donates the money she collects back to the museum. This will be the perfect opportunity to ask questions about items you may have.

October 26 Dick Camp will present a review of his book entitled "Ringed by Fire, U.S. Marines & the Siege of Khe Sanh." Dick was there in 1968 and will also share his experience at the Khe Sanh Base.

On November 23 we will hold our Bake Sale. Our annual Bake Sale has been a nice fundraiser in the past.

We hope to have your continued support again this year.

Of course, December brings the Wolcott Historical Society's Festival of Trees. Plans are starting now in hopes that this year will be better than ever! We hope to join with the American Legion's Christmas Parade and schedule the tree lighting accordingly. We also hope to involve our local merchants and have more trees in the park. It should be spectacular!

All these activities require volunteers. If you have any time to donate, this fall is the perfect opportunity to do so and of course, will be appreciated more than you know. You can call me at anytime at 315-594-8660.

Renée Steves

Carriage House Museum Hours



1st and 3rd Saturday of the Month
10 am until 2 pm

CLOSED JANUARY - MARCH

But you can make an appointment
to visit the Museum by calling:

Bob Stell at 315-594-9065

Norma Stewart at 315-594-9361

Linda Shippers at 315-594-2765

Docents are needed during our open hours.

MEMBERSHIP

\$10.00 — *Individual Membership*

\$15.00 — *Family Membership*

\$25.00 — *Organization Membership*

\$100.00 — *Contributing & Sustaining Membership*

\$500.00 - \$999.00 — *Life Membership*

\$1000.00 — *Endowment Membership*

A 2-year complimentary membership will be offered to students 6 grade through high school seniors. Thereafter, a membership of \$7.00 will be charged annually.

Send to:

Wolcott Historical Society

P.O. Box 51, Wolcott, NY 14590

An excellent way to help secure the future of the Wolcott Historical Society is to designate the WHS as a beneficiary of your will, foundation, or trust. We are a non-profit 501-(c)-(3) corporation. Donations are tax deductible to the maximum extent allowed by law.



Find us on
Facebook



Wolcott Historical Society
P.O. Box 51
Wolcott, NY 14590



Thanks to Donna Graham for the beautiful plants and landscaping that surround the museum!

This Daniel Conger 1857 coverlet was donated to the museum on June 26, by Linda Beeman from Owosso, Michigan. It has been carefully

cared for and is navy blue wool & natural cotton. The design is similar to another one in the museum, but the pattern is a little different.

Conger was in the Civil War and when he returned to Wolcott set up a weaving shop. He was a very talented man and I would think very patient.

Linda's great, great, grandmother was Lydia Day from Middleport, NY. She lived on a farm there. The sheep were sheared and the wool turn into yarn. The family story goes that Lydia traveled by horse and buggy to bring the yarn to Conger who was well known for his skills. Middleport is west of Rochester and near Medina, NY. What a wonderful addition to our collection of Conger coverlets. Thank you Linda.

