

LANSINGBURGH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

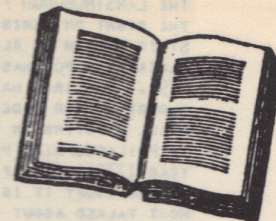
2 114TH ST. — LANSINGBURGH, NEW YORK 12182

NEWSLETTER

— SPRING, 1977

Kathleen M. Tynnan, President (235-7647)

Warren F. Broderick, Editor (235-4041)



APRIL MEETING: ON THURSDAY, APRIL 21ST AT THE SOCIETY'S HEADQUARTERS AT 8 P.M., RICK ALLEN OF THE OFFICE OF STATE HISTORY WILL PRESENT AN OVERVIEW OF THE LAST YEAR'S BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATIONS IN NEW YORK STATE, HIGHLIGHTING SOME OF THE MORE MEMORABLE EVENTS WITH SLIDES AND PICTURES. RICK WILL ALSO TALK ABOUT THE BIG UPCOMING CELEBRATION PLANNED FOR THIS AUGUST AT THE SCHENKENTON BATTLEFIELD IN RENSSELAER COUNTY AT WALLOONSAC.

MAY MEETING: THE ANNUAL MEETING WILL BE HELD ON THURSDAY MAY 19TH AT 8 P.M. WE ARE PLANNING TO SHOW THE FINE FILM "DON'T TREAD ON ME," DEALING WITH THE AVERAGE CITIZEN DURING THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION. IT WAS FILMED IN PART AT DON CARPENTIER'S EASTFIELD VILLAGE IN NASSAU AND PRODUCED LOCALLY, AS WAS "THE CHOOSING OF SIDES" SHOWN IN JANUARY. THIS IS ONE PROGRAM NO ONE CAN AFFORD TO MISS.

IT HAS BEEN SUGGESTED TO US THAT THE LANSINGBURGH HISTORICAL SOCIETY MIGHT CONTINUE TO HOLD MEETINGS DURING THE SUMMER MONTHS. IF REGULAR MONTHLY EVENING MEETINGS WOULDNT BE DESIRABLE, POSSIBLY HISTORIC TOURS COULD BE ARRANGED. IN ANY CASE, WE'D LIKE TO KNOW HOW YOU MEMBERS FEEL THE SOCIETY COULD BE ACTIVE DURING THE SUMMER, AND OFFER ANY SUGGESTIONS ON WHAT KINDS OF EVENTS OR PROGRAMS WOULD BE SUCCESSFUL.

OUR ANNUAL GARBAGE AND YARD SALE IS SCHEDULED FOR SATURDAY JUNE 11TH FROM 10 A.M. TO 4 P.M. WE NEED VOLUNTEERS TO WORK AT THE SALE AND OF COURSE DONATIONS OF EVERYTHING AND ANYTHING TO SELL, SO IF YOU'RE DOING SPRING HOUSECLEANING THINK OF THE LANSINGBURGH HISTORICAL SOCIETY! IF YOU NEED TO HAVE ITEMS FOR THE SALE TAKEN OFF YOUR HANDS, CALL GUY WIAL AT 237-3763, KATHLEEN TYNNAN AT 235-7647 OR ALICE ELLETT AT 235-5659.

OUR 1977 RAFFLE WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE SAME GARAGE AND YARD SALE JUNE 11TH. FIRST PRIZE THIS YEAR IS AN ANTIQUE SPINNET DESK IN FINE CONDITION, MEASURING 44" LONG, 22" DEEP AND 32" HIGH. SECOND PRIZE WILL BE ONE EACH OF ALL THE SOCIETY'S BICENTENNIAL SOUVENIRS--A COOKBOOK, HISTORY, ARCHITECTURAL SURVEY, PROGRAM AND BRUSHBACK. THIRD PRIZE WILL BE AN ARCHITECTURAL SURVEY. TICKETS COST \$1.00 FOR 3; A FEW ARE INCLUDED WITH THIS NEWSLETTER, BUT IF YOU NEED ADDITIONAL CHANCES, CALL AGNES HOFFMAN AT 235-3284. TICKET STUBS AND MONEY SHOULD BE SENT TO THE SOCIETY'S MAILING ADDRESS ABOVE.

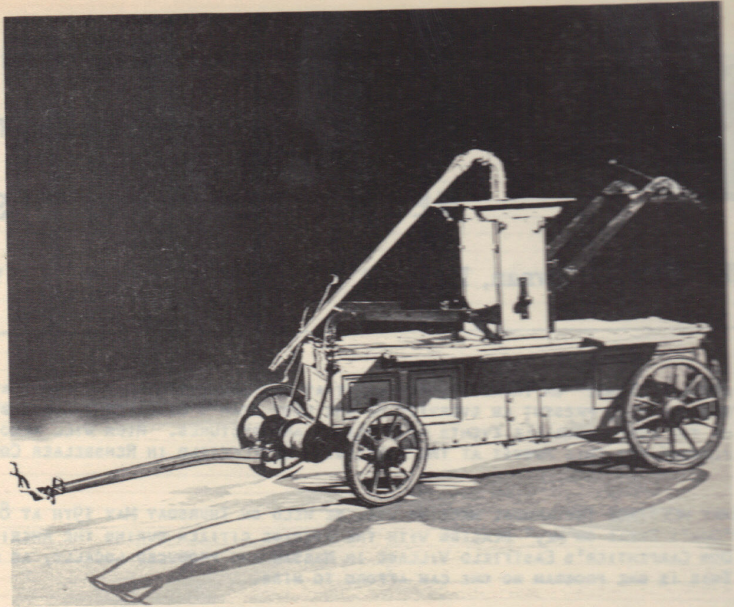
THE ARCHITECTURE OF LANSINGBURGH, NEW YORK, BY JOHN G. WAITE, JR. IS NOW IN ITS SECOND AND FINAL PRINTING. NO MORE COPIES WILL BE PRINTED, SO NOW IS THE TIME TO BUY SOME BEFORE THEY ARE SOLD OUT FOREVER. THE COST IS \$4.00 PER COPY TO NON-MEMBERS AND \$3.00 TO MEMBERS AND TO OTHER ORGANIZATIONS AND BOOKSELLERS FOR RESALE. IF BOOKS MUST BE MAILED, PLEASE ADD APPROPRIATE 4th CLASS POSTAGE COSTS.

A NUMBER OF FINE QUALITY BICENTENNIAL SOUVENIRS WERE PRODUCED BY OUR ORGANIZATION AND MANY OTHERS IN THE COUNTY FOR THE CELEBRATION, AND SOME CAN STILL BE OBTAINED IN VARYING QUANTITIES. THEY ARE ALL REASONABLY PRICED AND THE TIME TO BUY THEM IS NOW BEFORE THEY DISAPPEAR. JUST TRY TO BUY SOUVENIRS FROM THE 1877 CELEBRATION! WE HAVE HISTORIES AND COOKBOOKS LEFT AT \$1.00 EACH AND HARDWOOD BRUSHBACKS WITH BRONZE MEDALLIONS MOUNTED IN THEM FOR \$3.00. BRUNSWICK, PITTSBURN AND SAND LAKE HAVE SOME COMMEMORATIVE PLATES STILL UNSOLD, AS WELL AS POESTENKILL AND BRUNSWICK COOKBOOKS, A CHARMING ILLUSTRATED BOOK ON OLD POESTENKILL, AND OTHERS. IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN OBTAINING ANY OF THEM CONTACT WARREN BRODERICK AT 235-4041.



RECENTLY THE LANSINGBURGH HISTORICAL SOCIETY FELT THE WRATH OF THE RAMPAGING FLOODWATERS OF THE HUDSON RIVER. THE PHOTO OF THE LEFT, TAKEN ON MARCH 14TH BY GENE BAXTER, CLEARLY SHOWS HOW MOST OF MELVILLE PARK AND PART OF THE YARD WERE INUNDATED. OUR HEADQUARTERS RECEIVED NO PERMANENT DAMAGE, BUT THE RIVERBANK IN THE PARK WAS PARTLY ERODED. CLIPPINGS, SOIL, CLIMBING AND VINING PLANTS AND WILD FLOWERS ARE NEEDED TO HELP REBUILD THE BANK'S VEGETATION. IF YOU CAN BE OF ASSISTANCE, CONTACT MAURICE CORBIN OR WARREN BRODERICK.

THE LANSINGBURGH FIRE ENGINE, SHOWN ON THE RIGHT ON EXHIBIT IN THE NEW YORK STATE MUSEUM IN ALBANY'S EMPIRE STATE PLAZA, WAS PURCHASED FOR THE VILLAGE IN 1791. RESEARCH HAS PROVEN IT TO BE THE OLDEST PUMPER MADE IN THE UNITED STATES STILL EXISTING IN THE WORLD. IT WAS MADE IN PHILADELPHIA, POSSIBLY AS EARLY AS THE YEAR 1779. IN A FINE STATE OF PRESERVATION TODAY IT IS ONE OF THE MUSEUM'S MOST TALKED ABOUT ITEMS. THIS PHOTO WAS RECEIVED COURTESY OF GEOFFERY STEIN OF THE NEW YORK STATE MUSEUM.



THE LANSINGBURGH ACADEMY PROJECT MOVES CLOSER TO REALIZATION ALL THE TIME. IT IS HOPED THAT THE DELAY IN DRAWING UP A LEASE WILL HOPEFULLY BE RESOLVED IN THE NEAR FUTURE SO THAT THE ARCHITECTS, PRESERVATION DESIGN GROUP CAN BEGIN WORK. THE EXPANDED LIBRARY BRANCH AND ARTS CENTER WILL BENEFIT LANSINGBURGH RESIDENTS IN MANY WAYS, AND THE LANSINGBURGH CITIZENS COUNCIL MUST BE PRAISED FOR THEIR UNTIRING EFFORTS ON THIS PROJECT. IF YOU WANT UPDATED NEWS, CALL LOIS NORTON AT 235-0978.

MUSEUM ACQUISITIONS- THE SOCIETY'S MUSEUM HAS ACQUIRED A NUMBER OF NEW ITEMS FOR ITS COLLECTION LATELY. THE MOST SIGNIFICANT ADDITIONS TO OUR LIBRARY ARE A COPY OF HORATIO SPAFFORD'S 1824 GAZETTEER, WRITTEN WHILE HE LIVED NEXT DOOR TO THE MUSEUM, ARCHIE'S SHADOW, A CHILDREN'S BOOK BY "LYNDE PALMER" OF LANSINGBURGH, AND A REPRINT OF BEERS ATLAS OF THE COUNTY. THE WARREN J. BRODERICK MEMORIAL FUND WAS USED TO PURCHASE AN ORNATE MARBLE-TOP TABLE MADE IN LANSINGBURGH BY THE FAMOUS CABINET-MAKER ELIJAH GALUSHA. THIS EXQUISITE TABLE IS ONE OF THE VERY FEW GALUSHA PIECES MADE IN LANSINGBURGH WHICH CAN BE LOCATED TODAY. OTHER HIGHLIGHTS IN THE MUSEUM'S ACQUISITIONS INCLUDE A VICTORIAN CHAIR AND FOOTSTOOL, A FOLDING CARPET-CHAIR MADE IN GRAFTON, AN ORIENTAL TEAKWOOD PEDESTAL GIVEN BY MRS. WILLIAM HANLEY, A BRASS INK STAND GIVEN BY ELSA CLARKSON, A DOLL HOUSE GIVEN BY AGNES ERNST, 2 100 YEAR OLD DRESSES GIVEN BY JEANETTE FLACK, A PAINTING OF BIRDS DONE BY MAUDE CLOSSON, GRAFTON'S GRANDMA MOSES, A 19TH CENTURY KIT OF VETERINARIAN'S NEEDLES AND 2 PAINTED WOODEN PANELS OF FLOWERS, POSSIBLY THE WORK OF JOSEPH HIDLEY. THE SOCIETY'S OWN DOLL HOUSE, "LANSING MANOR," HAS BEEN COMPLETED BY FRANCES BRODERICK WITH THE HELP OF MAURICE CORBIN, AND IS NOW ON DISPLAY IN THE MUSEUM.

THE CENTINEL, RENSSELAER COUNTY'S NORTHERN NEWSPAPER HAS NOW CELEBRATED ITS FIRST ANNIVERSARY. ORIGINALLY CALLED THE PITTSVILLE CENTINEL, THE PAPER NOW SERVES LANSINGBURGH AS WELL AS PITTSVILLE, SCHAGHTICOKE, BRUNSWICK AND POESTEN-KILL. IT WAS NAMED AFTER THE NORTHERN CENTINEL AND LANSINGBOROUGH ADVERTISER, THE COUNTY'S FIRST NEWSPAPER, PUBLISHED IN 1787. ISSUED WEEKLY, THE CENTINEL'S SUBSCRIPTION COSTS \$5.00 PER YEAR. FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CALL 663-8238. LANSINGBURGH NEWS SHOULD BE SENT TO RUTH COPELAND, THE LANSINGBURGH EDITOR, AT 232 5TH AVENUE, N. TROY, N.Y. 12180 (PHONE 235-5081). ONE OF THE CENTINEL'S AIMS IS TO PUBLISH ALL NEWS OF THE LOCAL HISTORICAL SOCIETIES, AS WELL AS ARTICLES OF VARYING HISTORICAL INTEREST, AND FOR THIS THEY MUST BE HIGHLY COMMENDED.

TWO TOURS OF THE HUDSON-MOHAWK INDUSTRIAL GATEWAY ARE SCHEDULED FOR LANSINGBURGH THIS YEAR. THE HISTORIC LANSINGBURGH TOUR WILL BE HELD ON SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 10TH AND THE LANSINGBURGH GRAVEYARD TOUR ON SEPTEMBER 24TH. FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION WRITE THE GATEWAYS AT 5 FIRST STREET, TROY, N.Y. 12180 OR CALL 274-5267.

WE ARE ALWAYS LOOKING FOR OLD PHOTOGRAPHS OF LANSINGBURGH TO BORROW AND RECOPY FOR PRESERVATION. IN ADDITION, THE PITTSVILLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY IS LOOKING TO COPY ANY OLD PHOTOS OF THAT TOWN FOR AN UPCOMING BOOK, AND THE BRUNSWICK HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEEDS TO FIND MORE PHOTOGRAPHS OF GRAFTON, PETERSBURGH, BERLIN, STEPHENTOWN, NEW LEBANON, THE SHAKERS AND OF HOOSICK TAKEN BY JAMES E. WEST. IF YOU LOCATE ANY OLD PHOTOS FALLING INTO THESE CATEGORIES CALL WARREN BRODERICK AT 235-4041.

THE NEWLY CREATED CITY COMMISSION ESTABLISHED FOR THE PURPOSE OF DESIGNATING HISTORIC DISTRICTS AND LANDMARKS IN TROY ENCOURAGES INDIVIDUALS AND ORGANIZATIONS TO SUBMIT POSSIBLE DISTRICTS AND BUILDINGS FOR THEIR CONSIDERATION THIS YEAR. ANY PROPERTY OWNER OR CONCERNED CITIZEN WISHING TO WORK ON THE FORMATION OF A HISTORIC DISTRICT IN LANSINGBURGH SHOULD CONTACT KAY NIAL, THE SOCIETY'S REPRESENTATIVE ON THE COMMISSION.

THE LANSINGBURGH IMPROVEMENT FOUNDATION CONTINUES IN PROGRESS IN FINDING SUITABLE OWNERS TO RESTORE AND REHABILITATE PROPERTY IN LANSINGBURGH. FOR FURTHER DETAILS ABOUT THE ORGANIZATION'S GOALS AND PROGRAMS, CONTACT ANNE HOUGHMASTER OR TOM BLANDY.

THE NEWLY ORGANIZED ASSOCIATED RENSSELAER COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETIES (ARCHS) HAS BEEN FORMED TO AID ALL THE HISTORICAL SOCIETIES IN THE COUNTY IN SOLVING THEIR COMMON PROBLEMS. THEY ARE CONCENTRATING THEIR EFFORTS ON SUCH PROJECTS AS ASSURING PUBLICITY FOR HISTORICAL MEETINGS IN A CERTAIN LOCAL NEWSPAPER, AND PURCHASING HISTORICAL FILMS SUCH AS "THE CHOOSING OF SIDES" TO MAKE THEM AVAILABLE TO ALL HISTORICAL ORGANIZATIONS IN THE COUNTY. LOOK FOR MORE NEWS FROM ARCHS THIS SPRING AND SUMMER.

ANNUAL DUES FOR THE SOCIETY ARE DUE APRIL 1, 1977. If you're already a member renew by using the dues return envelope enclosed. If you haven't joined the Lansingburgh Historical Society we'd like to have all of you as members. All that is required is being interested in the history of Lansingburgh (and with all the history we have that's no problem!) and paying annual dues. If you want to join, just clip off the form at the bottom of this page, fill it out and send it with your dues to Virginia Greenwood, Treasurer, 173 3rd St., Troy, N.Y. 12180. Remember that Society members can purchase all our publications at a discount too.

Some copies of the Bicentennial reprint of The History of the 17 Towns of Rensselaer County are still available, but can't last long. This is still a really fine buy, so if you need another copy call Warren Broderick.

It seems that a Lansingburgh, Hudson-River painting has been just "rediscovered." Pictured below, this painting was bequeathed to the Albany Institute of History and Art since 1943. Never in the following 34 years has it been positively identified as to artist, subject and date. While it clearly shows the Hudson River in the old town of Lansingburgh, looking south toward Campbell's Island at the "Horseshoe Bend" with Bald Mountain and Lansingburgh in the background, it has incredibly been identified in the past from Burden Lake to "East Troy," and in a recently published book on the Hudson River School the author concludes it was obviously painted at Hudson in Columbia County! The location of this painting was brought to our attention this spring by Mason C. Robinson. Tentatively attributed to James Hart of Albany, the painting now appears to be the work of his brother William Hart. Research seems to indicate that its proper title is "Scene Near Lansingburgh" and its date to be 1848. Future research should substantiate our claim. The Society now owns a beautiful 25" x 40" full color print of the painting; if anyone is interested in obtaining a print for themselves, suitable for framing, contact Warren Broderick.



LANSINGBURGH HISTORICAL SOCIETY 2 114TH STREET LANSINGBURGH, NEW YORK 12182

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE NUMBER (OPTIONAL) _____ REGULAR MEMBERSHIP (\$5.00) _____
SUSTAINING MEMB. (\$25.00) _____

MAIL TO VIRGINIA GREENWOOD, TREASURER, 173 3RD STREET, TROY, NEW YORK 12180