Place Names of Tompkins County

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EDITED BY

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Maps

Acknowledgments

This book is the result of the happy collaboration of the appointed historians of Tompkins County, their deputies, friends, and relations, and others who have given information or pointed us in the right direction. In June 2000 the various appointed historians of the county began holding regular meetings. In July the group decided to update and expand W. Glenn Norris's book, *The Origin of Place Names in Tompkins County.* This was done, not as a criticism of Norris, who was the county's first official historian, but in recognition that when he published his book in 1951 he did not have all the documents available to him that we have today, and in the 50 years from then until now, many new names have been planted on the land, and some old ones have faded from view.

Beginning with *The Origin of Place Names*, the town, village, and city historians went to work. We updated old definitions, corrected errors, and expanded the names entered to include those of interesting or historically important streets and roads, developments, and other names by which we know this land. We will be happy to receive corrections and additions to this book, especially as new names appear within the county.

We have many people to thank. We are grateful to the historians who preceded us and to county residents today who offered information and encouragement.

Place Names of Tompkins County

Introduction

Carol Kammen
Tompkins County Historian

The Town of Lansing historian received a call one day from an eager reporter. In her town, he noted, there were both Collins and Armstrong roads. Were they named, he asked, to commemorate the United States space team that put a man on the moon?

Well, no.

Though those roads do commemorate people by the name of Collins and Armstrong, they were not astronauts, but families who had early on settled in the town and whose names were later added to the roads.

Names are inherently fascinating. We all spend a good deal of time naming our children and we have given the same attention to places where we live. Some people name their houses. Most of us come to areas that are already named, or so we think, yet naming goes on, even today. The stories of the place names in Tompkins County are interesting for several reasons. They tell us something about the times when they were named. They link us to another era and help us understand something about the way the area developed.

We can discern a general phasing of naming, yet not every name will fit this pattern. The earliest distinction seems to be between places that were mapped with streets and those that were not. In 1807 Simeon DeWitt created the earliest map of what became Ithaca showing a crosshatch of streets. He was involved, about the same time, with mapping the area beyond Wall Street in the upper reaches of Manhattan.

On that map he and the other commissioners did the same thing. They made a design of regular streets meeting at right angles. DeWitt put names on those streets so that as the lots were advertised for sale, they would be more easily identified and perhaps even more pleasing to buyers. He started with the names of places to which particular streets would have run had continuous roads been built, such as Owego Street, Aurora Street.

Where there was no concentration of streets, as in the farming areas of the county, the roads were called by landmarks, by the names of the farm families who lived along them, or by their destination. Many of these names were not made official and did not appear on our maps until many years later. Road names helped people get about, for the most part.

Now and again we historians are asked, who was Tompkins? Or, was Trumansburg named for Harry? Or, do the roads in the Town of Dryden really commemorate the originators of the Seneca Falls Woman's Rights Convention in 1848? Well, there is Cady Street, and there is Mott Street, and, even McClintock Road. Ah, no. As much as we might today want to lay claim to honoring Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Lucretia Mott, and Mary Ann McClintock, who charted such a radical and important course in 1848, we cannot. Nor, most likely, would people in the past have wanted it thought that they supported that convention and the reforms it launched, for that meeting in 1848 in Seneca Falls was controversial. Not everyone approved of the ideas so passionately urged in the Declaration of Sentiments. Those roads in the Town of Dryden carry the names of early families who lived along them.

At the end of the nineteenth century, Cornell University began its expansion across the gorge to the north, and the area called Cornell Heights took its character. Its streets were mostly short but the earlier grid pattern was not maintained, and the names on the streets reflected some of the eminent people who had been, or who were at the time, associated with the university, such as Roberts and Thurston.

Bryant Park to the east of the university also grew up, its names var-

ious, but Oxford links it to the academic world, Irving to the literary. Other names, such as Cornell Street, lead in to the university.

The development of the Village of Cayuga Heights in the second quarter of the twentieth century represents a shift from these more utilitarian names of location. The word "heights" itself implies views— it was a place to view from. Those roads were not straight with regular turnings, either, but undulated across the land to create an aspect of ease. The names given also reflect this: Sunset Park, Highland Road, White Park Road, and The Parkway. There is Iroquois Road too, recalling the earliest residents in this area, removed so long ago it could appear on a roadway without irony or guilt. These are names to attract the affluent, and the large lots and landscape reflect a comfortable suburban environment.

Greater concentrations of streets and roads appeared in the later half of the twentieth century as the population increased, as people were able to live farther away from their place of work, and as houses were created in what we call developments. In many cases, these names of the 1960s and 1970s are different from those of earlier days. The "cigarette" streets, such as Winston and Salem, appeared then, and names that reflected a bucolic view of the landscape; this was not the stage for labor, such as farming, but a place of "rustic" hunters and others who viewed the woods and fields as places full of natural beauty and the home of interesting animals. So we have Birchwood, Maplewood, and Sycamore drives, plus Pinewood Place, all developed by Rocco Lucente who probably put more names on the land than anyone else in the county's history.

From the last quarter of the twentieth century, we also inherited a number of names that can be traced to those in a particular developer's family: Lisa, Christopher, Laura, Leif's Way, and so on. This leads to the question of how our streets get their names today? It varies slightly with each town, but usually a developer of land submits his plans to a town or to the city planning board and the board approves the number of lots, the configuration of the streets, the provision for the roads

and for utilities. The names are reviewed and despite some board members' dislike of one name or another, the developer usually has his say. So in Lansing there is Smugglers Path, which dates from the 1980s when we assume there were no smugglers in the area.

Some notable people are honored with street names. In Ithaca, Jay and Clinton and Adams recall politicians of the first half of the nineteenth century. Some of the people who owned land on which their names have come down to us are also worthy of recall. For instance, we have both Esty Road and Esty Street. During the latter half of the nineteenth century there were two brothers Esty in Ithaca, both of whom contributed to the area's development. Elston Place recalls Judge Elston. Not so long ago, the City of Ithaca created James L. Gibbs Drive, Alice Miller Way, and Rachel Carson Way. These are significant people, but it is too easy to let the name slide over the tongue without recalling why those names are on the land. This book should help us remember.

The Many Names of Tompkins County

Carol Kammen
Tompkins County Historian

At the beginning of recorded time, the area we today call Tompkins County was the home of the Cayuga Indians, one of the five nations of the Iroquois Confederacy. They were identified as the Five Nations as early as 1609 when they were mentioned in the writings of Samuel D. Champlain and Henry Hudson. The name Iroquois was, according to William M. Beauchamp, writing in 1904, the name by which these people were known to the Algonquins and others, and it was the name that Champlain heard and recorded, six years before he ventured into their land. To the Iroquois themselves, they were the Hodaunausee, meaning the People of the Longhouse, which compared the relationship of the different Iroquois nations to their log and bark homes that were open at each end and contained separate fires for each family living within.

Cayuga is the word naming the people and the lake by which they lived. The Cayugas were called the "little brothers" of the confederation because their population was small. The French, who first entered Iroquoia in the seventeenth century when traders, warriors, and Jesuit missionaries ventured south from Canada, heard and pronounced their name as Goyoguin, sometimes dropping the first letter, making it Oyoguins.

Moravian missionaries entered Iroquoia in 1745. Major among them were Bishop A. G. Spangenberg and David Zeisberger, who traveled

from southeast Pennsylvania. Both men, and those others who came, kept extensive journals that have been translated and appear in a number of publications. They called the Cayugas the Gajukas. David Cusick, who wrote *Sketches of Ancient History of the Six Nations* in 1826, defined Co-yo-goh as meaning "Mountain rising from the Water," while Lewis Henry Morgan, the nineteenth-century anthropologist who lived in Aurora, believed the word was Gwe-u-gweh, meaning "at [or near] the mucky land." Albert Cusick, according to Beauchamp, thought the name Kwe-u-kwe meant "where they drew their Boats ashore." The name has been written variously but Horatio Hale, writing in 1883, said that a Cayuga chief had said to him that the spelling Kayukaw was very near the then-modern pronunciation of the word, and it is close to ours, too.

Others have listed variants for the name of the lake. The French called the lake Goyogouen, and various Iroquois named it Ti-che-ro, meaning the place of rushes, derived from the swamps at either end of the lake, or Goi-o-goh, meaning mountain rising from the water, or Ga-ni-a-ta-re-ge-chi-at, meaning, at the end of the lake.

The earliest English written form is Ca-i-ou-go; since then there have been any number of spellings. The most recent belief is that Cayuga is derived from the Iroquois word Tiohiro, meaning mucky land. What all of these names have in common are water, firm land, and the marshy, swampy area in between.

The Cayugas maintained three primary towns. One was Onnontare, on a hill near the Canandaigua; the second was Thiohero, near "the foot of Cayuga lake," the word meaning "by the marsh or where the rushes are." We need to remember that Cayuga Lake drains to the north and its waters are part of the Lake Ontario drainage system; hence, Ithaca is at the head of the lake and the foot of the lake is at the northern end. Lewis Henry Morgan located the third main Cayuga Indian village near Union Springs. Its name, he reported, was Ga-ya-ga-an-ha.

The northern reach of the lake was the primary locus of the Cayuga Indians, which not only gave them access to water but also to the

major trails established by the Iroquois across what we know today as New York State. Outside the three principal towns, the Cayuga Indians lived in villages located near streams where they settled for as long as game and firewood were plentiful; when scarcity threatened, they moved to another site. When the Sapony and Tutelo Indians came north, pushed out of the Carolinas by settlers, they sought a home among the Cayugas, who allowed them land at the southern end of the lake. It was an area within the Cayuga domain but relatively unused by members of the tribe. These Southern Indians lived among the Cayugas as vassal people, with no voice in council decisions.

The Iroquois Confederacy remained the Five Nations until 1714, when the Tuscaroras (meaning shirt-wearing peoples) were pushed out of North Carolina by settlers. They too moved north to live among people with whom they were linguistically linked. The Tuscaroras were not given full rights in the Iroquois council, which means they did not receive a seat or vote, yet the confederation of Five Nations acknowledged their presence and became known as the Six Nations.

In 1779 during the Revolutionary War, Major General John Sullivan and Brigadier General James Clinton marched an invading army into Iroquoia in an attempt to subdue the Iroquois and push them back toward the British at Fort Niagara and Canada. On this journey, which was described by several of the soldiers, the army burned Indian villages, destroyed crops, hacked down orchards. Lieutenant Colonel Henry Dearborn marched a platoon of 500 men down the west side of Cayuga Lake. He reported that on September 24, "a dozen houses were burned at the head of Cayuga Lake, and 25 houses were destroyed at Coreorgonel or Dehoriskanadia, 3 miles south." At the same time, Lieutenant Colonel William Butler, marched 200 men down the east side of the lake. On September 23, he was at Chonodote, or Peach Town (today Aurora), then on to Coreorgonel, located just south of present-day Ithaca.

The location of the village called Coreorgonel, south of Buttermilk Falls and occupied by Tuteloes and other subject peoples of the Cayugas, is better known than are the origins of the name. Major Norris of

Sullivan's Army noted in his journal the town was "Call'd Corcar-gonell, or Where they Keep the Pipe of Peace." Others are not quite so sure.

Following the end of the Revolutionary War, land in the Adirondacks was designated as the Military Tract, or payment for the soldiers who had fought in the war. The veterans of the campaign into Canada had a negative view, however, of that wooded hilly area and rejected it. New York then carved out a section of central New York to be surveyed. This land was located from the shores of Lake Ontario to the head-waters of Cayuga and Seneca Lakes, and spanned east to west from the edge of what is now Cortland County to the eastern shore of Seneca Lake. This was identified by the state as the New Military Tract, now simply called the Military Tract. The tract contained 26 towns, each of 100 parcels containing 600 acres. Four lots in each town were reserved for the support of education. In July 1790 veterans received ballots marked by town and lot. Thus Abner Treman received lot number 2 in town number 22, or the area that is now Trumansburg in the Military Tract Town of Ulysses [Town No. 22].

Following distribution of the land deeds, settlers, speculators, min-isters, and lawyers, along with men and women who hoped to take up farming or open commercial ventures, began entering the area. At this time the land that we know as Tompkins County was part of Mont-gomery County, a huge area that was soon divided into new counties: Cayuga in 1799, Seneca in 1804 when it was taken from Cayuga, and Cortland in 1808.

In 1817 the state saw the need for a new county. That this new en-tity would benefit current landholders, and that the largest landholder in the center of the proposed new county was Simeon DeWitt, who was also the state surveyor general, worried no one much at the time. Nor can we today worry about this obvious aggrandizement of a state official's holdings because the records from this early period are among those lost in the giant fire in the New York State Archives in 1911. We can only imagine machinations that cannot be proved.

What we do know, however, was that in 1817 the state declared it would create a new county from towns in Cayuga and Seneca counties if the residents of Ithaca collected enough money, or $7,000, to build a courthouse and jail. This they accomplished and Tompkins was carved out of the older counties. From Cayuga County came the entire Military Tract Town of Dryden, lots 51 to 100 from the Town of Locke (which became the Town of Groton), and lots 42 to 100 of the Military Tract Town of Genoa (which began as Milton, and in 1817 became the Town of Lansing). These pieces of land were added to lots 42 to 100 of the Town of Ovid (and renamed Covert), and all of the Military Tract Towns of Ulysses and Hector, which were taken from Seneca County. At this time, the unincorporated village of Ithaca, within the Town of Ulysses, was named county seat.

The state of New York named Tompkins County in 1817 for Daniel D. Tompkins. The name Tompkins was selected because that was the last year Daniel D. Tompkins was governor of the state, and it was his first as vice president of the United States. He held that position until 1824. He never saw this area, and certainly never set foot in the county named for him.

Daniel Tompkins was born in 1774 in what is now Scarsdale. He attended Columbia University law school, was a congressman, justice of the New York Supreme Court, governor, and then vice president of the United States under James Monroe. As governor, in 1817, Daniel Tompkins persuaded the state's legislature to pass a bill phasing out slavery in New York by the year 1827.

In 1819 the state adjusted the new county and returned the Town of Covert to Seneca County. In March 1821 two additional divisions were made from the 100 lots in the Military Tract Town of Ulysses. Residents at the southern portion of Ulysses formed the Town of Ithaca from 31 lots, while at the same time, 36 lots of the Town of Ulysses became the Town of Enfield. On April 2, 1821, the state designated Ithaca an incorporated village located within, and surrounded by, the Town of Ithaca.

In 1823 the state legislature increased the size of Tompkins County

by adding to it the Towns of Caroline, Danby, and Cayuta (which became Newfield), all originally from the Watkins and Flint Purchase and at that time part of Tioga County.

The southern portion of what became Tompkins County was originally deeded to speculators associated with a land development company called the Watkins and Flint Purchase. Watkins and Flint land stretched along the southern border of the state from the Unadilla River to west of Seneca Lake. Over time this land tract became Broome, Tioga, and Chemung counties.

On August 4, 1791 John W. Watkins, a New York lawyer, Royal W. Flint, and several business associates applied to the commissioners of the Land Office for ungranted lands lying east of the Massachusetts pre-emption lands and south of the Military Tract. This area constituted approximately 363,000 acres. The development company agreed to pay three shillings and four pence per acre, this amount recorded in the State Land Papers (vol. xi, p. 141). After a survey, a patent for the land was issued the developers in 1794. The land was not totally free, however, for the state had granted some parcels to individuals who had served the state interest in exchange for land. One of those was Peter Hinnepaugh (named as Himepough in the documents), who received 800 acres in Danby in 1791; John Cantine, who had served as a land judge, received three parcels in land in the town of Caroline in 1792, one parcel of 2,400 acres, another of 2,000 acres, a third of 800 acres. These were known as "Cantine's Great Location" and "Cantine's Little Location."

Settlement within the Watkins and Flint lands was by means of private purchase and for this purpose the owners placed agents instructed to deal directly with those interested in buying land. One of those was James Pumpelly, who was located in Owego.

The prices were variable but ranged from two to three dollars an acre. What this meant is that people with wealth could buy and create large farms, while people with less means could buy smaller tracts of land. In the Military Tract, the size of the land grant was a uniform 600 acres. In Watkins and Flint, not only were the lot sizes variable,

but there were a great many small lots sold so the map of this southern area shows many more landowners on smaller pieces of land. This was not a problem if the land was of good quality. Nor was it a problem at the beginning of the nineteenth century, when only three to five acres could be cleared in a year. If too much land, however, proved not to be fruitful, or as more land was needed to sustain a farm when agricultural equipment could improve yields, it meant that those on the Watkins and Flint purchases, where the land was hilly and thin, were at a disadvantage.

The last significant change to the county's boundaries occurred in 1854 when a portion of the Town of Newfield, and all of the Town of Hector, became part of Schuyler County, which was formed at that time.

In New York, according to the Town Law of 1777, there are towns in the state, but not townships. The legally recognized names of administrative areas are county, town, and village. There are also unincorporated hamlets, which are populations that have no legal requirement, or need to maintain a separate government. They are administered within a town. In Tompkins County today, for example, Freeville is a village; it has responsibilities as an incorporated community within the Town of Dryden. Etna, in the Town of Dryden, on the other hand, or Jacksonville, in the Town of Ulysses, or Ludlowville within the Town of Lansing, are recognized geographic areas but not incorporated and therefore are not required to create or maintain village governments or services.

Tompkins County

A Genealogy of New York County Names or How We Get to Tompkins

Carol Kammen
Tompkins County Historian

In 1693 there were ten counties in the colony of New York: Albany, Dutchess, Kings, New York, Orange, Queens, Richmond, Suffolk, Ulster, and Westchester. Albany County was thought to extend into the west, but the land from Unadilla to Niagara was known more generally as Iroquoia for the Iroquois Indians who lived on it. It was land prohibited to settlers of European extraction by tradition and by proclamation in 1763 of the King of England.

In 1775 the colonies in the New World were engaged in a conflict with Great Britain and the colonists were forming themselves into Americans. The Iroquois Confederacy sided, for the most part, with the English and so the Americans needed a name that indicated their own ownership of the western part of New York rather than allowing the Indian name to stand. At first Albany County was used but the land was so extensive it needed a clearer designation. The name selected was Tryon County, which embraced nearly all of central and western New York.

During those war years the State of New York wrote its first constitution (1777) and its first set of laws about the towns within the state. This establishes towns as the primary unit within counties.

Tryon County became Montgomery County in 1784 to honor the

American general who fell at the battle of Quebec. Out of Montgomery came Herkimer County in 1791, which encompassed several counties we know today: Onondaga, Oneida, Hamilton, and part of Otsego.

Onondaga County was created in 1794 from Herkimer and was within the Military Tract. Out of Onondaga came Cayuga County in 1799, Seneca in 1804, and Cortland in 1808. Only in 1817 was Tompkins County created from parts of Seneca and Cayuga counties, and a portion of the Watkins and Flint Purchase.

Town of Caroline

Barbara Kone
Town of Caroline Historian

Caroline was originally Town No. 11 of the Watkins and Flint Purchase. In mapping the area, the company owners established roads, and settlement grew. By 1806 the company had identified an area as the Town of Spencer, which contained Town No. 11. In 1811 Town No. 11 was set apart from Spencer, although without a name.

At a meeting held in a schoolhouse many names for the area were suggested, among them Cantine. John Cantine Jr., a major landholder, was reluctant to have the family name honored and he proposed that a spelling book be opened and the first female name found taken as the name of the town. This was done and Caroline became the name of the town as well as the names of the daughters of Cantine and Dr. John Speed, another major landowner.

On March 22, 1823 the state removed the Town of Caroline from Tioga County and annexed it to Tompkins County.

In the Town of Caroline, many roads were first called by the names of the pioneers who settled along them; some were later changed to honor newer families. Even the configurations of some of the roads have changed as land changed hands or new destinations developed. Many of the name changes were not formally made in Town Board meetings, and some names came as a complete surprise, even to the residents in the twentieth century, when road signs appeared. In some cases it took a number of years before the names became commonplace,
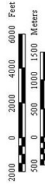
Town of Caroline

1:60000

One Inch represents 5000 Feet

New York State Plane Central
1983 North American Datum

North

Feet
2000   0   2000   4000   6000

Meters
500   0   500   1000   1500

Caroline

Caroline Center

Speedsville

Slaterville Springs

West Slaterville

Brooktondale

Besemer
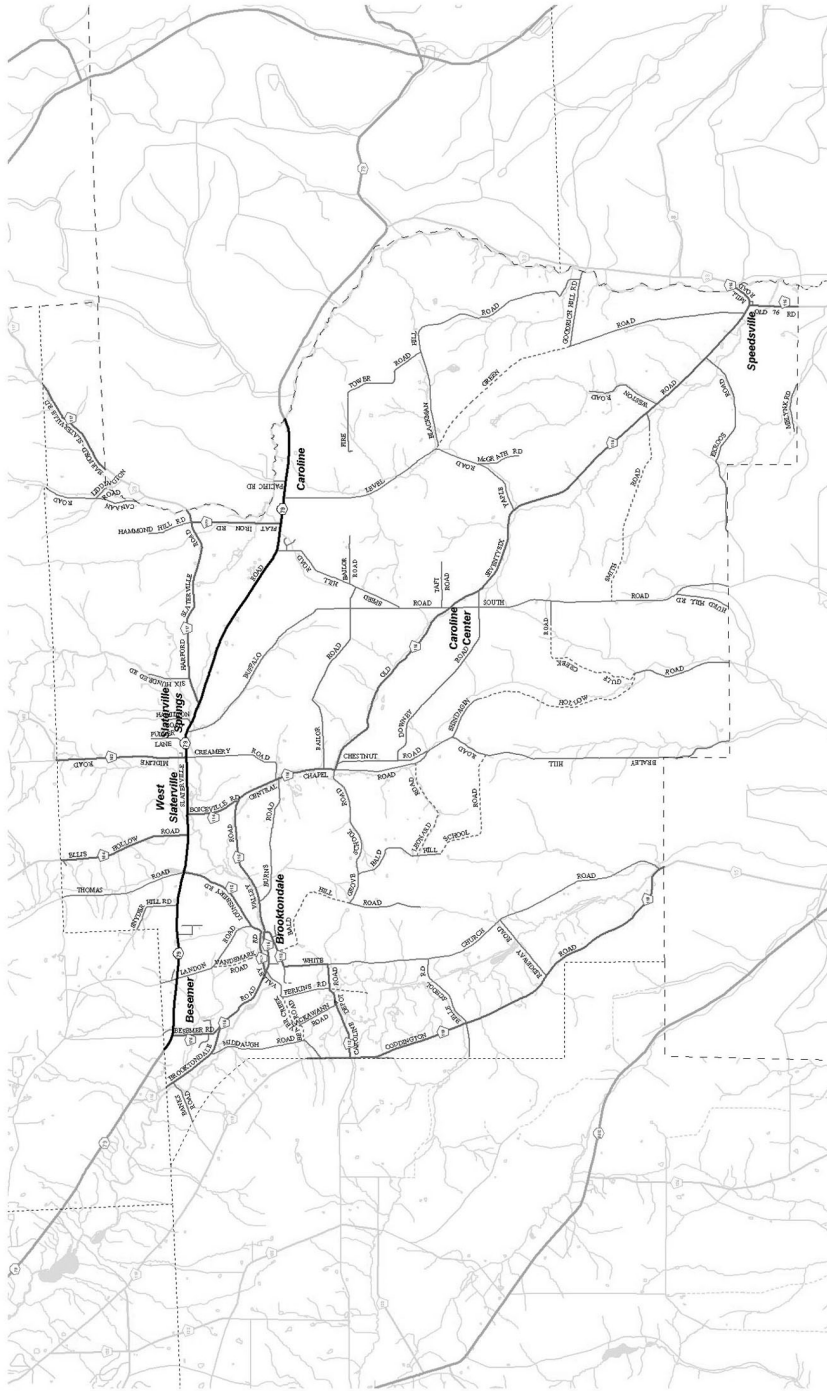
and some roads and places are still known by their "old" names and not by those on our current maps.

Bailor Road was named for Daniel Bailor, whose farm in 1880 was located on the west end of this road, which went from Seventy-Six Road (now Central Chapel Road) to Buffalo Road. In the 1849 Pathmaster's Book, Bailor Road was shown as Chestnut Road, but by 1923 it appears as Bailor on the Town of Caroline highway map with no indication of when the name changed. Bailor Road Extension was part of what was known as Line-of-Lots Road, and it crossed Level Green Road and continued easterly up the hill to a spot close to the present day Fire Tower Road. For nearly 100 years it was a well-traveled shortcut from one hill to the other.

Bald Hill is sometimes called Bald Mountain. On U.S. topographical maps it is shown as being 1,884 feet high. The Widow Jemima Van-DeMark Personius was one of its early settlers, arriving in 1813. The road was known for its main industry, a skunk farm, and also for a four-story barn built by Camp "Doc" Reed that featured a "barn-bridge," a ramp-like entryway to an upper floor that went over the road.

Besemer Station. The Elmira, Central & Northern Railroad (EC&N) built a water tank approximately six miles southeast of Ithaca, near the home of Josiah Besemer, whose family had settled the area before 1820. Mr. Besemer sought a station near the water tank, but when the railroad refused to build one, in 1875 Besemer and his son Willis built it themselves. It was known as Besemer's Depot until January 1883 when the name was changed to Besemer (pronounced Bees-mer).

   The railroad ceased to operate in 1935, but Besemer Station had become the center of community activities, and Willis Besemer had served as station agent for 60 years. Besides being used as a passenger terminal for the health resorts in Slaterville Springs, the building was used to store coal, lime, flour, and feed. The old Catskill Turnpike, now State Route 79, passes through the settlement.

Blackman Hill Road was named for Abraham and Lemuel Blackman, and their sister Sarah, and her husband, Ezekiel Jewett, all of whom came to Caroline in 1804 from Berkshire County, Connecticut. In 1810 they were joined by another sister Martha and her husband, James Tracy, and later by other family members including Lydia, Levi, Esther, and Eli Blackman.

Boiceville. *See* West Slaterville.

Brearley Hill was originally called Hart Road, but many persons by the name of Brearley (or Brealy, Brealey or Braley) are buried in the cemetery and the area takes its name from the Brearly family resting there.

Brooktondale was once called Cantinesburgh, after John Cantine Jr., who settled in 1798 on land given to him by his father, Colonel John Cantine, the owner of large tracts of land known as "Cantine's Great Location" and "Cantine's Little Location." These were awarded to Cantine for his service in the state militia during the Revolutionary War and his service as a land-claims judge. Some parcels Cantine acquired from other Revolutionary Militia land grantees.

   The area that became Brooktondale has also been called Cantine's Mill and Cantinesville, and later took the name Mott's Corners, after William Mott, who bought Cantine's Mill in 1830 and converted it to a plaster mill, then added a sawmill and a furniture factory specializing in fine tables. Before long he had six sawmills and several stores. Other names given to the place were Mottsville, Mott's Hollow, and Mott's Mill. When the Mott family left the area, the name was changed to Brookton, which the post office adopted in January 1883. Because of the similarity of spelling of Brookton to Brockton and Brooklyn, the Post Office Department changed the name to Brooktondale in February 1926.

Buffalo Road was named for a Mr. Leonard, who first appeared in the 1870s but became a recluse after the turn of the century. He was known

to go into Slaterville only for supplies. Roughly dressed, he reminded the citizens of "Buffalo Bill Cody," and so the road on which he lived was unofficially named Buffalo Road. It had begun as Speed Road.

Burns Road was originally Bush Road, but it was renamed for Mr. Thomas "Tommy" Burns who emigrated from England to Canada and then Caroline in the late 1800s. His son, "Tom" Burns, married Gladys Crispell, and was well known in the area for his fiddling at community gatherings. In 2001 some residents wanted to rename the road "Tommy Burns Road" to distinguish it from the other Burns Roads in Tompkins County, but officials decided against making a change because it would cost residents an unneeded expense and emergency crews already knew how to respond when summoned.

Canaan was originally in the Town of Dryden and settled by the Isaac Hunt family. It was known as Union Valley, but on December 5, 1885, nine lots (91–100) were transferred from the Town of Dryden to the Town of Caroline, of which "Canaan" and "600" were part. Canaan, the biblical "land of milk and honey," is an often-used place name in New England and the Midwest. There is another New York Canaan, in Columbia County.

Caroline. The hamlet of Caroline was called Yankee Settlement because of the many people who came from New England, starting in 1794, and it is the oldest settled part of the town. It was later called Tobeytown after Nathaniel Tobey, an early pioneer. The Tobeytown Post Office was established about 1819, after Dr. Speed's "Speedsville Post Office" moved to Caroline Center, and continued until August 1902 when Rural Free Delivery replaced the local office and the hamlet came to be known as Caroline.

Caroline Center was first called Centreville because it was just east of the center of the town. The spelling of the hamlet's name has never

been officially changed, but has evolved to "Center" as the use of American spelling became more prevalent than the English version.

Caroline Depot was a station established in 1855 by the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western Railroad (DL&W), running between Ithaca and Owego. A post office was established in May 1860, and the train depot served the DL&W and also the EC&N which converged there before running parallel through White Church Valley. In 1901 there were two stores, a feed mill, and an apple evaporator at Caroline Depot. By 1940 the businesses were gone.

Cecil Keane Lane was named for a well-loved schoolteacher (1890–1970) who lived for a time in the Tobey Tavern. She taught three generations of students in the same school, including her own children and grandchildren.

Centerville. *See* Caroline Center.

Central Chapel is a scattered community named for a Methodist chapel that was torn down in 1940. In 1933 the Federal Resettlement Project removed several farm buildings from the area. Central Chapel Road was originally Judge's Road.

Creamery Road. R.G.H. Speed opened the Caroline Cheese Factory in 1869 in Slaterville on a track or road that had no name. The road became known as Creamery Road, probably in preference to Cheese Factory Road.

Dutch Settlement. *See* Slaterville.

Fire Tower Road leads to the 1930s Civilian Conservation Corps lookout tower on what had been known as Allen Road on Blackman Hill. The tower was of steel construction, and 68 feet high. Because the tower was an identifiable point, the road became known as Fire Tower

Road. In 1977 the tower was dismantled and moved to the New York State Fairgrounds in Syracuse.

Flat Iron Road is a one-mile flat and straight road that was also known as "The Cross Road" because it was used as a shortcut. The road represents the heel or base of a "flatiron"-shaped parcel of land bounded by three roads including Mud Bridge.

Fuller Lane is a newly created roadway in Slaterville named in honor of Lena Fuller, a schoolteacher, and her son, Ralph, a former Town Supervisor. The road is the entry to a small housing development on what had been the Fuller farm.

Guideboard Corners marks the crossing of roads between Brooktondale and Caroline Center where Seventy-Six, Grove School, and Central Chapel roads converge. Until the late 1940s or early 1950s a signboard indicated distances to Brooktondale, Caroline Center, Speedsville, Slaterville Springs, Willseyville, Candor, Owego, and Ithaca. There are no records to indicate when the sign was removed.

Hardscrabble Hill, now known as Taft Hill, was a difficult place to farm or to make a living; it was a hard scrabble. The first known use of the term hardscrabble comes from the Lewis and Clark journals in 1805.

Honeypot is the area between Candor and Caroline Center named because of the bee trees located there, or possibly because of the illegal refreshments produced there from 1910 on. In Tioga County it is still known as Honeypot Road, but in the late 1960s in Tompkins County it was renamed Smith Road. It was originally Speed Road, then Speed Road South until Mr. Speed's post office was moved from Caroline Center to Jenksville.

Jenksville. *See* Speedsville.

Level Green Road is only level for a short stretch in the Caroline valley. It was first known as South Road.

Line of Lots Road was named because it ran on a section line dividing lots 1–9 and 22–29 from lots 10–15 and 40–44.

McGrath Road was named to honor the McGrath family, who settled there from Ireland. The name is pronounced "Mc GRAUGH," close to McGraw. The southern part of the road has been abandoned.

Midline Road was originally called the Dryden Road because it connected Slaterville Springs with Dryden.

Mott's Corners. *See* Brooktondale.

Mud Bridge crosses Flat Iron Road over a muddy culvert that drains a swamp. The Roundsvell family owned the property on both the north and south sides of Mud Creek. It is believed they built a wooden bridge across the creek in the very early 1800s so they could have easier access to the north side of their farm.

The Narrows occurs along the Seventy-Six Road as it follows the creek through a narrow winding gorge. In the early 1980s the road was widened. The road became less treacherous, but it is still referred to as "The Narrows."

Pacific Bridge crosses Owego Creek and is now a culvert. Miss May Tobey (1847–1915) named the road because of the quiet (or pacific) beauty of the view. This bridge was on Elishaburg Road. Owego Creek divides the Town of Richford in Tioga County from the Town of Caroline. The road on the Caroline side of the creek has been known as Pacific Road since 1966 when New York placed a road sign where Route 79 intersects. When the road crosses the bridge into Tioga County, it is known as Elishaburg Road. Even though the people in

Tioga County live on Elishaburg Road, in the town of Richford, their official address is Pacific Road, Brooktondale, because their mailboxes are located on the Town of Caroline side of the creek.

Pugsley's Depot was named for Abraham B. Pugsley, named postmaster in 1850 and serving until 1860 when the post office was moved to Caroline Depot. In 1834, the depot was located on the old Ithaca & Owego Railroad and the railroads that came through later, the DL&W and the EC&N, adopted the name. People who live in the area of the old Depot use the term among themselves.

Rawson Hollow was named for Lyman Rawson, who came from Vermont and was the first settler in an area on West Owego Creek. Mr. Rawson kept a tavern and at a town meeting in 1816 it was "Resolved, That Lyman Rawson be prosecuted for retailing speerits without a license." There was a post office at Rawson Hollow from August 1856 to December 1861.

Roseybone is the name of the ridge that runs along the north side of State Route 79. It was known as Roseybone because of the warm glow cast by the setting sun. Many older people in the area still refer to "the Roseybone," and folklorist Carl Carmer mentions it in his book *Listen for a Lonesome Drum: A York State Chronicle* (New York, 1936).

Seventy-Six Road. Augustine Boyer laid out the Seventy-Six Road from Boiceville (now West Slaterville) to Jenksville (now Speedsville). The road was built by the local settlers and named by Boyer on July 4, 1808, in honor of the generation who fought in the Revolutionary War. Today it is known as Boiceville Road, and from Guideboard Corner is known as Central Chapel Road. It is often called the old "Seventy-Six" road and the road signs that replaced the original ones state it is the "Old Seventy-Six" road, but the name has never officially been changed and it remains "Seventy-Six" (not "*Old* Seventy-Six") Road.

Shindagin Hollow or "Shindagen" is a corrupted form of Shandaken. Early settlers from Shandaken, Ulster County, called this Prospect or Shandaken Valley. In Tioga County the valley is called Prospect Valley.

Six Hundred refers to the 600 acres of undeveloped land that included the headwaters of Six Mile Creek and was mostly in the Town of Dryden. A number of residents of South Dryden petitioned to have lots 91 to 100 transferred to the Town of Caroline because it was too difficult a trip into Dryden, and the Town of Caroline was much more convenient. The Dryden Town Board granted the transfer on December 5, 1885. While much of the property was improved and mostly farm land, the undeveloped portion became known as "600."

Six Hundred Road was known until 1885 as Yates Road but when the lots from the Town of Dryden were transferred to the Town of Caroline, the road along this section of 600 acres became the Six Hundred Road. It was the site of "Bottom Mill," a sawmill built in 1808 by Elijah Powers.

Ski-Jump developed in the early 1940s when Tar Young gave a parcel of land on Webb Hill to Cornell University. The existing buildings were dismantled and removed, and Cornell University built a ski center with a rope tow on the hill. After the opening of Greek Peak in Cortland County in the 1960s, the "Tar Young Ski Center" gradually closed down. It was used as a polo field for a very few years before it was sold to a developer. The flat field on the north side of the hill was the site of the Vickery and Tobey Taverns. The larch trees planted to designate the ski trails can still be seen.

Slaterville was originally called Dutch Settlement, because many of the settlers were of Dutch ancestry, mostly from Ulster County. In 1823 the post office was named Slaterville in honor of Levi Slater, an early settler and the first schoolteacher. By 1866 there were 171 residents in the area. The period of greatest prosperity was between 1871 and

1900. In 1871 Dr. William Gallagher discovered that the water of Slaterville had a high content of various minerals. The "water cure" was believed to be of medical value, and summer guests at Slaterville hotels totaled as many as 200 at a time.

Slaterville Springs. On August 2, 1890, the name of the Slaterville post office was changed to Slaterville Springs. The 275 permanent residents of the hamlet welcomed this name change because it helped to promote the resort business. At one time there were three large hotels built for the "rest and water cure" trade. This business started to decline by 1920 when the water cure fad faded.

Speed Road/Speed Hill Road honored Dr. Speed and his family. One section, from Caroline Center to Candor, was later known as Honeypot, and the section from Caroline Center to Slaterville was known as Buffalo Road. The road that ran from Slaterville to Harford was named Speed Road, but is now Harford Road until it crosses into Cortland County where it becomes Slaterville Road. In 1966, when the Slaterville Road (Route 79) in Caroline was improved, "Speed Hill Road" signs appeared on Webb Hill Road, also known as Caroline Center Hill Road or Rounsville Road.

Speedsville was originally owned by Laban Jenks who bought 400 acres known as "The Corners." In 1800 it became known as Jenksville. Between 1832 and 1835, the citizens of Jenksville wanted their own post office and Speed was willing to move his "Speed Post Office" from City Lot near Caroline Center, to Jenksville if his name would be retained. Speed's influence prevented the name of the post office from being changed, but in a compromise Speed resigned the office and another postmaster was appointed. Thereafter, the hamlet was known as Speedsville. It thrived in the mid-1800s with a gristmill, feed store, woodworking shop, barrel and crate factory, jug and crock potters, two general stores, a creamery that produced 500 pounds of butter a day, a cheese factory, blacksmith shop, bowling alley, and cider mill.

The Speedsville Common was incorporated in 1863 and the park

commissioner reported to the school district. When the school closed, the Speedsville Community Association assumed the supervision of the community park.

Terryville was named for Willet Terry, postmaster in 1832. A year later, the office was moved to Mott's Corners, due to the influence of William Mott. The area was known as Terryville only as long as the post office existed.

Tobeytown Road is at the site of the Tobey Tavern.

West Slaterville is a small community one-half mile west of Slaterville Springs on the Catskill Turnpike (Route 79) and was named first for Abraham Boice who came from Ulster County in 1816. The community extended westward to the Dutch Reformed Cemetery and included a tavern where the first town meeting was held, a tollgate, blacksmith shop, livery, and a school.

White Church took its name from "The Old-School Baptist Church of Caroline" established in 1843 but destroyed by fire in the mid-1800s. The nearby station on the Cayuga-Susquehanna Rail Road (later the Delaware Lackawanna & Western) was also called White Church. The station was a stop for passengers, milk pick-up, and the school children attending school in Candor. A post office was established there on July 19, 1876, and discontinued December 31, 1902.

Willow Bridge crosses the West Owego Creek and divides Tompkins County from Tioga County on State Route 7. It was named for the willow trees that grow there. In some older records there are citations to other areas in the county called Willow Bridge but none have survived.

Yankee Settlement. *See* Caroline.

Town of Danby

Joan Grant
Town of Danby Historian

Danby. The Town of Danby originated as a portion of the Watkins and Flint Purchase, the lots sold by the development company's agent located in Owego. When Spencer, in Tioga County, was designated a town, it included land that is today Danby. In 1822, however, the New York State Legislature annexed Danby, along with Caroline, to Tompkins County. The final transfer occurred on March 22, 1823.

Over the years, two land adjustments were made to the Town of Danby. In 1839, a square of land on Eastman Hill was taken from the Town of Caroline and added to Danby, and in 1857, a triangular piece of land lying northeast of the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western Railroad (DL&W) tracks was transferred from Danby and placed within the Town of Caroline.

The name Danby can be traced to Thomas Osborne, born in 1632, who became the Lord High Treasurer of England. He lost his power and spent five years in the Tower of London, then regained his freedom. He was awarded a number of titles, including, in 1674, the Earl of Danby. He died in 1712.

According to Glenn Norris, the Earl of Danby received a grant of land in the New World in the eastern portion of New York. That parcel, however, after being organized as the Town of Danby, was in a section of the state claimed by Vermont and in 1789 it was given to Vermont. Norris believed that early settlers from Danby, Vermont,

Town of Danby

North
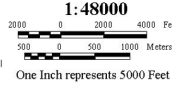
1:48000

2000 0 2000 4000 Feet
500 0 500 1000 Meters

New York State Plane Central
1983 North American Datum

One Inch represents 5000 Feet
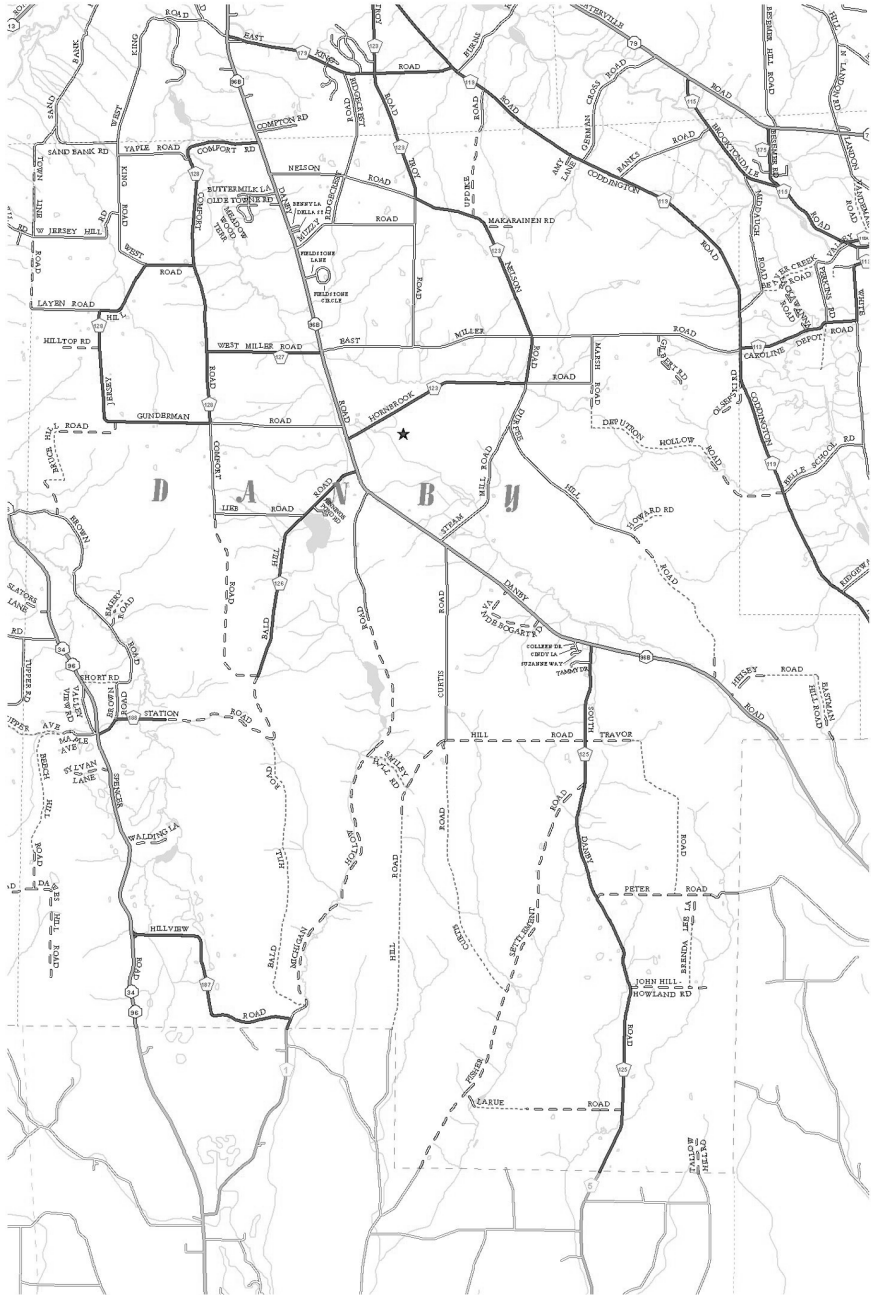
D A N B Y

brought the name to the Watkins and Flint Purchase when land in central New York became available.

Elias Deyo, a Dutch immigrant who arrived in 1796, is said to be the first to build a home in the village of Danby. The Ithaca-Owego Turnpike, opened in 1811, passed through the village. Its president was Dr. Lewis Beers, one of the earliest settlers in the town. In 1806 his brother, Abner Beers, opened the first store in a log building. In 1841 the turnpike became a public highway. Today it is State Route 96.

South Danby is centered around the Hall Tavern, built in 1811, and still standing at 2613 Danby Road. Leonard Hall, according to Linda McCandless in her chapter on the Town of Danby in *The Towns of Tompkins County: From Podunk to the Magnetic Springs* (pp. 75–76) operated the tavern having received permission to sell "strong or spirituous liquors and wines to be drank at the dwelling."

Moses Barker settled West Danby in 1808, establishing a Baptist Church there in 1810. The Ithaca & Athens Railroad, which became the Lehigh Valley Railroad, passed through West Danby where it erected a depot. The station and trains were discontinued in the 1940s. A post office established in 1850 is no longer in operation.

Beers Settlement was established by Dr. Lewis Beers and his brother Abner. It never developed and the name is now long out of use.

Curtis Road was named for Dr. Elbert Curtis who settled in the area in 1809. Curtis was the town's second doctor.

Jennings Pond was created by the Ithaca Water Company in 1895 as a watershed for the City of Ithaca's water supply. It is located one-half mile up the Bald Hill Road and is named for the Benjamin Jennings family who arrived in Danby in 1802. It was never used as a reservoir, as intended, and in the 1930s the Jennings family conveyed 10.75 acres to New York State. It is now sometimes called Danby Pond and is maintained by the Town of Danby. The pond is located at the headwaters

of Buttermilk Creek, and it is part of the New York State Parks system and Buttermilk Falls State Park.

Michigan Hollow was a small settlement in the southern part of Danby. It received the name Michigan because that was the destination of a party of emigrants who found themselves in Danby and decided to remain. They named their new home for the place they had expected to be. Michigan is an adaptation of an Indian word. *Michi* means great and *gami* means water. The only Great Water in the Michigan Hollow area of Danby is Michigan Creek, not exactly the equal of one of the Great Lakes!

Miller Road was named for Ebenezer Miller and his two sons, William and Raymond, who settled land and created the road in the early nineteenth century.

The Pinnacles was originally called Thatcher's Pinnacles, named for its original owners, and is sometimes still referred to that way. The place is located in the central southwest corner of Danby and stands at a height of approximately 1,730 feet. It is accessible from Bald Hill Road at the intersection with Station Road, where there is a marker for Abbot's Loop trail that leads to the Pinnacles. The trail is maintained by the Cayuga Trails Club and is part of the Danby State Forest. From the Pinnacles there is a nearly 180-degree panoramic view of West Danby, the Newfield hills, and Connecticut Hill.

Yaple Road is named for Jacob and John Yaple who, along with Isaac and John Dumond, came into Danby in 1789 after being forced from land they had cleared in Ithaca but to which they did not have legal title. The families moved four miles south of Ithaca, cutting their way through the woods to their new home located a short distance from the bridge that now crosses Buttermilk Creek.

Town of Dryden

Elsie Gutchess
Town of Dryden Historian

Dryden. The Town of Dryden was surveyed in 1790 by John Konkle and numbered Township No. 23 of the Military Tract and then named Dryden for the English poet, John Dryden. Settlement in Dryden began with the arrival of Amos Sweet in 1797. Others who followed held the first town meeting on March 1, 1803, at the home of Captain George Robertson on the Bridle Road at the corner of Baker Hill Road, where the Plantation Inn is now located. On February 23, 1803, the township of Dryden was set off separately and located in Cayuga County.

When Tompkins County was formed on April 7, 1817, the state removed Dryden from Cayuga County and it became part of the new county. On January 1, 1887, lots 94–100 were taken from the southern border of Dryden and transferred to the Town of Caroline. Dryden currently contains 94 square miles of land. The Town of Dryden has the most miles of roads of any town in the county and, according to the town Highway Superintendent Report of December 2001, 162 of them are named.

Beam Hill Road was established sometime before 1850, running from the Lake Road, up the hill to the home of the Beem family, the road name having been misspelled. By the 1860s, it was extended over the hill and down to Irish Settlement Road, and its western end was called

Town of Dryden

North

1:65000

2500   0   2500   5000 Feet

500   0   500   1000 Meters

New York State Plane Central
1983 North American Datum

One Inch represents 5417 Feet

West
Dryden

Village of
Freeville

Village of
Dryden

Etna

Varna

Ellis

Bethel
Grove
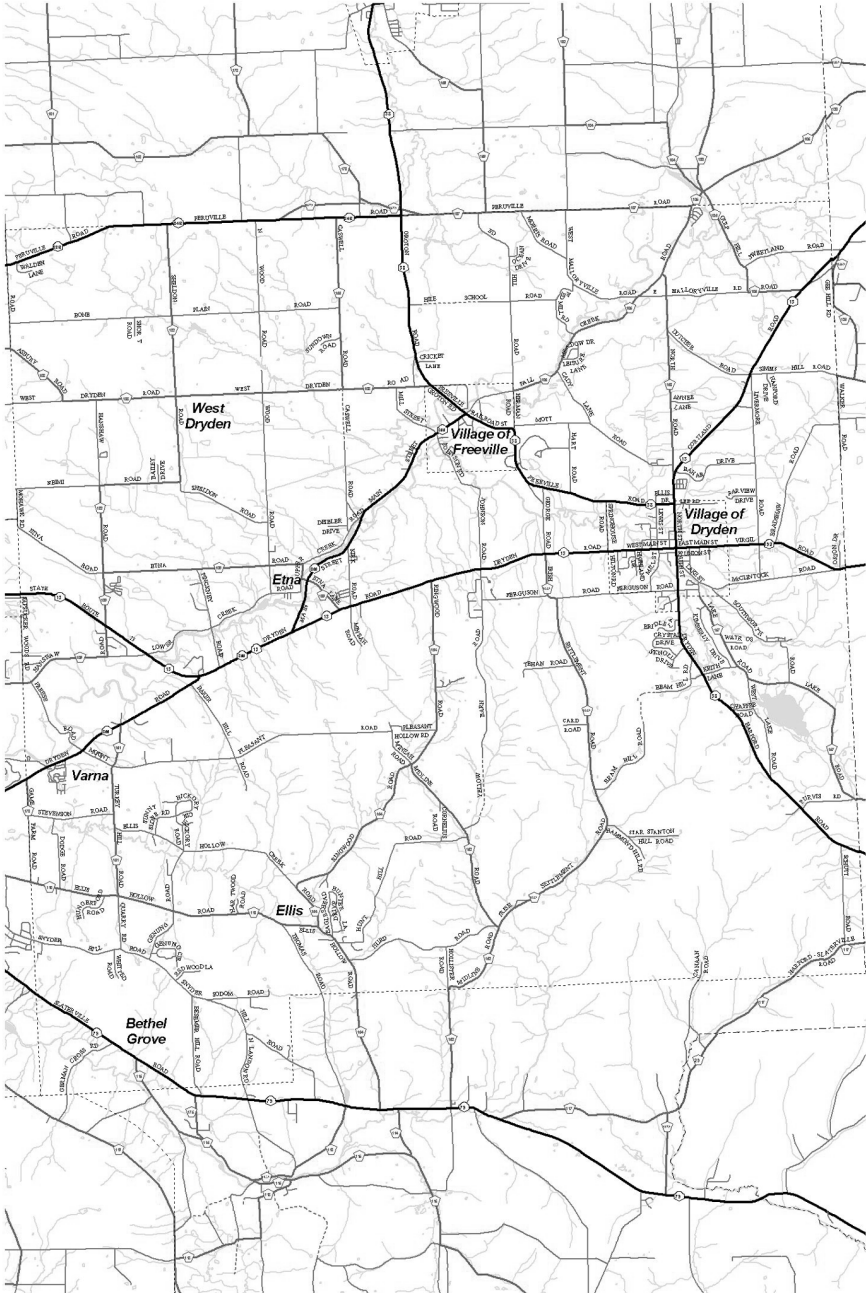
Thomas Road. In 1978, the center part of the road was closed. Now it is open again as Beam Hill Road. The lower, eastern end of that road was changed to Dug Road and Keith Lane.

Besemer is a family name (Beseman) that first appeared on the 1853 map of Dryden. *See also* Besemer *in the* Town of Caroline.

Bethel Grove is located on the Slaterville Road**.** The word bethel means a hallowed spot, or a dissenting chapel for non-sectarian worship. This, together with its situation in a fine grove of trees, may have been the genesis of the name Bethel Grove.

Bone Plain Road began as West Washington Road. The name changed in the early 1900s. Karl Koistenin states that in the early years of the twentieth century horses had died in the area and their bones were left on the ground. In addition, according to resident Norm VanTine, the land was flat and barren, resembling a plain with stones that also resembled bones.

California was listed in directories of 1860 and 1879 and on town maps as the crossing of Yellow Barn and Midline roads. It was supposed to have received this name, commented Iva Cornelius VanPelt (1904–2001) "from a group of pioneers whose original goal had been that far-western state (the 1849 California gold rush), but who so liked the Hollow that they decided to remain here instead."

Canaan Valley, also called the "Happy Land of Canaan," is in the southeast corner of the town, the portion deeded in 1887 to the Town of Caroline. The next valley to the west was called Sodom (sod′-um) and was possibly named from the Bible. Most of that area is now State and Federal land.

Chicahominy Road was once Farrell Road. During the Depression of the 1930s, according to an interview with Peter DeBruyan (1926–2001),

chickens and hominy were what the residents of that area had to eat. By the 1970s it changed again to West Dryden Road/Route 108. In the Town of Lansing, the explanation for Chicahominy is somewhat different. *See* Chicahominy *in the* Town of Lansing.

Dodge Road appears on an 1853 map and is named for the Reverend Dodge, a Snyder Hill minister known to be in the town in 1824 . The widow Dodge was the occupant of the only house on the road. (So shouldn't it be Widow Dodge Road?)

Dryden, Village of. *See* **Village of Dryden** *at the end of this section.*

Dryden Lake is actually a branch of Virgil Creek. In 1803, James Lacy built a dam that caused the nearby area to form a millpond first known as "Little Lake." Dryden Lake is one mile long and one-half mile wide and 1,500 feet above sea level. The lake and its surrounding area were developed for the Town of Dryden's Bicentennial Celebration in 1997 when the area became known as "Dryden Lake Park." In 2001, the park trail was renamed "Grampa Schug's Trail," for Town Commissioner James Schug.

In 1853, a road ran from Griswold's Mill, off the Lake Road, northerly to McLean. Some parts of it were called Livermore Road and Gulf Hill Road. By 1890, the road was gone. In 1971, a small section of the southern end of this road reopened as Watros Road for the family living nearby. That name disappeared from the maps created in 1971 and 1982, but returned in the 1987 map and is still here today. What now is referred to as Lake Road or Route 157 was earlier called East Lake Road in the 1950s and Tripp Road.

Dusenberry Hollow was named for the many Dusenberry families who lived nearby. The name was later corrupted to Dusenbury.

Ellis Hollow was named for its first settler, Peleg Ellis, who arrived in 1799. Ellis located his acres in the endless forest with the aid of a map,

and marked trees indicating the surveyed boundaries. He found his lot and immediately began chopping out a clearing. Eleven days later, Zephaniah Brown appeared. He had settled nearby, and hearing the sound of the axe came to call upon his new neighbor. A post office was established in 1880 under the name of Ellis Hollow. Hollow was dropped from the name in 1882, and the post office was discontinued August 30, 1902.

Several of the earliest roads in the Ellis Hollow area and identified on the 1850–1860 maps were named after the first settlers: Hurd Road, Thomas Road (now Route 110), and Hunt Road (Hunt Hill Road). *See also* Ringwood Road.

Ellis Hollow Creek Road was known originally as Creek Road before the 1960s and as Back Road even earlier. In *Ellis Hollow Lore* (1962), Z. M. Pritchard wrote that Zephaniah Brown had cleared a road from his place to Ithaca in 1799, and that two years later Peleg Ellis and Brown extended the road into the Ellis Hollow neighborhood.

During the 1920s and 1930s, Curtis G. Lloyd of Ohio, whose son John Thomas "Sam" Lloyd was a graduate student at Cornell, donated 114 acres of swamp and wetlands to preserve these fragile areas. Known today as the Ringwood Preserve, the land is managed by Cornell University. The Lloyds called them the "Lloyd-Cornell Reservations," though that name is rarely used anymore.

By 2001, several parcels of land donated to the Finger Lakes Land Trust, became the Ellis Hollow Nature Preserve of 111 acres.

Etna is a hamlet on Fall Creek, which began in 1800 as Miller's Settlement. It was named for the Miller brothers, the first settlers to arrive in the area. With abundant waterpower available from Fall Creek, many small industries developed which soon made the little community a busy spot. In 1815, Miller sold out and went west. From then until 1823, the community was called Columbia. When the post office was established, the name was listed as Etna, said to have been suggested by the presence of several distilleries that burned pine knots

and stumps to create a hot fire. Their chimneys belched flames and smoke which local residents likened to the eruptions of Mount Etna. By the middle of the nineteenth century, Etna had a reputation for horse running and liquor distilleries, there being ten to twelve stills within two square miles.

Fox's Corners. *See* West Dryden.

Freeville, Village of. *See* **Village of Freeville** *at the end of this section.*

Freeville Road/Route 38 was first known as Wheeler Road, named for Deacon Wheeler, who settled in 1804 on lands one mile north of Dryden Village.

Gee Hill was named for John Gee, a Revolutionary War soldier who came to Dryden around the year 1796.

Genung Corners and **Genung Road** were both named for early settler Jacob Peter Genung. About 1950 development nearby created new road names: Beechnut Terrace, Hickory Road and Circle, Lone Oak Road, Sunny Knoll Road, and Sunny Slope and Sunny Terrace. Other newer area roads include Brooktree Lane, Deer Run, Eagleshead Road, Hartwood Road, Hickory Road Circle, Hunters Lane, Knoll Tree Road, Peaceful Drive, and Woodland Road, all of which evoke a pastoral area even as those acres became built up.

George Junior Republic is a residence for young people in need of structure and supervision. It was created in 1890 by W. R. "Daddy" George who brought 22 boys from New York City to Freeville for the summer. By 1895 he had acquired 43 acres for his school, much of it the Oliver Cady farm, and he advertised his organization the "Smallest Republic in the World." The student residents were children with problems or needing supervision. GJR has grown to over 500 acres with 22 buildings. Currently it serves about 150 boys placed there through various state programs.

George Road honors the George families who were among the first pioneers in this area, arriving in 1804.

Gilesville was named for the Isiah Giles family who arrived 1806, but due to a dubious land title, moved from Etna further down Fall Creek to just above Varna and again built a home and mill. The area soon became known as Gilesville Mills and the area as Gilesville.

Hammond Hill State Forest was named for the Hammond family who were early residents of the area. The forest spans 3,618 acres and was established between 1935 with the work of men in the Civilian Conservation Corps through the 1950s.

Hibbards Corners was a community located at the crossing of the Ellis Hollow and Turkey Hill roads on the 1853 map. The Henry Hibbard family arrived in 1812. In 1828, Hibbard joined with Jeremiah S. Beebe to construct the Clinton House, a grand hotel in Ithaca which is still standing.

Irish Settlement was originally known as South Hill but in 1811, a party of emigrants, including the Teers Brothers from Ireland, arrived giving the hill a new name. The earliest north-south paths in the area followed an Iroquois trail, the boundary line between the Cayugas and the Onondagas. The first missionaries traveled this trail in 1745, guided by Indians.

Ithaca-Oxford Turnpike/Route 13 was the first road commissioned by New York State in 1792, running westerly from Oxford, a distance of about sixty miles, to Cayuga Lake. Earlier the Iroquois had used this route as a footpath, and it is said that Joseph Chaplin, who was hired by the state to create a road, only cleared the fallen trees and brush, and cut out some lower branches for his pay. The way was rough and the earliest pioneers could not ride astride their horses as the very dense and giant white pine and hemlock branches had only been trimmed near the ground. Travelers leading their horses had to follow

the blazed trees. Soon the turnpike was known far and wide as the Bridle Path.

Kingdom Road is named for the Jehovah Witnesses' Kingdom Farm first appearing on a town map in 1978.

Lacey Corners is a crossroad one mile north of Dryden Village, near the entrance to the Tompkins Cortland Community College (TC3). It was named for the J. R. Lacey family who lived and farmed there.

Lost Road, true to its name, is an elusive road. It was a short road running from the Harford Road in the far southeast corner of the town. Between the 1950s and the 1980s, this road was on and off the maps. Lost Road now appears to be lost again.

Malloryville was already a little community when Samuel Mallory arrived and bought the mill in 1825. At that time, the community took Mallory's name. He built other mills along the creek and gave employment to as many as 40 people. In 1836 a great fire burned everything. Mallory sold out and went west. Later owners rebuilt the mills, but they burned again in 1855 and 1875. The area was listed as a hamlet in 1860. The last of the mills was torn down in the early 1900s.

Monkey Run Road was first named around 1850. In 1958 it was called Drunkers Run. Some old timers commented that this was a place people would go for romantic encounters, or where "people monkeyed around."

Ocean Drive first appeared on the 1978 town map with no name. In 1982 the map clearly labels it Olean Drive but in 1985 it was again Ocean Drive, and it is Ocean Drive today.

Old Dryden Road was originally the Cortland Road, often a trouble spot because of deep snow or water overflowing from Beaver Creek.

When Route 13 was widened and repaved in the mid-1940s, the cut was straightened and moved higher up on the west bank. It was first called Old Dryden Hill Road.

The Punch Bowls are geological formations dating from the glacial era and are bounded by Mott, Cady, and Fall Creek roads. They have long been mined for their rich gravel deposits.

Red Mill was built in 1807 by Isaac Ogden and was in continuous operation for 130 years or until 1938, when the dam went out, destroying its source of power. The brightly painted Red Mill was a landmark for many generations and gave its name to the area.

Ringwood Road. There is a legend concerning the origin of the name Ringwood Road (Route 164) that comes from an interview with Iva Cornelius Van Pelt (1904–2001). She remembered that her grandfather told of the "ringing sounds that echoed through the woods made by the men with their axes as they cleared the hills that circled the little settlement of Ellis Hollow." Thus the "ringing woods."

Sapsucker Woods and **Sapsucker Woods Road** as place names can be dated to 1909 when Arthur A. Allen, professor of ornithology, and Louis Agassez Fuertes, talented and well-known bird illustrator, identified a yellow-bellied sapsucker in the woods. The road was developed after 1957 when Cornell University built Lyman Ornithology Laboratory at the end of the road, along with some other facilities, one for dogs and another for mink. In 2003 Cornell University opened its modern Laboratory of Ornithology, somewhat changing the configuration of the road with a new entrance from Route 13.

The Six Hundred refers to a 600-acre mountainous forest of virgin softwoods 150 feet tall, located on very steep hills north of the Sodom and Canaan Valleys in the southeast corner of the town. It was a popular nesting site for the now extinct passenger pigeons. Before the

Civil War, part of the area was owned by wealthy New York aboli-tionist, Gerrit Smith of Peterboro. He had plans of owning an escape pathway the entire length of the state and into Canada for the use of fleeing southern slaves.

Snyder Hill Road was named for the Jacob Snyder family, who arrived in the spring of 1801 and soon owned several large tracts of land in the area.

Sodom Road can be found on the 1853 map as a lane to one home, but the Sodom (sow'-dum) family did not live there until c. 1930s.

Stafford Road originally ran north to Cortland County. It is now known as Lilac Lane.

Star Stanton Road and **Star Stanton Hill** run from Irish Settlement Road to the Dryden–Harford Road. Starr Stanton (1850–1920) was a resident of Dryden who held many village offices. He also wrote for a newspaper edited by William Jennings Bryan. The Stanton family lived up on the hill in 1868.

Tompkins Cortland Community College was organized in 1966 in Groton. In 1970 the college moved to its new facility on 220 acres of the old Albright, or Portzline farm on the edge of the Village of Dryden.

Turkey Hill Road, now Route 161, was originally a main north-south route. Oldtimers recalled that the name came from the drovers who walked flocks of turkeys to market, letting them feed and sleep at night in the beechnut forest on that hill.

Varna is a hamlet settled in 1800 by Isaac Varna and others. By 1803 Gabriel Cain had built a mill using the power of Fall Creek. The Varna Post Office operated from 1833 to November 1918.

Von Engeln Nature Preserve. In 2001, the Nature Conservancy opened the 308-acre area named O. D. von Engeln Nature Preserve with its entrance on West Malloryville Road. Von Engeln was a professor of geology at Cornell University in the early years of the twentieth century and is known for his books about the geography and culture of the area. See in particular *Concerning Cornell*, published in 1917, which contains two essays about the geography of the county.

Watros Road began in 1853 as an unnamed path leading to McLean. Parts of it were called Livermore Road and other parts Gulf Hill Road. By 1890 the road was gone. In 1971 the southern end reopened as Watros Road. Between 1972 and 1981 the road was again missing, but it reappears on the 1987 map and has been noted each year ever since.

Werninckville, located along Route 366, was created in 1950 by Lionel Werninck who opened the area for both business and homes. Private streets, named for his family, are Kirby Drive and Sheryl Drive.

West Dryden was settled in 1804, by Samuel Fox, a Revolutionary War veteran who brought his family into the northwest corner of the town that became known as Fox's Corners. The post office department rejected the name because there was a Fox's Corners elsewhere in the state, so the post office was established under the name West Dryden. Well into the early 1900s, however, the hamlet was still commonly called Fox's Corners. The post office was discontinued in June 1902. During its pioneer period (1816–1840) the little settlement was a business place of some importance. In 1860 the population was 93.

West Dryden Road. In the mid-1950s, the central section of the West Dryden Road was known as Zeman Road.

Willow Glen was first inhabited by a group of fourteen persons who came west with one yoke of oxen and a sled in 1798. It was known for a time as Stickles Corners, for one family of the group. For 50 years,

this community rivaled Dryden Corners in size and industry. About 1850, resident Huldah Phillips named it Willow Glen because of the nearby willow trees along the banks of Virgil Creek. Willow Glen Cemetery, once a meeting place for the Iroquois, became a cemetery as early as 1816, on land claimed by Aaron Lacey on his arrival in 1799. The cemetery was enlarged in 1864 for the returned Civil War dead.

Wood Road is named for the family of Mary Ann Wood Cornell, wife of Ezra, and was first called Trotting Park Road. In the 1970s, a beaver colony made dams and flooded the area and the town was forced to abandon the center section of the road.

Yellow Barn Road was named for the large barn located near the top of the hill. The Yellow Barn State Forest covers a large part of this area now. In 1960s, farm owner C. W. "Hap" Sadd and his family set up the Yellow Barn Development Company and laid out new roads: Corn Crib Road, Spring Run Road, Thresher Place, Top Forty Run, and Foothill Road (some maps mislabeled it Foote Hill Road). Developer Bob Keech, in the mid-1970s, opened Knollwood Road and in the late 1980s on the east side of Yellow Barn Road, Gene Rotunda laid out Bear Circle and Chelsea Circle.

Village of Dryden

Laurence Beach
Village of Dryden Historian

Settlement in the village began in 1797, and it was first called Dryden Corners. When the post office was established in 1811 the name became Dryden. The village was incorporated in 1857.

The earliest named streets in the village were North, South, Main, and Mill. Union and Pleasant Streets were named by Congressman Jeremiah W. Dwight and bordered his farm. Union probably commemorated the Union side during the Civil War. James Street was

named for James Hurd, a carpenter and associate of Dwight, who lived around the corner on East Main.

Library Street was inserted when the Southworth Library was established in 1885, the funds coming from Jennie McGraw to honor her mother and grandfather. Goodrich Way, honoring George E. Goodrich, lawyer, mayor of Dryden, and editor of *The Centennial History of the Town of Dryden* published in 1898, was created in 1991 when the street was developed and a sewer line was run through to it.

Neptune Drive was named in 1976 for the Neptune Hose Company, part of the Dryden Fire Department, but some had petitioned for Willowbrook Drive for the senior housing built nearby. Michael Lane, Dryden lawyer and member of the Tompkins County Legislature, delighted everyone with his limerick about the name:

> When some folks built a street up in Dryden
> The name they had trouble decidin'.
> 'Twas 'Willow' at first,
> But to 'Neptune' reversed,
> No doubt 'twas the will of Poseidon.

Cemetery Avenue originally went to the Greenhill Cemetery hastily created during the Civil War. Robert Baker changed the name in 1951 to Highland Drive and the next year he created Highland Crescent.

Some of the street names are self-explanatory: Mill led to the Old Stone Mill; Lake to Dryden Lake; Hillcrest Drive was on the crest of the hill of the former Monroe farm; Elm Street was named for the elm trees that lined it; Evergreen Street because of Lee Tripp's Christmas tree plantation. Spring House Road, which is Spring Road at one end, was named for the Dryden Springs Hotel purchased in 1862 by Dr. Samantha Niveson, who ran it as a water cure sanatorium.

Some names have been given for personal reasons. The Patch brothers, who came to Dryden from Berkshire, named Berkshire Street in 1972. That year Elmer Goehner named Jay Street for his children because they all had names beginning with the letter J. Lee Road

(established in 1948) and Ray Place (established in 1972) are the names of the sons of Lewis and Jane Terry Gridley, the developers. Hill Place, also developed by the Gridleys in 1972, was named for Ed Hill, who lived on the corner of Lee Road and Hill Place.

In 1976, Robert Shaw added Brookside Drive, Greystone Drive (in 1977) as well as Pebble Drive in 1984. In 1988 Larry Carpenter named Tannery Circle for the old Kennedy Tannery that operated for more than 80 years in the area. Wellsley Drive was named in 1989 for the Wells family. Logan's Run was named in 1986 for the daughter of Mahlon Perkins, a local attorney. Penny Lane, in 1986, was named for Penny Stevens, who owned a lot there.

Many streets in Dryden Village, of course, bear family names, such as, Hilton, Monroe, Pratt, Wall, Marsh, and Rochester. In fact, the Dryden Village President in 1865 and again in 1874 was Rochester Marsh.

Village of Freeville
Joan Manning
Village of Freeville Historian

The first settler in the Village of Freeville was Elder Daniel White who arrived in 1798. He built a home near Fall Creek and constructed a log and stone dam, and also the first gristmill in the Town of Dryden. White's son John constructed a second and larger dam and gristmill upstream in 1833. The growing community was called White's Mill and White's Corner. Elder White, having no desire to perpetuate his name, is said to have proposed the name Freeville. The name was in common use prior to 1836 when it appeared in the charter of the Ithaca and Auburn Railroad. The village developed between the mill near the lower four corners and east to the railroad junction and depot near the upper four corners. The post office was established in Freeville in 1864, and the village was incorporated on July 2, 1887. It is the second

largest village in the Town of Dryden, and it remains the only Freeville in the United States.

A development within the Village of Freeville is named The Crossing on Virgil Creek, situated on the east side of Johnson Street between the Lehigh Valley Railroad bed and Virgil Creek. It is within the village limits. Depot Road leads to it and Tanbark Circle runs through it. It was developed by Harris Dayton on land cut from his farm in the mid-1990s.

Town of Enfield

North
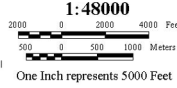
New York State Plane Central
1983 North American Datum

1:48000

2000   0   2000   4000 Feet
500   0   500   1000 Meters

One Inch represents 5000 Feet

Enfield
Center

Town of Enfield

Susan Thompson
Town of Enfield Historian

Enfield. The town was divided from the Town of Ulysses on March 16, 1821. It consists of 36 military tract lots, or those numbered 34 to 39, 42 to 47, 50 to 55, 58 to 63, and 66 to 77. The town is six miles square. The reason for the creation of the new town was surely because of the great distance the people in the lower portion of Ulysses had to go to participate in town government.

According to most sources, the name Enfield came from Enfield, Connecticut, although most of the earliest settlers appear to have been from New York rather than New England. Of the earliest settlers mentioned in the Four County History, four were from other New York towns, two from Pennsylvania, two from New Jersey, one from England, and two from Middletown County, Connecticut.

Enfield, however, has a pleasing sound. There are at least eleven other places named Enfield in the world and the origin of the town name is English. Towns named Enfield can be found in the United States, Australia, and New Zealand.

In 1979, the Town of Enfield renamed several roads: Stevenson Road became Harvey Hill Road; Porter Hill Road Extension became Hubbell Drive; Buck Hill Lodge Road became Griffin Road. County Line Road was renamed Buck Hill Road. These names reflect families living in the town at the time.

Applegate's Corners is situated on the old Susquehanna-Bath Turnpike, now State Route 79, also known as the Mecklenburg Road because it leads to Mecklenburg in the Town of Hector. Until 1853 Hector was part of Tompkins County; afterward it became part of Schuyler County. The name Mecklenburg, called "Meck" locally, is probably from Mecklenburg in North Carolina. Between 1803 and 1812, a number of southern families settled in the general area and most likely brought the name north with them. John Applegate arrived in 1805. He opened a tavern in 1807 and the crossroads took his name. Applegate Post Office was established in 1822 and discontinued in 1873. In 1892 it was opened again but lasted only until 1902.

Ben Road. *See* Shudaben Road.

Black Oak Corners is located at the intersection of Harvey Hill and Black Oak roads. Black Oak Corners was so named because of large black oak trees that once grew there. A particularly large specimen stood at the intersection of the roads but the town cut it down in 1927 when automobile traffic required better roads.

Bostwick Corners was named in 1820 for Andrew Bostwick, who established a home on what became Bostwick Road and State Route 327. In 1832 there was also a Presbyterian church. The Harvey Hill School, District #11, operated from 1853 (shown on the 1853 Enfield Town Map) until 1957, ending with the redistricting of the Ithaca School District.

Enfield Center is located at the geographic center of the Town of Enfield and is commonly referred to as The Center. The first permanent settler in Enfield Center was Judah Baker, who arrived in 1804. A post office was established in The Center in 1846 and discontinued in 1918. The name was spelled Centre until 1846 when the U.S. postal authorities regularized the spelling.

Enfield Falls identifies a small community located near the falls on En-field Creek. Settlement began in 1817 when Isaac Rumsey built a grist-mill tapping the ample waterpower and other settlers built nearby. A post office operated at Enfield Falls from 1882 until 1902.

Enfield Falls faded as a population center and the waterfall and gorge became part of the Robert H. Treman State Park, created when Robert and Laura Treman gave Enfield Glen to the State of New York. The area was designated a state park in 1920. The mill in the park was built in 1839 on the site of the original mill. It has been restored and is open to the public.

Fish Road. *See* Ice House Road.

Honeypot is considered a fanciful name. It refers to a small community near the entrance to the Robert H. Treman State Park, also called Enfield Park. The area was known for a time as Meadowbrook because of the meadows nearby, which might have been a source of pollen for honeybees. Meadowbrook appears on the 1920 Tompkins County map. There seems to be no documentation for the term Honeypot, nor, as of 2001, is it still used. *See also* Honeypot *in the* Town of Caroline.

Ice House Road was cut through in 1870; it became Fish Road in 1979, by which time icehouses were relics of the past.

Kennedy's Corners is the name of the intersection of Sheffield Road and Route 79. A Methodist Episcopal church organized there in 1844. The church disbanded in 1983 and the building is currently a private home. Kennedy's Corners is assumed to refer to Robert Kennedy, who owned a farm in that vicinity. He was mentioned in the 1864 Diary of Asahel Lovell Harvey owned by Karen Dickson. Asahel lived on Mecklenburg Road; his farm is now an antique store called "City Lights." Asahel went to Robert Kennedy's on March 14, 1864, to see cows but could not buy them. On September 10, 1864, he wrote

in his diary that he was going to a pole raising up to the corners at Kennedy's.

Miller's Corners was located at the intersection of State Route 79 and Enfield Main and Halseyville Road. It is a present-day gathering place because of the Valley Korner Grocery Store and Gas Station and the nearby Sandy Creek Trailer Park. The Enfield Elementary School is also located near this intersection. It is also called The Corners, The Store, or sometimes Sandy Creek.

Shudaben Road is located off Enfield Center Road. It was first called Ben Road after a child born to the Zipfel family and was a private road, not yet accepted by the Enfield Town Board. On November 2, 1994, residents requested that the Enfield Town Board have the road come under the town's jurisdiction. At that time, the name was changed to Shudaben Road. It is said that this reflected the sentiment that it "should have been a road before."

Stone House Road. *See* Woodard Road.

West Enfield took its name from a short-lived post office located at the junction of what were then called Georgia and New roads. The post office opened in 1832 and closed by 1841. New Road can be found on the maps today. New Road was not exactly a new road but rather an improvement of the turnpike and so-called new because of its better condition.

Woodard Road was named for the Woodard family that built the 1821 stone house now located in Treman Park. Woodard Road leads to Stone House Road. The name Woodard has changed through time to be sometimes spelled Woodward. Woodard is used for the road and name of District #7 School.

Town of Groton

Rosemarie Tucker
Town of Groton Historian

Groton. The Town of Groton is located in the Military Tract in the northeast corner of Tompkins County. It was created in 1817 when Locke, (Military Town No. 18, named for John Locke, the English philosopher) was divided into two portions. The northern part retained the name Locke and is part of Cayuga County. The southern lots, numbers 51 through 100, became part of Tompkins County and the area was named Division.

The first town meeting was held in March 1818 at the home of Isaac Love. At this meeting the inhabitants of Division petitioned to change the name to Groton, and Samuel Crittenden was elected Supervisor and Admanthea Blodgett Town Clerk. According to Glenn Norris, some attending that first meeting had favored the name York. The original settlers, however, came from the vicinities of Groton, Connecticut, and Groton, Massachusetts. The Perrins were from Berkshire County, Massachusetts; Ebenezer Williams from Charlemont, Massachusetts; and Ezra Carpenter, who came in 1797, was from Savoy, Massachusetts. The Mortons, a large family including David, Mordecai, David Jr., Robert, and Andrew Leonard, a son-in-law who came in 1805, and then Zachariah and William who came somewhat after, were all from Colrain, Massachusetts, and might have found the name Groton familiar. This might have also been true of the Trumbles, Crittendens, and Stones, who came from eastern Connecticut.

Town of Groton

1:48000

One Inch represents 4000 Feet

New York State Plane Central
1983 North American Datum

North
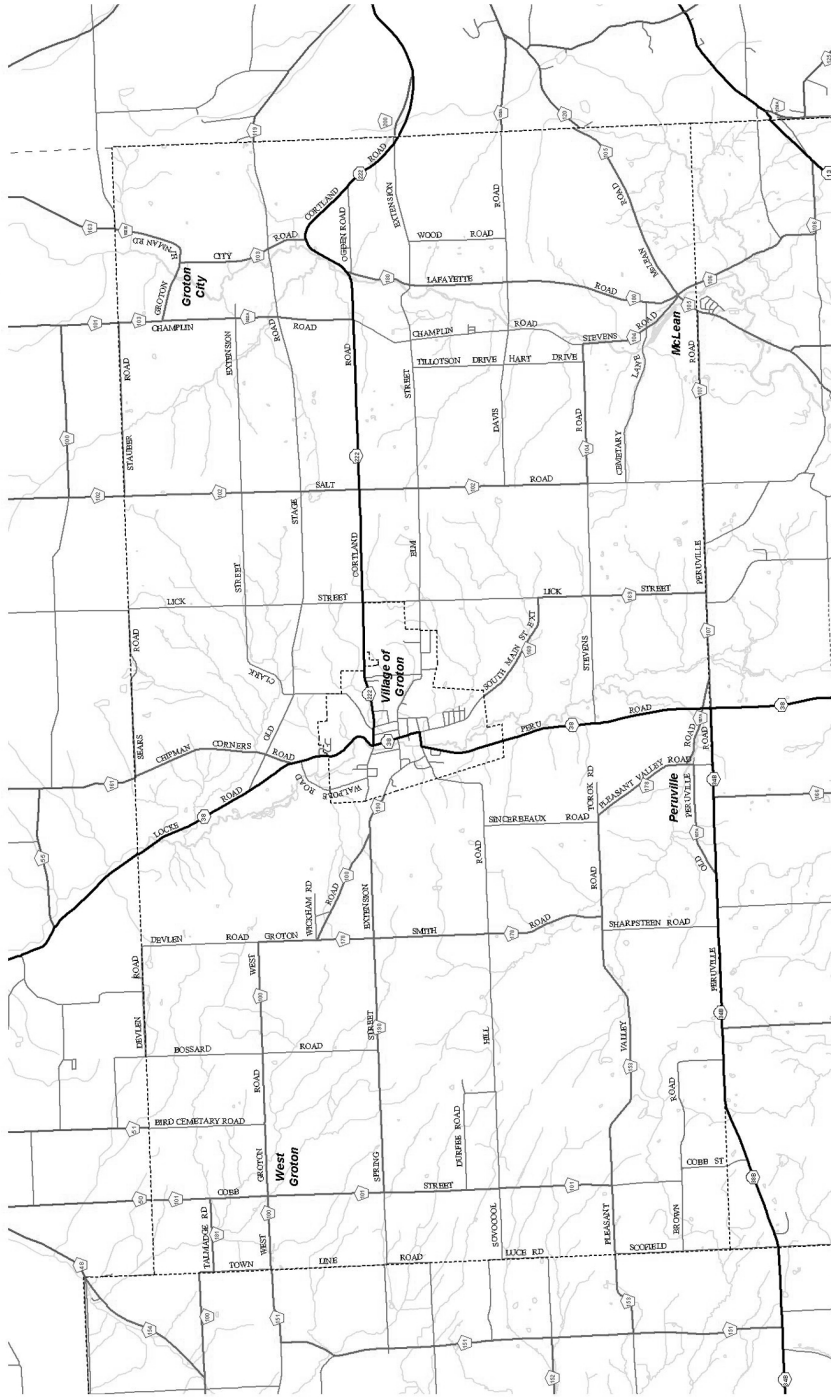
Groton in Connecticut and in Massachusetts were named by members of the Winthrop family. John Jr. arrived in Massachusetts Bay in 1646 and then moved on to Connecticut. Winthrop's home place in England was known as Groton. Groton, Massachusetts, was named in 1655 by Dean Winthrop, John's brother. Groton, England, is located in Suffolk. It was referred to as Grotena in the Domesday Book, the word meaning "sandy or gravelly stream" and comes from the Old English. In 1671 there was a witchcraft case in Groton, Connecticut, and during the American Revolution the town was known to be particularly patriotic in the American cause. There are Grotons in Connecticut, Massachusetts, Vermont, New York, Nebraska, North Dakota, New Hampshire, Ohio, and South Dakota.

Groton was located by John Perrin who arrived in 1797 as an agent for Captain Benjamin Hicks, who had received several land grants for the area for his service in the Revolutionary War. Not needing scattered holdings, Hicks proposed to survey and sell his land in Groton. Hicks had hired Perrin to act as his agent and to survey and then sell the lots. In the War of 1812, Benjamin Hicks became a Major.

The Village of Groton was incorporated in 1860 with a population of 596. At first the area was referred to as Groton Hollow. A notice in the *Ithaca Journal* on April 18, 1871, said that "Groton is sometimes called Drouton Hollow," but no one in recent times has ever heard of this name used. In the nineteenth century, Groton became an active manufacturing center, home of the Groton Bridge Company (beginning in 1849), and the Groton Carriage Works, established in 1876, growing from Charles Perrigo & Company. In 1867 Corydon W. Conger was contracted to build a railroad through the village for the Southern Central Railroad. This railroad later became a line of the Lehigh Valley Railroad, but rail traffic ended in 1978. The Crandall Machine Company, makers of the earliest typewriters, moved to Groton from Syracuse in 1897. In 1909 Standard Typewriter began production in Groton. Tompkins Cortland Community College (TC3) began in Groton in 1968. It moved to Dryden, its current campus, in 1974.

Most roads in the Town of Groton did not have names until the twentieth century. Then the names given were those of landowners living in the area. On the 1937 map of Groton there was the Morton Reese Road, which became Old Stage Road in the 1950s. There were roads named for local people: Judge Davis Road, Fred Brown Road, Jones-Rogers Road, and Lloyd Durfee Road. In addition, there was one road named for a woman. It was, perhaps, the only one in the county prior to World War II. According to the 1937 map, Miss Wood Road was in the eastern part of Groton. All of these names have since dropped the first name and have become Davis, Brown, Rogers, Durfee, and Wood roads. In 1993 Wood Road was officially changed to Devlen Road. It runs from West Groton Road to the north, then westerly to the existing Hilliard Road in Cayuga County. The Devlin-Gale Road turns a corner, a rather unusual trait in a local road. Gale has been dropped, and today is Devlin Road.

In 1937 Clark Street started at Cortland Street in the Village of Groton going northeast about 1.5 miles, then it made a 90-degree turn and became the Blanchard-Groton City Road. In later years the Blanchard-Groton City Road became Clark Street Extension. Walpole Road was known as Walpole Street in 1937 from West Cortland Street to State Route 38.

The *1892–93 Directory of Trumansburg, Groton, Dryden and Ithaca* gives the names of streets in the Village of Groton as Bacon Avenue, Barrows, Cayuga, Church, Clark, Cortland, Elm, Main, Mill, Park, Pleasant, Railroad, South Main, Spring, South, Sykes, and Williams streets.

Benson's Corners is a crossroads named for pioneer settler Nathan Benson. It marks the area where families with the name of Benson still live. Earlier, in 1833, a post office called Bensonville was established at the crossroads with Nelson F. Benson the first postmaster. The post office was discontinued in 1902 and after that, the name fell from use.

Chipman Corners Road goes from Route 38 in Groton north to State Route 90 in Cayuga County. It is named for the Chipman family, who settled on the north end of this road in mid-1800s.

East Side Road appears on the 1937 town map as running along the east side of Fall Creek. *See also* West Side Road.

Elm Street is shown on the 1937 map. It is in the Village of Groton meeting the corner of Salt Road. After it crosses Salt Road, it becomes Nubia Road near the Cortland County line.

Elm Tree Inn. *See* McLean.

Footville. *See* Nubia.

Franklinville began early in the nineteenth century as a tiny community in the northwest corner of Groton. There were three small lumber mills on the narrow ravine, and some called the place Devil's Den, for the dangerous ravine in the area. This name is no longer used.

Gooseville. *See* Nubia.

Groton City is a small hamlet in the northeastern part of the town located on Fall Creek. Originally called "Slab City," it was a lumbering community with numerous sawmills. The term Slab City was probably derived from the slabs of wood from the mills. The word city denotes a bishopric, or a "see," and it is from that word that city evolved. Groton City was never, however, an ecclesiastical location.

Settlement began even before the change of name. Lot #59 was given to Captain Daniel Niven in payment for his military service. Captain Lemi Bradley purchased a portion of his land and settled there. Bradley became a Major during the War of 1812. Another part of Niven's land was purchased by Jesse Bartholomew. William S. Clark Esq. purchased

water privileges and built a dam and machinery for clothing works. Shortly after the Revolutionary War, Captain Jesse Clark also bought 64 acres in this area and some of his descendants still reside in the town. A post office established in Groton in 1824 was named Fall Creek Post Office but it was discontinued in 1841. The post office was re-established under the name of Groton City in 1849, closing in 1902. The name Groton City is still used for this area.

Grotto might have been adapted from a play on the word Groton. The word grotto means cave. Grotto was situated in the southwest part of the town. There was a post office by the name of Grotto from 1892 until 1902. Edwin W. VanMarter was a merchant and first postmaster. Whatever meaning Grotto had, the term is still used by locals.

Lafayette is named for the Marquis de Lafayette, who made a widely popular tour of New York State in 1824. Many places along his route took his name. There is a Lafayette, sometimes spelled La Fayette, in Onondaga County, and Fayetteville in Madison and Onondaga counties. In fact, there are seven places in the United States named Fayette, at least eight places named Fayetteville, and ten named Lafayette.

The four-corners settlement in the east part of the Town of Groton has always been referred to as Lafayette. It is located on Fall Creek where the Groton-Cortland Road (State Route 222) crosses the creek. A sawmill and gristmill were once located there. When the gristmill was built, it was christened by its pioneer builder George Fish, on the same day that General Lafayette was at Auburn. Fish called it Lafayette Mill. The Marquis never traveled through the Town of Groton but his name is still used when referring to this area.

Lick Street runs approximately four miles in a north-south direction from Summer Hill in Cayuga County through the Town of Groton to the McLean Road. It was named for George Lick, who settled in the Summer Hill area in 1818.

McLean is located in the southeast part of the town on Fall Creek. McLean was originally known as Moscow. Since there was already a Moscow post office and village in New York State, the name was changed to McLean in 1824 to honor Judge McLean, the newly appointed Postmaster General. An early settler of this area, Amasa Cobb, built the first log cabin on the site of the current Elm Tree Inn. The Reverend Benjamin Whipple, a Methodist, was the first to preach in the area, in 1805. By 1860 there were five churches in McLean. In 1864 a cheese factory was put into operation and became one of the largest and most successful in the state. By 1868 it had produced 1,716,200 pounds of cheese.

Moscow. *See* McLean.

Nubia is a small community that formed in the nineteenth century just south of Lafayette. It was originally known as Gooseville because of the number of geese kept there, and later it was called Footville, after a local family. In 1893 the Post Office Department demanded a more formal name because it was about to establish an office there. When none of the names suggested were deemed suitable, someone in the Post Office hierarchy suggested Nubia. The residents, according to Glenn Norris, did not think much of the name. When the Post Office established Rural Free Delivery in 1902, the Nubia Post Office was discontinued.

Why Nubia? Ancient Nubia, located between the first and fifth cataracts of the Nile, was powerful between 3100 BC and AD 400. For a time, Nubia ruled ancient Egypt. Today there is Nubia Lake and the Nubian Desert in the Sudan, but the name is probably most associated with the Bible where Nubia implied any place far off. This place name is still used by local residents.

Nubia Road. *See* Elm Street.

Pleasant Valley was the designation given in the late nineteenth century to a one-room school and a Wesleyan Methodist Church. Pleasant Valley included dirt roads bordered by fields, meadows, and pastures. From some of the hills of Pleasant Valley one could view the church spires of the small village of Peruville.

Peruton was a flag stop on the railroad where mail was collected, and it served as a milk station on the Southern Central Railroad (later the Lehigh Valley Railroad).

Peruville is located in the southern part of the Town of Groton close to the border with Dryden. In 1818 it was known as Peru, which may have been derived from the Town of Peru, which was one of the three original towns in Herkimer County. There was also Peru, Massachusetts, which was near Groton, Massachusetts. Another possibility is that the name might have been taken from the news.

Levi Bodley surveyed the hamlet in 1817. Owasco Inlet flows through Peruville and was used to run saw- and gristmills. There were also a tannery, a blacksmith shop, an ashery, a log tavern, and a distillery. In 1833 Peruville had its own post office. In 1830 Sylvanus Larned was the first Justice of the Peace to be elected by the people.

Reniff Road. *See* Stevens Road.

Salt Road runs approximately four miles in a north-south direction. It derived its name from the route used to haul salt overland from Syracuse to the southern towns of the state.

Stevens Road began in 1937 as Hicks Road, running from State Route 38 to Salt Road. From the Salt Road to the hamlet of McLean, Stevens Road was called Reniff Road.

West Groton. Isaac Allen, arriving in 1804, is considered to be the founder of the settlement of West Groton. West Groton had a post

office in 1833, discontinued in 1902. A sawmill was established in 1848.

West Side Road followed the west side of the bank of Fall Creek. This road appears on the 1937 map of the town. *See also* East Side Road.

City of Ithaca

West
Hill

City
of
Ithaca

South
Hill
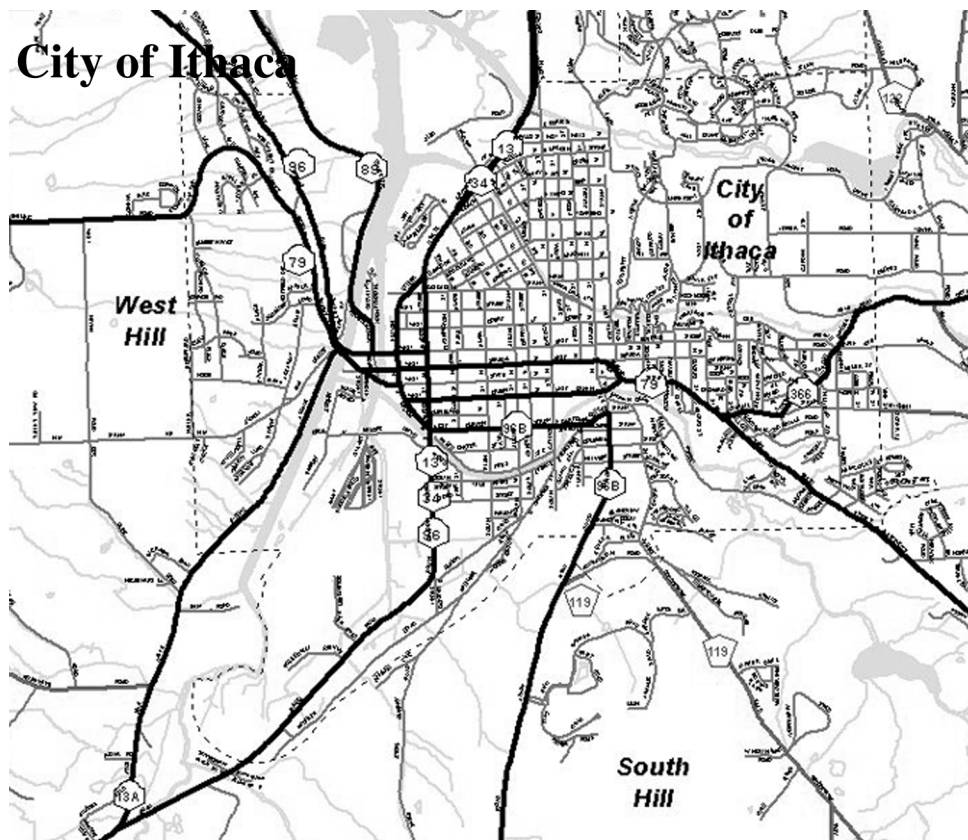
City of Ithaca

Jane Marsh Dieckmann
City of Ithaca Historian

Ithaca grew up at the head of Cayuga Lake and was called the Flats because of its location at the foot of three hills. Its early reputation as a rough and rowdy place led to the name of Sodom after the Biblical city of ill repute. Somewhat later, because of the unusual growth of shade trees, some wanted to call it Forest City. The official name Ithaca was provided by Simeon DeWitt, surveyor general of New York State, an important landowner in the new settlement, and student of the classics. Thus he gave the chief community in the Town of Ulysses the name Ithaca for the Greek island Ithaki, home of the hero Odysseus, whose Roman name is Ulysses.

DeWitt surveyed 49 lots, which he indicated on his 1807 Map of Ithaca. The only street names he gave were Aurora and Tioga (for a destination or direction), and Seneca (for an Indian tribe), Buell (to honor silversmith and typographer Abel Buell, who engraved and printed the first map of the United States in 1784; by 1836 this street was called Buffalo), and Mill for the mill on nearby Cascadilla Creek. When Tompkins County was formed in 1817, Ithaca was designated the county seat. It was incorporated as a village in 1821, and chartered as a city in 1888, when it became a separate municipality.

Abbott Lane is named for Bruce Abbott, developer of West Hill Terrace, a subsidized housing project that opened in 1972.

Adams Street. On early maps Ithaca street names paid tribute to important national leaders. Streets were also named for Washington, Franklin, Hancock, Jay, Madison, and Monroe.

Alice Miller Way commemorates the educator, activist, and dedicated member of the school board, who died in January 1997.

Allan H. Treman Marina is named for city and university attorney Allan H. Treman, who died in 1975. He served as chairman of the Finger Lakes Park Commission.

Aurora Street is one of many early street names given to indicate a direction, or destination, or designation of a place. Other examples include Buffalo, Owego, Albany, Geneva, Auburn, Utica, Hector, and Spencer streets, as well as Dryden and Elmira roads. In 1831 George Blythe and others petitioned the village Board of Trustees "praying for the alteration of the name" of Aurora Street to Pearl Street. The petition was announced as favorable but was repealed in August 1832.

Baker Park is the triangle on Elmira Road between South Albany and Plain streets, was so designated in 1964 to honor Richard S. Baker, who had served the city, mostly as forester, for more than 41 years.

Barton Place honors Colonel Frank A. Barton, Cornell 1891, commandant during World War I and head of the university's ROTC unit; his residence was located on this street in Cornell Heights.

Beebe Lake is named for Colonel Jeremiah S. Beebe, who owned plaster and flour mills at the foot of the Ithaca Falls. When the young Ezra Cornell first came to Ithaca in 1828, he went to work for Beebe and built the dam that created the lake named for his employer.

Belle Sherman was Mary Isabella Sherman. She was a student at Cornell in 1874–1875 and then again in 1877 when she received her grad-

uate degree in agriculture. Scientist, artist, and popular teacher of science and history at Ithaca High School, she served the school system from 1876 until her retirement in 1908. When in 1920 the Bryant Park Civic Association was formed on East Hill, its first purpose was to build a school in the area, which was named Belle Sherman in her honor. It opened in 1925, and in subsequent years the neighborhood around the school acquired the name Belle Sherman as well.

Blair Street is most likely named for Charles H. Blair, Cornell 1872 and Ezra Cornell's son-in law. The 1899–1900 city directory shows three people named Blair living at Llenroc (the Cornell villa), while Sarah and Julia Blair boarded on Blair Street.

Bool Street was named for Henry Bool, who came to Ithaca in 1872, establishing a furniture business and later the floral company at the foot of West Hill which continues to this day with a shop on North Aurora Street. In addition to involvement in numerous commercial activities, Bool wrote extensively and published articles on the philosophy of anarchism.

Brandon Place and **Dunmore Place** form a little square near the intersection of State and Mitchell streets. They were named after Mt. Brandon and Dunmore Point on the west coast of Ireland. Landowner William Driscoll, patriarch of a family of prolific builders, had come from that area. The area was known as Irish Nob.

Brewery Hill is one of several names given to South Hill. It comes from the brewery that operated on Six Mile Creek near the foot of the hill. Prospect Hill was another name cited by Lieutenant Colonel Henry Dearborn, who camped on this place during the 1779 Sullivan campaign against Indian tribes. From his position on the hill, he could look out for Colonel William Butler and his troops, who were coming to join him. Prospect Street remains, and the area of the encampment is known as Terrace Hill today. Another name was Michigan Hill,

because one resident in the 1840s wanted to leave and settle on homestead land in Michigan. He talked so much about it that his neighbors started calling his property Michigan Hill. *See also* Klondike.

Bryant Tract refers to 45 acres of Solomon and Abigail Bryant's old farm, land which starting in 1908 was developed by three of their children and attorney and developer Jared Treman Newman, then mayor of Ithaca. Building lots were laid out, with three open green spaces, one of them being Bryant Park. Bryant Avenue is also named for this family.

Carpenter Business Park, a city facility just off Route 13, is named for Bernie and Sally Carpenter, both dedicated city employees; he ran Ithaca transit (he died in 2003) and she worked for years for the Department of Public Works.

Cascadilla Creek, one of Ithaca's chief waterways, may have a name of Indian origin, similar in formation to Unadilla in Broome County. Possibly too, the word could have come from a combination of "cascade" and "dell," which then reverted to Cascadilla, or from Spanish, meaning little cascades. The origin remains a mystery, but the name has been given to a street, a building that became the first home of Cornell University, a school on East Hill, a development (Cascadilla Park, built between 1908 and 1925), and its street, all located close to the creek. *See also* Treman Triangle.

Cass Park is named for Leon H. Cass, the city civil engineer appointed in 1933 who supervised the development of West Hill subdivisions and was responsible for the formation of the park.

Catherine Street. *See* Cook Street.

Catskill Turnpike was first known as the Bath & Jericho (Bainbridge today) Turnpike and was also called the Old Jericho Pike. Opened in

1804, it was the major stagecoach route through Ithaca. The road was later extended through the Catskills to the Hudson River, hence its name.

Cecil A. Malone Drive. On February 9, 2000, the 700 block of West Clinton Street was officially given this name to honor Bishop Malone of the Bethlehem Church of Jesus Christ. Malone, who died in an automobile accident in 1980 at the age of 50, had worked tirelessly as a community chaplain and counselor.

Cleveland Avenue. By request of the residents, in 1908 Wheat Street was changed to Cleveland Avenue, as a way to pay tribute to the former state governor and two-term United States president, who had recently died.

Clinton Street. Early street names paid tribute to important political figures, including New York State governors. DeWitt Clinton, who served 1817–1823 and 1825–1828, was a major promoter of the Erie Canal; he was also the cousin of Simeon DeWitt, who gained the land at the head of Cayuga Lake. Other streets named for governors are Tompkins Street (for Daniel D. Tompkins, 1807–1817), Lewis Street (for Morgan Lewis, who served just before Tompkins), and Yates Street (for Robert Yates, elected governor in 1823 as candidate of the Bucktail Party).

College Avenue was originally called Huestis (or Heustis) Street for gardener and farmer Lorenzo Scott Huestis, who had a large house and piece of land opposite Catherine Street. In 1908 nearly all the area's residents and landowners petitioned for the name to be changed to College Avenue.

Collegetown is the area just south of the Cornell University campus, settled very early when Otis Eddy built a cotton mill near the present Cascadilla Hall. He also built a dam further up the creek, called Eddy's

Dam, and water from the raceway formed Willow Pond. After the opening of Cornell University in 1868, the area that was rapidly becoming a popular residential area for students was called Collegetown. In the 1890s Huestis Street, with the pond at the top and a direct route to the campus over a wooden bridge, was lined with substantial boarding-houses with such names as The Brunswick (which overlooked the pond) and The Manhattan. In 1903 a private men's dormitory named Sheldon Court was built. Over the years Collegetown has become a student hangout place, with shops, places to eat, and housing for students.

Commons, The Ithaca Commons. From the start in Ithaca, business developed along Owego Street, the main street and stagecoach route through the village. Originally the road turned at the eastern end and headed up South Hill, part of the Ithaca-Owego Turnpike that opened in 1811. The Catskill Turnpike also used Owego Street. In April 1867 the village voted that the name be changed to State Street. Early in the 1970s the two central blocks of the street, between Aurora Street on the east and Cayuga Street on the west, were shut to vehicular traffic, and in 1974 the first locally planned and funded pedestrian mall in New York State was opened. The name The Commons was the winner in a community-wide "name the mall" contest, and a prize of $1,000 went to Ithaca High School senior Bill Ryan; his father had entered the name for him.

Conley Park is named for Ed Conley, who served the city as alderman and then as mayor between 1972 and 1980.

Conway Park had two previous names. It was DeWitt Park, and then Lafayette Park (for the Marquis de Lafayette, who came to the aid of the colonies and fought in the Continental Army during the Revolutionary War). In 1920 the park was given its present name, in honor of Michael F. Conway, Common Council member who was killed in action in France in 1918.

Cook Street is named for the Cook family (the father is listed in the city directory as florist and speculator), who owned a wide tract of land between Eddy and Huestis Streets and several large greenhouses along what is Catherine Street today. Cook had a daughter named Catherine.

Corn Street, like the now-departed Wheat Street, was a name relating to commercial enterprises in the area.

Court Street appeared on Simeon DeWitt's map and many others as Mill Street, named for the Cascadilla Mills at its eastern end. In April 1924 residents came to a Board of Public Works meeting with a unanimous petition to change the name ("anything would be better than Mill," declared one of them). After much debate it was decided to change the name to Finch Street to honor a leading jurist and native of the city, Judge Francis Miles Finch. The resolution passed but two weeks later the residents came back and asked that the name be made Court Street, presumably for the Old County Courthouse that is located there.

Dearborn Place is probably named for Lieutenant Colonel Henry Dearborn of the 1779 Sullivan campaign, the officer who looked out from Prospect Hill.

DeWitt Park and **DeWitt Place** are names that honor landowner and surveyor general Simeon DeWitt, who died in 1834. After his death the village named the public park in his honor. DeWitt Place marks his residence and his original place of burial, as his body was later moved to Albany. His name also appears on the DeWitt Middle School and the DeWitt Building opposite the park.

Dunmore Place. *See* Brandon Place.

Eddy Street is named for Otis Eddy, who in 1827 began the manufacture of cotton cloth in his factory that stood near the present Cascadilla Place. A small industrial settlement developed around it, with the name of Eddyville or Eddy's Villa. As the boundaries of the corporation moved eastward, Eddyville was absorbed into the village.

Elizabeth O. Mulholland Wildflower Preserve. In 1970 the city designated the area east of Van Natta's Dam as a wildflower preserve. In 1990 it was named to honor the person had worked tirelessly for its development and preservation.

Esty Street. Originally listed on maps as New Street, the street was renamed in August 1867 for tanner and leather merchant Joseph Esty, who had settled in Ithaca in 1822 and had organized the first village fire company. His son, W. W. Esty, served as village president in 1876.

Factory Street. *See* Stewart Avenue.

Fair Street is a reminder of the past, as it may well have served as an entrance to the county fairgrounds, a 46-acre tract on the southwest side of the village, developed in 1875 by the Tompkins County Agricultural Society and in use up to the mid-twentieth century. The racetrack, west of the present South Meadow Street, is today the site of two supermarkets and several small malls.

Falls Street was described in a village resolution of the 1860s as "the short street running from Fall Creek Mills" and was named for the nearby Ithaca Falls. The mills are gone, and so is the street's original name, which was Prince Street, undoubtedly to go along with the equally royal King and Queen streets nearby.

Fayette Street was already on the 1836 map. It honors the Marquis de Lafayette. A park was also named for him. *See also* Conway Park *and* Lafayette *in the* Town of Groton.

Ferris Place is named for lawyer Benjamin G. Ferris, who served two terms as village president and was friend and counselor to Ezra Cornell. His old farmhouse still stands at #111.

Floral Avenue was originally called Humboldt Street, named for the tannery located there. In April 1923 the Board of Public Works voted to change the name to Enfield Road, but two weeks later it became Floral Avenue instead, as board members apparently had heeded the representative of the Bool Floral Company, which by 1900 had property and greenhouses by the Inlet and up the hill. Bool's representative explained that the company's purpose was "to beautify the surroundings and frontages along this street with flowering shrubs and that the title of 'Floral Avenue' was desirous and would appear appropriate."

Fountain Place does indeed have a fountain in front of the Ithaca College president's house, the nearest of the two mansions on this cul-de-sac off Buffalo Street. According to the late Henry Guerlac, who served Cornell University as professor of history of science and director of the Society for the Humanities, and who for many years lived in the Finch-Guerlac House at #3 Fountain Place, the name came from a spring that ran behind the houses.

Franklin Street. *See* Adams Street.

Fulton Street is probably named for American inventor Robert Fulton, who built the first commercially viable steamboat in the United States, launched in 1807. The steamboat *Enterprise*, launched on Cayuga Lake in 1821, had a Fulton engine.

Gardner Parkway is the name given to the road leading into Stewart Park and pays tribute to Frank Gardner, longtime parks worker during the later part of the twentieth century, and city forester.

Giles Street appeared on the 1836 map as Creek Road. It was built in 1855 and named for early residents S. and J. Giles, brothers who for a

long time lived in a prominent mansion just south of where Cascadilla Hall stands today.

Glenwood Boulevard. *See* Taughannock Boulevard.

Green Street appeared on the earliest maps and is today a major thoroughfare. It is named for Archer Green, the first county clerk. Green lived in the first framed house in Ithaca, built on the west side of Linn Street by Abram Markle and supposedly the location of the village's first tavern, of which Green was proprietor. *See also* Steamboat Landing.

Hancock Street. *See* Adams Street.

Hazen Street. *See* Linden Avenue.

Hillview Place. Early maps show the blocking out of streets perpendicular to South Aurora Street, one of which was Mechanic Street, probably so named because the railroad line ran right through it. In 1919 the name was changed to Hillview Place by request of the residents and property owners.

Hook Place on West Hill was named for landowner George Hook, whose large farm was sold in 1906 and formed into 106 building lots; the core of this development became Hook Place.

Hoy Road on the Cornell campus runs alongside Hoy Field built in the early 1920s. Both are named for David F. Hoy, Cornell 1893, university registrar and the "Davy" of the Cornell pep song "Give My Regards to Davy."

Hudson Street. In July 1867 the New Owego Turnpike (also called the New Ithaca and Owego Turnpike Road) was named Hudson Street from Aurora Street to the "South Line of the Corporation." The name, of course, indicates a direction or destination.

Huestis Street. *See* College Avenue.

Humbolt Street. *See* Floral Avenue.

Hyers Street in the city's Southside neighborhood is named for Andrew Cameron Hyers, who developed the Titus Flats area and built tract housing. By the time of his death in 1929, he had built 90 houses in the city, modestly priced dwellings for working people, including most of the ones on the street named for him.

James L. Gibbs Drive is the road leading from Route 34 to the entrance to Stewart Park, and is named to honor James Lowell Gibbs, who worked as executive director of the Southside Center, for the post office and BOCES, and as district representative for Mohawk Airlines. President of the local chapter of the NAACP, he received the first Corinne Galvin Award from the county Human Rights Commission in January 1981, two months before his death.

Jay Street. *See* Adams Street.

Kelvin Place is most likely named for Lord Kelvin, a famous physicist who visited Cornell University in 1904.

Klondike was the name given to the area on South Hill close to the railroad tracks and the city boundary. About 1900 makeshift shacks were built on vacant land by immigrant squatters, many of whom were single men of Italian origin who had come to work on the railroads and in various building projects. Their rough housing and outdoor camp-like lifestyle brought comparisons to the Klondike gold region in Alaska, then much in the news. Most of workers left before World War I, and the area became largely residential.

Lewis Street. *See* Clinton Street.

Lincoln Street was named in 1924. It had been called Railroad Avenue since early days, because of the adjacent railroad lines, and had also received the name of Neagha (or Neaga) Avenue in 1919, a name with a brief history and no clues about its origin.

Linden Avenue was originally called Hazen Street for Dean Dickson C. Hazen, a prosperous South Hill sheep farmer who transferred his operation to East Hill about 1845. Residents petitioned for the change in 1908. They were instructed to clean up the street and to plant the appropriate trees along the sides. They did so and the name change was approved.

Linn Street was named for William T. Linn, who came to Ithaca in 1812 as an agent for Simeon DeWitt. A member of the Locofoco Party, he became notorious for having perpetuated a false tale in 1844, published in the local paper, about then presidential candidate James K. Polk's having purchased slaves. This type of political hoax has come to be called a roorback.

Llenroc (Cornell spelled backwards) is the name of Ezra Cornell's villa (also called Cornell's Folly), completed in 1875.

MacDaniels Park was dedicated in the late 1980s to two longtime residents of Chestnut Street, floriculture and ornamental horticulture professor Laurence Howland MacDaniels and his wife, Frances. Mac-Daniels, who developed an 11-foot hollyhock in the 1920s, died in 1985 at the age of 97.

Madison Street. *See* Adams Street.

Marshall Street pays tribute to John Marshall, who served the country as diplomat, congressman, secretary of state, and second chief justice of the Supreme Court.

Mechanic Street. *See* Hillview Place.

Mill Street. *See* Court Street.

Mitchell Street is named for the Mitchell family, and most likely for its patriarch, James Mitchell, who first came to our area in 1802, purchased a farm from the Pew family, and built a log cabin on the north side of the street. The 1853 map shows just one house on the street, and it is labeled Mitchell. The oldest house on East Hill, it still stands at #609. By 1866 there were seven Mitchell residences on the eastern side of the village, five on today's Mitchell Street.

Monroe Street. *See* Adams Street.

Needham Place. In 1924 the section of Thurston Avenue west of Stewart Avenue became Needham Place, named for Cornell professor of limnology James G. Needham, who lived at #6.

Newman Golf Course. The municipal golf course, developed in 1935, is named for Jared Treman Newman; elected city mayor in 1906, he had leased most of the land.

Octopus is the popular name used to describe a complicated West End intersection, in existence as early as the mid-nineteenth century. At that time the extension of West Owego Street, later West State Street, which five other streets joined, was called, appropriately, Junction Street. Through the years the intersection has presented traffic and safety problems. In September 1956 a traffic island was built at the end of West State Street, with a reinforced steel passageway, mainly to protect school children who needed to cross the streets. Today the Octopus (the name has been in use since the middle of the twentieth century) has been replaced by a new arrangement of streets involving three bridges, and the term Octopus is heard less often.

Park Place was Varick Street on the 1836 map, a name given for Richard Varick DeWitt, Simeon's son and owner of considerable property around Washington Park. By 1909 the name had become Park Place.

Parker Place is an early street, named for the Reverend Samuel J. Parker, whose residence, built in 1832, stood there. Parker was known for having joined a bold missionary venture to bring religion to Native Americans in the West. The area where Parker lived—as did the strong and out-spoken early Presbyterian minister William Wisner— was known in early usage as Brimstone Hill.

Pearsall Place was named for Ira L. Pearsall, a linoleum layer who lived on the corner of Hudson Street. In October 1936 he refused to pay his water bill, over a disagreement with the city about the water line and the extension of the small street through his property. Ultimately Pearsall deeded his claim to the water main to the city, and his wife, Gracia, made a special request to the Board of Public Works that the name Pearsall Place remain.

Percy Field is the area occupied today by Ithaca High School. It was the name given to seven acres of land used by Cornell University from 1890 until about 1920 for its athletic fields and acquired by the city in 1925 as its municipal athletic field. Colorado businessman J. J. Hagerman had given $7,000 to the university for a cinder track and athletic buildings and named the field for his athlete son, Percy Hagerman, Cornell 1890.

Prospect Hill. *See* Brewery Hill.

Quarry Street is a name designating a natural area with its cliffs and the presence of a quarry.

Railroad Avenue. *See* Lincoln Street.

Renwick Park. *See* Stewart Park.

Renzetti Place on South Hill bears the name of the Italian who worked as a stonemason at Cornell and built his house on the edge of the Klondike area.

Roberts Place and Roberts Hall on the Cornell campus, were named for Isaac P. Roberts, who came to the university in 1874 and built its agriculture department.

Sage Avenue today runs straight from Campus Road to a dead end at Barnes Hall on the campus. In the late nineteenth century it was much longer and more complicated. Henry Williams Sage, trustee and prominent businessman, was a major benefactor of the university. His residence on East State Street is on Sage Place, shown on modern maps but not in existence as a street. Designed by William Henry Miller, the residence was used for years as the university infirmary and today is the home of the offices and operations of Cornell University Press.

Schuyler Place appeared on early maps as Spring Street. Sometime in the early 1920s it was given its present name, for the family of local merchant George Washington Schuyler, whose house was at the top of the street. Schuyler served as treasurer of Cornell University.

Sears Street was named for John Sears, who owned land at the head of what was in his day an open muddy lane frequented by the local geese who came through on their way to and from Cascadilla Creek. For years it was known as Goose Alley, and the 1866 map shows it as such.

Short Street is the perfect example of a descriptive street name, for it is indeed short.

Sisson Place off Triphammer Road was named for Philip Frank Sisson, a businessman who started a sash and blind factory that developed

into an organ and piano factory; he was elected 39th president of the village in 1881.

Six Mile Creek is said to have derived its name from two markers, six miles apart on an important Indian trail.

South Hill was surveyed early, and on the 1836 map shows several streets including Creek Road (Giles Street today) and the Owego Turnpike (which is today Hudson Street). By 1866 there were many houses along Prospect, Pleasant, and Columbia streets. The area acquired several names used locally. *See also* Brewery Hill *and* Klondike.

Steamboat Landing was situated on the old channel of the Cayuga Inlet. Its early location is hard to pinpoint because the course of the creeks has changed over the years. The Inlet was made a "public highway" in 1821, and by 1827 lake boats began using the port there. According to Glenn Norris, the area was first called Green's Landing, for the Archer Green of Green Street fame. For many years it was a busy place for both freight and passenger transportation and trade and until Renwick Park was opened in 1894 provided a dock for pleasure boats. Today it marks the location of the Ithaca Farmers' Market.

Stewart Avenue was first called Factory Street, so named for the cotton factories up the hill and the tobacco factory just below on Seneca Street; it was as well traveled in early days as today. Wholesale grocer David Barnes Stewart became the village's 44th president in the mid-1880s and was responsible for opening and extending Factory Street across a new iron bridge over Cascadilla Creek. When Ithaca was incorporated as a city in 1888, Stewart became its first mayor and Factory Street was renamed Stewart Avenue in his honor.

Stewart Park was developed in the early 1890s and named Renwick Park for the tract of land owned by Major Robert Jeffrey Renwick. While Edwin C. Stewart (son of Ithaca president and first mayor David B.

Stewart) was in office, the city purchased the park lands. Edwin died in office, leaving funds in his will to rebuild the park, which was renamed Stewart Park in tribute to him on June 22, 1921, just days after his death.

Strawberry Fields Park. After local protest successfully prevented the development of ten acres of fields and woodlands behind the Louise Wilson Annex of the Belle Sherman School, the area was designated as a green space in the early 1970s and called the Forever Wild Park. It appears on the maps as Strawberry Fields, however, a name inspired by the Beatles song "Strawberry Fields Forever."

Tabor Street. In April 1924 the West Green Street extension was named Taber Street for Benjamin Taber, who started a boat-building business nearby some time after 1830.

Taughannock Boulevard is named for its destination, Taughannock Falls, northwest of Ithaca. The Indian word Taughannock is reported to mean "great falls in the woods." In its April 1924 meeting the Board of Public Works resolved that Westport Street and Glenwood Boulevard be combined to form Taughannock Boulevard. Westport had first been indicated on maps as West Port, because it was the place on the west side of the village where boats landed. Glenwood Boulevard was named also for a destination, Glenwood Point in the Town of Ulysses, a popular tourist and recreation area since the nineteenth century.

Thompson Park. In the minutes of the Village of Ithaca's board meeting of August 8, 1867, the trustees ordered that the "Triangle Park north of Cascadilla Bridge be hereafter known as Thompson Park." Despite considerable research, the origin of this name remains a mystery.

Thurston Avenue is the main street of the Cornell Heights area of the city, and was called Thurston Avenue for mechanical engineering

professor Robert H. Thurston, director of the Sibley College of Engineering, outstanding educator and exceptional administrator.

Titus Avenue. In 1868 businessman Charles M. Titus bought a parcel of land south of Clinton Street and set about building and developing properties. He had sections of the creek filled in and diverted it to a new channel running parallel to a freshly laid road, which he named Titus Avenue. By 1897 he had made plans for a parallel road on the other side, hence today's North and South Titus Avenues. The city names of Titus Flats, Titus Park, and Titus Towers bear his name as well.

Tompkins Street. *See* Clinton Street.

Treman Triangle was the area occupied by the Cascadilla Mills since 1843. When Cascadilla Park was developed by Robert H. Treman and his colleagues, he had the old mill demolished and created a park known today as the Treman Triangle.

Triphammer Road goes north from Thurston Avenue just beyond the bridge over the Fall Creek Gorge. The name comes from as early as the 1820s, when a triphammer was in operation at the foot of the falls there. *See* Triphammer Road *in the* Town of Ithaca.

Turner Place was first named Turner Street, a name given to the extension of South Tioga Street by the Board of Public Works in April 1924; today South Tioga Street no longer exists, and any extension would involve traversing a creek and a cliff. The name probably honors E. S. Turner Jr., who in 1918 gave funds for the West Side House.

University Avenue first appears in the village minutes in 1867 as the "Street above Cascadilla Mill, passing the cemetery," and the resolution declares that it be "hereafter known as University Street." At that time Cornell University was under construction but not yet open.

Van Natta's Dam was named for James and John E. Van Natta, brothers who ran a flour and feed business in the mid-nineteenth century and operated their mill just down the creek.

Varick Street. *See* Park Place.

Vinegar Hill is a short, very steep street running between Hector and Cliff streets. The story goes that a wagon carrying a shipment of cider (there have always been apple orchards on West Hill) went out of control and overturned. Barrels of cider came spilling down, smelling up the place afterward; the whole street was a mess until the next big rain. An *Ithaca Journal* article of January 13, 1940, however, with the headline "Vinegar Hill Sign Irks Neighborhood," tells another story: the Board of Public Works gave the street its name that year and a vinegar factory had once been located there.

Wait Avenue is named for Cornell mathematics professor Lucien A. Wait, who also organized and directed the Cascadilla School.

Westport (West Port) Street. *See* Taughannock Boulevard.

Wheat Street. *See* Cleveland Avenue.

Williams Street, in the village records as early as 1847, was named for the prominent Williams family, probably for Timothy Shaler Williams, 17th president of the village (1844–1846), who opened the Cascadilla Mills (a grist mill) at the foot of the Cascadilla Gorge in 1843 and died in 1849. His son Howard (H. C.) Williams took over the mill in 1858 and managed it for another thirty years. He owned property on both sides of Williams Street, as well as the whole area north of Cascadilla Creek and south of the cemetery, what is Cascadilla Park today.

Wood Street, designated originally as DeWitt Street on the 1836 map, was most likely renamed for local architect Alvah B. Wood, who designed the Fall Creek Elementary School.

Wyckoff Avenue is named for Edward G. Wyckoff, who developed the residential area known today as Cornell Heights. He named many streets there for university professors and included one for himself.

Yates Street. *See* Clinton Street.

And, finally, some information on some unusual and popular names, only a few of which are still in use today. The Flats, a designation given to the early community, refers to the level area from the south shore of Cayuga Lake stretching through the Inlet Valley. It comprises areas and neighborhoods with the names of Downtown, Fall Creek, Northside, Southside, and West End. The term is still used in Markles Flats (named for settler Abram Markle) and Titus Flats (for developer Charles M. Titus).

The land to the north and east of Cascadilla Creek, toward Fall Creek, and to the east (including part of what became the Cornell campus) was owned by Simeon DeWitt in the early days; it was called the DeWitt farm. On the Flats villagers could pasture their geese and cattle, and it became known as the Goose Pasture.

North of the Ithaca Falls was a wedge-shaped piece of land at the foot of the hill called the Nook; it was so designated on early maps. A small distillery was located there in early times, and, according to Morris Bishop, Ezra Cornell built a small house there for his wife; their nine children were born there, and from it four were buried. On the village's south side was an area called the Tadpole, a swamp that covered a large portion of the Flats and the Inlet Valley. The Inlet, flowing north, represented the tadpole's tail, and the nickname seemed doubly appropriate for a place shaped like a tadpole and where frogs were known to breed.

Late in the nineteenth century the section of Ithaca west of Fulton Street, extending to the Inlet and beyond to Floral Avenue, and north to the city line was known as the Rhine. The story goes that a Cornell crewman likened the creek and its surroundings to the Rhine area in Europe, and the name took hold. In this section, and especially along

the Inlet, was a squatter settlement known as the Silent City. It was inhabited by a whole colony of drifters, poachers, and canal people. Living in shacks, these residents were often called Rhiners. The community lasted for years and was finally demolished by the BPW in 1927.

The unusual name of the Hog (or Hogs) Hole was given to a spot at the southwest section of the lake in what is the Treman Marina today. From the beginning it was a preferred fishing place. Norris and others have said that a squatter in the area had the nickname of "Hoggy" and suggest this as the origin of the name.

On East Hill Frosh Alley was a shortcut used by the first Cornell students, many of whom walked up and down the hill daily; it was a narrow path between Eddy and North Quarry Streets. Some also walked a path up from what became university Avenue, through the cemetery, to Cornell; it had the name of Boneyard Cut. Another route up East Hill is still known today as Gun Shop Hill, a name coming from the presence of the now-closed Ithaca Gun Company factory part way up the Lake Street hill toward the campus.

The major roadways on the Cornell University campus were named in 1887; several are gone today. There was a Terrace Avenue that ran to the west of what is called the Stone Row (Morrill, McGraw, White), a President's Avenue from Morrill Hall to the meeting of the A. D. White House circular driveway, and a Reservoir Avenue from East Avenue to a reservoir on the campus.

Town of Ithaca

North

New York State Plane Central
1983 North American Datum

1:48000

2000   0   2000   4000 Feet
500   0   500   1000 Meters

One Inch represents 5000 Feet

Village of
Cayuga
Heights

East
Cayuga
Heights

Forest
Home

City
of
Ithaca

West
Hill

Eastern
Heights

South
Hill
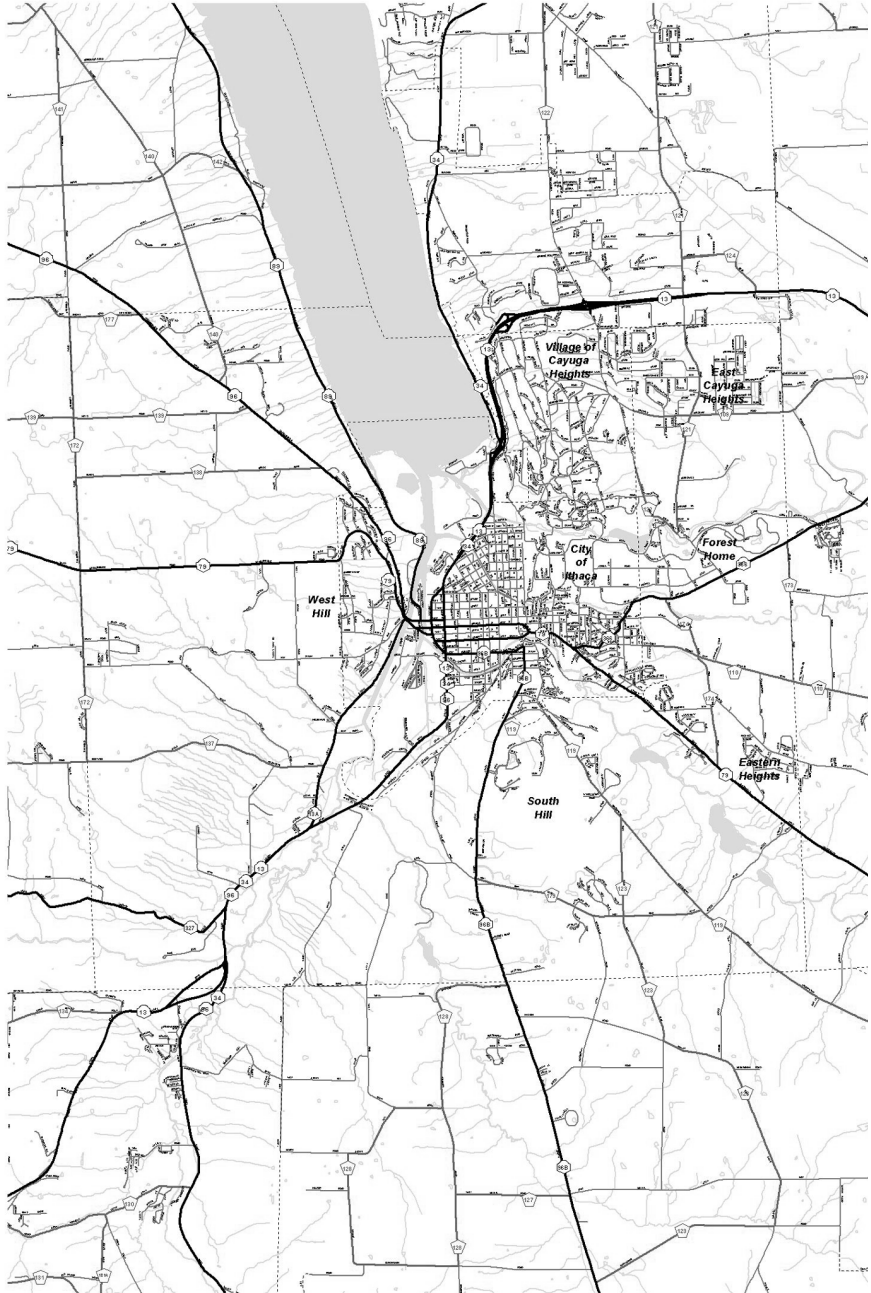
Town of Ithaca

Phyllis McNeill with Henry Cowan

Town of Ithaca. This town was created in 1821 from land removed from the Town of Ulysses. It took its name from the village of Ithaca, the county seat, which is situated within the town. The town consists of 31 Military Tract lots each of 600 acres, and it surrounds the City of Ithaca on three sides. The town's topography is insistently vertical as it rises from the Flats up and into the surrounding hills: East Hill, South Hill, and West Hill. Some say Ithaca, meaning the town and the city, is twelve square miles surrounded by reality.

   The Town of Ithaca has its own municipal organization separate from the city. The Town Hall, since 2002, has been located in the Old Post Office on North Tioga Street, in the City of Ithaca.

Booltown is no longer used, but it was a small collection of worker houses built along Dryden Road near the Cornell University apple orchards. It was named for Henry Bool, who built the houses and instituted other progressive practices for the men who worked for him. *See* Bool Street *in the* City of Ithaca.

Buttermilk Falls was so called because "here cleft by a mountain torrent, that comes pouring over the sharp rocks of its bed in a mass of thick, frothy foam, that evidently suggested to the unaesthetic and domestic countryman the name of Buttermilk Falls." So wrote Spence

Spencer in 1866 in his book *Scenery of Ithaca and the Head Waters of the Cayuga Lake*. The Cayuga name for Buttermilk Falls, according the William M. Beauchamp commenting on the journey of Br. Cammerhoff and David Zeisberger made in 1750 and reported in *Moravian Journals relating to Central New York* (Syracuse, 1916) was Sto-ke.

Buttermilk Falls State Park is a 733-acre tract of land bordering the southwest corner of the city of Ithaca. By 1986 it had an area of 605 acres of which 164 were a gift, donated in 1924 to the State of New York from Robert H. Treman and his wife. At the uppermost part of the gorge there is a lake, created by a 36-foot dam built in 1875 called Scott Dam. The lake is currently known as Treman Lake.

Cayuga Heights occupies a tract of land north of Cornell University, originally owned by Jared Treman Newman and Charles Hazen Blood. It consisted of a 57-acre farm purchased from Franklin Cornell and several hundred acres of land purchased from Herman Bergholtz on October 26, 1901. Because of the necessity to provide roads, the extension of Cayuga Heights Road, and the extension of water from the City of Ithaca lines, Jared Newman hired Harold Caparn, a landscape architect from New York City to draw plans.

In her book *Enterprising Families*, Carol Sisler quotes a letter from Newman to N. A. Hawkin, in which Newman describes their purchase as "overlooking and four hundred feet above the level of Cayuga Lake," therefore "Cayuga Heights" became the name of the development.

The village of Cayuga Heights was incorporated in 1915. In order to maintain the exclusiveness of the development, Sisler notes, the deeds to the lots were very restrictive and house plans had to be approved by the developers. Sisler also points out that in 1933, the Board of Trustees of the Ithaca Chamber of Commerce paid tribute to Newman saying "Cayuga Heights has become the residential showplace of the City and is instrumental, we believe, in attracting desirable new citizens to Ithaca."

Christopher Circle was named by builder Rocco Lucente in 1955 for his son.

Coreorgonel is the name of a village established by the Tutelo Indians on Cayuga land prior to the American Revolution. The Tutelos came north from the Carolinas and claimed linguistic relationship to the Cayugas, who allowed them to settle here. Today Coreorgonel is the site of the Tutelo Park, established by the Town of Ithaca in 2001. It was this village that the soldiers sent by Major General Sullivan under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Henry Dearborn destroyed. In his report, printed in Frederick Cooke, *Journals of the Military Expedition of Major General John Sullivan against the Six Nations of Indians in 1779* (Auburn, 1887), Dearborn writes:

> I sent several small parties different ways to look for a large Town that I had been inform'd was not many miles from the end of the lake. The parties found 10 or 12 scattering houses and a number of large cornfields on and near a stream that falls into the Lake after burning & destroying several houses & cornfields a small party that I had sent out discove'd the Town about 3 miles from the lake on the above mentioned Stream this town & its suburbs consists of about 25 houses and is called Coreorgonel & is the capital of a Small nation or tribe called the ———. My party was imploy'd from 9 o'clock am till sunset.

Coy (Coys') Glen is a small ravine that starts north and west of Bundy Road (State Route 138) and flows southeast into Cayuga Inlet in the general direction of Southwest Park. Glenn Norris suggests that the name came from a family, calling the glen Coys' but the name might also come from the fact that it is a shy, or coy, glen, its beauty not easily seen.

Eastern Heights is a development of homes east of Pine Tree Road (Route 174) between Slaterville Road (State Route 79) and Ellis Hollow

Road (State Route 110). It was created by businessman Stanley Goldberg and his associates, including builder Norman Jordan and attorney Manley Thaler in the 1950s. The name was most likely suggested by the success and popularity of Cayuga and Renwick Heights.

Elm Tree Point. *See* Remington Point.

Five Mile Drive. *See* The Tadpole.

Forest Home is an unincorporated hamlet that began as a milling community. It has a long and interesting history and for a time was called Free Hollow, or jokingly, Flea Hollow. After the founding of Cornell University it was the destination of students seeking cider pressed at the cider mill. A number of professors and their families moved into the former mills. The two historians of Forest Home are Albert Force, who lived in the hamlet for many years and wrote *The Story of Free Hollow*, and Liese Price Bronfenbrenner, who uses some of Force's material in her history, *Free Hollow to Forest Home*, published by the Albert Force Memorial Fund in 1974.

Glenside is a small development of homes just outside the City of Ithaca on the southwest corner. In 1928 John Daley, a local contractor, built the first house there on a 90-acre lot. He named it Glenside because it was across the road from Coy Glen.

Indian Creek originates in the town of Enfield west of Sheffield Road (State Route 172) and flows all the way across the Town of Ithaca into Cayuga Lake.

Judd Falls and **Judd Falls Road** are named for manufacturer Reuben Judd, who owned a water-powered woolen mill close to the falls from 1832 to 1858.

Klondike is an area on South Hill, southeast of the City of Ithaca, from Hudson Street in the city to Coddington Road and on to the South

Hill Recreation Way in the Town of Ithaca. The Recreation Way was originally the roadbed of the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western Railroad tracks.

At the beginning of the twentieth century, this area was populated by immigrant squatters and was called the Klondike because the shacks in which the men, mostly of Italian ancestry and laborers on the railroads, lived, resembled the haphazard structures put up by gold miners in the Klondike region of Canada and Alaska. *See also* Klondike *in the* City of Ithaca.

Larch Meadows is a nature trail part of Buttermilk Falls State Park. It is about one mile in circumference and contains a variety of wildlife.

Lick Brook is a gorge descending the hillside just west of Buttermilk Falls State Park at the edge of the Sweedler Preserve, property today of the Finger Lakes Land Trust. In the nineteenth century, the stream was called Lick Brook because of a nearby deer lick, which was made by boring holes in a log and filling them with salt. In those days, the sighting of deer was uncommon.

Muriel Street was named in the 1950s by Joseph Sorace, a builder, for his daughter. In 1953 Rocco Lucente took over development on Muriel Street and as he expanded a network of streets he named them for cigarettes, Muriel having reminded him of a cigar. Lucente built Tareyton and Rosehill, then Winston Drive and Winston Court, and Salem. These came to be known as the "cigarette streets." Lucente also added Birchwood, Maplewood, and Sycamore drives, and Pinewood Place.

Neodakheat. *See* Renwick.

Pewtown is an area at the junction of Pine Tree Road and Snyder Hill Road named for William Pew and his wife and their five sons, who arrived from New Jersey in 1801.

Remington Point is a small point of land north of Port Renwick where the Remington Salt Company drilled salt wells in 1900. William Ozmun Wyckoff, who owned the salt works, also served as an agent of the Remington Typewriter Company. The manufacturing of salt was discontinued in 1921. The point was also known as Elm Tree Point.

Renwick takes its name from James Renwick of New York City, who bought part of Military Tract Lot No. 88 in 1790 from Revolutionary War grantee, Andrew Moodie. At the time, this land was in the Town of Ulysses. Shipping from the area created Port Renwick, also known as Renwick's Landing, Renwick's or "the corner of the lake."

The Cayuga Indians built a small stockaded village in what became Renwick, called Neodakheat, meaning corner of the lake.

Renwick Heights. This small residential area was developed on the hillside to the south of the original Port Renwick. One of the earliest houses in Renwick Heights was built in 1914 by John Daley, a contractor who also developed Glenside. Renwick Heights was promoted by Herman Bergholtz, engineer and a mayor of Ithaca.

The Tadpole was the name recorded by Dr. Samuel Parker to denote the southern section of the Great Swamp that spanned from the valley flats along Cayuga Lake to Buttermilk Falls. Its appearance was supposed to resemble a tadpole with the Inlet creating its long tail. When the water was high, in order to avoid the swampy area, travelers crossing the valley used Five Mile Drive—causing a five-mile detour—or Seven Mile Drive, which added seven miles to the journey and was an extension of the shorter route necessary when the southern end of the Tadpole was soggy and impassable.

Triphammer Road runs from Thurston Avenue in Cornell Heights through Cayuga Heights to the Community Corners. Its extension, North Triphammer Road, continues north to State Route 34 in the Town of Lansing. The road was constructed after the bridge over Fall

Creek Gorge was built in 1897, opening up the land to the north of the Cornell campus for development. To this day the road serves as a main route between the university and these residential and commercial areas to the north. It was named for a triphammer, a heavy power-operated hammer lifted by a cam or lever and then dropped. In the nineteenth century Levi Coon built a triphammer at the foot of the falls to tap the waterpower of Fall Creek in order to produce guns.

Williams Brook took its name from the home built by Josiah Butler Williams on the land above Cayuga inlet between Elm and Hector streets. The home, called Cliff Park was demolished in 1964. According to *Enterprising Families* by Carol Sisler, "besides the stone wall and stairs, what remains of the Williams estate is the creek; it is known as Williams Brook." On the 1999 *Tompkins County and City of Ithaca* map, however, this creek is identified as Cliff Park Brook. In the Town of Ithaca, Williams Brook is further north and just touches the city line.

Willow Point is on the east shore of Cayuga Lake just north of Remington Point and is named for the willow trees planted along the shore. According to Glenn Norris, this point was also known as Drydock.

Town of Lansing

1:65000

2000 0 2000 4000 Feet
500 0 500 1000 Meters

North

North Lansing

East Lansing

South Lansing

Asbury

Village of Lansing

Myers

Ludlowville

Lansingville
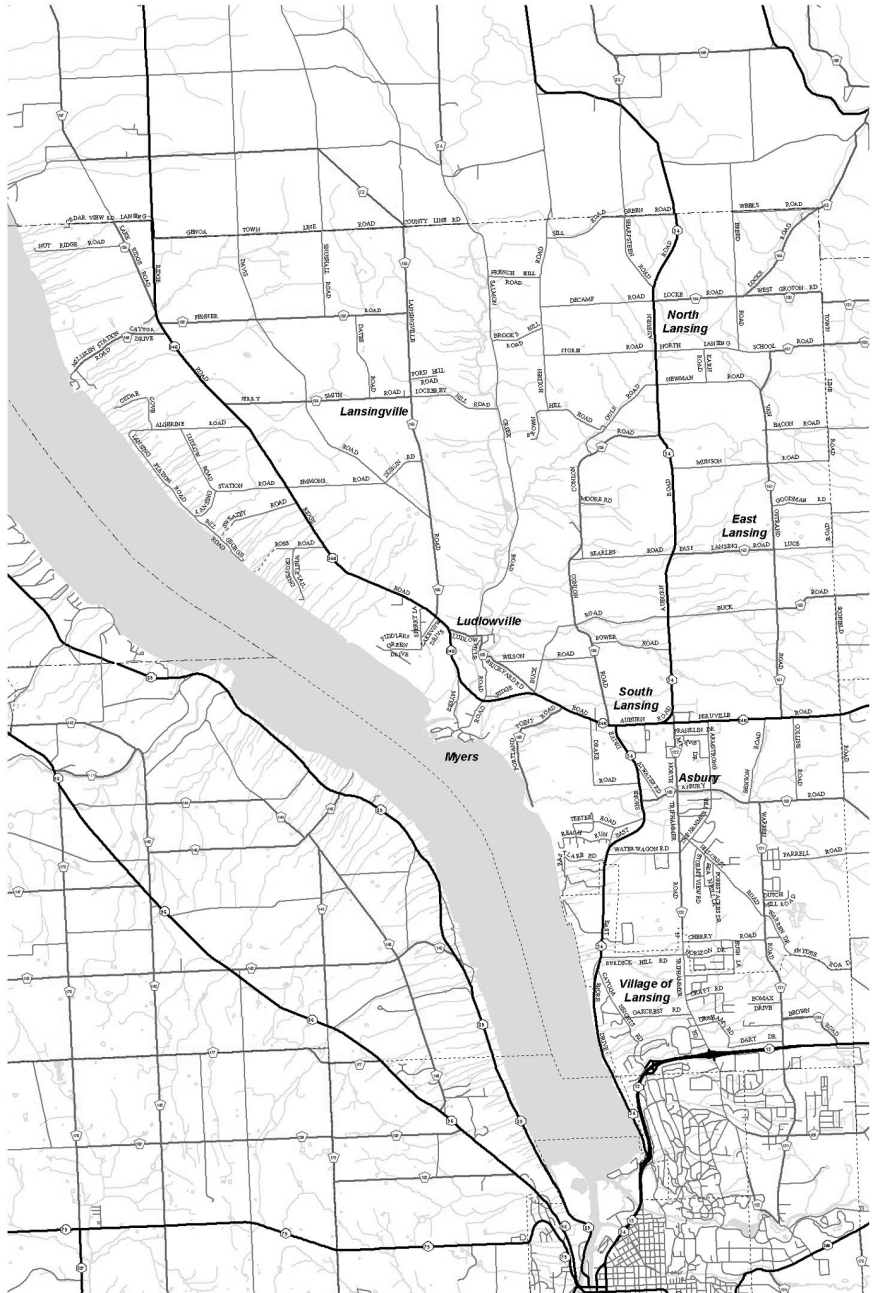
Town of Lansing

Louise Bement
Town of Lansing Historian

Lansing began as the Military Tract Town of Milton created by the survey made by Simeon DeWitt and others, and named in 1789 by the Land Commissioners in Albany. The land was distributed by lottery in 1790 after which the first legal settlers began to arrive.

In 1794 Onondaga County was set aside from Montgomery County and in 1799 Cayuga County was separated from Onondaga. Within Cayuga County were Sempronius, Cato, Brutus, Aurelius, Milton, and Locke. In 1802 Locke was removed. In 1808, the name Milton was exchanged for Genoa. Then, in 1817, when the state created Tompkins County, Genoa was divided in half, the northern part remaining Genoa, the southern lots, numbers 41 through 100, becoming Lansing.

The town was named for John Lansing, a member of a prominent New York state family, a jurist and Supreme Court Judge, and State Chancellor in 1817. The name Lansing was taken west by New York residents who migrated to Michigan.

Most roads in Lansing had no name until 1937. Until then, they were referred to by the people who lived along them or by a prominent physical feature. A great number of those names remain on the maps today: Armstrong, Atwater, Benson, Bill George, Bower, Breed, Brown, Buck, Burdick Hill, etc., all originated as family names.

Lansingville West Road, became Jerry Smith Road, named in honor of Smith, who was a prominent justice of the peace and town board

member, although he never lived on the road. It was Robert Bowers, then on the Lansing Town Board, who wanted the name changed, and so it was.

Davis Road began as Nedrow; Ludlow road was once Algerine; Lansingville Road was originally Emmons Road, sometimes spelled Emmens. Storm Road began as Carson, Newman was Tarbell, and Gulf Road was Sam Lane Road. At one time, Bush Road was Moore Road in the southern part of the town; today Moore Road is in the northern part of Lansing. In Lansing there is also Brickyard Road, which began as Miscoll, and Drake Road that was once called Baseball Road. There is still Dug Road in Ludlowville. Pinch Gut Creek was the early name for Gulf Creek, the deep gorge in North Lansing. There was a mill there called Pinch Gut Mill named because the space for the road along the gorge was so narrow.

Roads in the newer developments in Lansing are named by the developers. George Totman, Lansing Town Zoning Officer in the later twentieth century, explained that roads could be named anything the developer wished as long as they were not vulgar or were used as a name in any other place in Tompkins County. Several of the more unusual names are Captain's Walk, Leif's Way, Smugglers Path, and Spy Glass Ridge although there is no record of smugglers in the Town of Lansing.

The streets in the Horizons Development were named after the developer's father, Alessandro Cima, and his mother, Rosina Cima. Nearby, Janivar Lane is named for Janet and Ivar Johnson, the developers of the area.

Algerine Road was probably named for an Algerine, or one who acted "like an Algerine pirate," referring to the Barbary pirates from Africa's North Coast. The term was widely used in Rhode Island politics during the 1840s, and from Texas the phrase "those American Algerines" meant politicians who acted like pirates. There was a comment in the 1844 *Congressional Globe* about "ruffianism" and of "Algerines." For people who acted beyond the legal limits in town meetings there was

passed an 1844 Algerine Act "making it a high offense, punishable by fine and imprisonment, for any persons to act as officers of illegal town meetings." The use of this term in Lansing surely implied that the people living on Algerine Road were thought to act illegally. There is also mention in Carl Carmer's book on the Susquehanna River of "algerines" being thieves who cut off the identifying marks on logs being sent to market in order to make an illegal profit. Before the road took on the name Algerine, it was known as Cooney. (These examples are cited in Mathews's *Dictionary of Americanisms*, p. 17. The Barbary pirates were generally considered to be from Algiers, Tripoli, Tunis, and Morocco. They preyed upon ship traffic despite entreaties by the United States, which actually engaged in a Tripolitan War from 1801 to 1805 conducted off the North African coast. As late as 1816, they were still causing difficulties along the sea lanes.)

Asbury honors Francis Asbury (1745–1816), the first American Methodist bishop, who in 1811 lectured in the just-completed brick Methodist Church. In honor of his visit, the church and the area became known as Asbury. The New York and Oswego Midland Railroad went through in 1880 and the railroad station was called Asbury. The railroad went out of business in 1889; the post office was discontinued in 1902.

Bean Hill became Hillcrest in 1954 when land developers wanted something that sounded more sophisticated. But Bean Hill had been so named because nothing but beans would grow on the loose glacial till that covered the area. When the rock from the field was carried away to use as sub-basing for road construction, the area became bedrock and then suitable for houses. The name has not been lost, though: off of Hillcrest Road is Bean Hill Lane.

Bill George Road was named for William F. George who was born in 1861 in Philadelphia, but who moved to Lansing Station Road in 1922. He owned a 50-acre fruit farm and for many years he was Supervisor

of the Town of Lansing, serving also as a Democratic Commissioner of Elections.

Chicahominy Road has an odd history. Today this road is Farrell but according to Brad Griffin writing in 2000, "When I was first around these parts Emmons Ogden of Dryden told me that soldiers returning home from the Civil War named it [Chickahominy Road] because it reminded them of that famous battleground. Emmons's grandfather, who was a Union volunteer with a company from Dryden, told this to Emmons."

Dublin was a small collection of houses on Davis Road, which angles from Lansingville Road all the way to the Genoa Town Line. Many of the people who lived along the road had come from Ireland.

East Lansing began in 1804. The Second Baptist Church of Milton was organized in what came to be known as East Lansing. Today a signpost at the intersection of Van Ostrand and East Lansing Roads reads East Lansing. There was a post office called East Lansing from 1842 until 1902.

Esty's, a little settlement just off Route 34 on the southern spur of the Town of Lansing, was first called Forest City. There was a post office by that name operating from 1850 until 1869. The area was developed by Dr. J. F. Burdick, who ran the Water Cure and Ladies Seminary in the 1850s in the large stone house on the corner of Burdick Hill Road and Lake Shore Drive. From 1970 to 1990, that building housed The Greystone Restaurant. Today it is a private residence. The name of the area gradually changed to Esty for Edward Esty, a prominent resident and area landowner. The ravine, once called Burdick's Ravine, is now Esty Glen.

Fiddler's Green began in 1806 when a post office was established on the brow of the hill above what today is Route 34B. It was known orig-

inally as Genoa Post Office. In 1815 the post office moved to Ludlow-ville, and the hilly area rising above the lake came to be called Fiddler's Green, for reasons unknown. The first settler was Jonah Tooker, a leading citizen, but there is no record that he played the fiddle. Nor-ris comments that Fiddler's Green is a "happy place where all good sailors go when they die and fade away." It could be that this was thought to be such a place because from Fiddler's Green there is a splendid view of the lake. With the new development of houses in the mid-1980s, the name took hold and it is probably more established now than it ever was.

Hedden's was first known as Himrod's Point after a settler who estab-lished himself there in 1792. When Aaron Hedden settled in 1802 it became known as Hedden's. A railroad station was called Hedden's and a post office by that name operated from 1888 to 1917. Frances Brown, daughter of John Brown, a former postmaster, commented in 1994: "It was Hedden's not Lake Ridge and we had a post office there until the RFD came in June 1917. It was changed from Hedden's, New York, to Lake Ridge, New York, because it was very confusing to have the station called Lake Ridge but the mail address as Hedden's." It is now called Lake Ridge Point.

Hillcrest Road. *See* Bean Hill.

Ladoga dates from 1885 when William H. Barr established a park and picnic ground on the south side of Myers Point. It is supposed to have been named after Lake Ladoga, that body of Finnish water, claimed by Russia and, around the turn of the twentieth century, absorbed by that country.

Lake Ridge settlement began in 1792. A hotel was built in 1814, but is now gone, a victim of fire. For a time this was a popular stopping place for the stagecoach. A post office served the area from 1829 until 1902.

Lansing Station began in 1829 when J. M. McLallen operated a ferry from Frog's Point on the West shore of Cayuga Lake to Lansing Station on the East. This lasted until 1845. In 1885 the ferry *Wide Awake* operated from Port Deposit (or Frog's Point) and now Camp Barton, the Boy Scout Camp. The ferry port on the east shore became known as Taughannock Landing. This was also a stop on the Cayuga Lake Railroad, or the Auburn to Ithaca branch of the Lehigh Valley Railroad. It was first called Countryman's or Woodworth's Landing. When the Lehigh Valley Railroad came through in 1873, the station also took that name. When the ferry was discontinued, the name Lansing Station was adopted. Lansing Station Road began as a collection of summer cottages and is now a community of year-round homes.

Lansingville is situated on the ridge above Salmon Creek. It was first known as Teetertown after Conrad Teeter, who ran a tavern there. When that was sold in 1828 the name was changed to Lansingville. Glenn Norris claims that the Indian name for Salmon Creek was Gientachne.

Ludlowville was named for the Ludlows—Silas, Henry, and Henry's son Thomas—who located on Salmon Creek in 1791. Four years later they established a gristmill at Ludlowville. The community that grew up around them was called Ludlowville Falls. Then it was called Ludlow's Mill, Ludlowtown, and Ludlowvillage. Finally it became Ludlowville. It reached its peak population at the turn of the twentieth century.

A post office established in Ludlowville in 1806 lasted until May 1973 when the three remaining post offices in Lansing (Ludlowville, Myers, and South Lansing) were consolidated.

McKinney's dates to 1804, when Jesse McKinney purchased land along the lake shore where he operated a gristmill. Later it was built up with lake cottages and now permanent homes.

Midway. *See* Sage.

Mill Point, located on the north side of Myers at the outlet of Salmon Creek, was known as Mill Point because of the mills operating there. In 1822 Nicholas Slocum obtained a license to operate a ferry from Salmon Creek across to Willow Creek, Crowbar Point, and Goodwin's on the west shore of Cayuga Lake.

Myers was named for Andrew Myers, who with his family, settled on The Point in 1792. For a time, this was a busy harbor and shipyard, but after 1913 there was little remaining commercial traffic on the lake. When Henry H. Plough was appointed postmaster in 1880, the office was called Ploughs. It was changed to Myers in 1882 and consolidated into the Lansing post office in 1973.

North Lansing, first known as Beardsley's Corners, is located near the Cayuga County border on State Route 34. It was named for Roswell Beardsley who kept the post office. Beardsley was appointed in 1828 and continued in office for 74 consecutive years, lasting through the terms of 20 presidents and 34 postmasters-general. The post office was discontinued in 1920.

Norton's Landing can be found on the 1853 map of Lansing on the edge of Cayuga Lake, where the Cargill Salt Mine is today. It was earlier known as Kimple's Landing. When Jehiel and Jonathan Norton owned and operated a warehouse here, it took the name Norton's Landing. Ships docked here to take on goods and there was a station for the Lehigh Railroad.

Ploughs. *See* Myers.

Portland Point is located just south of Norton's Landing. Koplin's Point, a ferryboat stop, is the first name associated with this spot. Then it became Shergour's, named for Joseph Shergour, who had an orchard, limekiln, and boat yard there. When Shergour's daughter Sarah married Harts Collins, it became Collins' Point. Their son Sherman

formed the Portland Cement Company in 1900 and from then on the land has been called Portland Point.

The railroad and the post office also became known as Portland Point, the post office operating until 1944, the cement plant closing in 1947. Sherman Collins laid out a worker village south of Asbury Creek and directly east of the plant where the streets were called Main and Easy. Some houses were built, but the community never materialized. Local wags thought of Portland Heights as the Crow's Nest. Today the Point is privately owned.

Rogue's Harbor, Lansing's grand hotel, was built in 1830 by Samuel Kelsey for General D. D. Minier, and was first called the Central Exchange Hotel. It was a major stagecoach stop between Ithaca and Auburn. It was later called the Elm Grove Hotel, for the elms standing in the front, but the nickname of Rogue's Harbor remained and finally became its proper name. Grace Miller White wrote a book entitled *Judy of Rogue's Harbor* (New York: H. K. Fly Company, 1918), which probably helped establish the name.

Sage was first called Jacktown after Jack Osmun, who owned a large tract of land at the southern end of State Route 34, halfway between the south and north Town of Lansing lines. The post office, established in 1873 and discontinued in 1896, was called Midway. When the post office reopened in 1897 it, and the area, were called Sage after the district school built there in the 1880s. That post office closed again in 1902. The Auburn–Ithaca Railroad had a small station there until 1924, also called Sage and sometimes Ozman's.

The area is now owned and operated by the Watchtower Bible and Tract Society, which purchased 600 acres in 1935. In August 1968, the South Lansing School for Girls of the New York State Department of Social Services opened on part of the Watchtower land, which the state purchased from the society. It was intended as an upstate alternative to the Hudson Training School and could house up to 60 girls. In 1974, the facility was turned over to the New York State Division for Youth

and became the only training school for girls in the state. It was re-named the Lansing Residential Center. In 1993, the Division for Youth opened a similar facility for boys, named the Lewis Gossett Jr. Center, adjacent to the girls' school. In 2001 there were 113 girls and 150 boys in these facilities.

South Lansing began as Libertyville, reflecting the patriotic spirit of the inhabitants but by 1828 the post office was known as South Lans-ing. The name Libertyville lingered on for a time but gradually fell out of use. South Lansing was also known as Rogue's Harbor or The Har-bor, a nickname generally given to the large three-story brick hotel at the divide of State Routes 34 and 34B.

Syrian Hill is a high peak above Myers that became the home of many Syrian families who came in the 1890s to work in the production of salt. The hill on which they lived was called Syrian Hill while the opposite side was known as American Hill.

Town of Newfield

North

1:51000

| 2000 | 0 | 2000 | 4000 Feet |
| 500 | 0 | 500 | 1000 Meters |

New York State Plane Central
1983 North American Datum

One Inch represents 4250 Feet
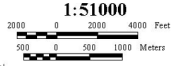
Tompkins County
Information Technology Services
GIS Division

CountyHwys.apr
01/13/2000

Trumbull's Corners
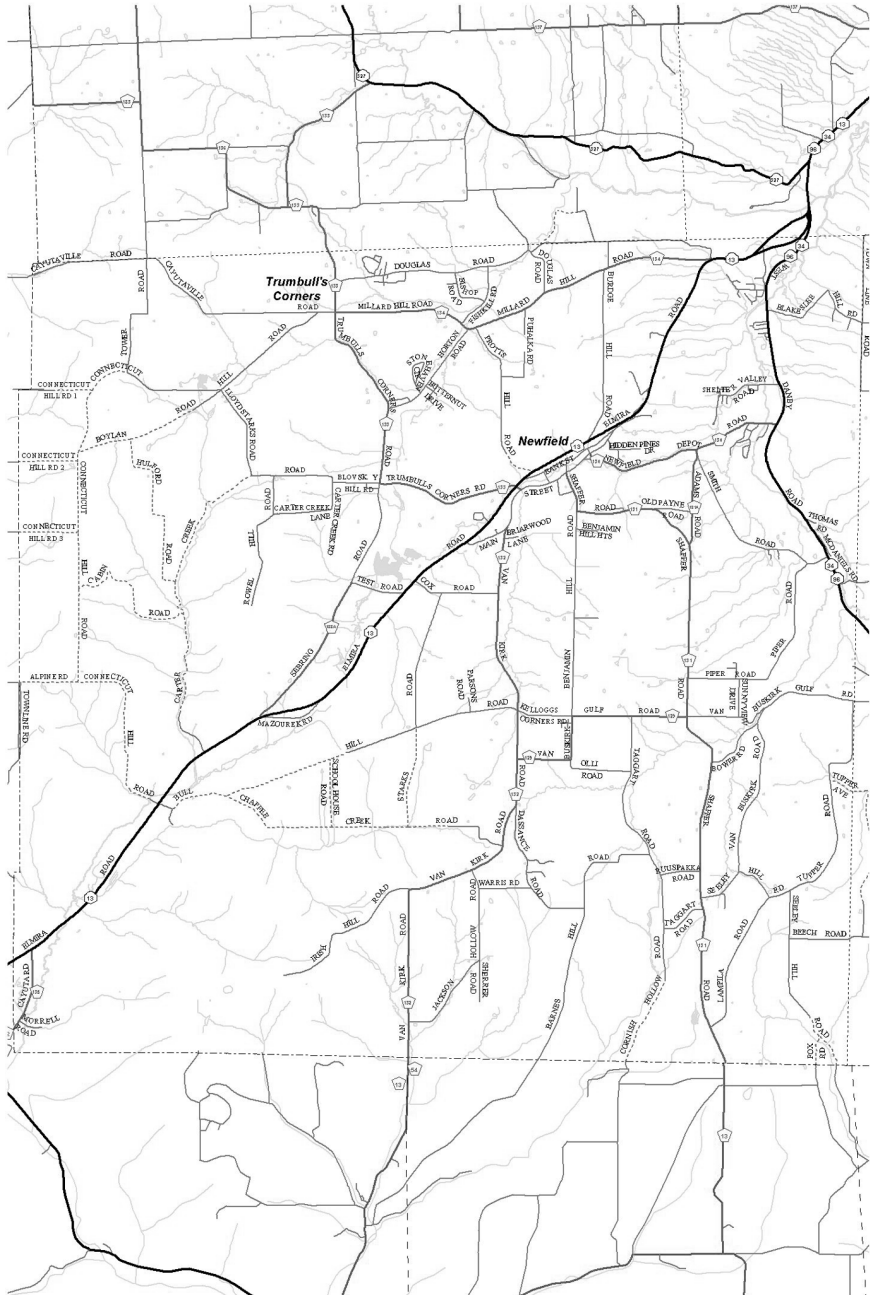
Newfield

Town of Newfield

Alan Chaffee
Town of Newfield Historian

Robin Andersen, *Deputy*

Newfield. In 1807, the German botanist Frederick Pursh traveled through the land that would become Newfield. He noted that on July 7 he set out in a wagon along a road that led through "a very romantick valley, the mountains sometimes very high." He goes on:

> Eight miles this side of Cayuga city, or as it is called sometimes, Ithaca, we crossed a place very beautifully situated called Sapony Hollow. This place had been once cleared and probably settled by Indians, but is now grown up with small white pine . . . and Magnolia acuminata 'cucumber tree.' . . . About 3 or 4 miles from Sapony Hollow, the timber changes into oak, and from there to Ithaca it is all oak timber mixed with pine, with the rest of plants similar to Tyoga point. We arrived at Ithaca at nightfall.

(Pursh's book is titled *Journal of a Botanical Excursion in the Northeastern Parts of the States of Pennsylvania and New York during the Year 1807*. It was edited by William Beauchamp and published, Syracuse, 1869.)

Newfield began as part of the Watkins and Flint Purchase on July 25, 1794. It was located in Tioga County, and then in 1806 it was set aside

as part of Spencer when that town was created. In 1811, Newfield, then known as Cayuta, was set apart as a separate town, as were Caroline and Danby. When Caroline, Danby, and Cayuta were annexed to Tompkins County on March 22, 1822, Cayuta's name was changed to Newfield to indicate that these were the latest fields open to settlers.

In 1853, when the state of New York created Schuyler County, Newfield's western three rows of lots were annexed to the Town of Catherine in Chemung County and then, by an 1854 act of the legislature, those lots were moved into Schuyler County.

The Newfield hills have all been named. Settlers gave their names to the various ridges on which they lived: Protts Hill, named for George Protts; Burdge Hill for Mary Burdge; Irish Hill because those on it were of Irish descent; Beach Hill for David Beach; Barnes Hill for David Barnes; Seeley Hill for Zadock Seeley; Blakeslee Hill for Havillah Delivan Blakeslee, the elder.

The village of Newfield was bought by Eliakim Dean of Ithaca, and while remaining in Ithaca, he promoted the growth of Newfield. In 1809 he erected a mill, and in 1811 he put up another. In 1813 James Pumpelly of Owego was appointed land agent for the remaining Livingston lands. In 1816 there was a post office, transferred from an office earlier established in Sebring Settlement.

Early on, the hamlet was known as Florence. Florence in Oneida County, however, was older and larger and so had precedence. The post office insisted upon a name change. In 1822, the name Newfield was selected to become effective in 1823. The village was incorporated in 1895 but dissolved its charter in 1925 and remains an unincorporated village to this day.

Connecticut Hill is 2,096 feet above sea level and was first known as The 16,000 Acre Tract, originally part of the Watkins and Flint Purchase. The owner, Robert C. Johnson of Connecticut owed the state of Connecticut more than $67,000, his father and brother securing the debt. To excuse this, Johnson deeded 16,000 acres in Tioga County to

the State of Connecticut School Fund; thus the area gained the name Connecticut Hill.

Fishkill Road was named for Philip Fish, an early settler. Kill is the Dutch word for creek.

Jackson Hollow was possibly named for President Andrew Jackson, but there is no indication about the person for whom the Hollow was actually named. In 1883 a post office was established on Jackson Hollow Road. The post office was discontinued in 1902.

Nina, pronounced "nye-nah," began as East Newfield, It is located where Routes 34 and 96 join. In the 1870s, the railroad agent named the new station after his daughter Nina. Then, the subsequent agent, Walter Messinger, named his daughter after the station!

   Nina was important as a stop on the Lehigh Valley Railroad, which began operation in 1871. A post office was established in 1872 as East Newfield, but in 1880, it too adopted the station's name to become Nina.

Picnic Corners is located at the intersection of Irish Hill and Van Kirk roads, where presidential candidate Theodore Roosevelt visited on October 25, 1910. The name is still used by residents.

Pony Hollow recalls the native people who once lived here and is one of the few names in the county to reflect the early Indian sovereignty. During the eighteenth century, land pressures and local wars in the south forced smaller Native American groups to leave. Two bands of Indians, the Tutelos and the Saponys, came north, and in 1753 they gained permission from the Cayuga Indians to reside as adopted people on Cayuga land. The Cayuga's main towns, at this time, were to the north and the land in Newfield was hunting grounds. The Saponeys (the usual local spelling) established themselves in the eastern end of what came to be called Pony Hollow. By the time of the

American Revolutionary War, the Tutelo Indians had created a palisaded village called Coreogonel near Buttermilk Falls.

   Pony Hollow takes its name from these Native Americans. The first European settler arrived in 1800; the post office was established in 1857 and discontinued in 1892.

Sebring Settlement was named for Cornelius Sebring who settled in the Town of Lansing in 1802, but moved to Newfield in 1804. According to tradition, he put his goods upon a wood sled pulled by a team of one ox and one horse, and followed the blazed trees to what has come to be known as Sebring Settlement. Cornelius became the first postmaster carrying the mail between Ithaca and Elmira. An inn has taken the old name, using a variant spelling, calling itself Seabring Inn.

Stratton is for William Stratton, who settled in the eastern part of the town in 1824. There was a post office established as Stratton in 1872, but it was discontinued in 1894.

Trumbull's Corners is named for James and Jacob Trumbull, who emigrated from New York City in 1813 and took up land at the corners that adopted their name. A post office was established in 1846 under the name North Newfield, but in 1847 it became Trumbull's Corners. The post office was discontinued in 1902.

Windfall Settlement is still used today by area residents. It designates the upper part of Benjamin Hill Road, which the early settlers found covered with young chestnut trees. The hillside had been visited some decades before by a strong wind storm that had brought down the old first growth. This made the land easier to clear, a second "wind fall."

Town of Ulysses

Esther Northrup and Nancy Dean
Town of Ulysses Historians

Ulysses was Town No. 22 of the Military Tract. It was named for Homer's great wanderer who spent twenty years finding his way home to Ithaki from the Trojan Wars.

The Town of Ulysses was formed in 1799 as part of Seneca County, which was separated from Onondaga in 1804. The first settlers entered the area in the 1790s. In 1817 Ulysses, which had been in Seneca County, was placed by the state in Tompkins County. On March 16, 1821, the Town of Ithaca was created from Ulysses, as was the Town of Enfield, which was created at the same time. Ulysses was left with lots 1 through 33, or the northern portion of the town west of Cayuga Lake; the remainder of the lots were divided east and west between Ithaca and Enfield.

Camp Street was named for Herman Camp in 1845 when construction began on his large Greek Revival style home that sits on a large plot and takes up one entire village block. The house was completed in 1847. Camp was a noted advocate of the Sunday School movement, Abolition, and other reforms.

Congress Street recalls the election in 1813 of Dr. Oliver Comstock, the first postmaster of the village, to the United States Congress. The street on which he lived was designated Congress Street.

Town of Ulysses

North

New York State Plane Central
1983 North American Datum

1 : 48000

One Inch represents 4000 Feet

Feet
2000 0 2000 4000

Meters
500 0 500 1000

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Village of
Trumansburg

Jacksonville
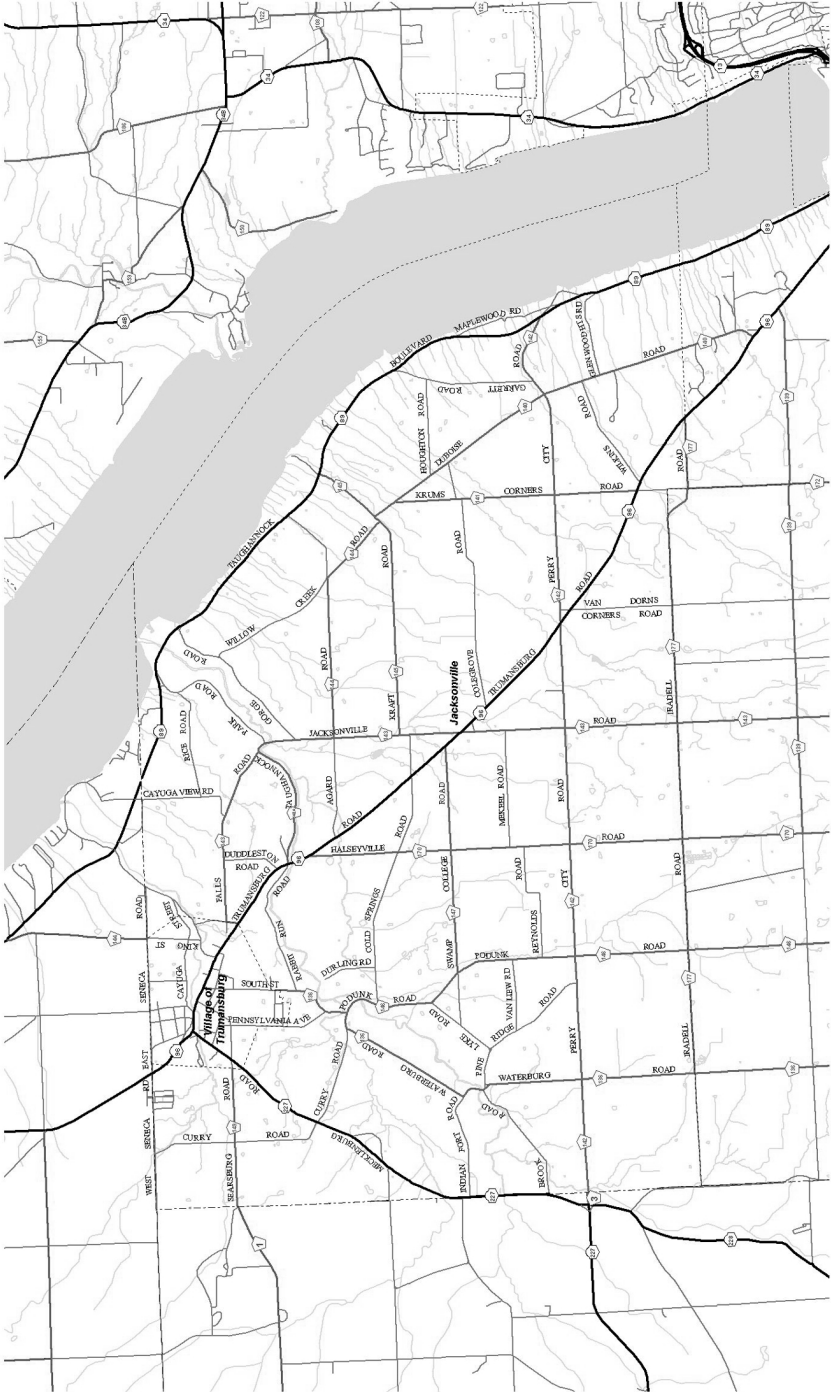
Elderado Drive was created by William Elder, a local contractor who purchased land in the village and built an apartment building in the 1960s. Several other homes have since been built on the cul-de-sac, located across from the high school. It was Elder who gave the new road his own name in a lovely play on words.

Cold Springs Road was named for the nearby spring, located a few yards south on Route 96. There, a continuous stream of water provided cool refreshment for horse and buggy travelers. Today a trickle of water is the only reminder of this former landmark, once so appreciated by man and animal.

Crowbar Point refers to birds rather than an iron tool. Crowbar Point was supposed to be where some early travelers found a gathering of crows and since 1821 an area of the bank along the west shore of Cayuga Lake has so been called. Used for a time by fishermen and hunters, Crowbar Point is today a part of the Comstock Program Center run by the Seven Valleys Girl Scout Council. The land had been donated by the Cornell family to provide a camping area for girls in the 1930s and was named to honor Anna Botsford Comstock who had pioneered nature education for children. She was a Cornell University student in 1876 and became a university professor in 1913.

DuBois Road was named for the Peter DuBois family who came from Ulster County and were early settlers in the southeast section of the town.

Frog Point was a ferry location, established in 1829 by J. M. McLallen, from which boats left for the east shore of Cayuga Lake. From 1845 to 1885 the ferryboat *Wide Awake* operated from Port Deposit, which was another name for Frog Point, as was Trumansburg Landing and Frontenac. During the steamboat era, a hotel was built for summer guests. After the decline of steamboats, activity in the area faded. In 1929 the land was purchased by the Louis A. Fuertes Boy Scout Council and

named Camp Barton. It has been used for their camping program, which continues today. This area is actually just north of the Town of Ulysses line, in Seneca County.

Glenwood was first named for early settlers John and Nathaniel Mack who gave their name to this point of land on the west shore of Cayuga Lake but Henry Garret, a later owner, built a small hotel there that flourished in the 1880s. He gave it the name Glenwood Falls, later shortened to Glenwood. This was a popular picnic spot, also known as Garret's Point. The hotel offered dancing and often people would arrive by steamboat. In 1895 a larger hotel and dance pavilion were built but they burned in the 1930s. In 1945 the land was sold to the Ithaca Yacht Club, which is now an active place for summer boating.

Halseyville appears on the 1829 map of Tompkins County. It is located where today's Route 96 crosses Taughannock Creek and was where Nicole Halsey had his farm and mill. Halsey's house was built in 1829 but he might, as did others, have lived in a cabin for some years before that. The road in front of Halsey's house was the major route to Trumansburg and Ithaca and was known in the 1800s as the Ithaca–Geneva Turnpike. A large covered bridge was built at this crossing in 1833 and torn down in 1926. It was replaced by a sturdier modern structure, which was rebuilt in 1993.

Hinging Post Road is a new name with an interesting twist. Hinging Post Road is a cul-de-sac off DuBois Road. This housing development was started by Otto Schoenfeld in the mid-1990s. He named it Hinging Post Estates. What is a hinging post? It is a device used to attach two other elements together, or a hinging point can also be a turning point, or a determining factor—an interesting and not inappropriate name.

Indian Fort Road recalls a Cayuga-Seneca Indian village and burial ground that were located west of Waterburg near the present Route

227. The Indians built a "fort" on higher ground surrounded by an earthen embankment covering raised logs. They had left the village before Lieutenant Colonel Henry Dearborn's detachment stopped at Taughannock in 1779.

Innocentsville reflects a plan around 1885 to develop a small community where retired Methodist ministers could spend their declining years. Land at the edge of Trumansburg on South Street was surveyed and even sold to qualified buyers but the colony never took hold. Owing to the occupation of the proposed residents, it was called Innocentsville. This account is from Glenn Norris; there seems to be no other documentation for the name.

Iradell Road comes from Joseph Iredell who bought 50 acres of land in April 1827, his deed signed by Simeon DeWitt. The family was of Dutch ancestry, their name was first spelled Ayr Dell. The spelling has varied over the years. The one room rural schoolhouse for District #6 located at the intersection of Jacksonville and Iradell Roads and is a now a private residence.

Jacksonville was settled in 1795 by Revolutionary War soldiers and others, this area was first called Harlow's Corners, probably because William Harlow kept an inn nearby. It was known as Van Cortland Village, after Colonel Philip Van Cortlandt, a Revolutionary War soldier who visited in the area. He even owned land in the Town of Ulysses although he resided in the Town of Cortlandt, in Westchester County. The records show, however, that in 1813 Van Cortlandt deeded to the school trustees one acre to be used as a site for a school and cemetery. Shortly after the Battle of New Orleans, in 1815, the hamlet changed its name to Jacksonville to honor Andrew Jackson.

   The hamlet had been a bustling community in the nineteenth century. The first post office was established in Jacksonville in 1820 and is still a vital part of the hamlet along with a convenience store, physical therapy office, adult home, antique shop, insurance agency, bakery,

bicycle shop, book bindery, marine repair shop, tax service, hair stylist, Close Hall, Methodist Church, and Amazing Grace Fellowship.

Kentucky Avenue was named by William Alford, who came from Kentucky in the middle of the twentieth century. He was the street's first resident and named it for his former home.

Krum's Corners is named for Landon Krum, a blacksmith, who arrived in 1845, having left his native home in the Town of Caroline. The corner became known for the smith's shop. Mid-nineteenth century, it was a stop on the stage line from Ithaca to Geneva and was a thriving community with a tavern, general store, and schoolhouse for District #3. A post office was established sometime before 1824 called Ulysses, but it was discontinued in 1856.

Mack Settlement is also known as Macktown. It was named for John and Nathaniel Mack, who secured one square mile of wilderness soon after 1800. The name persisted while the one-room school of District #16 was used. In 1952, the residents voted to consolidate with the Ithaca City School District. Mack Settlement was the area surrounding the intersection of DuBois and Perry City roads.

Pease Street was named on June 26, 1893, for the Pease family, who had bought a tract of land in 1867 for development into building lots.

Pinckney's was a stop on the Geneva-Ithaca Railroad, southwest of Glenwood, named for a local farming family. This was the first stop going north from Ithaca. Many travelers used the railroad as we use automobiles today. Route 89 (Taughannock Boulevard) was not built until the 1930s. All roads leading to the lake landings were east and west because of the creeks and gullies.

Podunk is a term that refers to a small, insignificant settlement. The origin of the word comes from the Mohegan or a dialect of the Al-

gonquian, meaning "a neck or corner of land." Podunk was used in Massachusetts and Connecticut and later came to be a word of derision of any small or insignificant place. Its first recorded use was in 1666 in the *Documentary Collections of History in New York* (3: 121): "Yesterday there was a party of the Mowhawkes at Podunck (a place between this town [Hartford, Connecticut] and Windsor." It appeared again in 1793 in *The County of Worcester, Mass.* (P. Whitney, p. 77). "There is one large pond . . . called by the Indians Quaboag Pond; but now more generally denominated Podunck Pond, from a track of meadow adjoining, which the Indians call Podunk." The word appears again in 1841 in the New Orleans *Picyayune* (15 January, 4/1) where someone was supposed to have admitted that "my native place is down in Podunck." The term appeared in 1901 in *Harper's Weekley* (7 September) in which a man was referred to as "John Smith of Podunk," meaning someone with little identity. In Connecticut history Podunk was often referred to as an Indian chief or a group. A *Podunker* was one from Podunk (see Mitford Mathews's *Dictionary of Americanisms*, 1269–70).

Norris claimed that the word came from the sound of water moving over and old wooden gristmill which seemed to sound like "po-dunk po-dunk." He also says that in the Algonkian language it means "a clean place."

A type of soil commonly found in New York and New England is identified as the Podunk series. It consists of very deep, moderately well drained soils formed in recent alluvium on floodplains.

Lydia Sears, a historian of Trumansburg who died in 1978, noted that Podunk "was a rough, tough crossroads. Located on Bolter Creek, it was a small manufacturing community and at its peak had a population of about 100 people. Podunk got its name from the way the rushing waters of Bolter Creek descended on a sawmill wheel. Manufactured in the small community were: tubs, churns, barrels, window sashes, blinds, doors, custom built carriages, bricks, and according to some accounts, canal boats." Several references to Podunk appear on the Internet. Harold Jansen wrote a slight book entitled *This Way to Podunk* (New York, 1954).

Presbyterian Row refers to the camps built by Charles H. Blood and two other trustees of the Ithaca Presbyterian Church along the lake-shore. They erected hunting or, as some said, drinking lodges. These early twentieth-century fishing camps became summer cottages, and then year-round homes.

Quaker Settlement recalls the first meeting of the Society of Friends in Ulysses held in 1864 when the McKeel family and other Quakers from the Town of Hector moved over to the Town of Ulysses. They met at the Select School House. In 1903 Charles B. Owen gave land for "The Friend's Church," the meetinghouse which is still in use today.

Salo Drive appeared after World War II, when Mr. Salo bought and developed the area, naming the street for himself.

Swamp College Road was first named Terrell's Corners for the Michael Terrell family who lived and farmed just north of the intersection of Podunk and East Waterburg roads. Later, the western section of the road was named Terrell Road. Romeyn Berry, director of athletics at Cornell University and beloved columnist in the *Ithaca Journal* for his series "State and Tioga," moved in 1936 to Stoneposts, a farmhouse entered by passing stone posts on what was East Waterburg Road. Berry wrote about many things, including country life, and he chron-icled his chores on his farm. For Berry, East Waterburg was too pro-saic a name and so he wrote as if he lived on Swamp College Road. A one-room school house, District #8, stood at the Halseyville Road intersection, where the ground could often be quite wet at certain seasons of the year. In the early 1950s, Winton Baines, a neighbor of Berry, and Clifford Bower, the Town Supervisor, decided that perhaps Berry really should live on Swamp College Road, seeing that he had given it a certain local fame, and so they helped to change the name in the official records.

Taughannock is a romantic name that is supposed to have come from the Delaware word meaning "great falls in the woods." There are a number of legends associated with Taughannock Falls, where the water drops some 215 feet, higher than Niagara Falls. Taughannock is the second highest falls east of the Rocky Mountains. The spelling is also variable. Norris claims that various names have been given to the stream: Taghanic (Algonquin), Chicneaugowa, Tschochnioke (Cayuga). According to Harold Thompson, Cornell folklorist in the middle of the twentieth century, Taughannock was the name of an Indian chief who lived there. Others locate a battle at the falls between the Delaware and Iroquois Indians.

Taughannock Point was originally known as Weyburn's Point after Samuel Weyburn, who established a cabin there in 1792. He was gone by 1794, however, when the Goodwin brothers, Benjamin and Richard, settled in the area, and it became Goodwin Point. The first recorded visitation to the point came during Sullivan's campaign when Lieutenant Colonel Henry Dearborn marched through land "so horred rough and brushey that it was hardly possible for us to advance however with great difficulty & fatigue we proceeded about 8 or 9 miles to the end of a long cape," identified by the editor as Taghanic Point. Taughannock Falls State Park was established in 1927.

Trumansburg was named for Abner Treman, a Revolutionary War soldier, who received lot no. 2 in Town No. 22. In 1792 he brought his family, including his brother-in-law John McLallen, west to settle in the Military Tract. He set out to clear his land and in 1794 built a gristmill, bringing up the machinery to run the mill from Chenango Point, which is now Binghamton. Treman is unusual because he sought to create a town on his land, and he sold parcels to settlers and helped create public institutions.

Treman gave his name to the little settlement. It was known for a time as Tremansburg, Tremansville, Treman's Mill, and Tremain Village,

according to Norris. The first post office was established in 1811 under the name of Treman's Village. Before a year was out, however, there had been a mistake and by 1814 the Post Office Department had registered the area as Trumansburgh. That spelling was changed in 1894 when the Post Office Department regularized names reflecting a preference for "burg" so the final "h" was dropped.

In some early letters, the area was known as McLallen's Tavern, but this was used only during the earliest years and has long since faded away. Shin Hollow was also used, although in a most colloquial manner, as it is supposed to refer to men's legs that were scarred on their way home from the tavern, a dangerous trip because one had to weave in and out among the tree stumps. The village was incorporated in July 1872.

In 1965 the streets of Trumansburg were renamed for one day to honor Verner L. Timerson who died on October 15 and who had been mayor for 19 years. This day, Main Street became Verner L. Timerson Boulevard, Washington Street became Dennis Messler Drive, and Union Street was called Stephen Craig Square.

The village name now is frequently shortened by local residents in speech and print to T-burg.

Updike Settlement recalls the five Updike brothers: Burgoon, Ralph, Abraham, Jacob, and John, who came to Ulysses from Somerset County, New Jersey in 1801–1802. Burgoon settled on a large tract of land southeast of Waterburg. The settlement was at the intersection of the present Podunk and Perry City roads.

A log meetinghouse was built on one of Burgoon's lots in 1811. The pioneer settlers worshiped in the meetinghouse and many are buried in the cemetery, which stood next door. The nucleus of these worshipers relocated to Trumansburg in 1819 and became the First Presbyterian Church of Ulysses. The Baptists met and organized in the meetinghouse in 1819. In a few years, they too built a new building in Trumansburg for worship. After the meetinghouse was torn down, the area became known as District 15, for the one-room rural school.

Later, the school was consolidated with the Trumansburg Central School District, and the building has been vacant for many years.

Waterburg is a small hamlet found along Waterburg Road where it crosses Taughannock Creek in the western part of the township. Half way between Trumansburg and Mecklenburg in the Town of Hector, it was first named Middleburg. It appears on the 1866 map of Ulysses as Middleburg. This was a thriving settlement with water-powered mills, a Methodist Church, Grange Hall, schoolhouse, general store, and blacksmith. A post office was established in Waterburg on August 12, 1833, and discontinued in December 1902.

Whig Street was most likely named for the Whig Party, which emerged as a coalition of interests in 1834.

Willow Creek was named by Samuel Vann of New Jersey who settled in 1812, presumably, because of the willow trees that lined the creek. Rural School District #11 was organized in 1813. Willow Creek Post Office, located at the Lehigh Valley Railroad station, was established in 1873 and discontinued in 1913.

Sources

We are very much indebted to W. Glenn Norris, who was Tompkins County Clerk and the first appointed County Historian. His book *The Origin of Place Names of Tompkins County*, published by the DeWitt Historical Society in 1951, has been invaluable and served as our starting point. We have also used other references, including maps, directories, and town and city minutes located in the municipal offices. We have consulted newspaper articles, especially those of Lyman Gallagher, Barbara Bell, and Carol Kammen, as well as scrapbooks and unpublished essays in the collections of the municipal historians and historical societies, most notably, the DeWitt Historical Society of Tompkins County, located in the Tompkins County Museum in Ithaca. For the City of Ithaca, the Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps were very helpful, as were other maps from the DeWitt's collection, especially the 1853 county map and maps of Ithaca dated 1851, 1872, 1889, and 1903. Listed below are the works we have consulted.

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In the designations of municipality in parentheses, Ithaca refers to only the City of Ithaca.