

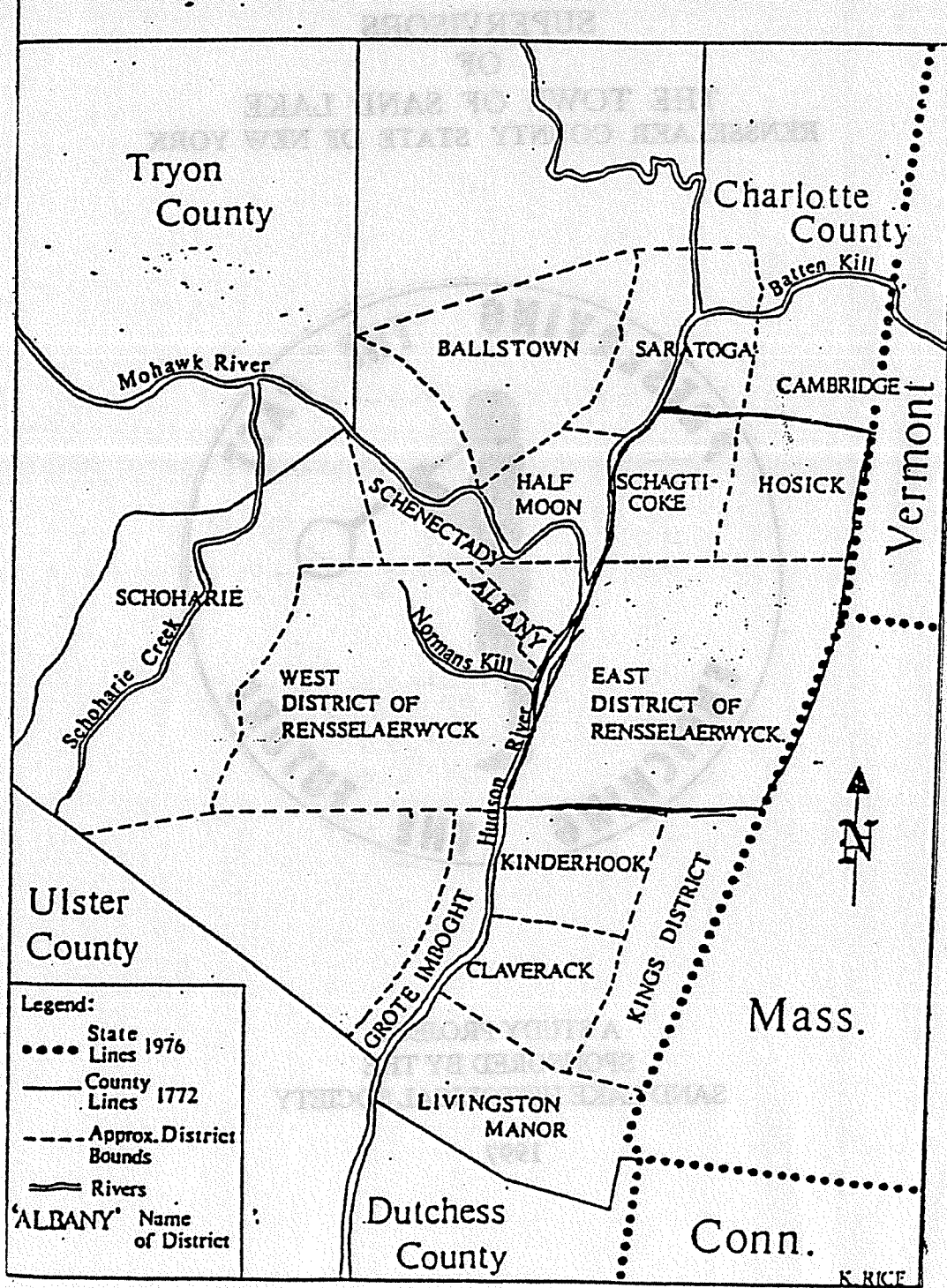
**SUPERVISORS
OF
THE TOWN OF SAND LAKE
RENSSELAER COUNTY STATE OF NEW YORK**



**A STUDY PROJECT
SPONSORED BY THE
SAND LAKE HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

1997

DISTRICTS OF ALBANY COUNTY 1775-1783



INTRODUCTION

This study began a few years ago when the question came up as to who were the early supervisors of the Town of Sand Lake? It started a process of first obtaining names and dates. This led to the questions, who were these men and the one women that made up the list? What were there duties? How did it start?

It became an interesting project. A search into old records, searching local histories, finding family genealogies, studying legislative growth. The results can be found on the following pages, but before you start a few details might be presented.

The spelling of names varies with time. this report uses the spelling as recorded in the "Journal of the Proceedings of the Board of Supervisors of Rensselaer County". For instance, George Sipperly, was Supervisor in 1824, his nephew, Supervisor in 1833, was George Cipperly. Again Bensteel, supervisor in 1874 is later Bonesteel.

The length of the biographical sketches is no indication of the importance of the individual. It is an indication of the amount of information we could find.

Joseph Fitzgerald, Supervisor 1952 to 1967, served the longest time, 15 years. The shortest, William Moul, Supervisor in 1885 died in office serving only a few months.

Committee Robert J. Lilly

Rosemary Supkiss
Marjorie Larsen
Dianne Freeman
Mary Wells

Midg Cipperly
Judy Rowe
John Allendorph
Arthea Gibbs
Joan Gross

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MAY 1998

SUPERVISORS
OF THE
TOWN OF SAND LAKE
1813-1997
IN ORDER OF TERM SERVED

1813-19	THOMPSON, CALVIN	1877-80	ROBISON, MILO
1820	LYMAN, ARETUS	1881	PECK, ARTHUR, M.
1821-22	BULLOCK, LEWIS	1882	SMART, ANDREW J.
1823	SIPPERLY, GEORGE	1883	PECK, ARTHUR M.
1824	BROWERS, I. S.	1884	SMART, ANDREW, J.
1825	HARRIS, NICHOLAS B.	1885	MOUL, WILLAM N.
1826	THOMPSON, CALVIN	1885-86	SMART, ANDREW J.
1827	AVERILL, WILLIAM F.	1887	UPHAM, WILLIAM
1828-31	BRISTOL, HERBERT R.	1888	McCONIHE, A DOUGLAS
1832	HARRIS, NICHOLAS B.	1889-90	HORTON, SANDFORD B.
1833	CIPPERLY, GEORGE	1891	CRAPE, CRIST
1834	HARRIS, NICHOLAS B.	1892-95	HOLSER, CHARLES
1835	REED, GIDEON	1896-97	BOYCE, DR. ELIAS B.
1836-37	PECK, MARCUS	1898-1901	HASTINGS, ALBERT C
1838-41	HORTON, GEORGE	1902-05	SCHUMANN, JOHN JR.
1842-44	VOSBURG, JOHN I.	1906-07	REICHARD, ELMER E.
1845	CIPPERLY, GEORGE	1908-11	ECKES, WILLIAM F.
1846	COONS, SOLYMAN	1912-15	CIPPERLY, GEORGE
1847	SLITER, CALVIN	1916-21	HOGEBROOM, D. AARON
1848-50	FOX, SAMUEL H.	1922-23	MOSHER, JOHN G.
1851	SLITTER, CALVIN	1924-27	REICHARD, DR. ELMER E.
1852-53	MOTT, ADAM	1928-37	HASTINGS, CLIFFORD C..
1854-56	UPHAM, NATHAN	1938-41	RESCOTT, CLYDE D.
1856-57	HORTON, ORLANDO	1941	RESCOTT, JOSEPHIN W.
1858-60	THOMAS, PHILANDER H.	1942-51	MILLER, RAYMOND
1861	STEVENS, WILLIAM	1952-67	FITZGERALD, JOSEPH.
1862-65	PECK, JOEL B.	1968-69	WARREN, JOSEPH H.
1866-67	THOMAS, BURTON A.	1970-79	GALLANT, SIDNEY
1868-69	PECK, JOEL B.	1979	UDWARY, JOHN
1870-71	ROBISON, MILO	1980-88	KELLEY, DOUGLAS
1872-73	LESTER, SYLVESTER M.	1988-89	CARPENTER, ROBERT F.
1874	BONESTEEL, JOHN H.	1990-91	TALLMAN, RICHARD
1875	AKIN, JOHN H.	1992-93	MARDON, ARTHUR L.
1876	HORTON, DAVID	1994-97	WURTEMBERGER, FRED

THE SUPERVISORS OF THE TOWN OF SAND LAKE

AKIN, JOHN H. (1823-1896)
Supervisor 1875

John Akin of Cohoes came to West Sand Lake in 1865 and purchased the Cipperly saw mill lot in West Sand Lake from George, Jacob, and Catherine Cipperly, for \$2750. The sale included the privilege of flooding the lands of Michael Cipperly. Immediately after, he sold 1/3 portion to John McLaren and 1/3 to Jopeher Kidder and built a hosiery factory that was known as the Kidder, Akin & McLaren Co.. Akin continued in the mill business until 1880 when the mill burned. It was rebuilt by his son and nephew. The Akin mill was located on the north side of the Wyanostskill across from where Bonded Concrete is now situated.

John Akin was a Village Trustee of West Sand Lake and was involved in the formation of the Volunteer Fire Co. He was elected Supervisor of the Town of Sand Lake in 1875 serving a one year term.

Mr. Akin, a church warden, donated land on Main St. Averill Park for the building of St. Henry's Church.

John H. Akin died in Cohoes New York, February 18, 1896.

Reference

Obit. Troy Times, February 23, 1896

Sylvester: pg. 526, 528

Weise: pg. 142

St. Henry's Church, 75 Anniversary, September 14, 1977

AVERILL, WILLIAM FRANKLIN (1780-1839)
Supervisor 1827

William F. Averill was born on March 3, 1780 and married Anna B. Chadwick (1782-1840) November 22, 1805. They had six children.

William Averill served one year as Town Clerk, in 1825. He was elected Town Supervisor in 1827 and served a one year term. After his year as Supervisor he served the Town of Sand Lake as Justice of the Peace in the years 1831, 1836 and 1837.

William Averill kept the stage house on the Troy and Sand Lake Turnpike that was built in the years 1829 or 1830. It was not uncommon for twenty to thirty teams to stay over on their way to the city.

William F. Averill died on Sep. 2 1839 and was buried in the Sand Lake Union Cemetery.

Reference: Sand Lake History Pg. 3

Averill Averill- Averill Family record.

BONESTEEL, JOHN H. (1834-1895)

Supervisor 1874

John H. Bonesteel (or Bonesteel) was born on May 15, 1834. He was known to many as "Uncle John" and kept a hotel at Sliter's Corners (now Sand Lake). Many of the town's annual meetings were held at his hotel. Retiring from the hotel business about 1882 due to poor health, he lived with his brother Dr. W. N. Bonesteel in Troy. John Bonesteel became despondent and committed suicide. He is buried in the Sand Lake Union Cemetery.

John Bonesteel married Louisa Peck who died many years before him. He served as Town Supervisor in 1874.

Reference

Obit: Troy Daily Times, January 17, 1895

BOYCE, DR. ELIAS B. (1837-)

Supervisor 1896-97

Elias Boyce was the twelfth son of Ananias and Sarah Boyce. He was raised on the family farm until the age of 13, when the family moved to Wilton, Saratoga County N.Y.. At age 18, Elias moved back to West Sand Lake to study medicine with his brother, Dr. Arlington Boyce. He continued his studies at the Albany Medical College, graduating in 1858.

Dr. Boyce practiced in West Sand Lake for nine years, when, because of poor health, he moved to Valatie, N.Y.. In 1872 he returned to Averill Park and established a large and lucrative practice.

Dr. Elias Boyce married Harriet C. Nicholas February 5, 1860. They had one son, William, who died at the age 19.

Dr. Boyce served the Town of Sand Lake as Health Officer for nine years, and was elected to a two year term as Town Supervisor in 1896. In addition to his medical practice he was one of the original stockholders of the Troy New England railroad. Dr. Boyce was a member of the Medical Society of Rensselaer County and the Medical Association of New York State.

Reference

Troy times: 3/7/1908 picture

Landmarks: Part 3 pg. 180

BRISTOL, HERBERT R.

Supervisor -1828-31

In 1800 there were two Bristol farms on Martin's Lake [Now part of Burden Lake] One was in the name of John Bristol; the other, Abraham Bristol. Although these farms remained in the Bristol name, no record of a Herbert was found. In one genealogical account, we found the name Henry R. Bristol but no other information.

Reference

BROWERS, I. S.

Supervisor 1824

Little is known about John Browsers. Its "John" in Sylvester's History of Sand Lake and "I. S. Browsers" in the Proceedings of the Board of Supervisors. It is believed that he was a glass blower at the glass factory. He served only one term as Supervisor, in 1824.

Reference

BULLOCK, LEWIS (1765-1832)

Supervisor 1821-22

Lewis Bullock was born in Sand Lake on June 19, 1765. In 1784 he married Rebecca Bullock, a second cousin. Before her marriage Rebecca had a narrow escape. She hid in the woods during the Wyoming Indian Massacre.

Mr. Bullock operated a hotel on the old Bullock farm, near Thais Rd., as early as 1800. In addition to being a Town Supervisor, he was the first Overseer of the Poor in the Town. Lewis Bullock died on August 3, 1832. He was buried in a private cemetery on his property.

Reference

Weise: pg... 136

Letter 15 May 1967 Charles Bullock to cousin Carlos

**CARPENTER, ROBERT (1940-
Supervisor 1988-89**

Robert Carpenter was born in Moriah (Essex County) NY on July 1, 1940. He received an AAS degree in Civil Technology from the State University of New York at Delhi. Currently he is President and CEO at the Capital Mutual Group in Sand Lake. Mr. Carpenter is married and has three daughters.

During his term in office, Mr. Carpenter worked to establish recycling at the Town landfill and formed a committee to conduct a water study for the Sand Lake/Averill Park area. He also acquired a grant from the New York State Senate to paint Town Hall and to construct an access ramp for the handicapped. The Master Plan Review Committee, composed of citizens of Sand Lake, was reestablished. He also worked with ROUSE to develop Senior Citizens housing in West Sand Lake. Mr. Carpenter was elected on the Republican ticket.

THE CIPPERLYS

The Cipperly family are decedants of the Palatinates, a German group from Wurtemberg who left their native province in 1710 to avoid religious trouble. The name was Zipperly in German and changed to Sipperly or Cipperly over time. One of the decedents, Joseph Hendrick Sipperly, was in the Revolutionary War and fought in the Battle of Saratoga. Joseph Hendrick Sipperly leased a 328 acre farm and saw mill privilege in today's West Sand Lake, from Stephen VanRensselaer, in 1797. As well as farming he was a blacksmith by trade. It is claimed that he originated the wagon tire, an iron hoop that was put on the wagon wheel red hot and shrunk on to draw the joint tight. Prior to this the iron was put on in many pieces and spiked to the wheel.

Down through the years, there were four Supervisors of the Town of Sand Lake, with the name "George Cipperly", all related one way or another. In 1797 Joseph Henry divided his farm between his two sons, George and Henry.

Henry (1768-1826) married Catherine Minic. When Henry died in 1826 his farm was divided among his four sons. George [1797-1877]; Henry [1803-1863]; Michael [1802-1882]; and Nicholas [1805-1857]. George was to become the Supervisor of the Town of Sand Lake in 1824.

The other brother George (1775-1847) married Mary Coons and had 17 children. One of them, also named George, 2nd married Sally Ann Turner. In 1833 he became Town Supervisor.

In 1845 the third George Cipperly, son of George and Sally Ann Terry, became Supervisor

The direct line of descendants of the fourth George, Supervisor in 1912-15 has not as yet been clearly determined but he is of the Cipperly line..

Reference;

Cipperly note book:

Sylvester: pg.. 519

CIPPERLY, GEORGE {1775-1847}

Supervisor 1823

Sipperly, George in some records.

George Cipperly, the grandson of Joseph Henry Cipperly and son of Henry (Hendrick), was born on June 17, 1775, in West Sand Lake. He carried on the family occupation of blacksmith and farming. George also operated the saw mill and in 1829 became a charter member of the Wynantskill Association, an organization of mill owners with mills on the Wynantskill, interested in controlling the flow of the stream for hydraulic purposes.

On October 13, 1796 George married Mary (Maria or Polly) Coons and raised a family of 17 children, all of whom reached maturity. George Cipperly died November 11, 1847 leaving the farm to his son Jacob.

Reference;

Cipperly note book.

Records of Wynantskill Association

CIPPERLY, GEORGE (1797-1877)

Supervisor 1833

George Cipperly was the grandson of Joseph Henry Cipperly, and the son of Henry Cipperly (1786-1826), and a nephew of George Cipperly who was Supervisor in 1823. He was born December 20, 1797 in West Sand Lake. He married Laney Cronkite [1801-1855]. They operated a farm and had an interest in the family saw mill. He was the Treasurer of the Anti Rent Association, an organization opposed to the Van Rensselaers' rents. He ran into trouble when the Van Rensselaers threatened to remove the dam at his factory. George died on May 30, 1877.

Reference

Cipperly notebook

CIPPERLY, GEORGE. (1805-1875)

Supervisor 1845

George Cipperly was born on November 11, 1805. He was the son of George and Mary Coons Cipperly. His father was the Town Supervisor in 1823. He lived in West Sand Lake for his entire life. George operated the saw mill that was originally operated as the Fonda and Cipperly saw mill of 1788. Later he added a cloth dressing mill which, in 1865, was sold to John Akin to become the Akin, McLaren Hosiery factory.

Mr. Cipperly was also involved in the "Anti Rent Wars" of that period. George Cipperly married Sally Ann Terry. They had 5 children.

He died Aug. 21, 1875.

Reference;

Cipperly notebook

Koon and Coons Families

Tin Horns and Calico

Sylvester: pg... 528

CIPPERLY, GEORGE. [1873-1964]

Supervisor 1912-15

George was a carpenter and built houses in the West Sand Lake area. He lived in the white house on the corner of route 43 and Reichard's Lake Road.

He was also an auctioneer, known for his integrity and his wonderful sense of humor. In addition he worked as a conductor on the Troy & New England Railway.

George Cipperly was married to Martha Shants.

Reference;

Information from Mrs. Ervin G. Cipperly.

COONS, SOLYMAN (1805-1891)

Supervisor 1846

COONS, SOLYMAN (1805-1891)

Supervisor 1846

Solyman Coons was born June 14, 1805 on his father's 161 acre farm in the Town of Sand Lake (on what today is Garner Road about 600 ft. west of Burden Lake Road). In 1829 he married Alpha Burton, and in 1831 purchased the Hogg farm where they raised 12 children. Alpha Coons died in 1854.

After his wife's death, he moved to the historic Gordon farm near Ballston Center, Saratoga County. Solyman then married Louisa P. Hamilton. They had 2 children. In addition to farming, Solyman was briefly connected with the Thompson Paper Mill in Averill Park.

Solyman Coons was elected Supervisor of the Town of Sand Lake for a one year term in 1846.

Solyman was elected Trustee of the Methodist Episcopal Hedding Chapel in West Sand Lake in 1850. Solyman Coons died at Burnt Hills, May 8, 1891.

The name is also spelled Coon, and Solyman also spelled Solyman.

Reference

Koon and Coons Families of Eastern New York pg. 111

Weise: pg. 104

CRAPE, CRIST (1848-1932)

Supervisor 1891.

Crist Crape was born in Hesse Darmstadt, Germany, June 20, 1848. He was the son of Joseph and Margaret (Synder) Crape. He came to America in 1850 and settled at Glass House. His father worked in the glass factory. Crist married Henrietta Warger on February 1, 1868. They had 4 children, Henrietta, Maggie, Charles and Harry. Mr. Crape started out as a peddler and later went into the lumber business. In 1880 he bought the Central Hotel in Sand Lake, greatly enlarging and improving the hotel and dining room. Crist Crape's Hotel became a famous stop and was well known for its meals.

In addition to being Supervisor for one year 1891, he served the Town as Assessor for 4 years and for 10 or 12 years was Trustee of the Sand Lake School. He died on April 29, 1932, and was buried beside his wife, Henrietta in Sand Lake Union Cemetery.

Refence

Landmarks: part3 pg.. 224

ECKES, WILLIAM F. (1847-1916).

Supervisor 1908-1911

William Eckes operated a harness shop in West Sand Lake.

William Eckes married Harriet Marilla Coons (1847-1923) on January 19, 1872. Harriet was the daughter of Solyman Coons, Supervisor of the Town of Sand Lake in 1846. They had 3 children, George C. Eckes (1873-??); Altha Burton Eckes Knowlton, (1874-??); and Mary Elma Eckes (1876-1882)..

Reference

Koon and Coons Families of Eastern New York, pg.. 114

Troy Times 3/7/1908: picture

FITZGERALD, JOSEPH L. (1896-1969)

Supervisor 1952-1967

When Joseph L. Fitzgerald died suddenly on May 25, 1969, a career of public service which spanned many years came to an end.

Mr. Fitzgerald was born in Troy, N.Y. on April 5, 1896. He lived in Troy until about 1929 when he moved to Averill Park. He married Margaret Rogers and they raised two sons.

Joseph L. Fitzgerald served the longest term as Supervisor of the Town of Sand Lake, 16 years. He was elected in 1952 and held office until 1967. He also was Chairman of the County Board of Supervisors. Before being elected Supervisor he served the Town as Justice of the Peace. His many contributions to his Town and country are numerous.

Joseph Fitzgerald served with the 27th U. S. Army division overseas in the first World War. He was wounded in action and cited for bravery. He was the holder of the Purple Heart, Silver Star, Conspicuous Service Cross and Victory Medal. Throughout his life, Mr. Fitzgerald was active in numerous veteran and community organizations.

He was past commander of the Sgt. Walter Adams Post, American Legion in Averill Park; Rensselaer Chapter, American Legion; and was past Third District Commander of the American Legion. He was past department Judge Advocate of the order of the Purple Heart. At one time, he served as department commander of the Army and Navy Union.

A graduate of Albany Law School he served as Assistant Attorney General in the State Attorney General's office for 42 years, retiring in 1966. During this time he was a member of the Rensselaer County Bar Association.

Mr. Fitzgerald died Sunday, May 25, 1969, and is buried in S.. Henry cemetery.

Reference;

The Times Record: May 26 1969

FOX, SAMUEL HAMILTON (1815-1888)
Supervisor 1848-50

Samuel Hamilton Fox, son of Isaac B. Fox and Eunice Bristol Fox, was born on April 20, 1815. He married Harriet Hobbie in 1851. She lived only seven years after her marriage and died on November 18, 1858. Samuel subsequently married Emma Buncher.

In 1793 Samuel's ancestors established a window glass factory at Hamilton, N.Y. Since that time, the family continued in the glass business. Samuel and his brother Albert, represented the fourth generation, and Samuel's son Frederick Hamilton Fox the fifth. The family manufactured glass in New York until the 1880's when Frederick relocated to Chicago, Ill. The family conducted glass operations in New York for more than 87 years. The chief seat of the operations being Durhamville, N.Y..

Samuel and his brother successfully operated the Sand Lake Glass Works from 1838 to 1853. They succeeded Richard J. Knowlson who had acquired the property in 1825 from Crandall, Fox and Company. (Nathan Crandall, Isaac Fox who was Samuel's father and Abraham Gregory). The sand which the Sand Lake Glass Works used to produce glass, came from what is now Crystal Lake. The lake was once called Sand Lake because of its sandy shores and bottom. So the town formed in 1813, was appropriately named Sand Lake. The sand proved to be too brown for the manufacture of glass and a new source was found in Lanesboro, Massachusetts. During the period 1848-50, when Samuel served as Supervisor, a plank road was built from Sand Lake to Albany. During this same period Samuel and his brother Albert built Mechanics Hall to accommodate workers who had no permanent homes. The building, still standing, is at the junction of Glass Lake Road and route 66, and is the present Glass Lake Inn. The economy of the town prospered thanks to the Glass Factory which thrived under the ownership of the two brothers. A little known fact about the S & A.R. Fox Glass Works is that it manufactured the window glass installed in the White House, Washington, D.C. in 1813.

In 1853, the Glass Works was destroyed by fire and was not rebuilt. Prior to the fire, the Fox brothers acquired another glass factory in Durhamville, N.Y. and half of the work force from the Sand Lake Factory had already been transferred there. Samuel became president of the Durhamville Glass Works, which operated as Fox and Co. Ltd. Later when his son Frederick joined the company, the name was changed to Fox and Son. Samuel had three other sons, Walter, Charles and Arthur S. Fox.

Samuel H. Fox died December 20, 1888 and is buried in the Sand Lake Union Cemetery together with his first wife, Harriet Arnold Fox. There is a head stone for his son Frederick "Freddie" Hamilton Fox, 1857-1910 and foot stones for Freddie, Walter and Charles. His son, Arthur S. Fox, was last known to be living in Louisville, KY., and was with the Peaslee-Gault Company.

Reference;
Landmarks: pg.106
Sylvester: pg.. 521 & 526

**GALLANT, SIDNEY (1917-
Supervisor 1970-79.**

Sid Gallant was of French descent and his family came to the States through Canada. He was born Feb. 12, 1917, in Burlington, Vermont. Early in his life the family moved to Albany where he attended Albany High School. After high school he attended Troy Business College. Upon graduation in 1938, he was employed by Montgomery Ward.

For a time Sid worked for the Civilian Conservation Corps, and helped set up camps in the area, including one camp in the Alps, Nassau.

Sid was drafted in 1944 and joined the U.S. Marines. Because of his background in merchandising at Montgomery Wards, he was assigned to the Quartermasters branch.

Mr. Gallant married Doris L. Bailey. They raised a son and a daughter.

Mr. Gallant spent 27 years in Town government. In addition to the position of Supervisor, he served as Town Justice, Town Councilman, and was chairman of the Town Supervisors Association 1978-1979.

During his term in office, Mr. Gallant obtained the former Presbyterian Church for use as a Town Hall (1972) and secured the donation of 13^{1/2} acres of land from the H. Butler Foundation, which became the site of Butler Park. The Sand Lake Sewer District and Police Department were established during his years of service. Town funding of the Ambulance Association was also established. Mr. Gallant's term is also remembered for the spirited Bicentennial observance.

Sid Gallant resigned the office of Supervisor on March 31, 1978, nine months before the end of his term. He was succeeded by John Udvary.

HARRIS, NICHOLAS B. (1778-1840)
Supervisor 1825, 1832, and 1834

Nicholas Brown Harris was the fifth child and fifth son of Nicholas Harris M.D. and Phebe (Tibbits) Harris. He was born in Stephentown, Rensselaer County, N.Y., on December 11, 1778 "on Friday Between the hours of 9 and 10 o'clock Post Meridian". This is an exact copy of a quaint record found in the handwriting of Dr. Nicholas Harris, his father, who also made entries for each of his fourteen children. The first six were sons, and the remaining eight, daughters.

Dr. Harris married Martha Carmichael (1789-1881) on September 7, 1806.

Michael Brown Harris, like his father, (1749-1819) and his older brother Augustus (1776-), was a medical physician. Dr. Harris practiced medicine in south Sand Lake, N.Y.. That community was renamed Slitters Corners, located directly south of West Sand Lake on route 150. In addition to his professional business, Dr. Harris filled many important offices in the town of his residence. He was elected to the office of Supervisor three times, and also served as a Justice of the Peace in 1811 for the Town of Greenbush and for the Town of Sand Lake in 1815 and 1818. This service to two towns is explained by the action of the legislature in 1812 when the town of Greenbush was divided and re-formed into the towns of Greenbush, Berlin, and Sand Lake. He also served the State of New York as an elected a member of the Legislature in 1833.

Dr. Harris was described as "a man of commanding presence, his massive head and fine face expressing his strength of character and keen intellect". When he died September 7, 1840, a Troy Daily paper remarked that "by his death the community in general sustains an irreparable loss".

Reference

A Genealogy of the descendants of Nicholas Harris, M.D.. 1904

HASTINGS, ALBERT COSTELLO (1847-1906)

Supervisor 1898-1901

Albert C. Hastings was born December 27, 1847 in Brunswick, N. Y., the son of Rozel (Roswell) Summer Hastings and Catherine Margaret Cipperly. His maternal grand parents were Michael (1803-1882) and Barbara Cipperly (1801-1883).

A few years after his birth the family moved to West Sand Lake where Albert's father acquired a mill and farm north of the Village and operated it as a grist and cider mill. Albert lived in West Sand Lake the rest of his life. He was an enterprising and successful businessman and raised strawberries and raspberries on the largest such farm in the area, with 50,000 new strawberry plants alone each year. He was also a Director of the Rensselaer County Fire Insurance Association and became interested in local political matters. He served as Deputy Sheriff under the administration of Sheriffs Tappen, Collins, and DeFreest. Albert Hastings was elected Town of Sand Lake Supervisor and served two terms between 1891 and 1901. He was an active member of the Republican Party.

Albert married Antoinetta Travis Who died November 28, 1869. There was one son, Melvin R. Hastings. Albert married again, and left a surviving widow, Emily R. Hastings, his son Melvin, two brothers, Ephriham, and Milton, and one sister Ada, wife of Fayette Thomas. Albert died at his farm in West Sand Lake June 6, 1906.

Reference

Obit: Daily Times June 1906

Picture: Sand Lake Strawberry farm 1978 calendar.

HASTINGS, CLIFFORD C. (1882-1947)
Supervisor 1928-1937



RE-ELECT
CLIFFORD C. HASTINGS
— FOR —
SENATOR 31st District

During his long association with the life of Rensselaer County, Clifford C. Hastings rose to prominence both in business and in public life. He was known for his intimate connection with the development of the electric light and power facilities of the county, for his past service as supervisor and influential position in the New York State Senate.

Senator Hastings was born in Rensselaer County on June 25, 1882, a son of Milan S. and Edith R. (Snyder) Hastings and a descendant of a distinguished family whose name has been famous in English history for many centuries. It was early established in this country, during the Revolution. Four of Senator Hastings' ancestors fought in the patriotic cause. His father was a grist mill owner and operator in Rensselaer County for many years.

Educated in local public schools, Clifford C. Hastings acquired a general knowledge of mechanics through his boyhood

association with his father in the family gristmill. His first real job was in the power development of the Troy & New England Railroad, and when this organization was taken over by the United Traction Company in 1895, he continued the connection and subsequently became chief engineer. He resigned in 1912 to organize the hydro-electric plant and Wynantskill Hydro-Electric Company, of which he became president and general manager, guiding the development of the corporation with a sure hand for fifteen years. In 1927 he negotiated the sale of its properties to the Associated Gas & Electric Company and retired from business to devote himself largely to the sphere of public service. Associated Gas & Electric Company was the catalyst for New York State Electric & Gas Corp.

Already influential in the political affairs of the county, Senator Hastings placed to his credit many achievements of a public character. In 1927 he was elected Supervisor of the Town of Sand Lake and served on the County Board of Supervisors without interruption for ten years. While Supervisor he was responsible for using the old steam generating building for a Works Progress Administration (WPA) project, turning it into the present Town Barn. This project put many masons and laborers to work. In 1936 he was elected to a seat in the State Senate, where he represented the Thirty-first Senatorial District. He made his influence felt in the conduct of the State's business and was celebrated for his oratory on the Senate floor.

While Senator, his efforts were responsible for passing a statute banning fireworks in the State. He was chairman of the Senate Committee on Relief and Welfare, the Committee on Legislation of the Association of Towns and Laws and the Committee on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing and served on many other State committees and boards.

Senator Hastings was affiliated fraternally with the Knights of Pythias in which he served as Deputy Grand Chancellor, and with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. He was a Lutheran and served as a member of the church council; Trinity Lutheran Church, West Sand Lake. He had been a close student of the history of Rensselaer County and his scholarship in this field was acknowledged.

In 1903 he married Mary E. Henry of Loudonville, daughter of Lemuel C. Henry, a fire brick manufacturer of Troy, who died in 1923, and Mary Ann (O'Brien) Henry, who died in 1887. Like her husband she was descended from a family established in America many years before the Revolution. Senator and Mrs. Hastings were parents of two children: (1) E. Pauline, who became a graduate nurse through study and training at Samaritan Hospital and married E. W. Lawrence. They had two sons. (2) D. Robert, who married Emma A. Hack and also had two sons. Senator Hastings died in 1947 at his home in West Sand Lake, and Mrs. Hastings died in 1950.

Reference

The Capital Region of New York State, Biographical, Lewis Historical Publishing Co., 1942, Pages 443-44

HOGEBOOM, DEVEREAUX AARON (1864- 1932)
Supervisor 1916-1921

D. Aaron Hogeboom was born April 9, 1864 and was educated at Averill Park Seminary. He graduated from the Evansville Academy in 1883. He taught school for 13 years. During this time, he was a teacher and for 3 years, served as principal.

Mr. Hogeboom was a Democrat and was elected as Town Clerk for two terms. He was defeated for Supervisor in 1894 by only 37 votes. Twenty years later in 1916 he was elected Town Supervisor, serving till 1921.

Hogeboom was a charter member of the Averill Park Fire Company which was formed August 11, 1900, at a meeting held at Tillson's Hall.

Mr. Hogeboom married Flora E. Firth (1870-1934). They are both buried in the Sand Lake Union Cemetery.

Reference;

Anderson: pg. 166

HOLSER, CHARLES (1851-)

Supervisor 1892-1895

Charles Holser, was born in Sand Lake on December 11, 1851, the son of Jacob and Barbara (Gallie) Holser, who came to America from Germany about 1843. Charles started in business with his father, butchering and selling veal. Later he acquired a large interest in the Albany and Sand Lake Plank Road, a saw mill in Greenbush and a spile or pile yard on the river. He had an extensive farm business as well as dealing in thoroughbred horses. Charles Holser owned the Maple Grove Hotel on Burden Lake and property in Troy.

Mr. Holser was married twice, first to Mary Hinke, by whom he had a daughter Annie Mary Holser. Mary died in 1877.

Later he married Betsey Finch of Sand Lake, and had three sons, Charles H., John and Albert.

About 1900 Charles Holser moved to Poestenkill and settled on his wife's family home a 65 acre farm. He remained interested in politics and served the Town of Poestenkill as Commissioner of Highways, and in 1906 was elected Supervisor. Thus he joined John Vosburg as one of the two men that served as Supervisor of both Sand Lake and Poestenkill.

Mr. Holser was a member of the IOOF Lodge in Lansingburg.

Reference;

Landmarks: No 111 pg... 199

Troy Times: May 5 1906, with picture.

Anderson

35 Supervisors of Poestenkill: N. Y. by Florence M. Hill

THE HORTONS AND THE PECKS

The relationship between the Hortons and the Pecks has to be mentioned in any account of the Supervisors of the Town of Sand Lake. Both families were among the early settlers in this area, arriving in the 1790s. Members of both families had sons that became Supervisors of the Town of Sand Lake. The families intermarried, making the position of Supervisor a family tradition. Marcus Peck was Supervisor 1836-37 and was followed, in 1838, by George Horton. George Horton's first son Orlando became Town Supervisor in 1856. George's daughter, Parmelia, married Marcus Peck's son, Joel, and Joel was elected Supervisor in 1862. Pamela and Joel Peck had a son Arthur, who was elected Town Supervisor 1862-65 and again in 1868-69. Then, a generation later David Horton became Supervisor in 1876. Finally David's son Sandford was Town Supervisor in 1889-90, completing the chain when he married Lucretia Peck.

THE HORTONS

The Horton families have traced their family American genealogy back to 1633, when Barnabas Horton arrived from England on the ship, Swallow. They first lived at Southold, Long Island. David Horton (1760-1829), the sixth generation of the Hortons moved from Dutchess County to the Sand Lake area shortly after the American Revolution and have lived in the Sand Lake - Poestenkill area since. The Hortons have been active in town affairs, farming, and the lumber business.

HORTON, GEORGE (1792-1872)

Supervisor 1838- 1841

George was born on September 20, 1792 and died April 14, 1872. The village of Taborton was once called Georgetown in honor of George Horton who was born there.

George Horton was one of the most prominent men in the County of Rensselaer in the days of his active business. In the early 1830's in association with Col. Richard J. Knowlson and Gidion Butts, both of Sand Lake, they started a lumber business. Purchasing land from the Patroon William Van Rensselaer, located in the Taborton area, they entered into a contract with Benajah Thompson. Mr. Thompson of Albany, was to build and operate a steam-powered saw mill constructed to saw timber of 45 foot lengths. Thompson could cut all the standing timber necessary to feed the mill. Horton, Butts and Knowlson would act as agent and furnish orders for timber board, planks, and joists, as much as can be sawed, at \$5 per thousand board feet. In addition Thompson was to cut and peel the hemlock in season and place the bark in one-cord piles. This bark was sold to the local tanneries.

George Horton represented the Town of Sand Lake on the Board of Supervisors for four years, 1838 to 1841

George Horton married Lucinda Hayford. They had 10 children, one daughter, Pamelia married Joel Peck who was also a Town Supervisor in 1862.

Reference;

Obit Troy Daily Times: April 15, 1872

HORTON, ORLANDO (1811-1892)

Supervisor 1856-1857

Orlando Horton, a son of George Horton and Lucinda Hayford Horton, was born November 4, 1811.

Orlando Horton, George Horton's first son, was elected Supervisor of the Town of Sand Lake, serving from 1856 through 1857. He married Ruth Gould (1811-1847) who died at an early age. Orlando's second wife was Marilla Ann Hamilton (1820-1892).

Reference;

HORTON, DAVID (---)

Supervisor 1876

There are two David Hortons, and they have us confused. Which one was the Supervisor?

DAVID HORTON (1850-1878)

This David married Helen A. Kittle, who died in Utica NY, Aug. 26, 1877 at the age of 63. Since this David was only 28 years old when he died we do not believe that he was our supervisor in 1876.

DAVID F HORTON (1845-)

David F. Horton was the grandson of George Horton, the Supervisor in 1838, David F. was married to Ophellia Wheeler.

Before being elected Town Supervisor in 1876 he served as Town Clerk in 1866 -1867.

Reference;

Anderson: pg.. 519

HORTON, SANDFORD B. (1831-1909)

Supervisor 1889 1890

Sandford Horton served the Town of Sand Lake, as Town Clerk, 1886-88, as Supervisor, 1889-90, and Justice of the Peace in 1893.

He married Mary Lucreia Peck (1834-1920). They are buried S. L. Union Cemetery.

Reference;

Anderson pg.. 514

KELLEY, DOUGLAS (1947- }

Supervisor 1980-88

1998-

Douglas Kelley was born in Troy, NY on July 27, 1947. He received a BS degree in Secondary Education (Social Science) from Western Connecticut State College and engaged in graduate studies at State University of New York at Albany and Russell Sage College. For 15 years, Mr. Kelley taught at Averill Park High School. Later, he was employed by DNC Services as a management consultant to utility companies.

The 175th Anniversary Celebration of the Town of Sand Lake was held during Mr. Kelley's administration. Construction of the sewer system was also started and the Town Library was established. The Town police force was disbanded at this time.

Douglas Kelley was reelected for another 2 year term in 1998.

Mr. Kelley was a member of the Democratic party.

LESTER, SYLVESTER M. (1844-1884)

Supervisor 1872-1873

Mr. Lester was born Feb. 23, 1844. He worked as a bookkeeper at Bunnell's Machine Works. His wife, Julia F. Carmichael (1849-1937), was the daughter of Dr. E. W. Carmichael. The Lesters lived in the Dr. Carmichael house which today has been remodeled into an apartment house (first house on the left after crossing the bridge on routes 43 & 66) S. Lester represented the Town of Sand Lake on the Rensselaer County Board of Supervisors from 1872 to 1873. He died, after a brief illness, on October 15, 1884.

Reference

Obit: Troy Daily Times. 10/15/1844

Town Historian: M. V. Carpenter The Dr. Carmichael House

LYMAN, ARETUS (17??-183?)

Supervisor 1820

Aretus Lyman was a very active business man and mill owner in the years before the Town of Sand Lake was established. As early as 1802, he and a James Cox leased the 76 acre farm of Seth Rowley and they took over the saw mill privilege. In 1814, he purchased a half interest in Stephen Gregory's grist mill on the Wynantskill. Aretus Lyman was a charter member of the Wynants Kill Association established in 1829 to control the flow of the stream for mill purposes.

In 1808 he helped organize a library and was one of the Trustees along with Thomas Thompson, William Van Tress, Uriah Gregory, Joel Bristol, Stephen Gregory, and Nathan Crandall, all prominent figures in early Town history.

With the creation of the Town of Sand Lake in 1812 he became School Commissioner. Aretus Lyman was elected the second Supervisor of the Town and served in the year 1820.

Reference

Sylvester: pg.. 527

Weise: pg.. 136, 137, 141

Sand Lake History: pg.. 17

MARDON, ARTHUR (1931-)

Supervisor 1992-93

Arthur Mardon was born on October 28, 1931 in Mt. Vernon, NY. His family later moved to the Town of Sand Lake. He was educated at Averill Park High School and New York State College for Teachers at Albany. From 1961 to 1987, he taught in the City School District of Troy.

He is married to Bernadette O'Keefe and has four children.

After serving as Deputy Town Clerk and Assessor Clerk, he was elected Town Supervisor in 1992.

Accomplishments of his administration include: the construction of a new playground at Butler Park and creation of a Public Works Department. The closing of the landfill was started. Mr. Mardon worked to eliminate the Town debt and initiated the process which may possibly lead to a new municipal center.

Mr. Mardon was elected on the Democratic ticket.

McCONIHE, ALANSON DOUGLAS (1841-1915).

Supervisor 1888

A. D. McConihe's obituary in the October 13, 1915 edition of the Troy Times reported that Mr. McConihe died at the family homestead at 107 First Street, Troy "in the same bed in the same room in which he was born on November 16, 1845."

Mr. McConihe was educated at the Troy Academy, Carlisle Seminary, and Amherst College. After completing college, he enlisted in the U.S. Army and served for three years. He was active on the staffs of Generals Curtis, Shaw, and Alger during the Civil War. Mr. McConihe organized Post McConihe, No. 18, G.A.R. in 1885 and represented the post at many encampments. He was an honorary member of the Troy Citizens Corps and belonged to the 169th NY Volunteer Regimental Association. On March 25, 1914, the U.S. government presented the then Colonel McConihe with the bronze medal for bravery during the Indian Wars. The medal recognized meritorious service in California, Oregon, and Nevada.

In Troy affairs, Mr. McConihe was the Principal of the Troy Piano School, honorary member of the Troy Citizens' Corps, the oldest member of the old Washington Volunteer Steamer Company and was a well known pension attorney. Although Mr. McConihe lived in Troy he spent his summers in Averill Park. He was active in the Sand Lake Fire Department and was Postmaster of Sand Lake. In 1888 he was elected to the office of Supervisor of the Town of Sand Lake and served a one year term. McConihe was also director and General Superintendent of the Troy and Sand Lake Turnpike Company.

Mr. McConihe helped to organize the Olive Methodist Episcopal Church in Averill Park, which today is known as The Church of the Covenant. In 1874, using volunteer labor and local workman the church building was completed at a cost of \$3000. The Church burned down twice before the building was erected on its present site in 1938.

A. D. McConihe had married Mattie Rowland in 1876. They raised 4 children. The family spent their summers in Averill Park, where Mr. McConihe was noted for his charitable works.

Reference

Obit: Troy Times 10/13/1915

History of Descendants of Elder John Strong Vol. 11

What's Cooing around the Church of the Covenant: 1985

MILLER, RAYMOND S. (1902-1966)

Supervisor 1942-1951

Mr. Miller was born July 28, 1902 and died January 30 1966.

At the time of his death Raymond S. Miller, a native of East Greenbush, had been a resident of West Sand Lake for 40 years. He was co-owner of the Thomas and Miller Funeral Home in West Sand Lake. His wife was the former Ruth Thomas. They had a daughter named Bernice. Mr. Miller was a veteran of World War 1 and a member of the Sgt. Walter Adams Post of the American Legion in Averill Park. He played an active role in the Sand Lake Republican Club.

Mr. Miller served as Supervisor of the Town of Sand Lake from 1942 to 1951. While on the Board of Supervisors, he was a strong supporter of legislation to improve highways. He was a member of the Kiwanis Agricultural Committee, Treasurer of the West Sand Lake Volunteer Fire Department for 8 years, and President of the West Sand Lake Board of Fire Commissioners. He was Secretary and Treasurer of Elmwood Cemetery and Treasurer of Trinity Lutheran Cemetery. At the time of his death, he held the post of County Coroner.

Reference:

Obit: The Times Record, January 31, 1966

The Times Record: July 18, 1951.



Seated left to right, are Raymond Miller, Supervisor; Joseph Warren, Town Clerk; Henry Karl Justice of the Peace; standing, Clyde Rossett, Howard Linn and Henry Link, Justices of the Peace.

MOSHER, JOHN GILBERT (1882-1927)

Supervisor 1922-1923

John Gilbert Mosher was born November 27, 1882 and died February 3, 1927. He was the son of Eugene and Sylvia Adsit Mosher.

In 1903, John Gilbert Mosher married Jessie French. They resided for a while in Hoosick Falls, New York where two of their eight children were born. They moved to Glass Lake and lived in a house across from the Glass Lake House. John Mosher ran a "taxi" system, taking passengers from the trolley depot to local hotels. He also conducted a feed/general store from the house where he lived. For a short time John Mosher also taught school at the Taborton District School No. 2 as a replacement teacher. John and Jessie Mosher are both buried in Sand Lake Cemetery. Some of his descendants still reside in Sand Lake.

Reference

Barbara Mosher

MOTT, ADAM

Supervisor 1852-1853

Little is known about Adam Mott other than he was a small vegetable truck farmer, with a farm south of West Sand Lake. He was also a Justice of the Peace in 1851

Reference

Anderson

MOUL, WILLIAM. N. (1827-1885).

Supervisor 1885

The Moul family was among the early families of Sand Lake. William was a farmer. He served as Justice of the Peace for the Town of Sand Lake for eight terms, from 1855 to 1883. He was elected Supervisor in 1885 and served only a few months before he died in office on April 27, 1885. Andrew J. Smart was elected to fill the remainder of his term.

William Moul married Charity A. Greene (1834-1911). They had one daughter, Georgia E., who died in 1883 at the age of 20 years.

The Moul family are buried in Elmwood Cemetery in West Sand Lake.

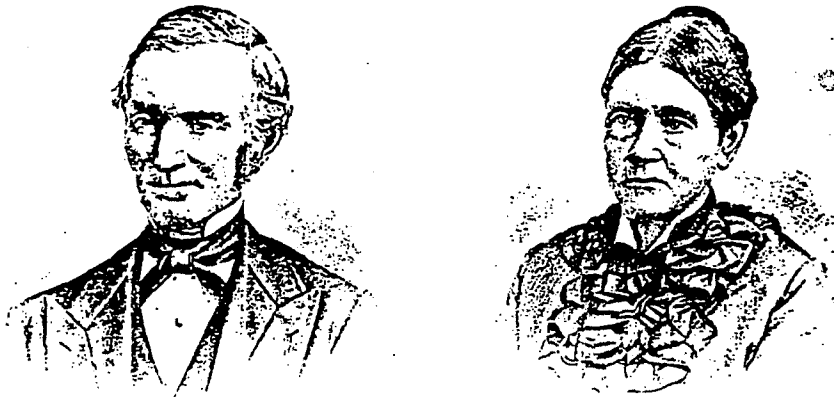
Reference;

Anderson: pg.. 519

THE PECKS

The Pecks of the Sand Lake and Poestenkill area are the descendants of Henry Peck, who came from England in 1638. Henry Peck was one of the first settlers of the area that was to become New Haven, Conn. Three generations later, Eleazer Peck, moved with his family and settled in the Oak Hill Road section of present day Sand Lake in 1791.

The generations following Eleazer contributed three Supervisors to the Town of Sand Lake. Members of the family, as well as being active in Town affairs were engaged in the lumber business. They operated a saw mill about a half mile south of Bowman's Pond.



PHOTOS BY ATKINSON TROY.

Mr. Joel B. Peck and Mrs. Parmelia Horton Peck



RESIDENCE OF JOEL B. PECK, SAND LAKE, N. Y.

PECK, MARCUS (1783-1851)

Supervisor 1836-37

Marcus Peck was the son of Isaac and grandson of Eleazer. The Pecks moved from Connecticut to Oak Hill section of Sand Lake in 1791 when Marcus was just eight years old.

He married Margaret Gardner the daughter of Lucretia Peck, and together they had five children. Their son, Joel, followed in his father's footsteps and become Town Supervisor.

Marcus Peck was very active in Town government. He served as Town Clerk in 1823-1824 and again in 1827-1833. He was also a Justice of the Peace in 1830, 1835, 1839, 1843 and again in 1847. Marcus was elected Town Supervisor for two one year terms.

Marcus Peck died April 19, 1851.

Reference

Sylvester: pg.530

PECK, JOEL B. (1809-1891)

Supervisor 1862-1865, and 1868-1869

Mr. Peck was born in Sand Lake on April 1, 1809 and lived there his entire life. He was the only son of Marcus Peck who had also been a Supervisor. Joel Peck attended the local school and helped his father work the family farm. Joel engaged in the mercantile trade in Slitters Corners as a member of the firm of Farnum & Peck. He later engaged in the lumber business with the firm of Knowlson Butts & Horton. During the Civil War years, Mr. Peck was intrusted throughout the war with the duty of filling the town's quotas of soldier, disbursement of bounties, and with the general charge of the military affairs of the town.

Joel Peck married Parmelia Horton in 1832 and they had nine children. Marcus, the fourth child, was a member of the 169th New York State Volunteers who died from fever in Washington D.C.. Still another son, Charles, was the first State Botanist. Another son, Arthur M., followed in his father's footsteps and became Town Supervisor in 1881.

Joel Peck was a member of the Presbyterian church of Sand Lake and was ordained an Elder and served in that capacity the rest of his life.

Reference:

Obit: Troy Daily Times 8/19/1891

Sylvester: pg.. 530

PECK, ARTHUR MIDDLETON (1848-1932)

Supervisor 1881 and 1883

Arthur Peck, the son of Joel Peck and Parmelia Horton Peck, born February 2, 1848, was a lifelong resident of Sand Lake. At the age of 15 he helped his father in the lumber business. At age 21 Arthur went into the mercantile business in Sand Lake and continued until 1895. Mr. Peck was Secretary-Treasurer of the Sand Lake Insurance Company of Poestenkill, Sand Lake, Berlin and Stephentown. He retired in 1928, after having served there for 50 years, 36 as Secretary-Treasurer and the rest as Treasurer.

He married Lillian E. Lester (1850-1929).

He was a member of the Sand Lake Presbyterian Church and the Pleasant Valley Lodge, Knights of Pythias. Arthur Peck died February 23, 1932 and is interred in the Sand Lake Union Cemetery.

Reference:

Obit: The Troy Record 2/23/1932

Anderson: pg... 234

REED, GIDEON (1779-1853)

Supervisor 1835.

Gideon Reed was born on August 23, 1779. In March of 1830 he purchased a 257.5 acre farm and saw mill, near Snyders Corners. The farm had first been deeded to Wilhelmus Seamon on August 2, 1806 by Stephen Van Rensselaer, Esq. and Silas Covell (1811). It is likely that the Reed family operated a farm there along with a small saw mill which is known to have been on the property.

A Lt. Gideon Reed saw service in a volunteer regiment at Lake Champlain during the War of 1812. A Gideon C. Reed served with the rank of Matross (an artillery rank) in 1813 at Sackerr's Harbor. It is believed that he is the same Gideon Reed that was Supervisor of the Town of Sand Lake in 1835. A military marker on his gravestone indicates that he held the rank of Captain. Note that the Reed farm at Snyders Lake is, today, in Poestenkill. The Town of Sand Lake was divided into two towns in 1848, Sand Lake and Poestenkill.

Gideon Reed died on October 3, 1853 and was buried in a small family cemetery at the intersection of Snyders Corners Road and Van Slyke Lane.

Reference:

Poestenkill Post Scripts: March 1992

Rensselaer County Clerks Office Book of Deeds: #22 pg.. 325

REICHARD, Dr. ELMER E. (1866-1941)

Supervisor 1906-07 & 1924-27

Elmer E. Reichard, born in Nassau, NY. on March 12, 1866, began his education in local schools followed by graduation from the old Averill Park Seminary. Because the life of a farmer to which he had been accustomed in childhood did not appeal to him, he turned to teaching school. He later decided to enter the field of medicine. His first training was under the guidance of Dr. Boyce of East Schodack. In 1892 he graduated from Albany Medical School. After practicing in East Schodack, Hoag's Corners and Nassau, he settled, around 1896, in Averill Park. He married Charlotte M. Hitchcock (1874-1956) who was originally from Kansas.

Dr. Reichard soon became known as a true "horse and buggy" doctor. He made house calls in all kinds of weather in spite of a condition which often made it painful for him to do so.

In addition to his busy life as a doctor, Dr. Reichard's interest in education continued. The idea of forming the Averill Park Central School District began in 1928 and Dr. Reichard was a pioneer in this movement. He served as a member of the first Averill Park Central School Board of Education for many years, an office he held until his death. He was a charter member of the Averill Park Volunteer Fire Department and was affiliated with the Rensselaer County Mutual Fire Insurance Company. He was its president at the time of his death. In the real estate field, he was responsible for the construction of many houses in Averill Park.

Dr. Reichard's first term as Town Supervisor was served in the years 1906-1907. In 1924 he was reelected to the same post and served till 1927. Dr. Reichard was a member of the Republican Party.

Dr. Reichard died in his Glass Lake home on February 18, 1941. Fifteen years later, his widow died during a visit to her sister in Kansas. Both are buried in Sand Lake Union Cemetery.

Reference:

Obit. Times Record Troy NY Feb. 19, 1941

pictuer

RESCOTT, CLYDE D. (1881-1941)

Supervisor 1938-1941

Clyde D. Rescott was born in Wolcott, Conn. on April 15, 1881. From 1896 on, his life was spent in West Sand Lake. For 35 years, he worked as a printer for the Troy Times, and he retiring when the Times and the Record merged.

He and his wife, Josephine, had three sons, Clyde Warren, Nyle Raymond, and John Albert.

From 1938 until 1941, Mr. Rescott, a Republican, served as Sand Lake Town Supervisor. During his time in office, he represented the Hot Stove League in a drive to raise funds in the Town of Sand Lake to purchase iron lungs for the use of area hospitals.

Mr. Rescott was active in the Grange on local, state, and national levels. For 12 years, he served as Treasurer of the West Sand Lake Grange. He also held the post of President of the West Sand Lake School Board and the Board of Fire Commissioners.

Death came suddenly August 20, 1941 at his West Sand Lake home. His wife, Josephine Warren Rescott, completed his term as Town Supervisor.

Reference;

Obit. The Troy Record, August 21, 1941. with picture

RESCOTT, JOSEPHINE WARREN (1883-1966)

Supervisor 1941

Mrs. Rescott was appointed to serve the remaining time of her husband's term.

ROBISON, MILO (1822 -1905)
Supervisor 1870-71, 1877-80

Milo Robison lived in West Sand Lake. He and six other men from the village (including Burton Thomas also a Supervisor,) organized the village trustees. In 1872 they formed the West Sand Lake Volunteer Fire Co. Robison married Carolyn Wilkerson. Little else is known about him. Milo Robison died August 3rd, 1905.

SCHUMANN, JOHN H (1852 -1923)
Supervisor 1902-06

Little information has been uncovered about this past Supervisor. An obituary notice was found in the Troy Times of Jan. 16, 1923.

A John H. Schumann of Troy died Jan. 14, 1923. Husband of Cornell Wendt, father of John H. Schumann, Jr. brother of George and Adam Schumann and Mrs. Margaret Efland. Funeral service was from his home at 7 Forest Ave, Troy. We believe this to be our past Supervisor.

SLITER, CALVIN (1800-1860)
Supervisor 1847 & 1851

The Sliter family was one of the pioneer families coming to the Sand Lake area about 1800. The cross roads were, for a long time, called Sliter's Corners after Clement Sliter who built a hotel there about 1830. The name was changed and it is now known as Sand Lake.

Calvin (or "Old Cal " Sliter as he was affectionately called) was a life long resident of the Town of Sand Lake. He was Postmaster of Sliter's Corners (now Sand Lake) and also operated the hotel. He also was a trustee of the Sand Lake Union Cemetery Association.

He married Ann Maria Uline.

He died October 28, 1860, age 60 years.

References:

Obit. Troy Budget: September 29, 1860.

Sylvester: pg.. 523

Anderson: pg.. 513, 517.

Weise: pg.. 137

SMART, ANDREW J. (18??-1901)

Supervisor 1882 & 1884 & 1885-86

The Smart brothers, Robert T. and Andrew J., operated a paper mill on the Wynantskill in Troy, N.Y. In 1875 Andrew J. Smart purchased the E&J Merwin Paper Mill, the former Staats Tompkins Mill on Garner Road, Averill Park. Andrew moved to the Town of Sand Lake taking residence in the Tompkins home now occupied by Mr. William Kennedy. His paper mill manufactured 700 tons of straw paper a year and employed about 17 men. He was elected Supervisor for one year on three different occasions, 1882, 1884, and 1886. William Moul, elected Supervisor in 1885 died in May, Andrew Smart was elected to fill out the remainder of his term and elected in his own right in 1886.

Reference;

Weise: pg. 141

Sylvester: pg. 528

Anderson: pg. 314

STEVENS, WILLIAM (1802-1877)

Supervisor 1861

William Stevens built a general store at South Sand Lake about 1830. In 1854 a Post Office was established in the store and William became the first Post Master. South Sand Lake was, for a time, called Stevens Corners, named after the Stevens family. Today it is known as Slitters Corners.

William Stevens was elected for a one year term as Town of Sand Lake Supervisor in 1861.

Reference;

Picture of Post Office Society 1975 Calendar.

Sylvester: pg. 521

Weise: pg. 142



THE WILLIAM STEVENS STORE & POST OFFICE. Built in the 1830's by William Stevens as a general store. On January 31, 1854 a Post Office was established here with William Stevens as it's first postmaster.

TALLMAN, RICHARD (1933-)

Supervisor 1990-91

Richard Tallman was born on February 3, 1933 in Herkimer NY. He attended SUNY Oswego and Albany and earned an MS in Education from Arizona State University. Mr. Tallman taught Industrial Arts, Drafting, Driver Education and Physical Education at Averill Park High School from 1955-1988.

In 1955 he married Judith House and together they have 5 children.

Before his term as Supervisor, Mr. Tallman served 6 years as Zoning Officer and 8 years as Councilman. During his term in office, the construction of the Town sewer was completed. Also completed were the repainting of Town Hall, the construction of the handicapped access ramp, and construction of a salt shed at the Springer Road gravel pit. A \$72,000 ambulance was purchased by the Town and presented to the Ambulance Association.

Mr. Tallman was elected on the Democratic ticket.

Reference

Richard Tallman.

THOMAS, DR. PHILANDER H. (1802-1863)

Supervisor 1858-60

Dr. Philander Thomas was born in Stephentown on May 5th, 1802. He was the only son of Dr. Jeffery W. Thomas who had served as a county judge. Dr. Philander H. Thomas married Laural Hull of Berlin and moved to Hancock, Massachusetts, where he represented the district in the State Legislature. They moved to West Sand Lake about 1848.

Originally Dr. Thomas was a Democrat who identified himself with what was known as the "Barn Burner" wing of that party. He supported Van Buren for President in 1848. He became an active member of the Republican Party when it was first established.

Dr. Thomas practiced medicine for more than 40 years. During this time he was a leading member of the Rensselaer County Medical Society and served as its president for two or three years. In addition he was active in serving his community in many ways, particularly in the public schools. The first teachers' institute held in this country was held in the Town of Sand Lake under the auspices of Dr. Thomas while he was County Superintendent of Public Instruction.

Dr. P. H. Thomas served as Town Supervisor for three years, 1858-1860. After his term of Supervisor he ran for the State Assembly in 1862, but lost the race.

Dr. Thomas died suddenly on December 30, 1863. On December 30, 1863, the day that he died, he was notified of his appointment as examining surgeon of invalid pensioners by the Commissioner of Pensions in Washington, D.C.

Reference;

Obit, Troy Daily Times, December 31, 1863

Obit, Mrs. P. H. Thomas, August 15, 1880

Sylvester: pg. 529

THOMAS, BURTON ARNOLD (1809-1880)
Supervisor 1866-1867



Burton Thomas the oldest son of Peleg and Freelove Thomas, was born on July 25, 1809 in Stephentown, New York. Peleg was a blacksmith by trade and also operated his farm. When there were still only six children, the family moved to the Town of Sand Lake. From an early age, Burton worked on the family farm, and attended district schools. He discovered that he had a talent for surveying, engineering, and landscape gardening. He sharpened his skills in these areas with practice thereby gaining experience. Eventually, Burton Thomas was to survey the major portion of the county with particular attention to laying out parks and cemeteries. His reputation spread to other areas where he was often called to practice his skills. For many years, Burton Thomas was a surveyor and engineer for the Albany Rural Cemetery and deserves credit for the attractive design of this landmark. Locally he designed and engineered the vast hydraulic improvements for the Wynantskill Improvement Association, an organization of

mill owners that used the water of the Wynantskill to run their mills. The work consisted of doubling the size of Glass Lake and the building of dams and dykes to change a small lake in Nassau to the Burden Lakes.

On September 17, 1831, Burton Thomas married Maria Cipperley, a member of another pioneer family of Sand Lake. They had two children. Their daughter married George Goewey, an Albany lawyer. A son Jeffrey became a successful surveyor and rural architect.

Burton Thomas was active in the "Anti Rent Wars", a movement of farmers and lease holders of farms in Albany and Rensselaer Counties, originally leased by them from Stephen Van Rensselaer. He acted as Corresponding Seceratory of the East Manor Anti Rent Association. With Dr. Smith A. Boughton, known as "Big Thunder" in the Association, he organized a rally in West Sand Lake. About 3000 farmers gathered at the four corners to welcome, with a cannon volley, Governor William C. Bourk, who came out by carriage from Albany to attend a meeting held in Burton Thomas's home.

Busy as he must have been in his profession, Burton Thomas did not overlook civic responsibility. Over the years, he served as Town Postmaster, Commissioner and Inspector for the schools, and Town Clerk. From 1866 to 1867, he held the post of

Supervisor. At the end of his term he was elected a Justice of the Peace. He served in that office for 12 years until his death. Burton Thomas died on December 28, 1880.

Reference:

Obit, Troy Daily Times, December 29, 1880

Sylvester: pg. 529.

Tin Horns and Calico: pg. 87-88

Weise: pg 142.

THOMPSON, CALVIN (17??-1828)

Supervisor 1813-1819; and 1826

Before the Town of Sand Lake was created by the State Legislature, dividing the two towns of Greenbush and Stephentown, into three towns (Greenbush, Stephentown and Sand Lake). Calvin Thompson had served as Supervisor of the Town of Greenbush from 1808 until 1812. With the establishment of the Town of Sand Lake, Calvin Thompson became its first Supervisor, serving from 1813 through 1819 and an additional one year term in 1826.

The first Town Meeting was held in the home of Thomas Thompson, a brother of Calvin. At that meeting David Gregory was elected Town Clerk, Lawrence Van Alstyne, John Clint and Ezra Newton, assessors. Also elected were two Commissioners of Highways, one Collector, three Constables, and three School Commissioners.

In 1800 Calvin Thompson and Mead Merrill leased a saw mill privilege at the outlet of Crystal Lake. About 1820 Calvin and his brother Thomas built the first woolen mill in the Town of Sand Lake.

Calvin Thompson died in 1828.

References:

Weise: pg. 136

Sylvester: pg. 519

Anderson: pg. 511, 513, 515.

UDWARY, JOHN (1923-)

Supervisor 1979

John Udvary was born on March 17, 1923 in North Nassau, NY. He received his education at North Nassau Elementary School District #10, Averill Park High School and Albany Business College. He worked for Behr-Manning - Norton Company for 24 years and later served as Production Control Manager at Nashua Corporation (Tape Division) for 12 years. He is married to the former Ruth Cooper.

From 1967 to 1969, Mr. Udvary held the post of Secretary and Auditor to the Town Supervisor. From 1970 to 1979 he served as Town Councilman. In 1979 he became Town Supervisor. During his term in office, construction was started on the sewer system and properties in town were reassessed.

Mr. Udvary was elected on the Republican Party ticket.

THE UPHAMS

Thomas Upham (1747-1835), the great grandfather of two of the Town of Sand Lake Supervisors, sold his farm in Marlborough N.H. and moved to Sand Lake in 1787. He purchased a farm on the south side of Crooked Lake, the present site of the Methodist Farm. His eldest son John Upham (1778-1841) married Elizabeth Stevens (1786-1872) of Sand Lake. They had 9 children, one of which was Nathan G. Upham a Supervisor of Sand Lake in 1854.

Another son of Thomas Upham was Ezekiel Upham who married Mary Trivise (1794-1871) They had 8 children, the youngest one, William Upham, was elected a Supervisor of Sand Lake in 1887. This makes the two Upham Supervisors first cousins.

UPHAM, NATHAN (1817-18??)

Supervisor 1854-1856

Nathan Upham was born in Marlborough N.H. on February 16, 1817 and came to Sand Lake with his parents the same year. On December 19, 1840, he married Mary Ann Mixer (1817-1887) They had one child, Matilda.

Nathan Upham was a trustee of the Sand Lake Union Cemetery at the time it was organized on the 7th of June 1847. He was also proprietor of a hotel where the Crooked Lake House now stands.

Reference

Genealogy Descendants of John Upham of Massachusetts

Weise: pg. 137-38

UPHAM, WILLIAM (1833-1906)

Supervisor 1887

William Upham the son of Ezekiel Upham was born in Sand Lake March 13, 1833. In 1854 he married Susan E. Adams (1838-1907) who lived on the neighboring farm on Crooked Lake. They had one daughter, Mamie E. who married Clarence Craver.

William Upham was an undertaker in Sand Lake Village. He died in 1906 and was buried in Sand Lake Union Cemetery.

Reference

Genealogy: Decedent of John Upham of Massachusetts

WARREN, JOSEPH F. (1911-)

Supervisor 1968-69

Joseph Warren was born in West Sand Lake on February 2, 1911, and was educated at Troy and Averill Park High Schools. In 1933, after high school he was employed in the A & P Market in Averill Park and worked there for 10 years. He was also an agent for the Prudential Life Insurance Company for 27 years.

In 1933 Joseph married Mildred Fitzgerald. They had three sons.

Mr. Warren began his political career as Town Clerk, filling that office from 1948 through 1951, and again from 1954 to 1967 when he was elected Supervisor.

Joseph Warren was the last Supervisor from the Town of Sand Lake to serve on the County Board of Supervisors. The Board was dissolved and replaced by a County Executive and a County Legislature. Before 1968, the Towns of the county, (including Sand Lake) were governed by a Supervisor, four Justice of the Peace, with voting rights, and a Town Clerk. With the change in the county type of government, the towns were also changed. The revised town governing body was made up of a Supervisor and four Councilmen as voting members. A Town Clerk and two Town Justices were also elective positions. With this change in the Legislature, Joseph Warren was the last Town Supervisor to serve on the County Board of Supervisors in 1969, and the first member elected to the County Legislature. He served in this position in 1970-73. In 1980 he was elected town Councilman serving until 1983.

During Mr. Warren's administration a plan was established for the investment of Town funds. The first interest was earned by investing in a 30 day certificate of deposit. Hospital insurance, retirement benefits, as well as paid vacations were provided for Town employees at this time. In addition many Town roads were paved. Land for a new landfill was secured on Chamberlain Road. This landfill was closed in 1993.

When Mr. Warren left office, all debts had been paid and a substantial balance existed in all accounts.

Reference;

Joseph Warren

Troy Record, June 8, 1967

WURTEMBERGER, FRED J.

Supervisor 1994-

Mr. Wurtemberger was elected and currently serves in office as this project is being researched.

Fred Wurtemberger is a graduate of Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, and continued his education at Manhattan and Vanderbilt Universities. He served on the Town Planning Board for 25 years, including three years as chairman. He also taught at Hudson Valley Community College. For 22 years he was the Administrator of the Rensselaer County waste water treatment plant.

Mr. Wurtemberger is a member of the Republican party.

VOSBURG, JOHN L (1794-1861)

Supervisor 1842-1844

Mr. Vosburg was first elected to the office of Town Clerk for the Town of Sand Lake in 1834 and Town Supervisor in 1842 .

The Town of Sand Lake was divided into two parts in 1848 to form the Towns of Sand Lake and Poestenkill. As Mr. Vosburg lived on Vosburg Rd. just across the new town line, he became a Poestenkill resident. He retained his interest in town government and was elected Supervisor of the Town of Poestenkill in 1856.

In 1878 the Mutual Insurance Association of Sand Lake, Poestenkill, Berlin, and Stephentoen named John Vosburgh to its first Board of Directors.

He married Sarah ?? (1795-1862) who died June 7, 1862, at the age of 65 years 6 months.

John Vosburg died June 11 1861 age 65 and was buried in Elmwood Cemetery.

Reference;

Anderson: page 519, 561

Slyvester: page 523

Weise: page 108

DEVELOPMENT OF THE TOWN OF SAND LAKE

The boundaries of the Town of Sand Lake, as we know them today, are the result of many divisions and subdivisions down through the years. When Henry Hudson sailed up the river that would bear his name, the land was a wilderness, occupied by a few Indians.

The Manor of Rensselaerwyck was established in 1629, when Kiliaen Van Rensselaer, a wealthy director of the Dutch West India Company, received a land grant from the West India Co, to establish a colony. This grant included land on both sides of the Hudson River, between Berrent Island on the south and Cohoes on the north. The territory was 24 miles long and 48 miles broad, containing about 700,000 acres, and constituted a Patroonship.

The colony of New Netherlands was under Dutch control until 1664, when Colonel Nicolls and a British Fleet forced the surrender of Peter Stuyvesant. Charles the 2nd, then King of England, granted to his brother, the Duke of York, a large land holding, which included what today is New York, named of course after the Duke. Colonel Nicolls was named Governor of the Province of New York.

ALBANY COUNTY

Governor Dongan, of the Province of New York, was instructed to call an election for a general assembly of freeholders of the colony and the first assembly of the Province of New York was held on October 17, 1683.

This first assembly divided the province into shires and counties after the English style. The province was divided into 12 counties of which the County of Albany was one. Albany County at that time was a very large area, including the Town of Albany, the manor of Rensselaerwyck, and the present County of Schenectady. It extended from six miles below the City of Hudson on the south north to Saratoga on both sides of the river.

At this assembly the Charter of Liberties and Privileges was also drawn up. The Charter provided that the supreme legislative authority under his Majesty and Royal Highness should forever be and reside in a governor, council, and the people met in general Assembly.

Another Act provided for the election of a Town Treasurer. This office of Treasurer was the origin of the present office of Town Supervisor, and the title of Supervisor was given to this office in 1703. Even today the Supervisor is the main fiscal officer of the town.

The Manor of Rensselaerwyck, the original patent to Kilaen Van Rensselaer, was, by a royal charter of 1685, converted and created into a regular Lordship or Manor with all privileges and incidents belonging to an English estate and jurisdiction of the Manorial kind. Thus, the Van Rensselaers maintained their position of Lords of the Manor.

In addition to continuing the Manor of Rensselaerwyck, the first assembly gave the right of the freeholders to a separate representative in the Colonial Assembly.

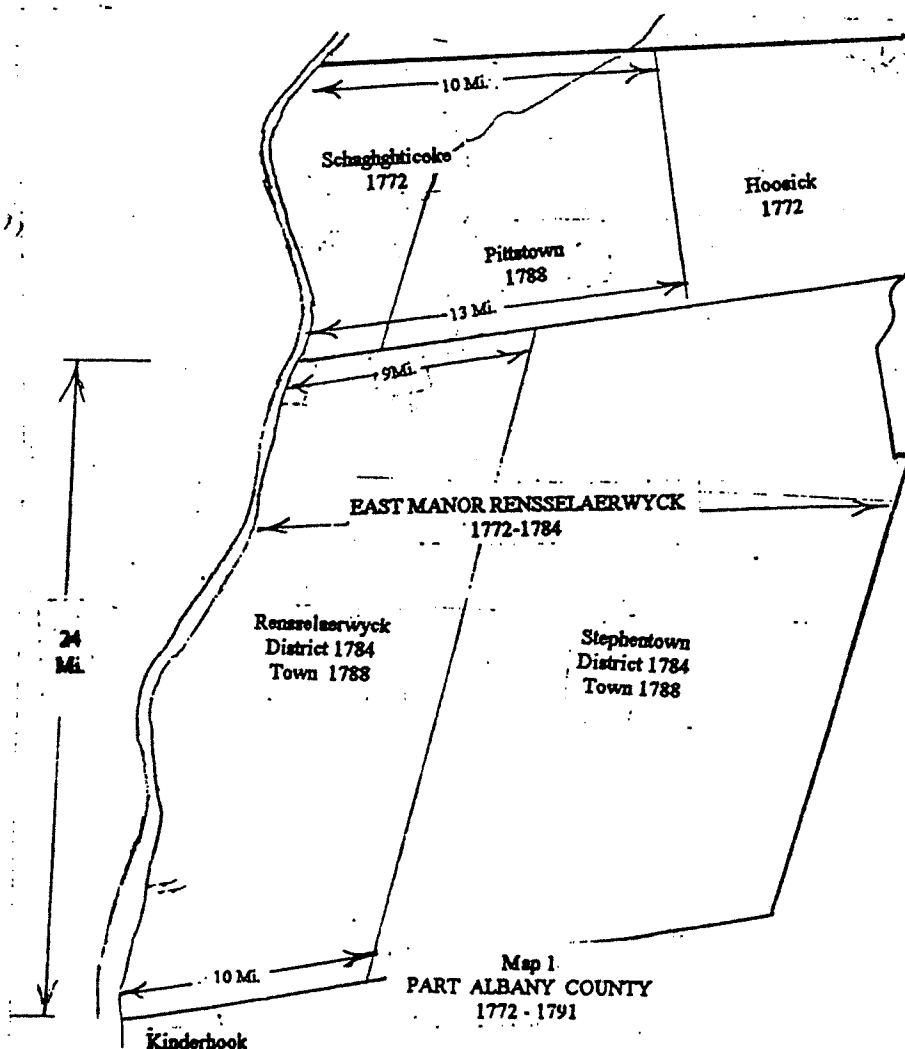
In 1705, an Act by the General Assembly of the Province of New York was passed to give the Manor of Rensselaerwyck representation in the General Assembly. This Act

provided the necessary officers to manage local affairs, permitting the freeholders of the Manor to elect yearly a supervisor, treasurer, assessor, and a collector.

On March 12, 1772, Albany County, then the largest county in the province, was divided into three counties: Albany, Tryon, and Charlotte. Twelve days later, Albany County on the east side of the Hudson River was divided into three districts: Schaghticoke, Hoosick and Rensselaerwyck. Rensselaerwyck, the original Manor of Rensselaerwyck, extended to both sides of the Hudson River.

The Declaration of Independence of 1776 saw the end of British rule. The Constitution of the State of New York was adopted in Kingston in 1777. The Constitution recognized the cities of New York and Albany and the 14 counties of the State. It also provided that the State Legislature would have the power to divide the same into such other and further counties and districts as it may appear necessary

RENSSELAERWYCK



In 1779 the State of New York divided the Manor of Rensselaerwyck into two districts, the West District, all that part of the Manor west of the Hudson River and the East District the portion east of the Hudson.

Each of these districts at the annual meeting of freeholders, was to appoint one freeholder as a Supervisor, between three and nine freeholders assessors, two freeholders to be collectors, two overseers of the poor, four fence viewers and one clerk. The first annual meeting of the East District of the Manor of Rensselaerwyck was to be held on the first Tuesday of May 1779, at Crailo, at the house of Rebecca Loomis

By an Act of the State Legislature on the 29th of March 1784, the East District of Rensselaerwyck, was further divided into two districts, Rensselaerwyck and Stephentown. The dividing line between the two districts started at a point on the division line of Kinderhook and Rensselaerwyck, ten miles east of the Hudson River, then northerly to a point on the division line between Rensselaerwyck and Schaghticoke, nine miles east of the Hudson River. What was to become the Town of Sand Lake was partly in Rensselaerwyck and partly in Stephentown. These two districts were still a part of Albany County. The supervisors of the two district were authorized to have the division line surveyed and marked, the cost of which would be shared equally by the two districts.

In 1788, for a more efficient administration of state government, the New York State Legislature reorganized New York State. Three acts were passed on the same day, March 7, 1788. The first divided the state into sixteen counties, one of which was Albany. Albany County was reduced in size but still extended on both sides of the Hudson River. The second act divided the counties into a total of 120 towns. Five of those towns were in that portion of Albany County east of the Hudson River. The two towns of Schaghticoke and Hoosick were divided to form three towns, the Town of Pittstown was created. The Districts of Rensselaerwyck and Stephentown became the Towns of Rensselaerwyck and Stephentown with the same border as the original districts. The third act, provided for defraying the public and necessary expenses of each county. See map #1

RENSSELAER COUNTY

The establishment of new counties and towns in the State of new York followed in rapid order.

On Feb. 7 1791, Rensselaer County was established. The Towns of Easton and Cambridge in Albany County were annexed to Washington County, The remaining part of Albany County east of the Hudson River was divided from Albany County and named Rensselaer County. In the same year the Towns of Troy and Petersburg were established.

The Town of Petersburg was all that part of Stephentown north of an east west line from the south west corner of Peter Seaman's farm extending east and west until it intersects the east and west bounds of Stephentown.

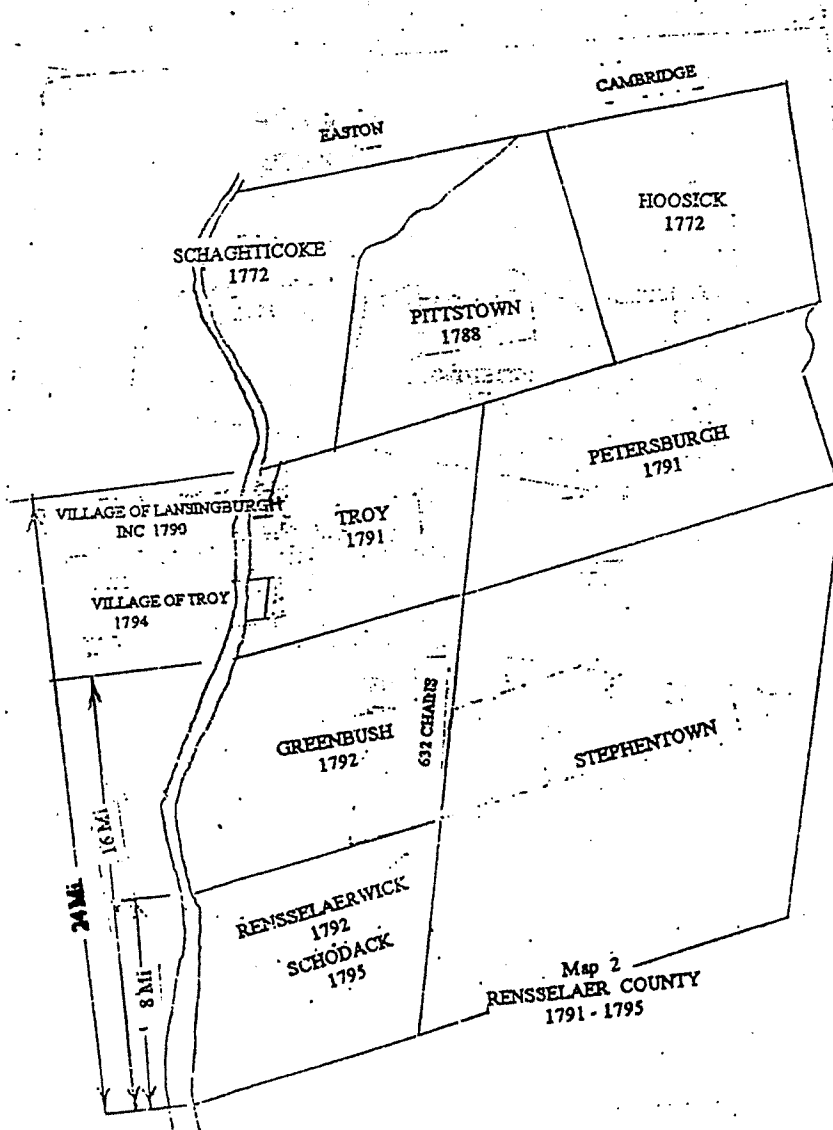
The Town of Troy was to begin at a point on the banks of the Hudson River 16 miles from the south west corner of the Town of Rensselaerwyck and extend east to the Town of Petersburg. Included within the borders of the Town of Troy were two small communities. New City or Lansingburgh, laid out into streets in 1771, grew in size and was incorporated in 1790.

The farm of Jacob Van der Heyden was laid out into streets and lots in 1787. Matthias Van der Heyden's farm was added in 1793 thus establishing the Village of Troy.

With the establishment of Rensselaer County, the County Board of Supervisors was formed. One Supervisor from each of the seven towns was elected at a public meeting to represent their town on the Board. The first Board of Supervisors was composed of the following seven members,

Cornelius Lansing, Troy; Thomas Sickles, Hoosick; Jonas Odell, Petersburg; Benjamin Milk, Pittstown; I. A. Lansing, Schaghticoke; R. Woodworth, Rensselaerwyck; and James Wiley, Stephentown.

Then on April 10, 1792, the Town of Rensselaerwyck was further divided. All that part of the Town of Rensselaerwyck north of a line 8 miles from the south west corner of the town was a new town to be called the Town of Greenbush. The remaining part of Rensselaerwyck was a new town called Rensselaerwyck. In 1795, Chapter 20 of the laws of New York was passed on the 17 of March that reads as if the law of 1792 never existed. It establishes a separate Town of Greenbush, bounded on the north by the Town of Troy on the east by the Towns of Petersburg and Stephentown for a distance of 632 chains (about 8 miles) thence south 86 deg. 46 minutes west to the Hudson River, a more precise description of the 1792 description but essential the same area. The remaining part of the Town of Rensselaerwyck was to be a new Town called Schodack. Thus ended the Town of Rensselaerwyck from the county's history. See map #2



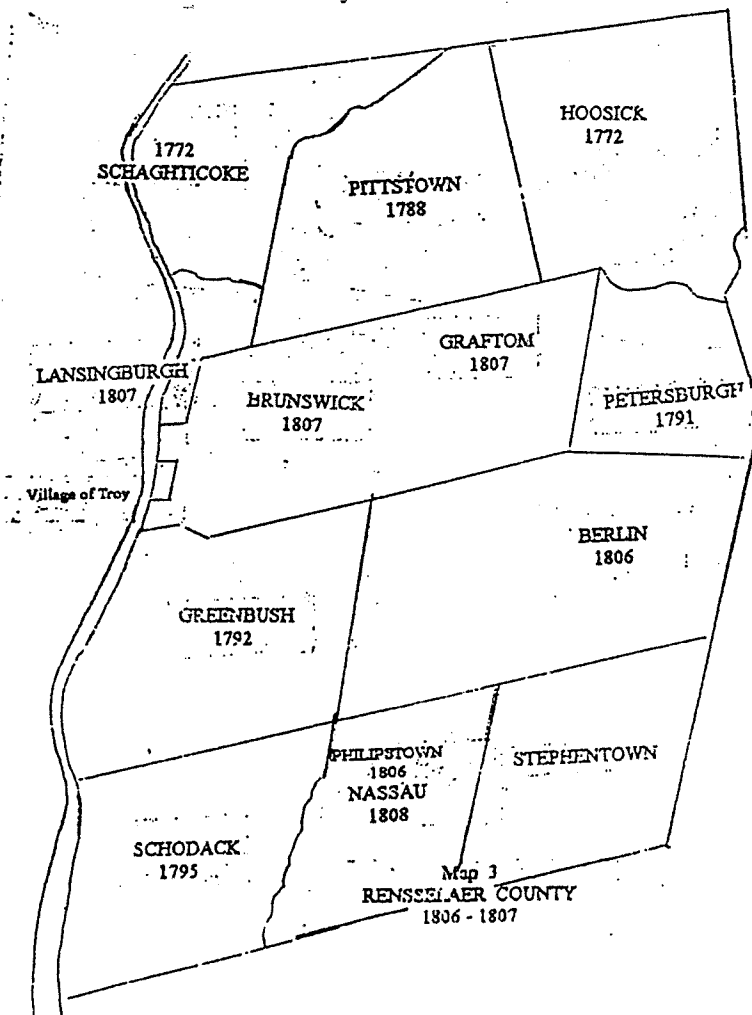
A number of changes were made in 1806 and 1807. First, the village of Troy had grown and become a separate entity. It was divided into four wards, with a trustee elected from each ward to serve on the County Board of Supervisors. In 1816, a city charter was granted creating the City of Troy.

The remaining portion of the Town of Troy extended east from the east line of the City of Troy and Lansingburgh a distance of 7 1/3 miles and became the Town of Brunswick.

The Towns of Berlin and Nassau were also established in 1806. Philipstown, later named Nassau, occupied an eastern portion of Stephentown and a western portion of Schodack. Berlin was formed by annexing part of Petersburg and a northern part of Stephentown.

In the following year (1807,) the Towns of Grafton and Brunswick were created.

Also, in 1807, the Town of Lansingburgh was established. Lansingburgh was made up of parts of the Towns of Troy, Petersburg and Schaghticoke. See map #3



TOWN OF SAND LAKE

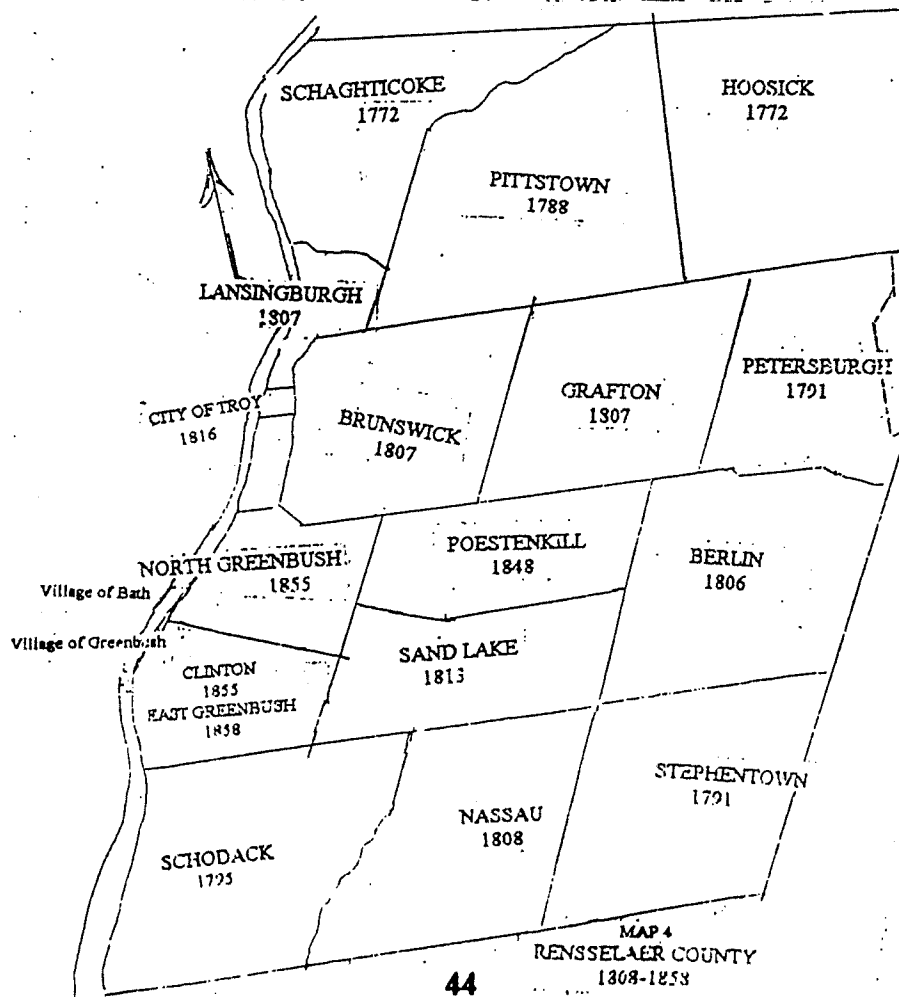
By an act of the legislature passed on June 19, 1812, the Towns of Greenbush and Berlin were divided to form three towns; Greenbush, the new Town of Sand Lake, and Berlin. The act stated "that from the first day of March next" therefore the division took effect on March 1, 1813, so the true birthday of the Town of Sand Lake is March 1, 1813.

The first town meeting was held at the dwelling house of Thomas Thompson, the brother of Calvin Thompson, who became the first Supervisor of the Town of Sand Lake.. The first officers of the Town of Sand Lake were: Supervisor, Calvin Thompson; Town Clerk, David E. Gregory; Assessors, Lawrence Van Alstyne, John Clint, and Ezra Newton; Commissioners of Highways, John Stevens, John North, and Jacob Boyce; Overseers of the Poor, Stephen Gregory, Lewis Bullock; Collector, Jonathan Ford, Henry Lord; School Commissioners, Aretus Lyman, Joel Bristol, and Ellis Forster.

What happened along the border of Greenbush and Sand Lake is not certain but, in 1843, a very short Act of the Legislature simply stated " All that part of the Town of Sand Lake in the County of Rensselaer, on which the dwelling house of Andrew L. Wetherwax now stands, shall be annexed to, and form a part of, the Town of Greenbush."

On March 2, 1848, the Town of Sand Lake was divided creating two Towns, Sand Lake and Poestenkill. This final division created the Town of Sand Lake's boundaries as we know them today. On Monday preceding the first Tuesday in April 1848, the first meeting of the newly formed Town of Sand Lake was held at the house of Calvin Sliter.

Finally in 1855 the Towns of East Greenbush, originally called Clinton, and North Greenbush were established,



GOVERNMENT

Under English rule, basic representation in the Colonial Assembly were the judicial officers appointed by the Governor. There was little local government. "However when it became necessary to build court houses and jails, in the various counties, to aid in the administration of justices and to accomplish other purposes for the general benefit of the towns in a particular county, it was customary to assemble the supervisors of the various towns for the purpose of apportioning the expense. This gathering of supervisors constituted the origin of the Board of Supervisors".

The Constitution of the State of New York was adopted in 1777, and recognized the existence of the cities of Albany and New York and the 14 counties. Town government was a continuation of the functions exercised and performed under English rule. By a number of Acts of the state legislature between 1777 and 1801, local government in the state was divided between county, town, city, and village.

The counties were governed by a Board of Supervisors. Each town would elect a Supervisor to represent its citizens on the County Board of Supervisors. This Board had the power to collect taxes and distribute monies to the towns. With the formation of the County of Rensselaer in 1791, the Rensselaer County Board of Supervisors met for the first time. This board was made up of the seven supervisors from the towns in the county, Troy, Hoosick, Schaghticoke, Petersburg, Pittstown, Stephentown and Rensselaerwyck. By 1813, when the Town of Sand Lake elected its first Supervisor, the County Board of Supervisors had 14 members. The Village of Troy was granted a City Charter in 1816, had only one member on the County Board of Supervisors. In 1828, the City of Troy was divided into 3 districts, and had three members on the board. By 1968 when the board was dissolved, there were 35 members of which 18 were from the City of Troy, and 3 from the City of Rensselaer and 14 from the Town's of the County of Rensselaer.

The County Board of Supervisors was the primary form of local government. Each town elected a Supervisor to represent the town at the meetings of the County Board of Supervisors. The Board of Supervisors was the legislative body for the making of law and ordinances for the county, and the raising of monies to cover the cost of operation. These monies were distributed to each town in accordance with needs. Even at that, the Board only had two sessions a year, an annual meeting in March and a semi-annual meeting in November. Each of these sessions lasted a number of days.

Initially, the towns had little power, mostly in local concerns such as the construction of roads and their maintenance, care of the poor etc. In the year 1801, town government in the State assumed more definitive form. The State Legislature established a system of Judiciary; provision was made for the assessment and collection of taxes; for the settlement and relief of the poor; for the regulation of highways; establishing the power of town meetings; and defining the duties of town officers. Town meetings were held in private homes and inns, with an annual meeting once a year. It was not until 1972 when the former Presbyterian Church in Sand Lake was obtained and transformed into a Town Hall, that a regular meeting hall became available.

In 1964, the State Legislature enacted the Municipal Home Rule Law, greatly extending the powers of each town. As a result Rensselaer County in 1968 revised its form of government. The Board of Supervisors was dissolved. In its place a County Executive and a County Legislature was formed.

Until this time, the Town of Sand Lake was governed by a Supervisor, four Justice of the Peace, with voting rights, and a Town Clerk. In 1956 the Town Board was changed to consist of the Supervisor, two councilmen and two Justices of the Peace. Finally in 1974 four councilmen were elected. The office of Justice of the Peace was eliminated and replaced with two Town Justice.

SUPERVISORS OF AREA THAT WAS TO BECOME SAND LAKE

The State of New York was first divided into towns in 1788, prior to that they were districts. Rensselaer County was established in 1791, prior to that it was part of Albany County. The Rensselaer County Board of Supervisors came into being with the establishment of Rensselaer County. The area that was destined to be the Town of Sand Lake in 1813, was included in the following towns, and there supervisors are noted here. Note that Calvin Thomas was Supervisor of Greenbush for four years, 1808-1812, and became the first supervisor of the then new Town of Sand Lake in 1813.

Rensselaerwyck estab.. 1784 Robert Woodworth 1791-94	Stephentown . 1784 John Wiley 1791-94	Greenbush estab.. 1792	Berlin estab.. 1806
	Sammel Vary 1795-97	J. Van Anlstyne 1795-97	
	Henry Platt 1798-1805	L. Gansevoort 1798-99	
	" "	John Stevens 1800-01	
	Hosea Moffitt 1806-10	Asa Mann 1802-06	John Reeve 1806-1810
	" "	David Coons 1807	E. Niles 1811
	Henry Platt 1811	C. Thompson 1808-12	Daniel Gray 1812-13

Reference for the above dates and names;

JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF RENNELAER
published yearly 1848-1964

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