

Sharon Historical Society

September -
October 2025

NEWSLETTER

Sandra Manko, Editor

Sharon Historical Society PO Box 363, Sharon Springs 13459 Email: sharonspringsny@gmail.com (518) 860-5513



Message from the President

Greetings from the Sharon Historical Society! As autumn arrives, we can hardly believe how quickly 2025 has passed. The museum has been bustling with activity, and while there's always more we'd love to accomplish, we're proud of what we've achieved together. We're delighted to share that 670 visitors have explored our museum this year, and we anticipate even more during the upcoming Harvest Festival weekend on September 20th and 21st in Sharon Springs.



Ron Ketelsen, President

Fall Fundraising Sale - September 20th-21st.

Join us for our Fall Fundraising Sale, held during Harvest Festival weekend at The Roseboro Hotel Ballroom. We'll be open Saturday 9 AM to 5 PM and Sunday 9 AM to 4 PM. **We're seeking donations!** If you have items to contribute to our sale, please reach out via email at sharonhistoricalsocietyny@gmail.com or call us at (518) 860-5513. Every dollar raised supports our museum's daily operations.

Authentic Amish Cuisine - September 19th & 20th. Don't miss the BBQ Hut, located directly across from The Roseboro Hotel! Our friends from Fort Plain will be serving their renowned Amish specialties on Friday, September 19th and Saturday, September 21st. Their menu features complete dinners with chicken, BBQ ribs, or pulled pork, all accompanied by traditional Amish sides. They'll also offer pulled pork sandwiches and their celebrated brisket sandwiches and dinners.

Oktoberfest Celebration - October 18th! Mark your calendars for our Oktoberfest buffet dinner and bottle auction on October 18th at 6 PM. This special evening will take place at Sunnycrest Marketplace, located at 7869 NY-10 in Sharon Springs. The evening features a hearty German and Amish combination buffet complete with dessert and beverages. Feel free to bring your own wine to complement the meal. **Important:** Tickets must be purchased in advance and will not be sold at the door. You can secure your tickets at NBT Bank in Sharon Springs or through our website at www.sharonhistoricalsocietyny.org.

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Our bottle auction promises to be an entertaining highlight of the evening! We'll auction off mysteriously wrapped bottles containing everything from premium wines to everyday household items like ketchup or shampoo. The fun lies in not knowing what you've won until you unwrap your purchase at the auction's end. All proceeds from both the dinner and auction directly benefit the Sharon Historical Society. For additional information about any of our events, please call (518) 860-5513.

We're grateful for your continued support of the Sharon Historical Society throughout this year. Wishing you a wonderful autumn season!

Fango Bathhouse



Fango Sulphur Magnesia Baths (also known as Pine Needle & Sulphur Magnesia Baths) straddled Brimstone Creek at the north end of Main Street. The Fango Bathhouse consisted of two bathhouses, one for men, the other for women, one story high. Each house contained thirty-five single bathing rooms, a large lounging room, massage room, steam cabinet, and examination rooms. These rooms had high ceilings and were finished in hardwood. This is the back view of Fango with a duck house on a pond in the foreground and a plane factory at the right. (The plane factory made wood planes.) In the background, you can see the beautiful Congress Hall bridge which leads to the park. The Magnesia Temple is seen on the hill at the right. Congress Hall, which burned in the fire of 1875, is visible in the background. In the late 1880s, there were three bathhouses in existence: the White Sulphur Bathhouse (also known as the Lower Bathhouse), the Pine Needle Baths (also known as the Fango Baths), and the Inhalation Baths. The Fango Bathhouse boasted modern douche facilities and offered the famous Fango mud packs and massage treatments. Medical treatments in the late 1880s relied heavily on non-invasive methods. Surgery was not a common procedure. Doctors and their patients believed that anything smelling as foul and tasting as vile as the mineral waters had to be good for the patient. The Fango Bathhouse was torn down and is no longer in existence.

Lehman Family Cemetery - Parsons Farm (Wal-Mart)

On June 1, 1994, the Honorable Harold J. Hughes, Jr. issued an order in the Matter of Parsons, Index No. 47-2113-94. The order approved the removal of all remains from the Lehman Family Cemetery, located at the Parsons Farm, Rte. 20, Town of Sharon, New York. The order also required that prior to removal a new burial plot in the Slate Hill Cemetery and a new stone to mark the plot be purchased and a report be submitted to the Court.

Wal-Mart Stores, Inc. purchased the property from Kenyon A. and Marion R. Parsons on Wednesday, July 27, 1994. Thereafter, Wal-Mart entered into a sale-leaseback transaction with the Schoharie County Industrial Development Agency. This report is submitted in compliance with the order.

A new burial plot was purchased in the Slate Hill Cemetery. The plot is located in the old section of the cemetery, not far from the reputed graves of Henry and Anna Lehman's son, Henry, Jr., and his family. The new plot was to be approximately 10 feet by 17 1/2 half feet in size. At the conclusion of the physical anthropological study, the human remains, casket remains, and personal goods were re-interred at the Slate Hill Cemetery.

The following information is taken from a report on the research and excavations at the Henry Lehman Cemetery, Sharon Springs, by J. W. Bouchard, archeologist, Project Director and Cultural Resource Specialist for Hartgen Archeological Association, Inc. of Troy, NY.

The Lehmans farmed the property during the nineteenth century. The land continued to be farmed by others, but no one maintained the cemetery.

Mr. Henry Lehman (1791-1864) acquired the farm in 1828. He married a young widow, Anna Kling (1790—1860), who went by the nickname of Nancy, before moving to the farm. Between 1811 and 1827 they had eight children, three sons and five daughters. Later Henry Lehman Jr. stayed on to help his father run the farm. He lived in the Lehman house with his parents, his own wife, Catharine Hiller and their nine children.

Nancy and Henry lived to their seventies, but many of their children and grandchildren did not fare so well. There is an 1860 deed that describes the burial ground as 30 by 50 feet. The deed indicates that Lehmans could use the cemetery to the third generation for burial. The deed does not mention the location of the cemetery that was within the farm boundaries. Later landowners just knew it was there and worked around it. From the headstones and fragments which were found, it was thought to be six graves.

An archeological investigation uncovered the graves of up to twelve individuals. Based on the size of the graves, it was believed that seven adults and five children were interred.

The cemetery had to be located and this part of the study was undertaken in April of 1994. A large excavator (called a trackhoe) equipped with a four to five foot wide bucket was used to strip the area indicated. The work included having the trackhoe skim the plow zone until the subsoil was exposed. When a soil stain was encountered that could be a burial shaft, it was scraped and its outline marked with pin flags. All the graves were found to be aligned east to west. At this phase of investigation, twelve graves were located. The cemetery area was covered with heavy plastic weighted down with stone for protection, so a plan could be made for removal.

The plan was for the cemetery to be excavated according to accepted archeological standards. The human remains were to be stored on site in a construction trailer until the excavation was completed. Then they would be transported by a licensed mortician to SUNY at Albany where Carol Raemsch, PhD, physical anthropologist, would conduct the physical anthropological study. That study was to be as un-destructive to the human remains as possible. Other items found during the excavation such as casket remains and personal goods would be cleaned, catalogued, and photographed at the Hartgen Archeological Associates, Inc. laboratory in Troy.



Lehman Family Cemetery - Parsons Farm (Wal-Mart property) - *Continued*

The formal Henry Lehman family cemetery excavation began in September 1994 and took two weeks. The research strategy called for them first to excavate an access trench next to the outermost graves in each row and then excavate the adjacent grave. The access trenches allowed them to excavate comfortably rather than working in a prone position. After the outermost graves were removed, the empty excavation where the grave had been, was itself used as the access trench for the adjacent burial. At the start, the excavations were conducted in the open. But Mr. Hardrock, the site construction manager, provided a 40 foot by 40 foot tent after the first rain day. He also provided two portable light towers, and two halogen lights were acquired.

The archeological investigation uncovered the graves of up to twelve individuals in the Lehman Family Cemetery. Based on the size of the graves, it was believed that seven adults and five children were interred.

As indicated in the Parsons' petition, the following people had been identified from head stones: Henry Lehman; Anna Kling Lehman; their daughter, Catharine (Lehman) Swift; and two granddaughters, Elizabeth and Elethea Anthony. Another granddaughter of Henry and Anna, Clarissa Anthony, was identified during the archeological investigation when her head stone was uncovered during a preliminary archeological investigation.

Based on the findings of the report, it was likely that graves 1—6 contained the remains of Charles and Magdalena (Lehman) Anthony and four of their children. Currently, three were identified. Since young Clarissa was most likely buried at the end of the row in grave # 6, where her head stone was discovered, her unidentified sibling in the grave next to her likely died sometime between 1847 and 1851.

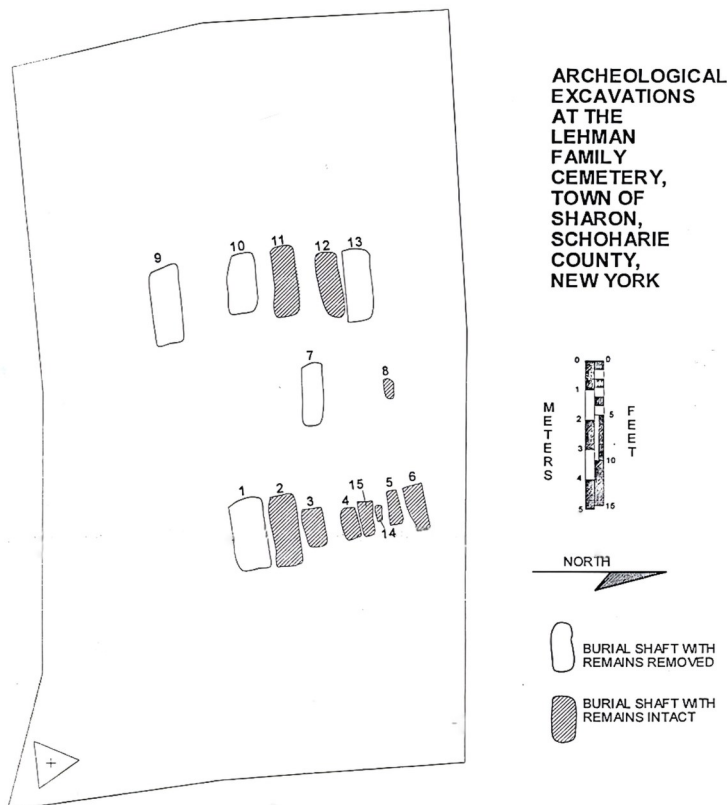
In an attempt to identify the remaining individuals, two children and two adults, an archeological consultant researched the Lehman Family genealogy. A relative of the Lehmans, John Kling, conducted significant genealogical research on the family and was of significant assistance in identifying the various members of the family.

In addition, the archeologist researched available public records, as well as any available private records, such as church records of marriages, baptisms and death. Once the list of names was accumulated, they were cross-checked with available cemetery records from the Slate Hill and Leesville Cemeteries to determine if the individuals were known or suspected to be buried in these cemeteries.

During the course of removing the remains any material found in the graves was utilized to the extent possible in identifying individuals. During the archeological work, an anthropologist was on site to analyze any remains un-

covered.

The New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, in its capacity as the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), required that all remains removed from the site to undergo analysis to positively determine the age, sex and physical condition of each individual.



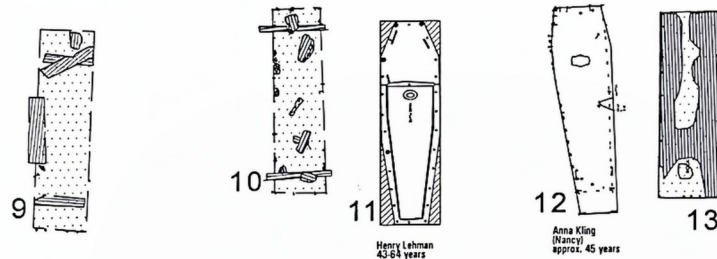
Lehman Family Cemetery - Parsons Farm (Wal-Mart property) - *Continued*

By the time excavations were completed, they had found 15 graves. In the beginning, Mr. Parsons' grandmother said she believed the graves in the cemetery had been moved, which was partly true. Five graves were empty of human remains, but fragments of the rough cut boxes of wood, machine cut nails and coffin hardware consisting of decorative tacks were found. It was determined that the remains ranged from birth to the seventies. Some were identified by markers and some by name plates and some were unknown. Henry Lehman's grave was completely undisturbed. There was a misidentification of one of the previous family members when removed.

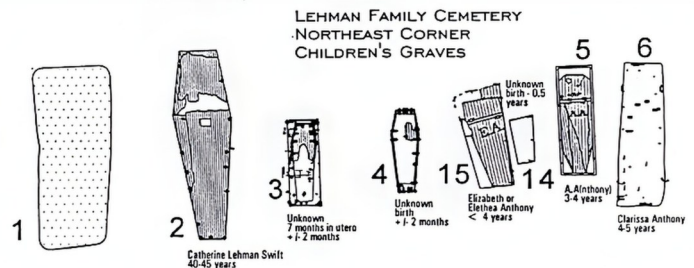
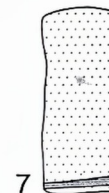
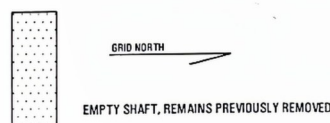
A new grave marker was purchased for the Lehman Family burial plot at Slate Hill. The stone is antique (over 60 years old) granite monolith. The dimensions of the stone are 44 inches high by 10 inches thick by 21 inches wide. All remains were moved to Slate Hill Cemetery in 1995.

All persons were listed on the face of the stone, together with the dates (years) of birth and death.

As for the existing stones, plans called for the parts of stones which contained names to be laid flat on the ground on the burial plot. All other pieces were to be buried with the remains.



CASKET REMAINS LEHMAN FAMILY CEMETERY TOWN OF SHARON, SCHOHARIE COUNTY, NY



CRIME IN SHARON SPRINGS!

Arrest Man After Threat of Killings

In 1952, a former employee of the Adler Hotel in Sharon Springs, threatened the lives of the hotel owner's two children. He was arrested in Albany. According to Troopers, Francis J. Basquenza was arrested on a Saturday at the Capital Hotel and appeared before Sharon's Town Justice Alvin D. Lane on the following Monday afternoon.

He was charged with disorderly conduct. The hearing was adjourned pending further investigation, according to Justice Lane. Two days later he was sent to Binghamton State Hospital for examination, Police said.



Basquenza's threat against the children of Bernard Wieder, owner of the hotel, was made in a phone call from New York City the previous Friday evening, according to State Police. Early Saturday morning troopers again were called to the hotel by the report that someone was breaking into the hotel. They found no trace of an intruder.

In the meantime, Troopers were notified that Mr. Wieder had received a telegram from Hudson which read, "I'll be up, not to collect money but to do what I promised". On Saturday, Basquenza again called the Adler Hotel from Albany and told a waiter, "I'm going to commit murder," Troopers relate.

He then talked to Mr. Wieder and State Police traced the call to the Albany hotel where they picked up the man.

A former member of the Hartford, CT police force, Banquenza had served 19 1/2 years as a policeman, according to State Police. He is reported to have quit at the Sharon hotel about a week prior to the incident.

Following his arrest in Albany, he was sent to Schoharie County jail.

Ex-Convict Held

Also, in 1952, being held at Schoharie County jail was a 38-year old ex-convict, who State Police say was charged with "assault with intent to rape." Troopers reported that William F. Casper of Shenandoah, PA was arrested in connection with the attack of a young waitress in Sharon Springs a week prior.

Described by State Police as a "roaming bell-hop", Casper was being held to await action of the county grand jury.

Police said Casper served ten years in a PA penitentiary for robbery. He was accused of breaking into a 17-year old waitress's room at the hotel in Sharon where they both worked.

Troopers arrested Casper in New York City after he attempted to open a checking account in a bank there. They were notified of the attempt through a local bank where Casper had a small savings account.



Edward I. Koch—*Citizen Koch, An Autobiography*

On Page 43 and 44 of the book of Ed Koch's autobiography, *Citizen Koch*, Mr. Koch talks about a period in his life in 1946 when he was waiting to get into law school. He writes: "And so, without the benefit of a degree (Bachelor's Degree) but with the full force of an old school tie, I was accepted to law school. Unfortunately, even with Paul Kaufman's nod of approval was not enough to get me into the accelerated class beginning that summer, because it was already full. I was admitted for the fall, and I decided to fill the summer ahead with a job in the mountains. I needed the money and the vacation. I thought a job as a busboy at one of the Catskill mountain resort hotels would fill the bill. Unfortunately, I was turned down by several employment agencies because I had no experience. So I had to lie. I told the man who hired me I'd been a busboy for many years, although I had never carried a tray that did not have my own food on it. I was so convincing they offered me the job of busboy captain at the Adler Hotel in Sharon Springs, New York. There were to be only two other busboys on the staff, but I was captain, even though I couldn't carry a tray with one hand.

**"I WAS SO CONVINCING THEY
OFFERED ME THE JOB OF
BUSBOY CAPTAIN AT THE ADLER
HOTEL IN SHARON SPRINGS,
NY."**

I never anguished about misrepresenting myself to the Adler Hotel, because the job and the hotel did not exactly come through as advertised. I had imagined my summer this way: a little waiting on tables, a little tennis, a little waiting on tables, a little swimming. The Adler Hotel had imagined my summer this way: a little waiting on tables, a little painting, a little waiting on tables, a little light repair work. They actually brought us up there two weeks before the season to paint the place. What an operation! I was so miserable. There was no tennis or swimming. Worse, the food was terrible, and what there was of it was pretty spare. It was as though they took one meal, breakfast, divided it into three parts, and served it over the course of the entire day.

I was rescued from this miserable summer by a phone call from home. The NYU admissions office had called to inform me that a space had opened up in the accelerated summer program. Someone had dropped out, and they were offering the slot to me. I immediately gave notice to the Adler Hotel, put down my paintbrush and went home."



This image of Mayor Koch appeared in the *Gazette* 2/2/2013 when the headlines read, "NYC's feisty mayor, dies at 88."

Fire of Manhattan Hotel and Morrell House



This 1909 post card shows South Street with the Eldredge House, built 1874, on the left, and Manhattan Hotel across the street. The Morrell House is just above the Manhattan Hotel.



On July 26, 1919, two large boarding establishments went up in flames. The Manhattan Hotel and Morrell House on South Street were destroyed by a fire which started in the kitchen of the Manhattan Hotel. Several hundred guests narrowly escaped being burned to death when both establishments burned to the ground. The fire started about 6:45 a.m. when a cook in the Manhattan Hotel mistook gasoline for kerosene when singeing chicken over the fire in one of the ranges. The gasoline exploded and spread to the grease-soaked floor and in a short time the building was a mass of flames. Aided by a strong wind, the flames leaped to the Morrell House which was located about 30 to 40 feet from the burning structure. It was not long before the building was razed to the ground. Six or seven barns and small out-buildings in the rear of the hotels were also burned. The fire was put out at 8:45 a.m.

Fire departments of Canajoharie, Cobleskill and Cherry Valley were called to the scene of the fire to assist Sharon Springs but due to the low water pressure, they were unable to save anything but the nearby buildings. According to the Albany *Times Union*. There were not sufficient chemicals in the Village that could cope with the fire.

The guests of the two hotels lost considerable jewelry and many of them, all of the cash they had with them. Nearly each and every one of them lost all of their clothes as most guests had to flee with just their night clothing on. As soon as the loss of the hotels was observed, guests communicated with their friends out of town and made arrangements to return to the homes in Brooklyn and other parts of New York City.



Fire of Manhattan Hotel and Morrell House

Continued

Homes of villagers were willingly opened up to the guests of the two hotels. Local residents didn't get the chance to care for them because of the homeless visitors' desire to get away as quickly as possible. Practically everything belonging to the guests was lost in the fire. It was said that there were more summer guests than ever before, and every hotel, inn, and cottage was filled to capacity.

The loss was estimated to be over \$75,000. The Manhattan Hotel was owned by Max Welkowitz of New York City and William Morrell was the owner of the Morrell House. Mr. Welkowitz was badly burned on his right arm and was taken to Little Falls Hospital. He was the only person injured or burned and it was a miracle that more persons were not injured or lost their lives.

The home of Henry Wilbur (president of the National Bank) on South Street was badly damaged by the fire, as well as the Eldredge House, at the corner of South and Center Street near the burning hotels.

As written in Kim Comrie's article, "The History of the Sharon Springs Fire Department," after this fire, Chief Fred Chamberlain presented this report to the Village Board: "Having inspected 34 hydrants, I report that all are in need of some repair. Also, the B. P. Sharpe Hose Co. has 550' hose, 200' in good condition, 350' in bad. The Protection Hose Co. has 500' hose, 300' in good condition, 200' in bad. The hose cart at the Depot has 300' of hose." The Village then authorized the purchase of 500' of 1 1/2" hose and a local hose cart for the Depot as well as five spanner wrenches for each chemical engine at a combined cost of \$550.



This photograph shows South Street and the curious public looking over the aftermath of the Manhattan Hotel and Morrell House fire on July 26, 1919.



Sharon Historical Society

FALL FUNDRAISING



SALE



DONATIONS

ARE NEEDED FOR OUR ANNUAL FALL SALE

We are happy to accept the following items: small working appliances, tools, dishware, furniture, artwork, frames, books, home décor, desks, chairs, children's toys, garden tools and equipment, camping equipment, instruments, sporting goods.

Please no: clothing, large appliances, mattresses, cribs, walkers, car seats, highchairs, magazines, household chemicals, outdated computer equipment or electrical equipment.

The sale will be held on September 20th and 21st during the Sharon Springs Harvest Festival. The sale will be held in the Roseboro Hotel Ballroom (210 Main Street in Sharon Springs) starting at 9 AM each day.



Donations will go towards the Sharon Historical Society. For donations, please call 518-860-5513 to arrange drop-off.

Health Springs of Sharon

The following is a description found in an old copy of *Harper's New Monthly Magazine* from June 1856 of a traveler's trip in and about Sharon Springs.

"As the travelers arrived in Sharon Springs, they were snuffing the sulphureated hydrogen as they descended the deep gorge in which Sharon village lies concealed.

"Although the village and springs lie in a ravine, they are nine hundred feet above the Mohawk Valley; and for purity and salubrity of air, magnificent views, variety of natural scenery and ever-varying pictures of rural life, this spot, my friend, verily believes, is not transcended by any other on the face of the round world. From the 'Pavilion', the oldest and most extensive of the public-houses there, the eye, turned to the north and west, comprehends one of the grandest and most beautiful prospects imaginable. The hilly country between there and the Mohawk Valley seems subdued into a gently rolling plain and the woods, fields, villages, farm houses, and brooks like silver threads have the appearance of a gorgeous piece of tapestry excelling in richness of conception, form, and color, anything the looms of Gobelin [name of a family of dyers] ever produced.

"The mineral springs of Sharon gush out from the bed of a small brook, and from a steep wooded slope on its margin. For more than half a century, their healing virtues have been known throughout the regions and parents took their children, afflicted with cutaneous disorders and dipped them.

"Upon the slope from which the fountains gush, a curious phenomenon is exhibited. Within the space of a few rods are five different springs: chalybeate, white sulphur, blue sulphur, magnesia, and pure water."

One of the first to commercialize the waters was David Eldredge who, in 1825, moved a small house near to the springs and started to take in boarders. He was so successful the first year that next season he undertook to enlarge his accommodations so that he could put up 25 guests that second year.



The original house which David Eldredge built by the springs was jacked up and a larger first floor built below, ca. 1875. Later, this was the Schaefer Brewing Company family residence, called the Schaefer House or "The Park" located near the Schaefer Baths. This structure was later the vom Saal Estate and is now privately owned. The property also included a gazebo, carriage house, cottage, and ice house.

Health Springs of Sharon^{continued}



Pavilion Hotel,
Sharon Springs,
N. Y.

A group from New York City formed a company in the year 1836 and purchased land on which they erected a large boarding house which they named “The Pavilion”, and it is stated that over the years, enlargement followed enlargement so that several hundred guests could be housed. Such early name as J. H. Gardner, Joseph Landon, Getty and Williams were connected with the beginnings of this enterprise.

Although the White Sulphur Springs were first commercialized in 1825 by David Eldredge,

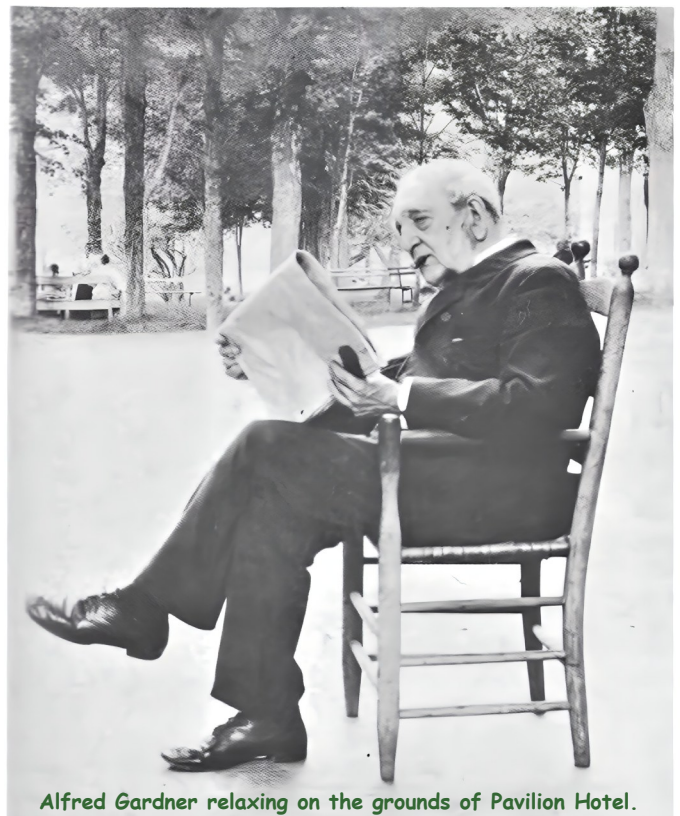
records indicate that the White Sulphur Company was not incorporated until 1933. Sarah Gardner and Mary Jameson, two of the directors, were the last of their family to own the White Sulphur Springs Company. It was John Gardner who, with several other New York merchants, bought the White Sulphur Spring and property from Eldredge in 1835.

Gardner ultimately ended up as sole proprietor of the properties and completed the Pavilion Hotel by 1843. Even without the magnificent Pavilion, the White Sulphur Springs still drew bathers and was in operation continuously since 1825. One of the first ski tows in the northeast was developed as part of the recreational facilities in the 1920s and the beautiful golf course was built in 1931.

In 1954, Homer Spofford purchased the White Sulphur Springs Company from the Gardner family and incorporated a second company called The White Sulphur Baths, Inc. Spofford had been introduced to the Gardners through his roommate whose girlfriend was Sarah Gardner. After graduating from Princeton, Spofford went to work for the White Sulphur Springs as an assistant stock clerk.

Tourism declined in the 1960s as the interest in the baths waned. Spofford sold the White Sulphur Springs properties to Mordechai Yarkony in 1978. Mr. Yarkony sold to Korean investors around 2004.

Historian Roscoe’s description of Sharon Springs in the 1880s is just as applicable today. He states, “The stream running through and the cascade below the village are of romantic beauty. The scenery, the pleasant drives, wholesome atmosphere and qualities of the springs all invite and attract the tourist.”



Alfred Gardner relaxing on the grounds of Pavilion Hotel.

Mark Your Calendar Now!
October 18th at 6 PM
The Sharon Historical Society's



Buffet Dinner and
Bottle Auction
At Sunnycrest Restaurant

7869 NY-10 in Sharon Springs

Tickets—\$30 per person

Tickets are available at NBT Bank in Sharon Springs or by going to our website:
www.sharonhistoricalsocietyny.org

Advanced ticket purchase is required.

For more information, please call (518) 860-5513



A Fundraising Event for the
Sharon Historical Society



Our Next Programs

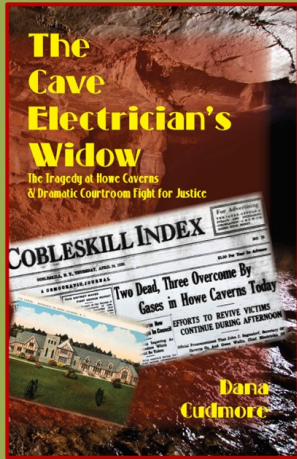
September 8th

The Tragedy at Howe Caverns - Dramatic Courtroom

Fight for Justice

Presented Live and via Zoom by

Dana Cudmore



The April 1930 tragedy and the legal battle that sought to hold those believed accountable. Part David vs. Goliath; part mystery, part courtroom drama, part travelogue through the fascinating underground realm of the caverns, this presentation reveals a little-known episode from the famous tourist destination's remarkable past.

September 22nd

Gee's Bend Quiltmakers

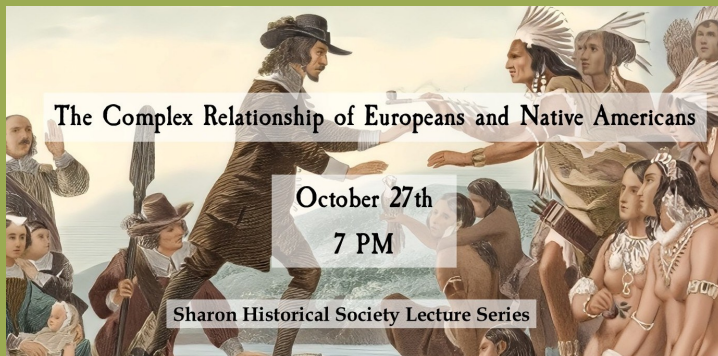
The Gee's Bend quiltmakers are a group of African American women from the isolated, rural community of Gee's Bend, Alabama. Their creations, known for their improvisational style, bold geometry, and powerful use of recycled materials, are considered masterpieces of American art.

Presented via Zoom by quilter Sharon Aitchison



October 13th

The Complex Relationship of Europeans



The relationship between Europeans and Native Americans was a complex mix of cooperation, conflict, and catastrophic consequences in New York and elsewhere. Native Americans resisted the efforts of European settlers to gain more land and control during the colonial period, but they were stymied by disease and bad-faith treaties. Their interactions evolved over time, ranging from mutually beneficial trade relationships to violent conflicts over land and resources.

Presented Live and via Zoom by Heather Johnson

November 10th

Lest We Forget



Lest We Forget

Stories Behind the Stars —

USA World War II Fallen

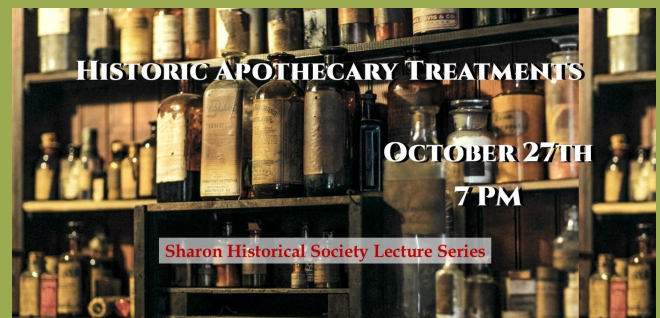
November 10th

7 PM

Sharon Historical Society Lecture Series

October 27th

Historic Apothecary Treatments



Historic apothecary treatments relied heavily on herbal remedies like chamomile for digestion and lavender for headaches, and were traditionally dispensed by apothecaries. These remedies included a wide range of concoctions like tinctures, salves, teas, and other preparations. Many of these remedies are still used today for healing. We will look at many recipes that can be used to treat everything from respiratory issues to nerve pain. Using natural remedies. We will share many of these recipes with you.

Presented via Zoom by Ron Ketelsen

Sue deBruijn, a volunteer for "Stories Behind the Stars," is researching and writing the stories of 68 men and 1 woman from Schoharie County who gave their lives in the service of our country during WWII. Many names you may be familiar with - Empie, Slater, Pratt, just to name a few. Sue will share some of their stories and describe the project and research involved. Sue has had the opportunity to meet descendants of these brave men and woman, and will share the many ways families and friends are continuing to honor their memory.

Presented Live and via Zoom by Sue deBruijn

For more information on how to watch these programs, email sharonhistoricalsocietytny@gmail.com

Interesting Bit of our History

The Village's early history tells of Native Americans being the first to use the springs of Sharon for medicinal and healing purposes. Evidence shows that their trails led close to the springs and artifacts of arrowheads, pottery shards, and flint chips were found in the vicinity.

In Harper's New Monthly Magazine in June of 1856, an article stated " a small encampment of St. Francis Indians, who have occupied the spot for several consecutive seasons, make and sell baskets, fans, and other splint work, and give pleasure to visitors by their novelty and the picturesqueness of their little village."

In 2012 an interesting visitor came to Sharon seeking information about his ancestors. Frank Grant III from California was researching cemetery records and early photographs to find additional information. Frank Grant III from California was researching cemetery records and early photographs to find additional information about his family. The photograph above is thought to be Lucinda Annance Lagrave/Brazill, born October 28, 1850, at Saint Francis (Odanak), married Francis Lagrave/Brazill on January 18, 1870, and lived in Sharon Springs from about 1871 to the mid-1880s. The child on her back could be one of her children: William born September 1, 1871, Emiline (Josephine) born March 17, 1874, or Louis born November 18, 1876, all born in Sharon Springs per baptismal records of the Saint Francis Indians."

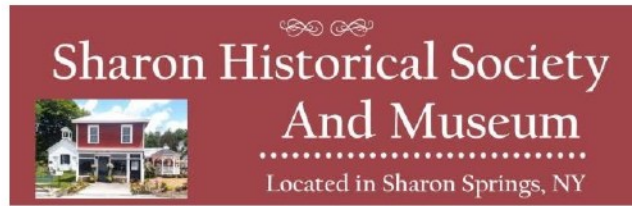
The photograph is now in the collection at the Sharon Historical Society's Museum.



Indian Encampment, Sharon Springs, NY



Sharon Springs Sulphur Temple in the Fall



2025 Membership Form For The Sharon Historical Society

A shared heritage and a sense of history are priceless gifts for ourselves and for generations to come. Join the Sharon Historical Society and become part of one of the most active and fastest growing historical organizations in Central New York. Your support provides more than just preservation of historic materials; it brings the unique heritage of Sharon and its people to life for audiences worldwide. We need your help to grow and develop the tremendous potential of this community.

Date _____

Name _____

(Use Preferred) Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email _____

Membership Types and Rates:

1. **Individual active members**; any person interested in the purposes of the Society is eligible. Annual dues for an individual active member is **twenty-five dollars (\$25.00)**.

2. **Institutional members**: any organization, board, school, or library interested in history of Sharon shall be eligible. Annual dues for institutional members are **twenty-five dollars (\$25.00)**.

3. **Life members**; individuals only. Dues for a life member is a one-time fee of **one hundred dollars (\$100.00)**.

PLEASE NOTE: Individual membership dues are paid on anniversary date – your membership is good for one year from the date you join. Membership dues are non-refundable.

Amount of Payment

- _____ Individual Membership - \$25.00
_____ Institutional Membership - \$25.00
_____ Lifetime Membership - \$100.00

Please accept my donation of \$ _____
to support the Sharon Historical Society. I
do not wish to become a member at this
time.

Total enclosed \$ _____

Make checks payable to:

Sharon Historical Society. Mail to PO Box 363, Sharon Springs, NY 13459

_____ I would also like to volunteer at the Sharon Historical Museum. (Check our website at www.sharonhistoricalsocietyny.org for more information on volunteering.)