

OLD MAIN ST SEGMENT #4 --- McKay [LaVarnway] to Railroad

1. Intro – Segment #4.

1.

**“CAMPBELL’S OLD MAIN STREET
SLIDE PRESENTATION**

**Compiled by:
Sandy Austin, Town Historian**

2. WELCOME TO SEGMENT #4 McKay to Railroad.

2.

WELCOME TO SEGMENT #4
CAMPBELL'S
"OLD MAIN STREET
MCKAY /LAVARNWAY
HOUSE TO RAILROAD"

3. MCKAY HOUSE SIDE---Starting with the McKay house [known today as LaVarnway] It was the home of James S. McKay sometimes referred to as Colonel James S. McKay – He was an Assistant U.S. Marshall during the Civil War. After the war he came to Campbell and this was his home.

3



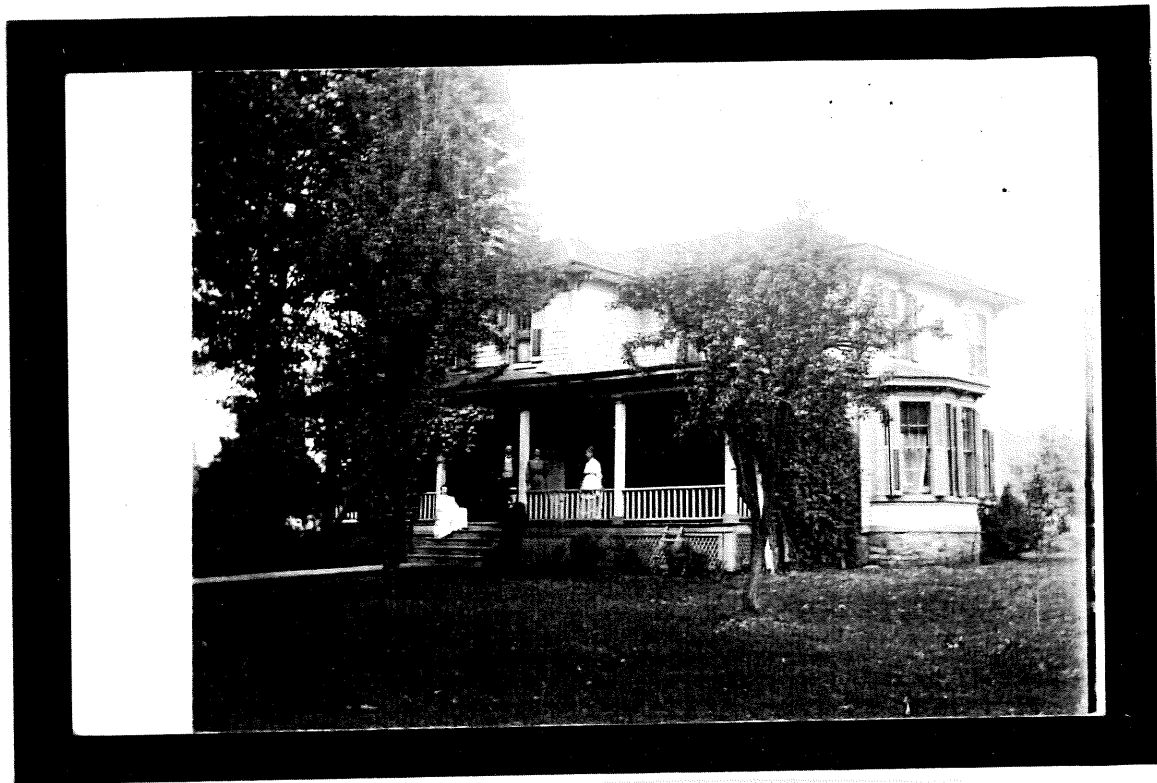
4. SIDE OF HOUSE --Side view of the house – where the sun comes up in the morning -- ; in 1875 he was elected as one of the Superintendents of the Poor for Steuben County [15 years] -- Colonial McKay died in 1896. he was part owner in the Bemis and McKay grain mills which was in operation for both flour milling and lumbering. In 1876 the mills burned and were built back in 1877 [built back better.] These are the mills which were later bought by Frank Aulls.

4.



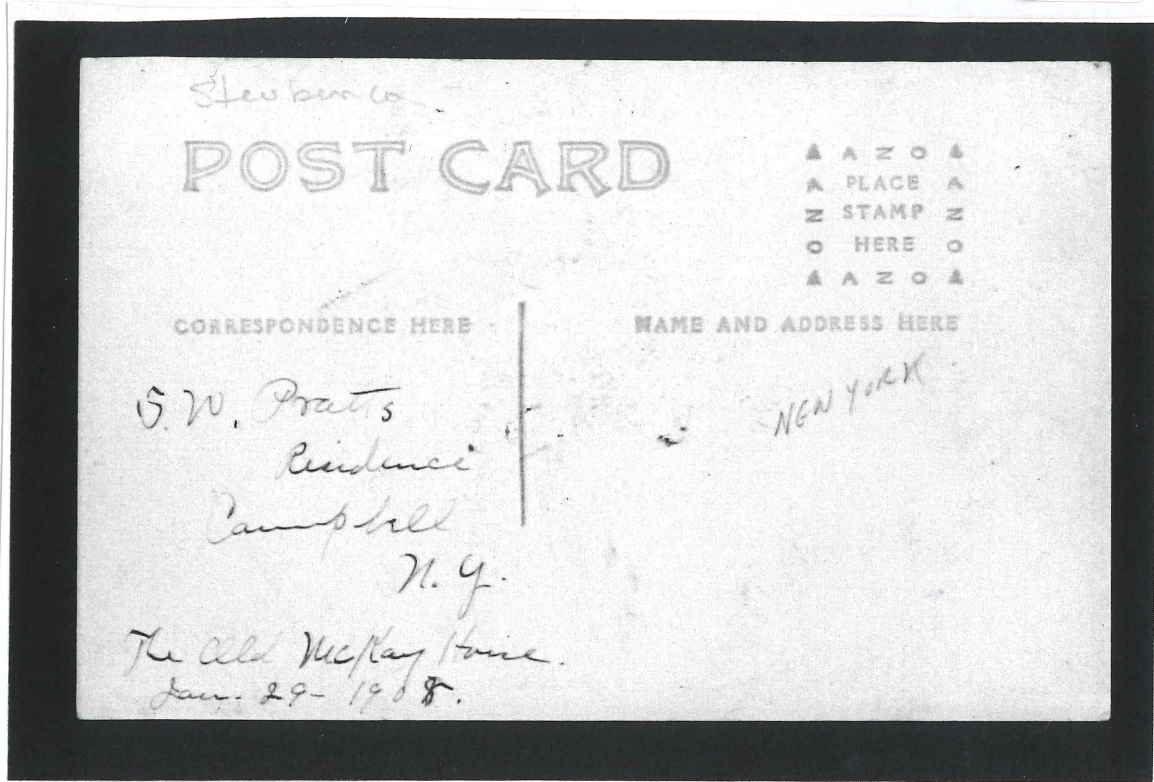
5. Pic from postcard – this is the side view ---- someone dated it in 1908 and marked it the old McKay House – by then someone else owned it; and still today we’re calling it the old McKay house!

5.



6. Back of post card -- notice the divided back from the Era of 1907-1915.

6.



1908

7. Next is the "Look" House @ 8550 MAIN ST. It was recently was the home of Fran Look; before that, his parents lived there [Ben Look—a former postmaster and in 1941 a pressman for The Leader].

7



8. POST CARD Before that -- I have this post card dated back to 1908 it has a note on it that Nellie Horton Manning bought the house for her mother Elizabeth Burrows Horton, wife of Charles T. Horton ; they had originally lived in the house at the end of Horton Lane. But here she is sitting on the front porch My notes say she died in 1909. [the post card had a divided back from the era 1907-1915 and was not mailed].

8,



1908

9. INFO SLIDE -- Records show that in the early 1900's with the introduction of the automobile came the need for repair garages and gas stations – This was a new era – along came better roads; cars , gas stations and repair garages.

9.

1908 – The New York Department of Highways was established –

- Road improvement needed for automobiles
- Gas stations popped up
- Repair Garages were needed

This began a new era!

10. CROUCH GARAGE – This was a repair garage in the early 1900's map calls it A.H. Crouch & Son – Bert, they called him [he was my grandfather] Bert was a busy man in Campbell; he was an auto mechanic; he was a station agent for the Erie Railroad; a Town Justice—and in those days Town Justices were part of the Town Board; he was on the School Board as they were preparing for building the new; a past-president of the Board of Education; sadly, in the year the new school opened as the Campbell Central School in 1932, he passed away.

10.



11. This is a more recent photo— property currently owned by Ernie Newman.



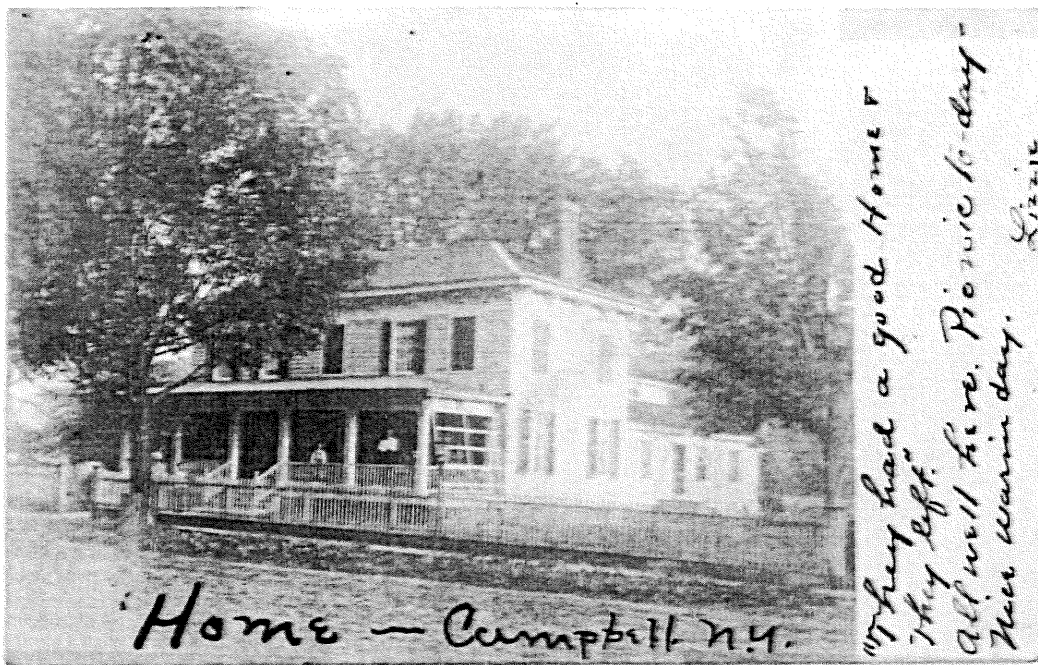
12.ACROSS STREET -- Kuehner house --Across the street is an old house ---
8560 MAIN ST [today].

12.

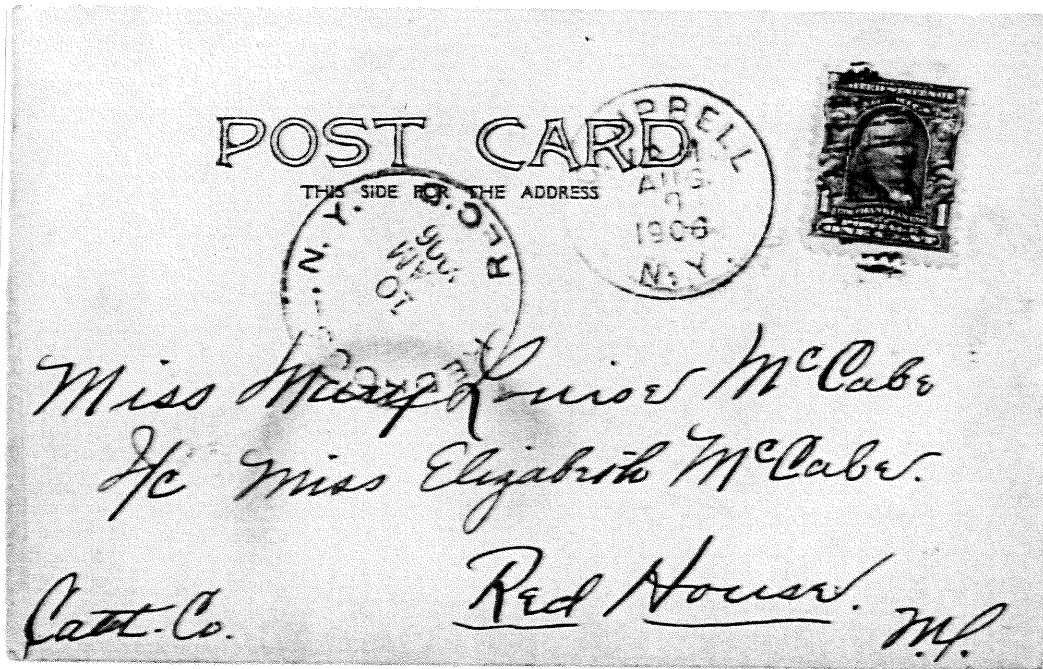


13. Kuehner home -- POST CARD. On this post card, it was noted to be the Frank McCabe home at that time. The house went through a lot of owners. The house is believed to have been built before 1857. Legend has it that ... the house was visited by Eleanor Roosevelt at one time; she was our nation's First Lady from 1933 to 1945.

13.



14. Back of the card was the undivided back from era – 1901-1907 [this is an example] –post mark there says 1906.



14.

15. BACK ACROSS THE STREET AGAIN! -- ANOTHER OLD HOUSE --- often referred to as the "Willard House" today --current owners are Clinton and Sharon Hauber.

15.



16. WILLARD HOUSE -1886 -- this was the former home of H. Burr Willard the
guy from Willard's Drug Store - This home was built in 1886 -the year his
daughter, May, was born.

16.



Home of H. Burr Willard - Built 1886

17. WILLARD POST CARD -- The next is from a post card -- it shows the home after the tower was added - the post card had a divided back [1907-1915] -- it may have been a few years before HB Willard recovered from his fires.



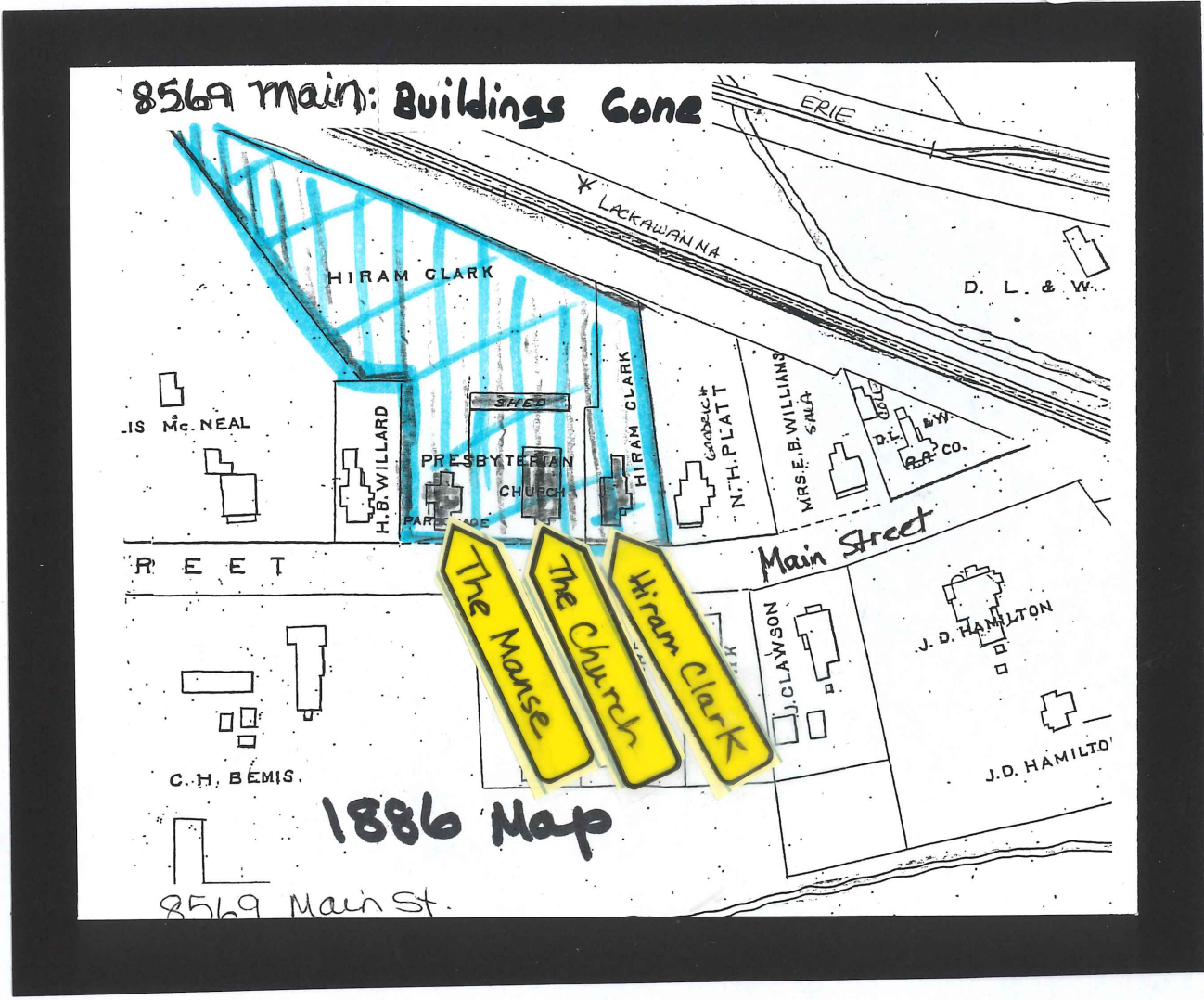
18.DOLLAR GENERAL -- NEXT is the Dollar General that came to Town in 2021.

18.



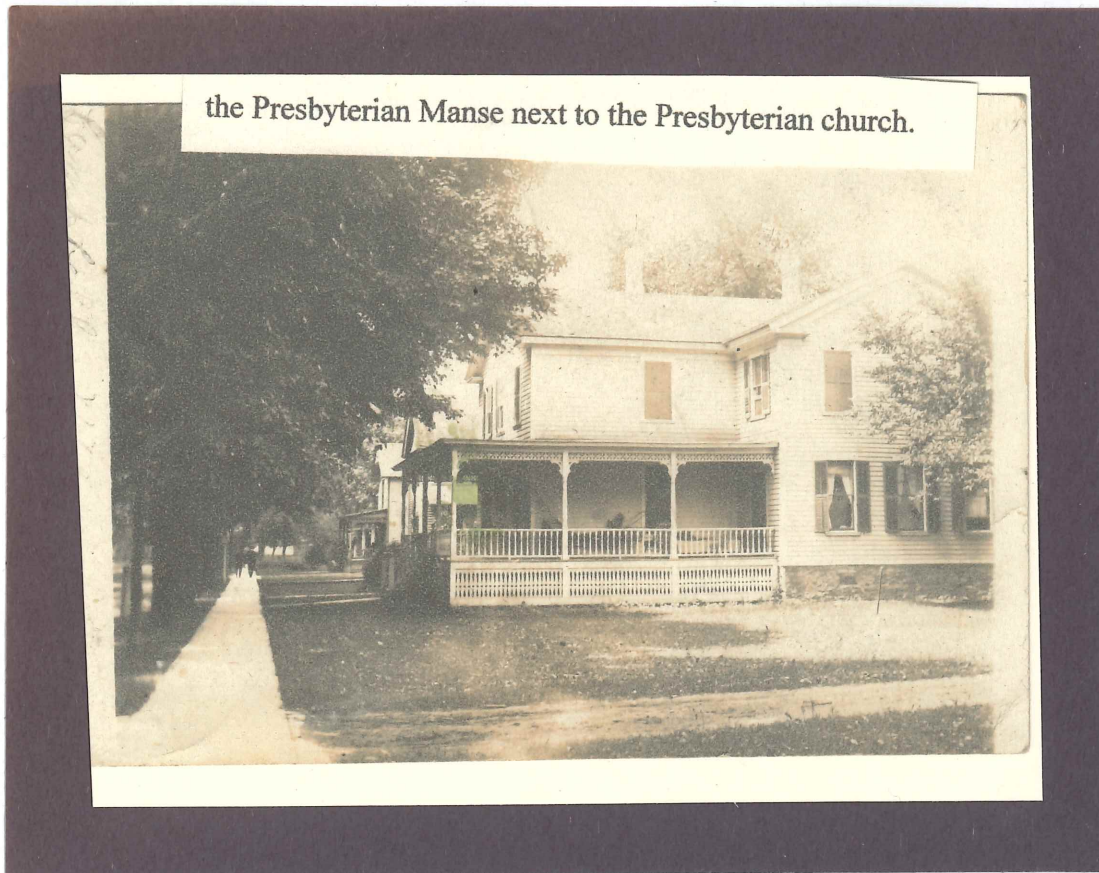
19. MAP of 1886 – I made this illustration to show the buildings which are now gone – They are marked --- --- first --The Manse [or the parsonage]; then the Presbyterian church and the last one on the right was the Hiram Clark house.

19.



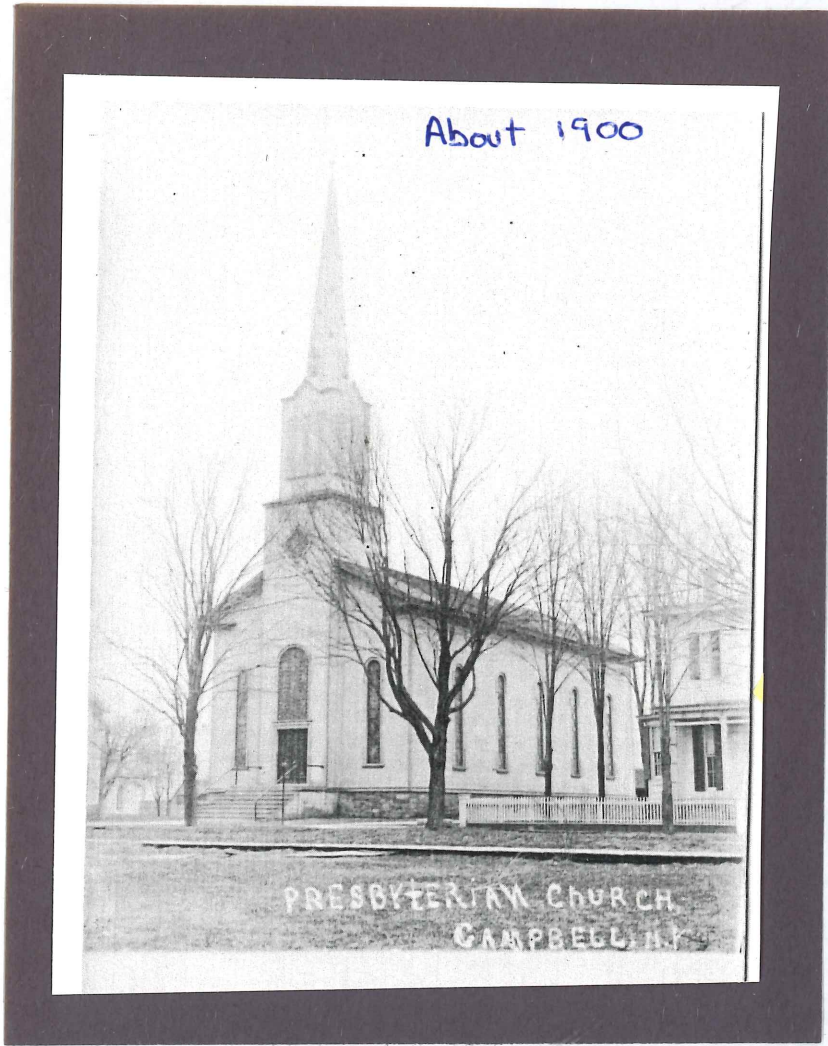
20. The MANSE -- this pic is the Presbyterian Parsonage or Manse as they called in Scottish term meaning "the house of the minister of the Presbyterian Church" it was built in 1868 and enlarged in 1877; later torn down in 1980 -- 112 years.

20.



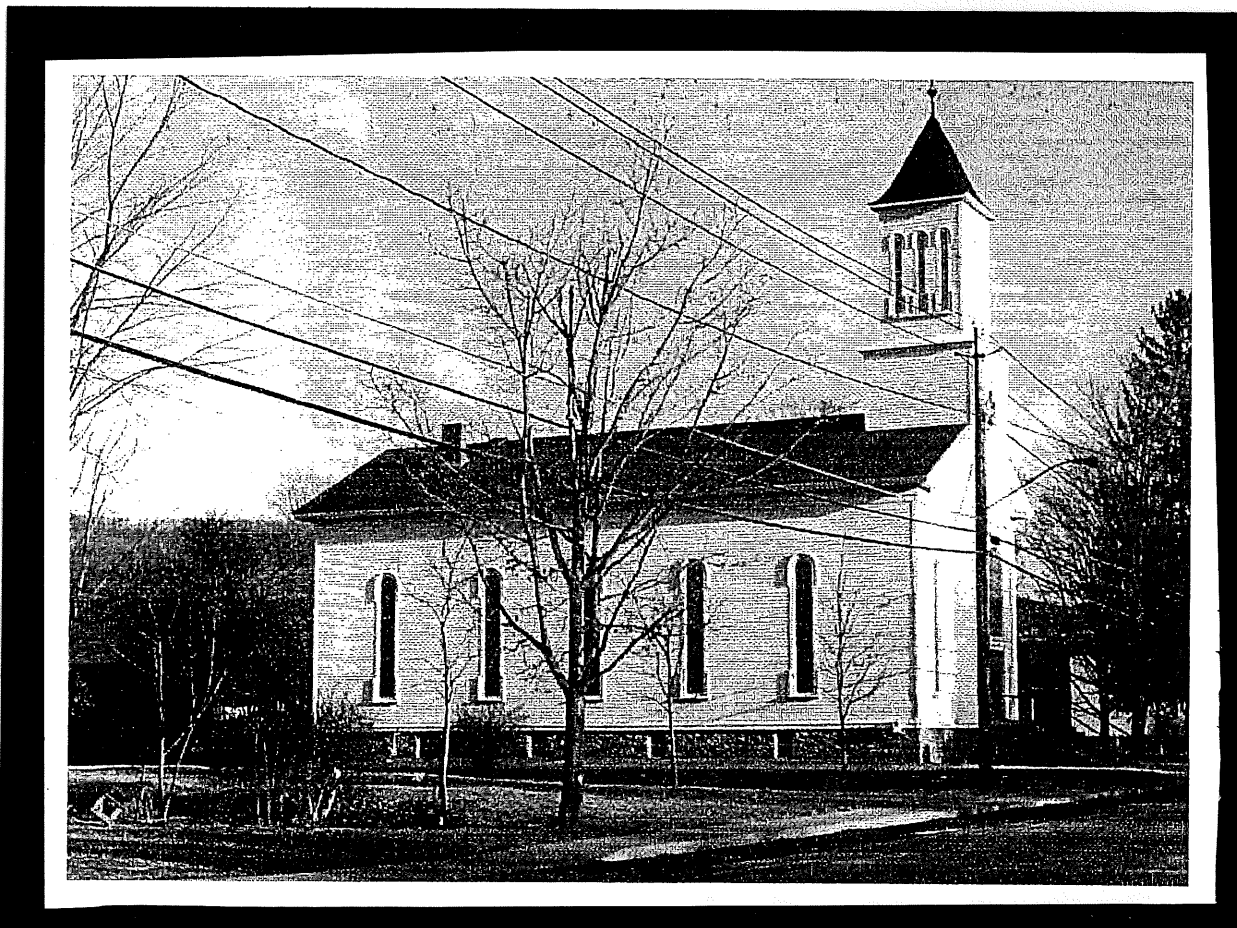
21.CHURCH -- The Presbyterian Church built in 1867; dedicated 1868—the church stood tall there for 154 years.

21.



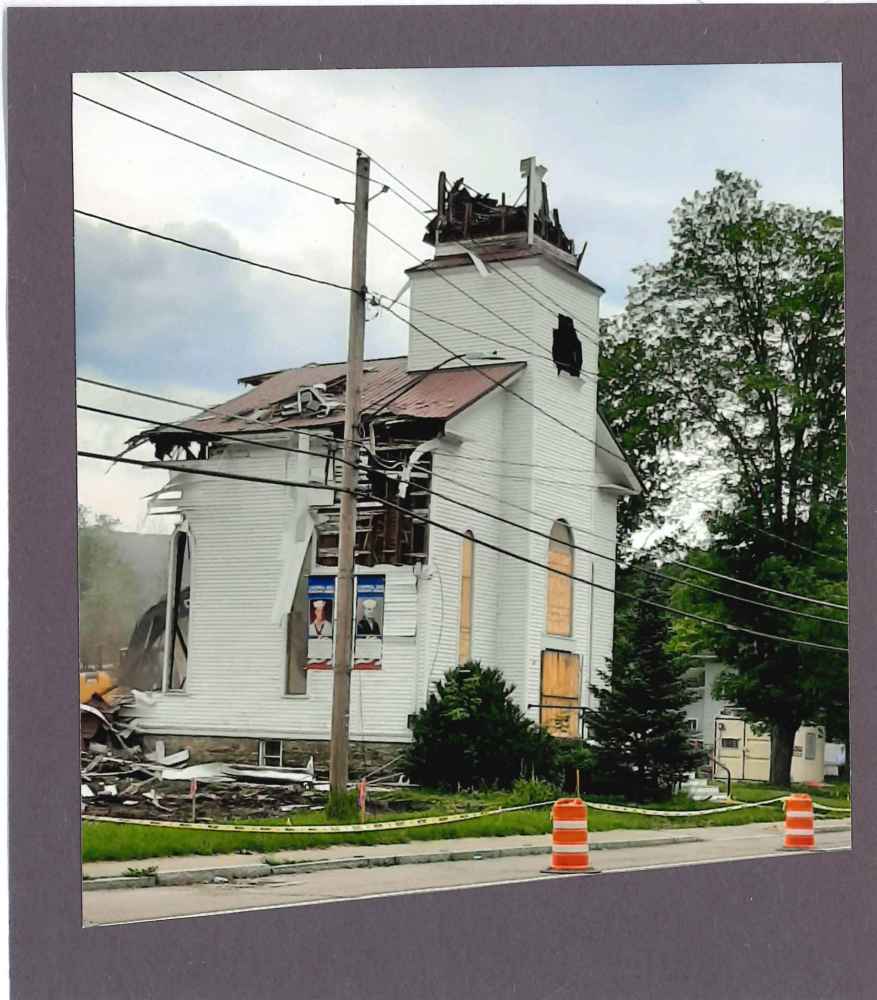
22. CHURCH – later after manse was torn down 1980; then the congregation began to die out; the church held it's last services in 1997; then in 1999 it was sold to Roxanne and Michael Mourhess and they opened the "Antiques at the Establishment" business; they ran the business until about 2020 and sold it to Dollar General.

22,



23.CHURCH BEING TORN DOWN --Church being torn down June 2021—a sad day!

23,



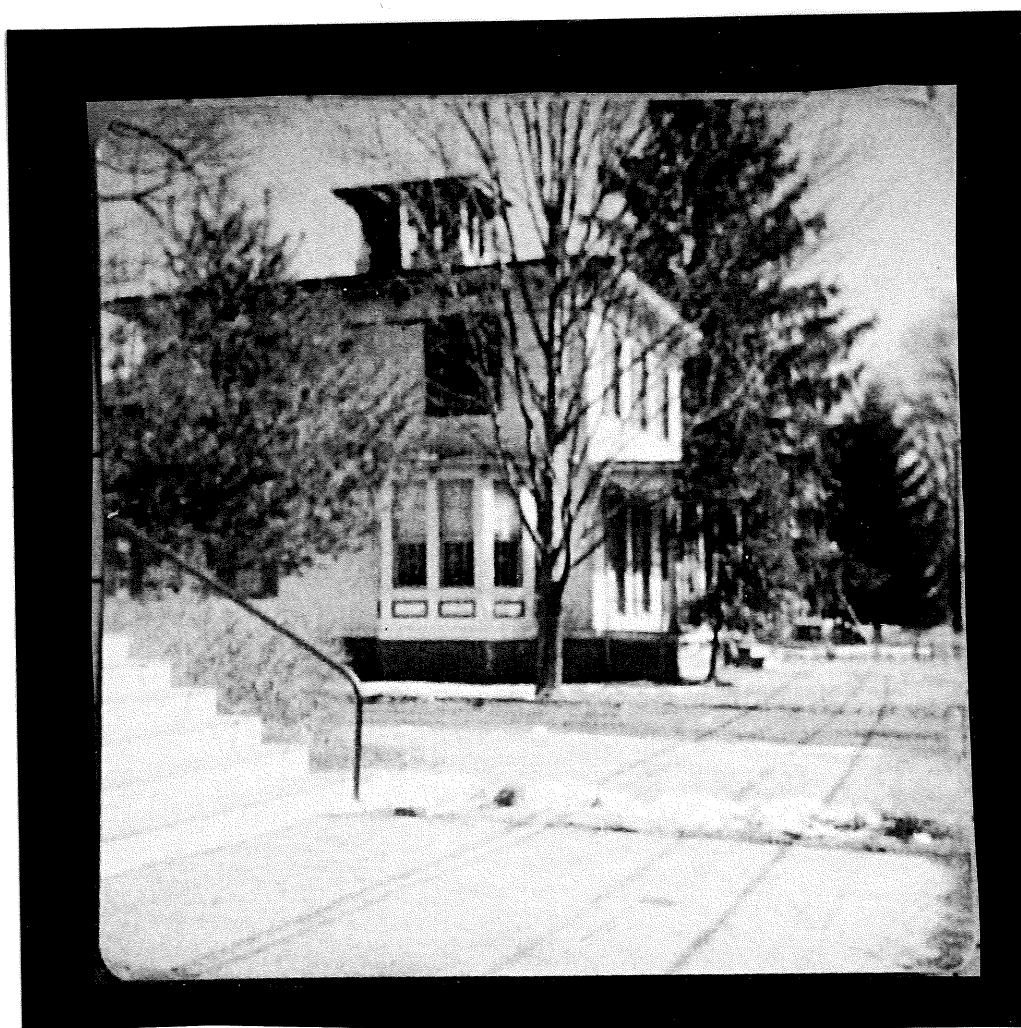
24. Church demolished – June of 2021 – This was a VERY SAD DAY FOR CAMPBELL HISTORY!

24,



25. Hiram CLARK House – This photo shows the steps and railing of the Presbyterian Church. It is also a beautiful shot of the side view.

25,



26.FRONT CLARK HOUSE -- Front view of Hiram Clark house -- this house was torn down in the 1980's.

26.



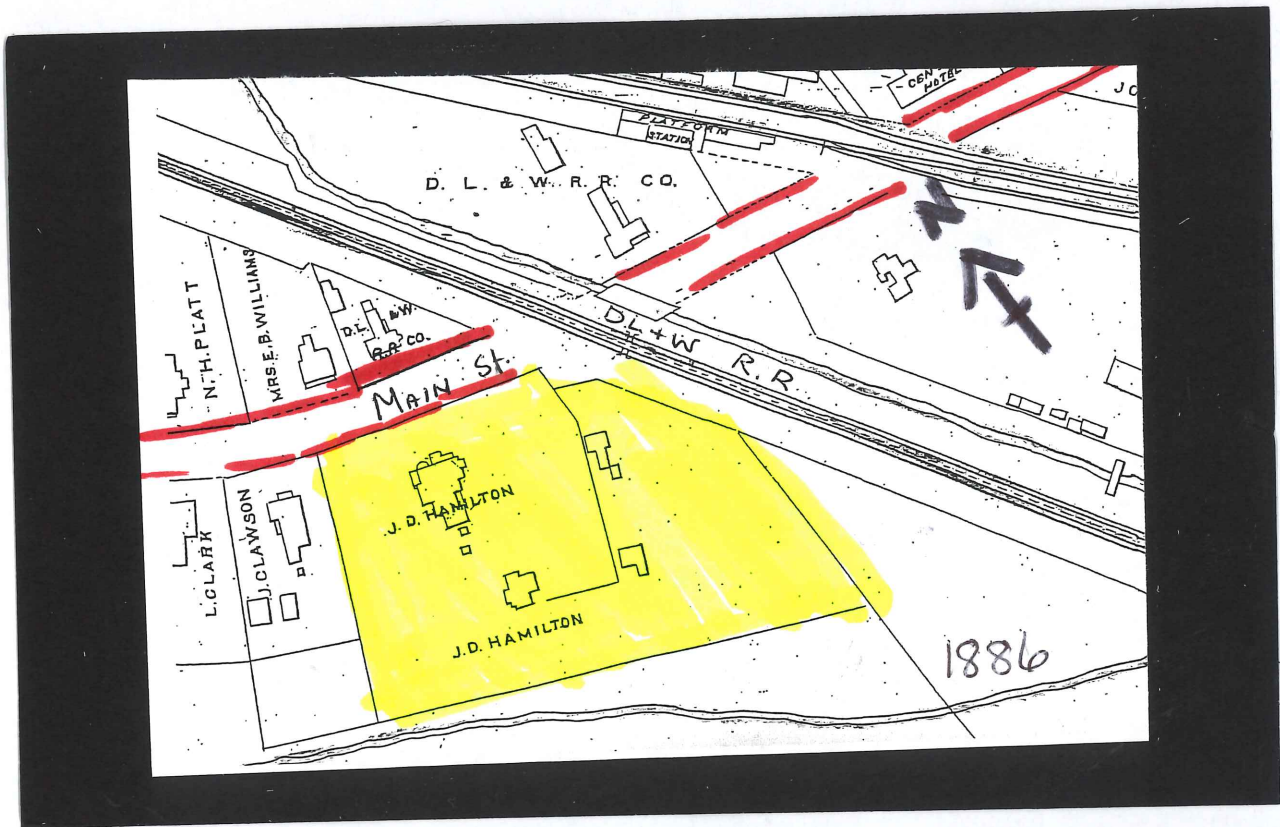
27. EMPTY LOT -- All those buildings cleared out in 2021—GONE!
OK---down a ways and across the street -- here we are.

27.

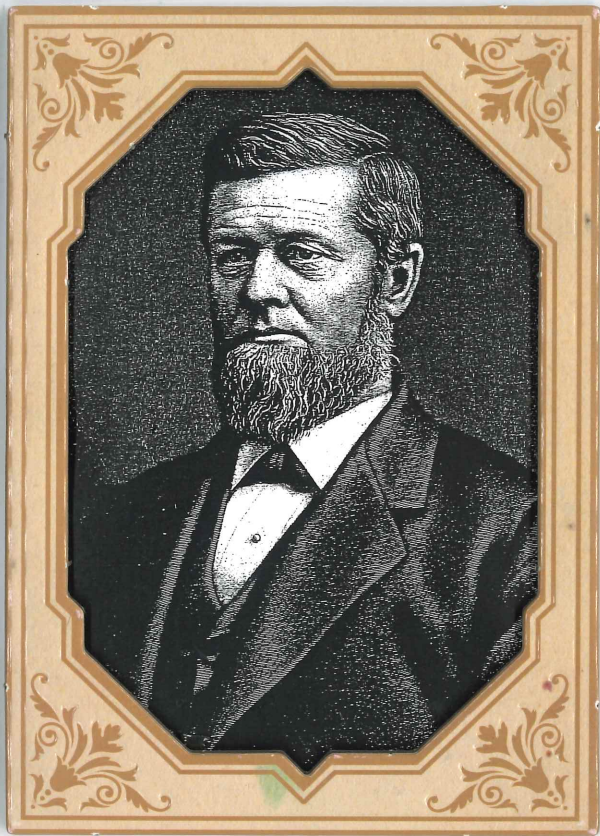


28. MAP -- MOVING ON to the J.D. Hamilton House --- MAP --the area shaded in yellow was JD's land; it was quite a chunk.

28.



29.[JD's Pic] – BUT FIRST, Let me tell you about John D Hamilton – He came to Campbell -1845; he learned his father's trade -- a shoemaker; his father died young and JD held the family together took care of his siblings and his mother. In 1854 he and Howell and Curtis formed a partnership and set up a tannery in Curtis; in 1858 he built a larger tannery on Tannery Road near the current American Legion.

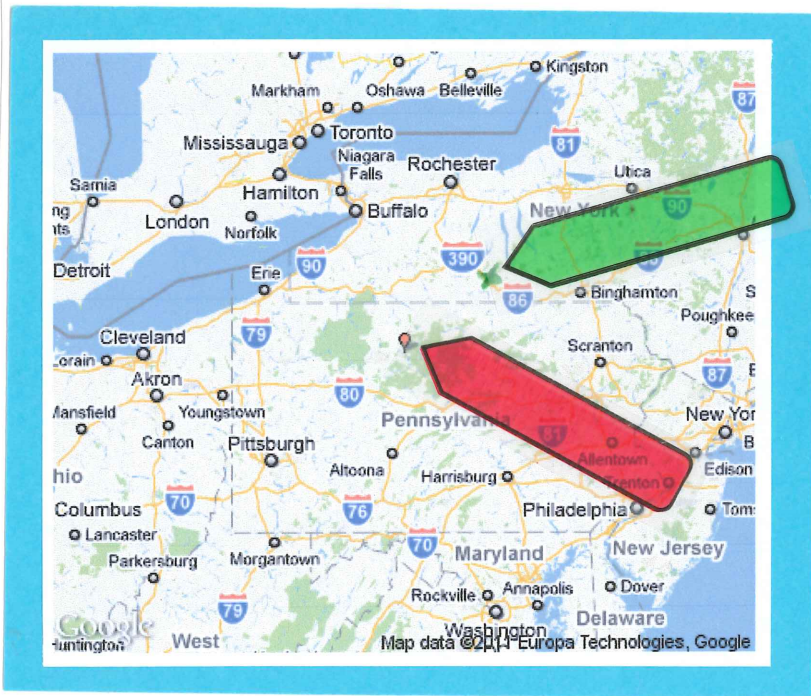


29,

JOHN D. HAMILTON
1828-1891

30.EMPORIUM [MAP] -- Just after the Civil War ended -- In 1866, under the name of Hamilton, Curtis & Co. he built an extensive tannery in Emporium PA [twice the capacity of the Campbell Tannery] His business prospered and he became a wealthy man. We are at the green x [at the end of the green arrow] and Emporium at the red dot—it's near Bradford, Pennsylvania -- about 93 miles from here.

30.

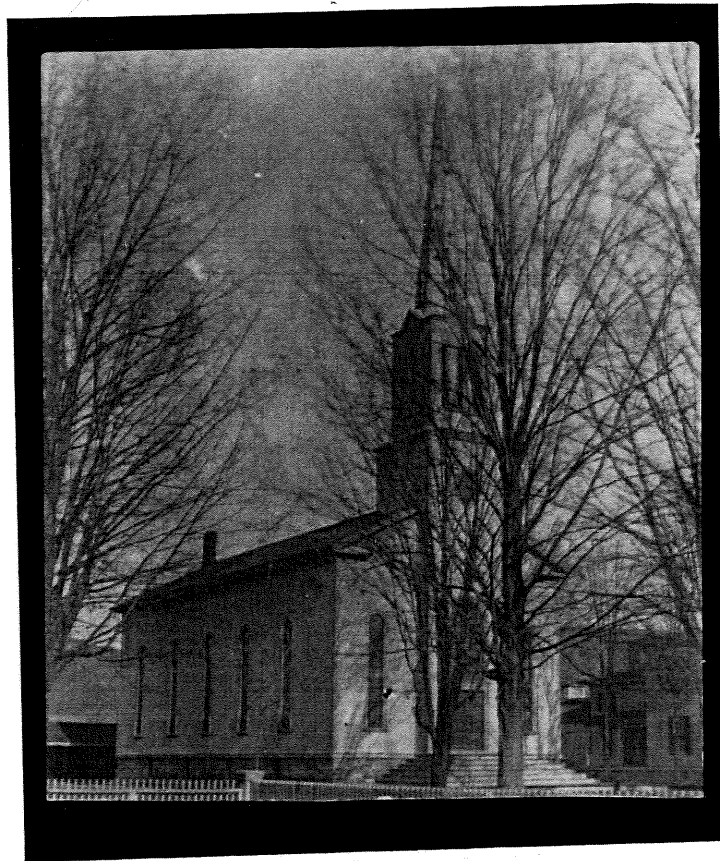


**LOCATION OF
EMPORIUM, PA**

[Near Bradford, PA]

31. CHURCH PIC – JD gave liberally to the Presbyterian Church – he and his wife had said that they would build a house unto the Lord before they build one for themselves. So --- they did! In 1867 he bought and donated a site to build a new church and supervised its construction. In 1868, the building was dedicated at the Main Street site we just visited. --- GOING ON --- A couple of years later ...

**FROM
AN
OLD
POST
CARD**

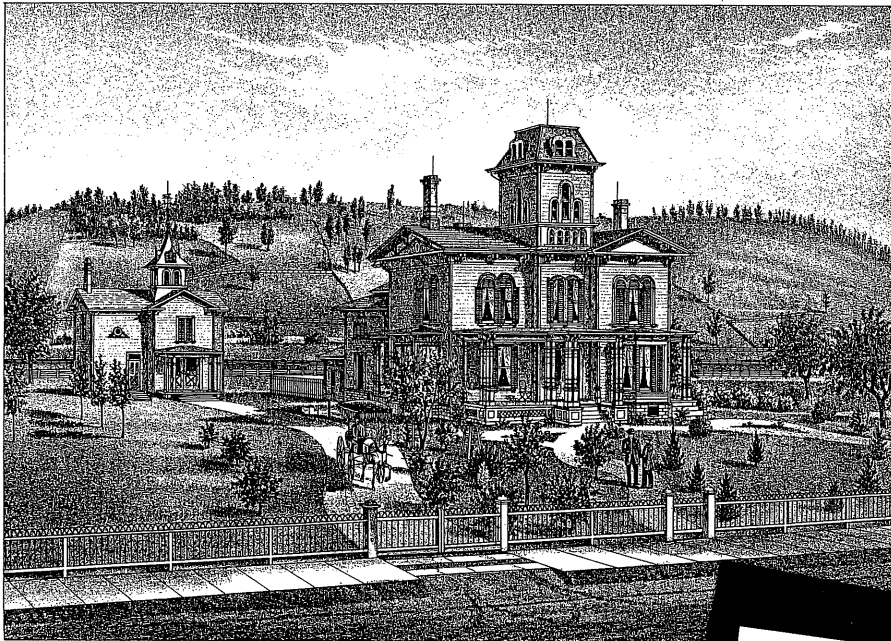


31.

CAMPBELL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

32. [ARTIST RENDERING] -- IN about the year 1870, the Hamilton House was built. It was a beautiful Italianate design just a ways across the street from the church. I am showing you an artist's rendering of the house, but as you can see, it not quite accurate. There really is not a hill directly behind the house. There is the Cohocton River and a hill way far in the distance.

32,



RESIDENCE OF J. D. HAMILTON, CAMPBELL, STEUBEN CO., N. Y.

ARTIST'S RENDERING

33. PIC OF CEMETERY – [POST CARD] another thing of importance to JD Hamilton was the improvement of Hope Cemetery— so in the 1870's he bought a piece of land adjoining the old pioneer cemetery , reserved a lot for himself and donated the remainder for cemetery purposes. Only a few years later some ladies approached him saying that all of the cemetery lots were used up, so in 1885 he helped them form the Hope Cemetery Association and again, he donated another piece of land --- the JD HAMILTON ANNEX, which was about another acre of land. He also paid for fencing and marking out plots.



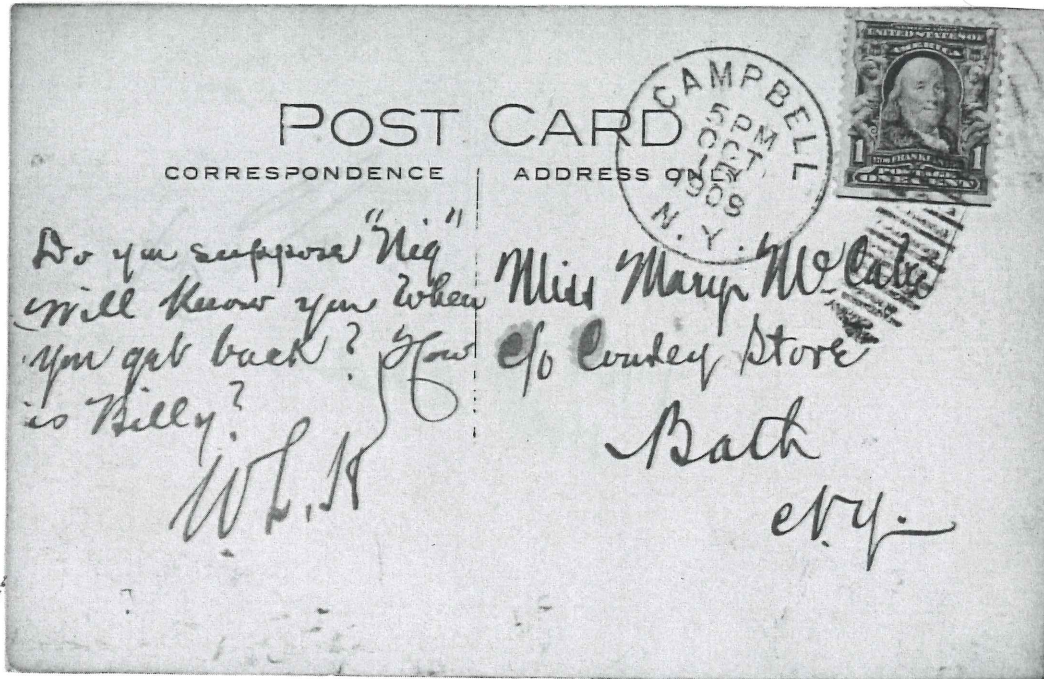
33.

CAMPBELL'S HOPE CEMETERY

34. BACK OF POST CARD – The back of the Cemetery Post Card -- this is a post card from the 1907-1915 era.

From Divided Back Era. 1907-1915

34.



35.HAMILTON MONUMENT –JD then died in 1891 at the age of 62.

35.



36. HAMILTON HOUSE PIC from a post card—about 1901 — says W.L. Hamilton residence — he was JD'S son. When JD died, the son was 30 and his daughter Sarah was 16 and JD's mother was 86. He also had a granddaughter, Harriett, who was Willis' daughter.

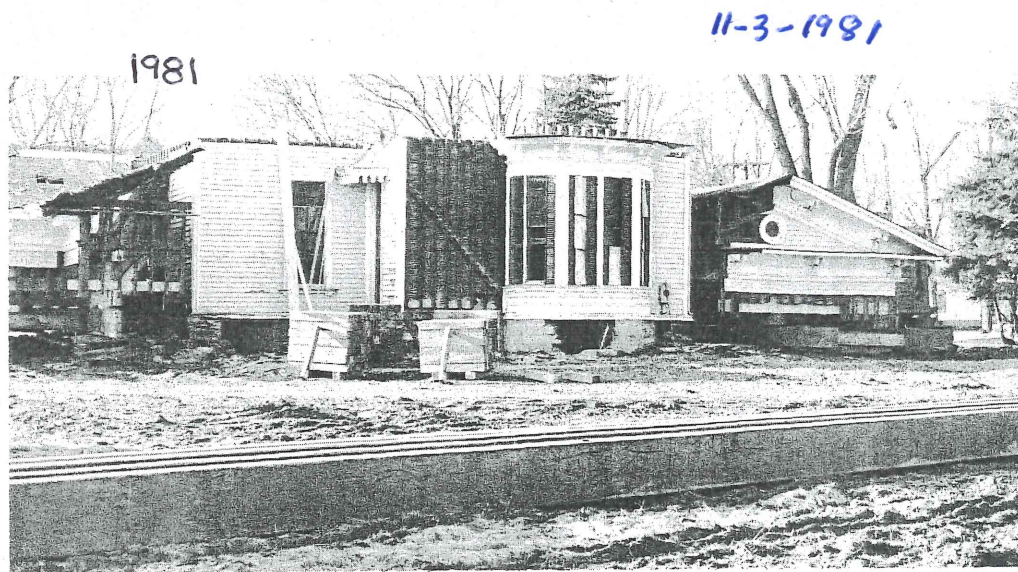
36.



W.L. HAMILTON RESIDENCE CAMPBELL, N.C.

37. MOVING PIC -- FAST FORWARD after several owners, to the 1980's, the house was sold to Genesee Country Museum at Mumford. Workers came and dismantled the house in 1981, trucked it to Mumford, New York.

37.



Moving

HITTING THE ROAD to Genesee Country Museum at Mumford are these final sections of the historic Hamilton house at Campbell. It has been cut into sections and

loaded onto trucks for the trip. The Italianate-style house will be reassembled at the museum and open to visitors when completed.

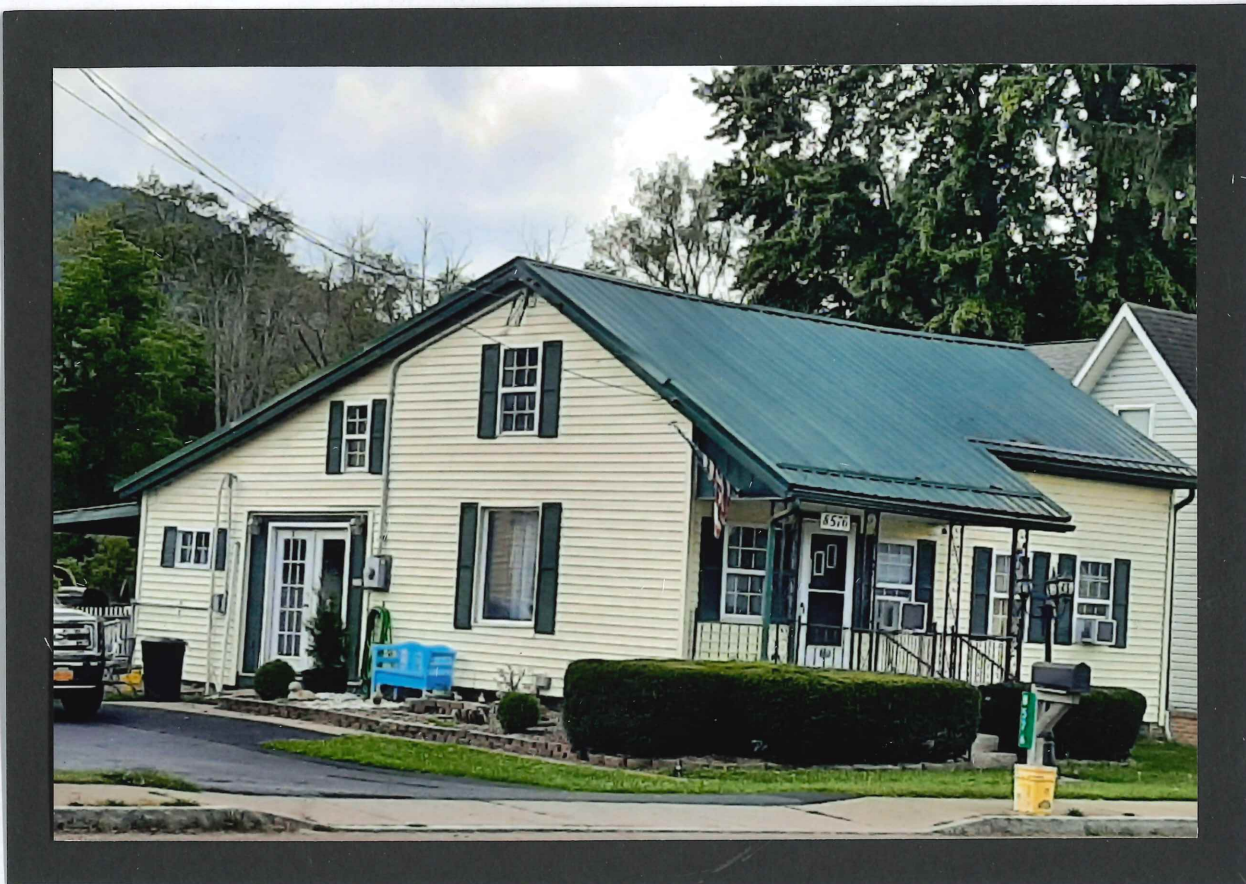
38. POST CARD – The Hamilton House today -- as it looks in Mumford. They went to great lengths to make it look as it stood here in Campbell-- next were going to take a look at the Hamilton land now.... So, remember the yellow are I showed you on the map . . .

38.

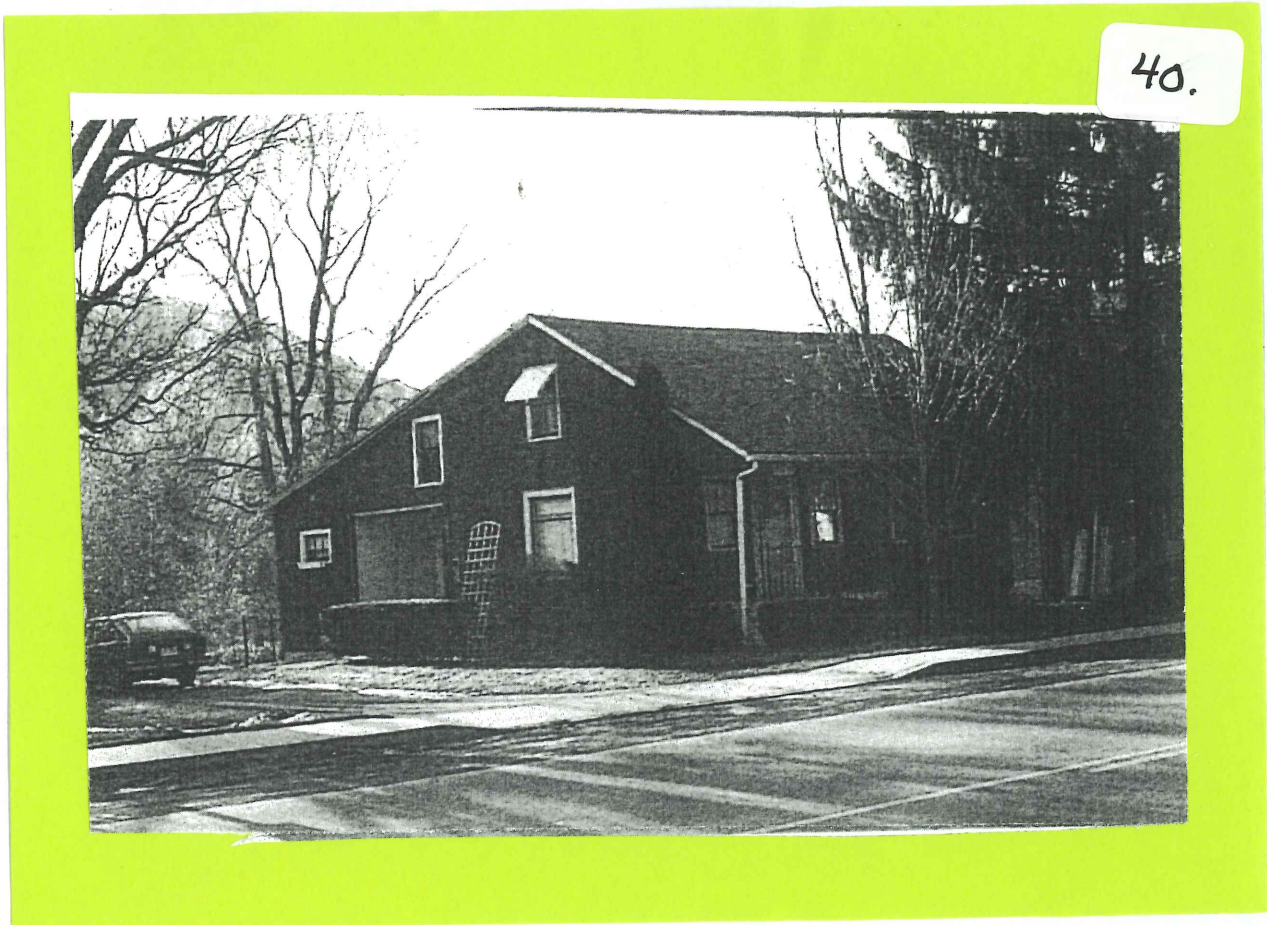


39.. FIRST YELLOW HOUSE -- Here's what's there now. This was the Crouch House; we're at 8576 Main Street current owner is Brian Klever.

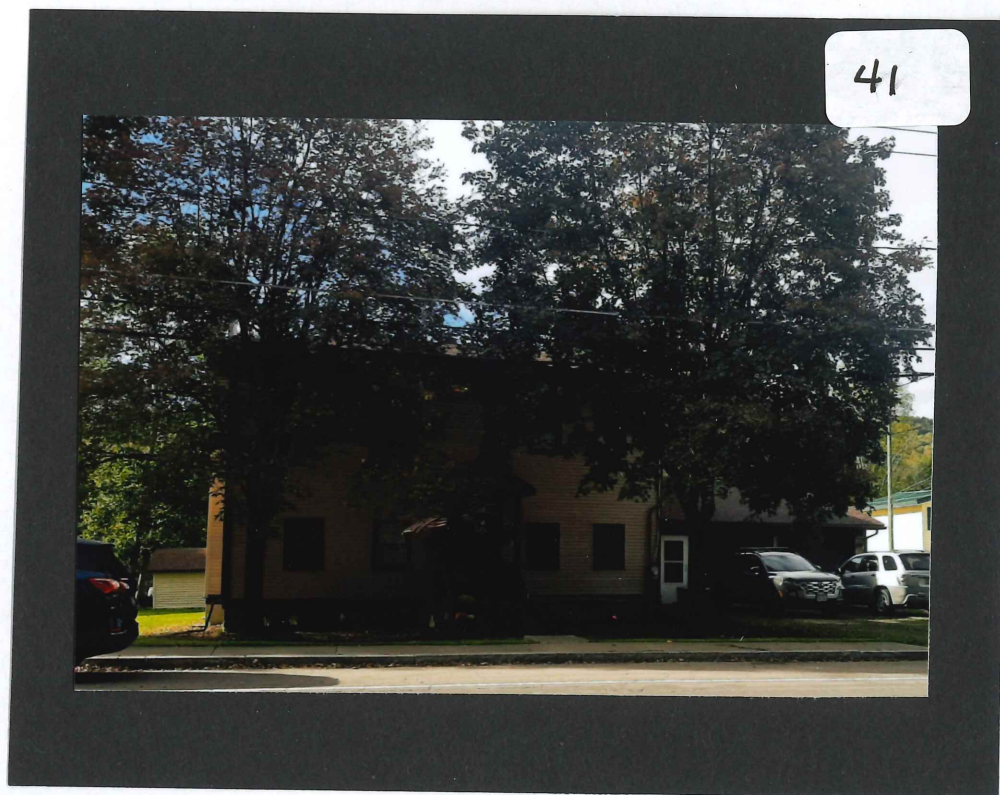
39.



40. BROWN HOUSE -- This is the Crouch house a number of years ago; it has stood there for over 100 years. Legend has it that at one time, JD Hamilton had let a homeless family live there, many years ago. In 1873, Albert H. Crouch [Bert Crouch – the guy with the repair garage now Ernie Newman's building] got the deed for that house from an Emma Lounsberry. It was in the Crouch family for over 100 years.



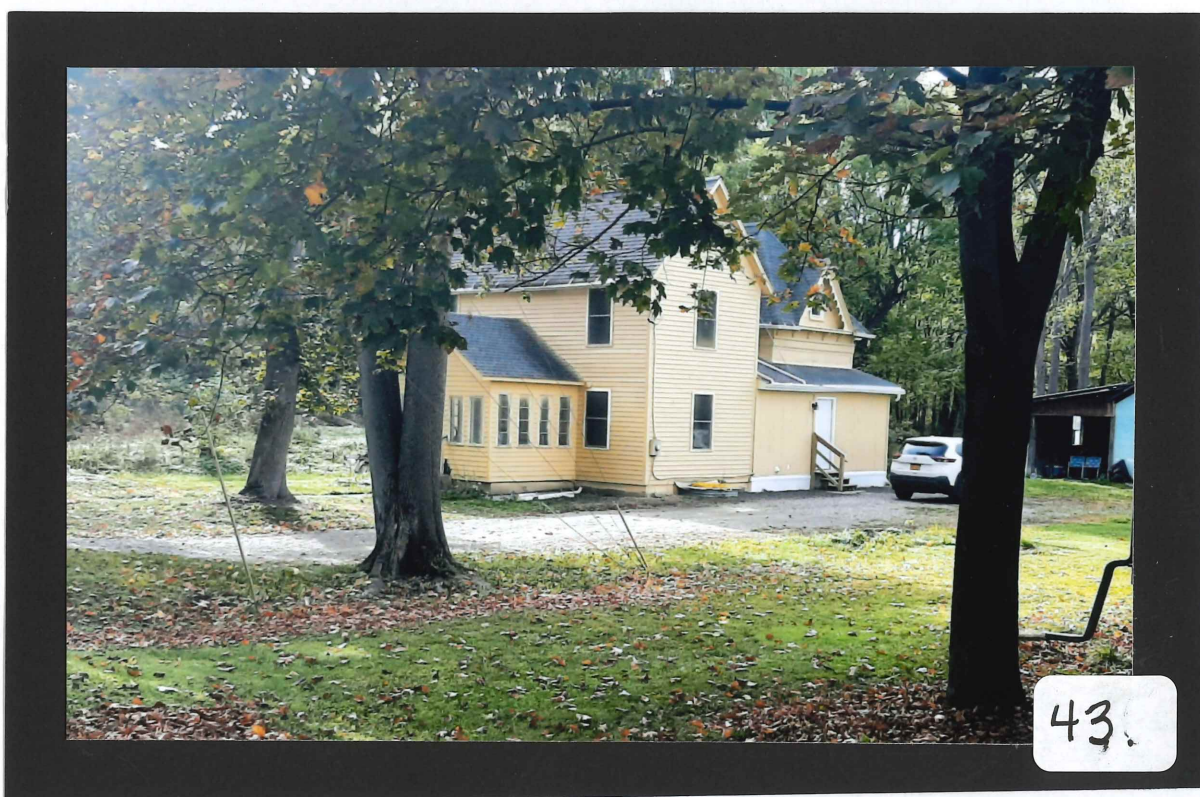
41. Garrett House – this house was built sometime soon after 1886 [map] as the land was divided off.



42. Brush Lot – this is all grown up now. Photo taken this year – the former site of the Hamilton House. It has just grown up for the past 40+ years; this lot belongs with the Cheese plant land.



43. Swarthout House – this may have been on the spot where the map shows some other structures. Those buildings were long gone. This house was probably built years later.



44.Storage Unit Facility PIC -- -- This is right next to the railroad tracks.



45. HOUSE [WHITE EXTERIOR] —GOING BACK ACROSS THE STREET, NOW... next at 8579 Main St.---this is a pic from about 1990 [guessing] however, the map shows a house here in 1886; next is a newer photo.



46.SALA [RED EXTERIOR] –pic from 2015 current owner is “Sala” –the house was upgraded and the road was built up to lessen the hump of the railroad a little history here . .



46.

47.SALA –today -- this house was once owned by Henry Joint—the man who married Harriett Hamilton [the daughter of Willis Hamilton that I previously mentioned--] [where we just were] -- So the story Goes — Henry and Harriett Joint had a daughter, Irene, also a son who had died a couple of years prior; tragically Harriett was killed when she was hit by a train in 1921; she was 38 years old. The news article said she had run to the tracks and sat down in the path of the train as it approached. The engineer applied the brakes but could not stop the train before hitting her. Very tragic!



47.

48. PIC Close up view – This is my photogenic view of this house --- So, daughter, Irene Joint was young when this happened -- she was less than 10 years old. When she grew up, she married Gilbert Scudder; and probably lived in this same house. Gilbert had the Scudder Motors down the street for a number of years -- Gilbert and Irene Scudder had two children, a daughter, Judy; and a son, Henry J. Scudder [middle name was "Joint"] He grew up to be an attorney and a justice of the Supreme Court – passed away just a couple of years ago. Remember this name for later on down the street.



48.

49. COLE HOUSE --- Going on, the next house by the railroad tracks; I noted that the 1886 map shows it was owned by the DL & W Railroad – don't know if it was a house at that time. Today it is a pretty old house, owned by Tim Cole; prior owners -- at one time was Dr. Shannon; Dick Peer's family; Laretta Gill.



50.PIC FROM 1980 – A little story here --- During the depression years, it was owned by Dick Peer's father – [Dick was a writer for the Leader] but Dick Peer grew up there in the 1920's; during that time, people were just getting electricity and most homes along Main Street did not have indoor plumbing. So they had outhouses ---



51. OUT HOUSE PIC. -- Dick Peer told a story about living there One day his father went out to the outhouse and left the door open and the 6:30 am "Flyer" went by and all of a sudden there were pieces of paper flying everywhere. When the dad went out he found the pieces of paper to be dollar bills and so he picked them all up and it amounted to about \$300.00 --- \$300 in those days would be about \$5,000 in today's spending money. So his dad turned in the money to the railroad and no one claimed it and he got to keep the \$300.00!



52. RAILROAD TRACKS: UP NEXT: The Railroad tracks and that is the end of Segment # 4.

END OF SEGMENT #4
"CAMPBELL'S "OLD MAIN STREET" --
MCKAY /LAVARNWAY HOUSE TO RAILROAD



53.NEXT UP: The next segment will be # 5, which is from the Railroad tracks to the end of the street.

53.

COMING UP NEXT . . .

“OLD MAIN STREET –SEGMENT #5”
[RAILROADS IN CAMPBELL
TO THE END OF MAIN]