



II



## Harvesting Ice

Before electricity, people used ice boxes to keep their food cold. The ice was harvested from ponds and lakes. At left is a photo of men harvesting ice on the GSL. A tool that they used was called an Ice Splitting Fork. One of these was donated to the FHCC this summer for the rummage sale. It took some research to figure out what it was. Below is a photo of

the actual ice fork. It is bent and it should have a handle at the top. If anyone knows who the person is who donated it, I would love to know



it's history. The ice splitting fork was given to the Northampton Historical Society to be displayed in their museum. A request, in the future, if anyone has local artifacts that they are thinking about donating to the rummage sale, include a note as to its history, if you know it. Below is a photo of Art Vandenburg (white shirt) unloading ice. Art was a resident of Fish House.



## Fish House Quilt Raffle!

Today, at the end of the breakfast, we are picking the winning raffle ticket. This quilt, which is hanging up in the Center, was made by Janet Kessler. It features historical houses of Fish House. On the back of this Echoes is a key to the houses that are on the quilt. Chances of winning this quilt are excellent. Don't miss the chance to win this quilt, buy one or more tickets at this breakfast! Remember, there are a limited number of tickets! Tickets are only \$5!



## Shirt & Sweatshirt Sale

This year, as always, we have T-Shirts and sweat shirts for sale. The 2018 color is a fun bright green! Buy them today!

## Bottle Drive



If you have any soda/beer/water bottles or cans that are recyclable, consider dropping them off at the Fish House Community Center. We use the money to maintain the building and also to give back to the community.

## Before and After

One of our historical houses (Beecher House) used to be the gem of the village. Located on Cty Hwy 109 near the intersection of Cty Hwy 110, it was built in 1860. A book, written by Elizabeth Hudnut Clarkson, An Adirondack Archive, The Trail to Windover features this house. Sadly, the house is in foreclosure and a tree fell on it early on August 18th. It's future is bleak.



1890



2018

# Fish House Historical Quilt

Below is a key to the quilt, with information on each photo that is shown on the quilt.

## Map of Fish House 1890 - 1900

This hand drawn map shows the five roads leading into the hamlet of Fish House. When the lake was made, they had to reroute Cty Hwy 110, and it cut through the Stark property to connect to what was referred to as East Main St. Old Fish House Road is a remnant of that road.

### Methodist Church - 1860

This church was built on land once owned by William Slocum. It cost \$2000 to build. The bell, came from the first church of Fish House. The church is on Cty Hwy 110.



### Shew House - 1784

This house was built by Godfrey Shew, the first permanent settler of Fish House. It is located on South Shore Rd, just north of the Center.

### St. John House - 1795

This house was built by Alexander St. John on land that belonged originally to Sir William Johnson. This Federal style farm house still stands today and is located at the end of Old Fish House Road.

### Sinclair House - 1809

The Sinclair's were a wealthy family from NYC. They owned a distillery in Brooklyn. This brick house was their summer retreat. Located on the road to the covered bridge., it was torn down before 1930 and the lake. When the water is really low, you might be able to find the sidewalk that was in front of the Sinclair home. The family built another home on Sinclair Point.

### Grinnell House - 1810

Alexander St. John built this house for his grand daughter, Parnell and her husband, C.S. Grinnell. A Greek Revival wing was added in 1841. This stately house is located up on Shew Hill on Old Fish House Road.

### Stark House - 1838

This brick home was built with bricks from a local brick pond. It was in the Stark family for over 100 years. It is located on the corner of Cty Hwy's 109 & 110.

### Dr. Ingall's House - 1850

Dr. Ingall's practiced in Cranberry Creek and moved to Fish House to semi retire. An addition on the right of the house served as the doctor's office. It is located up on 110,

Between 1928 - 1930, 12 houses in Fish House were moved and 6 were razed due to the formation of Great Sacandaga Lake. Many houses moved up to the Ryder Road area which was a high point owned by the Stead family and referred to back then as Overlook Heights. Check out: [www.northamptonnyhistory.com](http://www.northamptonnyhistory.com)

### Presbyterian Church - 1870

The brick church was replaced a church built in 1815. The bricks were made at a brick pond up Fish House Road. The steeple was taken down in 1947, for fear it was unsafe. Next to the church is an old abandoned cemetery. Many of the original Fish House residents are buried there.

### Old Brick Store circa 1809

This brick store was run by the Stead family at one time. It was torn down when the lake was made. When the water level is low, you can walk down past the end of Old Fish House Road and find the store's foundation.

### Fish House Hotel - 1803

This building was built by John Fay to be used as a family house for his large family. It then became a very popular hotel. It stood at the center of the hamlet of Fish House. It burned down in 1920.

### Dr. Alvah Wood House - 1823

Dr. Wood was one of the first doctors of Fish House. This house originally was on Main Street (109) near the Stark brick house. ( The brick house on the corner of 110 and 109). The Wood house is now at the corner of Cty.Hwy. 110 & Ryder RRd.

### Covered Bridge - 1818

This unique double lane bridge was designed by Daniel Stewart of Saratoga Springs. It spanned the Sacandaga River and connected Fish House to the high land now known as Sinclair Point. The people of Fish House tried to save the bridge with cables, hoping to float it to shore after the lake was made, but the cables snapped and it broke apart.

### Sumner House 1905

This Victorian home was built on the site of the old Osborn Hotel in the center of Fish House. (Where Old Fish House Rd. & 109 would have intersected.) It was moved up on 110 just north of Ryder Road.

### Fish House Community Center 1909

This building was School #6. It was built to replace the one room school house. It had two classrooms. In the beginning the bathrooms were outside. Willis Hayden, the school superintendent, donated the land on which the building sits.

### Smith Store - 1865

James Henry Smith was a successful businessman in Fish House. This store was also run by other families, including the Humphrey's, Moore's and Stead's. The building was located on East Main St. near the Fish House Hotel. It was moved to South Shore Rd, and was the Stead Store for several years. It is now a family home with tan siding and maroon shutters.

### Beecher House - 1860

This house was built by the Baker sisters. In 1860 it was then bought by the Beechers who were descendants of Godfrey Shew. There is also a connection to Harriet Beecher Stowe. The house still stands today in its original location, but it has fallen on hard times.