

Marshall Historical Society

Looking to the past to inspire our future

Newsletter

May 2009

Marshall Historical Society
P O Box 232
Deansboro, NY 13328

Dorothy McConnell,
President
William Koren, Vice
President
Carol Gilley, Secretary

Trustees
Dale Allen
Joanne Bolan
John McConnell
Edith Eastman
Anne Jasek
Howard West

Website:
www.marshallhistsoc.org

Next Meeting
6.00 pm on
Thursday May 16
Joan's Country
Cafe, Deansboro

Join!
Provide your name
and address to the
secretary and pay
the membership fee:
individual: \$ 10.00
family: \$ 15.00

Donate!
Your donations to
the Marshall
Historical Society are
tax deductible.

Seemed good to have those summer-like days, but cool days and rain have returned to help things grow. Looks like April weather in May. Anyway it's spring and we're thankful.

The April meeting was well attended and Fred Capozzella and his fellow collectors from the Mohawk Valley Antique Bottle Club told us many interesting things about bottle collecting, as to age, color and value. Some brought bottle from home to evaluate. Our thanks to all for a memorable meeting.

The May 21, 2009 meeting will be held at Joan's Country Café for her delicious buffet at 6 p.m. Joan has agreed to the same price as last year, \$13.00, which includes tax and tip. Please call Carol Gilley at 821-6628 or Dorothy McConnell at 853-6887 by May 18th, for reservations.

The Waterville "MayFest" is scheduled on Saturday, May 16, 2009, from noon to 4 p.m. at the Waterville Village Park. Edie Reile has agreed to set up a table for the Marshall Historical Society's books and note paper for sale along with her booth. Carol Gilley will help. Any other volunteers?

That same day will be Brzostek's Real Estate Auction for Sanger Mansion and its contents at 10a.m. This is quite a historic property, but the price will certainly be out of sight.

Does anyone know of the Lafayettes, who once lived in Forge Hollow? I had a letter from Janice Reilly from New Hartford who is searching for them. I found some in the Marshall Census of 1865 and some in St. Bernard's Cemetery.

The Barns and Farm Book is coming along fine. Yvonne Brady was here April 30th and is helping with the photos and arrangement of the book. I received a quotation from Deb Wood at Hamilton College Print Shop saying June and July are their slow months. Pages are 6 cents a page, Color cover 60 cents and binding for a 100 page book will be 50 cents a book. I need an O.K. from the Society to spend the money. We shall bring it up at the May Banquet. Remember to call in your reservations before May 18th.

Looking forward to seeing you at our May Banquet at Joan's Country Café at 6 p.m. on Thursday, May 21, 2009.

Take care and have a happy Spring!

Dorothy McConnell, President

State Archaeologists Conduct Research near Route 315 Bridge over Oriskany Creek

By David Staley

New York State Museum-Cultural Resource Survey Program

In October of last year, archaeologists from the New York State Museum's Cultural Resource Survey Program (CRSP) excavated shovel tests along Route 315 near Deansboro from just south of the old millrace at Hinman's Feed Mill to California Road searching for evidence of prehistoric or historic sites. The work was conducted ahead of a proposed DOT bridge replacement project.

CRSP is an applied research program of the Museum's Research & Collections Division that provides research and assessment of archaeological and architectural resources for other state agencies. This extensive program assists these agencies with their State and Federal historic preservation mandates. The CRSP currently manages hundreds of such research and assessment projects each year through its in-house staff and its outside contractors for various state agencies such as the New York State Department of Transportation, the Office of General Services, and the Department of Environmental Conservation. During a typical year, the CRSP is responsible for over three hundred projects. The CRSP's work not only benefits state agencies by meeting regulatory requirements, but it also benefits the People of New York by collecting data on the history and prehistory of the State before loss through highway and other construction. For more information about the Museum's archaeological and anthropological work and CRSP visit the Museum's webpage at www.nysm.nysed.gov/research/anthropology/crsp/.

The shovel test excavations project along Route 315 were part of what is called a Phase I investigation. These efforts could be thought of as prospecting with crews searching for any evidence of prehistoric and historic artifacts or features. For historic sites, the search is guided by historical information such as house and

building locations from old maps and atlases and other information provided by local historians. The team dug their shovel tests looking for any buried evidence of those structures and the people who lived or worked in them. If sites are found, then Phase II investigations, the excavation of additional larger tests may be necessary. The information generated by the expanded tests will be used to evaluate the potential research value and significance of the site.

The archaeologists found numerous isolated artifacts that are typical of historic and modern roadside litter and fill deposits used to raise roadbeds and yards such as the fill used to raise the grounds of the Memorial Park. Perhaps most noteworthy was the discovery of remains from the Deansboro Creamery Co. cheese factory located north of Oriskany Creek. The creamery may date from 1883 until the first decade of the 20th century and represents one of the first milk processing facilities in the area. The building was used in the 20th century as a gate manufactory and as a warehouse before it sat partially burned for much of the 1920s (Bishopp 1994; McConnell 1994, 2009, n.d.; Sanders 1994, 2008). The archaeologist's shovel tests partially uncovered a stone masonry pier or footer and a masonry slab that may have been the factory entrance. These structural remains are surrounded by a thick deposit of charcoal, coal, coal ash, and slag that are likely the product of the factory boiler and the 1891 and 1920 fires that occurred on the site. Over 600 artifacts were recovered from 24 shovel tests. The majority of these are items that would be classified as architectural such as nails, brick, lumber fragments, and window glass. As would be expected, preliminary analysis suggests many of the artifacts found in the blackened deposit at the site tend to be large and industrial in nature. Archaeologists recovered larger sized brackets,

hooks, bolts, rods, bars, a pulley, and a large padlock. The assemblage generally lacked the artifact varieties characteristic of a household such as ceramic tableware, glassware, kitchen bone, and food containers.

Museum archaeologists expect to conduct further excavations and historic research at the Deansboro Creamery Site this year. A presentation will be given about our research at the October meeting of the Marshall Historical Society. There is the possibility that on-site visits could be arranged when crews are conducting excavations but the scheduling for the work has not been finalized at this writing. Research surrounding historic

archaeological sites is always benefitted by local participation and local knowledge. I would like to express my gratitude at this point for Dorothy McConnell's assistance to date. Any society members or other persons having information, recollections, documents, or photographs about the site should contact Dorothy McConnell, town historian or David Staley, archaeologist and project manager.

References Cited

Bishopp, Bill

- 1994 Historical Notes on Deansville and Deansboro by Bill Bishop. In Dorothy McConnell's *Centennial: Deansville/Deansboro, New York, 1894-1994*. Deansboro Centennial Committee. Deansboro, N.Y.

- 2009 Deansboro Milk Plant. Marshall Historical Society.
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McConnell, Dorothy

- 1994 *Centennial: Deansville/Deansboro, New York, 1894-1994*. Deansboro Centennial Committee. Deansboro, N.Y.

- 2009 Fires in Deansboro. Marshall Historical Society.

<http://www.marshallhistsoc.org/fires.html>.

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- n.d. Cheese Factories. Unpublished manuscript.



Illustration 1: Historic view toward Deansboro with creamery at right. (Photo courtesy of Allan and Joan Benedict, Ye Olde Canal Shoppe, Deansboro, N.Y.)

Sanders, Art

- 1994 Notes from Art Sanders. In Dorothy McConnell's *Centennial: Deansville/Deansboro, New York, 1894-1994*. Deansboro Centennial Committee. Deansboro, N.Y.

- 2008 Conversational Memories. Marshall Historical Society.

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May 2008

Fred Capozzella from the Mohawk Valley
Antique Bottle Club speaking about bottles and
bottle collecting at the April meeting.



Publications and items for sale

1798 - 1998 Exploring 200 Years in Oneida
County \$ 15.00

"Cast in Metal" by Ray Ball \$ 15.00

Deansville 1870 painting by Jim Parker, folk
artist (11"x14") \$ 15.00

"Memories of Hanover" by Dorothy McConnell
\$ 10.00

"Echoes of Forge Hollow" by Dorothy
McConnell \$ 10.00

"Marshall Through the Years" by Dorothy
McConnell \$ 10.00

Hop Houses note paper \$ 5.00

Sheet of 4 postcards \$ 1.00

Shipping and handling

Add \$3.00 if total order is \$ 15 or less

Add \$5.50 if order is between \$15 and \$30

Add \$8.00 if order is between \$30 and \$50

Add \$10.50 if order is more than \$50

Make check payable to Marshall Historical
Society and mail to P O Box 232, Deansboro,
NY 13328