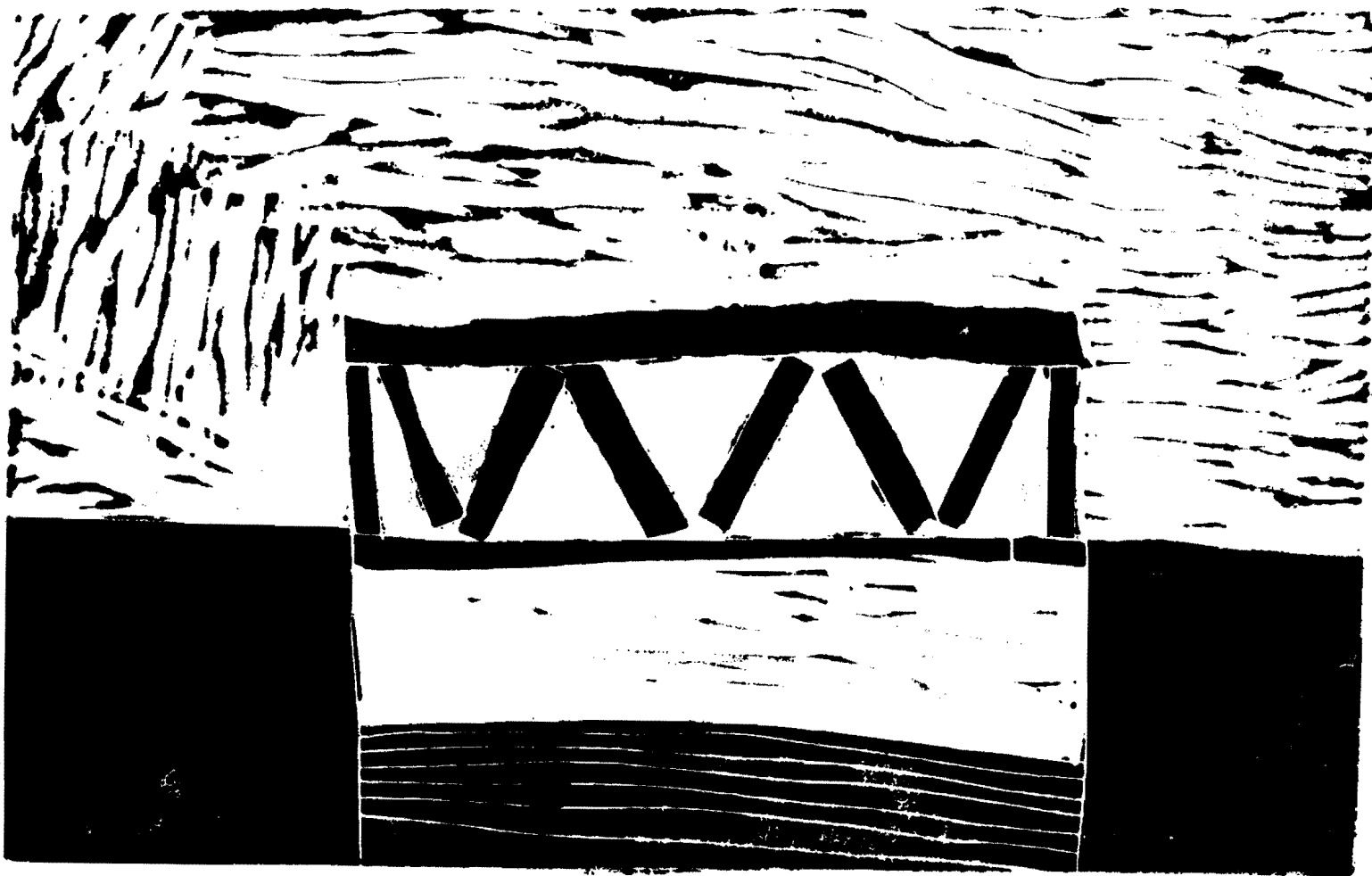

ALFRED STATION Bicentennial Weekend GUIDEBOOK



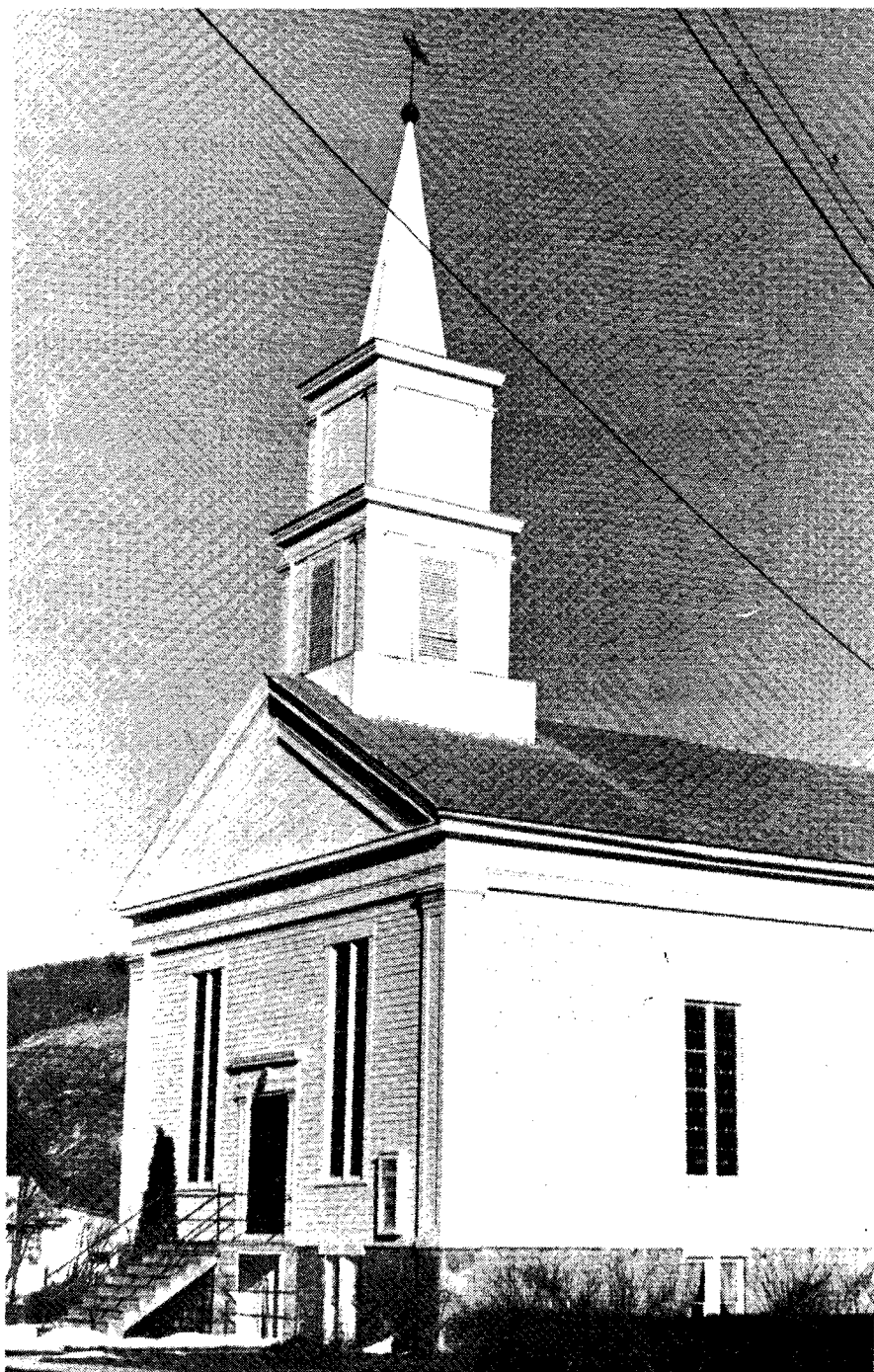
Baker's Bridge 1807

design by John Selmer

Saturday, May 29, 1976
Sunday, May 30, 1976

ALFRED STATION BICENTENNIAL WEEKEND

COMPILED BY
Russell Allen
Thelma Palmiter
Susan Greene
Alfred Station, New York



ALFRED STATION
SEVENTH-DAY BAPTIST CHURCH

DAILY SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

SATURDAY

- 11:00 a. m. Worship Service at the Alfred Station Seventh Day Baptist Church
- 12:30 Dish-to-pass dinner in the Church Basement
- 2:00 p. m. Program presented by the SDB Congregation
- 3:00 Display of antiques and crafts in and around the R. K. Ormsby House until 6:00 p. m.
- Videotape segments and continuous slide exhibition in the SDB Church Basement until 6:00 p. m.
- Bus tours with guides: Junior Citizens under 12 and Senior Citizens over 65 free; all others 50¢.
CHILDREN MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY ADULTS.
Departures: 3:00, 3:30, 4:00, 4:30 and 5:00 p. m.
- Walking tours with guides until 6:00 p. m.
- 7:30 Program in SDB Church Basement until 8:30.
REFRESHMENTS AFTERWARD!

SUNDAY

- 1:00 p. m. Chicken Barbecue served by members of the Alfred Station Fire Company at the Community Center, until all are served
- Display of antiques and crafts in and around the R. K. Ormsby House until 4:30 p. m.
- Videotape segments and continuous slide exhibition in the SDB Church Basement until 4:30 p. m.
- Bus tours with guides: Junior Citizens under 12 and Senior Citizens over 65 free; all others 50¢.
CHILDREN MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY ADULTS.
Departures: 1:00, 1:30, 2:00, 2:30, 3:00, 3:30 and 4:00 p. m.
- Walking tours with guides until 5:00 p. m.
- 4:30 Closing Program at Ball Field with games and prizes.

WE HAVE AN
INFORMATION CENTER

in front of the R. K. Ormsby House
where you will find, besides general information

*Guide books

*Bus tour tickets

*Lost children

*Lost parents

NOTE:

Except for the Alfred Historical Society whose proceeds
benefit their organization, proceeds from all sales go
toward defraying the expenses of this Historic Weekend.
Special thanks to:

The Alfred Station Fellowship

The Seventh Day Baptist Church
of Alfred Station

The Alfred Station Firemen's Auxiliary

The R. K. Ormsby Family

EARLY ALFRED STATION

"Alfred" is the name of a present-day village not far from here. It is also the name of the whole Town, or subdivision of the county, which includes Alfred, Alfred Station, Elm Valley and the surrounding area. In 1807 the Town was much larger, for until 1821 it also included Almond, Andover and Independence; those were then separated to form new Towns. For Alfred Station the year 1807 is significant because Clark Crandall, Nathan Green and Ed Green arrived in May to begin the first settlement of the present-day Town of Alfred. Thaddeus and Alpheus Baker came along in June with their families, heading for their future settlement in what we now call Andover. In order to move themselves and their belongings across the Canakadea Creek, they cut down small trees or branches and, from them, fashioned a "rude pole bridge" spanning the creek. Without having planned to do so, they had provided Alfred Station with the source of its first name--Baker's Bridge.

Two years later the Bakers cut a road between their Bakertown and our Baker's Bridge. It was to become part of a heavily traveled highway system, if one may so describe a stump-filled path meandering through a primeval forest. Range meetings were held in Almond, and there was an early grist mill there; the "highway" attracted many travelers from the southern settlements. Perhaps Baker's Bridge owes much of its early vitality to a fortunate location; nonetheless, by 1820 it was a comparatively diversified business community. By 1809 (it is said) Clark Crandall had already put a pail factory into operation; some years later, there was a tannery, a sawmill, a carding mill, and one or two asheries. The pail factory was fated to burn to the ground, but coming soon were a grist mill, a distillery, and two inns, or taverns, as they were called. There was a log school house which was later replaced by a frame building closer to the heart of town. The first church building was not erected until around 1835, for everyone had been attending the one near Alfred (called Alfred Centre in those days), which had been erected by 1826 for the purpose of accommodating the whole community.

The whole community was Seventh Day Baptist, closely knit by religious convictions and family ties. Early differences of opinion with Roger Williams and Baptist doctrines had led dissenting Rhode Island Baptists to retreat at first to remote parts of that state, and eventually to such frontier areas as Berlin, Petersburg, and Brookfield in New York State. With the approach of the nineteenth century, land offices were opened by speculators who had purchased vast tracts of land in western New York, made available to them after the Revolution. Their agents began preliminary development of the territories in hopes of attracting settlers to move in and purchase land. The Seventh Day Baptists took that opportunity to follow one another to the Alfred area, no doubt expecting that the demands of pioneer life would eventually prove to have been worth the risk. They must have sent encouraging news home, for Baker's Bridge supplies generous evidence of strong and far-reaching bonds of kinship, both religious and genetic!

At first, Baker's Bridge was larger and busier than Alfred Centre, perhaps because the latter was quite distant from that "highway." In 1822, Baker's Bridge became the first post office in the Town of Alfred; as such it was designated by the postal service as "Alfred Post Office." When the railroad began running in 1851, its depot here was named "Baker's Bridge;" however, the influence of the post office name was gradually, persistently, being felt. The two names came to be used interchangeably. By 1895 Baker's Bridge WAS Alfred. Imagine, then the distress when the postal service, having established another post office in Alfred Centre in 1848, decided in 1894 to drop the "Centre" from that name! The Village of Alfred Centre decided by vote that it would go along with that change; in 1895, its new name was officially "Alfred." Obviously by then, Baker's Bridge-Alfred had been losing in the race with Alfred; there was little to do but find a new name. Reluctantly, and to the accompaniment of hotly expressed indignation from

residents and sympathetic outsiders, a new name was selected --
ALFRED STATION.

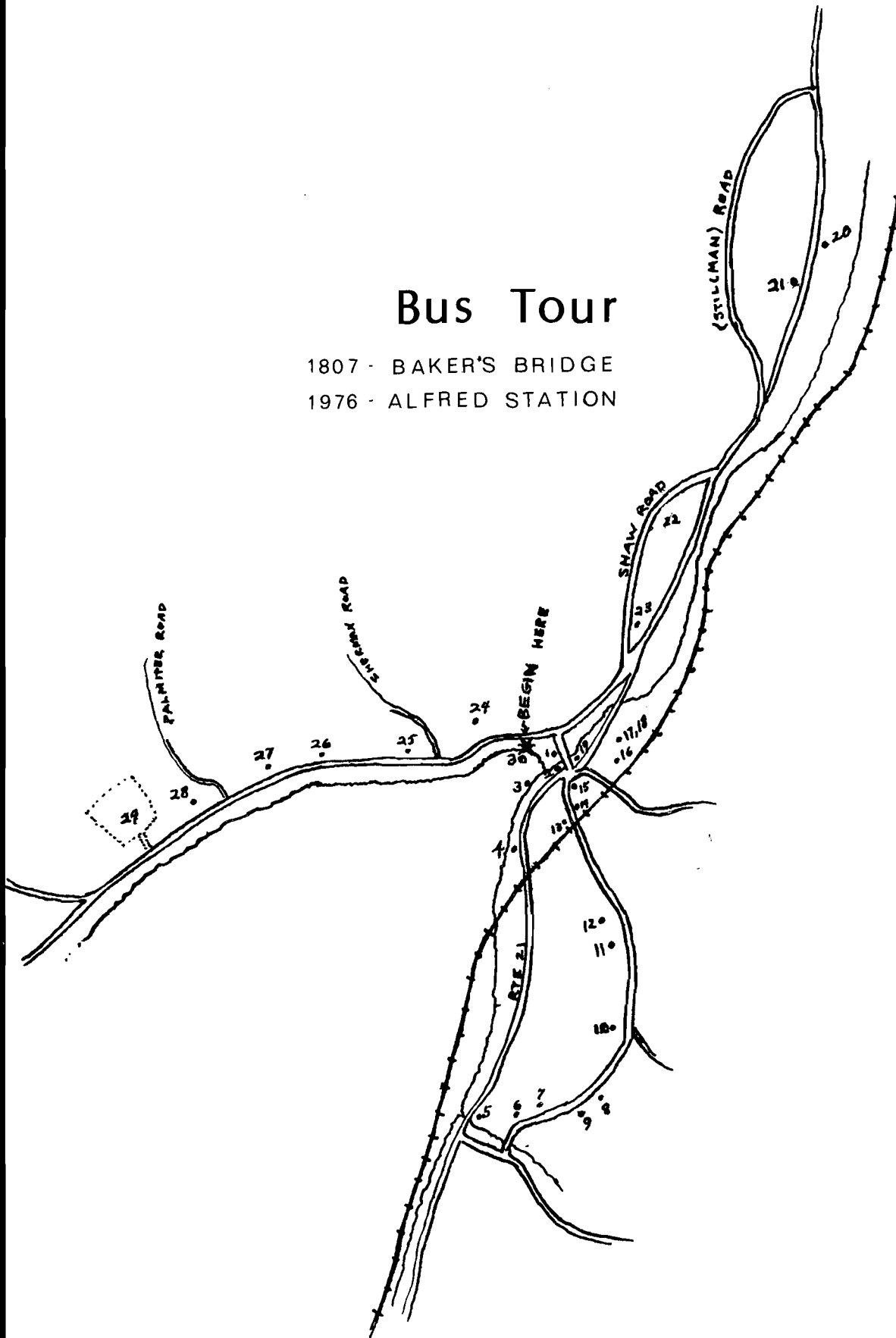
The tours will present various sites of earlier and later residences and businesses of historic significance to Alfred Station. Research is by no means complete; "facts" are not guaranteed to be the ironclad truth. The visitor should, however, come away with a reasonably good impression of the "glory that was Baker's Bridge."



Bus Tour

1807 - BAKER'S BRIDGE

1976 - ALFRED STATION



BUS TOUR ITINERARY AND NOTES

(Board the bus at the Community House)

1. BAKER'S BRIDGE 1807-1976

The bridge itself is, of course, modern; however, this is where there has been a crossing of one sort or another since Thaddeus and Alpheus Baker first decided they must get to the other side. The main route of travel for the early inhabitants of this part of the state--particularly between Almond and Andover--had always been across this bridge and through Baker's Bridge until State Highway Number 21 bypassed it in 1935.

2. SAW MILL AND GRIST MILL 1820 and 1823

Ephraim Davis was deeded this land in 1821, having already built a saw mill and distillery. He and his partner, Lodwick Davis, had a grist mill built by 1823. The distillery was in existence in 1824 on the north side of the Creek near the bridge. It must not have existed long, for a temperance movement had gained many earnest and devoted adherents by then.

3. TANNERY 1820

John Thorpe bought land here from Nathan Green and a tiny corner of Ephraim Davis's lot. He had a tannery across the creek, reached by a bridge and road which are still in evidence. His tannery was operative throughout the 1820s, at least. Garret Sortore was a shoemaker who lived just up the Hamilton Hill Road near #13; one needn't have carried one's newly tanned shoe leather very far.

4. SAW MILL 1830 ca.

Joshua Vincent began working for Clark Crandall in 1822 as the foreman of the pail factory. Later, probably after the factory burned down, he built a saw mill somewhere around here. The date is uncertain; he moved to Illinois, however, around 1841 when numbers of other settlers were doing the same. He died in Farina, Illinois in 1873.

5. H. W. GREEN HOUSE

This farm has been owned by the James S. Green family for generations. The house was built by James S. Green about 1835 and later owned by his daughter Polly and her husband Harrison W. Green, and is today owned by a descendant of James.

Lanphear Valley is the name given to the valley leading from Alfred Station to Tip Top, named for Jonathan Lanphear who settled there very early.

The first place of interest in Lanphear Valley is the Maplewood Cemetery on the knoll at the left. It seems reasonable that this cemetery was first used as a family cemetery by the James C. Burdick family since many of the family members are buried here. A former slave, who worked for Mr. Burdick, was also buried here. The name of this burial ground became the Maplewood Cemetery in 1834, and includes one acre of land. In 1906 the Maplewood Cemetery Association was organized with Russell Burdick as its president.

Adjacent to the Maplewood Cemetery is the James C. Burdick farm, settled by him in 1813, and later known as the Thomas Rose farm. Across the railroad tracks on the right and opposite the drive to the Rose House is Rose's Grove, for many years a popular picnic area of the Seventh Day Baptist people and others.

Tip Top, the summit of the Erie Railroad, is also in this valley. It is 1,783 feet above sea level and the general level of the divide is 800 feet higher. Here is where the Lee family settled in 1818. The old Lee Cemetery can still be found.

Another prominent farmer who later lived in the same area as Jonathan and Nathan Lanphear was Edward Green, son of Paris Green. This settlement is about half way between Andover and Alfred Station. Descendants of Edward Green still reside there. In the same vicinity was the Lanphear Valley School House.

We must not forget the grist mill of Stephen Cook built in 1821 and located in the Old Gorge or on the Lusk Road off Route 21. This mill was fed by water from the Gorge Creek and the Withey Cold Spring. At the site of the mill one can find a cement historical marker placed there by Charles Lusk who had a home at the foot of the Gorge.

The valley between Alfred Station and Andover that begins when you leave Route 21 is known as East Valley. This valley, known for its many farms, was settled very early. Some of the early settlers were Welcome Burdick, Rial Wescott, Paul Witter and Orlando Kaple. The homes of Deacon Will Langworthy and Albert Langworthy are located on the Cook Road, off East Valley. About 2-1/2 miles up the East Valley Road, toward Andover, is the East Valley Cemetery, and about 3 miles toward Andover at the junction of Burdick and East Valley Roads is the location of the Red School House, which is now used as a residence. This was a one-room school house where all eight grades were taught by one teacher. The school was disbanded in 1938.

The East Valley Cheese Factory, located near the east side of the school was built in 1872 by Albert W. Langworthy and later purchased by T. G. Brown. In 1893 it used the milk of 200 cows and 40,000 pounds of cheese were made.

Pleasant Valley enters East Valley from the northeast, its headwaters being on Hartsville Hill. The junction of Pleasant Valley and East Valley was nicknamed Goose Pasture because geese were pastured here at one time. Here were the Second Alfred Seventh Day Baptist Church, the parsonage, the Goose Pasture School and the Pleasant Valley Cheese Factory.

6. PLEASANT VALLEY CHEESE FACTORY

This factory was built by Harrison W. Green in 1866 and operated by him until he went into the store (No. 43) in 1874. In 1895 the cheese factory was owned and operated by Elias P. Fenner. It used the milk of 250 cows and manufactured 65,000 pounds of cheese annually.

7. GOOSE PASTURE SCHOOL HOUSE

The Goose Pasture or Pleasant Valley School House was built at least by 1831 since the first Sabbath Meeting of the Second Alfred Seventh Day Baptist Church was held here. It was a one-room building where all eight grades were taught by one teacher. Many scholars passed through the doors of this school, along with many different teachers. One teacher, who had one leg shorter than the other, wore a lift on one shoe with hob nails on it. When sitting at his desk, if he scraped that shoe on the floor, the students knew he meant business! The equipment was sold at public auction on July 20, 1939, after the school's doors were closed.

8. SITE OF THE OLD SECOND ALFRED SEVENTH DAY BAPTIST CHURCH

The Second Alfred Seventh Day Baptist Church was erected on this site a few years after the church was organized in 1831. It was a single room with a large stove to supply heat. The congregation consisted of people from Lanphear Valley, East Valley, Pleasant Valley, Baker's Bridge and vicinity. Elder Ray Greene was the first minister. This building was used until 1857 when a new building was constructed at Baker's Bridge. It is said that a stump of one of the two maple trees which stood near the church is still standing.

Across the road from here is the house once occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Jack Austin and later by their son, Charles.

9. THE OLD PARSONAGE

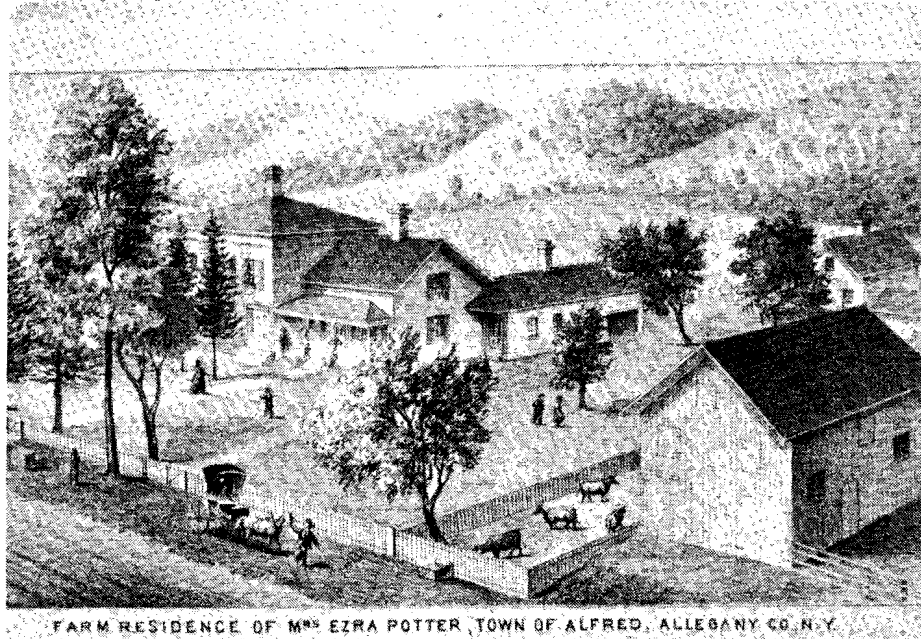
Across the little creek to the right is the house that was used as the parsonage. It is believed to have been built in the 1830s. This house later became the home of Walter Green.

10. HAMILTON HILL CEMETERY

This little cemetery holds perhaps 30 graves and sits on top of a knoll at the junction of the Hamilton Hill and Pleasant Valley Roads.

Across the road from the Hamilton Hill Cemetery stands the home of the Paris Green family. This farm was later owned by Charles Austin.





11. EZRA POTTER HOUSE

This was the farm of Ezra Potter, son of Nathan Potter. After his death, his widow continued to live here. Later the farm became the property of Freeborn W. Hamilton, Ezra's son-in-law.

Across the road is the Freeborn Hamilton homestead. He settled on this farm in 1815 and lived here until his death. It is believed that he built the brick house. Freeborn was the father of 12 children. One of his sons, Freeborn W. Hamilton, was prominent in church affairs.

12. THE OLD CHURCH BUILDING

Next to Ezra Potter's house on the same side of the road is the building of the Second Alfred Seventh Baptist Church originally located in Goose Pasture. It was purchased at public auction in 1860 by J. P. and F. W. Hamilton for \$70 to be used as a horse barn. In later years it was used for making shingles, as a blacksmith shop and even as a house. It has been changed many ways throughout the years.

13. BRICK WORKS

The Rock Cut Clay Company, commonly referred to as the Alfred Clay Company, was organized in 1892 for the purpose of making quality brick. Officers of the company were C. D. Reynolds, President; O. M. Rogers, Vice President; and P. S. Place, Secretary-Treasurer. Some of the men from Baker's Bridge who worked here were Fred Simpson, Grant Cornelius, Delfry Ormsby and Ed Potter. Bricks and tiles used in the construction of many homes in the area were made here. In 1898 this was the only plant in the United States making a dry-pressed, vitrified roofing tile. These tiles were made from shale from two nearby shale banks.

14. GUN HOUSE

Located across from the Brick Works was a small square building which was painted red. This building housed a brass cannon, part of the equipment of the Town Militia. The cannon quelled the riot of the Irish laborers who worked on the Erie Railroad when it was being constructed. At the time of the riot the cannon was located in Alfred Centre. It was then moved and stored here. Preceding the Civil War the cannon was shipped to Kansas but the little building stood for many years thereafter. Above the entrance to the house one could see the sign "Gun House."

The Hartsville Hill Road crosses the railroad tracks and continues to the top of the hill where it meets the Crosby Creek Road. The Hartsville Seventh Day Baptist Church stood on the left at the corner. It was built in 1856 and burned in the 1960s.

A short distance down the Crosby Creek Road is the house where Hiram P. Burdick had the Alfred Highland Water-Cure Establishment. "The fact that he allowed fever patients all the cold water they wished, gave them no calomel or jalap, and did not bleed them, made him the most popular doctor of the area." This is quoted from A Self-Made Man, Hiram Palmer Burdick, by Marilyn Henry. He was also a Temperance lecturer, a dentist and an inventor, yet one of his greatest contributions was the part he played in establishing the Hartsville Seventh Day Baptist Church.

Opposite the Burdick house stood the district school and a cheese factory. A cemetery is one-half mile east of the church. On the way to the top of Hartsville Hill, when you reach the first crest, on the left is the farm once owned by Isaac Burdick, an early settler.

15. AUSTIN HOUSE

This could be one of the older homes in the area; it is pointed out mainly because there is a photograph of this house during the turn of the century; the photo is on display with others this weekend.

* * * * *

ERIE RAILROAD

On April 14, 1832, the New York and Erie Railroad was incorporated. This line was to run through the southern part of New York State from Piermont, on the Hudson River, to Dunkirk, on Lake Erie. It was not completed and open for business for its entire length until May 19, 1851, and at that time was the longest single line in the United States, a distance of 446 miles. The cost of construction was well over \$20,000,000.

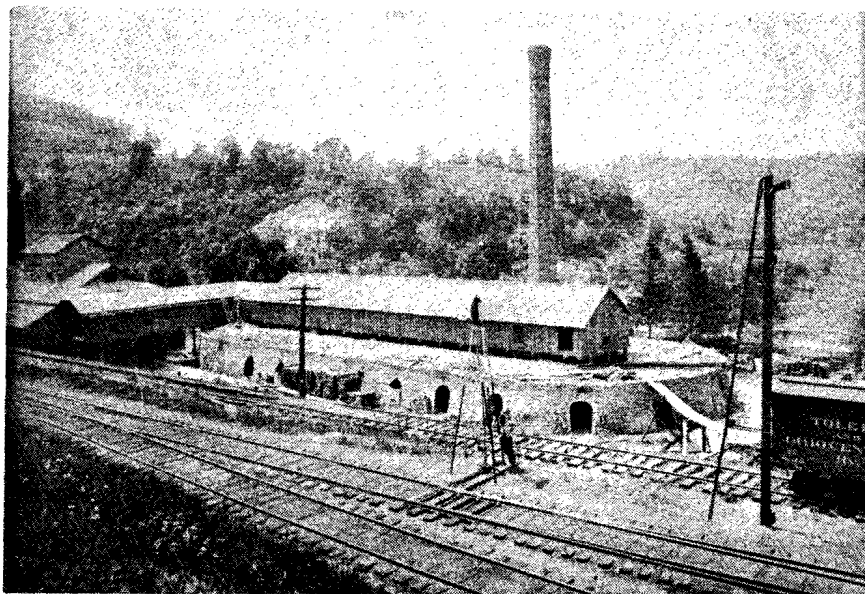
Because of the need for heavy engines to "climb" the hills of the Southern Tier, and since the State of New York would only issue a charter if a gauge was used which could not connect to out-of-state lines, the railroad was constructed with a six-foot gauge track instead of the standard gauge of four feet and eight and one-half inches. It was not until 1878 that the Erie began to change to standard gauge.

The first train to make the entire trip was an excursion train which left Piermont, New York on May 14, 1951 and arrived in Dunkirk, New York on May 17. This train had to be assisted by pusher engines in order to climb the steep grade between Hornell and Tip Top, Tip Top being the highest point on the Erie Railroad. According to the timetable for this train, the first through timetable printed for this line, this excursion train was to arrive at "Baker's Bridge" on May 15 at 8:37 a.m.

Many dignitaries were aboard this first passenger run including President Millard Fillmore and Secretary of State Daniel Webster, who rode much of the 446 miles in a rocking chair which had been fastened to the bed of a flat car. Mr. Webster did this in order to observe the beautiful untouched forest of the Southern Tier. Tradition tells us that the people of the Baker's Bridge area had a big celebration, which took place in the area of the "Alfred" depot, to greet the train and its passengers as it arrived.

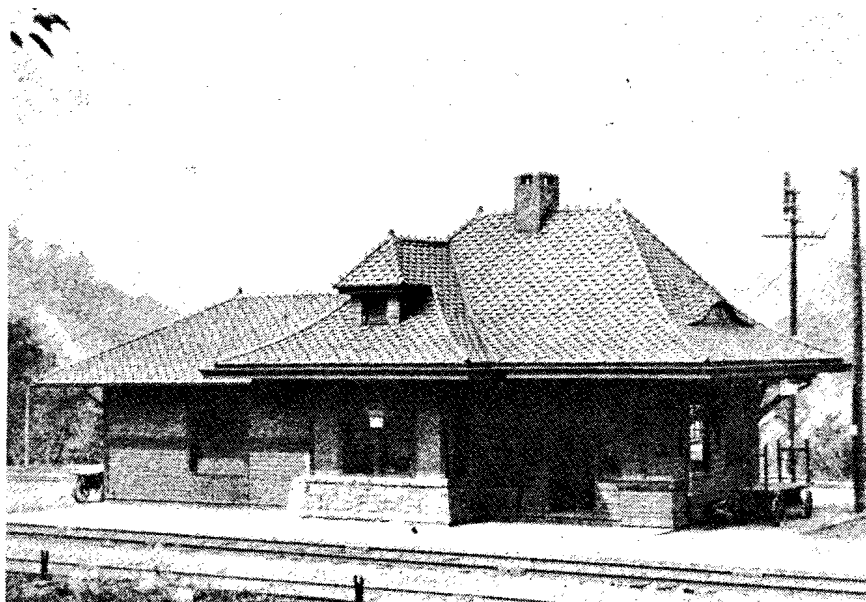
In 1851, it was possible for a passenger to travel on the Erie for 3¢ a passenger mile so a trip from Alfred to Hornell would have cost about 30¢. A trip the entire length from New York to Dunkirk cost \$8, which was probably a sizable sum at that time.

The Railroad played a very important role in the economic growth of the area during the period between 1851 and the first decades of the 1900s. Some of the businesses that benefited from the proximity of the railroad included the W. C. Burdick Company, the L. L. Gridley Manufactory, The Rock Cut Clay Company, the C. D. Reynolds Company, the F. S. Champlin and Sons Company, the local farmers, as well as many others in the surrounding area. As many as seven different switches have been placed in the area for industrial use, two of which in later years, served the Alfred Atlas and the Hornell Gravel Companies for shipment of sand and gravel by hopper and gondola car. A stage line also ran for many years between Alfred Station and Alfred which accommodated the travelers coming and leaving by the railroad.



BRICK WORKS

DEPOT



16. ERIE DEPOT

The original depot was probably built in 1850 or 1851 when the railroad was being constructed. In late April, 1895, the original building burned and a freight house was erected on the site in May, 1895. The present structure was built soon thereafter to replace it. Passenger trains made regular stops here until sometime near 1950 or for nearly 100 years. At the turn of the century the people of Alfred Station boasted of having the "nicest station on the Allegany Division."

17. W. C. BURDICK WAREHOUSE

In 1885 W. C. Burdick built a warehouse near the depot. As the ALFRED SUN stated on January 3, 1895, "C. W. Burdick and Company Warehouse . . . deals in coal and cheese, feed, wheat, corn, bran, meal, middlings, etc. Does a cash business." In the 1920s this building was being used by the Dairymen's League Corporation.

Near the Burdick Warehouse the F. S. Champlin and Sons Feed Mill (now the "Old Mill Inn") was constructed in 1913. In 1921 this building was purchased by the Alfred Farmer's Cooperative Association under the direction of A. F. Randolph. It was sold in turn to the Grange League Federation (GLF) in 1932.

On the other side of the Burdick Warehouse, a few hundred feet north of the depot, stood the stock shipping yard. Livestock of many types, including cattle, sheep, geese and other animals was shipped from this location.

18. COLD STORAGE PLANT

The original building that is part of the Cold Storage Plant was used in the early 1900s by Gridley and Babcock as a warehouse for selling and shipping loose and pressed hay. In 1895 L. L. Gridley moved his manufactory for a combined potato and corn planter into this building from Tinkertown. The larger part of the present structure was added in 1908 by C. D. Burdick and was then used as a Cold Storage Plant.



19. SITE OF FORMER POST OFFICE AND BLACKSMITH SHOP

At the foot of Depot Hill, in what is now the center of the road, was once a building which housed the Post Office, and the grocery of J. K. Reading. The Post Office continued in the building until it was torn down to make room for the highway. Upstairs, over the Post Office and grocery, was a large hall used for organizational meetings. This is where the Sons of Temperance and the A. O. U. W. Lodge held meetings for many years.

To the left of the Post Office was a blacksmith shop owned by various people including Andrew Smith and Cecil McHenry.

To the right of the Post Office was another house, removed when Route 21 was put through, where "Ma" Butler lived, and still to the right was the Mark McHenry home in 1888, this later being the Bardeen home.

At various times, small houses and shops stood on the hillside between the Post Office and the Depot area. The area this side of the bridge was referred to as the "Canada Side" of town.

20. POTTER-HADSELL CARDING MILL

Elisha Potter built a carding mill here, just over the Alfred-Almond Town border. Apparently he had felt there was some advantage to the move, for he had been carrying on a successful business as his brother's successor in Baker's Bridge (see #23). The factory, dye shed, and tenement houses all burned down on October 3, 1889, while in the possession of Nathan Hadsell. Many may remember this site as the location of the "Green Lantern."

Across the road is the house where Mae and Schuyler Whitford lived for many years; it was built in 1840.



21. STILLMAN AND SHANNON CARRIAGE FACTORY

Silas Stillman, a blacksmith and farmer, came to this area from Rhode Island at about the same time as Nathan and Ed Green and Clark Crandall. He purchased 250 acres of land in Whitney Valley about two years later. At this spot, approximately one mile north of Baker's Bridge, he built a blacksmith shop around 1810, one of the first in the area.

Silas was the father of Rebecca Stillman, the first child born in Alfred in 1808 or 1809. Daniel P. Stillman, one of his sons, who was a carpenter and joiner, settled here in 1837. He also had another son, Silas.

The Blacksmith Shop was operated in succession by Silas's descendants and evolved into a wagon factory. This was operated in the late 1800s by Silas's great-grandson, Asher Stillman and Jim Shannon. The factory made and repaired wagons, carriages, cutters, etc., as well as sold other farm machinery. After the death of Asher it became the Shannon and Allen Wagon Factory when his son-in-law, Henry Allen, became a partner. Henry continued to repair wagons until his death, at age 81, in 1948.

22. PAIL FACTORY

This spot, downstream from Baker's Bridge, is apparently the site of Clark Crandall's Pail Factory, the first manufacturing concern of the area, presumably built around 1809. The pails made there were useful in the maple sugar industry, as well as for household and farm needs. There were tenement houses nearby to house the numerous workers who found employment there over the years. Among those workers were Joshua Vincent, Jr., Elias Burdick, Edward Burdick, and Gardner Hall. The factory and tenements burned down around 1825 or a little later; by 1837 Samuel Lanphear had erected a grist mill on or near the site of the former factory. Stones are still visible which formed a part of the original mill structure. While the property was owned by Milo Palmer it was called Mill Brook Farm. From 1927 to 1942 there was a public swimming pool, the slide of which stood beside that wall.

23. NATHAN POTTER CARDING MILL

Here Nathan Potter built his carding machine around 1820. His land was a long strip along the stream which probably allowed for a pond or raceway for his mill wheel. He died while attempting to remove ice from the wheel, in 1832. His brother, Elisha, ran the mill for a few years before building a new one just over the Almond line.

24. GREEN-SMITH HOUSE

This was the farm of Nathan Green, one of the first three men to settle here in 1807. His house was built to the right of the present house. A good share of his farming was done in back (what is now the sand bank); he was also a carpenter. His son, Alonzo, stayed on the farmstead after his marriage and built the original part of the present house about 1835. This property, as well as the adjacent land, was purchased in 1922 to start the Alfred Atlas Gravel and Sand Company.

25. LOG SCHOOL HOUSE

By the year 1816, a log school house, known as the Lower School House, stood on the right side of the road, as you go toward Alfred, approximately across from the shale bank. It was here that some of the first meetings of the First Seventh Day Baptist Church were held before the formal church building was erected. Very little information is actually known about the school itself.

Across the road was the shale bank which supplied shale for the Celadon Terra Cotta Plant in Alfred Centre. The shale was drawn by team and wagon to Alfred. Before the Terra Cotta burned and went out of business, concrete abutments were built on the side of the hill between the shale bank and the Terra Cotta. These abutments were to have held a bucket conveyor that would have transported shale to the plant.



TINKERTOWN

26. TINKERTOWN

It is hard to say just where Tinkertown begins and ends but for the most part it is the settlement between Alfred Station and Alfred. It was given this name many years ago when it was customary to nickname settlements. At one time it was called "Mechanicsville." In 1901 it had a cheese factory, furniture shop, washing machine factory, printing office, sawmill and planing mill, monument depot, sand bank and shale bank. With all these businesses you might wonder where the people lived. Houses were beside the little shops and sometimes upstairs over them. Several of the Tinkertown houses were built by Abe Penny and Noel B. Smith. Noel Smith was a local artist who would paint almost anything, including a sled that he lettered with the name "Ninia" (Nina). The owner probably never forgave him for misspelling her name.

In 1895 Loren L. Gridley, the inventor of "L. L. Gridley's Young American Potato Planter," manufactured his product in Tinkertown.

In 1884 at age 30, George Sherman owned and operated a machine shop in Tinkertown. At this time he also sold fence lumber, planks, boards, etc. In 1888 at least 1,000 ironing boards were manufactured in his shop. The ironing board is said to be his invention. Then in 1893 he managed a paper box plant owned by his wife.

From 1888-1912 Edwin S. Bliss manufactured the "Triumph" washing machine at a plant on the creek side of the road. He also operated a printing press and sawmill here.

Walter Wilbur owned a monument works across the road from the Bliss washing machine factory.

Fred M. Heseltine, another Tinkertown putterer, was a blacksmith who could make all kinds of contraptions on order. His shop was located along the banks of the Canakadea Creek on the "Bridge" side of the Bliss plant. He also operated a planing mill.

The first sand bank was in back of the George Sherman house, then the Livermore home. As early as 1889 people were getting sand from this bank.

27. THE HOME CHEESE FACTORY AND CREAMERY

This was built by Daniel T. Burdick in 1861. In 1891 it was owned and operated by E. P. Fenner for the manufacture of cheese and butter. This factory used the milk of 200 cows and made 50,000 pounds of cheese yearly. Cheese boxes were also made and sold by Mr. Fenner.

Off the Palmiter Road, just as you leave Route 244, on a knoll to the right, is the location of one of the two earliest cemeteries, the Thatcher Cemetery. Some of the earliest settlers were buried here, including Edward J. Green and his wife Susan, Reuben Monroe, a tavern keeper, and Abel Burdick, a farmer. Most of the early grave sites have been moved to the Alfred Rural Cemetery.

Continuing up Palmiter Road on the left, at the foot of the hill was the "Red Onion" building once used as a sugar shanty, and the beginning of the "Red Onion Road." At one time the building, a red painted shack, was used as a local hangout. The Red Onion Road wound around in back of the Alfred Rural Cemetery and up the hill near the farm of George Parker where, at the top of the hill, it joined the Sugar Hill Stage road. George Parker was a former slave.

Sugar Hill was the ridge area from the old Belmont Road to the Sherman Road near the town line of Almond. Many early pioneers settled farms here including Jabish O'Dell, Abel Burdick, Samuel Lanphear and "Sugar Hill Luke" Green.



LORENZO GREEN

28. LORENZO GREEN HOUSE

This house is believed to be on the site of the house of Edward Green who built soon after he came here in 1807. It was part frame, part log. At the time his grandson, Lorenzo, lived here it was a one-story brick house (part of what you see now). It was added to, making two stories, about 1911 when Henry Moore owned the property.

- 28a. Thomas Bardeen built the house on the "Bridge" side of the Mobil Gas Station. He used cherry for the woodwork and trim cut from trees on his property across the road. Mr. Bardeen peddled choice, fresh vegetables from his truck farm, and Mrs. Bardeen's famous mustard pickles to Alfred ladies.

29. ALFRED RURAL CEMETERY

The land for this cemetery was purchased from Mrs. Mary Green in 1857. It contained five acres at the time. The remains of persons buried in two old cemeteries were moved to the Rural Cemetery by special act of Legislature. Many Alfred Station residents, including soldiers of all the wars, are buried here.

30. COMMUNITY HOUSE

The public school building was built in 1908. This was a two-room school house with grades one through four on one side and four through eight on the other, employing two teachers. Students continued their education, the four years of high school, in Alfred at South Hall until the new centralized school was occupied in 1940. This public school building was built by Roy Crandall who lived in Tinkertown.

31. BURDICK-MONROE TAVERN
WORRELL HOUSE

The home on the left replaces the Monroe Tavern, which seems to have been built on that site or to the immediate right. No very clear explanation for its disappearance has come to light. In 1822, this lot and lands to the left, as well as the Community House Ball Park area, all belonged to Uriah and Charity Burdick. They ran a tavern until about 1829. Some time before that Uriah died; the deed to his property had been lost in a fire, before it was recorded. In 1841, Reuben Monroe purchased the Burdick Tavern Stand lot, but he didn't have long to reap much profit, for he met an untimely end. At the age of 44, in 1843, he was crushed under a load of lumber falling off a wagon. His widow, Mariba, sold all the property in

1846, except for a little piece of land with a NEW house on it which was occupied by her son, David. That house is #32. Two years later she sold that, too. Many will remember these as the homes of Frank Cook and William Worrell.

- 33. HALSEY BURDICK HOUSE
- 34. BURDICK-VINCENT HOUSE

Elias Burdick arrived in the Alfred area in 1815, as did his brother, Edward. They both eventually found employment with Clark Crandall in the pail factory. It seems (according to one octogenarian) that Elias owned the house on the left in 1826. Since he owned the property to the right, also, he could have built it soon thereafter, for he was a jeweler after the pail factory burned down. By 1830 he had four sons and a daughter, ages two to 27. Sheffield moved to Andover and was a fuller. Riley, John and Halsey were shoemakers who remained in Baker's Bridge. John bought the house next door (#34) after his marriage, or else bought the empty lot upon which he built that house. It existed by 1856. Halsey lived in the smaller house which he had to purchase from his brothers upon their father's death. In 1888, John sold his home to Claude Vincent and moved to Hornell. Halsey's home was later owned by Betsey Clark.

- 35. BURDICK JEWELRY SHOP

There is no record to indicate the date the shop was erected; it was in existence by 1869. There John continued the jewelry business begun by his father. The shop was continued by Claude Vincent, who added a barber's chair in the back. Harley Goodwin continued the barber shop there after Claude Vincent left, and was replaced for some 35 years by the Post Office. The latter two occupants rented the property from the new owner, George Whitney.

- 36. FRAME SCHOOL HOUSE

The deed for the sale of this property to School District Number One is dated 1849, and the building seems to correspond in age. The earliest frame school house was across the street. Deeds seem to support the theory that the first building was sold (to Riley Burdick) after the second one was available for use. The deed for the new building lot specified that there be a tight board fence around the border!

33. H. BURDICK

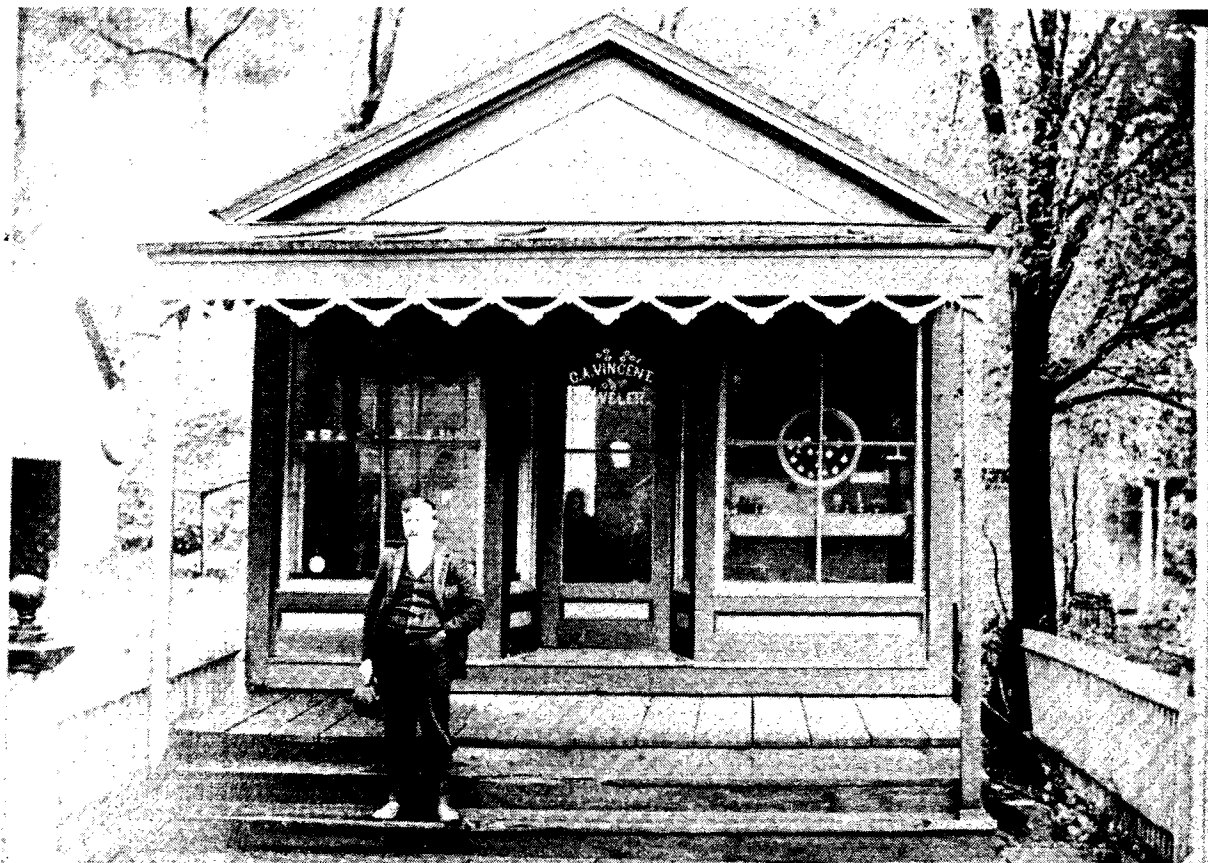


34. C. VINCENT

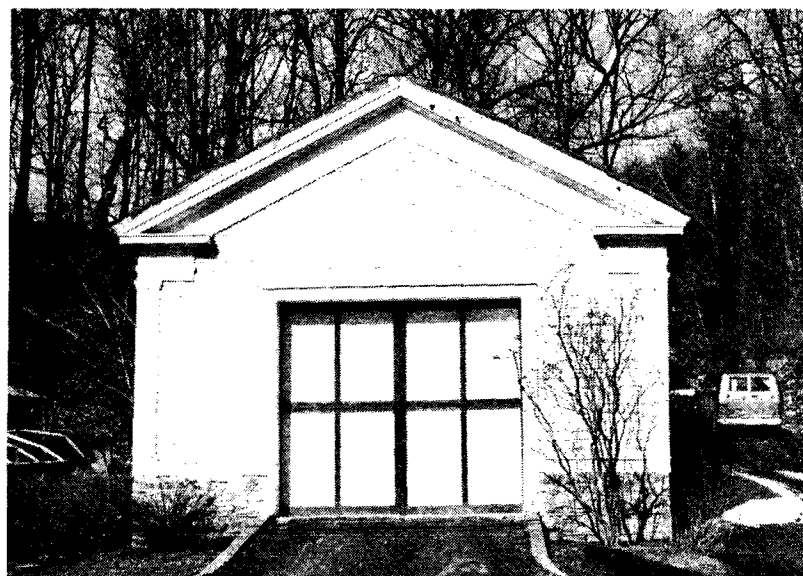


41. COUNTRY STORE





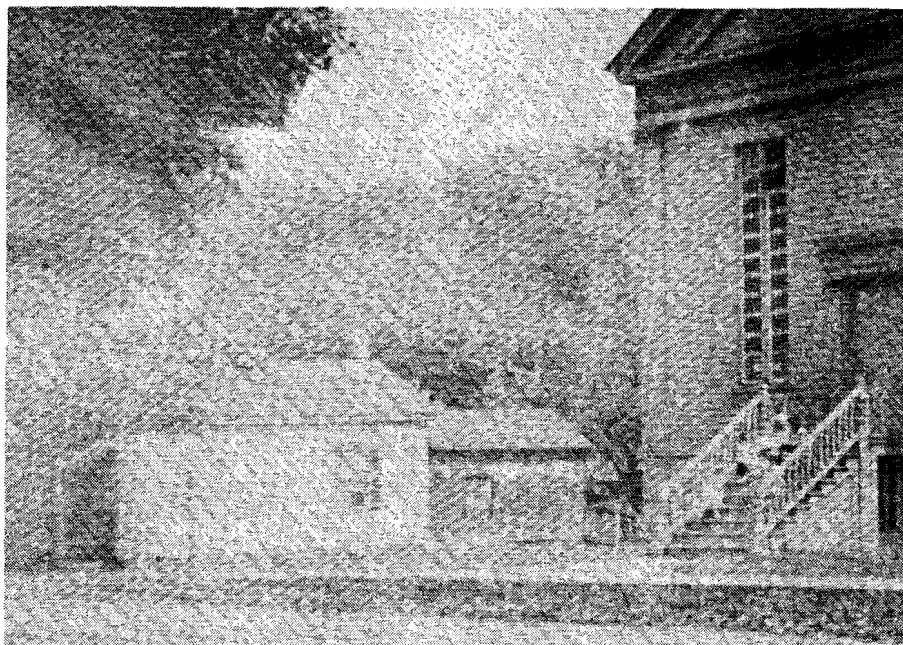
35. BURDICK-VINCENT SHOP



36. FRAME SCHOOL HOUSE

37. PARSONAGE

Built in 1898, this is a memorial to Mrs. Nancy Frank who gave the land for the parsonage. Her house was moved back on the lot by the creek and she lived here until her death in December, 1901. The parsonage building was built at a cost of \$1,385.62. The pastor of the church at the time was the Rev. Frank E. Peterson.



38. BURDICK SHOE SHOP AND HOME

This is where Elias's second son, Riley, had a home and a shoe shop. After his death, the shop was used variously as a library/shoe shop, a meat market, and an auxiliary school that accommodated the overflow from the newer building. Since it had stood upon property that previously belonged to the School District prior to the erection of the new school house, and because one deed specifically states that Riley Burdick was the owner of the old school house in 1851, it is tempting to speculate that Riley transformed the old school house into his shoe shop. . . . whatever the truth may be, the old shop has been moved next door to the Worrell House (#32) and used as a dwelling. The home was sold and torn down in 1942, providing space for the Church and the Parsonage.



PARSONAGE

39. SEVENTH DAY BAPTIST CHURCH 1857

In 1831 a group of 51 members of the Alfred Seventh Day Baptist Church requested dismissal to form a congregation nearer their homes. They lived in East Valley, Goose Pasture, Hartsville Hill and Lanphear (Railroad) Valley area--too far to drive horses on Sabbath morning. For more than 25 years they worshipped in a church located in Goose Pasture (see No. 9). The present edifice originally had clear glass windows with green blinds, and was heated with wood stoves and lighted with lard oil lamps. A carpet was made by the church women, and in 1896 they paid for the stained glass windows. Sheds stood along the creek in the rear to shelter horses during services. The building was moved back from the road and raised to allow a full basement in 1889. The bell was purchased by the Christian Endeavor Society about this time. Gas lights were installed in 1900 with outside lamps on the front corners. Those prominent in the congregation have included the Allen, Austin, Bardeen, Burdick, Davis, Green, Hamilton, Langworth, Lewis, Ormsby, Palmer, Palmiter, Pierce, Shaw, Whitford and Witter families (doubtless others should be mentioned). The present membership numbers over 240.

40. DR. GREENE'S HOUSE

In 1851, Dr. Elisha Greene arrived in Baker's Bridge to replace the deceased Dr. John B. Collins. This was his home, and he had a small office building next door, toward the right. Although the earliest recorded deed is 1829, Nathan Williams is said to have lived here around 1818. The property changed hands rather frequently; the little office building was moved a number of times to various other locations, ending its days on top of Belmont Hill in the recent past.

41. COUNTRY STORE

Roswell Adams was something of a wheeler-dealer and an occasional business partner of Samuel Russell's, who was an undisputed wheeler-dealer. Russell owned enormous amounts of land throughout the Towns of Alfred and Almond, and Adams owned a lot, too. They dabbled in merchandising, blacksmithing; they ran asheries and served as post master on occasion. It is possible that this building or a predecessor served as a store for Roswell Adams in the 1830s. It is probably his house that stands next door to the right; he lived somewhere in the immediate vicinity. Subsequent storekeepers were F. S. Champlin, Mel Niles, Clyde and Etta Willard and Charles Wheaton. Along the creek bank behind the store was a feed mill owned and operated at one time by Eugene Shaw.

42. SHAW HOUSE

If this is really where Roswell Adams lived in the 1830s and 1840s, the house has been vastly remodeled since, or even replaced. By style and by hearsay the house looks to have been built in the 1850s. Adams later sold to Samuel Russell. Gene Shaw lived here around the turn of the century.

43. HARRISON W. GREEN STORE

This building was for many years a store. It was a Hardware and Tin Shop in 1874-1894 when owned by Harrison W. Green. Later Floyd Champlin, W. O. Palmiter and Paul Conderman conducted various kinds of businesses in this building.

Dear friends who live in Alfred Town
A place most worthy of renown
Just hark and hear what I will tell
About a chap with goods to sell.

His store is kept at Baker's Bridge
Surrounded by a lofty ridge
Where people often stand and weep
To think he sells his goods so cheap.

He has an assortment now on hand
Which can't be beat upon the land
And which I think will far excell
The goods you buy at Hornellsville.

As for groceries, none will dare deny
But what he keeps a large supply
Coffees and teas of every kind
You in his store can quickly find.

He has clothing ready made to wear
Which is impossible to tear
Also a clerk whose name is "Tip,"
Who warrants them to never rip.

The ladies which go there to trade
Say a good selection he has made
In calicoes, Delaines and Shawls
Suited for winter, spring or fall.

As for boots and shoes, I dare not tell
How many he doth daily sell
But just step in and you will see
They're all a-buying of O. P. C.

Salt by the barrell or the pound
As good as anywhere is found
Is kept in a shed behind the store
You buy him out and he'll get more.

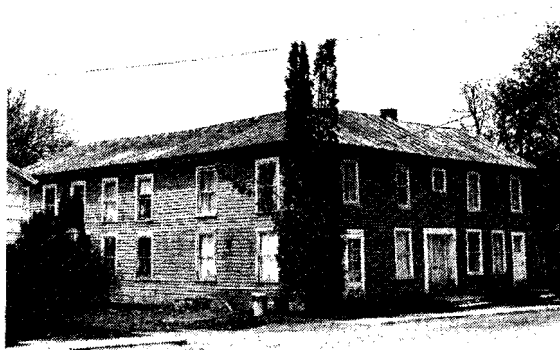
Buffalo robes he has that's good
Which he'll exchange for hay or wood
For to make you rich, he's bound to do
He buys slaughtered hogs and live ones, too.

For beef hides and sheep pelts he will pay
The highest prices of the day,
Skunk skins or cabby he'll not deny
For anything you wish to buy.

Now all dear friends, when e're you can
Just make a call upon this man
Look at his goods, and well I know
You'll trade with him, no farther go.

Advertisement written for Oliver P. Crandall in December, 18?? by
Harry W. Green.





44. BABCOCK HOTEL

In 1824, Daniel Babcock had just been ordained as a member of the Seventh Day Baptist Church, and apparently decided to settle in Baker's Bridge. He built this "home" and opened it to travelers as a tavern. Later he sold his interest to Roswell Adams, who later sold to Parley Hunt. Possibly Babcock remained in residence there until he took his family to Wisconsin in 1851. He was something of a land speculator, like many of the other settlers; it was he who bought all of Baker's Bridge from the big landholders in 1826, and sold it to the settlers, many of whom had settled there well in advance of his ownership. That seems to be why the earliest deeds are 1829, for those who settled on what were to become his properties. The hotel was used as such until the Twentieth Century. Some of the people associated with it were Louis Emerson, Martha Spencer, Jay Willard and M. A. Butler.

45. T. R. CHASE HOUSE AND STORE

A store building stood on this corner until 1975 when it was taken down. It was built in 1874 by Timothy R. Chase. He was a very popular store keeper who often recited poems to customers. A few of the later store keepers were James C. Burdick, Willis R. Burdick, C. W. Miller and Rowland K. Ormsby. R. K. Ormsby is the present owner of the house which belongs to this store lot and we have his family to thank for the use of his home for displays.





CHASE HOUSE AND STORE



BUSINESS DIRECTORY, 1976

Mobil College Service Station opened at the present Tinkertown location in June, 1972; however, it was first located on the property now owned by Kenneth Snyder. The business owner is Nelson Snyder who opened it at the first location in 1960. This station is now on land once owned by Thomas Bardeen.

Southern Tier Concrete Products Company has been owned and managed by three generations of Palmers. Benjamin Palmer I and Benjamin Palmer II started the business in October, 1946. Today the business is carried on by Benjamin II and Benjamin III. On September 11, 1975 they produced the 20th million concrete block. This plant is located where the Terra Cotta horse barn once was in Tinkertown.

Short's Village was started in 1962 as a laundromat with gas pumps. The liquor store was opened in 1965 and the service station about 1967. In 1971 the laundromat was closed and the liquor store expanded. Before the village it was a trailer court owned by Fred Short, Sr. This is in Tinkertown on property once owned by Thomas Bardeen.

Stearns Poultry Farm started at its Tinkertown location in 1941 by owner, Judson Stearns. It is managed by Judson Stearns, Jr. Chickens and turkeys are raised and processed on this farm which in 1807 was the farm of Edward Green.

The Little Red Hen, a restaurant owned and managed by the Stearns Poultry Farm, began in 1968 on what is part of the poultry farm lot.

Main Street Gulf Gas Station is owned by Ronald Snyder who purchased it in 1973. This property in Tinkertown was once part of Lorenzo Green's farm.

Squirrel's Nest Motel started in 1962 when the first section was built by its present owner, Kenneth Snyder. Two other sections were added as the business grew. This motel accommodates visitors and parents who visit students at the nearby colleges in Alfred, as well as the weary traveler. Lorenzo Green at one time owned this land in Tinkertown.

Stanlee Hardware provides the community with its hardware needs. The business moved from Alfred to the new building in Tinkertown in 1971. Present owners are Stanley and Lydia Butts and Robert Volk. It is located on property once owned by Samuel Thatcher.

Gardner Body Shop is an auto body repair and finishing shop located on land once owned by George Sherman. This place of business at Tinkertown was started by Roland Gardner, the present owner, in January, 1961.

The Country Store looks much as it did many years ago although now gifts of distinction are sold here. It is owned by Mr. and Mrs. John Carter who bought the store from Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Mapes in December, 1973. This store building was built about 1850, and some of the former storekeepers were Harry Niles, Clyde Willard and Charles Wheaton. It is on the main street in Alfred Station.

Hill Bottom Pottery produces hand-made ceramic ware as a part-time business. This business was started in 1974 by the present owner, Bruce Greene. The little shop across from the church was for many years a jewelry store owned by John C. Burdick and later Claude Vincent.

Jefferds Construction Co., Inc. in Alfred Station was started in 1942 by Bruce Jefferds. In 1974 a corporation was formed with father and four sons. They do general construction work. This business is conducted on land that was once the Nathan Potter carding mill lot.

Stevens Garage is owned by Franklin Stevens who began the business in 1956. Nathan Potter, in 1821, owned a carding machine mill on this property just below Alfred Station.

Iroquois Telephone Co. moved to 1/2 mile east of Alfred Station on Route 21 on June 1, 1970. George E. Housen is district manager for the Alfred District of the Continental Telephone System. The Iroquois Telephone Co. is located on property once owned by Elisha Potter.

B & C Mobil Home Sales is located on the land once owned by Ad Hall on Route 21. This business is owned by Robert and Colleen Jefferds who started it in 1965.

Drumm's Garage on Route 21 near the Almond line was started by the present owner Ralph Drumm in 1965. This stands on land once owned by Schuyler Whitford.

Sh-ar-ee Beauty Salon, started by its present proprietor Sherryl Allen in 1974, is in part of the house once owned by Asher Stillman. It is on the old Almond road across from where the Carriage Shop was located.

Old Mill Inn, originally a feed mill built by Floyd Champlin in 1913, is now owned by Robert Lawrence who bought it in January, 1976 from Mr. and Mrs. Norman (Bill) Kull. The Kulls changed the feed mill to an inn. This inn is near the depot.

Buffalo Slag Corp. bought this sand and gravel plant in 1944 from the Hornell Gravel Corp. It was started by William Hysted about 1921-23. Rodney Davis, an Alfred Station native, was plant superintendent for many years. The present superintendent is Howard Taft. This plant is located on the east hill side of Alfred Station on part of what was once the farm of Isaac Burdick.

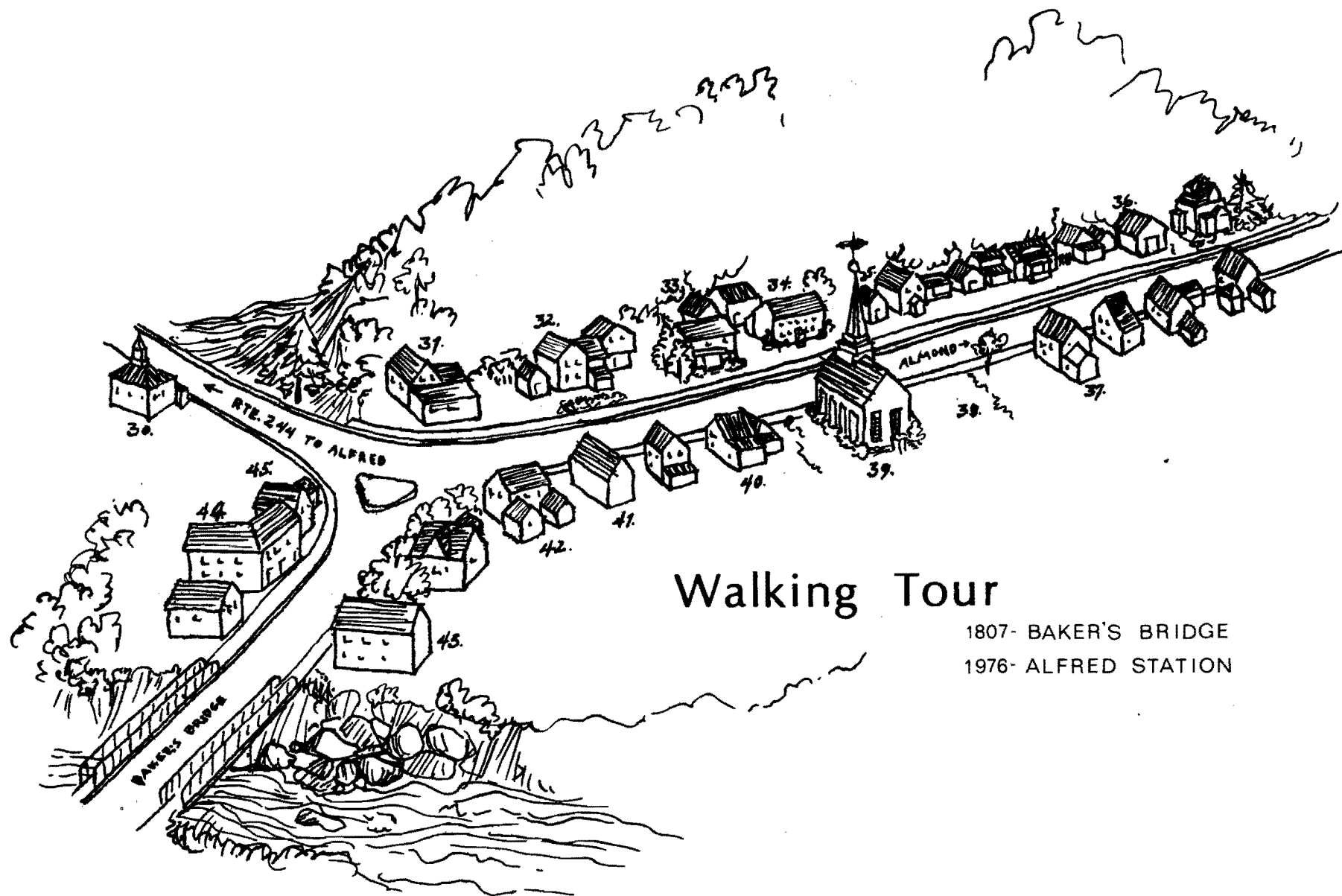
Alfred Atlas Gravel and Sand Co., with its plant on Route 21, was purchased from Leonard Claire in February, 1928 by Sherman Burdick, John Merrill and Ray Wingate. At present William Evans is manager; he succeeded his father James Evans. Gravel and sand for this plant are taken from lands that once belonged to Nathan Green, Edward Fisk and others.

Alfred Ceramic Enterprises is owned by Martin T. Curran of Alfred. The business was started in the fall of 1960 on land once owned by Green Champlin on Route 21. Alfred Ceramic Enterprises conducts ceramic research.

Lewis and Lewis Contractors is a business that has been in the Lewis family for three generations. It was started by Leon Lewis about 1943; he was joined by his son Robert after World War II, and it is presently run by Robert P. and his son Robert A. They do general contracting work from the office located on Route 21 which was once the home of F. Goodwin.

East Valley Pottery is located on the farm once owned by Phineas K. Shaw in East Valley. This well-known hand crafted pottery business is owned by Tom and Harriet Spleth who started it in 1971.

Pine Crest Poultry Farm at Tip Top is a family enterprise of the Robert Tomm family located on what was F. M. Lee's farm. This business was started by Mr. Tomm in 1956 on a very small scale; it was expanded in 1971-72 and today keeps 40,000 chickens for egg production.



Walking Tour

1807- BAKER'S BRIDGE

1976- ALFRED STATION