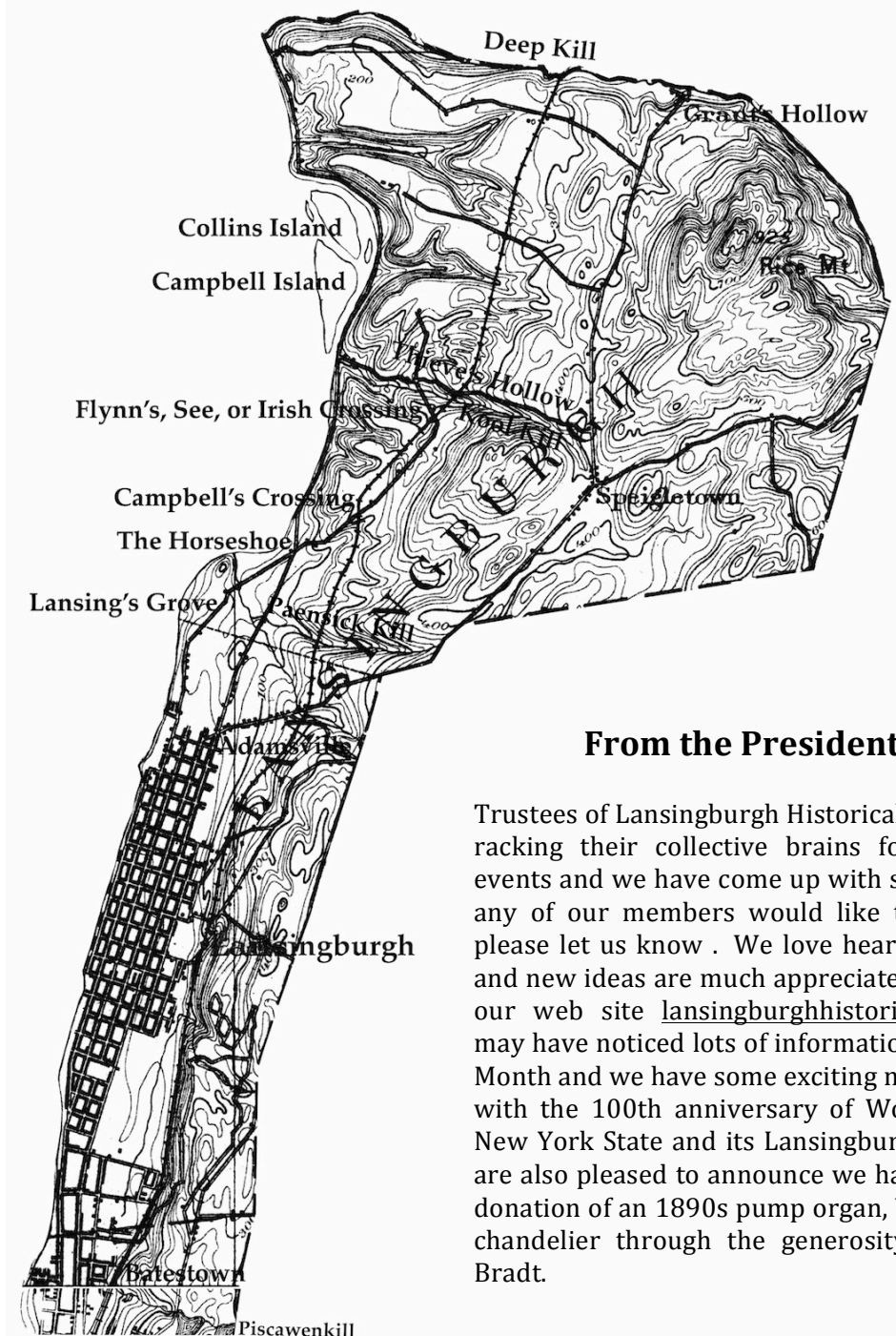


THE COURIER

Newsletter of the Lansingburgh Historical Society • March 2017



From the President's Desk

Trustees of Lansingburgh Historical Society have been racking their collective brains for ideas for 2017 events and we have come up with some great ones . If any of our members would like to add to the mix please let us know . We love hearing from members and new ideas are much appreciated. If you have seen our web site lansingburghhistoricalsociety.org you may have noticed lots of information on Black History Month and we have some exciting news in conjunction with the 100th anniversary of Women's Suffrage in New York State and its Lansingburgh connection. We are also pleased to announce we have had a generous donation of an 1890s pump organ, Victorian lamp and chandelier through the generosity of Dan and Pat Bradt.

John Ward

Black History Month – February 2017



**“Charles A. Minnie the New Colored Cadet
(from a photograph by Nichols.)”**

New York Daily Graphic. August 25, 1877: 381. (Cropped illustration from scan by fultonhistory.com)

“Charles A. Minnie, the colored youth appointed to a West Point cadetship from the fifth senatorial district, was born in Lansingburgh.”

“All Sorts.” *Albany Morning Express.* August 24, 1877: 1 col 3.

✂️ ALMOST A CENTENARIAN—A colored man named Quam, died in this village last week, aged ninety-six years. He was a soldier in the war of the Revolution, and had received a pension from government for many years previous to his death. Peace to his ashes.

Lansingburgh Democrat. July 22, 1852: 2 col 5.

For more about these men and other remarkable African-American citizens from Lansingburgh history see the twenty-eight posts made in February 2017 by going to the “News” tab from the website or directly to:

lansingburghhistoricalsociety.org/tag/african-americans/



“Prof. Albert F. Mando.”

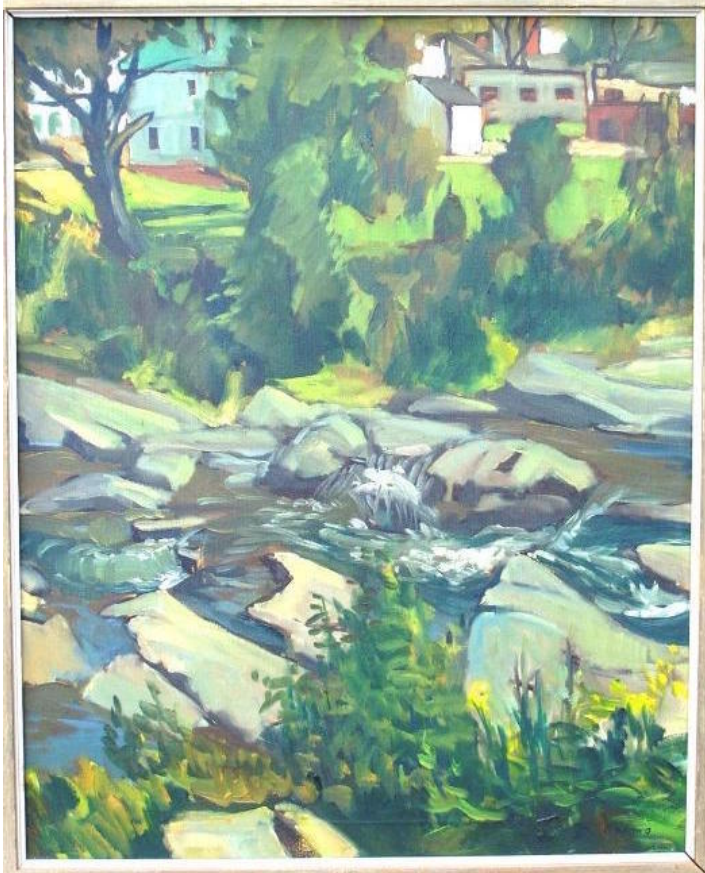
The Colored American [Washington, DC]. October 20, 1900: 10 col 2.

“Albert F. Mando, director of the Mando-Mozart Conservatory of Music at 2195 Madison Avenue, New York, died Friday at his home in that city. Mr. Mando was the most distinguished negro teacher and leader of music in the United States. At his conservatory he taught piano, organ, violin, violoncello, vocal and orchestral music and other forms of the musical art. He was the conductor of the Conservatory Sextette and Concert Orchestra. Professor Mando was born in Lansingburgh, and he made annual visits to this city to visit relatives and numerous friends. He possessed many excellent qualities and his career, in which he by his own efforts attained prominence, is worthy of praise.”

“Obituary.” *Troy Daily Times.* October 15, 1912: 5 col 7.

Some New Acquisitions

“Leversee Road” painting by Rudy Helmo



There are relatively few known paintings of places within the former Town of Lansingburgh. LHS was fortunate to add one to its small collection. The painting to the left was labeled only “Leversee Road.” Warren Broderick believes the location to be the Paensick Kill that runs from the reservoir down through Pleasantdale. The buildings seem to be ones at the southern end of Leversee Road; at the upper right the white structure with a flat uneven roof with three windows might be the garage behind 60 Leversee Road.

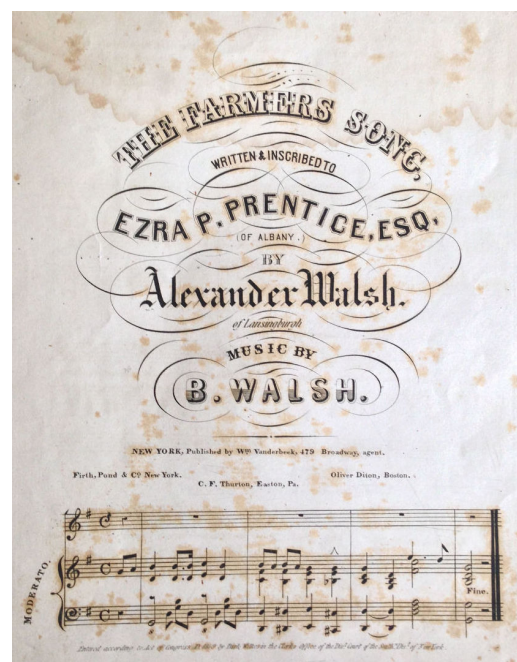
Artist Rudy Helmo (1908-1986) began living in Troy in 1944, and in Pittstown near Melrose in 1950. His painting of Rice Mountain (another location within the former Town of Lansingburgh) is owned by the Hoosic Valley Elementary School. For more see <https://schaghticokehistory.wordpress.com/2015/09/15/rudy-helmo-expressionist-artist-of-rensselaer-county/>

“The Farmers Song” by Alexander Walsh, Music by [his son] B. [Braine] Walsh.

A number of songwriters lived in Lansingburgh, and some songwriters from elsewhere had sheet music printed in Lansingburgh. It would be nice to have some of these performed at the Melville House someday!

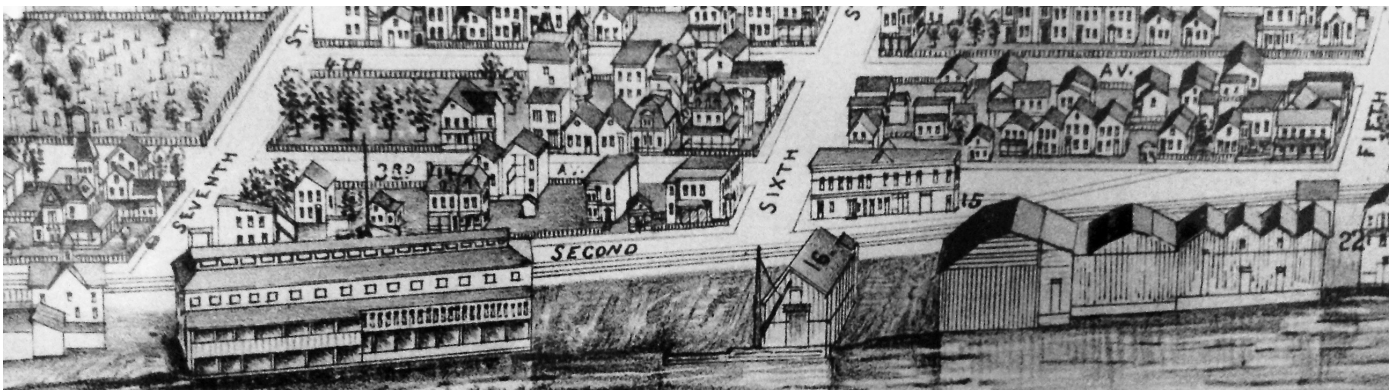
“During the 1830s and 1840s, thousands of tourists flocked to the village each year to see the exotic plants cultivated by Alexander Walsh [1783-1849], who was also a founder of county and state agricultural societies, and Lansingburgh became known as “The Garden of America.”

Robertson-Lorant, Laurie. *Melville: A Biography*. Amherst, MA: U of Massachusetts P, 1996. 65.



A New Historical Marker for Lansingburgh!

The Lansingburgh Historical Society's Board of Trustees learned of a grant available from the William G. Pomeroy Foundation <http://www.wgpfoundation.org> for new historical markers pertaining to woman suffrage. Some quick research turned up the existence of a suffragist who was quite notable in her active years in the movement (1881-1893 at least) though she has been little-known today, Caroline Gilkey Rogers (1837-1899). She lived with her husband in a house in the Village of Lansingburgh at the northeast corner of 3rd Avenue and 106th Street and also briefly lived in the Phoenix Hotel. The house still stands, but has been altered over the years. At her home she hosted suffrage meetings, and hosted visiting suffragists like Elizabeth Cady Stanton. In 1885 she attempted to vote at her local polling place – right across the street at the southeast corner of the same intersection. The marker celebrating her activism will go at the intersection near her former home.



Rogers' home and polling place at intersection of 3rd Avenue and [One Hundred] Sixth Street seen in this detail from Burleigh's 1891 lithograph of Lansingburgh.

—Mrs. Elizabeth Cady Stanton entertained a large number of friends from all parts of the state at the residence of Mrs. Caroline Gilkey Rogers Thursday evening.

"Personal." *Lansingburgh Courier*. February 14, 1885: 3 col 2.

—Mrs. Caroline Gilkey Rogers visited the polling place in the fourth election district of this village and tendered her vote. The inspectors refused to accept it. Mrs. Rogers read the constitution to them bearing on the subject, but they adhered to their determination to decline the vote, and Mrs. Rogers was obliged to submit. The action was a very quiet one, and many around the polling place did not know the object of the lady's visit until after she had departed. At Albany Mrs. Harriet V. Chapin, who registered at the western district of the fourteenth ward, walked up to the poll about 1 o'clock and tendered a set of Democratic tickets. Her vote was refused, although her name had been previously registered.

"After the Battle." *Lansingburgh Courier*. November 5, 1885: 3 col 3.

POWERS OF PERSUASION.

— Governor Hill Besieged by Female Suffragists—He Will Probably Sign Their Bill.

ALBANY, May 28.—This afternoon Mrs. Mary Seymour Howell and Mrs. Caroline Gilkey Rogers visited the governor in behalf of the bill now before him, amending the act relating to persons having the right to vote at school meetings, which permits the mother as well as the father to vote at all school elections. The governor will probably sign the bill.

Glens Falls Daily Times. May 29, 1886: 1 col 4.

New old organ at the Melville House! Help LHS with Amazon Smile!



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Lansingburgh
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Amazon donates.

[Go to smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com)

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At the LHS website's homepage appears the above; click the button there or go directly to <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/23-7089102>

Amazon will donate a small percentage of the cost of your subsequent purchases to benefit LHS!

Please visit our website

lansingburghhistoricalsociety.org

It has gone from ten pages in July 2016 to 206 pages as of March 2017!

Calendar

- March 11 Open House and Tag Sale 10:00-2:00
- April 6 "Tiffany Windows" by Michael Barrett and dinner at Van Schaick Country Club \$
- April 8 Open House 10:00-2:00
- April 30 Lansingburgh Village Burying Ground & Old Catholic Burying Ground cleanup 9:30-2:00
- May 17 Member Meeting to vote on Board of Trustees changes
- May 20 Open House & House Tours 11:00-4:00 \$
- June 7 Burgher Bash - "Trial of Bat Shea" by Jack Casey \$
- June 10 Open House and garden cleanup 10:00-2:00
- July 29 Herman Melville Birthday Party - "Melville's Literary Sources" by Mary Edwards \$
- August 12 We Were Burghers Clamsteam at Lansingburgh Veterans Club \$
- September 9 Open House 10:00-2:00
- October 14 Open House 10:00-2:00
- October 21 "The Vanderheyden Murder" by Warren Broderick at Herman Melville Park \$
- November 4 Open House 10:00-2:00
- November 9 Holiday Party/Auction 6:00-9:00 \$

Suggested donation for Open House \$5. Some other activities are being planned!

For details see our website or Facebook page or contact us!

What else might you like to see the Lansingburgh Historical Society doing?

Our membership year begins on April 1st. Those joining in January, February or March extend their membership through the next membership year. Consider upgrading your Regular Membership to a Sustaining Membership. Encourage friends to join! Regular Membership \$15/year, Sustaining Membership \$40/year. Student/Senior membership \$5/year. Corporate/Professional Membership \$200/year.

Donations are always welcome!

Name _____ Phone _____

Mailing address _____ City & State _____ ZIP _____

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Regular _____ Sustaining _____ Student/Senior _____ Professional/Corporate _____ Donation _____

Send to Lansingburgh Historical Society, PO Box 219, Troy NY 12182-0219

If you are on Facebook join us there as well at <https://www.facebook.com/LansingburghHistorical/>

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