

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE VICTOR TOWN and VILLAGE HISTORIAN
JANUARY 2015 TO DECEMBER 2015
(Report is required to be filed with the State Historian and the Ontario County Historian)

THE TOWN HISTORIAN COLLECTS, PRESERVES, AND INTERPRETS VICTOR HISTORY AND RESPONDS TO REQUESTS. GENERAL CATEGORIES FOR THE HISTORIAN'S ACTIVITIES ARE PRESERVATION, ORGANIZATION, RESEARCH, AND EDUCATION.

The Town Historian is a duly appointed (by the Supervisor) position by requirement of NYS Law 57.13. This Historian was initially appointed on July 1, 1990.

2007 was the first year that this Historian also worked as the Village Historian as well as the Town Historian.

TOWN HISTORIAN'S ACTIVITIES:

As required by law, I collected material of historical significance. The inventory of collected material is on file, and an inventory of material acquired during 2014 is attached to this report.

I have responded to over 105 requests for historical information, genealogy and other historian related assistance and had 101 visitors to my office this year.

I have written articles for the Town of Victor Newsletter, the Rochester Democrat and Chronicle and the Victor Post:

- ❖ Universalist Church
- ❖ Centennial Boulder
- ❖ Local Artist's Wall
- ❖ History of Victor Central School
- ❖ Victor During World War II—Parts one and two
- ❖ Victor During the 1950s
- ❖ Historic Victor Plaque Recipients
- ❖ Parks Cemetery and Family
- ❖ Victor in the 1960s
- ❖ Eastview Mall
- ❖ Proprietor's Church
- ❖ Victor in the 1970s

Presentations given were:

- ❖ "Victor and the Potato Plot"
- ❖ "Women in Victor's History"
- ❖ "King Victor, Maggie Murphy and Victor's Agricultural Past"

Presented a program on Victor's history to over 325 second graders;

Awarded five *Historic Victor* plaques to:

1. Cline Home, c. 1825, Henry Jones and Julie Black, 280 Blazey Road
2. Wilcox Farm, c. 1830, Willem D. Faber and Rena Pine, 1338 Strong Road
3. Frost-Sell-Welch Home, c. 1835, Philip and Joan Welch, 1255 Strong Road
4. Nelson Ketchum Farm, c. 1858, Michele M. Acree, 1578 State Route 444
5. Ketchum-Damaske Farm, c. 1900, Long Ears Farm (Edward Damaske), 1667 St Rte 444

Reviewed the Town and Village of Victor's Historic Resource Survey with Cynthia Howk of the Landmark Society of Western NY;

Sent numerous historical photos to the Victor Post;

Background information sent to Nancy Herter of the State Historic Preservation Office and Powers Archeology on the historical/archeological sensitivity of the Fishers Ridge site;

Oversaw the completion of the Bicentennial Quilt Display Case;

Arranged speakers for an Historic Speaker Series at Valentown;

Supervised placement of grave corner markers for unmarked graves at the Parks Cemetery as well as an historic sign about the cemetery;

Attended the Association of Public Historians of NYS annual conference, April and the Region 11 Historian's Conference in Seneca Falls, October;

Wrote a grant for a feasibility study for the School Street Pump House (not received from Landmark Society);

Wrote justification for state monies to restore the School Street Pump House and the Fishers Cobblestone Pump House (no word on the status as of 12/31/15);

Met with cobblestone mason, Marty Nabor, to evaluate the repairs needed at the Fishers Cobblestone Pump House;

Received the Osborne Family papers from the Strong Museum;

Maintained the semi-annual changing of art for the Local Artist's Wall in the Town Hall with displays by Jim Goldammer and Nancy Burger;

Mentoring new Bristol Historian—Beth Thomas

Participated in Rochester's Get Grounded Day;

Sent Victor Herald discs to be uploaded on the Fulton History Newspapers website;

Attended a Workplace Violence Seminar as well as the GHS/Right to Know training;

After receiving four inquiries for one position on the Historic Advisory Committee, Bonnie Waters was selected to begin a three year term in January, 2016;

Provided the Planning Board information on:

- ❖ Fishers Ridge and its relation to the Denonville-Seneca Campaign of 1687;
- ❖ Several buildings over 50 years old being demolished;

Awarded Senecal Monuments the charge to make three monuments for three which are broken at the Village Cemetery and lay pieces of the original monuments flush with the ground;

Met with a retired fourth grade teacher to work on a Local History curriculum Powerpoint for fourth grade teachers and students;

Continuing the process of transcribing 50 oral tapes done by junior high students in the early 1990s of Victor residents and World War II vets;

Updated the barns survey;

Signed off on several demolition permits for buildings over 50 years old;

Worked with the Cemetery Committee, Victor Genealogical Society and Victor Historical Society on programs, research and historical advice;

Meetings that I attended were: Historic Advisory Committee (advisor); County Historian meetings; several Town Board, Planning Board and Zoning Board meetings; Victor Roundtable meetings; Department Head meetings; Ganondagan; Victor Historical Society (advisor); Cemetery Preservation and Restoration Committee (advisor);

Met with new Director of Development and discussed the history of Victor, development and the historic piece in the draft Comprehensive Plan as well as the historic background of Fishers Ridge;

Completed budgets for the Historian's Office, the Historic Advisory Committee and the Victor Cemetery Preservation and Restoration Committee;

Collecting historical information was done by clipping articles and news of interest and obituaries from newspapers; putting new information into the Archives database; taking pictures and slides and indexing them in notebooks; obtaining house and barn histories and gathering genealogy information. Attached is a list of materials donated or bought for the Town of Victor Archives.

I continue to appreciate the support of the Town to encourage history and preservation in Victor and to support its Historian who is in her 26th year serving in this capacity.

Respectfully submitted,

Babette M. Huber
Victor Town Historian
January, 2016