



Vol. 43 No. 1

WALDEN HOUSE TATTLER

The Historical Society of Walden and the Wallkill Valley

Summer /Fall 2023

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President's Message

This year is the 65th anniversary of the incorporation of the Historical Society of the Walden and Wallkill Valley. There will be a celebration on October 21, 2023. We invite everyone to join us for a small celebration of the past 65 years.

It has been almost 1 year since our last Tattler. There have been a lot happening at the Historical Society, the Jacob T. Walden House and Shafer House— all good things.

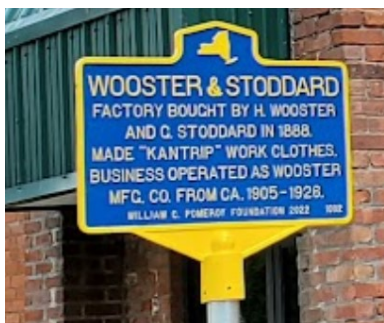
The Tattler has a new look for this issue. I want to give Gail Yeaple a big THANK YOU for all the years she published the Tattler for the Historical Society. Mary Ellen Matise has offered to take over the Tattler and we are experimenting with another format. Another big THANK YOU to Mary Ellen for offering to take over the Tattler publication.

I have a never-ending list of THANK YOU's for our supporters. They include, but not limited to Declan Reilly and Boy Scout Troop 31, Logan Heany from Edens Greens and MAX Home Improvement. The Board of Trustees of the Society that work behind the scenes to maintain the Houses, mow and grounds, set up fund raising, schedule speakers and maintain the archives of the Society. The community as a whole for their participation in our programs and financial support.

I hope to see everyone this fall. Barbara Imbasciani

A grant from the Wm. G. Pomeroy Foundation funded this historic marker for the Wooster Factory on Elm Street in Walden.

The unveiling will be held on Oct 21, 2023 at 1 PM.



March 5, 1959

Taking Title to the Jacob Walden House

Mrs. Mildred Kennedy, seated, left, owner of the historic, old, Jacob Walden house on North Montgomery street, Walden, is shown here turning over title to the property to Marie H. Houghtaling, president of the Historical Society of Walden and Wallkill Valley. Change of

title was effected yesterday in Mr. Houghtaling's office. Looking on in the rear are, left to right, Willis Dittman, Mrs. Mary Edd and Hal White, co-chairmen of finance for the Society. The fine old house will be restored to a community historic shrine, museum and meeting place.

Historical Group Takes Title to Walden House

Programs Fall 2023

Sept 16, 2023 - 12 pm Walking Tour of Walden Historic Monuments. Meet at the Jacob T Walden House at noon.

Sept 20, 2023 – 7 pm General Meeting, open to public, free. Join us as we dip into the Archives and Tour the Jacob T Walden House.

Sept 29, 2023 – 7 pm - 9 pm Lisa Morrison, psychic medium fundraiser.

Sept 30, 2023 - Harvest Fest at Bradley Field, Look for us!

Oct 18, 2023 - 7 pm General Meeting, open to the public, free. Carl Aiello will give a talk about the 40th Anniversary of the Wallkill Valley Times at the Jacob T Walden House

Oct 21, 2023 – 1 pm Wooster Marker unveiling, Corner of Hill St. and Elm St.

Oct 21, 2023 – 2 pm 65th Anniversary and Open House Celebration, Jacob T Walden House.

Nov 15, 2023 – 7 pm General Meeting, open to public, free. Hal VanAken to present a program about covered bridges.

Dec 5, 2023 – 1-4 pm Christmas Tea and Open House

The Walden House Gets a Facelift

Logan Heany and Barry's Grove

Logan Heany, from Edens's Green and Barry's Grove did some much-needed tree trimming this August on the property of the Jacob T. Walden House. Logan and his helper trimmed a large pine tree between the Firehouse and Walden House. Then they moved to the front yard and trimmed the large maples so they are no longer hanging over the Jacob T. Walden House. Once the roof has been replaced, there are future plans for some landscaping. Many Thanks to Logan for the time and effort he has donated to keep the property looking great.

Crumbling sidewalks – anyone who has walked or driven past the Historical Society property has noticed the red cones preventing a person from walking on the heaved and crumbling sidewalk. Tom Tighe has graciously offered to remove the sidewalks and fill with dirt. This project is happening as we go to print. Thanks to Tom and his helper.



Thank you, Logan Heaney from Barry's Grove for a much needed tree trimming at the house.

*The Historical Society
of the
Walden and Wallkill Valley*

Due to high demand – we present -

**Lisa Morrison
Psychic /Medium**

September 29th from 7 pm to 9 pm

\$50.00/person

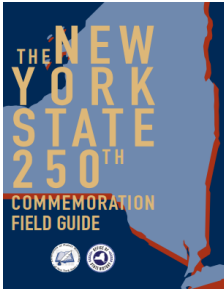
*Jacob T. Walden House
34 N. Montgomery St, Walden, NY 12586*

Light refreshments will be served.

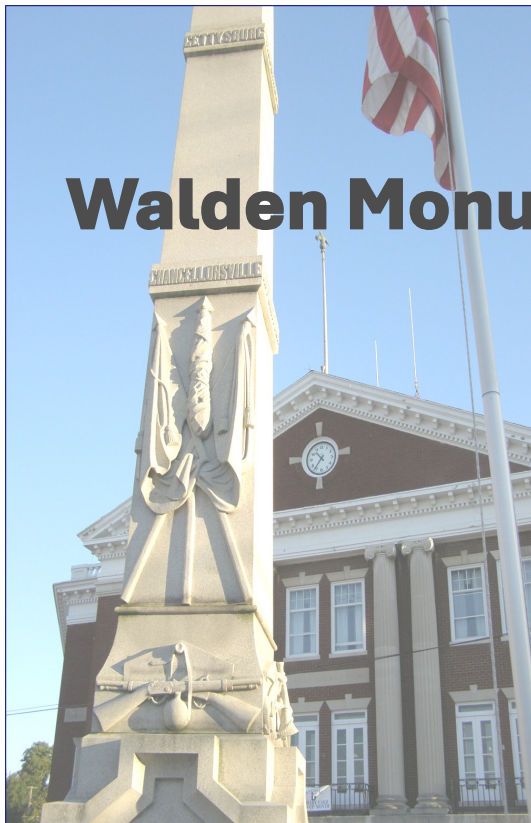
Reservations required - Contact Sandy @ 845-401-2795

*Checks to be made out to Walden Historical Society.
Mail payment to: The Historical Society of the Walden and Wallkill Valley,
PO Box 48, Walden, NY 12586*

Group reading/ no guarantee of contact or message



The Historic Preservation Commission of the Town of Montgomery has formed a REV WAR 250 Committee to promote local activities and programs to commemorate the 250th Anniversary Celebration of the American Revolution and the founding of the Republic. We invite the participation of all interested persons. Please contact Mary Ellen Matise, Town Historian at 845-778-1369 or email waldentrustee@frontiernet.net



Walden Monument Walking Tour

SAT Sept 16, 2023

12 NOON

**Jacob T Walden
House**

34 No Montgomery St

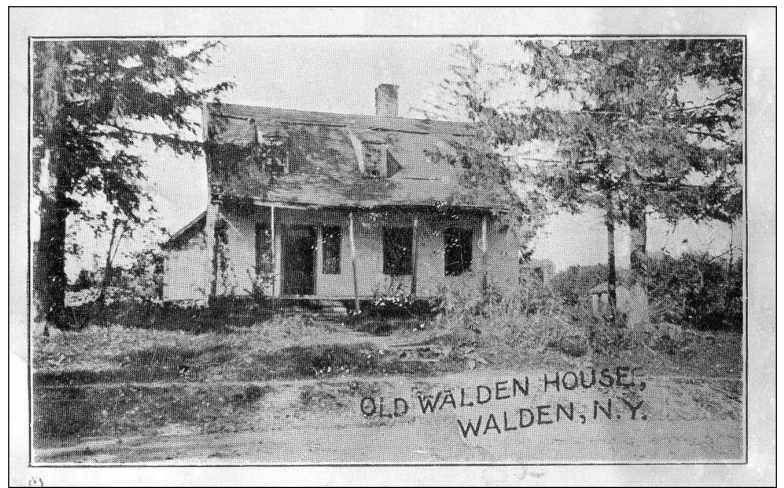
Snip and Clip...use this coupon on your next meal at Franco's

**We Invite you to participate in our Dining to Donate Fundraiser,
Franco's Pizzeria & Italian Restaurant
74 Oak Street, Walden 12586**

**on the last Tuesday of each Month, 5-9 PM
Eat In or Take Out
Must Use Coupon!**

**Franco's generously gives 20% of your meal purchase to the Historical Society
Thank You from The Historical Society of Walden and the Walkill Valley**





This year is the 65th anniversary of the incorporation of the Historical Society of the Walden and Wallkill Valley.
We invite everyone to join us at the Walden House on October 21, 2023 for a celebration of the past 65 years.



All photos are part of a slide program prepared by Mickey Millspaugh about the history of the Society and the restoration of the house...available for viewing at the October 21st celebration.



Thank You, Declan Reilly

The Walden House now has an access ramp on the Wait Street side door.

In the fall of 2022, Declan Reilly approached the Board of Trustees with a proposal. He was an Eagle Scout candidate and wanted to do his Eagle Scout project at the Jacob T. Walden House. After some discussion and assessment of the needs of the Society, a project was designed. The project was to paint the new porch columns (previously installed summer 2022) and install a handicap ramp for the entrance way on the south side of the Jacob T. House. This past May, Boy Scout Troop 31 and volunteers, under the guidance of Declan made this a reality. They spent the day painting, mowing, planting and installing the handicap ramp. Declan and all the volunteers did an amazing job, and the Historical Society of the Walden and Wallkill Valley really appreciates their efforts.



Walden History Unit Gets Bodine Bequest

Mr. Houghtaling said the society plans to use a great portion of the money to restore the Jacob Walden House as a museum. He said it is possible the work could be completed by the end of this year.

In 1963 the Society received a bequest from the estate of Charles J. Bodine, Historian for the Village of Walden and Town of Montgomery. The money was used for many needed repairs, including replacing the tin roof with cedar shakes. That was 60 years ago. This Old House will soon have a new roof.

Thank you, MAX Construction

Everyone knows that the Historical Society is on a never-ending quest to raise money for the Walden House and Shafer House maintenance. In 2022 we raised enough money to contribute to the cost of getting the front porch repaired. The 2023 goal was to continue the fund raising in an attempt to raise money for repairs or replacement of the shaker shingle roof. This past spring, The Wallkill Valley Times did a great article on the Historical Society and our fund-raising efforts. This article caught the eye of MAX Home Improvement. A spokesman for the construction company called Barbara Imbasciani with a proposition. After telling her to sit for this big news, he stated that MAX Home Improvement was going to donate everything needed to give the Jacob T. Walden House a new roof. What a wonderful generous offer!!! The Board of Trustees and MAX Home Improvement have met many times to discuss their offer and to discuss the logistics. We are currently waiting for approval of the building permit and the project will get started.

The backbone of every organization and the key to its survival is an active membership.

Please consider joining the Walden Historical Society...keeping the history of our community alive.



Please complete and return this form.

Make checks payable to: Walden Historical Society

Mail to: PO Box #48, Walden, NY 12586

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/Village: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Would you like to receive notices of upcoming events via e-mail? Yes _____ No _____

Would you be interested in receiving you copy of the Tattler via email?

Yes _____ No _____

Student (K - 12) \$7.50 _____;

Single \$20.00 _____;

Family \$30.00 _____

Business \$50.00 (entitles you to a free business card ad on our website as a "Thank You")

Donation (optional, but always appreciated) \$ _____

I would like to volunteer for the following:

_____ Annual Yard Sale

_____ House Cleaning

_____ Fund Raising

_____ Publications

_____ Baking

_____ House Maintenance

_____ Assisting Archives

_____ Local History Day

_____ Decorating for Holiday Events

_____ Christmas Tea

_____ Write Article for newsletter

How I/we may help in some other way:

OWNERSHIP SUMMARY WALDEN HOUSE up to the time that the house was purchased by Jacob T. Walden.

YEAR	GRANTEE	GRANTOR	LIBER & PAGE
ORANGE COUNTY:			
1813	Jacob T Walden	Thomas Fullerton*	Liber P page 42
1812	Jacob T Walden	John McElhany	Liber P page 39
1807	Thomas Fullerton	William Erwin	Liber P page 36
	Wm Erwin held the mortgage of \$4090.00		Liber F page 569 (Mortgages)
	Jacob Walden paid off the mortgage when he purchased the property in 1813		
ULSTER COUNTY:			
1793	William Erwin	James McEvers	
1786	James McEvers	Charles McEvers	Vol. LL page 399
	In 1786 William Erwin was the tenant of the McEvers Brothers		
1763	James and Charles McEvers	Patrick McCay	
	Parcel of land known as the David Hays Farm—deceased prior to 1761. Dr David Hays Deed was for 1000 acres.		
1719	Edward Gatehouse received patent of 1000 acres. His nephew, Richard Gatehouse became Administrator in 1741 when Edward died. John Gatehouse, father of Richard and Edward's brother, became administrator when Richard died in 1761.		

*Fullerton sold part of his purchase to John McElhany.
In 1812 Jacob T Walden purchased the McElhany parcel.



A depiction of the Walden House on the 1887 L.R. Burleigh Panoramic map. <https://www.loc.gov/item/75694861/>

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Barbara Imbasciani-
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Sandra Magill
Mary Ellen Matise
Lisa Melville-McIver
Susan Millsbaugh
Chris Danny Moore
Howard Oldrey
Nancy Phelps
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VicePresident
Gail Yeaple
Open

Historical Society of Walden and the Wallkill Valley
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