Ischua Valley Historical Society

EARLY TAVERNS IN FRANKLINVILLE AND CADIZ

In 1806, settlement was commenced in Franklinville by Joseph McCluer. In 1816 he built a frame house for a tavern. This was the first one recorded. As all traveling had to be done by stagecoach, taverns were needed along the route, where frequent stops were necessary to allow passengers and horses to rest.

It was interesting to learn that the Masonic Lodge started in Franklinville in October 1824 and had its lodge room in the McCluer Tavern. In 1819, Jonathon Lyon built a tavern on the lot where Barney Harrison's diner was located. About 1821, John Andrews came to town and put up a log house and barn on lot 53, located south of Cadiz, on the route, and kept a tavern known as the "Half Way House" for about 16 years. Later, in 1837, he rented this to Henry Morgan, son of Samuel and Sarah Morgan for a period of 4 years. In 1825 Pardon T. Jewell rented the McCluer Tavern and kept it until 1828.

In the year 1829, there were 4 taverns in the limits of the township between Ellicottville and Franklinville. One of the best known was the "Brown Eagle" built by John Patterson in 1830, located a mile west of the village in the Narrows. He ran this for several years then sold it to Jarvis Stone, who kept it until his death. It was one of the landmarks of the town until it burned.

Merlin Mead and Seth Ely built a hotel on Elm Street in 1830 and was kept by them as a temperance hotel. It was located on the site of the A&P Store and adjacent buildings. The next owner was named Judevine. In 1834, Mr. Stillwell ran it. After his death in 1837, his family kept on with it until 1839. Next was John Patterson in 1844. Others after Patterson were Matthew McGeorge, then Thomas Walker for a short time, followed by Butterfield, Ora Bond, Sturgis, Garret, Wilbur Huyck, Bates, A. Campbell, and finally Wilkins. The building was later destroyed by fire.

Other taverns recalled were: a large one in Cadiz, conducted by Clark for many years, next taken over by Hezekiah Crane Sexton until 1842. His son Elisha Sexton was later landlord. Franklinville town meetings used to be held at this tavern. The building also burned as had many of the others.

Samuel McCluer was proprietor of an inn on the Fred McCluer farm. Mr. Chamberlain kept a tavern up until 1836. He built a frame house on lot 47, now Pierce Hill, the first frame house to be built in the western part of town. The corner where the CHRONICLE JOURNAL was located, (corner of Park Square and Pine Street), was the site of the "Railroad Hotel" which burned in 1874. A later hotel on Elm Street was called the "Star Hotel" and one of the first landlords was Thomas Farrand. This was located where the Frank James Store was, (Martiny Brothers), and was a three-story building. A later manager of the "Star" was M. Brooks. The names of John Swan and Hiram Marsh have been mentioned in connection with the hotel.

Another hotel is recalled as having been where the J. L. Williams house was located on South Main Street, the lot north of the former Roger's Shurfine. This hotel was called the "Mansion House," and was owned by the McCluers.

There is a separate history of the Globe Hotel, later known as the Hotel Lester which burned in 1989.

This article was prepared by Marjorie Graves and appeared in the CHRONICLE JOURNAL, February, 1937.

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Page 1 of 1