



A few years later, Mr. Tucker interested Joseph E. Ewell in the growth of the village and the Ewell Addition was developed which includes Emerson, Irving and Park Streets, not shown on map (previous page). Most of this section was the Ewell orchard. Mr. Tucker acted as the agent for Mr. Ewell in the undertaking and later purchased from Mr. Ewell a tract north of Park Street and extending to the village line. This was divided into lots and in 1902 the new Union Free School was erected on his land at Park Street and Crittenden Road.



Recent photo of 13305 Broadway  
Tucker residence until 1960

The Tucker family lived in the home which is at 13305 Broadway. His wife and two daughters, Grace and Gertrude continued to live there after his death. When the house burned, the daughters had it rebuilt just as it had been in order for their invalid mother to continue to live in familiar surroundings. Grace and Gertrude were still living there until 1960 when Grace died.

The Tucker family was active in village affairs for over eighty years.

*Ruth Davis*, Archivist

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## EARLY DAYS AT THE POST OFFICE



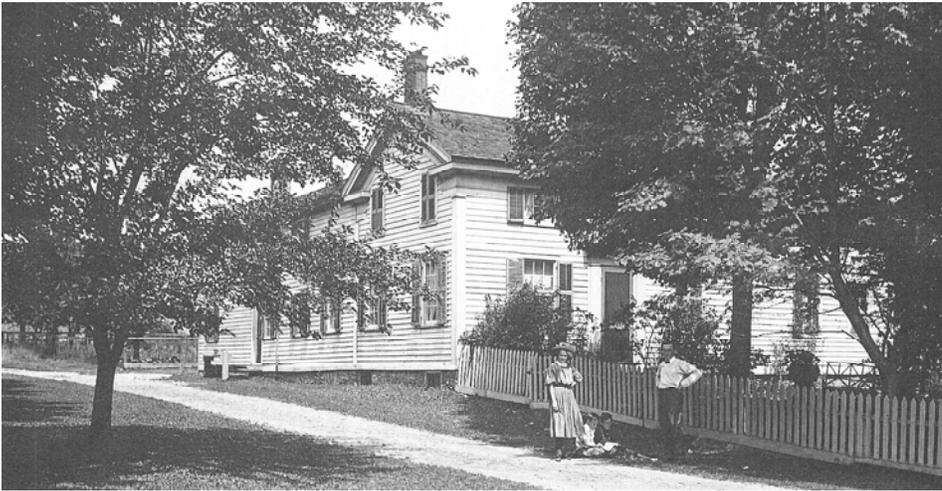
Before home delivery of mail in the village, postal patrons would gather at the post office several times a day and wait for the mail to be sorted. At that time the post office was located in what is now the card shop of the Alden Pharmacy. George Klicker would bring the mailbags from the Erie Depot on Exchange Street in a two-wheeled cart. That cart is on display upstairs in the Historical Building.

It wasn't until 1960 that mail carriers delivered mail throughout the village.

*Janet Koelbl*, Historian

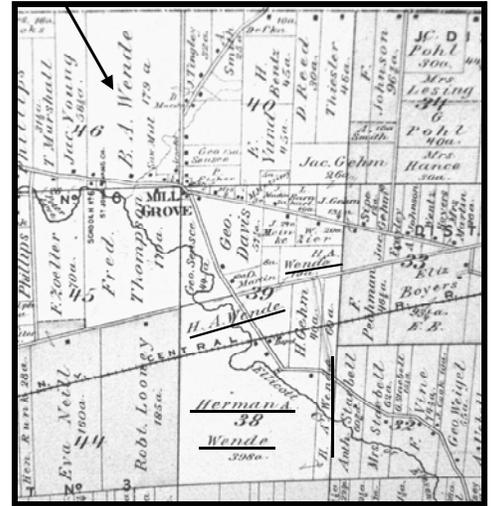
**CENTURY HOUSE  
11560 GENESEE STREET  
ALDEN, NY**

***Sally Genco offers the following historical account of her home.***



Caption on photo:

“Millgrove-Margaret Wende Lufkin-Earnest’s daughter-circa 1905”



HAMLET OF “MILL GROVE” 1880

It is with great pride that I give some background on my wonderful old farmhouse in Millgrove. The Genco family is only the fifth family to own the Wende family home since the Wendes arrived from Germany in 1848 and turned the property into a working farm. That’s not much change over the last 160 years. When we bought the house in September 1974, the search went back to the year 1838 when Farmer’s Loan and Trust Company took possession from Willhelm Willink.

Although there is no earlier written record, it seems at least the main part of the house was in existence at that time; anecdotal history says it was built about 1817. The randomly spaced, hand-hewn beams and handmade square nails are indicative of such early construction. I have been told the planks are hemlock and hard as rock.



RECENT PHOTO OF THE GENCO RESIDENCE AT 11560 GENESEE ST.

(Continue on back)

In 1840, Moses Case bought the entire property that extended from Genesee St. all the way to where the NY Thruway is now for the handsome sum of \$1134. In 1857, Case sold it to Bernard Wende, newly arrived from Germany with his brother (refer to arrow on 1880 map, previous page).

The two men had served their time in the German army and were about to be impressed into the Prussian army. Their father, fearing they would not survive another war, gave them their inheritance to spend on land and sent them off to make their fortune in America. The several hundred-acre property and house stayed in the Bernard Wende family for 123 years to 1963. The last of the Wende family to live here, Dorothy Doud Wende Coulson sold the property to Alfred and Estelle Franzek who in turn sold the house and one acre of land to the Loomis family in December 1972, nine years later. Less than two years after that, we arrived to bring up our five sons here in Alden.

Ted Wende (James Theodore Wende) who was descended from the original family, lived on Stage Road for many years. I had several interesting conversations with him, learning about his family and of the history of our home. Before he passed away a few years ago, he came to see what work we had done to update the house and presented me with a notebook filled with photos and information, a royal gift. A copy of that information is now in the Alden Historical Building.

Included is a photo from the 1850s showing the house in its present conformation, including the room at the east end of the front with rectangular windows rather than the arched windows there now. In the early 1900s, the bedroom above that room was where Wilhemina Wende's great nieces and nephews slept when they came to visit for Christmas.

They huddled together under a warm feather bed on a big rope mattress covered with another feather bed, à la John Denver. Her own bedroom was above the living room and had a large grate in the floor. One of the children would open the grate before "Aunt Minnie" went to bed so the heat from the fireplace could drift upward. What is now the master bedroom over the kitchen was the cold storage room where the hams and bacon and bags of potatoes and onions were stored for the winter.

The creamery building on the Pafk Stable's land behind the house originally sat at the corner of Genesee and N. Millgrove Rd. Gary and Diane Pafk's home was the house where the caretaker of Wendelin Farm lived with his family when the property was a working dairy farm until sometime in the early 1900s.

Wilhemina's brother came to visit around 1920, a wealthy and generous man who had made his fortune in the gas industry in Canada. Through his efforts, the house was updated with central heat and inside bathrooms, a great boon to his sister.

Mrs. Coulson had the swimming pool installed in 1958, one of the very first Beauty Pools. The story goes that one of the young men who worked in the barns was told he could use the pool to cool off on a hot summer day. He gratefully jumped in, dirty clothing, manure-covered boots, and all. The very next day, his employer had an outside shower installed at the edge of the pool and gently told him to use it before he swam.

There is much more information on this lovely old house and about the prestigious Wende family history, including their community service in the Town of Alden. Stop by the Alden Historical Society and ask.

*Sally Genco, Owner & resident*

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## **HOUSE BUILT BEFORE 1908?**

If your house was built before 1908 it will qualify to be one of Alden's Century Homes. Your home has earned the right to proudly wear a century home plaque. Alden's Century Homes are (with the owner's permission) photographed. These photos are kept in the historical society's archives. Century home plaques can be purchased from the Alden Historical Society by calling Marlene Roll or stopping in at the Historical Building on Saturday. Plaques cost \$35.00 each. Phone No. at the Historical Building is **716 937 3700**

# Curator's Corner

This is a Thank You note to some wonderful people:

Thank you to the following Saturday Volunteers: Laura Airey, Harriet Aldinger, Joe Anzalone, Conrad and Carol Borucki, Doris Brade, Debbie and Randy Crist, Ralph and Ruth Davis, Judy Hotchkin, Janet Koelbl, Dorie Kostecky, Laura Loehr, Carl and Ann Matthies, Janet Robinson, Keith and Mary Stone, Roberta Vincent, and Agnes Weisbeck.

Thank you to those who have donated artifacts or ephemera to our collections since January: Laura Airey, Ardith Edenhofer, Bea Haehl, Judy Hotchkin, Doris Koch, Janet Koelbl, Lucille Kruschke, Joan Marsden, Ernestine Osucha, Janet Robinson, Kris Rogers, Marlene Roll, Janet Seitz, Dennis Smith, and Faith Wendling. Your contributions help us to achieve our mission to preserve, promote and present the history of the Town of Alden and its people.

Karen Muchow, *Curator*

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## **WELCOME NEW MEMBERS:**

### **NEW LIFE MEMBERS:**

Gilbert & Sandra Dussault  
Florian R. Buczek  
Sylvia L. Stevens-Buczek  
Pamela Taylor Saupe

### **NEW ANNUAL MEMBERS:**

Helen Creighton  
Bernie & Ellen Schenkler  
Wayne Weinsheimer

### **NEW BUSINESS MEMBER:**

The Elwood-Jordans Agency Inc.  
INDEPENDENT INSURANCE AGENCY SINCE 1874  
BBOWMAN@ELWOODJORDANS.COM  
13361 Broadway Phone (716) 937-9196  
Alden, NY 14004 Fax 716) 937-9552

### **RENEWED MEMBERS:**

Doris Brade  
Buddy Czechowski  
Sue Galbraith  
Florence Kegler  
Jack & Anna Walters  
Antoinette Wiltberger

## **BUSINESS MEMBERSHIPS:**

The Alden Historical Society is pleased to announce that it is now accepting business memberships. The annual business membership dues have been set at \$45.00. We are pleased to announce that Mr. Brooks D. Bowman, president of The Elwood-Jordans Agency Inc., submitted an application and dues to be the first. Mr. Bowman encourages all local businesses to come on board to support the Alden Historical Society.

## **LANDMARK COLLECTIBLES**

This building is currently occupied by Henry's Candy. Originally it was occupied by Simme's Meat Market, then by Randall and Parsons Meat Market, then by Garas Meat Market and eventually by Foley's Auto Parts.

The price for this replica is \$25.00. You may call Marlene Roll at 937-4549 or stop in at the Historical Building on Saturdays from 10 am to 2 pm to place your order.



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## **Your Culinary Skills Requested**

Each month at meetings, volunteers are kind enough to bring in refreshments for all to enjoy after the program. We finally have everything covered for 2008, but not for 2009. If you would like to help with refreshments for a particular month in 2009, please contact me by phone (937-6346) or by email (lawloehr@gmail.com), or speak with me at the next meeting. Thanks ahead of time to all of you who volunteer to share your culinary skills!

*Laura Loehr*, *Secretary*

# MONTHLY PROGRAMS

JULY 03, 2008..... Trustees Meeting

AUGUST 14, 2008 ..... Thursday Night at the Movies  
7:30 pm at the Alden Community Center



Members Ralph and Ruth Davis have offered to show movies of Alden and its residents they have made over the years, particularly of the Alden Village Centennial of 1969.

If you lived in Alden at that time, this is your chance to relive those precious times and maybe see some folks you are familiar with, or if you came to Alden afterwards, you can witness some of Alden's past on film.

Pass the popcorn, please!

SEPTEMBER 04, 2008 ..... Trustees Meeting  
7:00 pm at the Alden Historical Bldg.  
Open to the Membership

SEPTEMBER 2008 ..... Progressive Dinner  
Bennington, Attica and Alden

Join us for a fun filled evening at our Progressive Dinner in September, date to be announced. We will begin with hors d'oeuvres at the Bennington Historical Society, followed by the main course at the Attica Historical Society. The dinner concludes at our own Alden Historical Building with plenty of homemade desserts. Details will be announced in the Alden Advertiser or contact any officer of the historical society.

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## NOTICE

### ALDEN COMMUNITY CENTER

Beginning August 2008 the Alden Historical Society will hold the PROGRAM MEETINGS at the ALDEN COMMUNITY CENTER. This is due to the large turnout we have been experiencing at these meetings. Fortunately many town residents, as well as visitors from nearby towns, have found these programs to be highly informative and enjoyable. The Community Center offers more seating capacity as well as more and better accessible parking thus allowing our program meetings to continue to expand. Note that the first program meeting (no business to be conducted) at the Community Center is on Thursday, August 14. We look forward to seeing you there.

### TELEPHONE INSTALLED

Note that the Alden Historical Building now has an in house phone with an answering machine. You are encouraged to call with any questions or comments you may have regarding the historical society or for information you may be researching. The number is:

716 937 3700

**ALDEN HISTORICAL BUILDING:**

The ALDEN HISTORICAL SOCIETY'S many exhibits are located in the Alden Historical Building at 13213 Broadway in the village, across from the bank. The purpose of the historical society is to show how the people of Alden have lived and worked and played. Here you may study the everyday things they made, used, wore, and cherished. The phone number is **716 937 3700**.

**HOURS**

The Alden Historical Building is open to the public every Saturday from 10 to 2 pm. It is also open during the Alden Art Show in Sept. and during Christmas-in-the-Park in early Dec. Tours for individuals and groups may be arranged by calling 937-3700 or 937-6400.

**MEETINGS:**

Program meetings are held at the Alden Community Center on the second Thursday of the month at 7:30 pm. Notices will be published in the Alden Advertiser in advance of the program.

Open to the public these programs are both informative and interesting. Many times a guest speaker is present. You are very welcome to come and share your memories and experiences about the evening's program. Afterwards enjoy an informal social complete with homemade refreshments.

Trustee meetings are held at the Alden Historical Building on the first Thursday of the month (every other month) at 7:00 pm.

The trustee meetings are open to the membership, thus we will no longer hold a formal business meeting on program nights.

**OFFICERS**

President.....Roberta Vincent  
Vice President... Sal Sardella  
Secretary.....Laura Loehr  
Treasurer ..... Ralph Davis  
Curator..... Karen Muchow  
Archivist.....Ruth Davis

Society Historian . Janet Koelbl  
Alden Town Historian: .....  
..... Leonard Weisbeck  
Alden Town Board Liaison: .....  
..... Arlene Cooke  
Editor..... Carl Matthies  
Publicity.....Judy Hotchkin

**TRUSTEES**

Ralph Davis                      Marlene Roll  
Judy Hotchkin                 Sal Sardella  
Joe Kipfer                        Ralph Stoos  
Laura Loehr                      Roberta Vincent  
Carl Matthies                    Paul Werner

**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION:**

New members are always welcome. Your support will ensure that the Alden Historical Society will continue to grow and prosper for years to come. Please make your check out as noted below.

**DUES**

Single.....\$5.00  
Family ..... \$10.00  
Lifetime .....\$50.00  
Business .....\$45.00

NAME .....  
ADDRESS.....  
.....  
PHONE ..... E-MAIL.....

A check payable to: *ALDEN HISTORICAL SOCIETY* may be mailed to:  
Judy Hotchkin, Membership Secretary  
Alden Historical Society  
13213 Broadway  
Alden, NY 1400

DONATIONS AND MEMORIALS ARE ALWAYS GRATEFULLY ACCEPTED.  
ALDEN HISTORICAL BUILDING PHONE No. **716 937 3700**

## MISSION STATEMENT

The Alden Historical Society, founded in 1965, is a volunteer-supported organization whose mission is to preserve, promote and present the history of the Town of Alden and its people.

### DATES TO REMEMBER for SUMMER 2008

July 03..... Trustees Meeting, 7:00 pm

August 14..... Program Meeting, 7:30 pm  
“Thursday Night at the Movies”  
Held in the Alden Community Center

September 04..... Trustees Meeting, 7:00 pm  
Open to the membership  
Held in the Alden Historical Building

September ..... Progressive Dinner  
Date, etc. to be announced in the Alden Advertiser

ALDEN HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
13213 BROADWAY  
ALDEN, NY 14004

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Postage Paid  
Alden, NY 14004  
Permit No. 6

[www.alden.erie.gov](http://www.alden.erie.gov)



ALDEN HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
Chartered by the Board of Regents  
New York State Education Department