LOOKING BACK

by HHS Board Members Shelly Gautreau and Nancy Young

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HAGUE'S HISTORICAL SITES

With the assistance of Town Historian, Mrs. Vila Fitzgerald, the Warren County Bi-Centennial Commission has published a list of historical markers, historical sites and points of interest in the Town of Hague. Here, in capsulated form, is the list.

Historical Markers

Sabbath Day Point adjoining James Young's place which reads: "Through this place passed General Henry Knox in the winter of 1775-76 to deliver to General Washington at Cambridge the train of artillery from Fort Ticonderoga used to force the British out of Boston". It was erected during the Sesquicentennial of the American Revolution. ***(marker #1)***

Another marker, erected by the Warren County Centennial Commission in 1913 and which can be seen at the town park, reads: "The Town of Hague, known as Rochester until April 6, 1808 formed from the Town of Bolton February 28, 1807". ***(marker #2)***

Historical Sites

Rogers Rock– Where Major Robert Rogers, in the winter of 1757-58, being pursued by Indians, went on snowshoes with his men to the top of the mountain, only to be stopped at the precipice leading to the lake. He turned his snowshoes around and retraced his steps down a ravine eventually reaching the lake. He had earlier thrown his supplies over the precipice.

Friends Point– This was once an Indian Scout encampment. On a dark night, two scouting parties met here during the French and Indian Wars and prepared for combat. They discovered they were friends and not foes; hence the name.

Sabbath Day Point– In July 1759 General Amherst landed here with a force of 12,000 men and passed the Sabbath Day in religious services; hence the name.

Points of Interest

Calamity Rock–About one-half mile north of Hague where the John Jay burned on July 29, 1856. Six lives were lost.

Graphite Mines–On Route 8 where graphite mines operated from about 1880 to 1924.

Silver Bay Association–Where the first Boy Scout training camp for leaders in the United States was held in 1910.

Old abandoned cemetery–On Route 9N about one-half mile south of the town park, where five Revolutionary War veterans are buried.

Wardboro– About 12 miles south of the town park, three miles off Route 9N, was once a thriving settlement named for a number of Ward families who first settled there. An old cemetery marks the spot.

West Hague– An area about four miles west of Hague on Route 8. This was the most thickly populated part of the town in the 1800's. An abandoned cemetery remains but there are no other markers.

Tannery Site– Located below the bridge on Tannery Brook in West Hague; it was run by Irish and Wright.

Cooper Shop– Located on West Hague Road and operated by Andrew Bevins in the early 1800's.

Two Mill Wheels– Can be seen atop stone pillars on either side of the bridge leading to the New York Department of Environmental Conservation fish weir.

Lower Falls– Site of the first grist mill built in the early 1800's. Owned by a Mr. Kenny, later by Rufus Rising and operated by H.H. Harrison.

Upper Falls– Site of a gristmill brushback factory and cider mill which were operated until 1910. The flume and water wheel can still be seen.

Four Chimneys– Brick house about four miles north of Hague on Route 9N. It was built in 1822 by Warner and William Cook and is now occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Stanley. The bricks were made on the premises.

Jabe Pond– Named for Jabe Patchen, is located a mile west of Route 9N in Silver Bay. Jabe Patchen was the son of Samuel, the first supervisor of the Town of Hague and a Revolutionary War hero.

Lake Shore Graphite Mines– Located off Route 9N about a quarter mile atop Rising Hill. This unsuccessful mining operation continued from 1898 to 1901. The foundations of boarding houses and store, a waste pile and closed off mine entrances are all that remain.

50 YEARS LATER – JUNE 2025

Additional markers are now at various sites in Hague:

Marker #3 – Arcady – on 9N – Camps from 1917 to 1970

Marker #4 – Hague Heritage Cemetery – off 9N – 1803 to 1870

Marker #5 – Hague Steamboat Landing – 9N – circa 1850

Marker #6 – Garfield's Hotel and Tavern – 9N – 1810

Marker #7 – Annual Outboard Marathons – 9N -1954 to 1964

Marker #8 – Hague Central School – Rt. 8 – 1927 to 1979

Marker #9 – Graphite – Rt.8 – 1880 to 1921

Signs describing churches and other places of interest are also in various places in Hague for you to enjoy while walking about town.

Since we are celebrating the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution this year, we hope some of our own history will be of interest and pride to you and all of us who call this place home.