LOOKING BACK

by Hague Historical Society Board Members Shelly Gautreau and Nancy Young

The Hague Chronicle (Excerpts) September 1975

Hague 1830–1855

The earliest federal census on file in the Warren County Clerk's office covered the year 1830. The state census of agriculture and industry taken in 1855 is also on file. From these censuses much of Hague's early history can be gleaned.

The population of Hague in 1830 was 720; 375 males and 345 females. Persons aged 20 and younger numbered 415; those over 20 numbered 305. There were only 21 "senior citizens", those 65 and older, about 3% of the population. This should be compared with 10.5% in 1950; 13.1% in 1960; and 14.6% in 1970. There were 117 families averaging about 6 persons per family.

The census listed on one page "white people" and on the other "slaves and free colored persons".

The census of 1855 came in two parts – the regular census which listed the 615 people now residing in Hague and the census of agriculture and industry. The latter listed 123 persons as farmers, 7 as school teachers, including three daughters of the McClanathan family, 10 coopers, 4 sawyers, 3 blacksmiths, 3 carpenters, and two men engaged in lumbering. There was a Baptist minister, a physician, a miller, a seamstress and a tailoress, and a millwright and a wheelwright. A hotel keeper, Charles Garfield, and a merchant, O.C. Baker rounded out the list.

There were 100 homes in the town – one brick owned by William Cook, one of "blocks" owned by John McClanathan, 12 of logs, and 86 were of frame construction.

The farms ranged in size from about 500 acres down to 8. The average size was 163 acres – 56 acres described as "improved" and 107 as "unimproved". The value of the farms was stated to be $48,711. or an average value of $547 with an average value per acre including buildings of $3.35. Farm stock was valued at $23,000 for the entire town, an average of $258 per farm. The average value of farm tools was $60.

Principal farm crops were wheat, oats, corn and potatoes. The farms produced 6179 bushels of apples plus 78 barrels of cider, 997 pounds of maple sugar and 12 gallons of maple molasses, and 1056 pounds of honey and 54 pounds of beeswax. No wine was produced.

There were no shops, factories or mines in the town but five saw mills are listed with an output of 117,000 board feet of lumber produced in one year. The only power was water power.

Wages, exclusive of board, were from $14 to $26 a month.

Update – 50 years later

The first Federal Population Census was taken in 1790. (National Archives). In the census of 1980, the "senior citizens" percentage in Hague was 45%.

As of 2025, the population of Hague is at 635 persons; 581 of these are adults, which boasts a "senior citizen" count of 240 and a median age of 62.4 years. (Imagine – in 1830, those age 20 and younger numbered 415. In our timeline, that number is less than 60. So sad!)

The "World Population Review" puts the poverty rate in Hague at 11.8%.

"Bizapedia" lists 58 active registrations of companies in Hague, while the Hague, NY Business Directory lists 25.

There is so much information collected in a Federal and/or State Census, including ancestry. To access Federal and State census records, you can utilize online resources like FamilySearch.org and Ancestry. com, visit the National Archives (NARA), or go to your local library.

Try it, you may happen upon something of interest!

TI ARTS

The Adirondack Pastel Society show will be from now **until September 13th.**

Ti Arts will host its annual *Petals and Paintings* event on **September 11, 12, and 13, 2025.** Participants are invited to create a flower arrangement inspired by a work of art, using elements such as line, color, composition, and mood.

Those wishing to take part may sign up at the gallery **by September 10th** during open hours, which are **Wednesday through Saturday, 10 am to 4 pm**. Participants may select a painting from the member room or from the Adirondack Pastel Society Show. After choosing, they will record their name, contact information, the title, and the artist's name on the sign-up sheet. Paintings already selected may not be chosen





LEFT: Pastel painting by Diane Leifheit; RIGHT; Art from the Petals and Paintings Show

(Continued on p. 11)