

SOUTH SIDE – EAST MAIN STREET



236 E. Main
This is an Italianate style home, the builder and date are unknown. The brackets under the roof have been removed. It was once the home of

Mr. Messer, a custodian at the Munro Collegiate Institute, and later the home of Ida Davis. It is now a multi-use dwelling owned by D. V. Wise, Inc. (incorporated in 1962), the builder of the housing developments known as Olympic Hills, Willow Lane and Hidden Hills.

In 1797, William Stevens built the first store in Elbridge.

In 1797, the first Elbridge physician arrived, Dr. John Frisbe.



228 E. Main
The Italianate style home of Moses Gorham and Susan Philips Gorham (his second wife) was built in 1865 on land sub-divided in 1858 from the farm of Luke Ranney. The Gorhams had farm holdings on Route 5 east, but wished to move

into the Village upon retirement. The front hall of the home contained a beautiful winding staircase (dismantled in 1984 and stored), the centerpiece that led to the second floor. Another set of stairs led up to a cupola, long since removed. The window on the third floor front is called a "Syracuse Window" found only in central New York. Double arch windows give it an extra flair. Because the plot was too small for farming for the growing family, the sons of Moses Gorham sold the house. One son, Harry, and his wife Mattie Mackaig (parents of H. Durwood and Donald, both born at 228 East Main), bought the Joseph Gorham farm on Gorham Road, now the model dairy farm of the Hourigan family. There was once a restaurant called "Blossom Heath" in the home when owned by Matthew Frawley, probably in the 1930's. It was later owned by John Milligan who sold it to Jeanette and Curtis Fulmer in 1952. It was purchased in 1954 by St. Patrick's Church of Jordan, which still owns it. It was used for a time as a religious release-time center, but is now operated as Mahan-Gorham Manor, an enriched living center for senior citizens under the management of Loretto Geriatric Center. The interior has been altered somewhat. As a 1988 Mother's Day feature, NBC nationally televised a program called "Ladies of the Manor" (although it is not limited to women) from the home. It is an Onondaga County Landmark.

NORTH SIDE – EAST MAIN STREET



245B E. Main
This very old commercial building has survived many changes and has had many owners. Its primary use has been that of a restaurant or

tavern. The owners include: Jay MacCollum 1930's to 1940's, James and Anne Large, Vera and Norman Shenton, and Rene and Cynthia Calkins. It has operated as Shenton's, Sledgens, Al's Inn, Meakers, and until early 1999, Bonnie's Creations, a flower and gift shop. Extensively remodeled, including replacing the window on the east side with a double door, it reopened as Maureen Carroll's bakery named "Essentially Bread". In an earlier remodeling, the building had been re-sided, the windows on the lower floor replaced, but those on the upper floor remain. An addition along the east side of the building includes two roof dormers.

THE ELBRIDGE SHOPPING PLAZA—Owned and developed by Lawrence E. Gray, Inc., construction began in 1968. It is now the property of Mildred C. and Lawrence E. Gray. (No photo)



241 E. Main

The Elbridge Free Library was built partially on the site of "Under the Maples", a roadside restaurant that also catered to the comforts of the early automobile trade. It probably offered one of the few restrooms on Main Street between Syracuse and Auburn. When it was no longer usable as a road-side stand, it became the storage shed for the newly constructed Danforth Lumber Company office building to its west (#241). The lumber business, however, was not successful. In 1967 Lawrence Gray Construction, the owner of the building and all of the property that was to become the Elbridge Plaza, sold the building to the Village so that it could move the contents of the library from its badly overcrowded quarters at 111 South Street. A children's room and storage were added in 1974. The library was doubled in size in 1998.

In 1798, Isaac Strong built the first grist mill.

In 1799, Squire Munro arrived in Elbridge.