

THE YELLOW WASP

Lima Historical Society September 2024



Stanley's Exchange
7307-9-11 East Main
Lima NY 14485

The prominent three-story brick commercial building next to the Masonic Hall on the north side of East Main St. in Lima is now owned and occupied by Richard Garey—but, when was it erected, how was it used originally, and who was Stanley??? Some of these questions must remain unanswered for now, but we do know that the well-to-do Daniel Stanley had sold most of a large farm in Livonia and moved to Lima around 1858 with his wife Maryetta Denison Stanley. He began to invest in many properties here including the commercial building pictured above. The East Main St. appearance of the building was significantly altered when Stanley had it refashioned in the popular Italianate style ca.1868-69. According to its description in the “Lima Village Historic District” nomination to the National Register of Historic Places (1982 (Section 8, p.13), “cast iron lintels and a broadly projecting bracket cornice above a decorative frieze” were added, reflecting the Italianate style that had become so popular during the late 19th century in Lima. The main business in the structure was The Exchange Bank of Lima of which Stanley had become a principal in 1863; he may be the person just barely visible in the first darkened doorway on the left under the small “Stanley Exchange” sign in the photo above. Other early businesses in the building included: an oyster bar below the sidewalk in a basement level facility, as well as an art gallery indicated by a sign saying “L.H. Smith’s Art Gallery” between two second floor windows, a first floor sign identifying “Hanna” for an unknown business or office; a daguerreotype studio on the second floor at the back of the building. It features a large north facing window characteristic (continued on p.3)



**DON'T MISS
THIS SUMMER'S
LIMA HISTORICAL SOCIETY YARD SALE !**

7364 East Main St.

Fri. August 23rd 10 to 4

Sat. August 24th 10 to 4

7364 East Main St. Lima NY

**Please drop off good saleable items on Aug. 22nd
VOLUNTEERS NEEDED – PLEASE CONTACT US ON LHS WEBSITE**

LHS Calendar of Events

PLEASE CLIP AND SAVE.

- August 23 -24th LHS Yard Sale 7364 East Main St 10 to 4 PM . Please drop off goods for sale on the Aug 22nd.
- September 22nd LHS Annual Meeting and Picnic. Mark Tubbs Park. 2 to 5 PM
- October 10th LHS Board Meeting, Tennie Burton Museum 7 PM. All are welcome to attend.
- October 15th "Maggie's Brood." Elizabeth Osta will discuss her engaging new book about her Irish family who emigrated to Lima. Lima Town Hall, 7 PM.
- November 12th "Undertaking Genealogical Research." Talk by Dennis Hogan. Lima Town Hall 7PM.

LIMA HISTORICAL SOCIETY PO Box 532 LIMA NY 14485 (585-624-1050)

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WHAT IS A MILITARY TANK DOING IN LIMA??

The date is April 30, 1919 and like everyone else in the country, Lima was celebrating the end of World War I. This Whippet tank was brought to Lima and other towns in the area for a demonstration of its capabilities and an opportunity to raise money for the Victory Loan Fund. The crowd responded with contributions of around \$14,000 bringing Lima's full contribution to almost \$30,000. The ladies of the Red Cross served a dinner at the Town Hall, followed by a band concert and a dance. *(Photo from the Miriam Drew Scrap Book, DAR collections housed at the Tennie Burton Museum).*



New Acquisitions to the Tennie Burton Museum

- Mabel Jenks documents and photos as well as a collection of Native American artifacts from Tom and Eleanor Bennett
- An original 1864 letter written by Lima Civil War soldier Silas Sylvester to friend Eri Jenks, just 3 months before Silas died in Maryland.
- A tool box full of very old tools that had belonged to Eri Jenks

Thank you all who trusted us to safeguard their treasures

Welcome New LHS Members

Crossroads Days was a huge success for us. It provided an opportunity to acquaint many Lima newcomers (and some older residents) with the Lima Historical Society—and what we do. Welcome to new members: Vicky and Andy Britton, Alan Coykendall, Marty and Robin Douglas, Eileen Genazaio, Dylan and Abby Green, the Eri Jenks Family, Margaret Leinberg, Bill and Robin MacIntee, Patrick Phelan, Joe and Stephanie Schwing, and Bill Stremovihts.

Looking forward to getting to know all of you at the picnic on September 22, or at one of our fall meetings.

Exciting Lima History Program- OCT 15 - Lima Town Hall 7 PM

Don't miss a wonderful talk by Elizabeth Osta on her new book "Maggie's Brood" on the history of her grandparents who emigrated here to Lima from Ireland and raised their large family here on Rochester St. Some of you may be familiar with several generations of the Donegan family.

Elizabeth is an accomplished author and speaker who is passionate about her Irish heritage and loves sharing her enthusiasm and stories about it.

NEW EXHIBIT AT MUSEUM Mabel Furner Jenks

Come and see the new exhibit on Mabel Jenks (born in Lima 1881) and her many contributions to Lima during her near century of life. It features photos and documents pertaining to the Jenks and Furner families.

Hear a beautifully-restored audio recording of Mabel telling of her life and what it was like in Lima around 1900 when no one enjoyed the simple conveniences that we all take for granted today. It is a "must-hear" for Lima kids.

Stanley's Exchange (continued from p. 1)

of such photographic studios of the period, which sought the advantages of the north light (see photo on right). Note as well the stepped gables in the photo probably reflecting the building's original construction in the Federal style much earlier in the 1800's. The third floor of the building housed a large ballroom probably originally used for dances, but graffiti on the walls today suggests that it was a site for many other activities over the years:

- 1922-23 – Lima High School Basketball Team: with players Nighan, O'Grady, O'Dea, Pierce and Sheehan and their positions listed;
- Square Dance calls;
- Painting of two men playing checkers;
- Dated autographs- Ken O'Dea, Dec.23, 1927; Gerald Nighan, April 3, 1923; Clara Crisp, Jefferson Ohio, July 10, 1893 and John Fitzgerald, Lima.



North side of Stanley's Exchange building

By all accounts, Daniel Stanley was an upstanding, involved citizen of Lima, a well-liked banker who sponsored a local band, buying all the instruments himself, but who was perhaps generous to a fault in loaning money to his fellow townsmen. Since coming to Lima, he had invested widely in property throughout the area, incurring significant financial responsibilities himself. When the financial panic of 1873 occurred, there were numerous bank failures across New York State as people demanded their money from the unsecured banks. Lima was no exception. The *Dansville Advertiser*, Dec. 23, 1873 reported that the Exchange Bank of Lima was unable to make good on the demands on the bank, and had suspended payments to its customers just that week. Shortly afterward, the bank agreed to settle on 50 cents on the dollar to their former customers.

Stanley, a principal of the bank, became increasingly unable to pay the debts owed on his own investments. He was forced to sell his home on East Main St. along with most of his other properties in town. He fell into deep despondency and was sent to Willard Asylum for the Chronic Insane by his family. Not too long afterward, he escaped from Willard and took a Lehigh Valley train back here to Lima (*Livonia Gazette*, March 26, 1897), but was then taken to a Rochester psychiatric facility (called the Monroe County Insane Asylum at the time) where he eventually died in 1900. He was buried in Oak Ridge Cemetery.

Save the Date

**LHS Annual Picnic
for all LHS members and their friends**

**Sunday September 22nd
2-5 PM**

**at
Mark Tubbs Park**

**Hots, Hamburgs, Beverages and Fun
Provided**

A

**A dish to pass would be welcome
but not required**

Watch your mail for full details

ALL HANDS ON DECK!!

**THE LIMA HISTORICAL SOCIETY'S
2024 MEMBERSHIP CAMPAIGN**



**BRING THIS COUPON TO
TENNIE BURTON MUSEUM
1850 ROCHESTER STREET**

**MEMORIAL DAY 10AM-1PM
OR
ANY SUNDAY THIS SUMMER
JUNE THRU SEPT 15TH-2-4 PM**

**BECOME A MEMBER
ENTER FREE RAFFLE FOR ALL NEW AND CURRENT
LHS MEMBERS**

**DINNER FOR TWO SERVED IN YOUR OWN HOME
(\$200+ VALUE).**

**PROVIDED BY SPINELLI CATERING.
HTTPS://SPINELICHEFSERVICES.COM
DRAWING AT LHS MEMBER PICNIC SEPT 15TH - 4 PM**

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____

EMAIL: _____

LHS MEMBERSHIP FORMS AVAILABLE AT WWW.LIMAHISTORICAL.ORG

*****Cemetery Cleanup at the Presbyterian Church on Saturday, September 21st 9-12 . If you would like to help, please bring your own rake. Contact Erika Reinhardt-Roggow for more details.**

1850 Rochester St.
 P.O. Box 532
 Lima NY 14485



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ANNUAL LHS PICNIC
Mark Tubbs Park
September 22nd 2-5 pm

LHS RAFFLE
In-Home Dinner Catered by Spinelli's
Announcement inside
Free raffle tickets for members

New Membership Dues
& Information
LHS website www.limahistorical.org
Go to Membership heading

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At the Crossroads of Western New York
Americanhoteloflima.com

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