

The following excerpt was taken from the Wawayanda Our Town book, which can be purchased at the Town Clerk's office for \$25 (soft cover) or \$35 (hard cover).

HAMLET OF SLATE HILL

The early history of the village of Slate Hill, Orange County, New York, seems to be that of a very peaceful community. The Indians who inhabited the vicinity had been friendly, and according to Ruttenber and Clark in their *History of Orange County*, one of them, a signer of the Wawayanda Patent resided until about the beginning of the Revolutionary War on the easterly slope of a hill now called Jogee, about a mile and a half west of the village. Upon the patent he gave his name as Keghgekapowell. About the time of the beginning of the revolution, some of his people came from the west to see him and when they went away to the western wilds he went with them and never came back. The early settlers, for convenience, called him Joghem, and finally Jogee. (pg.118)

Slate Hill was originally known as Brookfield for the brook that nearly surrounds the community. After the Revolutionary War, when post offices were being established, it was found that there had been a post office first established by the name of Brookfield in Madison County, N.Y., and so another name was given to this one. At this time the village became known as Slate Hill.

The first Town of Wawayanda meeting was held in 1850 in D.C. Hallock's Hotel which was located on what is now the eastern corner of the intersection of Routes 6 and 284. The hotel became Kinney Skinner's store and later, W.T. Green's uptown store until he closed it about 1945. It now contains offices. The hotel on the opposite corner was purchased by Dr. Frank D. Myers, Sr. about the turn of the century. It was the office and home of two generations of Myers family country doctors until it was sold in 1957 to Roy Brundage. It has remained a private dwelling ever since. (pg.121)

In 1881, according to Ruttenber & Clark's *History of Orange County*, the village had a saloon, shoe shop, Castle's Flour, and Feed and Charles Stickney's general merchandise store. In addition, at around the same time, the Evans family ran a wagon making shop in the west end of the village.

*Although we selected an excerpt for the Hamlet of Slate Hill, there are eight Hamlets within Wawayanda. They are Slate Hill, Ridgebury, New Hampton, Millsburgh, South Centerville, Denton, Pellets Island and Gardnerville.