

The Rensselaerville Falls

THE EDMUND NILES HUYCK PRESERVE, INC.

P.O. Box 77

RENSSELAERVILLE, NEW YORK 12147

NEWSLETTER

(518) 797-3440

Summer

1982

A History of the Pond

I am going to write what I have been told and what I remember of the history of the Rensselaerville Pond, known on the New York State map as Lake Myosotis.

The Pond was once a meadow with two creeks flowing into it and numerous springs. I assume some factory needing water power built the dam.

My great-grandfather, John Niles, received the Pond in payment for a mortgage and left it to my grandmother, Emily Niles Huyck. Francis Conkling Huyck, my grandfather, moved a farmhouse from the top of Pond Hill to a location beyond the dam. The family called it Beach Knoll Cottage and used it for camping and picnics.

Originally there was an open field at the lower end of the Pond where the "village people" (meaning year-round residents) picnicked and swam. As time went on, the field grew over. My father, Francis C. Huyck, Jr., had a raft built and placed near the spillway so the "village people" could have a place to swim. It was necessary for them to change their clothes in the bushes.

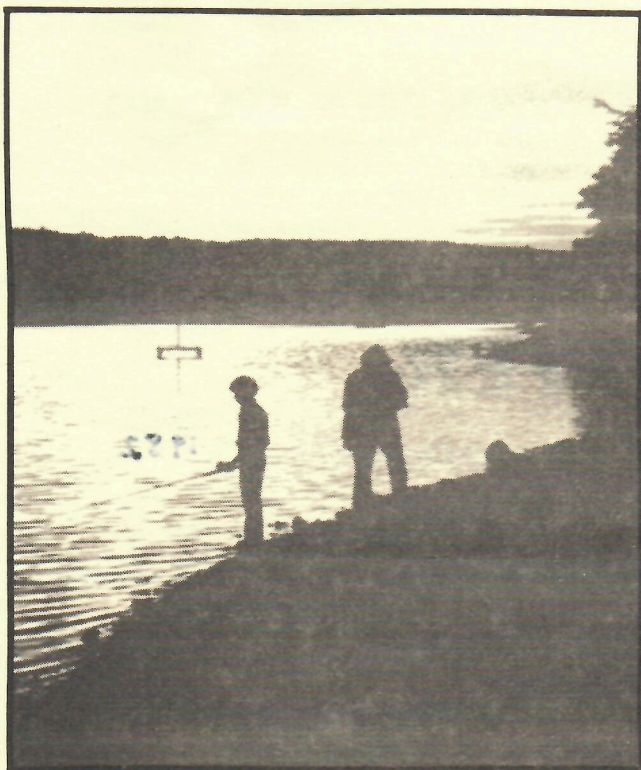
In 1910 my grandmother bought the Falls, the Grist Mill and the Mill House. Then she and my

uncle, Edmund Niles Huyck, began buying up the land around the Pond to keep it a natural beauty spot. In 1931 the land and the Pond became the Preserve.

My uncle built the present boathouse for his own use, and that of his relatives and friends. He set aside two portions of land towards the upper end of the Pond beyond the boathouse - one for public picnicking, and one where people could pitch a tent. The tent portion later became very simple temporary summer housing. The campsite and picnic area were phased out in the 1950's.

My uncle died in 1929, and the boathouse became a social center for the summer people and their children. One had to be invited to use it by Mrs. En. N. Huyck.

After World War II, the Preserve authorized the present beach area. The village people had a bee, cleaned the place up, opened up a road, and built the first bathhouses. Later the Preserve supplied Sani-Johns. Bit by bit the swim area was made one. Because of the increase in population, it was necessary to issue car stickers to users of the beach. In 1968 the Albany County Health Department informed the Preserve that they could issue only 134 stickers because the Pond is the village water supply. A lifeguard must also be present. The area is maintained by those using it.



The old boathouse still stands. It is definitely a problem. I would like to put it up to the Long Term Planning Committee and the Executive Committee to come up with a plan acceptable to the Board of Directors so that those using it would support it as a storage place for boats and canoes.

Katharine Huyck Elmore

THANKS!! THANKS!! to **Francis Coward** and **William F. Rice Jr.** for putting shovel to soil and assisting the Preserve in its spring planting of trees along Main Street as an educational and asthetic experience to celebrate life. **THANKS!! THANKS!!** to the community for watering and caring for the trees!!

The Annual Meeting
of the
E. N. Huyck Preserve, Inc.,
will be held on
August 21, 1982
at **2:00 P.M.**
in the
Guggenheim Pavilion, IMS.

Come join us for the last
HUYCK HIKE
of this summer
through the Preserve.

The focus of this hike will be
**"Man's Impact on the Biota
of the Preserve."**

August 22nd
2:00 P.M.

meet in parking lot of
R'ville Primary School.

THERE IS STILL SOME MAPLE SYRUP AVAILABLE!

—	Pints, shipped U.P.S. within continental U.S.	\$7.00
—	no shipping, local pickup	5.00
—	Quarts, shipped U.P.S. within continental U.S.	10.00
—	no shipping, local pickup	7.00
—	½ gal., shipped U.P.S. within continental U.S.	18.00
—	no shipping, local pickup	12.00
—	1 gal., shipped U.P.S. within continental U.S.	28.00
—	no shipping, local picked	22.00
		TOTAL \$

Make checks payable to the E.N. Huyck Preserve, Inc., and return with this order form.

NAME _____

STREET ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ **STATE** _____ **ZIP** _____

NOT ONLY IS the Preserve the **OLDEST** private nature preserve in the country, but it also houses the **LARGEST** collection of research on natural history in the State! This research is nationally recognized and has contributed a great deal toward man's understanding of behavior and life. The following is a partial listing of Preserve Summer Fellows and their research programs:

Robert A. Daniels, Ph.D. (University of California, Davis, 1981)
Senior Scientist, Biological Survey, N.Y.S. Museum, Albany, N.Y.
A STUDY OF THE DISTRIBUTION AND ECOLOGY OF CRAYFISH

Scott D. Ferson, A.B. (Wabash College, Crawfordsville, Ind., 1980)
Doctoral Candidate, S.U.N.Y., Stony Brook, N.Y.
TWO-DIMENSIONAL ANALYSIS OF BROAD SHOULDERED WATER STRIDERS

Daniel R. Formanowicz, Jr., M.S. (Adelphi University, N.Y., 1978)
Doctoral Candidate (May, 1982), S.U.N.Y., Albany, N.Y.
FORAGING DYNAMICS OF AN AQUATIC INSECT: THE EFFECT OF PREDATOR DENSITY

Michael C. Mackey, Ph.D. (University of Washington, 1968)
Associate Professor, McGill University, Montreal, P.Q.
THE DYNAMICS OF AGGREGATION IN WHIRLIGIG BEETLES

John Martyniuk, B.A. (Cornell University, 1980)
Doctoral Candidate, S.U.N.Y. at Binghamton, N.Y.
DIFFERENTIAL DEVELOPMENT IN LINYPHIA MARGINATA: THE EFFECT ON PREY AVAILABILITY ON WEB SITE LOCATION AND TEMPERATURE, HUMIDITY, & PHOTO-PERIOD ON DEVELOPMENT RATES.

R. Ronald Pulliam, Ph.D., Associate Professor, S.U.N.Y. at Albany, N.Y.
THE USE OF FOOD AND SPACE BY TWO SPECIES OF SPARROWS

Preserve Flora and Fauna

Members of the Preserve help insure the joy of beautiful trails and contribute to life by holding a SPACE for life. What have you discovered on the Preserve?

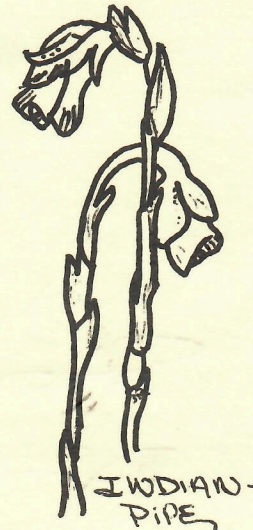
Imagine being 5 year old Susannah Ash-Friedman and seeing a bird standing approximately 30 inches tall, with a wing span of 6 feet! The bird was sited on Preserve property on Wood Road in May eating the carcass of a deer. Fitting activity for a Turkey Vulture...

A Bald Eagle was sited by Dr. Daghleish at Lincoln Pond on July 16th. Other sitings of Eagles have been reported in the Helderberg Mtns...
Dial-A-Bird 377-9600 for more information.

The scarce Fisher has been seen in the Preserve's hemlock and pine plantations. The Fisher is omnivorous, feeding on berries, nuts, and small

mammals, and will build its den in trees or in the ground.

Have you discovered the Indian-Pipe? Look for this wild flower beneath the conifer stands. Recognized this unique form by its pale, translucent stems bearing a nodding flower. About 6 inches high.



INDIAN-
PIPE

Please keep your membership up-to-date! **We need you!** Share this form below with a friend or neighbor.

Thank you.

THE EDMUND NILES HUYCK PRESERVE, INC.
P.O. Box 77
Rensselaerville, New York 12147

Membership Dues: August 21, 1982 — August 1983:

Junior (17 yrs. or younger)	\$5.00	\$ _____
Active	\$10.00	\$ _____
Supporting	\$25.00	\$ _____
Contributing Member	\$50.00	\$ _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Make all checks payable to The E.N. Huyck Preserve, Inc., and mail to the above address. Tax deductible: Annual report is on file and available through the N.Y.S. Department of State, Charities Registration section, or the Preserve.

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RENSSELAERVILLE, NEW YORK 12147

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