

BAKERS MILLS

The Bakers Mills area was referred to as Number Eleven (same as the mountain) until a post office was established in 1879. Then the hamlet was named Bakers Mills after John P. Baker, who was born at the Glen in 1826. He came to the area in 1869 and bought the Hitchcock mill on Edwards Hill Road. Baker added more buildings so that there was a grist mill and a sawmill hence the name "Bakers Mills".

The Oregon tannery (Fox Lair) was built in 1877 by Stephen Griffin, and was one of the larger tanneries in the Adirondacks. Shaw & Co. were the last owners of the tannery in Oregon.

The Folley Hotel was located at the corner of Rt. 8 and Bateman Rd. There was also the Crotch Boarding House at Siamese Pond Trailhead and the Dennis Waddell House on Rt. 8.

The Richard Hudnut estate at Fox Lair located north-east of the ruined tannery. The 270-foot long main house was three stories high with a huge double staircase and a veranda across the front. There were forty servants on staff, a full golf course along the valley, and a host of barns for carriages and animals.

After Richard Hudnut's death, the estate was given to the New York City Police Athletic League for a camp, then finally to the state itself. The buildings were all burned so the land could become part of the forest preserve.

The first church to meet in Bakers Mills that we know of, was a sister church of the Wesleyan Methodist Church of Johnsbury. On June 20, 1882, a group of people met and organized the 2nd Wesleyan Church of Johnsbury. In 1884, the two churches joined, sharing the same pastor. The second church which was built in 1891 and has since been renamed the Wesleyan Church still remains in use today, although it has been renovated and added upon.

The church on the corner of Barney Hill Rd. and Rt. 8 which is the Pentecostal Holiness church. Built by Will Merrill for his wife the church was non-denominational in the beginning. The church was bought by Luke Rist in the

early 1900's and called "The Church of the Gospel workers", in 1912; it became the Pentecostal Holiness Church. The church is closed, and the building is condemned.

There was a schoolhouse at the junction of Goodman & Barney Hill roads. That place was a hamlet called "Morehouse". The Morehouse School was in school district # 7 and was opened March 17, 1822. There was also a school at the end of Bartman Road hence the name Bartman District which burned about 1954.

The first post Office in Bakers Mills may have been opened in 1879, with Geo Hodgkins as Postmaster. There was also a post office in the community of Oregon, which opened in July of 1878 with Henry Straight as Postmaster.