

Historian's Report  
January 2025

*Queries:* work on the history of *Weihnachten* continued. The date of the first one was narrowed down by Village demographics to the 1950s or early 1960s, and researcher Karin Wikoff identified the first one as December of 1955. Fortunately, the NYS Archives hold a database of Wells' yearbooks, *The Cardinal*, and the 1956 *Cardinal* had a picture of the inaugural event.

Tracking down an old bit of oral history regarding the building of 448 Main St led not only to a fascinating story spanning 1865 to 1902 but also to evidence that part of the original Walter Wood house (one of the earliest in the village) possibly remains in the kitchen wing.

A query was received on whether the papers of Dr. Albert Leffingwell held in the Village Archives contain correspondence about the sanitarium in Dansville. The Village Archives are now an important resource for Dr. Leffingwell's work since the Wells Archives are not available. The other main repository of Dr. Leffingwell's work, Miner Library at the University of Rochester Medical School, has some correspondence but through an assistant and not directly with Dr. Leffingwell.

Another recent query will be presented orally at the meeting of Jan. 15 to allow including new information.

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Respectfully submitted,  
Linda Schwab, PhD  
Village Historian