

Time Line History of Hornell, New York 2019

July 8, 1788 Oliver Phelps and Nathaniel Gorham held a treaty with the six nations of Native Americans at Buffalo Creek. Agreement was met for the purchase of one million acres of land.^{2,13}

1789 Mr. Phelps opened an office in Canandaigua for the sale of his lands. Twelve partners collectively purchased township No. 3, 5th range, and township No. 3, 6th range.

Uriah Stephens Sr.

Arthur Erwin

Joel Thomas

Solomon Bennett

John Stephens

Christian Kress

John Jamison

Uriah Stephens Jr.

James Hadley

William Wynkoop

Thomas Bennett

Elisha Brown

It was discovered that the Canisteo flat lands were not included in the purchase so a representative returned to exchange township No. 3 of the 6th range (Hartsville) for the township No.4, 6th range, which is now Hornellsville.

September 25, 1790 lots were drawn for the ownership of the twelve subdivisions of township No. 4, at the home of **Benjamin Crosby**.

Solomon Bennett drew lot no.12. He built a log home in the area which would be named for him; Bennettsville, which would later be known as Canisteo. Bennett's Creek, which also bears his name, provided the power for his saw and gristmills, built in 1793. The mills were in business for over a year before being destroyed by fire. ⁹ Solomon Bennett married **Sarah Stephens**, daughter of **Uriah Stephens Sr.** ¹

Benjamin Crosby purchased from **Solomon Bennett** for the sum of 300 pounds, great lot No. 8 of township No. 4, in the 6th range that contained 1,600 acres in what is now the City of Hornell.

In 1790 Benjamin Crosby and his family, were the first recorded settlers in the Hornell area. He built his home on the site that is now St. James Mercy Hospital on Canisteo Street. One of Benjamin's sons **Richard Crosby**, who came with his father to this area, served in the Revolutionary War as a captain in General Washington's bodyguard.

The Crosby's were soon joined in this area by **Oliver Harding** and **Uriah Stephens.** ¹

July 9th, 1793 George Hornell came and purchased lot No.7 (1,600 acres) from John Stephens for 111 pounds and a silk dress. ⁵

George Hornell married **Martha Stephens**, daughter of **Uriah Stephens Sr.** (sister of **John Stephens**). The couple had nine children; five daughters and four sons, with only one of their sons, **George Jr.**, surviving into adulthood. William drowned while attending Williams College, while John, Vincent, and Patience died before the age of twenty-five. **Emily Hornell** married **Dr. J.D.Walker**, one of the first physicians in this area. After his death she became the wife of **Col. Ira Davenport.**¹¹ **Martha Hornell** became the wife of **Major Thomas J. Reynolds**, **Betsy Hornell** married **Dr. Augustus Newell**, and **Anne Hornell** married **General Philander Hartshorn**¹⁰ and after his death married **Mr. Moore** ¹

George Hornell built a gristmill, replacing one built by **Solomon Bennett** which had burned in 1794. He also lived in and kept the first inn in the town. His store was located nearby and he is credited as Hornell's first postmaster. He served as Associate Judge of the Court of Common Pleas for Steuben County in 1796. In 1808 George Hornell became a Member of Assembly for the State of New York. Judge Hornell died in 1813. ¹

George Hornell brought slaves with him to this area.⁵ It has been recorded that on November 17, 1811, a child, Milo, was born to George Hornell's slave, Milley. Hornell sold Milo to Hadley, of Canisteo, for \$70. After Hornell's death, Milley attempted to run away, but was captured in Palmyra and was returned. Milley made another attempt several years later and succeeded in escaping to freedom. She was the first fugitive slave documented from Hornellsville. ¹

George Hornell Jr. became a licensed attorney and minister. George Hornell Jr. married **Sarah Thacher** (daughter of **Nathaniel Thacher**). They had five children; all three sons, George T., William D., and Hastings, died childless, while daughters Lydia married John C. Clark, and had three children, and Mary Crosby married Dr. Albert Hart, had five children. Rev. and Mrs. Hornell eventually left the area to pursue missionary work among the Native American's in Michigan. Hornell sold his father's extensive land holding in Hornellsville to his brothers-in-law by marriage **Mowry** and **Otis Thacher**. ⁴

John D. Jamison, one of the twelve original partners, was a captain in the Revolutionary War at the battle of Fort Washington, which is now New York City. Captain Jamison held the fort until the ammunition was exhausted; he then was taken prisoner and held on the infamous prison ship in New York harbor (HMS Jersey²¹), where he unfortunately contracted a disease that plagued him through the remainder of his life. The famous 'white woman' **Mary Jamison**, is said to be related to John Jamison. ^{1,10}

In 1796 the first school in the town of Hornellsville and held in what is now the village of Arkport and was taught by Miss **Abigail Hurlbut**. ¹

The first birth was that of William Stephens, in December 1792; the first marriage that of Reuben Crosby and Jenny McQueen, in 1799, and the first death was that of a child of Judge Hornell. ¹⁴

1797 James McBurney built his home in Belle Haven, making this the oldest building in the Hornell area still standing today.⁵ Mr. McBurney purchased a 1,600 acre lot from Solomon Bennett. Mr. McBurney latter journeyed back to his homeland of Ireland to persuade friends to return to America with him. ¹¹

1799 Religious services were held at the house of Judge Hornell led by Rev. Robert Logan, an itinerant Presbyterian clergyman.

1805 The first school within the village of Hornellsville was taught by Miss **Sarah Thacher**. ¹

1809 The Turnpike Road was laid from Ithaca to Olean. ¹

1813 The first school house was built, with **Dudley Miller** as the teacher. **Uriah Stephens, Jr.** and **George Hornell Jr.** (son of Judge Hornell) were also teachers. It continued to be a common school until 1873, when a graded school and free academy was established. ¹

1814 The first lumber business was established by **Dugald Cameron**, who built a saw mill north of town.⁴ Mr. Cameron was one of the earliest surveyors in this area.¹²

In **1815 Colonel Ira Davenport** came with a wagon load of goods and became Hornellsville's first merchant. He remained in Hornell area for thirty-two years. After the death of his first wife Emily Hornell, daughter of Judge George Hornell, Col. Ira Davenport married Lydia Cameron, (in 1824) daughter of Dugald Cameron.¹² They moved to Bath in 1847, where he established the Davenport Home for Orphan Girls, and in died in 1868 at the age of seventy-three. ^{1,12}

1816 Andy Smith established Hornell's first tannery. ⁴

April 1, 1820 Hornellsville was established. Seven years after **Judge George Hornell's** death the settlement was named Hornellsville promoted by his son-in-law **Col. Ira Davenport** in honor of Judge George Hornell's achievements and contributions to this community. ¹

1821 The first town meeting was held to elect officers. **Col. Ira Davenport** was elected first town supervisor. ⁴

1826 Hornell had a population of 125 people, with 25 houses, a tavern, a store, a grist and a saw mill. ^{5, 4}

In **1828** the first brick building was erected by **Col. Ira Davenport**. It was a combination house and store. Davenport eventually sold the house to his nephew, **Martin Adsit**, who occupied the house for sixty years. The Adsit House was located on the north side of Main Street on the corner of Main and Adsit Streets, was the oldest known building remaining within the City of Hornell. ⁴

Martin Adsit was a widely respected member of the community and was considered one of the most important business people in Hornellsville during the nineteenth century. In 1826 at the age of 14, Martin arrived in Hornellsville to work as a clerk in the store of his uncle Ira Davenport. In 1833 at the age of twenty-one, Martin Adsit bought the business and store from his uncle. Under Adsit's direction, the business grew, and in 1848 he expanded to offer the community its first banking institution that was located inside his store. ⁴

See more- **2010 The Adsit House** After a long and arduous legal battle between the owners of the home NYDH, Historical Hornell Inc. and the City of Hornell, the Adsit House was demolished on **June 17, 2010**. ¹⁶

1830's Land was being surveyed and considered for construction of the **Erie Railroad**.

1832 A village park was established, and was later named **Union Park** in 1884. The land was purchased from **Major Thomas Bennett** for the purpose of a public square. ¹

1841 Construction of the railroad lines began in this area.

1843 The population was 300 people. Only Broadway, Main, Seneca, and Canisteo Streets had been developed with houses and stores.⁶

1844 a piece of land was purchased for \$40 for a schoolhouse that was erected between Broad and Canisteo Streets. The school was built by Ira Davenport and measured 32'x28'. An addition was added in 1885 and this became **Hornell Free Academy** in 1873, and also known as the **Old Park School**.
Historically speaking by R. Oaks

1850 In only seven years time the population had more than doubled in size from 300 to 700 people. The village contained 100 houses, two churches, two schools, a hotel and one store.⁶

1850 The first Erie locomotive came into Hornellsville, an Orange No. 4, having won a twenty mile race against a stage coach. ⁵

May 14, 1851 the Erie Railroad comes to Hornellsville! The first passenger train to travel the entire length of the Erie, from Piermont-on-Hudson to Dunkirk, arrived in Hornellsville, with **President of the United States Millard Fillmore and the Secretary of State, Daniel Webster, on board.** ⁴

The population of Hornellsville before the Erie Railroad came was about 700, by **1852** the population had increase to 1,841.

November 26, 1851 Hornellsville Weekly Tribune was first published by **Edwin Hough**. The newspaper has been published continually since, but with a slight title change to what is currently today **The Evening Tribune.** ¹¹

June 28, 1852 Hornellsville was incorporated into a village, then reorganized on **April 9, 1867. John H. Lillie** was elected the first president of the incorporated village. Lillie was an enterprising citizen; he erected a number of much needed buildings and then purchased the land that is now Jane, John and Oak Streets and sold them for building lots. He then proceeded to buy what is now largely Grand Street and its vicinity and sold it in the same way for profit.

1852 On September 27, a meeting was held and it was voted to build walks on Main, Canisteo, Genesee, Cass, Taylor and Albion Streets.

The **Police Commission** was established.

September 25, 1852 The city **Fire Department** was first organized. ²

1856 The **Hornellsville Agricultural Society** was established and began sponsoring the **Hornellsville Annual Fairs**, which continued to grow and became a highlight in the area, located where what is now the Hornell High School and sports fields. The Fair offered horse and dog races, acrobats and aerial performers, as well as produce and livestock competitions. The Hornellsville Fair of 1888 offered a \$3,000 purse for the winner of the horse race. On **September 5, 1908** the double deck grandstand and horse barn burned. In **1909** a new grand stand was built which could seat 1,800 people. **Ruth Law** landed at the Hornellsville Fair grounds during her record breaking flight in **1916**. The Hornellsville Fair was discontinued in **1921.** ⁴

1856 Samuel Hallett opened the **Bank of Hornellsville** with incorporated concern with \$100,000 capital and authorized to issue currency.²

1863 The First National Bank of Hornellsville was established by **Martin Adsit** and **Col. Ira Davenport**. The bank had capital of \$50,000 authorized to issue \$200,000 of stock.¹

1865 The population of Hornellsville was 5,338. The single rate of postage on mail letters is three cents through the U.S. Post Office.¹⁴

1868 The **Hornell Library** was organized. **Martin Adsit**, the first president of the Library Association was one of the first donors when he gave 16 volumes. It was a pioneer of its kind in Western New York. The library sold certificates for annual and lifetime subscriptions.

To raise funds a series of lectures were held and well-known personalities came to Hornellsville including; **Mark Twain** (author), **Henry Ward Beecher** (preacher and brother of Harriet Beecher Stowe), **Horace Greeley** (founder of the New York Tribune), **P.T. Barnum** (Barnum & Bailey Circus), **Bret Hart** (author and poet), and **Susan B. Anthony** (woman's suffrage).

In **1870** the library had 5,000 books. By **1890** the amount of books had increased to 10,000. The free circulation system was adopted in **1889**. Ultimately the board applied for a donation of \$25,000, from **Andrew Carnegie** and the **Hornell Library was opened in 1911 on Genesee Street.**⁴

In **1975** the Hornell Public Library was added to the National Register of Historic Places.

1873 Hornell Free Academy was built (replacing a wooden school built in 1844 Historically speaking by R. Oaks) and then rebuilt in 1886 facing Union Park.⁴

1873 Miss Carrie Ostrander was appointed librarian of the Hornell Public Library with a salary of six dollars a month.⁵

1873 The Shattuck Opera House opens on Broadway in Hornellsville.⁴ The Opera House, built by Dr. Sewell Shattuck (Doctor of Dentistry¹¹), was the first concrete structure to be built in this section of the country. The building was 100 feet long, 60 feet deep, and 43 feet high with four stories that included an attic; it contained seating capacity for 1,357. At the grand opening seating prices ranged from lower floors at \$1, balcony .75 to .50 and the gallery at .35.^{11/15} Later, seating was priced at 20 and 30 cents for choice seats and 10 cents for balcony seating.

The Shattuck Opera House drew in a wide array of talents to the community, including: **Lillian Russell** (actress/singer of stage and film), **Chancellor “Chauncey” Olcott** (singer/songwriter; wrote “My Wild Irish Rose”), **John McCormack** (world famous Irish tenor), **John Sullivan** (Heavyweight Bare-Knuckle Boxing Champion), the **Russian Symphony Orchestra**, and **John Phillip Sousa’s Band, Magicians Houdini, Blackstone, Keller, and Herman the Great**, to name a few.

The Shattuck Opera House closed its doors in **1930**, due to the popularity of motion pictures.

The property was sold in **1940** for \$41,283. The Shattuck Opera House was razed and a one story building was erected on the site.¹¹

1875 100 streets had been laid out within the village.⁴

Hotel Sherwood (The Hornellsville’s Hotel called the) Sherwood Hotel. “The new hotel will be a four-story structure of brick, cut-stone trimmings, and will stand at the corner of Canisteo and Cass Streets. The general façade is broken by detached towers. A portico with artistic columns supports a spacious balcony. The main entrance to the hotel office is at the intersection of the two streets. The first floor contains the hotel office, 46 x 19 feet, at the end of which is seen the smoking room through a grilled arch. At the right ascend the main staircase. The dining room has metal ceilings and measures 26 x 40 feet. The kitchen has French ranges and all modern appliances. The smoking room is 22 by 14 feet and the café or bar is 13 by 23 feet, with carved oak buffet counter and wine rooms. The office will be fitted up in red oak and plate glass. The staircase is of the same material and the walls and ceiling of the office are of hard woods. The entire first floor will have marble mosaic floors with marble base. The window stools will be of variegated marble slabs, under which will be the ventilators, supplying cold air in summer and heat in winter. The iron columns will be modeled in stucco. The three upper floors all contain single, alcove and double chambers, with both individual and general bath rooms on each floor. Each room has separate radiator and electric bells. The baths are of porcelain-lined steel. An elevator runs from the basement to the fourth floor, opening at each floor into a reception room. Two light shafts run down the center of the building. The building is also lighted by windows on all sides. It will be heated by steam and have electric lights, bells and annunciators throughout. The hotel will cost \$30,000. W.H. Archer, of Buffalo is the architect.” (Quoted from an unnamed and dated newspaper clipping)

Built in 1875 (advertisement in The Evening Tribune Centennial edition, sighted the “Hotel Sherwood has (been) in the community for the past 75 years”).

On **May 5, 1972** the hotel held a dance as the final event and a large crowd was on hand for the closing.

The Sherwood Hotel was razed on **July 25, 1972** in part with Hornell’s Urban Renewal Program.

1877 The **Erie Railroad** employed 800 people. Erie shop employees worked twelve-hour days for wages as low as ten cents an hour. Erie workers took action and voted to strike.

1877 The **City Hall** was built on Broad Street.²

1878 Irving School, located on West Genesee St was built. In **February 1925** a disastrous fire damaged the building. After the fire the SED agreed to convert the auditorium into 13 class rooms. In **June 1936** the BOE built added an auditorium and gymnasium which was completed in the fall of **1937**. Another serious fire occurred in November 1938. In **1940** there were approximately 365 students and 12 teachers in Irving School. ²⁰

1880 The census counted 8,195 persons within the village of Hornellsville.⁴

1880 A new brick **Erie Railroad Depot** was built in Hornellsville, which still stands today, after the original depot burned.⁴

1881 Steuben Telephone Company started and eight years later, in **1889**, they had sixty subscribers. ⁴

1882 Water service was established in the village by the privately owned **Hornellsville Water Works**.⁴

July 3, 1882 Union Park. The land for the park had lain vacant for many years (1932, fifty years). It had been used as a dumping ground for yard waste and had become a public disgrace. On July 3rd, a Saturday night, local “wags” placed mock tomb stones on the piles of dirt and written on the boards were the “death” of the President and Members of the Board of Trustees and street superintendent. Sunday morning came and the citizens of Hornellsville were presented with local officials names on the “tomb stones” in the “cemetery” in the middle of town. This impulsive joke impelled the town officials to clean up the park.

Two years later in **1884 Union Park** was laid out with flowers, graveled walks and a fountain was placed in the center. The park was named in honor of Civil War Veterans and the Soldiers and Sailors Monument was dedicated. The monument was a cast iron and zinc fountain purchased from J.W. Fiske, of New York, for \$1500. ⁴

In **1938** the fountain had become neglected and was removed. In its place, a monument was erected to honor Civil and Spanish War Veterans and was dedicated on **November 11, 1939**.^{7,11}

1885 The **Hornellsville Electric Company** was formed and tests were run on Main and Canisteo Streets, City Hall, and Walter Stephen’s Meat Market on Broad Street.

One year later on June 1, **1886**, Hornellsville was first light the streets by Electric Arc Lights. Attention was then directed to commercial lighting and the **American Illuminating Company** continued to advance. The Board for the American Illuminating Company included; J.M. Finch, F.T. McConnell, F.B.Alley, C.O. Rose and Thos. Grinwood with J.E.B. Santee as Treasure and L.T. Mason as Superintendent, V.P., and Secretary.

John M. Finch was another prominent citizen in Hornellsville. John Finch was the son of one of the area’s first settlers. He worked for the **Erie Railroad** for over thirty years, and became principal land agent and chief tax officer. He had other business interests including the **Citizens National Bank** and the **American Illumination Company**, which provided Hornellsville with electric service in the late 1880’s. Finch served on the village board, and he drafted a new municipal charter. John Finch’s civic efforts were instrumental in the development of the **Rural Cemetery**, the **Hornell Public Library**, and the **Hornell Sanitarium**.⁴

1887 Edwin Brown brought silk manufacturing from Paterson N.J. and establishes the Rockland Silk Mill in Hornellsville. Hornellsville was thereafter known as the “**The City of Silk**” and ranked number two in the nation for silk manufacturing.

This industry continued for thirty years; from **1890-1920**. The four largest silk companies were **Rockland Silk Mills**, the **Glove Factory**, **Merrill Hosiery** and **Huguet Silk**.⁴ Other equally established manufactures where **De-Witt-Boag Co.**, **Kayser Julius &Co.**, and **Stern & Stern Textile Inc.**

March 2, 1888 The City of Hornellsville was created and incorporated, advancing the hamlet to a municipality. ¹

1888 The first city elections were held, and Mr. James B. Day became the first mayor of the City of Hornellsville. Mayor Day was born March 29, 1847 in Union, NY. At the age of twenty-one became a police officer in New York City for seven years. After this he came to Hornellsville and engaged in the wholesale wine and liquor business. He also was a chief engineer of the Hornellsville Fire Department for two years. Mayor Day held his office for two consecutive terms. ^{2, 3,12}

May 1888 The Hornellsville Electric Street Railroad Company was established and began operating the first of three street car lines in 1892. Power was furnished by the American Illumination Company. ² With the advent of the automobile, the streetcar service was discontinued in 1927.⁴

1890 The Hornell Sanitarium was established to treat chronic diseases such as cancer, tuberculosis, alcoholism and mental illness. The facility was positioned 1,400 feet above sea level and 200 feet above the city of Hornellsville, located off North Main Street, and remained in operation until the 1920's. It had its own private electric plant and contained 101 bedrooms, each with running water, which was a luxury in that time. The sanitarium was kept at a perfect 70 degrees Fahrenheit and had a "pure air" total facility system that circulated new air every ten minutes (exterior rotary fan). It had an elevator, and every form of Bath: Turkish, Russian, and Roman. The facility boasted of having a personal team consisting of sixteen consultants, trained nurses and attendants with doctors on duty at all times. ⁸ The most prominent physician was Dr. Roswell Park.⁴

1890 The census recorded 11,000 persons living within the city of Hornellsville.

1890 The Preston Brick Works located on N. Main near Steuben St was founded by Othaniel Preston Sr. and his sons, Henry C. and Othaniel Jr., manufacturing paving, building and sidewalk bricks from local shale. The firm employed twenty-five men. ² The Preston's also owned and operated the Hollow Cable Manufacturing Company, located on Thacher and State, which manufactured wire clothes lines, wire box bands, wire carpet whips and fencing wire.

1891 Hornellsville had grown to contain; three large hotels, four banks, five silk mills, a planning mill and sash factory, a flour mill, a tannery, two fence and cable factories, a carriage works, a creamery, a machine gear works, several woodworking factories, a fairground with horse racing park, a shoe factory and an opera house. ⁴

1893 Columbian School, Pearl St, was built. It originally contained 9 classrooms. In 1927 an addition of 4 rooms (library and teachers rooms) was built. In 1930 Columbian School had 230 students from kindergarten to sixth grades. ²⁰

1896 The National Guard of New York Armory, 100 Seneca Street Hornell, was constructed; it was designed by I.G. Perry. ⁴ The armory was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1980.

1899 Bryant School was built (corner of E. Main and Terry Sts) containing 10 class room and auditorium and library. There were approximately 360 students in grades kindergarten through sixth.²⁰

1900 Population of the City of Hornellsville was 14,000. ⁶

April 10, 1901 The first automobile arrived in Hornell. The owner of the Winton car, believed to cost \$1200, was **Augustus McHenry**. This day was also the first automobile accident, when Mr. McHenry ran into the curb during his trial run of the car.⁵

1909 Washington School was built. It contained 11 classrooms and a library. Extensive repairs were made in **1926**. Washington School had approximately 125 students serving kindergarten to third grade. The rest of the rooms in this building are occupied by seventh graders of the Junior High School.²⁰

1907 Hornell's Pet Cemetery, Friendship Grove, on Bald Hill just outside of Hornell, was started by **Mr. Frank Myers** when his favorite dog Trix died. Today the cemetery is reputed to have more than 900 animals laid to rest, including canaries, monkeys, a horse and a lion among the cats and dogs.⁶

1909 Washington School, Main St, was built. It contained 11 classroom and library. Extensive repairs were made in 1926.

1909 The A. J. Deer Co. factory was located between the railroad tracks on West Street in Hornell NY. **The A. J. Deer Co.** originated as the firm of **Bartz, Evans & Wygant** the late 1890's, doing electrical repairs and contract work, and by 1905 began manufacturing motors and were hailed as "having the most modern and thoroughly equipped shops in central New York"¹. By 1909 **Bartz, Wygant & Brown** were making the Royal electric specialties products which were distributed by A. J. Deer Co. of Buffalo and in the same year reorganized to become **The A. J. Deer Co., Inc, Hornell NY**. Fifteen years later The A. J. Deer Company expanded the factories in order to handle the orders for the Royal machines and boast that "today there is not a country on the face of the earth where one of these Royal machines is not in operation." The A. J. Deer Company found success by manufacturing over 150 types of coffee mills, coffee roasting machines; meat choppers and meat slicing machines on the installment plan, revolutionizing the former practice of selling coffee mills through hardware wholesalers. The A. J. Deer Co. attributed the success of these Royal Coffee Mills to the steel knives that cut the coffee instead of crushing or grinding. The company stated 'put a pound of whole coffee in and get a pound of cut coffee out' with no waste of coffee bean, with a safe self-cleaning machine, noiseless and which automatically oils itself. The A. J. Deer Co., Inc, dissolved in bankruptcy in 1931.

1912 The **Hornell YMCA** is built on Center Street.⁴

November 19, 1916 Ruth Law, daring aviatrix, leaves Chicago IL at 8:25 am and lands at the Hornell fairgrounds at 2:10 pm in her Curtiss scout bi-plane after achieving the longest non-stop flight on record from Chicago to Hornell and the world longest flight for a woman. She set the record from Chicago IL to Hornell NY with her flight of 590 miles and with the total of five hours and 41 minutes in the air.⁶ While in Hornell NY where her plane was being refueled (53 gallons of gas) and checked, Ruth Law was taken into town to a local restaurant to warm up and have a bite to eat. Ruth Law calls trip from Chicago to Hornell at 103 miles an hour "just fun". Delayed in Chicago by 1 1/2 hours due to weather, Ruth Law had planned to stop in Hornell NY to refuel, but had planned her day's journey to end in New York City instead of Binghamton NY.

1920 Influenced by the railroad and railroad employees Hornell began attracting commerce.

November 11, 1923 The Elmhurst Dairy Inc. purchased lot at 59 Erie St Hornell for their new plant. The Elmhurst Dairy Inc. was started in 1914 by Harold Ranger. ¹¹

November 24, 1923 Hornell Intermediate School was built. Erected in the lot formally of the Hornell Free Academy, it was built originally as the Hornell High School.²⁰

1923-24 the new **Lincoln School**, on Canisteo St, was built, following a fire that completely destroyed the old Lincoln School (the oldest public grammar school in Hornell, the Old Lincoln School was a one room wooden school with a lean-to added for recitation area built in **1872**. Addition were added to this building and continued to be used until a fire destroyed the building in 1923. Historically speaking by R. Oakes) on **February 6, 1923**. The new Lincoln School contains 19 classrooms, auditorium and gymnasium, and library. In 1940 there are approximately 500 students from kindergarten to sixth grades. ²⁰ It remained a grade school from 1924 until 1979. St James Mercy Hospital has offices in the old Lincoln School building. TET

1927 old North Hornell School, Seneca St., was built on a site formerly occupied by a rural schoolhouse. New **North Hornell School** was built on Avondale Ave in **1961**. Historically speaking by R.Oakes

1930 The population of the City of Hornell was 16,250.⁴ A 15 room addition to the Hornell Intermediate School was completed. ²⁰

1935 The most severe flooding hits Hornell. Most of the city lay under six feet of water, closing the railroad and leaving 1,000 people homeless. As a result of this disaster, The United States Army Corps of Engineers constructed several major flood-control projects in the Canisteo watershed. Earthen flood-control dams were completed at Arkport in 1939 and in Almond in 1949. Within the city, the Kanakadea Creek and the Canisteo River were controlled by levees and retaining walls. Due to these improvements, Hornell was spared from the catastrophic effects of Hurricane Agnes in 1972.⁴

1940 The population of the City of Hornell had declined to 15,649.⁴

1948 The Erie Railroad switched from steam to diesel locomotives. The diesel engines required much less maintenance, meaning that hundreds of men working in the Hornell repair shops were eventually laid off. These layoffs marked the beginning of the railroad's demise.⁴

1950 Population of Hornell was 15,000.⁴

1951 Hornell Centennial Celebration.

Feb 22, 1955 The Great Hornell Fair grandstands are engulfed in flames and burn to ground.

1960 The **Erie Railroad** merged with the **Delaware, Lackawanna, and Western Railroad** becoming the **Erie Lackawanna Railroad**. The company's accounting office in Hornell was closed.⁴

In **1966** 85 acres of land was purchased for \$62,500 by the school district for the proposed site of the **BOCES** (Board of Cooperative Educational Services) building facilities. The Hornell Sanitarium was razed in **1967**.

1968 Plans were approved and construction started for the new pedestrian underpass on Buffalo Street under the train tracks. The former underpass allowed vehicle, pedestrian, and trolley access.

December 31, 1969 Erie-Lackawanna Railroad passenger service was discontinued. ⁴ The exception of this was train number 5 and 6, which ran until January 4, 1970 for holiday travel.

June 1972 Hurricane Agnes hits the east coast. The subsequent damage to the rail lines led to the bankruptcy of the **Erie Lackawanna Railroad**. The Erie line was taken over by the federally subsidized **Conrail**. Conrail reduced rail service, cut employment and closed the repair shops, changing Hornell forever.⁴

1972 Construction began on the new highway **Maple City Drive**. The highway required the demolition of 245 houses and many commercial buildings, split the city in half, and sacrificed Hornell's Union Park.⁴

1990 The population of Hornell was 9,500.⁴

1991 March 17, 1991 has the worst ice storm in decades, coating everything in the city with up to a quarter of an inch of ice.

1998 The **City of Hornell** installed curbing, decorative lighting, and fencing along Main Street and a portion of the arterial to improve the appearance of the central part of the city.⁴

July 24, 2001 The **Shawmut Skate Park** opens. The Hornell Kiwanis Club was the first and foremost supporter of the skate park, helped with a donation from an anonymous Hornell resident, and with additional donations from the Hornell Association and Elks, the Hornell and Canisteo American Legions, and the Maple city Lions Club, the Hornell Police club and the Steuben County Deputies Association. The City of Hornell contributed the concrete pad with additional state park funds supported by Sen. Randy Kuhl.¹⁸ In **October 11, 2004** the city of Hornell further developed the park adding a maintenance building and bathrooms, playgrounds and pavilions.¹⁹

2006 The **Hornell Erie Depot Museum** located at 111 Loder Street has its grand opening. Mayor Shawn Hogan was instrumental in forming the museum which showcases Hornell Erie Railroad memorabilia and photographs.

December 12, 2008 Bryne Dairy (former Elmhurst) closed its drive through on Seneca St and store on Center St.

2010 **The Evening Tribune** has its last printed newspaper printed in Hornell on **May 23, 2010**, thus ending a continuous run of 159 years of in house printing. The Evening Tribune offices are still located at 85 Canisteo Street Hornell, but the printing of the newspaper will be done at the Gatehouse Production facility in Canandaigua NY. Also in **May 2010**, The Evening Tribune reformatted its size to a slimmer paper.

The Adsit House After a long and arduous legal battle between the owners of the home NYDH, Historical Hornell Inc. and the City of Hornell, the Adsit House was demolished on **June 17, 2010**. Built in 1828 by Col. Ira Davenport, it was the first brick building in Hornell and originally utilized as his home and store. Eventually Col. Davenport sold the home to his nephew, Martin Adsit, who occupied it for sixty years. The Adsit House of 32-34 Main Street, located at the corner of Main and Adsit Streets, was the oldest known building remaining within the City of Hornell.⁴ It was added to the National Register of Historic Places by its previous owner, Mr. Randie Brewer, in 2003. In 2006, NYDH, a partnership between Hornell real estate agent Doug Hess and Elmira developer Nick Yunis, purchased the property for \$185,000 with plans to demolish the building for redevelopment.¹⁶

Aug 3, 2010 The Hornell United States Post Office located on Genesee Street will be officially renamed the **Zachary Smith Post Office** in honor of U.S. Marine Lance Corporal Zachary D. "Zach" Smith. Zach Smith, a 19 year old 2008 Hornell High School graduate was killed on January 24 by an explosive device during a battle with militants on one of his first days of patrol. Smith, the son of Chris and Kim Smith and husband of Anne Smith, all of Hornell, was assigned to the Marine's 1st Battalion, 6th Marine Regiment, and was posthumously awarded a Purple Heart on behalf of President Obama and the Marine Corps.¹⁷

July 12, 2011 Hornell's new **YMCA** opens. The new facility houses the Fletcher Family Cultural Center which offers music and arts programs.

August 2011 a retort was constructed in Hope Cemetery. The crematorium is located in the former maintenance building at the cemetery.

April 22, 2012 The Hornell Board of Public Works renamed Shawmut Park to the “**Mike C. Fucci Memorial Park at Shawmut**” to honor Michael C. Fucci. Mike worked at the state Department of Transportation as an engineer, and was commissioner on the Hornell Board of Public Works also chairman of Hornell’s Sport Night.

In **April 2012** the Hornell City School’s maintenance building (formally the DeWitt-Boag Mill, 22-24 Allen St.) was razed. The school maintenance office and operations have moved to a building on Bank Street, (formally the Merrill Hosierey, 24-40 Bank St). The area which formally was the maintenance building now houses the schools underground cooling tanks.

May 7, 2012 The 1935 wing of the **Hornell Intermediate School** was deemed unsafe and subsequently removed. Previously the school held grades 3 through 6, but with the loss of the wing now houses only grades 4 through 6.

2012 Solar panels are placed on the roof of Hornell City Hall and at the Hornell Waste Water Treatment plant through a grant from the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA).

June 2012 Hornell's Roman Catholic **St. Ann School**, located at 27 Erie Ave, a private coed school which served grades PK-6 closed its doors after 149 years.

July 2012 The **St Ann’s Academy** was established. St Ann’s Academy was granted a provisional charter by the NYSED. They have a Pre-K program and a kindergarten through sixth grade school.

August 2012 Under an order from New York State Governor Andrew M. Cuomo the Hornell Urban Renewal Agency has been dismantled. Hornell Urban Renewal was responsible for implementing Highway 36 through Hornell which split the city and led to the demise of many stately homes and the loss of Union Park.

2012 The Grand Street Bridge is demolished and replaced.

June 2013 The old **YMCA** building built in 1912 is demolished to make room for the construction of a wing to house the new YMCA pool.

2013 The North Hornell Bridge is demolished and replaced. The State Route 36 overpass bridge in the center of Hornell received major repairs; the state replaced the concrete deck.

July 8, 2013 The Evening Tribune moves from their home on 85 Canisteo Street after 162 years (1851) to 32 Broadway Mall. This move was attributed to downsizing and building maintenance concerns.

2014 YMCA opens their new pool.

2014 Hornell Waste Material moved from north end of Hornell to the south end.

2014 Alstom has brought back its work force in Hornell with new rail contracts. Alstom's Hornell facility refurbished rail vehicles and components to New York City Transit (NYCT), Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA), New Jersey Transit (NJT) and Amtrak. New contacts include with the City of Ottawa, Port Authority Transit Corporation (PATCO) in Philadelphia, Massachusetts Bay Transit Authority, and Baltimore's Maryland Transit Authority.

2015 The Federation Building Lofts was fully refurbished and renovated by Krog Corporation, Buffalo NY. They renovated the auditorium, which can be used for community events, and have nine apartments on the three top floors with retail space on the first floor.

June 15, 2018 The Evening Tribune Sunday through Friday paper has changed its name to **The Spectator** and will publish Tuesday through Friday with a Sunday edition.

2019 Fairlawn Hills 135 Fairlawn Avenue, Hornell, NY from the **Riedman Corp** of Rochester NY opens 60 unit apartments complex with clubhouse, community room and fitness center. Pet -friendly buildings and a corporate furnished apartment program are available. Riedman Corp plan to open additional 60 units in 2020.

Residences at Hornell 100 Residence Rd, Hornell, NY from the **Basset Realty, Inc.** of Rochester NY opened 60 unit apartment complex in Hornell by the Hornell Airport. Basset Realty, Inc. plan to open additional 60 units in 2020.

Collette Cornish 2019 City of Hornell Historian

1. Centennial Celebration of the Settlement of Hornellsville

The Early History of Hornellsville Steuben County, New York By Irvin W. Near Hornellsville N.Y.: The Evening Tribune Printing House 1890

2. Landmarks of Steuben County New York Edited by Hon. Harlo Hakes Assisted by L.C. Aldrich and others Syracuse, N.Y. D. Mason & Company, Publishers 1896

3. A History of Steuben County, New York and its People Vol. II By Irvin W. Near, Chicago, The Lewis Publishing Co. 1911

4. Reconnaissance Level Survey of Historic Resources City of Hornell, Steuben County, New York Prepared for the Historic Hornell, Inc.

By; Bero Associates Architects

32 Winthrop Street Rochester, New York 14607

5. History of Hornell By Margaret Koehler 1993

6. The Evening Tribune Hornell at 2000 edition

7. Calendar from Shirley Ferris 4th grade.

8. Hornellsville and Points of Interest New York Commercial Publishing Co. 1896 Steuben Sanitarium Pamphlet

9. Then and Now History of the Valley By Tim Crowe

10. Reminiscences of the Canisteo Valley Deacon Mowry Thacher 1865

11. The Evening Tribune Centennial Edition November 26, 1951

12. Historical Gazetteer of Steuben County, NY By Millard F. Roberts M.F. Roberts Publisher Syracuse NY 1891

13. History of the Pioneer Settlement of Phelps and Gorham's Purchase, and Morris' Reserve; by O.T. Turner Published by William Alling 1851

14. 1868 Steuben County, Directory

15. The Evening Tribune Aug. 21, 1893 "Opera House Opening Night"

16. The Evening Tribune May 24, 2010

17. The Evening Tribune Jul 23, 2010
18. The Evening Tribune Jul 24, 2001
19. The Evening Tribune Oct 11, 2004
20. Ten Years of Progress in the Public Schools of Hornell NY 1930-1940
21. <https://www.history.com/topics/american-revolution/the-hms-jersey>