



The Naples Millennium Calendar is published by the Bristol Valley Theater as a fund raiser to celebrate 211 years of Naples history, events, and people who left a mark on this great village. The Village of Naples is located in Ontario County just 5 miles south of Canandaigua Lake on Routes 21, 64, and 245. It's just 30 minutes south of New York State Thruway Exits 44 and 45 and just 10 miles north of the Cohocton Exit on the Southern Tier Expressway.

Today in 2000, by population standards, the Village of Naples with its 1,200 residents ranks as a very small New York community. However, by other standards, such as natural beauty, recreational opportunities, the grape and wine industry, and the friendly people, Naples ranks as one of the most interesting and unusual places in New York State.

Naples takes pride in its historic past. The Naples Tree, discovered by D. Dana Luther in 1882, is the oldest and tallest fossilized tree ever discovered on the face of the earth. The Seneca Indians believe that the Seneca Nation originated in the Naples Valley centuries ago. The area we now call the Town of Naples was purchased from Oliver Phelps and Nathaniel Gorham on April 14, 1789 and first settled by the Samuel Parish family in February 1790.

This calendar presents a chronological history of Naples' 211 years of existence. It also presents a visual portrait of the outstanding events that have attracted hundreds of thousands of people to the Naples Valley. There are pictures of the past and pictures of the present to give you a small idea of how Naples has changed over those past 211 years.

We would like to express our sincere gratitude to Mayor Mike Doran of the Village of Naples, Artists John Almekinder, James Simpson, and Sten Persson, and many local residents for their assistance in making this calendar possible. We hope you enjoy this pictorial history of Naples and join us in celebrating our 211 years of existence from 1789 to 2000.







#### MAIN STREET NAPLES, NEW YORK

MAIN STREET in Naples undergoes continual change year-after-year.

The photo on the cover, taken in 1871, is the oldest known picture of Main Street. It looks south and shows the old Jaqua House and many buildings long gone. Of all those 1871 buildings, only the Sutton Company Building remains.

The picture on the left taken in 1888 looks north from in front of the Jaqua House, the first building on the left. Many of these buildings still stand today especially the three stores north of Mill and Main Streets.

A FINE HORSE & BUGGY showed a man's means and his success in the early 1900's when this picture was taken. Here Dr. Lindner, a local veterinarian takes his smart rig out for a Sunday ride and stops to have his picture taken by the local photographer. Sometimes, during this period, major summer events like the Fourth of July featured buggy races up and down the dirt Main Street. The Granby Brothers mercantile building (once used as the U.S. Post Office) is visible for the first time. Unlike today, Sunday traffic was a bit light on the main drag.





**MOTION PICTURES** arrived on Main Street in 1918 when John Bolles built the new "Pictureland Theater" between his hardware store and the Naples Hardware. Later, the theater was remodeled with a new marque and a refreshment annex called "The Sweet Shoppe". This 1920 photo also shows that the automobile has definitely arrived on Main Street as a Model T Ford, a Hudson sedan, an Olds touring car, and a Reo truck are parked along Main Street. You'll notice too that electricty had also arrived as telephone and light poles dot Main Street. Also, on top of the Naples Hardware, you'll see a radio aerial picking up the first wireless entertainment.

THIS 1949 PHOTO pictures Main Street on the east side from what is now the Mina's Sewing & Leather Shop to Luigi's Plaza. In 1949, the present day Sutton Company sign is still in place, but many of the old businesses are gone. The Grand Union Superette was next to the post office. Irv Barber and Bob Rennoldson were working in Mary Meyer's Red & White Grocery (now the Naples Library). Gone also are Amos Ippolitto's Naples Department Store and Walt Fleischman's Texaco Service Station. At this time, the Maxfield Hose Company was located in





THE CORNER STORE, built around 1835 at the corner of Mill and Main Streets, is the oldest commercial building in Naples. Today, it is a floral shop, but over the years it has served as a meat market and the home of Booth Arnold's Restaurant, the favorite "watering"

# 1789 January 2000

**SUNDAY** 

MONDAY | TU

### TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY

#### FRIDAY

NEW YEAR'S

1788 - Oliver Phelps and

Nathaniel Gorham pur-

chase 2,600,000 acres

of land in the Genesee

Tract in Western New

York from the Commonwealth of Massachu-

DAY

1

setts.

**SATURDAY** 

\* The original deed to the land in the Naples township was signed on April 14, 1789 in Partridgefield, Berkshire County, Massachusetts. For the sum of 768 pounds of Massachusetts currency, the title to Township No. 7 in Ontario County covering 21,120 acres owned by Oliver Phelps and Nathaniel Gorham was transferred to the first settlers.

The Naples Valley was first settled by the Seneca Indians around 1450. When the first white settlers arrived in 1790, there were over 200 Senecas living in three villages in the valley. They called their villages Nundawao until they were forced to leave in 1815.

2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1788 – Personally, Oliver Phelps negotiates a treaty with the Seneca Indians at Buffalo Creek for the title to their lands from Geneva west to the Genesee River.	1788 – Phelps and Gorham pay the Seneca Indians about one-half cent per acre for their land.	1788 – Maxwell and Jenkins, surveyors for Phelps and Gorham, divide the Genesee Tract into equal tracts for sale.	1788 – Issac Watkins, a member of the surveying party, later became one of the first Naples set- tlers in 1790.	1788 – Sixty people around Windsor, Mass- achusetts, form a com- mittee to purchase land from Phelps and Gorham.	1789 – General Israel Chapin opens the first U.S. land office in Canandaigua to sell the Phelps and Gorham land.	1789 – Edward Kibbe, Nathan Watkins, and William Cady go to Canandaigua to locate a good tract to purchase.
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
1789 – The Committee decides to buy Tract No. 9 (now Gorham) but finds out the tract has already been sold.	1789 – The Committee decides to buy Tract No. 5 (now Richomond) but discovers that this town- ship, too, has been sold.	1789 – Oliver Phelps suggests that the com- mittee buy Tract No. 7 in the 4th range sight unseen.	1789 – Edward Kibbe, Nathan Watkins, and William Cady buy Tract No.7 (presently Naples township) at a cost of 12 cents per acre.	1790 – The families of Samuel, Reuben, and Levi Parish become the first white settlers in Koyandaga Valley (the Seneca Indian name for the valley).	1790 – The second group of 30 settlers arrive including the fami- lies of William Clark, John Johnson, Nathan Watkins, and Ephraim Cleveland.	1790 – The new settle- ment is named "Watkins- town" in honor of Captains Nathan and William Watkins, two of the first settlers.
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
1790 – About 200 Seneca Indians were liv- ing on the Koyandaga Valley flats in a village they called "Nundawao" which means "the hill people."	1790 – The Nundawao Senecas and their old Chief Canesque helped the new white settlers get through the first win- ter.	1790 – The settlers and the Senecas set up a community corn grinding stone on the Town Square.	1791 – Miss Susanna Parish opened the first school in the settlement in her father's log cabin.	1792 – Captain Jabez Metcalf and Benjamin Clark, with the help of other settlers dug a water raceway from Grindstone (Grimes) Creek to the flats.	1792 – Clark and Metcalf open the first sawmill in the village using water power.	1794 – The first grist mill is opened on the Fourth of July with a public dance to celebrate the occasion.
23 <sup>1794 –</sup> The first road out of the village, sur- veyed by Jabez French, is built from the Town Square along the pres- ent Middlesex Road.	24 1794 - Chief Canesque, the beloved Seneca chief, died. He was the last Indian buried in the Naples Valley.	25	26	27	28	29
30 <sup>1796 –</sup> The name of the township is officially changed from Watkins- town to Middletown be- cause it is located midway between Bath and Geneva on the stagecoach route.	31 1796 - The first new school- house, a two roomer, is built on the Town Square. It is also used for church services.	1794 – Revolutionary War Veteran Ephraim Cleveland built the first frame house (now known as the Ephraim Cleve- land House) across from the Town Square.	1794 – Colonel William Clark built the second frame house, now owned by Gideon Hanggi, at the north edge of town.	1795 – The first wedding in Watkinstown took place between Major Benjamin Clark and Miss Thankful Watkins.	1795 – Phineas P. Lee is the first white child born in Watkinstown.	1796 – The first town meeting was held at the home of Nathan Watkins. William Clark is elected the first supervisor.
THE FOLLOWING BUSINESSES SPONSORED THIS PAGE.						





In 1859, Naples numbered nearly 1,800 residents and 50 businesses.

# **1789 February 2000**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
		1	2	3	4	5	
The Parrish families left Massachusetts in January, walked 300 miles, and arrived in Canandaigua in February 1790.		1796 – The Town Fathers offer a bounty on panthers, owls, wood- peckers, hawks, rat- tlesnakes, and squirrels.	1796 – The French Duke of Liancourt stayed overnight at Metcalf's Tavern and said: "The valley reminds me of Naples, Italy."	1796 – Mail was deliv- ered to the settlement every 10 days; these were called "Post Days."	1796 – Benjamin Clark shot a large panther in Tannery Gully and dis- played it on the Commons after collect- ing his bounty.	1796 – A road from Jo Watkins' farm to Col Springs (now Brist Springs) via Woodvill was finished.	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12 LINCOLN'S BIRTHDAY	
1796 – Dr. Thomas Maxwell, the first doctor n the village, opened an office in his home.	1796 – At the second town meeting, three school commissioners were elected: Nathan Watkins, Jabez Metcalf, and Elijah Clark.	1796 – Issac Blanchard was hired as the first male school teacher at a salary of \$12 per month.	1796 – On November 24th, the Ontario Gazette (now the Daily Messenger) started pub- lication in Canandaigua.	1796 – Gamaliel Wilder established the Con- gressional Church in South Bristol donating \$3,000 for the project.	1797 – The first tax was levied in the township; 45 pounds was raised for animal bounties and for roads.	1797 – Amil Hesse gesser, a Hollande opened the first gener merchandise store o the Parish Flats.	
13	14 VALENTINE'S DAY	15	16	17	18	19	
1797 – This was the year of the hard winter. Snow was so deep the Indians couldn't hunt deer or bear.	1797 – Mr. Peters, a Philadelphia tailor on his way to Canandaigua, left many stylish suits and dresses at Hesselges- ser's where they sold out quickly.	1797 – The townsfolk held a big July 4th party on the Commons; the two most popular songs were "Money Musk" and "Speed the Plow."	1797 – Rev. Zadock Hunn, a Yale College graduate who lived on Baptist Hill, conducted missionary church serv- ices in the Commons schoolhouse.	1797 – The Clark- Metcalf sawmill was cut- ting 4,500 board feet of lumber per day. It sold for 10 shillings per hundred feet.	1798 – Canandaigua Lake froze completely over for the second straight year.	1798 – Gamaliel Wild produced 50 barrels peach brandy at h Seneca Point distillery.	
20 PRESIDENT'S HOLIDAY	21	22 WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY	23	24	25	26	
1799 – The U.S. Government adopted decimal" paper money, and it was used for the irst time for paying axes.	1799 – Because the hills around the village were infested with wolves, the hills to the east and west were de-timbered and burned to eliminate the beasts.	1799 – Caleb Abernathy was hired as the second teacher at the District No. 1 schoolhouse.	1799 – Rev. Seth Will- iamson and Rev. Jude- diah Bushnell of Con- necticut held "revival" services for one week at the Commons school.	1799 – General George Washington died at his home in Mount Vernon on December 14th; there was great mourning in Middletown for the first President.	1800 – The population of Middletown had grown to 473 at the turn of the 19th Century on January 1, 1800.	1800 – A final tribute t George Washington wa held in Middletown o February 22nd at th Commons.	
277 1800 – On February 1st, the "First Religious Soociety Compact of Middletown" was created with Rev. Samuel Fuller and Rev. Zadoc Hunn	28 1800 - The Town Fathers voted to raise \$100 for the support of the poor and \$150 for the	29 LEAP YEAR • ONE EXTRA DAY IN THE YEAR 2000	Arriving in Kanandarqua in early February 1790, Samuel Parrish and his fam- ily made preparations for the final leg of their journey – the 16 mile walk on frozen Kanandarqua Lake to the Seneca village in the valley at the southern end of the lake. Finally, on one bleak February day, they walked up the lake on the thick ice, came up the inlet and Naples Creek at sunset, stopping at the Seneca Indian village. The Senecas watched their guests in silence as they ate a cold meal – the first white settlers of Nundawao.				
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A. H. WILCOX & SON			1914 ★			PPLIANCE DEALERSHII FARIO COUNTY!	

1888

142 S. Main St.

Naples, N.Y.

VIERHILE'S

HARDWARE

BUILDING MATERIALS

Since



THE NAPLES CENTRAL SCHOOL BUILDING, the beautiful yellow-brick structure with its gracious Magnolia tree on the front lawn, has been a Main Street landmark ever since it was dedicated May 10, 1940.



The Naples Central School District was created on July 15, 1938 when voters approved a merger of 28 rural school districts into one centralized district. The building cost \$366,000 to build; it was started on January 6, 1939 with Albert Braun as clerk of the works, and the students and teachers moved from the old high school building (shown in this rare photo) into the new building in April 1940. This photo shows the original Naples Academy (Naples' first high school) which was built in 1861, a temporary wood classroom which is now the Boy Scout Building, and the new school on the left.

## 1789 March 2000

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
When the Naples Central School Building was completed in March 1940, there were only four rural districts that had centralized but refused to move into the new building: Prattsburg District No 3 taught by Doris Cleland, South Bristol District No. 8 taught by Anna Richards, Italy District No. 4 taught by Helen Briglin, and South Bristol District No. 4 taught by Grace Gelder.			1	2	3	4
			1800 – Aaron Hunt built a sawmill on his finely forested 600 acre plot in Hunt's Hollow.	1800 – A delegation from Middletown attended General George Wash- ington's funeral in Wash- ington.	1800 – A special tribute to George Washington was held in the hall on the Town Square on February 22nd.	1800 – Edward Kibb and Nathan Watkir helped organize "Th First Religious Socie Compact of Naples," th first formal church.
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1800 – Caleb Abernathy, Naples' second school teacher, was paid \$12 a month for his services.	1800 – The first road connecting Middletown through Hunt's Hollow to Pittstown (Honeoye) was built.	1801 – Eelpot Road was built connecting Middle- town to Bloods and Cohocton. It got its name from the eels in Garlinghouse bog.	1801 – Susanna Parish, wife of first settler Samuel Parish, died on December 14th at the age of 71.	1802 – The Middletown Library, the first library in the township, was organ- ized.	1802 – The new Middletown Library opened in Isaac Watkins' home with Benjamin Clark as librarian.	1804 – Benjamin Clar built his first wood fram home on South Mai Street; it was move across the street in 1923
12	13	14	15	16	17 st. patrick's day	18
1805 – Fischer Metcalf was the first death recorded in the Town of Italy after he drowned in Canandaigua Lake in the summer.	1807 – Michael Keith purchased land five miles south of Naples and became the first set- tler of Ingleside.	1807 – Samuel Parish, whose family became the first settlers of the Naples Valley, was buried in Fairview Cemetery at the age of 79 on September 13.	1808 – The Naples Town Fathers changed the name of Middletown to Naples based on a sug- gestion made by a visit- ing French count.	1808 – The name of the Middletown Library was changed to the Naples Library.	1810 – The family of Thomas Riker estab- lished a community south of Naples that was named Riker's Hollow (Ingleside).	1812 – Thirty Naple men served in the War 1812.
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
1812 – Colonel Fred Miller of Naples was the first American officer captured in the War of 1812.	1812 – Major Joseph Clark, father of Governor Myron Clark, was cap- tured and spent most of the War of 1812 on a prison ship at Montreal.	1812 – John Sutton built his home at 28 Vine Street	1818 – Three new school commissioners were appointed under a new education law – Simeon Lyon, John Lee, and Paul Grimes.	1813 – Major Joseph Clark, back from the War of 1812, built his home at 4 Mt. Pleasant Street near the Square.	1814 – Simeon Lyon and his son Brunson peti- tioned U.S. Postmaster Gideon Granger to establish a U.S. post office in Naples.	1815 – The first Naple Post Office was opene by the U.S. Governmer on July 25th.
26	27	28	29	30	31	
1815 – Parton T. Brownell was named the first Naples postmaster and started postal serv- ice in his hardware store.	1815 – Erastus Hamlin, Simeon C. Lyon, and Stephen Story built the first Red Mill on Mill Street.	1817 – After the Presslers, Drakes, and Palmateers moved into Riker's Hollow, they got the U.S. Government to open a post office in the hamlet.	1817 – The Naples Common School taught by William Oakley and Mr. Sinclair registered over 100 students for the first time.	1818 – Three new schools were built in Naples, and the village was divided into three school district.	1819 – Records show that 338 students ages 5 to 15 were attending schools in the Village of Naples.	1819 – Exclusive of th teacher's salary, it co \$115.60 to operat District School No. 1 fo the 1819-1820 school year.
1000			USINESSES SPON			
- 1923 VANDYNE OIL 6 Tobey Street, Na	COMPANY	936	— 1945 The A	braham Fami		

374-2400

**Home Heating Oil** 

Kerosene – Gasoline – Motor Oils

NEVER TOO OLD

TO GROW

Bob and Gru's

### **1789 November 2000**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4
brings hundreds a deer. In recent ing more like it	aples means hunting sease of hunters to the Naples any years, wild turkeys abound twas during the centuries Nundawao in their beloved	rea to track down d and make hunt- that the Seneca	1941 – The Great Naples Fair ceased operations.	1941 – The new \$265,000 Naples Central School Building was opened for use after Easter vacation.	1943 - A major fire that started in the boiler room; destroyed the press room and bottling plant at Widmer's.	1943 – Naples Central School organized a Victory Corps of 9th and 10th graders. The school also purchased an old airplane to give pre-flight training.
5	6	7 ELECTION DAY	8	9	10	11 veteran's Day
1943 – Over 300 men and 13 women from the Naples area served in the armed forces during World War II.	1944 – A prisoner-of-war camp on lands owned by Widmer's housed 130 German war prisoners who did grape harvesting and pressing for Widmer's Wine Cellars.	1947 – On February 17th, the Naples Chamber of Comerce took control of Memorial Hall and leased it to the Carpenter Shoe Com- pany.	1948 – John Schuyler, a World War II veteran, became Naples' 19th postmaster.	1950 – The Civil Aerona- utics Board took George Reese's flying license away from him for dare- devil flying and FWI (fly- ing while intoxicated).	1951 – Donna Klub and her mother Leona Reenoldson baked the first grape pie in their Rhine Street kitchen.	1952 – Security Trust Company of Rochester purchased the Maxfield State Bank and opened a branch office in Naples.
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
1954 – The East Shore Cottagers' Association initiated the Seneca Indian's "Ring of Fire" celebration on Canan- daigua Lake over Labor Day weekend.	1954 – Harold Cornish and Robert Emory built the first cable TV system in New York State which served 100 Naples homes.	1954 – The Nundawaga Society was organized and presented its first Seneca Indian Pageant near West River.	1955 – Dr. Arthur Caswell Parker, the author of many books on the Seneca Indians, died at his home on Parish Hill on January 1st.	1955 – Al Hodges opened the Redwood Restaurant on Cohocton Street.	1955 – Naples Memorial Town Hall was sold on January 4th to the Bristol Cabinet Corporation which manufactured cherry furniture.	1958 – Security Trust Company paid \$5,000 for Memorial Town Hall on September 22nd at a public auction.
19	20	21	22	23 THANKS- GIVING DAY	24	25
1959 – On February 13th, Widmer's bought Memorial Hall from Security Trust and used it for storage.	1960 – The 1960 census listed 68,070 people in Ontario County, 1,237 in the Village of Naples, and 1,955 in the Town of Naples.	1960 – After 90 years of continuous operation, the Naples Record ceased publication July 6th.	1961 – The first Naples Grape Festival, spon- sored by the Naples Public Relations Com- mission, was held the last weekend in Sep- tember.	1961 – The 1st Annual Naples Creek Rainbow Trout Derby was held on April 1st. Ronald Fox's 10 lb. 11 oz. rainbow was the biggest trout caught.	1962 – The Naples Library Association was formed under the leader- ship of Anton V. Long.	1962 – James Grove, Sr. of Naples caught the largest rainbow ever caught on Naples Creek weighing 15 lbs. 13 1/2 ozs.
26 1962 – George "Honky" Reese died on March 22nd and his World War I Curtiss biplane was pur- chased by the Rhine- beck Air Museum;.	27 1964 – Bristol Mountain Ski Center opened on Route 64 under the own- ership of Fred Sarkis.	28	29 1964 – Ovewr 60,000 people attended the 4th annual Naples Grape Festival that featured vis- its by Robert Kennedy and Paul Harvey.	30 1964 – George R. Sherwood opened the Bristol Valley Playhouse, a live open-stage theater on Semans Road.	snowflakes fall e from the snow three area ski c	ember, the first ither naturally or blowers at the centers – Bristol Hollow, and Ski for skiing!
- 1987 -		E FOLLOWING BI	JSINESSES SPON		έ. 	
everything Grape and	RY John &	The Beeh Antique Co-O 5 miles south of Naple. Route 21 • North Cohocte	ive the	Stop in Toda	Bath National Ban BATH NATIONA	Hometown Bank