

Report from the Town of Macedon Historian's Office 1st Quarter 2021

April 23, 2021

2021 marks the 198th year of the existence of the Town of Macedon which was incorporated in 1823, Only two years to go until we and Wayne County will be celebrating our 200th anniversary.

This report includes the information on the people, projects and time spent in the role as Historian of the Town of Macedon. In addition to requests from members of our community I have been actively involved as secretary of the Macedon Historical Society and the preservation of the Macedon Academy building. I have logged 120 hours during this three-month period.

Highlights include:

- Macedon Bicentennial: I am the chairperson of this committee. We currently have 8 members on the committee. We have had a couple initial meetings via Zoom. At these meetings we brainstormed ideas for our celebration, we also began putting together a contact list of stakeholders. I have created a Facebook Page called “**Macedon Bicentennial 2023.**” I have created a unique mail address called macedonbicentennial@gmail.com. Our group intends to use Google docs to share and collaborate on projects. I continue to share our progress with the Wayne County Bicentennial Committee. That group publishes a newsletter called Bicentennial Bytes which contains updates from the county and local committees. I have worked directly with a couple of their members on projects including Bicentennial Minutes – recorded videos, county wide Bicentennial Calendar, and Historic Marker articles for the County Facebook page.
- Macedon Historical Society: I continue to serve as secretary documenting minutes, agendas and correspondence. We are in the process of building an ADA compliant restroom using funds from the \$10K Bullis Fund award that we received. The remaining part of that money will be used to prepare the building for an additional fire escape. We are grateful to the Town for donating a steel stairway from the Waste Treatment plant, when it is converted. These acts of “in-kind” service go a long way in showing support with our grant providers. We recently applied for a \$45K grant, which is being managed by the Landmark Society. It is called the Genesee Valley Rural Revitalization grant. If awarded this money, we will use to build an elevator/lift system and have an efficient HVAC system installed on the second floor of the Macedon Academy. It is our goal to make the Macedon Academy a useful place for all members of our community. Another project that MHS has embarked on is cataloging all of our artifacts. Using a museum software called *Past Perfect*, we are slowly but surely working through our collection. We are very lucky to have a local young archaeologist named Stephanie Petty. She is very enthusiastic and has been an integral part of this project.

We are working on several projects to improve the condition of the old Grange building. Member, Otto Roman is creating a community space that he calls *Marketplace and Galleria at the Macedon Grange*. We will also be holding a Flag Day celebration on Sunday, June 13th at 1pm. The Macedon American Legion and the Towpath Volunteers will be helping with this celebration. We look forward to continuing to preserve these buildings and share these beautiful assets with our community.

While implementing COVID-19 restrictions, we have been able to hold our monthly meetings. We look forward to beginning this season with monthly “Community Chats,” “Performance on the Porch” and open houses. We want to bring attention to these historic

buildings and our community. We appreciate any support that the Town of Macedon can provide. We encourage our town trustees to participate in these events.

- Wayne Historical Organizations (WHO) meets on a quarterly basis. We continue to work on the Bicentennial celebration in 2023. We continue to maintain a database of historical structures/places within Wayne County. It is available to the community at <http://waynehistorians.org/Places/>.

Visitors

All of the contacts made with my office were primarily by e-mail, these contacts are noted on the attached spreadsheet. I have been able to. Total contacts were approximately 70.

Queries

The following queries were, or are being researched on the following topics:

1. WWI Research – on hold
2. Collected COVID-19 Articles and placed them in a preservation box
3. Palmer Family
4. Ewer Family
5. 331 East Ave – Wayneport
6. WHO Database – District Schools -
7. 18 Bickford St
8. Bullis Room – Concerns shared by staff regarding humidity and temperature – Scott Allen is aware of this.

Exhibits/Presentations/Bullis Library

- None this quarter – due to Covid-19

Activities/Projects completed

- Article submitted for the Macedon Messenger Spring 2021
- Review newspapers and file obituaries and dbas. Obituaries are cut out, placed on a 3x5 card and filed in special boxes located in the history section of the library. DBA's are filed in a cabinet accessible to the public.
- Continue to communicate with Wayne Historian Organization.
- Grants (2) Written for Macedon Historical Society

Open Projects

- Bicentennial of Macedon and Wayne County 2023
- Potential Pomeroy Markers: Research of Lock 61 and Wayneport
- Idea – research a potential Historic District for Macedon Center
- Continue to work at filing and organizing the materials in the office.
- Continue support of Macedon Historical Society as Secretary.
- Pursue recognition or some type of memorial for people who served in WWI.

Work in the Historian's Office located inside the Macedon Public Library has reconvened. However, the library itself has been open only by appointment. My hours are from 4-6pm or by appointment.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda A. Braun

