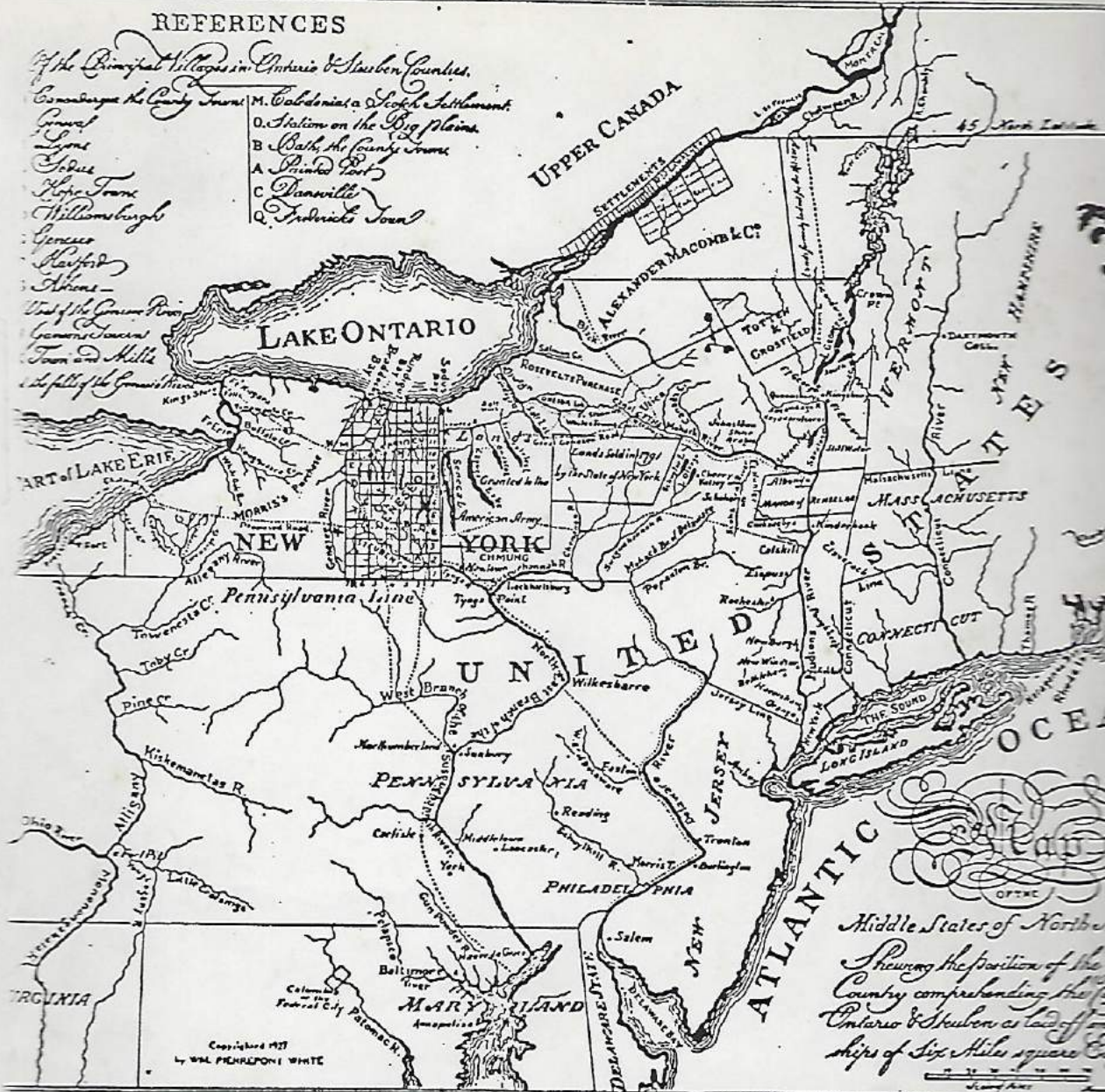


- Boundaries of Allegany County, NY -

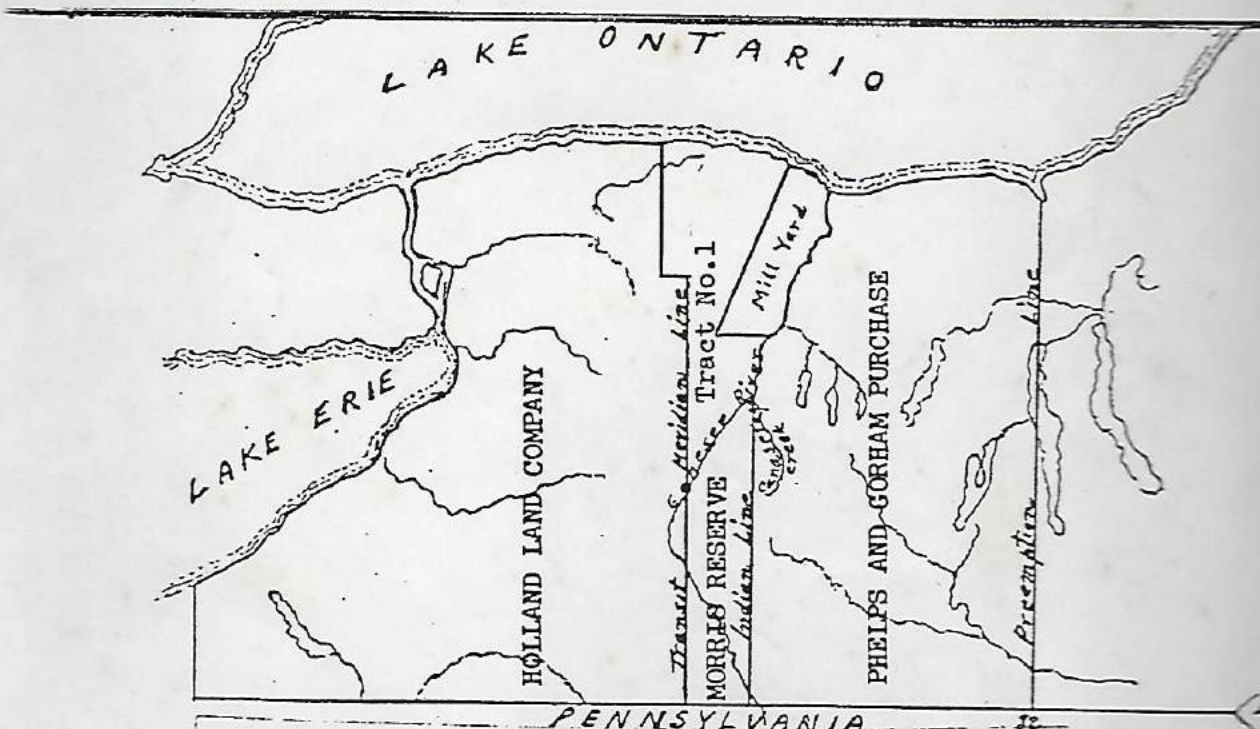
REFERENCES

- Of the Principal Villages in Ontario & St. Lawrence Counties.*  
 Considering the County Towns: M. Cobden's a Stock Settlement  
 Point O. Station on the Big Plains  
 Point B. Bath the family town  
 Point C. Pointed Point  
 Point A. Pointed Point  
 Point C. Pointed Point  
 Point Q. Pointed Point

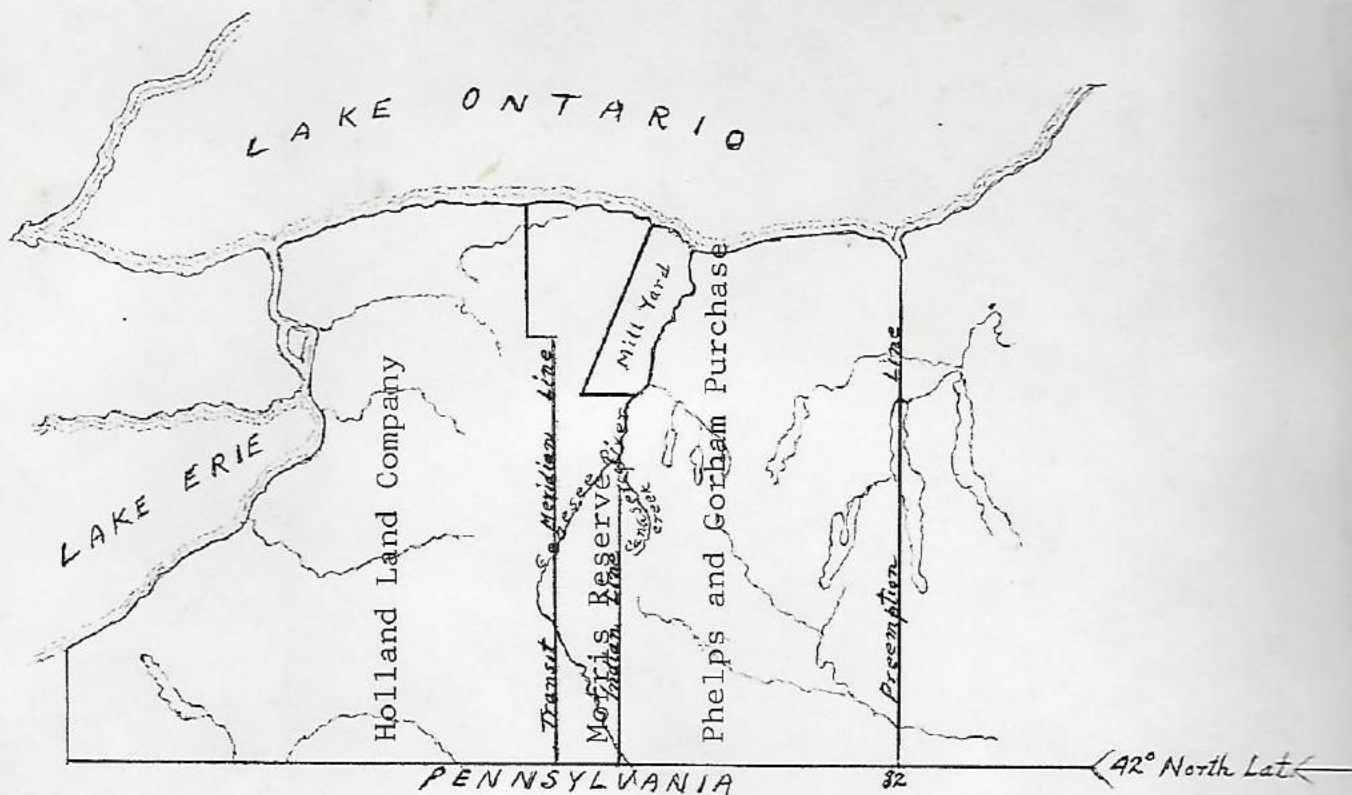


*Middle States of North America  
 Showing the position of the  
 Country comprehending the  
 Ontario & St. Lawrence as land of  
 ships of Six Miles square*

Copyright 1877  
 by Wm. PHELPS & WHITE



Tracts in the Massachusetts Preemption Lands 1800



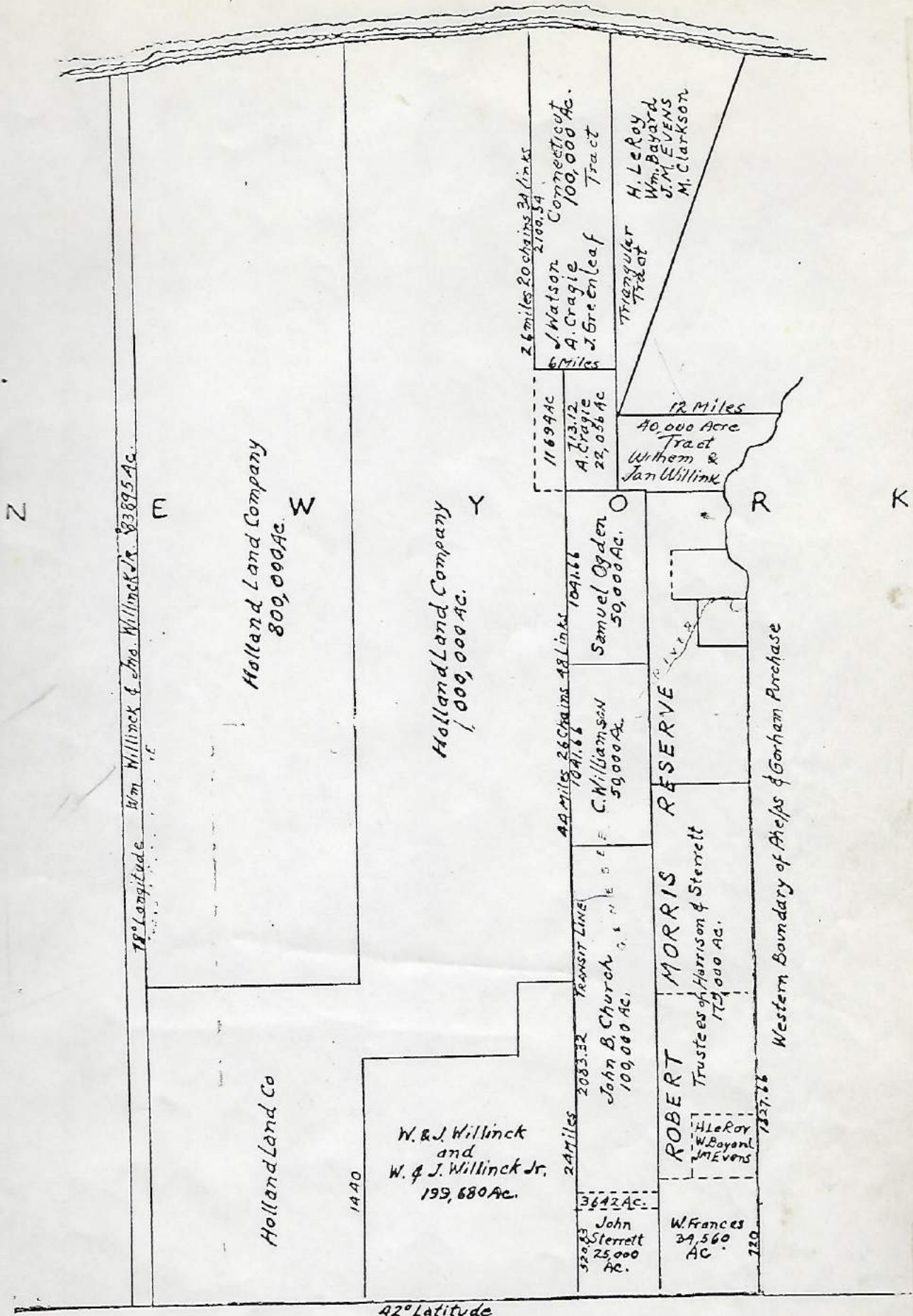
The New York-Pennsylvania boundary starts at the point where the 42nd parallel of north latitude crosses the Delaware River and runs, on the parallel, west to a meridian passing through the western extremity of Lake Ontario. In 1785-86 the line was run west to the 90th milestone. At the 82nd milestone the Massachusetts Preemption Line starts north toward Lake Ontario.

The Preemption Line divided the land between the state of New York and the commonwealth of Massachusetts as and when the Indian title was extinguished. Title to land west of the Preemption Line was to go to Massachusetts, agreed upon by New York and Massachusetts at Hartford in 1786.

The Seneca Nation gave up title in 1788 only to land east of the confluence of Genesee River and Canaseraga Creek. The line from this point directly south to the Pennsylvania boundary was called the Indian Line. Land between the Preemption and the Indian lines was sold by Massachusetts to Oliver Phelps and Nathaniel Gorham. A twelve mile wide strip of land west of the Genesee River was also given up by the Seneca as payment for a sawmill for the Indians at what is now Rochester.

From Indian Line westward, except for the above Millyard Tract, the Seneca sold all of western New York to Robert Morris, who had bought Massachusetts' preemption rights. Within this area a further exception was the land promised to the Indians for reservations. September 1797.

Morris sold all of his land except a 500,000 acre twelve mile wide strip along the Genesee River to Holland Land Company. The line separating the Morris Reserve and Holland Company lands was run in 1798 by Joseph and Benjamin Ellicott and was called the Eastern Transit Meridian Line. The line starts at Pennsylvania boundary 12 miles west of Indian Line and runs to Lake Ontario.



Map used by Thomas L. Ogden in 1801 to distribute lands held by Robert Morris. (see Ontario County Deeds Liber 9 at page 247 and Allegany County Deeds Liber 24 at page 1)



The land in townships 1,2,3,4,5,6 of the 7th (west) range of townships of the Phelps and Gorham Purchase became part of Allegany County March 11 1808.



PENNSYLVANIA

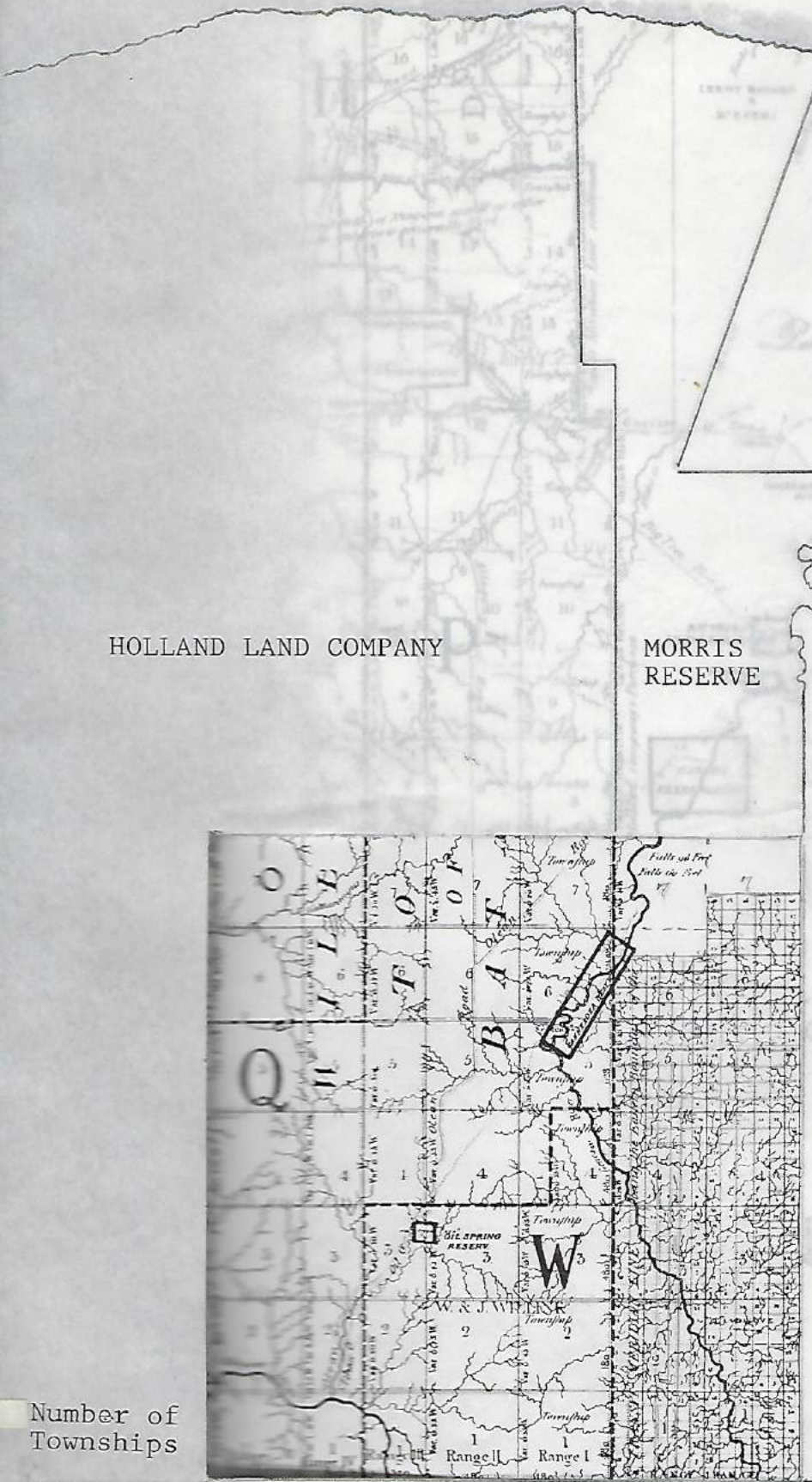
LAT. 42° N.

Scale of Miles





NORTHERN BOUNDARY OF THE



M A P

*Morris's Purchase*

*West Seneca*

In the State of New York:

*Being*

*Part of the LAKES ERIE and ONTARIO, the*

*Tracts of NIAGARA CHAUTAQUOGLAKE*

*and all the property Within the Boundary*

*line of the several Tracts of Land purchased*

*by the*

**Holland Land Company**

*William and John Willsie*

and others

*A Boundary line of Township*

*and Range*

**PHELPS AND GORHAM PURCHASE**

(Pulteney Estate)

Also

*A Tract of part of Upper Canada*

*by*

*Joseph & B. Ellicott*

1800

TO THE

*Holland Land Company*

*the General Agents*

*Thompson's Express of Paul Bunck Express*

**THIS MAP**

*Is respectfully presented*

by the

**AUTHORS.**

1804

EXPLANATION

----- Boundary line of Tract & Range

----- D' Tract & Range

----- D' Township & Range

----- Range line

----- Township line

----- John Willsie

----- William Willsie

Number of  
Townships

6Mi. x 6Mi.

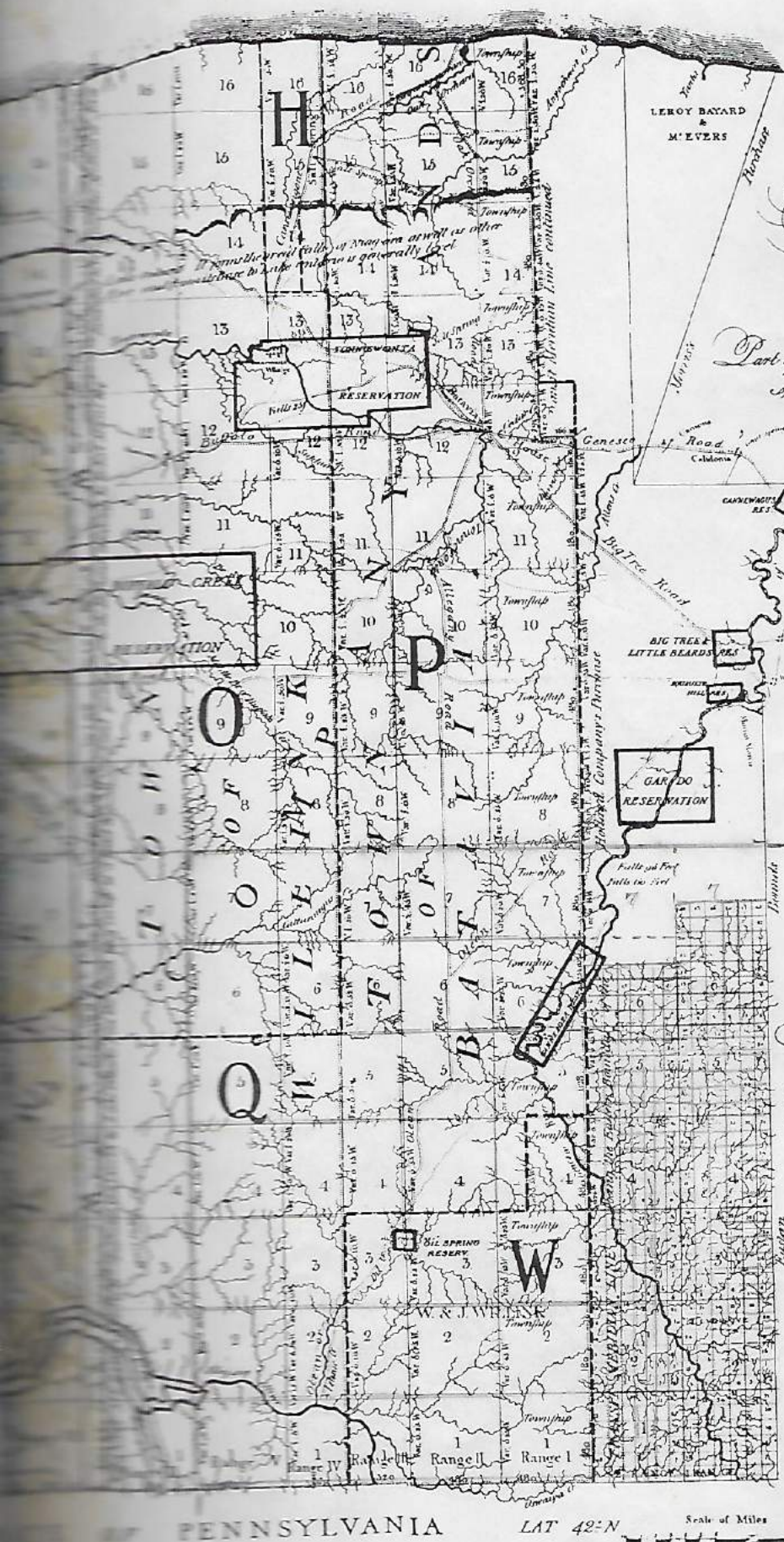
4Mi. x 6Mi.

7 + 7 + 7 + 7 + 7 = 35 x 36 = 1,260

7 + 7 = 14 x 24 = 336

1,596 square miles





**M A P**

of  
*Morris's Purchase*  
OR  
*West Genesee*  
In the State of New York:

Exhibiting  
Part of the LAKES ERIE and ONTARIO, the  
Straits of NIAGARA, CHAUTAUQUE LAKE  
and all the principal Waters, the Boundary  
lines of the several Tracts of Land purchased

by the  
**Holland Land Company**  
William and John Willink  
and others.

Boundary lines of Townships,  
Boundary lines of New York and  
Indian Reservations

Laid down from actual Survey.

Also

A Sketch of part of Upper Canada

by  
*Joseph & B. Ellicott*  
1800.

TO THE

*Holland Land Company*

their General Agents

*Theophilus Cazenove & Paul Buste Esqrs*

**THIS MAP**

*I, respectfully inscribed*

by the

**A U T H O R S .**

1804

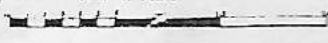
**EXPLANATION**

|       |                                 |
|-------|---------------------------------|
| ----- | Boundary line of Tracts & Towns |
| D'    | Township Tracts & Towns         |
| D'    | Reservations & Tracts           |
| ----- | Wagon Road                      |
| ----- | Indian Path                     |
| ***   | Indian Village                  |

PENNSYLVANIA

LAT 42° N

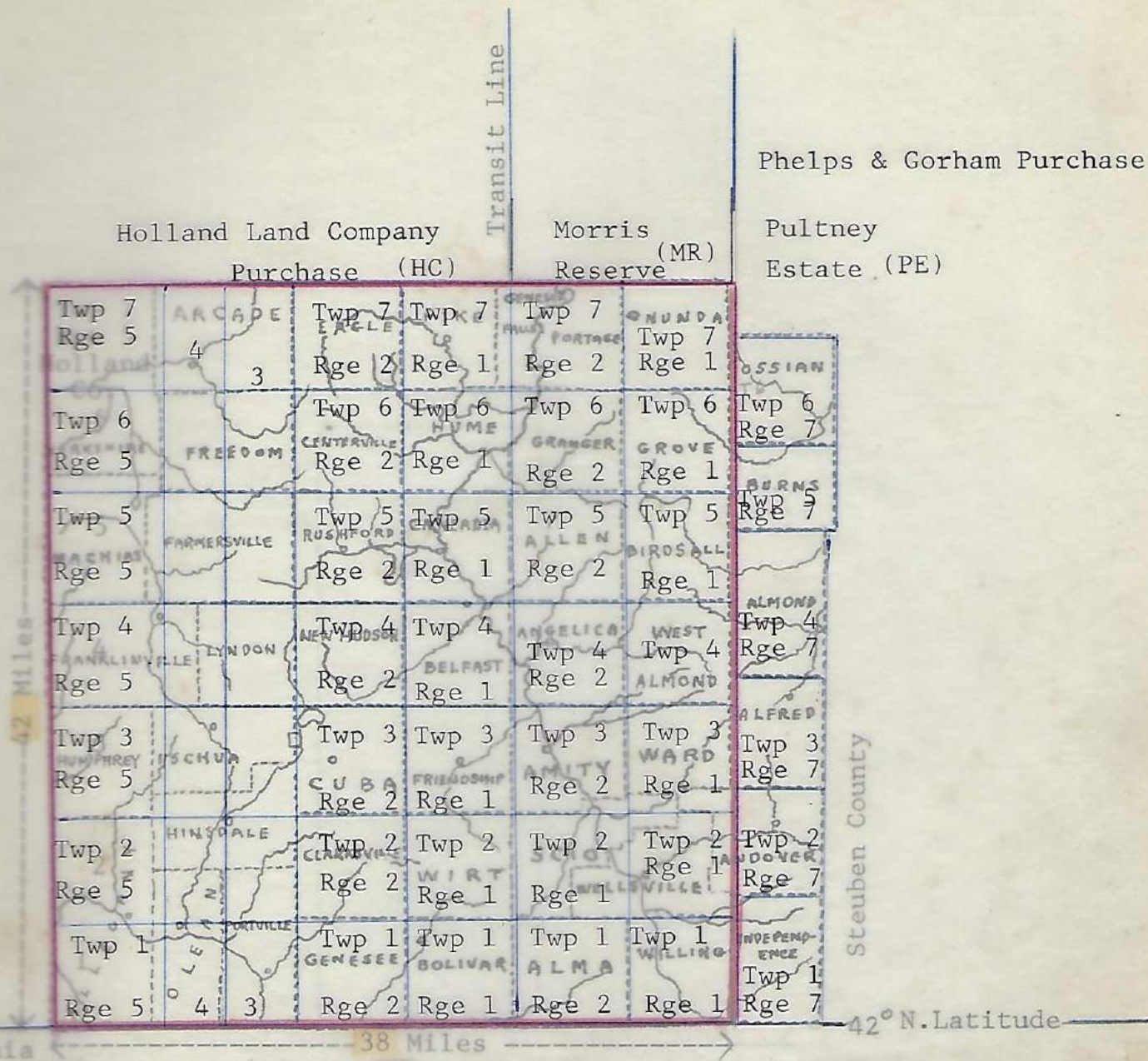
Scale of Miles



The Boundaries of Allegany County, New York

(related to present town lines)

Tracts and Townships of Allegany County

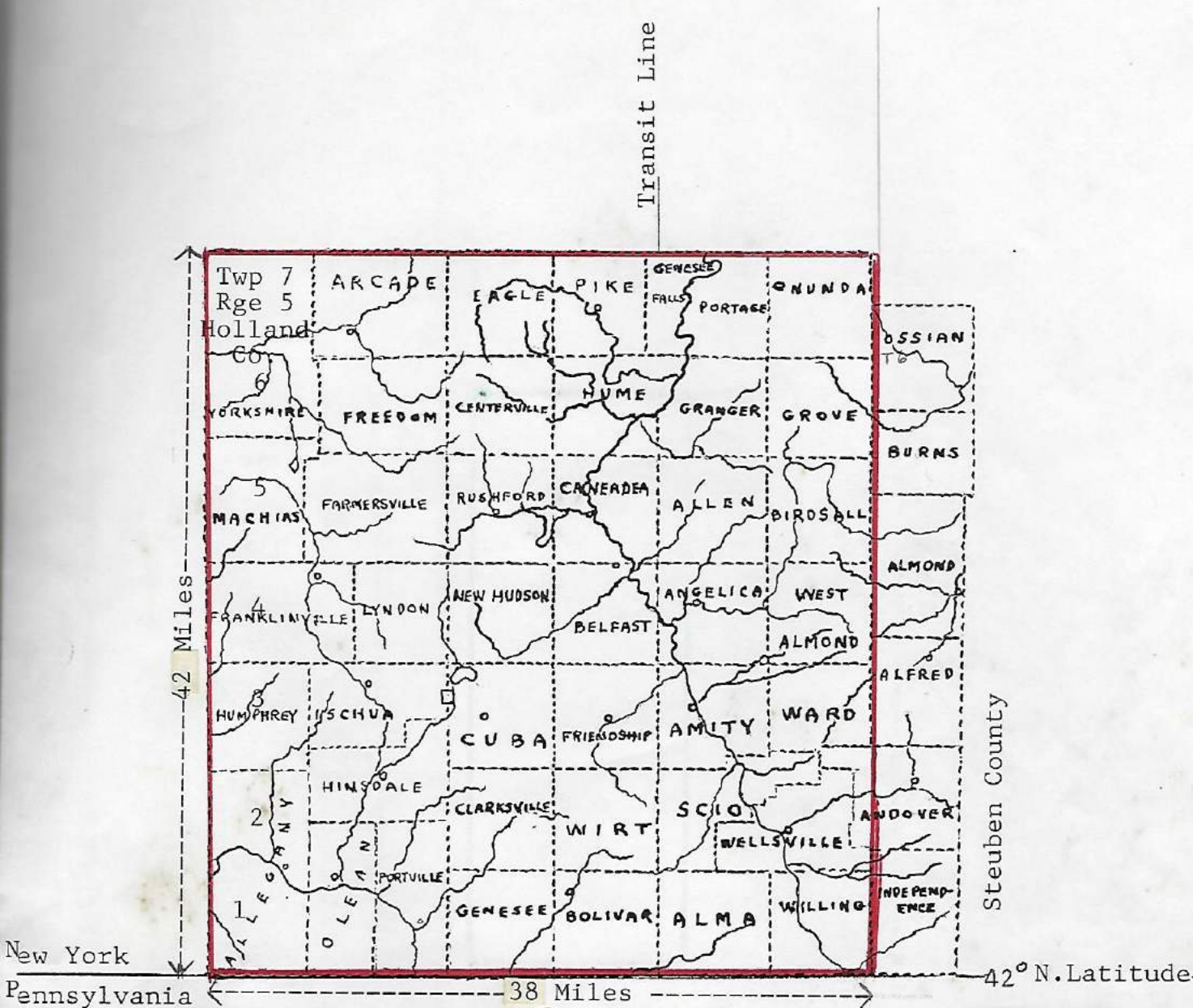


Be it enacted by the people of the state of New York represented in Senate and Assembly, that all parts of the county of Genesee, beginning at the southeast corner and running thence northerly 42 miles along the western boundary of Steuben and Ontario counties, thence westerly 38 miles along the dividing lines of townships number 7 and 8 to the northwest corner of township 7 in the 5th range of the Holland Company's land, thence southerly 42 miles along the western boundary of the 7th, 6th, 5th, 4th, 3rd, 2nd, and 1st townships of the 5th range of the Holland Land Company's land to the Pennsylvania line, thence easterly 38 miles along the Pennsylvania line to the place of beginning, shall be, and hereby is erected into a separate county, and shall be called and known by the name of ALLEGANY.

April 7 1806

The Boundaries of Allegany County, New York

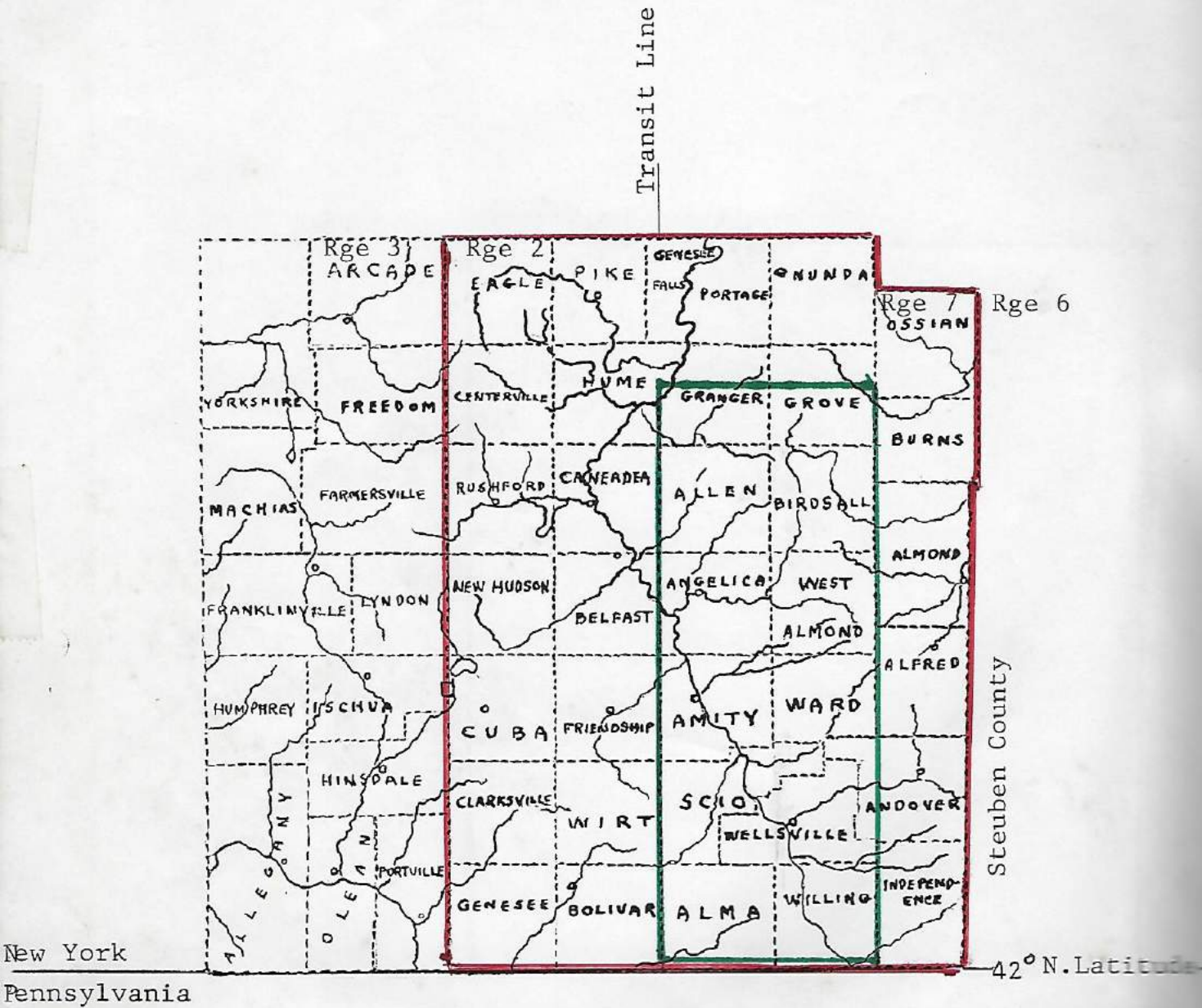
(related to present town lines)



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April 7 1806

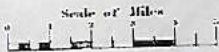
The Boundaries of Allegany County, New York  
(related to present town lines)



Be it enacted by the people of the state of New York represented in Senate and Assembly, that all that part of the county of Allegany west of the meridian line between the 2nd and 3rd ranges of townships of the Holland Land Company's land be annexed to the county of Genesee.  
March 11 1808

Be it enacted by the people of the state of New York represented in Senate and Assembly, that all that part of the county of Steuben lying west of the division line between the 6th and 7th ranges of towns be annexed to the county of Allegany.  
March 11 1808

**1840**  
**(MAP)**  
OF  
**(COUNTY)**  
OF  
**(ALLEGANY)**  
By David H. Rice

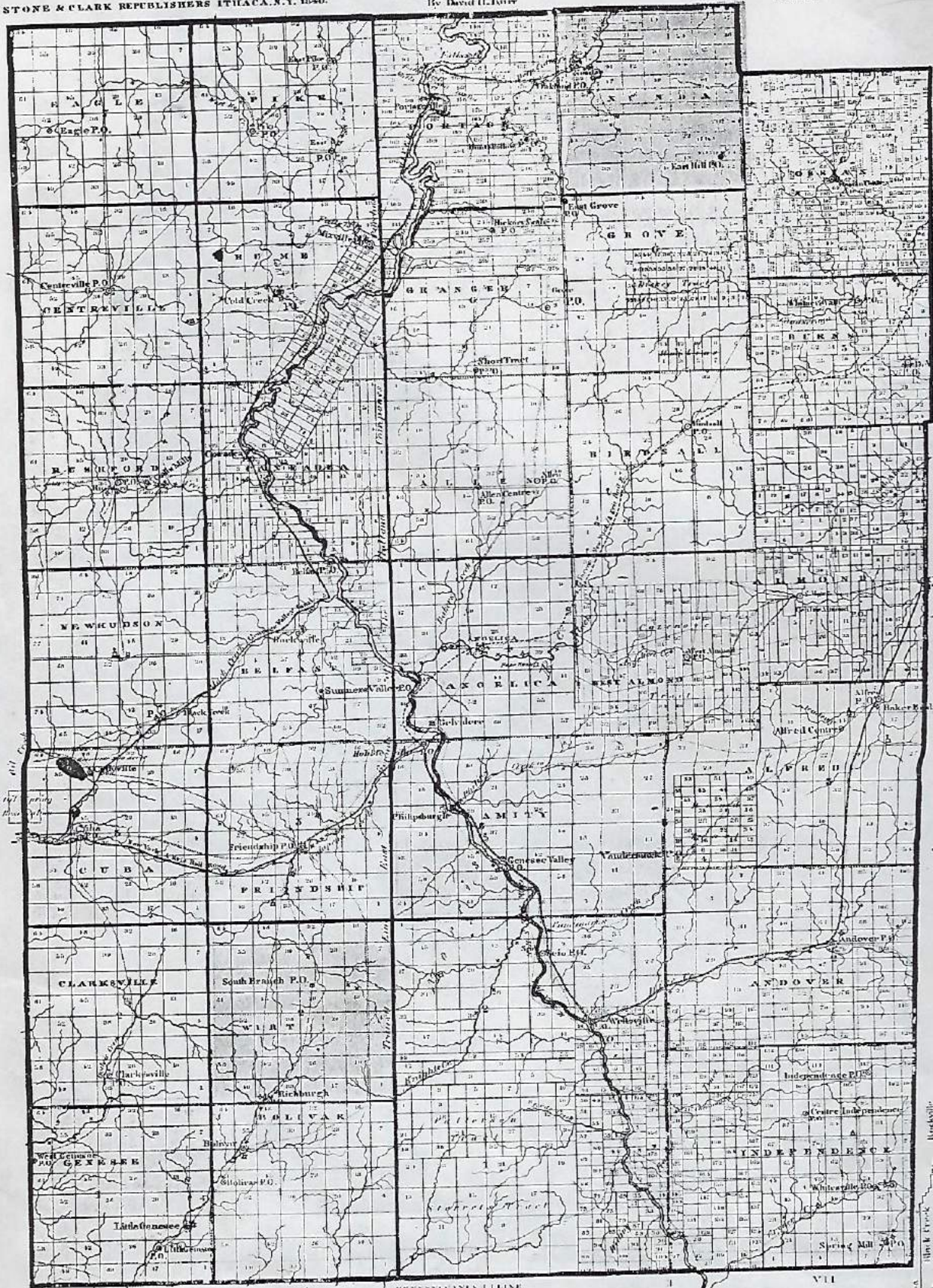


Published by the SURVEYOR GENERAL,  
pursuant to an Act of the Legislature

STONE & CLARK RE-PUBLISHERS ITHACA, N.Y. 1840.

**EXPLANATIONS**

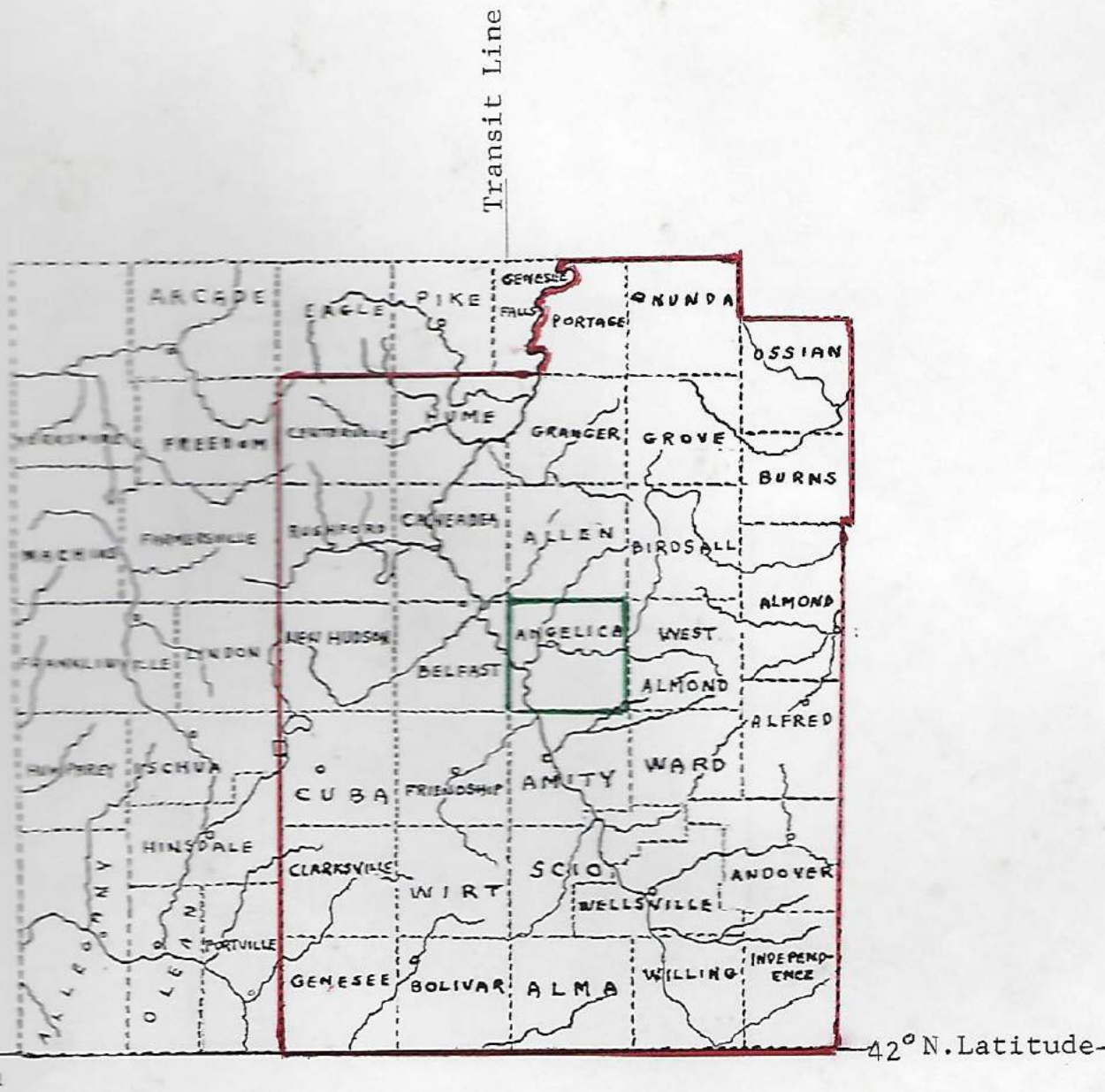
- Iron* Iron
- Native Iron Ore* Native Iron Ore
- Lead Ore* Lead Ore
- Woolly* Woolly
- Woolly* Woolly
- Woolly* Woolly
- Woolly* Woolly
- Woolly* Woolly
- Woolly* Woolly
- Woolly* Woolly



PEOPLE OF THE  
**GENESE VALLEY TOWNSHIP**  
 Within the County

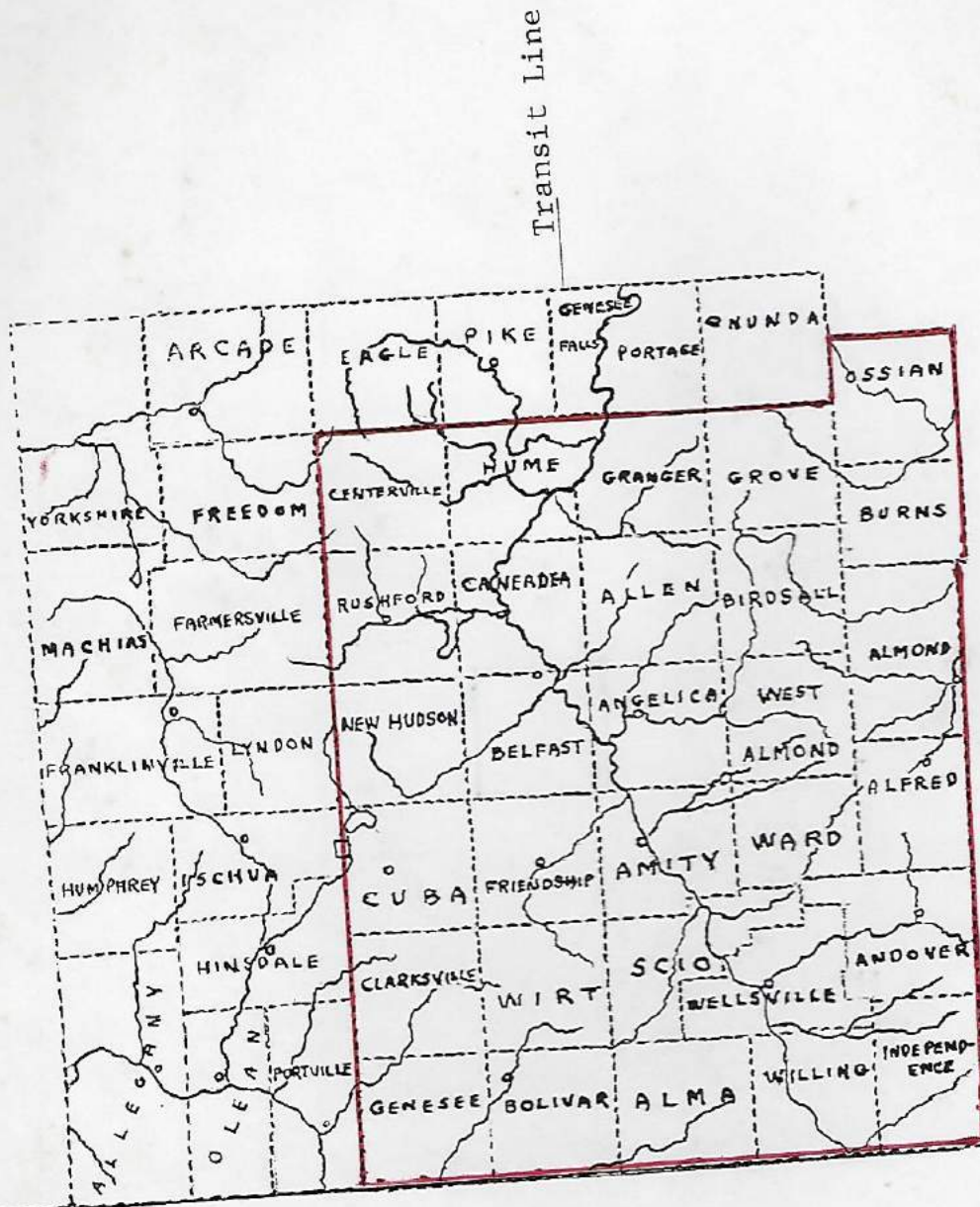
1° 30' Longitude    1° 30' West from    1° 30' Washington    1° 30'

The Boundaries of Allegany County, New York  
(related to present town lines)



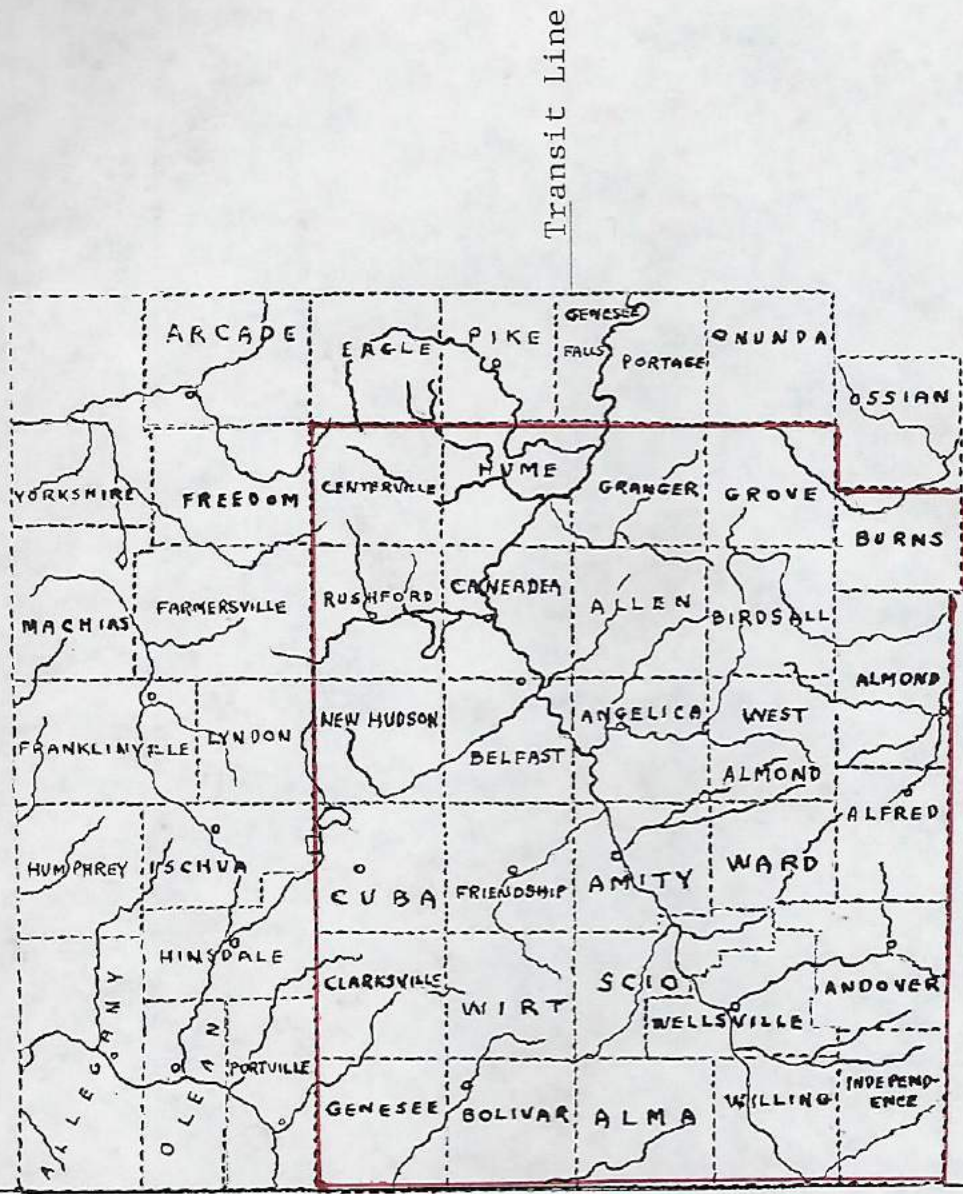
Be it enacted by the people of the state of New York represented in Senate and Assembly, that the town of Eagle, the town of Pike, and the town of Genesee Falls be annexed to the county of Wyoming.  
April 1 1846

The Boundaries of Allegany County, New York  
 (related to present town lines)



Be it enacted by the people of the state of New York represented in Senate and Assembly, that the town of Portage and Nunda be annexed to the county of Livingston. May 11 1846

The Boundaries of Allegany County, New York  
 (related to present town lines)



Be it enacted by the people of the state of New York represented in Senate and Assembly, that the town of Ossian be annexed to the county of Livingston.  
March 23 1857



Bob Warsey

this box was left, to  
be given to Angelica  
town Historian

do not take away  
I borrowed a  
couple of  
things

# Tercentenary of Oil *in* America



By LEWIS H. THORNTON

Former President of the

New York State Oil Producers' Association

# Tercentenary of Oil in America



By LEWIS H. THORNTON

Former President of the

New York State Oil Producers' Association

## A REMARKABLE ILLUSTRATION

For the use of the illustration on the second page, we are indebted to Goodspeed's Book Shop, in Boston, which specializes in rare Americana and has a fine collection of old books and documents concerning the very early history of this continent.

This picture is an exact reproduction of the frontispiece of Sagard's *Grand Voyage*, being an account of his visit to the Hurons in New France, or Canada, as a missionary from the Recollects of St. Francis in Paris. It is in the story of this visit and a trip farther south that Father Sagard makes mention of the oil used by the Indians which beyond question came from the Oil Spring where the monument is to be unveiled on July 23 next.

The book itself is a rare one, only a few copies being known to exist at the present day, which is not to be wondered at, seeing it was printed almost 300 years ago.

The picture is interesting as an example of the art of engraving of that early day, which was all done on wood. The book was printed in Paris, and probably the artist had never seen an Indian, so that he was compelled to rely on description for details of the figures which appear at the top of the picture.

# Tercentenary of Oil in America

On July 18, 1927, occurs the three hundredth anniversary of the first record of oil on the North American continent.

This is one of the most important dates in the history of petroleum and richly merits the Tercentenary Celebration which will be held to commemorate it in July at the Seneca Indian Oil Spring on the Seneca Reservation, near Cuba, Allegany County, New York.

## AT DAWN OF AMERICAN EXPLORATION.

In the very dawn of American history, only seven years after the landing of the Pilgrim Fathers at Plymouth, and a century and a half before the American Revolution, the Franciscan missionary and explorer, Father Joseph de la Roche d'Allion, journeying down from north of Niagara into the wilderness of what is now western New York, wrote of the oil used by the Indians. It came from what has since been known as the famous Seneca Indian Oil Spring.

The Friar's letter, written in seventeenth century French, dated July 18, 1627, was first published in Sagard's Histoire du Canada.

The Tercentenary Celebration will be held at the Oil Spring on Saturday, July 23d next, the 18th falling on Monday and not being as good a day for the affair as Saturday, later in the same week.

## COMMEMORATION WILL BE ELABORATE.

Elaborate commemorative exercises will be under the auspices of the New York State Oil Producers' Association in co-operation with the New York State Departments of History and Geology; a committee of Senators and Assemblymen appointed by the State Legislature; full-blood representatives of the Seneca Indians; and the Franciscan Fathers from the near-by monastery of Saint Bonaventure.

The American Petroleum Institute, embracing the oil interests of the entire nation, will be represented by its president, E. W. Clark of the Union Oil Company of California, and a committee headed by President Ralph C. Holmes of the Texas Company.

Representing the Senate of the State of New York will be the Hon. John Knight of Arcade, President; the Hon. Leigh G. Kirkland of Randolph; the Hon. Leon F. Wheatley of Hornell; the Hon. Thomas F. Burchill of New York City. The Assembly will be represented by the Hon. Joseph McGinnies of Ripley, the Speaker; the Hon. James W. Watson of New Albion; the Hon. Adolf F. Johnson of Jamestown; the Hon. Cassius Congdon of West Clarksville; the Hon. Joseph R. Hanley of Perry; the Hon. John F. Meegan of Buffalo.

It is expected that representatives of the United States Government will be present, as will those of the foreign countries whose people were interested in this early discovery, for it is recognized that the event is not only of national, but of international importance.

## MODERN SENECA CHIEF AND PRESENT FRANCISCAN FRIAR

A significant and interesting conference was recently held at the Senecas' Oil Spring, May 7 last. Upon invitation of Chief Hoag and Clerk Kennedy of the Seneca Indian Tribe, officials and committeemen of the New York State Oil Association, among them the Hon. N. V. V. Frauchot of Olean, who is

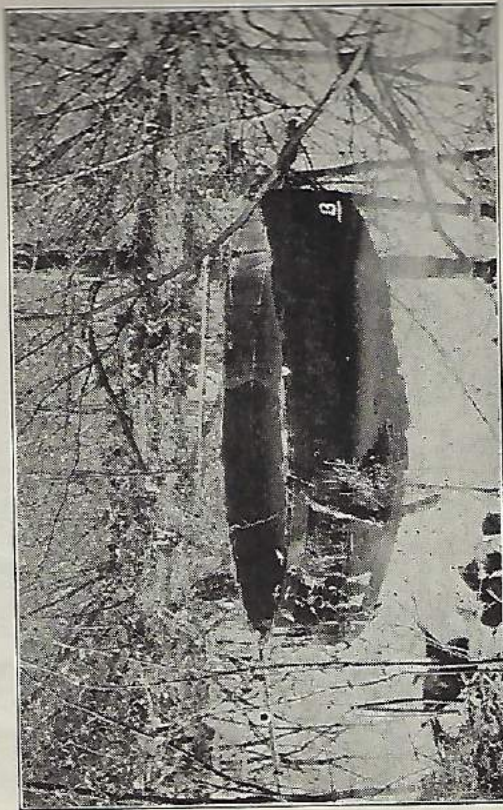


See Page 8 for Description of Above Engraving

greatly interested, and Father Plassman, President of the college at St. Bonaventure monastery, met on the Senecas' reservation at the Oil Spring to discuss the coming celebration.

#### SEVENTEENTH AND TWENTIETH CENTURIES MEET.

No great amount of imagination was necessary for one to get a real thrill upon this occasion. Here were direct descendants of the great ancients of the famous tribe of the Senecas, the most powerful and advanced redmen of their day, the strongest members of the wonderful Iroquois Confederacy. Here was a Franciscan Father whose religious orders have come directly down from the same order to which the friar d'Allion belonged, 300 years ago. The thoughts one had about things in 1627, the great historical significance of the facts, and the contrasts of our twentieth century civilization with that of the seventeenth are, as Kipling was so fond of saying, another story.



#### THE FAMOUS SENECA OIL SPRING NEAR CUBA, N. Y.

This is the Oil Spring on the Seneca Indian Reservation near Cuba, N. Y., as it appears today. The surroundings, we may imagine, have not changed greatly since 300 years ago, when the Franciscan missionary, d'Allion, wrote of it—the first record of the knowledge of petroleum by white man in North America. The great oak in the center of the spring, made of heavy planks with iron hoops, has been there as long as any one living remembers, and must have been preserved by the oil, else it would have rotted out long ago. It is said that formerly there was a cribbling built up of logs notched at the end, not with the idea of retaining the oil but for the purpose of keeping beasts from getting into the spring. No exact measuring of the depth of the spring has been made.

#### HISTORICAL DATA LEAVES NO DOUBT.

The most careful search has failed to reveal mention of oil on the American continent earlier than Father d'Allion's letter, and this distinction is conceded by historians who have made a special study of the subject. For example, the Encyclopedia Americana, Vol. XXI, page 683, says: "The earliest mention of petroleum in the United States was in 1627, by a French missionary who described the famous petroleum spring near Cuba, in Western New York." The author also states in this article that the explorers were guided by the

Indians, who collected enough of the oil to start a fire. This phenomena was regarded by them with religious awe and superstition.

Similarly, Sir Boverton Redwood, the British authority on petroleum, writing in the eleventh edition of the Encyclopedia Britannica, states that the reference in d'Allion's letter was the first mention of the existence of petroleum on the North American continent.

Hon. C. A. Hartnagle, State Geologist of New York, wrote: "We know positively that through the Indians oil first became known to the Europeans in 1627, in the region of the Neutral nation, afterwards that of the Senecas, namedly at Cuba, Allegany County, New York."

Dr. Arthur C. Parker, well-known Indian archaeologist, wrote to Lewis H. Thornton, president of the New York State Oil Producers' Association: "You have brought together the historical facts in a convincing way, and I see no reason why the date 1627 should not be regarded as the earliest reference of a white explorer to the Indian oil spring at Cuba, New York. It would be most appropriate under the circumstances to arrange for a tercentenary of oil in the United States in 1927. Such an occasion would make possible not only a review of the history of oil in America, but also the romantic background in Indian history."

#### OIL SPRING ON FRENCH MAP OF 1670.

A sketch map was made in 1670 by Gallinee. It is referred to by Dr. Frank E. Severance in "An Old Frontier of France," Volume I, page 7, in which Dr. Severance says: "Several villages in the Seneca Country are located and a 'Fontaine de Bitume,' the earliest indication on a map of the oil and gas phenomenon. The point marked '42' on this map locates this oil spring."

Hon. Edward R. Foreman, president of Rochester Bar Association, former president of the Rochester Historical Society and a well known writer on historical subjects, refers to Severance's "An Old Frontier of France" and also calls attention to quotations from the "Jesuit Relations."

#### "FONTAINE DE BITUME."

Mr. Foreman writes: "Dr. Severance calls attention to the fact that the Gallinee drawing is a sketch map without the usual niceties of the engraver. It has the singular feature of presenting the region mapped as though viewed from the north, so that to read most of its many inscriptions it must be held with the south to the top. Severance adds that the outline of the lakes, distances, etc., lacks the accuracy of the surveyor, but these inaccuracies are more than offset by its fullness of record. Holding the map in the position indicated by Dr. Severance, the 'Fontaine de Bitume' (later known as the Seneca Indian Oil Spring) is at the left or west of the Genesee. The fact that the figure '42' is not far enough down on the map is of no consequence, because the map is not made to scale."

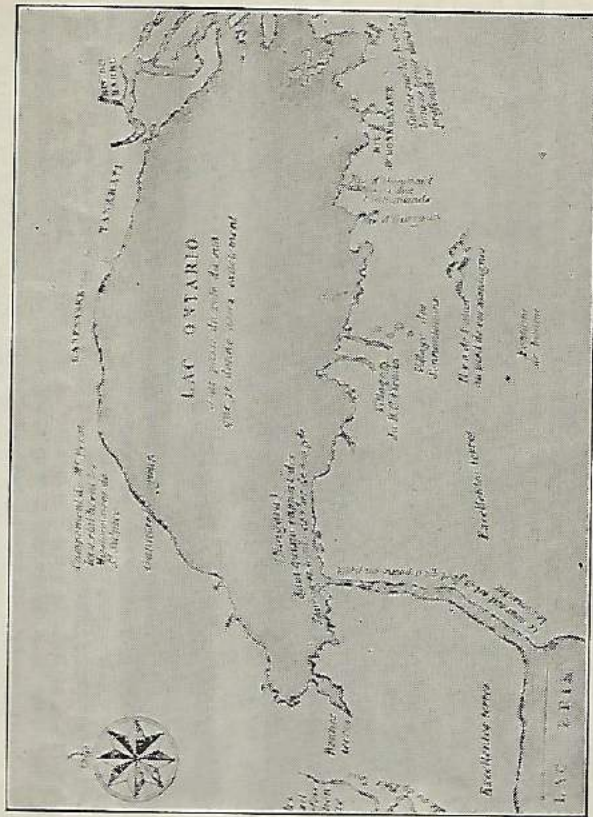
#### SENECA OIL A POPULAR REMEDY.

The Jesuit Relations for 1656, edited by Rev. Paul le Jeune (Thwaites' edition, Volume 43, page 261) says: "As one approaches nearer to the country of the Cats, one finds heavy and thick water, which ignites like brandy, and boils up in bubbles of flame when fire is applied to it. It is, moreover, so oily that all our savages use it to anoint and grease their heads and their bodies." In his notes on this Relation the editor says (Id. Volume 43, page 326): "The spring 'toward the Country of the Cats' (Eries) was probably the noted oil spring in the town of Cuba, Allegany County, about fifty miles southwest of the burning spring." (The burning spring was a gas seepage near Bloomfield, south of Rochester). It is on the Oil Spring reservation and is described as a stagnant pool, twenty feet in diameter, and without an outlet. A yellowish-brown oil collects on the surface, which is skimmed off. In my younger

days it was known as 'Seneca Oil', and was a popular remedy. This spring was so highly esteemed by the Senecas that in their treaties they reserved it, with a square mile of land."

#### JONCAIRE VISITED OIL SPRING IN 1721.

Again Dr. Severance says ("An Old Frontier of France", Vol. 1, page 294): "Joncaire may have been the first white man to visit these oil springs, but others had heard of them long before Joncaire's day. It was Joncaire who told Charlevoix of the famous oil spring at Ganos, now near Cuba, New York.



#### A MAP MADE IN 1670, SHOWING THE OIL SPRING

In the year 1670 the missionary-explorer Gallinee made a map of the eastern section of the Great Lake region and as far south as northwestern Pennsylvania. While the map has many inaccuracies such, for example, as the length of the Niagara River, the wonder is that it is so nearly correct, considering that the only data in the possession of the maker was what he collected in traveling about, mostly on foot or by canoe, and what information he received from other travelers. Gallinee notes the location of the "Fontaine de Bitume," or Oil Spring, indicating it must have been a famous feature of this section of the country at the time the map was made. Only a small section of the map is reproduced above.

"The place where we meet with it," wrote Charlevoix in May, 1721, "is called Ganos', where an officer worthy of credit (Joncaire) assured me that he had seen a fountain, the water of which is like oil and has the taste of iron."

Ganos is derived from Genie or Gaienna, which in the Iroquois signifies oil or liquid grease.

Dr. Severance concludes (Vol. 1, page 294): "Father Chaumonot was among the Senecas in 1656, as were, at various times, Fathers Fremin, Menart, and Vaillant. These or still other missionaries may have been led to the oil spring more than a half century before Joncaire."

#### VISITED BY PROF. SILLIMAN OF YALE COLLEGE.

In 1833 Prof. Benjamin Silliman, sr., of Yale, one of America's best known men of science, visited the Oil Spring and wrote a description of it for the American Journal of Science. At that time, he stated, gas was constantly rising to the surface, which was at all times covered with a thin layer of petroleum.

"They collect the petroleum," wrote Prof. Silliman, "by skimming it like cream from a milkpan, using a broad, flat board made thin at one edge. It has then a very foamy appearance like dirty tar or molasses; but it is purified by heating and straining it while hot through flannel or other woollen stuff. It is used by the people of the vicinity for sprains and rheumatism and for sores upon their horses. It is not monopolized by any one, but is carried away freely by all who care to collect it, and for this purpose the spring is frequently visited." Much later than this oil from Pennsylvania was also called Seneca Oil when used for medicine.

#### FAT SQUAW FURNISHED OIL.

There are several interesting Indian legends relative to the origin of oil in this spring, and the medicinal uses to which it was put. One of the Indian traditions had it that:

"A big, fat squaw was one day observing the pool, and becoming very curious in her investigations ventured too near, fell in and disappeared forever. Since that time, many centuries before, oil has continued to rise to the surface of the spring."

It was not a mere legend of the Indians that this oil had medicinal value. The Senecas used it for countless generations, and during the mid-years of the nineteenth century it could be purchased in bottles at the drug stores, labeled "Seneca Oil." Being an amber paraffin oil, it was pleasing in appearance and had a wholesome odor. No doubt it was excellent for liniment and for scalp and hair; and, though unrefined, it had all the efficacy of our modern mineral oil for internal lubrication.

The first well in America, drilled for the production of oil, was completed near the Seneca Indian oil spring in 1857, but it did not produce enough oil to pay, and the honor for the drilling of the first commercial oil well belongs to Colonel Drake of Titusville. A few years afterward, just subsequent to the Drake discovery at Titusville, Pa., another well was drilled near this spring from which there is record that eleven barrels of petroleum were sold in New York City at \$9.00 a barrel.

It is surprising that in spite of many test wells drilled in all directions from the Oil Spring that no oil in paying quantities was found in Allegany county until 1879. The nearest oil production is now about eight miles east in the town of Clarksville. But the Oil Spring occupies today a large petroleum in considerable quantities. The Allegany and Pennsylvania oil fields of Southwestern New York now cover about 60,000 acres and produce approximately a million barrels of high grade oil annually. That this has been pumping to some extent for forty-eight years.

#### RECAPITULATION

To recapitulate:

The first mention of oil in North America is in Father Charlevoix's map of 1670.

The first map locating the (Seneca Indian) oil spring was that of Gallinee's, 1670.

It is positively known that Joncaire personally visited the oil spring at that time previous to 1721.

A Tercentenary Celebration for the Oil Spring will be held there on that day, July 23d, this summer.

#### A REMARKABLE ILLUSTRATION

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