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This is another of a series of articles concerning history of street names in Rochester.

First mention of John Quincy Adams as a presidential possibility was made in the editorial columns of the Rochester Telegraph in 1823. Thurlow Weed, at that time associate editor of the Telegraph, was probably responsible for the editorials.

This initiated a movement which soon became state-wide, and a short time after the original editorial a public meeting was held here in which Mr. Adams was publicly nominated. This was before the days of the presidential convention, when electors were chosen by the state legislatures.

Later Mr. Weed, although not a member of the legislature, went to Albany to urge the election of Mr. Adams, and it was largely owing to his influence that the New York vote went to the Massachusetts statesman. He did not, however, win a sufficient majority of the electoral vote, and the election went to the House of Representatives, which named Adams president. He was inaugurated in 1825.

Adams Street, according to Morley B. Turpin, archivist of the University of Rochester library, was named after the six president of the United States, whose first nomination came from Rochester. Mr. Adams later visited Rochester, on July 27, 1843, when he was greeted with a torchlight procession, and gave an address in front of the courthouse.

From Sophia Street, now Plymouth Avenue South, to Exchange Street, Adams Street was originally called Lafayette Street, after the famous French Soldiers, who visited here June 7, 1825. The name was later changed in accordance with the practice of giving a continuous street the same name.



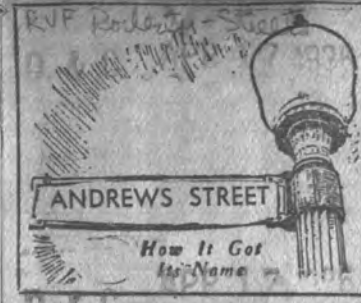
This is another in a series of articles concerning history of street names in Rochester.

Many persons believe Allen Street was named after Indian Allen, Rochester's first miller.

This opinion is disputed by Morley Turpin, archivist of the University of Rochester library, and long a student of local history and of Indian Allen's life.

Allen Street, Mr. Turpin holds, honors "Honest John" Allen, an early settler in Rochester, and mayor of the city in 1844.

Near the north side of the 100-Acre Tract purchased by Col. Nathaniel Rochester and his partners in 1802, the street, when laid out by Colonel Rochester was named Ann Street, after his daughter. The name was changed in July, 1859.



During the War of 1812 a British blockading squadron off New Haven harbor captured a fleet of merchant ships owned by Samuel James Andrews, then prominent West India merchant.

The capture left Andrews virtually penniless, his only remaining property a tract along the eastern bank of the Genesee River he had purchased several years before as a speculation.

Although 50 years old, he came to the Genesee country, and with youthful energy built the first stone structure in Rochester on the site of the present Granite Building, constructed a bridge across the river at Andrews Street, built mills along the river, assisted in the founding of two churches, and built three homes, the last one at the corner of Andrews and St. Paul Streets.

His son, Samuel George Andrews, was mayor of Rochester in 1840 and again in 1856, was postmaster, and member of Congress. Andrews Street was named after this pioneering family.



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Manufacturing, real estate, politics, and horse racing were principal among the interests of George W. Archer, but this by no means exhausts the list of his varied enterprises.

A native of Rochester, Mr. Archer first entered business as a manufacturer of oil machinery in Pennsylvania. About 1870 he returned to this city, and established the Archer Manufacturing Company, chair makers. In subsequent years he was treasurer of the Rochester Gas & Electric Corporation and treasurer of the Vulcanite Paving Company. He also had large estate holdings.

For many years Mr. Archer was president of the Rochester Driving Park Association. As a member of the Common Council, he served the city from 1882 to 1884. Archer Street was named after him, according to Morley B. Turpin, archivist of the University of Rochester library.



This is one of a series of articles concerning the history of street names in Rochester.

The first strawberry soda in Rochester was drawn by the hand of Dr. Frederick F. Backus, whose name is perpetuated in Backus Street.

He operated one of the village's leading drug stores, and advertised on May 10, 1819 that he had installed a "soda fountain."

In addition to being prominent as a physician, Doctor Backus was also a leading citizen of the rapidly growing young village. He owned a fine house at the northeast corner of Spring and Fitzhugh Streets, and was one of the two first aldermen elected to the Common Council from the Third Ward. He also was first vicepresident of the Rochester Academy of Sacred Music.

Through his influence the Western House of Refuge, state industrial school, was brought to Rochester, and was constructed on the site now occupied by Edgerton Park, in 1847-51. Doctor Backus was for several years a member of the board of managers, and in his honor the street in front of the school was given his name.





Opening of the Erie Canal through Rochester in 1824 gave tremendous impetus to the boat-building industry which, until that time, had produced only an occasional schooner for lake service.

Within a few years after the canal pushed its way through the village there were six boatyards here, supplying, according to Henry O'Reilly, Rochester historian in 1838 "not only a large proportion of vessels for the Erie Canal, but many for other canals in this and other states."

One of these boatyards was operated by David R. Barton. This, however, was not the only enterprise in which Mr. Barton was interested.

He also ran a shop for manufacture of edge-tools which brought the young village of Rochester no little fame as the home of excellent tools, all warranted to be of the very best quality. One of the early fires at the southwest end of the Main Street bridge destroyed Mr. Barton's shop, but failed to daunt his industry.

Besides being a boatbuilder and toolmaker, Mr. Barton also was a land owner and real estate operator. Through his holdings in the present 10th Ward a street running from Plymouth Avenue to Genesee Street was named in his honor Dec. 11, 1888.



This is another of a series of articles concerning history of street names in Rochester.

One of the few authors of international renown who have called Rochester their home was James Breck Perkins, attorney and writer on French history.

Travels in Italy and France while he was still a student in the University of Rochester made him an excellent linguist, and prepared him for the work he was to do later. He was elected city attorney in 1874, when only 26 years old, and was re-elected two years later.

In 1890 he temporarily abandoned the legal profession and turned to writing, publishing "France Under Mazarin," "France Under the Regency," "Louis XV," and "The Life of Richelieu." He later served the community in both the state assembly and Congress.

Breck Street, according to Morley B. Turpin, archivist of the University of Rochester Library, was named after James Breck Perkins.



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To connect the two great navigable water routes of the Great Lakes and the Susquehanna River, three men were commissioned by the federal government in 1810 to lay out a road from Arkport, on the Susquehanna, to Charlotte, at the mouth of the Genesee River.

They were Micah Brooks, Hugh McNair and Matthew Warner. Mr. Brooks had come to this vicinity in 1796, and was put in command of the surveying party because he was familiar with the country.

When the company reached Rochester they stopped at an inn on the west side of the river, at that time the only frame building in the village. Their beds were piles of straw covered by bearskins.

Six years later Gen. Micah Brooks, he received his commission in the army for his previous labors was a representative in Congress of a double district embracing all of New York State. He proposed a resolution which would establish a post route through Rochester, from Canandaigua to Lewiston. This was enacted the same year, and a thrice-weekly post over this route was established.

Gen. Micah Brooks' daughter was the wife of Henry O'Reilly, Rochester publisher and historian.

Brooks Avenue was named after this early Genesee Country explorer, surveyor and congressman, according to Morley B. Turpin, archivist of the University of Rochester library.



This is another of a series of articles concerning the history of street names in Rochester.

In 1812, the same year in which the Hundred-Acre Tract was purchased by Colonel Rochester, Fitzhugh and Carroll, the tract adjoining it on the north was bought by Matthew and Francis Brown and Thomas Mumford.

This was named the "Frankfort" tract, in honor of Francis Brown, who was elected a trustee of the village of Rochesterville in 1817.

The Brown brothers immediately began to develop their property, and built a mill-race which was given their name, and still bears it. On this race were built some of the mills which earned the title of the "Flour City" for Rochester, among them being the establishments of Warham Whitney & Company, Henry L. Achilles, the New York Mills of Mack & Paterson, and the Eagle Mills of Henry B. Williams & Company.

Near the center of the Frankfort Tract was a public square, and leading from this to Buffalo Street, now Main Street West, was a thoroughfare at first designated as Court Street, but which was given the name Brown Street before Rochester became a city.



This is another of a series of articles concerning history of street names in Rochester.

Probably if Common Council had been able to agree on any other name for Bronson Avenue no Rochester street would today bear that name.

As it was Council chose the name of Alderman Amon Bronson, Third Ward leader, as the easiest way out.

In 1883 residents of Hunter Street decided they wanted the name of the street changed, and offered a petition in Council to name the street Garfield Avenue, in honor of President James A. Garfield. The move was lost, and Alderman Bronson amended it to christen the street Cleveland Avenue, after Grover Cleveland, then governor of the state. This, too, was lost. Finally someone proposed the street be given Alderman Bronson's name, and this proposal was carried Oct. 30, 1883.



This is one of a series of articles explaining how Rochester Streets were named.

Rochester was a small but thriving wilderness hamlet when, in 1809, Caleb Lyon began the settlement of the village of Carthage, on the east bank of the Genesee River below the lower falls.

It was an ideal spot for a trading center, with a river landing to which lake schooners could sail, and from which a rich trade with Canada was carried on for several decades.

In the early days of the village of Carthage extravagant predictions were made that it would soon outstrip Rochester in trade and population, and for a time it threatened to do so.

Through the efforts of the citizens of the bustling village the first bridge across the lower river gorge was built at Ridge Road in 1819, to provide a direct route through Carthage for the stage from Canandaigua to Lewiston. Unfortunately the bridge collapsed the following year.

Then in 1824 the building of the Erie Canal through Rochester initiated the gradual downfall of the village on the lower river and when Rochester received its city charter in 1834 Carthage was included in the incorporation.

The final blow to the community was delivered by the panic of 1837, from which Carthage's mills and industries never recovered.

Carthage Drive, curving along the river from St. Paul Street to what is now Avenue E, and Carthage Street, a small street from Jewell Street to Conkey Avenue, preserve for history the name of the village which once rivaled Rochester.



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A drizzling rain fell on Rochester Oct. 27, 1825, but it failed to dampen the enthusiasm of the populace, which turned out en masse to welcome the triumphal procession that had started at Buffalo the previous morning, announcing the Erie Canal.

Historians agree this was one of the most momentous occasions in the city's history, for the Erie Canal was responsible in a large measure for the phenomenal growth of Rochester during the city's early years.

The credit for pushing the work of the canal to final completion goes almost exclusively to DeWitt Clinton, Governor when the "Big Ditch" was completed, but only state senator when he began his untiring labors which earned him the title of "Father of the Erie Canal."

The village fathers recognized Rochester's debt to him when they named Clinton Avenue, one of the city's principal north and south streets, after DeWitt Clinton.



The oldest religious society in Rochester is the First Presbyterian Church, organized Aug. 22, 1815, by a commission appointed by the Geneva Presbytery. At that time the population of the village was only 331.

The congregation of 16 members worshipped until 1824 in a frame building on the site now occupied by the American Express Office in State Street. In that year was completed a new stone church near where the city hall now stands.

Installed as the first pastor of the church, the Rev. Comfort Williams began his service Jan. 17, 1816. He lived on a short street running east from Mt. Hope Avenue, and to that street, after he resigned, in June, 1821, was given his first name.



This is another in a series of articles concerning history of street names in Rochester.

On a hot, sweltering night in July, 1851, the golden notes of Jennie Lind, "The Swedish Nightingale" floated through the windows of Corinthian Hall and over a throng which jammed the streets outside, unable to crowd into the theater.

That was only two years after the opening of the hall, at that time one of the most magnificent playhouses upstate. It stood just around the corner from State Street, on a short street connecting State and Front streets, north of Main Street.

At that time the street was called Exchange Place, a name it had been given in 1850 because it was near the center of the city's business section. It had previously been known as Work Street, in honor of Samuel Work, an early Rochester settler and proprietor of a small shop on the street, according to Morley B. Turpin, archivist of the University of Rochester library.

It was not until Mar. 14, 1899, long after Corinthian Hall had passed the zenith of its glorious career, that its name was given to the street on which it stood.

Corinthian Hall became the Corinthian Theater, and slid down the theatrical scale until it ended with burlesque, and finally closed for all time on Jan. 14, 1928. The building was razed during the summer of 1929, and a parking station now occupies the historic site.



This is another in a series of articles dealing with history of street names in Rochester.

A surveying party headed by Amos Spofford started from Ticonderoga early in 1796 to survey land in Ohio.

With the party as chainman at \$12 per month was Oliver Culver, then 18 years of age. Because their boats were not ready as soon as they expected he and Samuel Spofford, son of the group's leader, went on ahead, and stopped at Irondequoit Bay to hunt and fish.

They made another surveying and exploring trip the next year, and the following year they came again to Irondequoit to hunt and fish.

In 1800 Oliver Culver bought a farm at what is now East Avenue and Culver Road, but did not settle on it until 1805, when he married Alice Ray. In the meantime he had prospered with several trading trips to the Cleveland territory.

Mr. Culver was Rochester's first ship builder, and constructed the schooner Clarissa on a farm at East Avenue and Clover Street. It was drawn to the Landing at the head of the bay with 26 yoke of oxen. He later built the first packet boat in Brighton, and several other schooners.

Voters of the Town of Brighton elected Mr. Culver their first supervisor in 1814. A bounty of \$10 was then being paid by the town for wolves.

The road which led from Mr. Culver's home northward through Irondequoit to the lake was early given his name, and has borne it ever since.



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Several years in the liquor trade made Edward Cornelius Delevan America's first and most influential temperance advocate, and moved him to espouse a cause for which he spent a large fortune.

Born in Westchester County in 1793, he went to Albany shortly after his father died, when Edward Cornelius was only 8. When 13 the lad entered a printing shop as an apprentice.

After a short time as a "printer's devil," he went to work in his brother's hardware store. Wines were included in the inventory, and young Edward Cornelius spent several years as a salesman of alcoholic beverages.

In 1814 his brother took him into the firm as a partner, and sent him to Europe as a wine buyer. About the time of his return he became aware of the evils of the liquor trade, and embarked on an active campaign to eradicate use of intoxicants.

He established himself in the real estate business in Albany in 1825, and built up a large personal fortune, which he spent largely in his fight for temperance. He organized New York Temperance Society in 1829 with Dr. Eliphalet Nott, and published the Temperance Intelligencer, and the Temperance Recorder, spending large sums to build up the circulation of these journals. He died in 1871.

It is not recorded that Edward Cornelius Delevan ever visited Rochester, but his labors won him a place in the city's history when Ashbel Wells Riley, local temperance advocate and owner of a large tract in the present Sixth and 17th wards, named Delevan Street, running from North Street to Scio Street, after him.



Speeding around an oval track just north of the present inception of Driving Park and Dewey avenues, Maud S., immortal trotter of the harness-racing world, set a then world's record of 2:10 1/4 for the mile, on Aug. 11, 1881, clipping a second and a half from the record she had set on the same track just a year previously.

The track was that of the Rochester Driving Park Association, organized in 1872 with George J. Whitney as its first president.

But the Driving Park was the scene of many more memorable events than horse races. For several years the State Agricultural Society held its annual exhibition there and it was there that Buffalo Bill's Indians and cowboys whooped their way across the Rochester scene.

The last Grand Circuit meeting was held in the park in 1895 and the property lay idle until 1903, when a mortgage was foreclosed and the park divided into building lots.

Originally the street leading from Lake Avenue to Driving Park was named McCracken Street, after David McCracken, who owned and developed a large tract in that section, but after the park became famous residents of the street petitioned to have the name changed and on Aug. 22, 1882, the Common Council officially made the street Driving Park Avenue.



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A dapper young man, "sleek as a licked puppy," as one of the on-lookers described him, stepped from one of the stages from the east on a fall day in 1814 and inquired where he could find his brother, Elisha Ely.

Only 22 years old at that time, Hervey Ely was called a "very spruce young man," a reputation which he kept throughout his life by his careful attention to his personal appearance.

His older brother, Elisha, already had obtained a lease from Col. Nathaniel Rochester for land on which to build a mill, on the Hundred-Acre Tract, and there, in 1814-15 the Ely brothers and Josiah Bissell Jr. erected the far-famed "Old Red Mill."

The firm of Bissell & Ely was dissolved in 1828, and the brothers built, on the east bank of the river near the canal aqueduct, a large new mill. Elisha left Rochester in 1834 and went to Allegan, Mich.

Hervey Ely remained in business here for 40 years, and was alternately rich and insolvent, but always determined to succeed. He was the first to import western wheat to be ground in Rochester mills, and the first to set up a steam engine to furnish power when the water in the river was low.

Ely Street, running eastward from the river near the site of the Ely brothers' large mill, was named after them.



This is another in a series of articles concerning history of street names in Rochester.

The Hundred-Acre Tract, of which the present Four Corners is nearly the center and which formed the early village of "Falls Town," was purchased in 1802 by Col. Nathaniel Rochester, Col. William Fitzhugh and Charles Carroll. They paid \$17.50 per acre for it.

It was several years before any steps were taken to develop the tract, but about 1810 Colonel Rochester began a survey of the property. In laying out the future growth of the village, he named the second street west of the river after his partner, calling it Fitzhugh Street.

This originally ran only as far north as Buffalo Street (now Main Street West), and the street northerly from that point was known as Hughes Street. This name was given by Colonel Rochester in honor of Henrietta N. Hughes, member of a family who had been his very close friends in Hagerstown, Md., before he came to the Genesee Country. Miss Hughes became the wife of Horatio N. Fenn.

Hughes Street was later changed to Fitzhugh Street North when the Common Council decided continuous streets should have the same name.



This is another in a series of articles concerning history of street names in Rochester.

A substantial portion of New York State's judicial precedent was set by Judge Addison Gardiner.

He began his practice of law in Rochester in 1822, and was made the village's first justice of the peace. He rapidly gained the esteem of his fellow citizens, and in 1825 was appointed Monroe County district attorney. So well did he discharge his duties that four years later he was appointed circuit judge for the eight circuit in New York State.

After nine years on the bench he resigned, but public affairs claimed him again, and in 1844 he was elected lieutenant-governor of the state. At the close of his term he was re-elected, but a short time later resigned.

Upon organization of the Court of Appeals in 1847 he was elected to its bench, and served eight years, declining renomination when his term expired. During that time the court handed down a large number of decisions which have been a basis for subsequent practice.

"The intellectual and moral qualities which characterized Judge Gardiner, as a judge," said William F. Peck, Rochester historian, "were his directness, comprehensiveness and vigor, and intense devotion to the right."

Gardiner Avenue and Gardiner Park both perpetually honor Judge Gardiner, said Morley B. Turpin, archivist of the University of Rochester library.



This is another in a series of articles concerning history of street names in Rochester.

A family tradition of 75 years led Granger A. Hollister naturally into the lumber business when he founded Hollister Brothers with his brother, George, in the 1880's. Their father and grandfather had both been lumber dealers.

Later the firm was changed to the Hollister Lumber Company Ltd., which is still doing business in Anderson Avenue. Granger Hollister was also connected with many other business enterprises. He was a director of the Rochester Savings Bank, and helped to organize the Security Trust Company of Rochester in 1892, serving as first manager of the institution.

He was the father of Mrs. Elizabeth Hollister Frost Blair, Rochester poet. Mr. Hollister died Jan. 10, 1924, at the age of 69. Granger Place, from East to University Avenues, was named after him, according to Morley B. Turpin, archivist of the University of Rochester library.



This is another in a series of articles concerning history of street names in Rochester.

At the end of the Revolutionary War several states, through grants made to the colonies by the English sovereign, laid claims to western land.

Massachusetts and New York both ceded to the general government their claims to all lands west of a line drawn through the western end of Lake Ontario, and in the Treaty of Hartford, in 1786, agreed that New York was to exercise jurisdiction over the whole territory not ceded to the central authorities, while Massachusetts was to exercise the right of preemption from the Indians of all territory west of a line to be drawn from the 82nd milestone of the Pennsylvania border.

To settle debts incurred during the Revolutionary War, Massachusetts sold this territory to Oliver Phelps of Granville and Nathaniel Gorham of Charlestown, Mass., Boston real estate operators.

Gorham Street, from St. Paul Street to Clinton Avenue North, was named after Nathaniel Gorham, one of the partners in this original land purchase in Western New York, according to Morley B. Turpin, University of Rochester library archivist.



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The fact that the Philippine Islands were not given their independence immediately after the close of the Spanish-American War in 1898 probably was due to Garrett A. Hobart more than to any other man.

Then vicepresident of the United States, he made the office one of real importance, and led the opposition to the movement which would have granted independence to the islands in the Far East.

Before his election on the ticket with President McKinley he had been a successful attorney in Paterson, N. J., and had served his state in several official capacities. He died Nov. 21, 1899, while vicepresident.

Only a few months before his death the name of Chapel Street between West and Chili avenues, was changed to Hobart Street in his honor, according to Morley B. Turpin, archivist of the University of Rochester library.



This is another in a series of articles dealing with history of street names in Rochester.

The dynamic energy of Elisha Johnson played a large part in forging the early developments of Rochester. Coming here from Canadaigua in 1817, he bought a tract of land on the east bank of the river, and in the same year built a dam across the river. The race, called the Johnson and Seymour race, which he built from the dam to the Main Street bridge, attracted several mills and laid a sound foundation for Rochester's industrial future.

Mr. Johnson also constructed the second Main Street bridge, and the first railroad in the city, which ran from the south end of Water Street to the village of Carthage. He was the surveyor, contractor and chief engineer of the Tonawanda Railroad, which ran from Rochester to South Byron, and was later extended to Attica.

Mr. Johnson was thrice elected president of the village, and was Mayor of Rochester in 1838. After the expiration of his term he was called upon to assist in the construction of the Genesee Valley Canal, the work of which had been progressing slowly.

Johnson Street, near the south end of Elisha Johnson's original land purchase, was named after him, according to Morley B. Turpin, archivist of the University of Rochester library.



This is another in a series of articles concerning history of street names in Rochester.

There should be a bit of sham-rock growing along the sidewalks in Lamberton Park, in honor of Alexander B. Lamberton, after whom it was named.

Born in Armagh County, Ireland, Lamberton came to this country while young, and was graduated from the Auburn Theological Seminary and the University of Rochester. For two years he served as pastor of the Tompkins Avenue Presbyterian Church, Brooklyn.

Then he left the ministry and came to Rochester, establishing a lumber yard and planing mill at Exchange and Spring Streets. Intensely interested in hunting and fishing, he was one of the first in this country to advocate the conservation of wild life, and was vicepresident of the National Association for the Protection of Game. He also was president of the Rochester Park Board for many years.



This is another of a series of articles concerning history of street names in Rochester.

When Charlotte was made a port of entry for Rochester in 1805 Samuel Latta, resident and merchant of the lake settlement, was named the first collector of the port.

He was a son of James Latta, early Genesee Valley trader and explorer who bought land along the lake in 1790. Samuel Latta's brother, George, surveyed and helped clear the present course of Latta Road, one of the first thoroughfares laid out west of the Genesee River. Their sister Agnes was the wife of Benjamin Barton, who bought the 100-Acre tract from Indian Allen.

Latta Road was named after this pioneer family, according to Morley B. Turpin, archivist of the University of Rochester Library.



This is one of a series of articles concerning the history of street names in Rochester.

Small wonder is it that the trees in Livingston Park have a statelier grace, the houses greater dignity, than nearly any other street in the city.

Named after James K. Livingston, a Rochester pioneer, it was for many years the address of some of the city's most noted citizens.

Mr. Livingston himself was one of Rochester's first and most prosperous millers, president of the Bank of Monroe, and sheriff in 1828. He also had large land holdings, and while the city was growing rapidly during the early part of the last century was busily engaged in the real estate business.

Thomas H. Hyatt, Consul to Japan under President Buchanan, also lived on Livingston Park, as did Henry E. Rochester, Dr. Horatio N. Fenn, one of the city's first dentists, and Charles Hendrix, hardware merchant.

And last, but not least, for it spread the fame of Livingston Park far and wide, was the Livingston Park Seminary, exclusive girls' school kept for many years by the Rebasz family, and finally abandoned only a few years ago.



This is another of a series of articles concerning history of street names in Rochester.

Development of the wilderness that was Western New York in the early years of the 19th century was rapid, and brought huge profits to traders.

Their principal difficulty was that of communication and transportation, for primitive roads of that time could scarcely be called more than trails. Shipping by water was greatly favored, and the mouth of the Genesee River, at what is now Charlotte, offered the advantages of a superb natural harbor for lake schooners.

While Rochester was still an uninhabited wilderness, Canandaigua was a booming frontier town, the center of trade for the Genesee Country. It was there in 1789 that Phelps and Gorham had set up a land office, the first in America, for the sale of lots of their six and a quarter million acre purchase.

By the turn of the century Canandaigua was carrying on an extensive foreign commerce, much of which passed through the port at the mouth of the Genesee. To facilitate this commerce, the merchants of that village banded together in 1804 and cut a road to the harbor. The present Merchants Road follows the course of that old trading route.



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The second Episcopal parish in Rochester was organized May 28, 1827, under the guidance of the Rev. Francis H. Cuming, then rector of St. Luke's Church.

The construction of a brick church in what was then Market Street, near Mortimer Street, was begun, and the edifice was dedicated in August, 1830. It was named St. Paul's Church.

In 1840 a mortgage on the church was foreclosed, and St. Paul's Church was dissolved. A new corporation was formed to buy the property under the name of Grace Church. The building burned in July, 1847, and was rebuilt the following year.

Among the vestrymen of the original St. Paul's Church was Elsie Johnson, who was elected mayor in 1838. His first official act was to change the name of Market Street to St. Paul Street.

The street's first name, Market Street, was given because the street led from Main Street to a public market in the Andrews tract.



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Dissension in the local Republican Party was responsible for the founding, in 1868, of the Chronicle, by Lewis Selye, as a rival of the Democrat for the patronage of the party. The differences were soon settled, however, and the papers combined with formation of the Rochester Printing Company Dec. 1, 1870.

Mr. Selye was a prominent citizen who came here in 1824 and engaged in the manufacture of fire engines which were widely sold throughout the eastern states. He was twice elected county treasurer, and was a member of Congress at the time he founded the Chronicle.

Selye Terrace, running through a tract which he owned, was named after him by his son, Devillo Selye, also a local politician, according to Morley B. Turpin, archivist of the University of Rochester library.



This is another in a series of articles concerning history of street names in Rochester.

When the citizens of the village of Rochester decided to apply for a charter as a city, the task of drawing up the city charter was given to John Canfield Spencer, an eminent lawyer of the community.

He completed his labors with conspicuous success, and the charter which he drew up was accepted when Rochester was declared a city in 1834. Spencer received \$125 for the work. Even higher distinction was to come to him, for President John Tyler appointed him Secretary of War, and later Secretary of the Treasury, in his cabinet.

In the name of Spencer Street the city has perpetuated the name of the author of its charter, according to Morley B. Turpin, archivist of the University of Rochester library.



This is another of a series of articles concerning history of street names in Rochester.

Long before the days of the Hemlock Lake water supply for Rochester citizens of this community depended on springs and wells for their water. One of the best of these springs was, near the rear of the present First Presbyterian Church, on the Rochester property.

Shortly after he moved here Col. Nathaniel Rochester protected the spring with a small shed. A block of limestone used in the floor about the spring is still to be found in the sidewalk on the south side of Spring Street, near its original site.

In later years the spring dried up, although it gave considerable trouble to builders when they tried to lay foundations for many of the buildings in that vicinity. The trail leading from the upper falls in the river to the spring was given the name of Spring Street early in its history, says Morley B. Turpin, archivist of the University of Rochester.



One of the sheepskins awarded by Yale University in 1809 went to Elisha B. Strong, an ambitious and talented youth from Windsor, Conn.

Soon after graduation he took a trip to Niagara Falls, and became very fond of the Canandaigua territory. He returned there, entered a law office, and was admitted to the bar in 1812. Then he brought a bride from his home town, and set up practice for himself.

It was not long before the pioneering urge seized him, and in 1817 he formed a land company with Elisha Beach of Bloomfield and Heman Norton of New York, and purchased half of the Thousand-Acre Tract on which Carthage was built from Caleb Lyon. A later purchase added another 500 acres to this tract.

There Elisha B. Strong settled to make a name for himself and for Carthage. He built a home in St. Paul Street, opposite the present site of the Hawk-Eye Works, and with Francis Albright of Wheatland erected the first flour mill on the Carthage flats in 1818.

He was a leader of the movement for the formation of Monroe County, and in the fall of 1820 was appointed a member of a committee to carry this proposal to the New York State legislature. The bill setting up Monroe County out of Genesee and Ontario counties was enacted Feb. 23, 1821.

In the organization of the new county he was named first judge of the Court of Common Pleas, and served with the distinction on the bench for several years. He was later a president of the Bank of Rochester.

Strong Street, running from St. Paul Street to Hollenbeck Street, was named after Judge Elisha B. Strong.



This is another in a series of articles concerning history of street names in Rochester.

Sir William Pulteney and his associates of London, after purchasing a large tract of land in the Genesee Country from Robert Morris, who had bought it in turn from Phelps and Gorham, original purchasers from the state of Massachusetts, appointed Charles Williamson their agent here.

Although he was very active in developing the country, and increased the value of the tract many times over, the associates thought he spent too much money, and they released him and appointed Col. Robert Troup in his stead.

He was a New York attorney who had been an aide to General Gates during the Revolution. He moved to Geneva in 1814 and lived there most of the remainder of his life. He died in New York in 1832.

Troup Street was named after him, according to Morley B. Turpin, archivist of the University of Rochester library.



Trustees of the University of Rochester, in 1853, appointed a committee of eight to select and procure a site for the permanent location of the university, which, since its founding three years previously, had occupied a building in Main Street West, near Clarissa Street.

Azariah Boody offered for this purpose eight acres on the north side of what was then called Riley Street, and on Sept. 1, 1853, the transfer was made, with the condition inserted in the deed that the "said eight acres shall forever constitute the site and grounds of the said University of Rochester, and that the said University of Rochester shall erect and maintain the buildings required of said institution so far as said tract shall be adequate and convenient for the same."

Although the first building on the new site was not begun until late in 1859, the name Riley Street was changed to University Avenue on Mar. 10, 1857, in honor of the distinction lent to the street by the location of the institution there.

The street originally honored Gen. Ashbel Wells Riley, early settler and land-owner on the east side of the river. He was an ardent temperance advocate, and spent much time and money on speaking tours on behalf of the temperance movement. He won wide acclaim and respect in Rochester for his heroic efforts in caring for the sick during the devastating cholera epidemic of 1832.

RIF Rochester Streets
(Names)



This is another of a series of articles concerning street names in Rochester.

The departure of the family of Col. Nathaniel Rochester from Hagerstown, Md., in 1810 was highly dramatic. Citizens of the community lined the streets to bid one of their most prominent men goodby.

At the head of the procession rode Colonel Rochester, his eldest son, and the youngest, Henry E. Rochester, then four years old, who rode a pet pony all the way to their new home in Dansville. Behind came the family, in two carriages, and their belongings in three great Conestoga wagons.

When Colonel Rochester laid out the first streets in his 100-acre purchase on the site of the present city of Rochester he named Washington Street after Washington County, Maryland, where he had left behind so many friends, believes Morley B. Turpin, archivist of the University of Rochester library.

TIMES UNION OCT 9 - 1951

What's in a Name?



Achilles St.

This street, between North and Stillson sts., might recall Homer's Greek hero with the vulnerable heel, but actually it commemorates an early Rochester miller, Henry L. Achilles.

Achilles' flour and grist mill on Brown's Race was one of a number more than a century ago which gave Rochester the title of "Flour City."

—BILL RINGLE.

TIMES UNION SEP 27 1951

What's in a Name?



Birr St.

It may be a long, long way to Tipperary, but it's not so far from Birr St. as you might think. According to records left by the late Morley B. Turpin, one-time assistant city engineer, the street running west from Lake Ave. to the New York Central tracks was named for Birr, Tipperary, Ireland.

Birr was the birthplace of Charles J. Burke, who owned the tract through which the street passes. The street was named in 1890, two years before Burke's death.

—BILL RINGLE.

T.V. NOV 6 - 1951

What's In a Name?



Churchlea Place

Rope—from thick hawsers for mooring canal boats to hangmen's lines braided with linen hemp—was once made on this short street and, indirectly, gave it its name.

In 1830 Sidney Church began making rope in Buffalo St. (now Main St. W.) where the Pennsylvania Railroad Station now stands. Later he moved west and set up his place of business where this street, between Main and Clifton sts., bears his name.

When pungent odors of tar, manila and sisal made the neighborhood smell like a boatswain's locker, a long shed, or "rope walk," where workmen unraveled the lines, stretched back to Clifton St.

It was the mecca of small boys seeking to earn a few pennies by helping the ropemakers. Originally called "Church Walk," it was changed to its present name in 1893 on petition of a member of Church's family.

—BILL RINGLE

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TIMES UNION SEP 1 - 1951

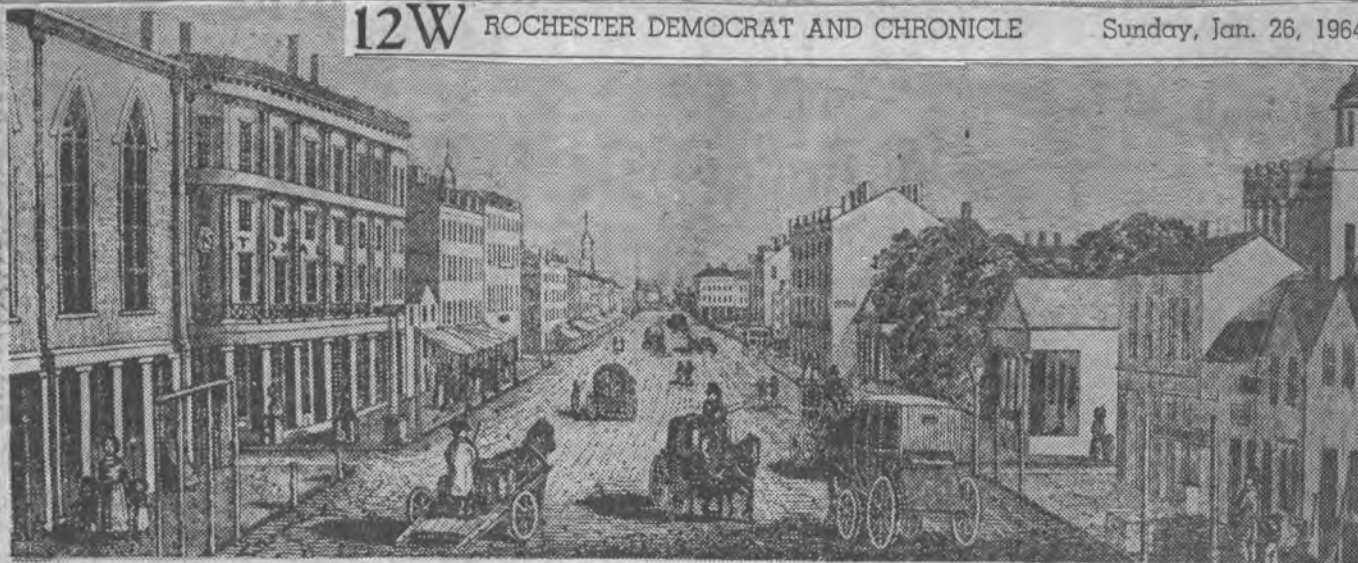
What's in a Name?



Comfort St.

Residents of Comfort St. are quite likely comfortable, but that's not how their street got its name. It commemorates the Rev. Comfort Williams, first pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, the city's oldest religious society. He lived on a short street running east from Mt. Hope Ave. To that street, after he resigned his pastorate in June, 1821, his name was given. It now runs from Mt. Hope to Clinton Ave. S.

—BILL RINGLE.



BUFFALO STREET—This picture, depicting Rochester's main street away back in the city's

early days, shows view west, toward Buffalo. Name later was changed to Main Street West.

They May Be the Same Streets - - But Their Names Aren't

By ARCH MERRILL

"I'll meet you at the corner of William Street and East Avenue."

Don't laugh at the old timer. It wasn't so many years ago that there was a William Street in Rochester. It ran from Monroe to East Avenue and now is a part of Broadway.

And should the venerable one mention Caledonia Avenue, don't get the idea he is talking about the Livingston County village. For he remembers when that part of Clarissa Street north of Plymouth Avenue was Caledonia Avenue.

It was only after the old Oak Hill golf course became the University of Rochester's River Campus that the city paved narrow Wolcott Road and renamed the smooth new boulevard Harbor Boulevard. Within two years it was rechristened River Boulevard.

Some folks say that in Rochester nothing ever changes. If they would thumb through a few old city directories—and some not so old—they would find that the names of scores of streets have undergone changes.

* * *

MANY WILL REMEMBER

when the section of Plymouth Avenue North from Commercial to Bloss was Frank Street. That name has disappeared as completely as has the stately St. Patrick's Cathedral that once graced it.

Plymouth Avenue North originally was Hart Street, named for a partner of Nathaniel Rochester, and Plymouth Avenue South was Sophia, the name of the city founder's wife. After Plymouth Church was built in 1854, the whole length of the street was renamed Plymouth.

Once Portland Avenue was North Street, North Street was North Avenue and Hudson Avenue was West North Street, truly a confusing state of affairs.

Not so long ago the present Ridge Road west of Lake Avenue was Lewiston Avenue; Verona was Jones Street; Joseph Avenue was St. Joseph Street; Canterbury Road was Pacific Street; Fort Hill Terrace was Stokes Street; Woodbine Avenue was Narcissa, Oxford was Nichols and Ravenwood Avenue was Hovey Street.

The desire of residents of Orphans Alley to change its name to Orpheum Street is wholly understandable.

* * *

IN THE BEGINNING, Main

Street west of the river bridge was Buffalo Street, because it led to that rival frontier town. As the East Side was built up, Rochester's principal artery became East Main and West Main, with the Four Corners as the dividing line.

The southern section of State Street originally bore the name of Charles Carroll, an owner with Colonel Rochester and William Fitzhugh, of the village site.

After the elder Carroll's death, his son, Charles H.,

in 1831 sued the village over a riverside land deal. Official Rochester lost its case and retaliated by erasing the name of Carroll from the city map. It exists today only in a Carroll Alley and a Carroll Place, two one-block streets.

Once the present East Avenue was called Main Street. It had been variously Culver's Road, Blossom Street and Pittsford Road. In the 1840s civic leader Josiah Bissell took matters in his own hands and without official sanction put up signs designating the thoroughfare East Avenue.

Front Street was Mason Street from 1811 until 1836, when it became Market Street for a few weeks. Then it resumed the name of Mason. Six months later the city fathers christened it Front Street.

* * *

WHAT IS NOW Central

Avenue from Water Street to North was first Atwater Street, and the Water-State Street sector was Railroad Avenue. Then it took the name Central Avenue away from Lyndhurst Street.

Corinthian Street was variously Bugle Alley, Works Street and Exchange Place until it got its present name from the hall and theater that stood on it.

The name of William Fitzhugh, partner of Rochester and Carroll, has been preserved in a downtown street. Originally the present North Fitzhugh was Hughes, the maiden name of Fitzhugh's wife.

Once St. Paul Street north of Main was divided into three sections, named River, Market and Clyde. This was before an Episcopal church was built and the whole stretch got a new name. Until earlier in this century the present South Avenue was South St. Paul Street.

Before a race track was laid out along it, Driving Park Avenue was McCracken Street. Saratoga Avenue was once Bolivar Street. Tremont was Clay Street and Spring Street was Falls Street. Little Graves Street originally was "The Common Way."

* * *

RILEY STREET, named to honor Col. Ashbel W. Riley, who was a heroic figure in the cholera plague of 1832, became University Avenue when a college campus replaced a pasture on its borders in 1850.

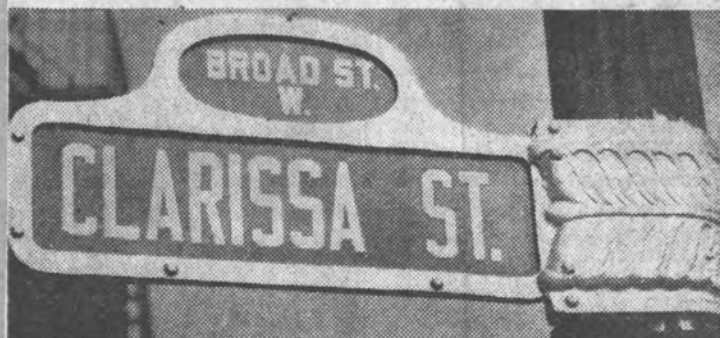
After Hill Street of once unsavory repute became respectable, it was renamed Industrial Street.

Before Jefferson Avenue took the name of the founder of the Democratic party, it was Francis Street, in honor of Francis Granger, a leading Whig who lived in Canandaigua.

All of which proves, if it proves anything, that it's one thing to name a street and another to make the name stick.

Incidentally, did you ever hear anyone in ordinary conversation refer to Main Street West or Plymouth Avenue South?

What's in a Name?



Clarissa St.

This street was named in several instalments, like many in the city.

The first, from Plymouth Ave. across the river to Mt. Hope Ave., was named for Clarissa Chapin Greig, great-granddaughter of Gen. Israel Chapin, onetime superintendent for Indians in this area.

In 1927, Elizabeth St., from Main St. W. to Allen St., was named Clarissa and later that same year, the last portion, which had been called Caledonia Ave. (it had earlier been changed from High to Caledonia) was renamed Clarissa.

Incidentally, Chapin St. was named after a sister of Mrs. Greig and Greig St., which now intersects with Clarissa, was named for her husband, an early Canandaigua attorney.

TIMES UNION AUG 27 1951 BILL RINGLE.

What's in a Name?



Harvard St.

Think it was named after the Cambridge, Mass., college? You're wrong. It perpetuates—to almost everybody's surprise—the memory of a Canadian college president.

One Hobart G. Arnold dubbed the street, then a single block from Meigs St. to Rowley St., "Harvard" for his brother-in-law, John Harvard Castle, D.D., then president of McMaster University, Toronto. A city ordinance made it official in 1899.

However, at least one historian has credited the street with starting the spate of college street names in the neighborhood—e.g. Dartmouth, Rutgers, Oxford, Vassar, Cambridge, Wellesley, Cornell, Amherst.

—BILL RINGLE

TIMES UNION AUG 30 1951

TIMES UNION OCT 16 1951

What's in a Name?



Hillendale Street

A long forgotten-hillock is hidden in this street's name. According to Dr. Henry Ward Williams, his father, Dr. Henry T. Williams, owner of the tract through which Hillendale now runs, named the thoroughfare between Thurston Rd. and Westfield St.

The elder Dr. Williams took into account a rise and fall along the street's path and decided "hill-and-dale" would suit it. This he later shortened to "Hillendale."

"Steam shovels and rollers later took care of the hump in the road," Dr. Williams recalls.

—BILL RINGLE.

What's in a Name?



Prince St.

Prince St., which seems to hark back to the time when Rochester real estate was held under a grant from the English crown, actually commemorates either a horse or dog—but there's a question about that.

Equine or canine, the animal was owned by Azaria H. Boody, a railroad contractor and owner of the Boody Farm, which occupied the site of Prince St. The researches of the late Morley B. Turpin, for many years an assistant engineer, located one member of the Boody family who said the street was named for a dog. Mrs. A. Emerson Babcock, Boody's daughter, claimed it was named after a favorite horse.

TIMES UNION SEP 19 1951 —BILL RINGLE

T.U. NOV 8- 1951

What's in a Name?



Merchants Road

This street, between Browncroft Blvd. and Culver Rd., is one of the oldest thoroughfares in the area, according to research findings of the late Morley B. Turpin.

It follows an ancient Indian trail which led to a landing on Irondequoit Creek, Turpin said. It is believed to have acquired its present name when it was used by early settlers who traded with Indians at the landing.

—BILL RINGLE

TIMES UNION AUG 31 1951

What's in a Name?



Scio St.

If it hadn't been for the Turks, Rochester probably wouldn't have a Scio St. In 1823, a group of Rochesterians decided to contribute to the cause of Greek emancipation from Turkey. Among them were two men—Gen. A. W. Riley and Col. Josiah Bissell—who owned a lot near what is now Scio St. They agreed to sell the lot for \$200 and give the sum to Greek aid. The money went to the Greek Island of Scio. The street and, incidentally, the Town of Greece, were named in connection with the Greek episode.

—BILL RINGLE.

What's in a Name?



Spring St.

One of the city's oldest streets is Spring St., which marks a former trail leading from the Genesee River to an Indian spring near what is now Washington St. S. On the earliest maps of the 100-acre tract that became Rochester the street is called Falls St.

—BILL RINGLE

TIMES UNION SEP 13 1951

What's In a Name?



State St. ^{T.U.} NOV 2 - 1951

State St. might well be called "Anger Street." It bears its name because some people got good and mad—mad at one Charles H. Carroll.

Carroll's father, Maj. Charles Carroll, was one of three Maryland men who bought the "100-acre Tract," on much of which downtown Rochester now stands. Carroll St. had been named for him.

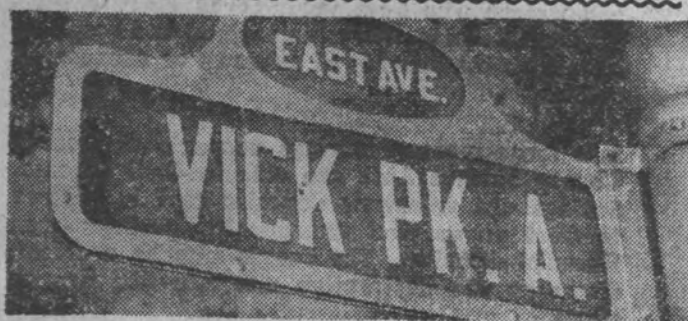
The Village of Rochester bought a lot from him, at the corner of what now are Main and Front sts. On the site, a market had been built extending over the river on piers.

Charles Carroll, executor of his father's estate, claimed the village had bought only 60 feet along Main St. The village contended that it had bought to the middle of the river. Carroll sued and in July 1831 won the case.

A short time later the village trustees, furious about the whole thing, dropped the name "Carroll St." and gave it the name of "State St."

—BILL RINGLE.

What's in a Name?

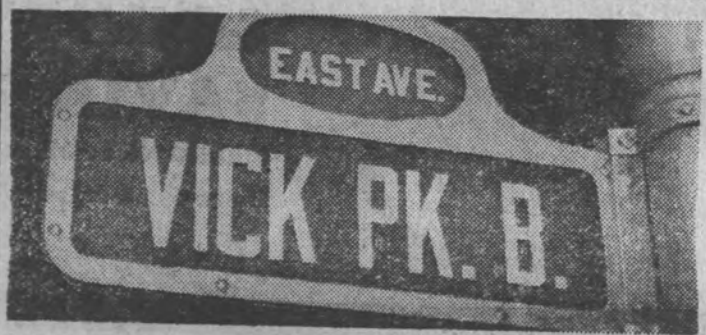


Vick Park A, Vick Park B

A race track gave Rochester its two Vick Parks—"A" and "B." About a century ago a well-known hotel, the Union Tavern, stood at what is now the corner of East Ave. and Vick Park A. Adjacent to it was the Union Race Course. In 1866 James Vick, pioneer Rochester seedman, purchased the tavern and race track. Four years later he developed it into a residential section—Vick Park—with drives which followed the original path of the race track.

The two streets—once known as Ave. A, Vick Park, and Ave. B, Vick Park—represent the extension of the race course's two legs to East Ave. and Park Ave. The former bend at the southern end of the track was once called Crescent Ave. It now survives as a sharp turn in Park Ave. opposite Rutgers St.

—BILL RINGLE.



TIMES UNION OCT 20 1951

