

MEMORIES OF LAKE VIEW - Viola Trinder Bailey  
(written in 1969 when Ms. Bailey was 83)

On May 27th, 1886 in Buffalo, New York, I was born and several months later my parents, Frank Leslie Trinder and Carrie Mayo Trinder moved to Lake View, N.Y. They rented the upper flat from a retired minister, Rev. and Mrs. Campbell who lived in the house now owned by Edward Mayer and family.

My father, a carpenter, was introduced to the Village of Lake View by Fred W. Cook, also a carpenter. Mr. Cook owned several lots and on one had built an attractive barn at the rear of the property, where it still stands. In the upper loft he built a cozy flat in which he lived with his wife and small son, Charles.

In 1887, my parents purchased a wooded acre of land at the corner of Lake View Ave. and Versailles from Viola Meyers. After clearing an area large enough to build a cellar, as was the custom at that time, men helped to erect the frame work of our house. As soon as it was liveable, we moved in. My brother, Albert L. was born here on May 8, 1889 and died here, Feb. 4, 1904.

My father gradually cleared the rest of the land while working as a carpenter with Mr. Cook. Mr. Cook bought the grocery store from Mr. Kendall. My father worked alone as contractor and builder and built many homes along the Lake Shore, Idlewood Club and Athol Springs. Working for him were George Hummel, Arthur Thompson, Jacob Hadly and many others. Baltzer Orts drew gravel and materials. Needing a place to store building material, work bench, etc., he built a large two story building at the lower end of his acre of land which adjoined the Benjamin property. He also added to the rear of this building a place to keep a horse and light weight wagon in which to take the men to work. As time passed he sold this building to Percy Trinder, his brother and wife, May Haskell Trinder who made it liveable. They had four children Florence, Elmer, Edna and Ethel. After many years the home was purchased by Paul Flavin who has done extensive remodeling and now has a most attractive home and yard.

Needing a workshop, etc. and stable for his horse, my father built a large barn-like building near the Percy Trinder line. As a child I watched him build many things. He added a covered shed to store a heavy wagon which he often used to draw lumber from Hamburg Planing Mill, a democrat wagon with three seats to take the men to work, a two seated buggy with the fringe on top for our family and guests and a sleigh for winter.

My father and men, working in the then Idlewood Club, built many summer homes for families from Buffalo. One family wanted their summer home torn down and a larger, more substantial home built. My father carefully took the house apart in sections and moved it up in about the middle of our acre of land, put it together again and made a very comfortable all year home. He painted it red with white trim and added a veranda on opposite sides of the front extension, making an attractive and pleasant home. My family moved there and lived for a while and rented the home on the corner. He dug a well out near the sidewalk and painted the pump red and attached a tin cup with a long chain. Many persons stopped to drink of the pure cold water. At that time the folks called it the "town pump". After three years we moved back into the corner home.

The land next to us on Lake View Road was owned by young Baltzar Orts. They were good neighbors and had four sons; Harold, Baltzar Jr., Willard, Howard and two daughters, Subena and Ellen.

Next was a vacant space for a school house which was finished in 1890. I had my picture taken with all the four and five year olds and all the boys and girls of the village with mothers and babies too. My first teacher was Julius Gressman. The old gentleman with cane was Mr. Graham, who owned and lived in the large house now owned and occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Sam Beckman. The teacher, Mr. Gressman and wife, lived in the upper flat of the grocery store owned by Fred Cook. The school was one room with a large coal or wood stove in the rear and kept those sitting near it very warm. Those who attended as I recall were: my brother, Alber, Irving Hummel, Alvin & George Fierle, the Orts Children, Robert Buchwald, his brothers George and Edd, his sisters Julia and

Sarah, Lillian and William Fierle, Matilda and Lillian Hoth, Jessie and Minnie Beck walked through dusty roads, ruts and snow from the Lake Shore, Emma, Clara, Cora, Charlie and Roy Ames from Creek Road, Charlie Cook, Ruth and Orville Thompson, John Murjahn, Florence Zink, Oliver Cole and many others. My second teacher was Allan Benjamin, whose father, mother and several brothers lived in the home now occupied by Earl Schiedel and family, son of George Schiedel. As the families increased in the village an addition was built on the school. The first room was for the younger grades and I believe Maude Hilliker taught the lower grades. My last teacher, Mr. A. J. Piridy from Armour, N.Y., boarded with us. While attending school a well was dug for the school children as we had to obtain water from the Orts Family. I spent many very pleasant years at this school and my childhood was most happy. I took music lessons from Mrs. Sofie Frost of North Evans, a widow and I played the organ for our school programs and entertainments until I left to attend High School at Hamburg, New York.

The Beavis house was built next to the school grounds for Vinnie Beavis, a retired school teacher and her sister Alice (Allie) who was a fine seamstress and sewed for most everyone in the village.

Next was the nice home of Fred Cook which still is lived in today. He owned all the woods and swamp and a vacant lot reserved for a church. The remaining land down to the railroad tracks was owned by Mr. <sup>William</sup> Hanley. Next a vacant lot and Lake Shore and New York, Chicago and Michigan Southern Depot and railroad tracks. George B. Cole was Station Agent and Post Master. As I grew older, I would get the mail from our box #75.

On left side of Lake View road from the L.S. & M.S. Station was a vacant lot, later a home for the Brogan Family. Crossing W.N.Y. Pa. or later Nickle Plate R.R., a railroad station, then a few feet to property owned by Christian family who had a blacksmith-shop, then Broad owned a large lot and years later sold to Eli Cover and then to Murjahn, next came the grocery store, owned by Mr. Kendall, later sold to Mr. Fred Cook and then sold to Mr. William Meyn. I remember very well when William Meyn married Ada Buxton and moved into the Cook home. They had one son, Curtis.

Next George B. Cole's home on a 160 ft. by 350 ft. lot. Across the 60 ft. wide street now called Center Rd. was a large home and tract of land owned by John Hoams and now owned by William Heil and family. Then a vacant large tract of land and large house owned and lived in by Rev. & Mrs. Campbell. A large 350 ft. by 300 ft. lot owned by Eckert Filer or Pieler who built a home and also a blacksmith shop. Adjoining was the large farm of Lenard Filer. I had a great affection for Mrs. Lenard Filer. She was very kind and attractive and I loved to visit her as a child, and in fact, as long as she lived. I have many pleasant memories of the whole family, the sons, Alvin, George, Joe and Leo and also her little daughter, Dorothy who died very young. Adjoining their place was the Conrad Filer home, facing Versailles Rd. They had a daughter Lillian, and sons William, Frank and Clarence. A wonderful family too. I remember my Mother was ill for several months and Mrs. Filer even with her own family came to our place until my father could get help. She rocked my little brother to sleep and I rocked in my chair beside them. She was so kind. In fact, in those days all our neighbors cared and helped each other in times of sickness and bereavement. On the opposite side of the road from Conrad Filer and facing Versailles Rd., lived the fine, large Buckwald family, two daughters, Julia and Sarah, sons, Herman, Robert, George and Edd. All the neighbors were so kind when my brother Albert died. Adjoining the Benjamin place, later owned by Fister family, now Schiedel was property owned by George Sikes who had a large barn and a large tract of land down to the Graham property where Sam Beckman now lives. A large farm with woods adjoining extended to the rear of Graham property, part facing Versailles and North Creek Roads was owned by the Kinney family.

On opposite side of Versailles Road was the hotel owned for many years by the Slotman family. It was a real historical place as the stage coach made this a regular stop. From the hotel to the George Hummel property the land behind it and even a large

acreage facing Lake View Road to Hamburg was set out with grapes. He had a grape packing house and hired many people in the area. Next to George Hummel property was a place owned by a Mr. Broadback. Then came Nelson Broad acreage with the house facing Versailles Rd. and the rest on Lake View Rd., joining the George Sikes property. He planted apple, pear and plum trees and had a large garden.

The Nelson Broads were friends of my family and having no church in Lake View, we attended the church in North Evans. When my folks didn't drive over the hills we rode with them and vice versa. I also went to church with Mr. & Mrs. George Sikes and I remember they had a white horse drawing a one seated buggy with fringe on top and a little seat fastened to theirs in which I sat and rode up and down the hills and over the bridge to North Evans.

The families of Lake View felt the need of a church in their own village and my father contacted the architect, Mr. William Green, who drew up plans which he donated for a lovely English type church. My father, my Uncle Percy Trinder and George Hummel did the carpenter work on this church. I remember when it was dedicated and how frightened all we little girls were at the first drum beat of Miss Charlotte Mulligan's Guard of Honor Band. The church was completed in July 1892 and I attended many years. I taught all grades of Sunday School and was organist and Financial Secretary. Mr. & Mrs. Fred Cook were very active in our church and did much to help start the Sunday School and sang in the choir. When Mr. Meyn bought the store and his sisters Amelia, Helen and Ella came to live here too, they became very faithful and active members.

I remember how beautiful it was in the flats, driving or walking down the hill on the Lake View side, along side the waters edge and the large flat stones in the creek bed. There was a spring of pure sulphur water. How pretty Buttermilk Falls was as water in abundance flowed over it and then I enjoyed crossing over the bridge to the North Evans side. Part of the creek was diverted to the North Evans side where a dam was built which gave power to grind the grain the farmers brought to the mill. I often went with my father to watch the grinding of the wheat for our hot cereal and into flour for our bread.

Next to the mill was a large tannery with many large vats to

cure the raw hides and tan them into leather. I remember the large wagon loads of hides that had been shipped in by railroad, going by our place to the tannery and the wagons returning to railroad station, piled high with the large sheets of leather. It was a big business.

When the snow came we would sleigh ride down the hills and with the moon shining brightly and the air crisp and cold, it was beautiful.

I remember when the real estate group came from New York City. They put up a large tent over near where Anderson now lives and brought a large band and auctioneer who sold lots on the once Kinney farm. My father had several deeds of these lots. Quite a business venture. Plans were made to build Gatlin Guns along the creek but for some reason all fell through. Then a Bicycle factory was built. That did much for the vicinity. I remember all the changes in Lake View. Many houses were built on the farm. Everyone took in boarders and the factory worked day and night shifts. Almost every one had bicycles. I remember Mr. & Mrs. Wm. Heil riding on bicycles before they were married as they both worked in the factory. Also a shoe factory was built and the place was booming. Then everything fell apart, factory buildings were torn down and houses sold and moved to Lake View. I saw many of these houses moved by our house in Lake View.

During previous years my father had several families furnish and care for their own oil street lights. He also had Baltz Orts draw gravel for side walks down the street to church, store and depot as the roads were very dusty in summer and muddy with rain and icy with snow. We should all be thankful for good roads, electricity, telephones and the many ways of travel and for the growth of Lake View.

In 1901, my father purchased 53 acres of land on North Creek and Versailles Roads. He planned to work this land with his son Albert when he retired as carpenter. However, his son passed away in 1904 and we moved to the farm and my father set out the land into fields of berries, potatoes, onions, grain etc. As he grew older

he started an Evergreen Nursery and sold Christmas trees. He also had fields of flowers that he picked and sold through Kasting Wholesale Florist in Buffalo.

After graduation from Hamburg High School I attended Buffalo State Normal School for two years and then met and married at our home on North Creek Road, Louis A. Bailey on October 10th, 1906. We had two daughters, Mildred and Sylvia. My husband was a charter member of Lake View Volunteer Fire Company, Color Bearer of the Drill Team and played cornet in the band.

I lived in Lake View seventy of my eighty-two years and have many fond memories of the families who helped to give the village of Lake View the opportunity to celebrate these wonderful Centennial Days.

