

Guide to the Town of Caroline Collection

The History Center in Tompkins County
110 North Tioga Street, Suite 204A
Tompkins Center for History and Culture
Ithaca, NY 14850
607-273-8284

[https://thehistorycenter.net/
archives@thehistorycenter.net](https://thehistorycenter.net/archives@thehistorycenter.net)

Collection Number V-2-5-7

See also:

Speed Family Collection V-14-1-5, V-14-3-10 and others
Catskill Turnpike Collection V-2-5-8
General Photo File E5 - Caroline

Updated 2021

COLLECTION DESCRIPTION

The Town of Caroline is in the southeast corner of Tompkins County, directly east of the Town of Danby and south of the Town of Dryden. The earliest residents came from the Susquehanna River town of Owego in Tioga County. Caroline was incorporated as a town in 1811 in Tioga County; it was not until 1823 that it became part of Tompkins County.

Water power in the form of mills was important to the early and continuing development of the town; twenty three mills on Six Mile Creek alone were built through the years. General John Cantine, an early settler, chose his property based on the water power possibilities of Six Mile Creek. His settlement, first called Cantine's Mills, then Motts Corners, Brookton and finally Brooktondale, continues to be the most populous community in Caroline. Other hamlets such as Slaterville Springs, Caroline, Caroline Center, Caroline Depot and Speedsville have declined in population.

Water also played an important role in the history of Slaterville Springs. Beginning in the 1870s, local entrepreneurs built two hotels to attract and accommodate visitors seeking the proclaimed health benefits of the village's magnetic spring water. There have been at least two businesses using village spring water to create ambered glass, a process of immersion that produces iridescent amber glass.

This collection contains a wide variety of materials on town history. It includes government records from 1811 when the town was still part of Tioga County, a list of early settlers, history of the Mulks family, information on the Catskill Turnpike, record books of fraternal and social organizations, Brooktondale Community Center newsletters, 1990-96, and a 2013 publication on the 50th anniversary of the Brooktondale Applefest.

Several early settlers of the town came from Marbletown in Ulster County, resulting in copies from an 1833-35 school record book from that area.

There is also a large collection of newspaper articles on various aspects of the town's history.

CONTAINER LIST

<i>Contents</i>	<i>Folder #</i>
Box 1	
Miscellaneous Materials Concerning Early Caroline Residents	1
List of Early Settlers copied from Caroline Record Book	2
Town Government Records, including 1818-1819 road survey	3
Miscellaneous Correspondence	4
Clippings 1949-1970	6
Newspaper clippings of Caroline history	7
Copies of newspaper clippings of Caroline history	8
History of Caroline Township of Tompkins County of New York State	9
“Role of Caroline in Catskill Turnpike” (original newspaper removed to Row CC, Bay 2, Shelf 4)	10
Marbletown (Ulster County) school record copies 1833-1835	11
Broadsides, invitations, programs, booklets, etc.	12
Caroline Bicentennial calendars	13
Context and History of Caroline No. 2 School	14
Mulks Family	15
Speedsville history	16
Subscription book, Speedsville Temperance Hall, 1850-c. 1880	17

Minutes book, Independent Order of Good Templars, Speedsville 1883-1886	18
Lease from Speedsville Temperance Hall to Caroline Masonic Lodge 1852	19
History of Blackman Hill and facsimile of 1805 map (1891 original reported missing in 2020)	20
Box 2	
Memo from Ed Blodgett to Barbara Bell 1962	21
“Clock System” map and farmer directory (1920) and Caroline Farmers Telephone Company directory 1944	22
1795 Deed, Thomas Pemberton to John Cantine (reported missing 2020), typewritten copy	23
Grain sack fronts from Motts Corners, n.d. (reported missing 2020)	24
Miscellaneous material from the Independent Order of Good Templars, High Bridge Lodge, Brookton, 1886	25
D. M. White’s mill, Brookton photo	26
1891 road plan for Brooktondale by C. L. Crandall	27
“Looking Back” 50 th Annual Applefest 2013	28
“Focus on Brooktondale” pamphlet 1963	29
“Brooktondale Community Newsletter” 1990-1996	30
George E. Jansen notebooks c. 1900-1925	31
Box 3	
Ladies Aid Society of Central Chapel minutes 1885-1916	32
Treasurer’s book, Central Chapel Cemetery Association 1899-1925, 1943	33
Water ambered glass, Slaterville, booklet and clipping	34
Histories of Magnetic Springs and Fountain House hotels, Slaterville Springs	35

Box 4 (Flat box 2-5-7.4)

“Book of Record for the Town of Caroline, Tioga County, 1811

1

Funding for this finding aid revision was generously provided by

The logo for The Gladys Kriebel Delmas Foundation is displayed on a dark green rectangular background. The text is in a white, elegant serif font. The word "THE" is in a smaller, all-caps font at the beginning. "GLADYS KRIEBEL DELMAS" is written in a larger, flowing script font across the top. "FOUNDATION" is written in a smaller, all-caps serif font below the main name.

*THE GLADYS KRIEBEL DELMAS
FOUNDATION*