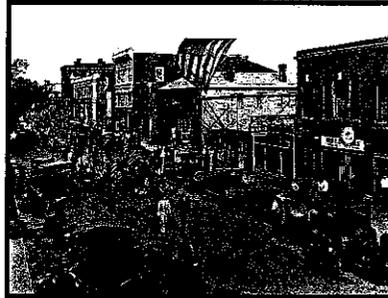


# The Village of Hamburg

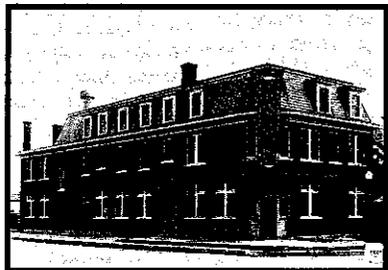
## A Timeline of History



Main Street parade, circa 1940.



George M. Pierce  
First President of the Village of Hamburg, 1874-76.



Hotel Hamburg was built on the site of the old B.M. Fish Dry Goods Store after it burned in 1917.

•1798 Joseph Ellicott, a land agent for the Holland Land Company, began surveying western New York.

•1806 John Cummings purchased the first lot in the town of Hamburg from the Holland Land Company and built a grist mill on Eighteenmile Creek.

•1811 Daniel and Richard Smith built a grist mill on Eighteenmile Creek and the early settlement known as Smith's Mills developed, later called the Village of Hamburg.

•1813 The British burned Buffalo; refugees sought shelter in the Center House, a new inn on the corner of Lake and Main Street.

•1820 Thomas White ran a tannery and general store near Main and Buffalo Streets and the community was called White's Corners.

•1836 The First Baptist Church was built on the south side of Main Street at Center Street.

•1849 Hamburg's brick schoolhouse was built at 65 Main Street. Village businesses grew to include Kronenberg's Tin Shop, many taverns, a brewery, a saw mill, a tannery, and the Hamburg Planing Mill.

•1857 Kopp's Hotel opened and later added an opera house.

•1861 - 1864 Hamburg men joined the 116<sup>th</sup> Regiment of the New York State Volunteers. It was during this time that Union Street was named.

•1874 The village of Hamburg was incorporated with George M. Pierce as the first president.

•1877 The spelling of the village was changed to Hamburg.

•1878 The old village cemetery, now Memorial Park, was closed and graves were moved to the new Prospect Lawn Cemetery.

•1883 Fire destroyed a section of the business district. Soon after the fire, two and three story brick buildings were built replacing the old wooden structures.

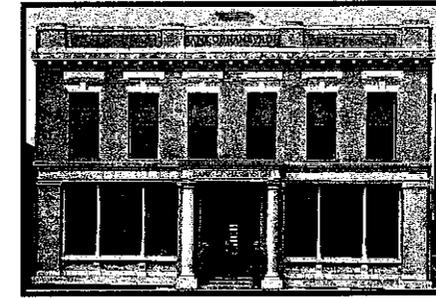
•1884 Hamburg veterans organized a Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) post. The monument in Memorial Park honors Hamburg's soldiers.

•1886 The first telephone came to the village.

•1889 The Hamburg Water and Electric Light Company was established under the leadership of Thomas L. Bunting.

•1897 The Nineteenth Century Club established the Hamburg Free Library with Amanda Michael Dorland as the first librarian.

•1900 - 1901 Two trolley lines, the Sunshine Line and the Allen Line, linked Hamburg to Buffalo.



The Bank of Hamburg was constructed in 1907. It also housed the Post Office and Hamburg Businessmen's Club.



Amanda Michael Dorland  
First Librarian, Hamburg Free Library, 1901-20



Main and Buffalo Streets were paved with brick and opened in 1904. John Van Epps, photographer