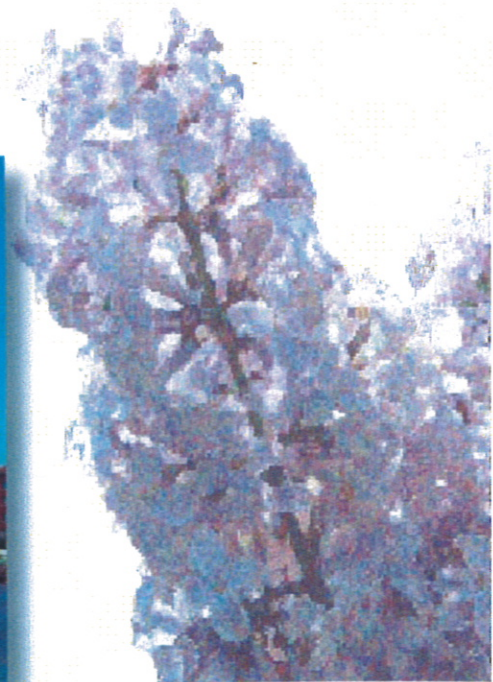


THE FLOWER CITY ATLAS

Created by the 2007 Third Grade Class
Genesee Community Charter School
at the Rochester Museum & Science Center

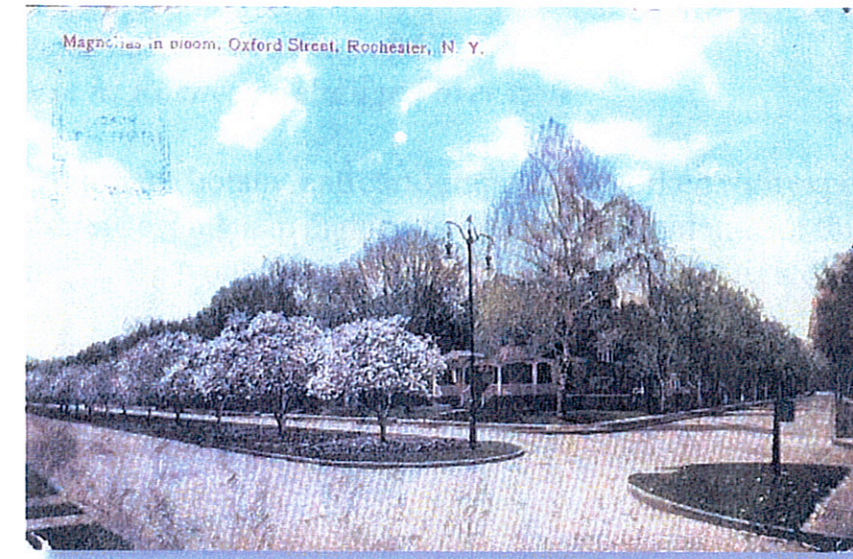
An Expeditionary Learning School



THE FLOWER CITY ATLAS

A project of Genesee Community Charter School Third Grade

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Images for the Flower City Atlas were taken by our class during fieldwork in the 2006-07 school year, drawn as part of this atlas project, or accessed from the following web sites with permission.

Rochester's Vintage Views

<http://www.vintageviews.org/vv-tl/timeline/flower.html>

Rochester Images

<http://www2.libraryweb.org/>

City of Rochester

<http://www.ci.rochester.ny.us/>

University of Rochester History Dept.

www.history.rochester.edu/flowercity

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

When we started our expedition about the transformation of Rochester from the Flour City to the Flower City, we wanted to try something new. Creating an atlas seemed like a logical fit, given our expedition's guiding questions:

How did Rochester become the Flower City?

How has land use in Rochester changed over time?

We studied climate, botany, and cartography and worked with experts in meteorology, plant science, and map making to prepare our students for this product and exhibition night. We would like to thank those who helped us along the way:

The GCCS River Room Staff

Thank you Mrs. O'Malley, Mrs. Woodworth, and Mrs. Henry for helping us arrange field work and find resources to answer our guiding questions.

WHEC TV Meteorologist Josh Nichols

Thank you for speaking to us about the science of the weather and all of the interesting facts about climate.

Harris Seed and Crossman Seed Companies

Thanks for showing us how seeds are prepared for sale and about the history of each of your companies.

Dr. Jennifer Rogalsky, SUNY Geneseo

Thank you for sharing atlases, maps, and ideas for this project. We learned a lot about how to make and read maps and you were very patient while we finished this project! We would like to dedicate The Flower City Atlas to you with our sincere thanks.

ROCHESTER'S PREHISTORY

Before there could be a Flower City, millions of years of fire and ice had to transform our region. From meteorites to mastadons, the story of Rochester began with a spark...

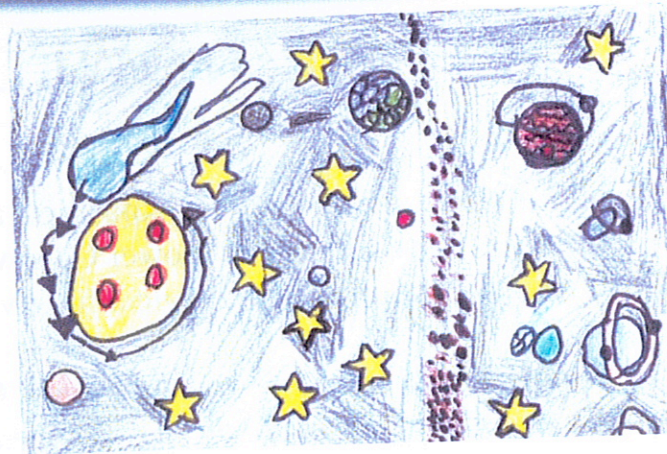
Big Bang-Creation of Stars

by Luke

The Big Bang is a scientific theory that the universe was squeezed into one tiny particle. Then that particle exploded creating the universe (a.k.a. the beginning of time) it occurred 10,000,000,000 years ago. The universe is everywhere and nowhere at the same time. Scientists are looking at radioactivity left over from the big bang. If the big bang didn't occur there would not be any flower city. It had to create everything that was needed to create flowers.

Right: Galaxies formed after the Big Bang. All of the ingredients needed to create the Flower City came from the heart of an exploding star!

Below: Our solar system is billions of miles wide. In 2006, astronomers decided Pluto should be called a dwarf planet.



Comets

By Blake

Comets follow paths around the sun called orbits. Some orbits take hundreds of years to complete.

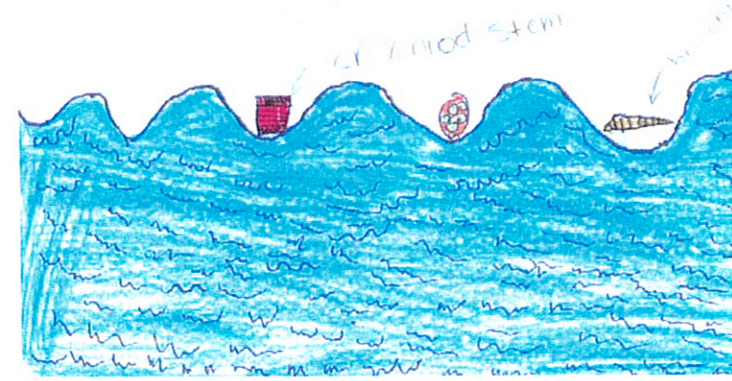
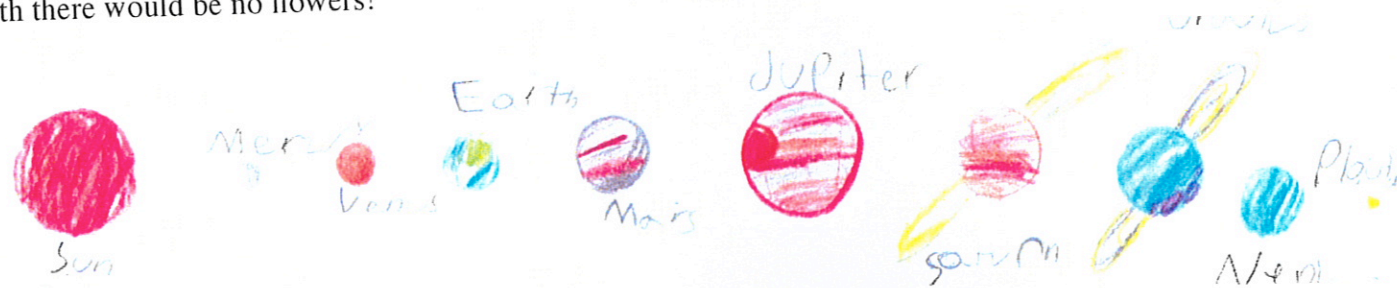
Comets are chunks of ice and rock with a gas cloud that orbits the sun. It can have two tails. The blue one is made of gas and the yellow one is made of rock and metal. Comets might be leftover material from when our solar system was made.

Comets can come every 100,000 years or every few years or just once and never return again. Comets come from a place called the Oort Cloud. Comet Halley appeared in 1910. The last comet in Rochester's sky was Comet McNaught in January 2007. Comets are connected to the Flower City because astronomer Lewis Swift discovered Comet Swift in Rochester, NY in 1862. He saw it in an observatory on East Avenue.

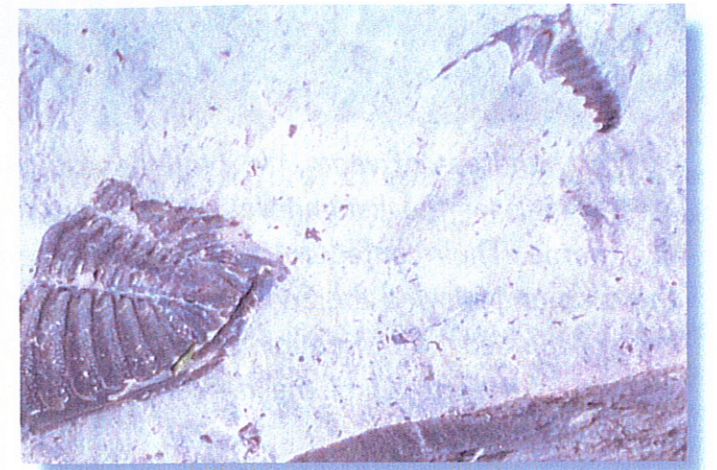
Solar System

by Avi

The solar system is made of nine planets, if you still count Pluto and over 40 moons. The time that the solar system was started was about 5,000,000,000 years ago. The names of the planets are Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune, and Pluto. There is an example of a model solar system in Boston. Why is this topic important to the flower city? Without the planet, there would be no Flower City because without the Earth there would be no flowers!



The shallow sea that once covered Rochester was warm as bath water and had lots of shelled animals living in it.

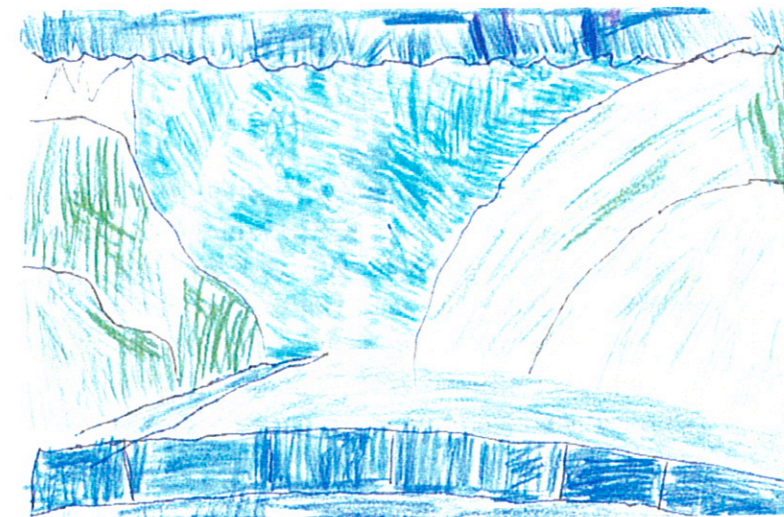


You can still find fossils from marine creatures all around the region. These were found in limestone along the Erie Canal.

Prehistory-Warm Seas

by Brionna

Before there was Rochester there was a big, shallow, warm sea like a marine environment. Four-hundred million years ago Rochester, New York was covered with warm sea water. Today, you can see no warm seas and our climate here in Rochester is not like the Bahamas - it is colder. You can find fossils of marine animals in rocks around Rochester. The warm seas were important because it was home to the first plants of our region.



Glaciers helped make Rochester look the way it does. Glaciers move slowly and carry lots of rocks and debris. The ice of a glacier weighs millions of tons. The ground under Rochester is still rebounding from the last ice age.

The Ice Age

by Isabel

During the Ice Age ice covered the earth. The glaciers were mostly a mile thick around New York. The glaciers ended about 10,000 years ago. It made Mendon Ponds. The glaciers moved the Genesee River and filled the bay. The glaciers are melting at north pole (arctic) and south pole (Antarctica). The glaciers brought the mix of soil and rocks called till. Some of the Genesee Valley area is covered by a 200 foot thick layer of till.

All over New York you can see smoothly round hills. They are called drumlins and they were formed by glaciers.

ROCHESTER'S PREHISTORY

ROCHESTER'S FIRST PEOPLE

For hundreds of years, the Haudenosaunee (People of the Longhouse), called New York home. Their confederation brought peace to the area and allowed the Seneca and other members of the League of Iroquois to live a traditional life with the earth. Until the arrival of the European explorers...

Land Bridge: Yes!

By Tommy

The first people to live in North America were native people from Asia. They came here from the north and moved south to make their homes. These Native Americans came here 20,000 years ago by traveling across the land bridge. The land bridge was here from 20,000 to 18,000 years ago. Extremely cold weather made the water of the Bering Strait between Asia and North America freeze. There were huge sheets of ice that were 1,000 miles wide. It was all ice, there were no trees or grass. It was a tundra.

Lots of groups of Native Americans used this land bridge to come to North America from Asia where they used to live.

They came here and made their homes. After 18,000 years, the world warmed up and the ice of the land bridge melted. The water is now the Bering Strait that connects the Arctic Ocean and Pacific Ocean.

The Algonquian and Iroquois people spoke different languages and were often enemies. Their homes were made of similar materials, but took different shapes.



Many scientists believe people first came to North America by walking. Some scientists think they came by small boats. People may have walked along the Land Bridge (now under the Pacific Ocean) or they may have come by canoe along its coast.

Land Bridge: No!

By Giacomo

I will be teaching you about the land bridge. Many scientists believe the first people came over from Asia to North America on a land bridge. Not all scientists agree. The land bridge existed 14,000 years ago. There are artifacts from before that time. Some people could have come to America 32,000 years ago.

Scientists found handprints in South America from 12,000 years ago. They may have used boats. They also found tools on islands from before the land bridge. Today the land bridge is underwater between the Arctic and Pacific Oceans. If the land bridge didn't exist the Native Americans could not have come over to populate the region.

The Algonquian Wigwam

By Maia

A house that the Algonquian lived in was called wigwam. They made a settlement at Lake Ontario. They lived in the woodlands. Do you know how to build a wigwam? First you need to do the outline. Then, dig holes for poles. Finally, set the poles in holes and cover with sticks and bark. They built their homes differently from the Seneca.

Native People of the Area: Iroquois

by Caroline

The Iroquois were like one big group made out of all tribes. There were Seneca, Mohawk, Oneida, Onondaga, Cayuga and Tuscarora (the nation.) The Iroquois came together in the 1600's. They formed a confederation to work together. The Iroquois were located in New York. The Seneca lived in the Rochester and Buffalo area. Some of the Iroquois are still here today because the Iroquois have reservation spots for them. They're important because the Iroquois were a model of how people could cooperate.



Change for the Seneca

By Demetrius

Conflicts began between the settlers and Native Americans. They were fighting over land and resources. The first explorers, the French, attacked the Seneca Villages. Later, the Seneca and British fought Americans in the Revolutionary War. The Seneca lost and were forced out of their land.

In 1831, members of the Seneca and Cayuga nations were forced from their homes in New York. They moved to the Indian Territory which would become Oklahoma.

The Seneca still live here as members of our modern community. This is important because the Seneca used to live here and some still do.

Seneca

by Sean

The Seneca lived in Rochester, New York and the lived hundreds of years ago. They used wood for their fire and their houses. They killed animals for food and clothes and blankets.

They did not have TV or food markets like we have today. They had to hunt for their food. The Seneca lived in villages near southeast of Rochester at Ganondagan.

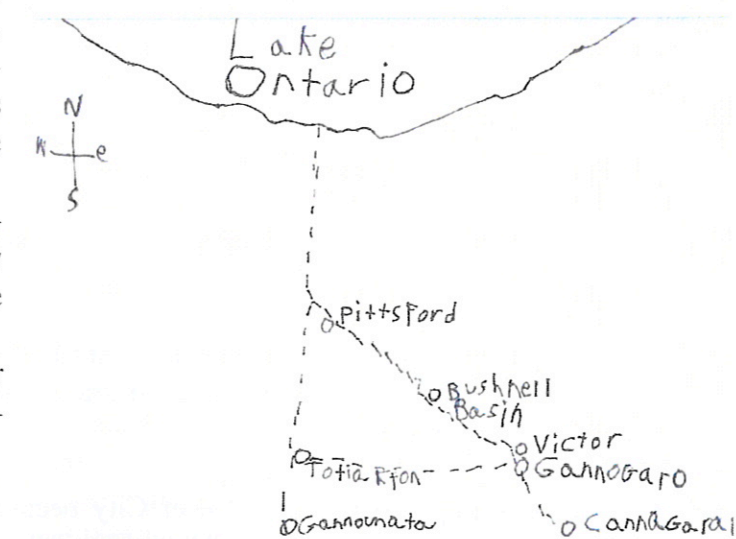
We don't have to hunt for food and we don't live in long houses. The Seneca were important because they knew how to help a community grow.



Left: Map showing where the different nations of the League of Iroquois were located.

Above: The Seneca used canoes to transport items for trade and to hunt and fish.

Below: This is a map of a French army going to Seneca villages south of Rochester. They burned the villages and their food to the ground.



ROCHESTER'S FIRST PEOPLE

ROCHESTER'S SETTLERS

Once the Revolutionary War had been won and the frontier secured, New Englanders started moving to Western New York. Drawn by cheap, fertile farm land, the area's first settlers had to first conquer the Natural World and the fear of a British invasion...



La Salle befriended the local Seneca to learn about trade routes to Asia. There were none, but he established trade between two cultures.

King's Landing

by Aniela

King's Landing is where the King's family lived and died. King's Landing is one of the seven settlements in Rochester.

Old Lion Inn was where the King family lived. It was built in 1809 and torn down in 1884. Old Lion Inn was found in the corner of Charlotte and Lake Avenue. Frederick Douglass escaped to Canada in 1859. He left from King's Landing.

The place where the King's family are buried is behind Kodak so if you want to see their graves you know where to find them.

This is important to the Flower City because King's Landing was one place people could sail boats up the Genesee River for trade.

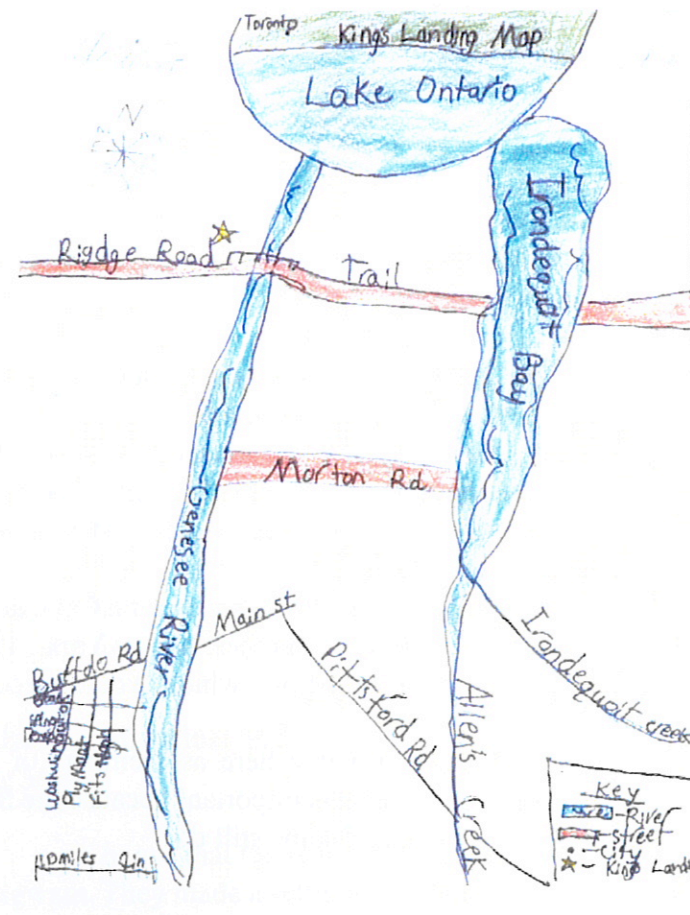
The First Explorers

by Reid

Giovanni de Verrazano was the first explorer that arrived in New York. An explorer is a person who travels the world looking for new places. There is even a bridge named after Giovanni in New York City.

Robert de la Salle was also an explorer. He came to Rochester in 1669. He landed on Irondequoit Bay. La Salle was greeted by Seneca and he began trading with them.

We all wouldn't be here if the first explorers did not come first. The explorers were traveling to find a shortcut for goods to trade at market.



This map shows the location of King's Landing and early Rochester.

Stone-Tolan House

by Chloe

My topic is the Stone-Tolan House which is one of the first settler's homes. The Stone-Tolan House was built in 1792 by Orring Stone. The Stone-Tolan House was one of the first buildings in our community.

The Stone-Tolan House is located on East Avenue. Council Rock is a meeting rock that was important to Native Americans.

Today the Stone-Tolan House is a museum that many people visit. But all their stuff is still here. The Stone-Tolan House was important because it helped people coming to this area from other places get news and help to make a new life.



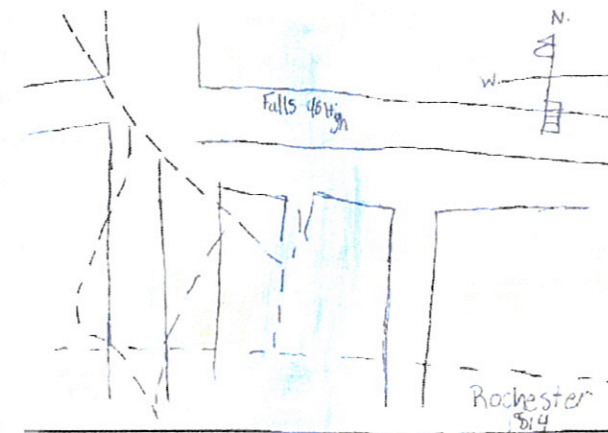
The Stone Tolan House is the oldest house in our community. It was an important place for early settlers.

100 Acre Tract

by Diamond

The 100 Acre Tract is one of the seven settlements where settlers went and made their homes. The 100 Acre Tract was created in when Nathaniel Rochester, William Fitzhugh and Charles Carroll traveled from Maryland to the Genesee Country to buy land for investment.

The 100 Acre Tract goes from Corn Hill to the Main Street Bridge. If you look on a map you can see where this is. Today the 100 Acre Tract is in downtown Rochester. This topic is important to the Flower City because people settled in the 100 Acre Tract and planted their crops and then everyone else started to come and then plant their crops.



Above: Rochester was a small village in 1814 with very few citizens.
Right: A scene from a Lake Ontario battle in 1813.

The War of 1812

by William

The war of 1812 was started because the British were taking American sailors and stopping us from trading with France. The lasted from 1812 to 1814. In May 1813, the British landed at Charlotte looking for supplies and left when the military approached. In September 1813, the British were trying to take two American ships. There was a naval battle on Lake Ontario by Charlotte. The British ship escaped.

At Charlotte you can learn about the war of 1812 at the Charlotte light house. You can also find evidence of ships at the bottom of Lake Ontario. This is important to the Flower City because we would be a British Colony if we had lost the war.



ROCHESTER'S SETTLERS

THE FLOUR CITY YEARS

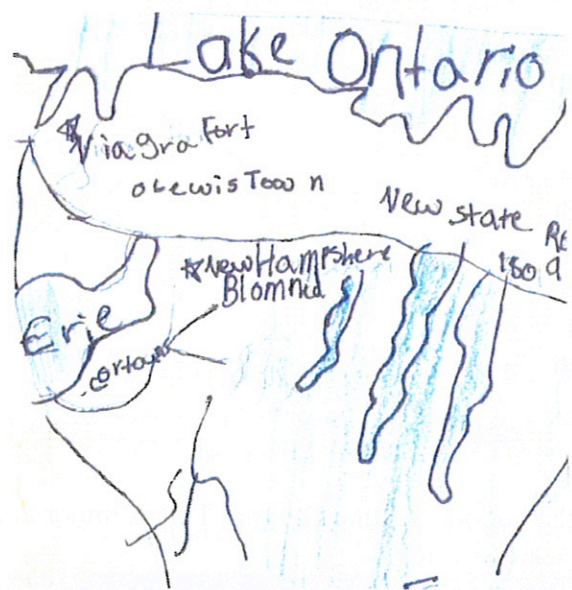
By 1814, the village of Rochesterville was beginning to grow and competing settlements were annexed and folded into the growing city's boundaries. The mills at High Falls provided the means to produce thousands of barrels of high quality flour each year. But it was the arrival of the Erie Canal that allowed the flour to be shipped to a waiting world...

Flour City Wheat

by Victoria

Settlers left New England because it was too crowded, and had bad farm land. Oliver Phelps and Nathaniel Gorham wanted to buy a large part of the Iroquois lands. They were going to sell it to farmers. In Canandaigua, they opened the first land office in America that sold wilderness land to settlers. The settlers bought the land and began farming. They grew lots of wheat to help us become the Flour City. You can still find wheat today on farms around our region.

The Phelps Gorham Purchase made lots of land available to settlers from New England.



Flour City

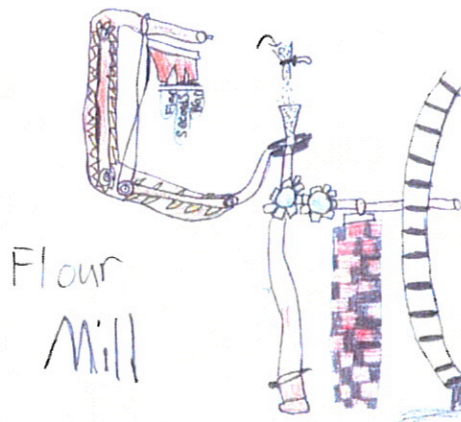
by Catherine

Flour mills grind grain into flour and they do that with mill stones that were powered by water power. The first mill was built in 1789 by Ebenezer Allan. The Seneca used the mill he built.

The settlers searched for a spot on the banks of fast flowing and shallow rivers or water falls. This was where they built the flour mills because they needed the water power. The water powered the mills with fast flowing water that turned simple machines. The first one was the wheel and axle, the wheel was the water wheel and the axle was a metal rod. Then there were gears that turned the mill stones that ground the grain. Then there was a pulley that sent the grain in tunnels through the mill. Finally, the pullies brought up the grain or kernels into a vent that separated the kernels or grain into a bag so the people could ship it on the Erie Canal.

Today you can find Rochester's mill history at High Falls. The flour mills are also important to the city because when the Erie Canal came the people started shipping wheat to Rochester for the flour mills to make it to flour.

When the flour was being shipped to all different places along the way of the canal it was known for the Flour City.



There are many simple machines in a flour mill. Can you find them all?

Erie Canal

by Samantha

I will be talking about the Erie Canal. The Erie Canal has one big job especially back then. The Erie Canal was used to ship goods and people to different places. The Erie Canal was begun in 1817 in Rome, New York.

They also added aqueducts. The aqueducts were built to carry the canal over rivers and valleys and towns. The canal made it cheaper to get to places. The Erie Canal is still here in Rochester. The canal is connected to the Flower City because the boats could ship flower seeds to all different parts of the Erie Canal.

My personal opinion on the Erie Canal is that I feel that the Erie Canal wouldn't be here if a couple of brave people didn't stand up for it.



The Erie Canal made shipping costs lower and helped make New York the Empire State. Rochester was known best for the flour it shipped.

Supply and Demand

by Damon

Goods are shipped on the Erie Canal. Potatoes got shipped on the Erie Canal. Wheat and flour got shipped on the Erie Canal. And they shipped apples on the Erie Canal. On the canal a lot of stuff was shipped to other places.

Services are hotels, restaurants and stables. Goods and services made Rochester rich.

Obstacles Building the Erie Canal

by Nicholas

Obstacles were a difficult part to building the Erie Canal. Tree stumps were a big problem so were mosquitoes and rocks. To move rocks first you need to drill a hole in a rock, put gunpowder in a hole then make a fire to pull away the rock and get rid of the problem. Aqueducts were needed to carry the canal over rivers and streams. Swamps were full of mud that oozed back when you dug. This made it frustrating when you had to dig over and over again. Obstacles made it hard to build the canal. It was important to find a solution to all the problems. People invented clever ways to solve their problems, like stump pullers and cement that made the canal stop leaking.



No one could sail on the canal until all of the obstacles were out of the way. Lockport was a big problem with all that solid rock to blast through.

THE FLOUR CITY YEARS

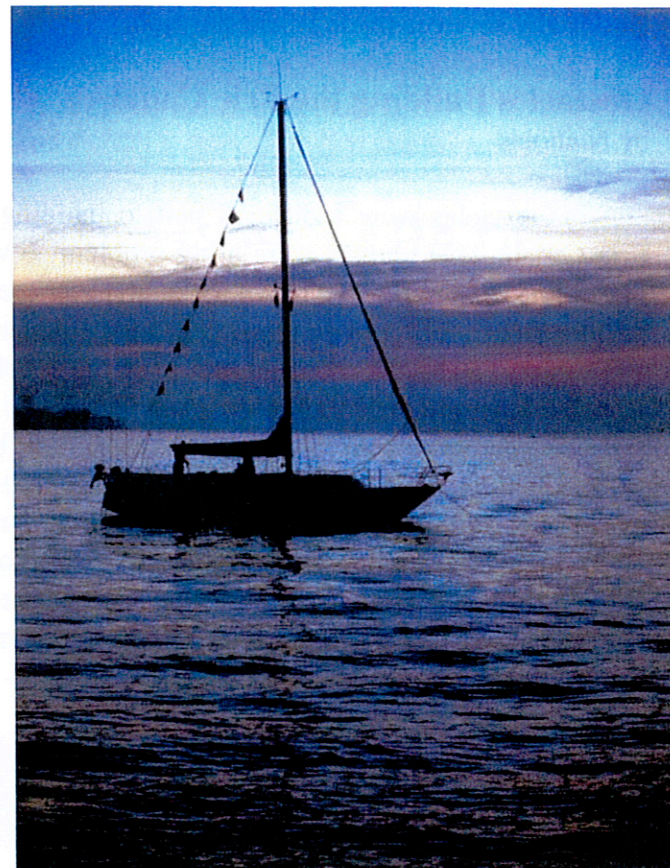
LAKE ONTARIO

Although Lake Ontario is the smallest of the Great Lakes, it holds a lot of power over Rochester's climate and economy. From agriculture to sightseeing to snowy winters, Lake Ontario helped Rochester to become the Flower City.

Lake Ontario

by Isabel

Lake Ontario is one of the five Great Lakes. Lake Ontario is between Rochester, N.Y. and Toronto, Ontario. It was made by glaciers around 15,000 years ago. Lake Ontario is 193 miles long. It is used for boating, swimming, and is a home for animals. Lake Ontario gives us lake effect snow in winter and a cool sea breeze in the summer.



The Growing Season

by Reid

Lake Ontario gives us extra time to grow plants like fruits and vegetables because it gives us a climate with a longer growing season. We can harvest later than most places. For example, Albany harvests earlier because they cool down sooner than Rochester.

During the summer the sun heats the lake, because the heat gets trapped in the water. Warm water warms the air around us. The winter gives us lake effect snow which gives us extra water for growing plants.

Having a warm lake is good for our climate because nurseries can test and grow plants for a longer time. This is good for our economy.

Forms of Precipitation

by Lauren

Precipitation is water droplets falling from the sky. Precipitation means rain, snow, sleet, and hail falling from clouds. Rain precipitates from clouds and falls to the ground. Sun heats and turns it to water vapor and this is called evaporation.

When it cools it turns liquid water and freezes then it falls as precipitation like snow or hail. Some hailstones are the size of golf balls. Inside the cloud hailstone bounce up and down draft and add layer of ice until they are heavy enough to fall. Hailstones come from thunderstorms. Sleet is light, frozen rain and can be mixed with snow. Our city needs precipitation because all plants need water to live.

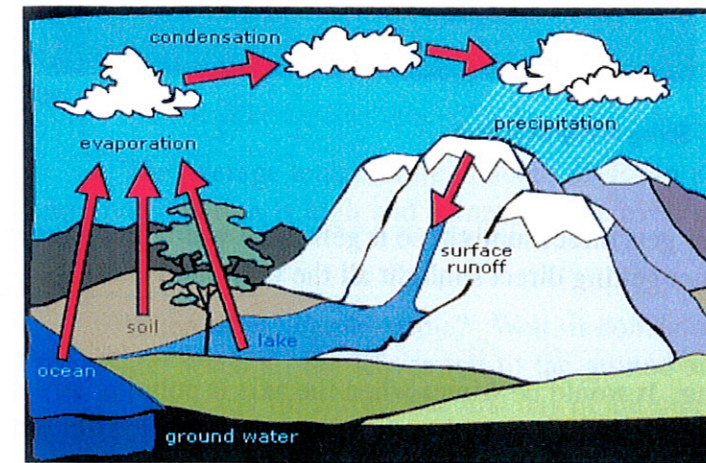
Sailing and motor boating are popular pastimes on Lake Ontario.

Water Cycle

by Kimathi

The water cycle is a circle of water. This cycle will continue forever. The first part of the water cycle is called evaporation. Evaporation is when the water evaporates because of the sun's heat. Condensation is when a lot of water turns into a cloud because the higher it goes the colder it gets so once it gets high it turns into a cloud.

Precipitation is the last part of the cycle before it starts all over and precipitation is when it snows, rains or hails. It precipitates when the cloud gets too heavy because of all of the water. The water cycle helped make Rochester the Flower City when it rained flowers got a drink. Since it never stopped going in a cycle, it rains a lot of times.



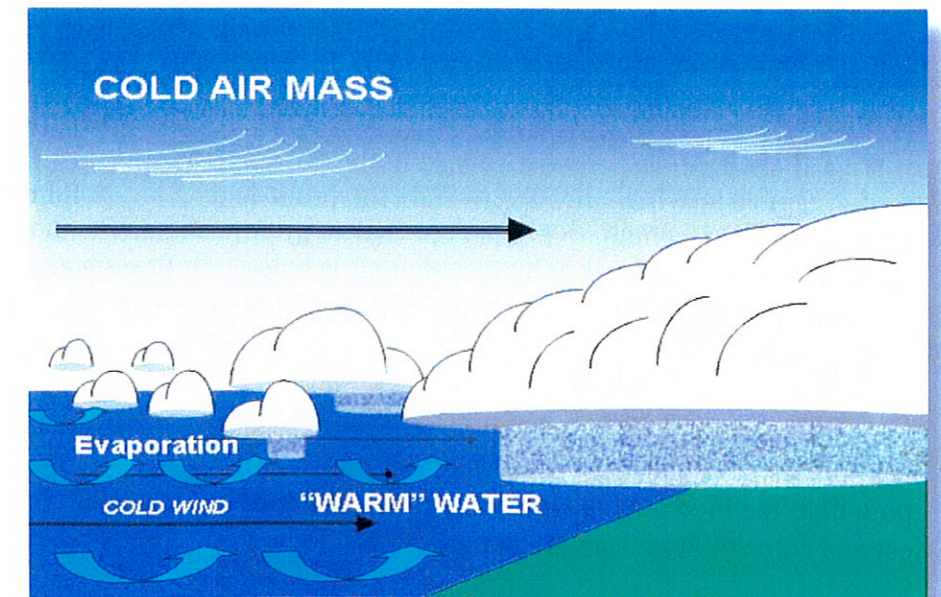
Lake Effect snow takes advantage of the available heat in Lake Ontario to create major snowfalls. Travel just a few miles south of the lake and there may be nothing more than a flurry!

Lake Effect

Caz Lopata-Linn

Lake effect snow is when cold air goes over a warm lake with north winds, and it makes lake effect snow.

The warm water from the lake is evaporated and carried up into the cold air. Warm air traps the vapor and it condenses into snow clouds. Wind pushes the clouds over the land where the snow falls. Sometimes over a foot of fluffy, lake effect snow can fall.



LAKE ONTARIO

ROCHESTER'S SEASONS

Everyone has a favorite season and Rochester enjoys all four seasons. This is because of Rochester's climate. We are located in a temperate climate zone. People can enjoy all sorts of activities year around because of our climate.



Spring in Highland Park.

Seasons

by Catherine

Every season has its own special feeling. Summer gets direct sunlight so it gets to be warm, but winter does not get direct sunlight. But if you look at fall, it is not getting direct sunlight all the way but it is not getting indirect sunlight. This is the same for spring.

Seasons are made by how the Earth's axis is tilting. It would be winter when the axis is pointing away from the sun because we are not getting direct sunlight so it is cold. When the axis is pointing towards the sun we have summer because we get direct sunlight so it is warm.

Seasons helped Rochester become the Flower City because the people who planted the seeds needed the right weather. The plants needed different climates, and some plants need to be planted in the winter, fall, spring or summer. Some plants need to be stored in cold place before they are planted.

Spring

by Katera

Spring is when all flowers start to sprout and grow right before summer. Some people start to grow seeds in spring. In spring it helps people and it helps seeds and plants. People grow plants, flowers and food so they can eat.

Spring starts in March, but it is too cold to start planting then. People wait until May for that. It is important to the Flower City because people need food to eat and companies needed seeds to sell.

Summer

by Natalie

Summer is three months of no school that starts with the 6th month and ends with the 9th month. In Rochester summer comes in as the second season in June. Sometimes it feels like summer earlier. Sometimes in summer people take vacations and kids go to things like summer camp.



Summer in Rochester from Cobbs Hill.

Fall in the Genesee River Gorge.



Autumn

by Giacomo

Autumn is when everyone is getting ready for winter. The settlers used to harvest all their crops in autumn. Since autumn is before winter it is starting to feel cold.

The average temperature is about 45 F. In autumn precipitation is high and sometimes we even get snow.

When does autumn come? Well, it comes before winter when all the leaves fall to the ground and the trees are ready for snow. The first day of autumn is September 22. What do people do in autumn in Rochester? Well, they do what everyone does in autumn-they rake leaves and get ready for winter.

I think I connect best with autumn because I like to play in the leaves.

Winter

by Sean

Winter in Rochester is a season that has a lot of snow. Winter happens when the northern part of Earth is pointing away from the sun. The average winter temperature in Rochester is 30 F. It gets about 100 inches of snow every winter.

The first snowfall usually happens in November which is really fall. It gets cold sooner than the first day of winter on December 21st.

You can have a snow ball fight and have a fire. People here also have hot cocoa and they have a sled. Winter is important because a lot of the snow helps bring water to go into the soil.



Winter at Mt. Hope Cemetery.

ROCHESTER'S SEASONS

STUDYING THE WEATHER

Rochester gets a lot of snow. But one time we got three feet of it! Without scientists to study the weather, we wouldn't know what to expect.



Meteorologists study the weather using instruments and through direct observations. We observed snow fall to determine the types of snow crystals that fell.

National Weather Bureau

by Brooke

A weather bureau is an office where they record observations of the local weather. The first weather station opened on top of the old Reynolds Arcade on October 12th, 1870. They had a barometer, 3 thermometers and an anemometer to take observations. They flew special flags to warn people about weather. The weather bureau moved to Buffalo but there is still a weather station at the Greater Rochester International Airport.

Studying the Weather

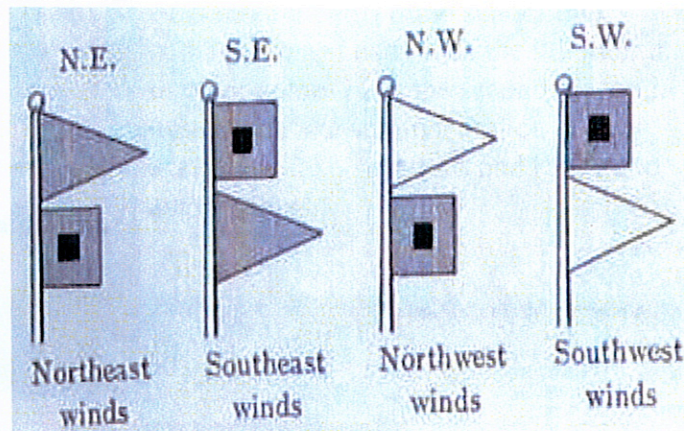
by Luke

Meteorology is the study of weather. Meteorologists study and predict the weather. We study the weather because if we didn't, how would we know when foul weather is coming? The ways meteorologists contact citizens are TV, radio and computer. People use TV and radio to find out the weather by having someone broadcast the weather. The first meteorologist used his eyes. But now we have modern technology like internet, radio, TV, satellite, and radar to study weather. If we didn't study the weather how in the world would we know if some type of bad weather was coming?

Patterns in the Flags

by Brooke

R+S flag has a full black flag part. (pole not included). Local R+S has half of a black flag. Cold wave has only a corner of a black spot on the flag. The storm looks like the hurricane flag but has 1 flag and the hurricane flag has 2 flags. The N.E. winds flag looks almost like S.E. winds but the flags are switched around. The N.W. winds flag has a triangle white flag on the top and the S.W. winds flag has a white triangle on the bottom.



Flags like these were flown 100 years ago from the Powers Building in Rochester, NY, to let people know about approaching weather.

Tools of the Trade

by Will

The tools of the meteorology trade are the ones that help you make a weather forecast. The thermometer measures air temperature. A thermometer looks like something you can measure your temperature like if you are sick. An anemometer looks like cups that spin around with numbers. The anemometer is a tool used to measure wind speed. The old fashion hygrometer looks like a thermometer that has a string hanging in a cup. The hydrometer is a tool used to measure humidity. This topic is important to the Flower City because they help make a forecast. Forecasts are important because they tell you what the weather is going to be.



Ice storms look pretty at first but the weight of the ice can snap branches off of trees and pull down power lines. It took nearly a week to restore power to some communities!

The History of Rochester Weather Events

by Avi

Rochester does not always have bad weather but...some severe weather Rochester has had are droughts, ice storms and blizzards.

An ice storm happened on March 3, 1991 at 4:34 am. Ice storms happen when too much rain falls in too cold of an air temperature. Then it freezes. In 1991 a lot of cold air got trapped over the Genesee Valley. There were high temps at first then the storm hit. For seven hours sleet kept falling. When the sleet stopped falling, there was one inch of ice on everything.

A blizzard happened in 1999. Blizzards happen when there is a lot of snow all at once and really fast winds. On March 4th, 1999, a blizzard happened and we got 24 inches of snow. It had started as a tropical storm off the coast of Long Island. But then it pulled all that moisture north and the low pressure brought lake effect snow to Rochester. Buffalo didn't get as much snow as we did because of the direction of the wind. March 6th, 1999, there were 18 inches of snow. People couldn't go outside because there was so much snow, it was dangerous to drive because streets weren't plowed.

A drought happened in 1854. A drought is from too much heat and not enough rainfall. When a drought comes nothing can grow because there is no water. All the wheat died. The Genesee River was so low that the falls weren't strong. Rochester's flour mills went out of business.

This helped the Flower City because without drought in 1854 there might not be any flower city - there would still be flour!

STUDYING THE WEATHER

FLOUR CITY TO FLOWER CITY

Like all communities, growth was both painful and positive for Rochester. It meant some industries would need to change. It meant new people would arrive while others left. It meant innovation and invention that helped make Rochester an important city.

Flower City

by Aniela Velocci

This is how Rochester changed from flour “ou” to flower “ow”! Rochester was most popular for flour “ou” but now popular for flower “ow”.

Flour mills are places where people make flour, grind flour, and sell flour. They also package flour to send to stores. The first mill was made in along the Genesee River but most mills moved to High Falls.

One type of bad weather in Rochester is called a drought. A drought is when a place gets no rain. This drought made Rochester become the flower “ow” city because the weather was too tough for the wheat so it became the flower “ow” city. It didn’t grow-so people changed the city to flower “ow”.

This is how the flower “ow” industries began. A person names Joseph Harris began the first seed company in Rochester. He saw that our climate was good for growing different crops, like vegetables and fruit, not just wheat. He started collecting seeds to sell to other farmers.

Others tried selling seeds and soon Rochester had more people selling seeds than making flour and we changed from flour “ou” to flower “ow”!



Rochester boasted a diverse immigrant population, including members of the Dutch and Armenian communities.

Arrival of Immigrants

by Diamond Valion

Immigrants are people who arrive or come from another country.

In 1837, the immigrants came when workers were needed for farms. Then farms grew and they started working and planting crops. George Ellwanger and Patrick Barry arrived as immigrants in 1840. In 1840, Ireland’s potato crop died and thousands of Irish people left to come to the U.S.

This topic is important to the Flower City because when immigrants arrived they worked at a farm and worked there and planted crops and flowers. And it grew to become the Flower City.

A personal connection I have is that my older cousin has been an immigrant for 6 years and works on a farm.

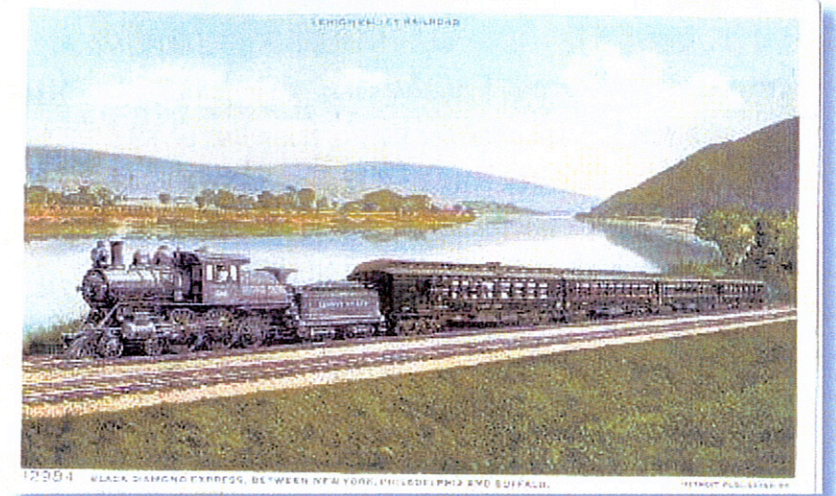
Canal to Railroad

by Tommy Anderson

Rochester used to be known as the Flour City. The canal helped Rochester ship flour to other cities. Then the railroad came and helped people ship goods even faster than the canal.

The Erie Canal connected the cities of Albany and Buffalo. It helped people ship goods faster and cheaper. The canal took four days to get from Albany to Buffalo. The railroad helped people ship goods back and forth when the canal closed in the winter. Passengers could travel from Albany to Buffalo on the railroad in 24 hours instead of the four days it took on the canal.

This topic is important to the Flower City because the people of Rochester began selling more flowers and seeds than flour. Railroads helped move these products faster than a canal boat did. The railroad helped them ship seeds all over New York State and all over the U.S. They were still able to make money selling a different product and it moved faster all year round.

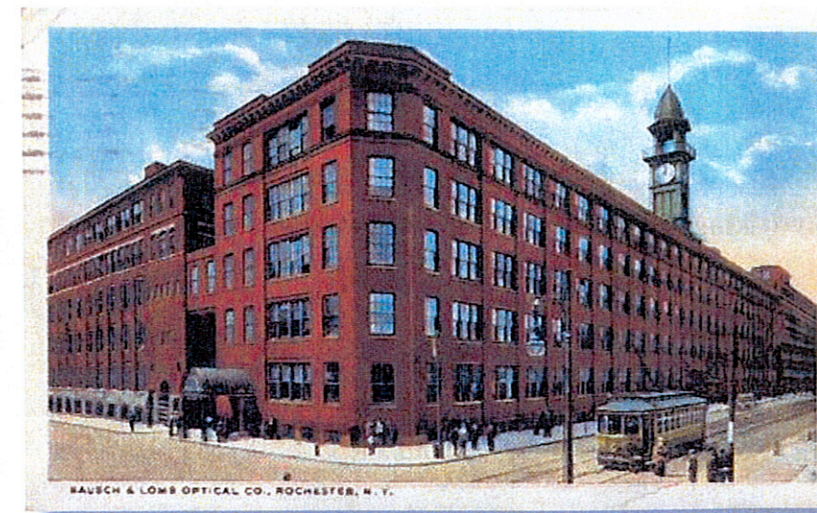


Changes in City Industry

by William McDonough

Industry is a place where people work and make things and changes in industry means jobs changing. For example, if an industry moves all the people in the job have to find new jobs.

The flower industry got bigger as Rochester grew because our climate helped grow things longer. Many other industries came, like Bausch and Lomb with eye products, George Eastman with photos and photo plates, James Cunningham with wagon makers, and George Selden with gasoline engines. Then Rochester’s flower industry got smaller and other industries got bigger. This happened with the “Flour” City and is still happening today.



Bausch and Lomb is an immigrant-created company.

FLOUR CITY TO FLOWER CITY

ROCHESTER'S GREAT NURSERIES

Behind every great business is a great business leader. Rochester's nurseries were world-famous because of the people who helped build the businesses. Most of them started as immigrants with very little and ended up some of Rochester's greatest philanthropists and citizens.

Joseph Harris by Victoria

Joseph Harris was the person who started at a seed company and then began his own seed company, Harris Seeds. Joseph Harris began Harris Seed Company in 1879.

Joseph Harris was born in England. He went to Genesee Valley in 1849. He liked to experiment with seeds and plants and flowers. He published his results in farm journals.

In 1863, Joseph Harris bought a big area of land (141 acres) that he used for a farm. In 1879 he started the Harris Seed Company.

He was famous because a lot of people liked his seeds and his company. They were good seeds—flowers, vegetables and plant seeds. He had a fair price because he thought that his customers would return if he gave them a good deal.

I have been to the seed company that Joseph Harris started and they are still testing seeds, making catalogs and selling seeds to people everywhere.

Ellwanger and Barry by Maia

George Ellwanger was born in 1816 in Germany. He apprenticed to a horticulturalist. In 1835, he left to work in the U.S.

From 1836 to 1838, he worked for Reynolds and Bateham as foreman of the Rochester Seed store.

Patrick Barry was born in 1816 in Ireland. He was a teacher in Ireland. He immigrated to New York in 1836 and in 1840 started a nursery with George Ellwanger. They started with seven acres. Soon they were the biggest nursery in Rochester and sold seeds and plants around the world. They gave land to Rochester to start a park. They turned some of their land into places where people could build houses.



Patrick Barry



Vick's Seed Store by Damon

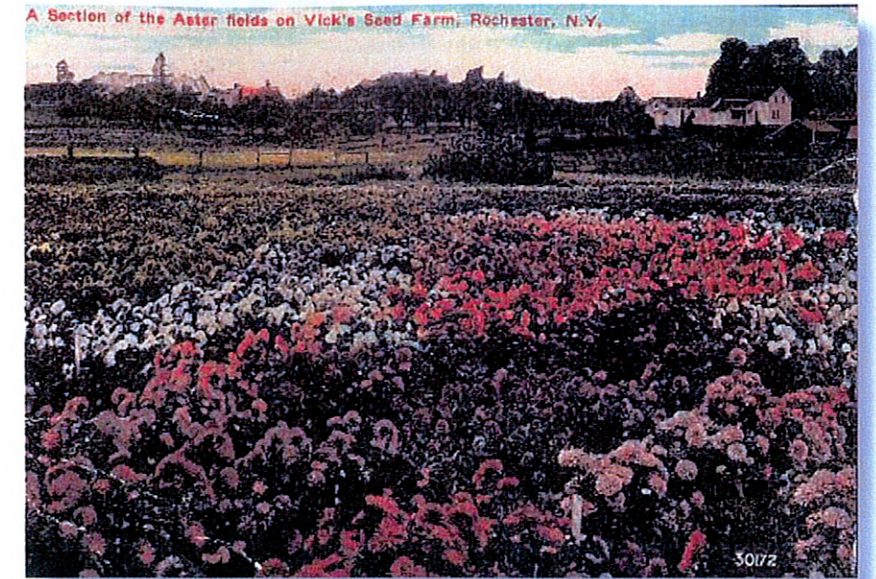
Vick's was one of Rochester's famous seed companies. It was four floors high. On the first floor, there was the seed shop and flowers and plants. The second floor was their post office and they sent the packages. The third floor was where all the seeds were packaged. On the fourth floor is the print shop where they made 10,000 catalogs a day.

This is important to the Flower City because James Vick helped sell seeds to people. They can plant them and named us the Flower City.



James Vick owned the biggest seed house in the world. James Vick was born in Portsmouth, England on November 23, 1835. Vick's Seed house paid over \$50,000 onto stage (mailing) a year.

by Nicholas



Charles Crossman by Jessie

I am talking about Charles Crossman Seed Packaging Company and who Charles Crossman was. The store got its name from the Crossman brothers. They shipped their seeds to stores and sold them to people. They make plant science kits for schools and other places. The company started in 1838.

This is important to the Flower City because seeds couldn't have been shipped places without packaging.



The Crossman Seed Company prepares seeds today much like they did in the past. Here seed packages are sorted and prepared for mailing to customers.

ROCHESTER'S GREAT NURSERIES

INSIDE THE SEED STORE

There was more to selling seeds than putting them in an envelope. The seed stores were part laboratory, part publishing house, part advertising firm and part print shop.



Inside a Seed Store

by Chloe

A seed store is where people sell seeds and then other people buy them. There was a seed store named Harris Seed Company. The Harris Seed store sold catalogs to get people to buy them.

Seed stores take care of seeds and test them to make sure flowers and plants grow well. Sometimes seed stores can trade seeds. There are lots of seed stores other than Harris Seeds.

Plant stores have to test, package and sell all their seeds before people can buy them. If they didn't, people would complain because if the seeds would not grow they would blame it on the people who sold them. Seed stores have different seeds for different flowers and plants.

People needed seed stores so people could make corn and other crops.

Germination Lab

by Samantha

A germination lab is where they check germination. Germination is when a seed opens and the root comes out and plants itself in the ground.

After the germination lab checks germination they give it to the federal government so they can make sure they got it all right. If it is not right the scientist goes back to the lab and tries more things to fix and try other seeds for germination. If it is right then they can sell it.

A germination lab has a big part in the seed company. A germination lab has to ensure that the seeds it sells are of the highest quality.

There are two rooms. They both have flowers. There was a hot room and a cold room. The hot room was 92 degrees F. The cold room was 20 or 19 degrees F. The germination lab is where people take seeds, plant them in a cold or hot place. If they grow the seeds are high quality. And if they don't, then they aren't high quality and they are not sold.



Above: Many seed producers created gardens or collages using flowers. This American flag was made by Vick's Seed Company.

Above left: A contemporary seed package from Crossman's Seeds.

Seed Packaging

by Brionna

Seed packaging starts with an envelope which different kinds of seeds can go in. It has changed from the early days. We visited a modern seed company to learn how they do their jobs.

First, the company gets the customer. Then they order seeds that they need. Then it gets typed up in the computer. Then they print it out and they give it to someone who can get the seeds. Then the seeds get treated. Then they get coded purple.

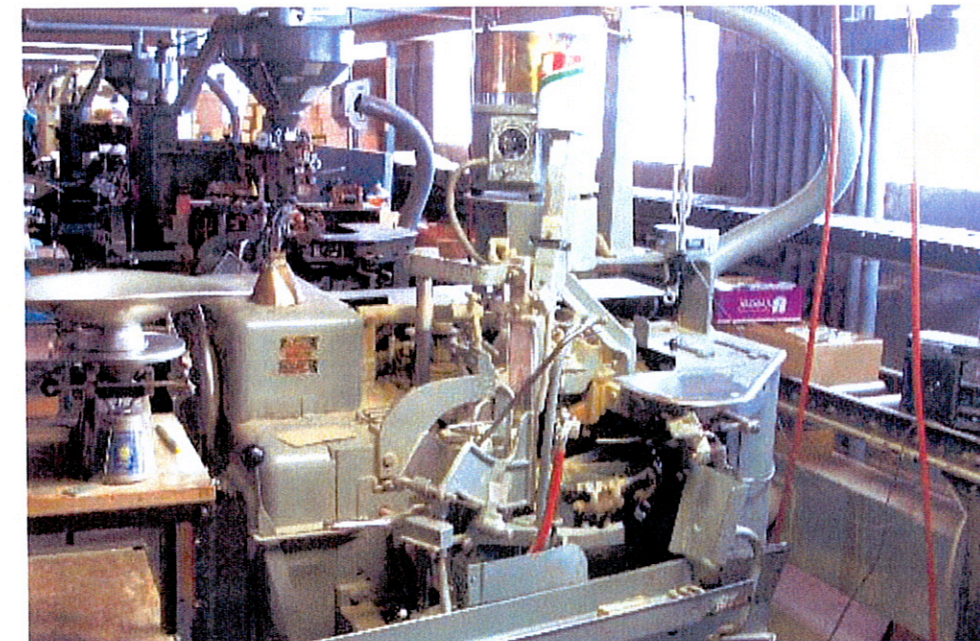
Next, they put them to a computer that tells if it is the right seed pack or not.

Finally, they get put in a box and gets taped shut. Then they get taken to a computer that tells the place where the seeds need to go and how much money it costs. It gets put on a sticker from the computer. I think people should know that seed packaging is a hard job.



During a visit to Crossman Seed Company, we discovered that there are many steps to packaging seeds.

Above: Our guide shows us how the printing press is used. Below: Seed packaging equipment.



INSIDE THE SEED STORE

THE CATALOG

The Flower City would not have been nearly as famous had it not been for the creation of the color seed catalog. The catalog provided customers with a color image of the flower stock they were purchasing. This led to happy customers, more orders, and more elaborate catalogs.

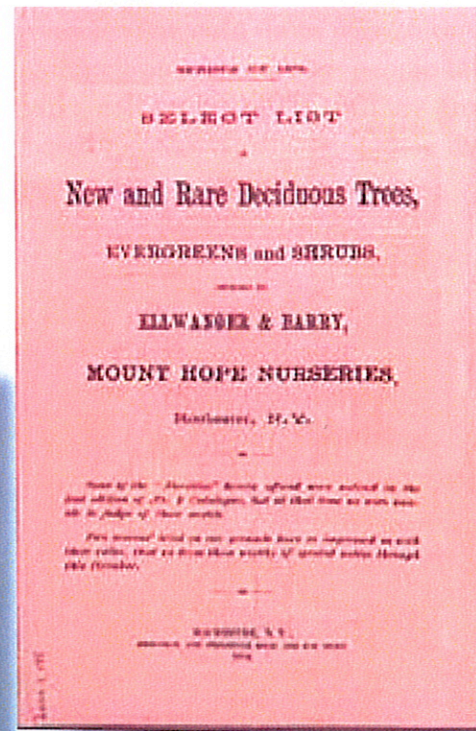
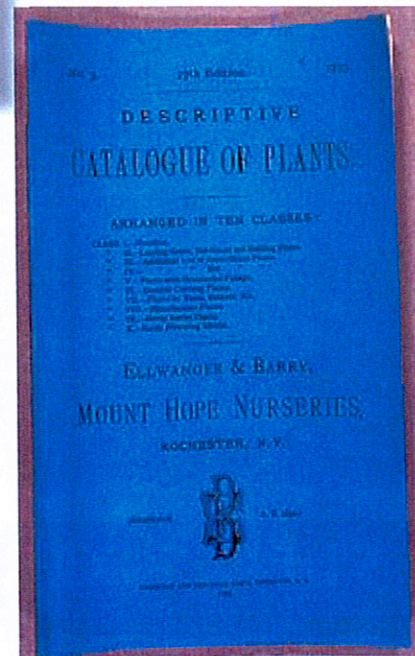
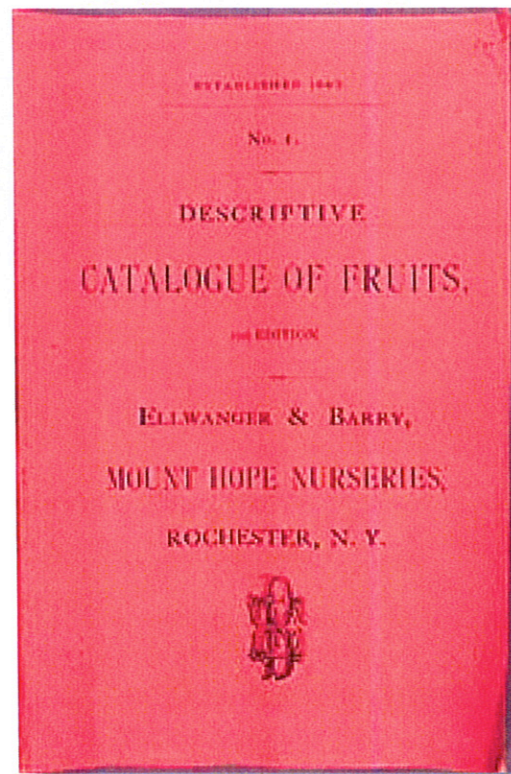
Ellwanger and Barry catalogs were used to sell millions of plants around the world.

Seed Catalogs

by Emily

A seed catalog is a magazine that helps people decide what seeds to order. Seed catalogs were needed when people didn't know what they wanted or didn't know that the flowers looked like. Catalogs were usually made by the seed store. A seed catalog has all different kinds of seeds and what they grow into. Sometimes special printers who used color printed the catalogs for the seed stores.

Seed catalogs tell people important things about the seeds and plants like what the seeds need to grow and how and where to get the sun, water and perfect dirt. Seed catalogs were important because you can order from the magazine so you don't have to go to the seed store to get the seeds and figure out what you want.

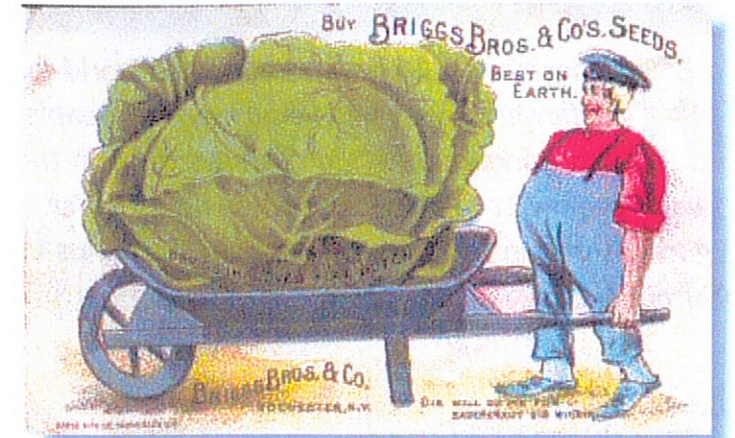


The Link Between Seed Business and Printing

by Caroline

Nurseries needed printers to date and name the packages. Printers grew with nurseries because they needed words to explain flowers.

They needed to use printers to make the catalogs to tell people about flowers. This is important to the Flower City because this tells people the care of a flower. I feel good about this because printers help me understand what my job is by writing it down.



Seed and flower catalogs took many different formats. Above right: Briggs Brothers Seeds made their fruits and vegetables look larger than life.

Above: Ellwanger and Barry nurseries used color plate books that salesmen carried with them to show customers what the fruit looked like.

Right: Vick's Floral Guides were an annual catalog and had flowers and fruits and vegetables.



THE CATALOG

ROCHESTER'S FLOWER FESTIVALS

Rochester is still known around the world for its flowers. Every year thousands of people visit parks and fairs and shows to be in the world of flowers. Many city homes have flower gardens and in May the smell of lilacs reminds us of our past.

Lilac Festival

by Kimathi

The Lilac Festival is to show the beauty of lilacs. The Lilac Festival happens once a year. The lilacs were planted in 1892, but the festival started in 1898.

The festival is in Highland Park. Lilacs take over 22 acres of Highland Park. Today over 500 varieties of Lilacs cover the park. It is important to the Flower City because Rochester is famous for lilacs. There are also games and activities to do at the festival plus little shops and concerts, too.

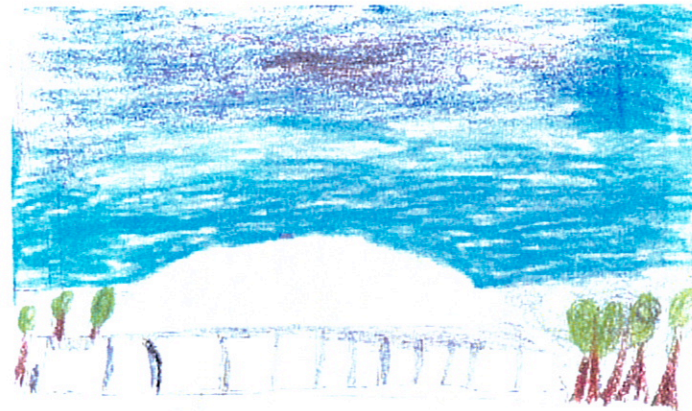


Lilacs come in many varieties; most are shades of purple, but some are white or even pink.

Gardenscape

by Katera

Gardenscape is a show put on by a group of landscapers and growers that focuses on flowers and plants in many kinds of gardens. Gardenscape has been around for 15 years. It started in 1992. It's as good as the Philadelphia Flower Show. At Gardenscape there are 80 flower growers and landscape groups that share their ideas. Over 25,000 customers attend.



The Dome Arena is home to the Monroe County Fair as well as Gardenscape, the community's annual flower and garden show.

The Monroe County Fair

by Will

The Monroe County Fair is a family event that has lots of fun things to do like rides, shows, and lots of food for the people who live there.

The Monroe County Fair comes up in the summer every year. The Monroe County Fair started in 1823. The first farmers shared their seeds and vegetable together and talked about how to be better farmers.

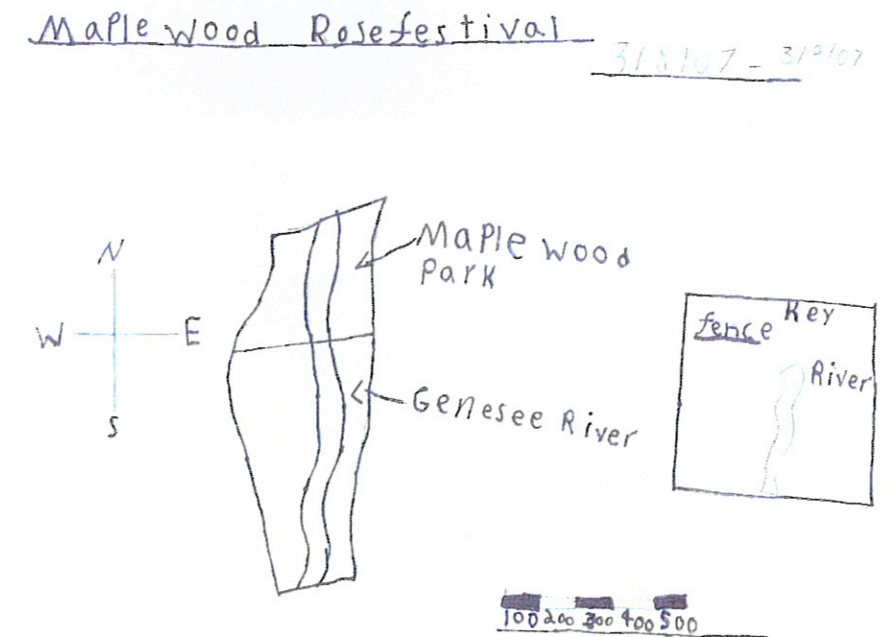
The Monroe County Fair takes place in Henrietta. It is an important part of our community because it shares our history as a farming area.

Maplewood Rose Festival

by Jessie

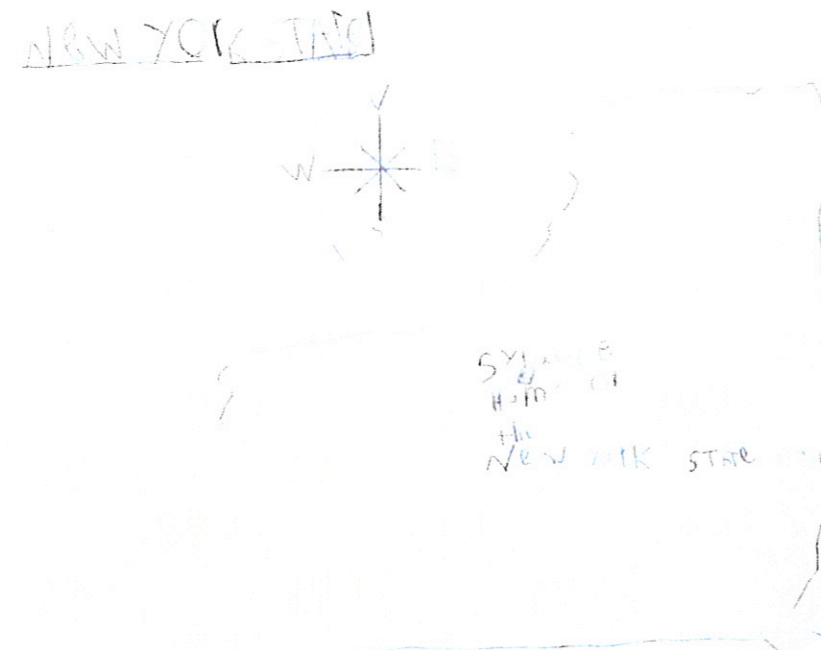
Maplewood Park is home to more than 300 varieties of roses and over 5,000 blooms. The Maplewood Rose Festival is an annual celebration that happens every June. You will find this place near Driving Park and Lake Avenue.

Some things you can do at the Rose Festival are the Rose Garden tour, the arts, and crafts show, the home tour and the Lower Gorge tour.



Right: The map of Maplewood Park shows where the Rose Festival is held.

Below: The map of New York State shows where the NYS fair happens.



New York State Fair

by Thomas

The New York State Fair is the largest fair in the state. It takes place every year for 12 days straight. This event started back in 1841. It was held in 11 different places and was held twice in Rochester. The first fairs has plowing contests and people could eat food grown on the farms in New York State. Rochester was a good place to have the fair because there were lots of greenhouses for growing flowers.

People travel from different places to go to the fair with their friends and family. At the fair you will see lots of people eat a lot of different food from around the world.

ROCHESTER'S FLOWER FESTIVALS

ROCHESTER'S PARKS: SENECA



Seneca Park by Caz

There are a lot of trails at Seneca Park. There is also a zoo and lodges to rent at the park. Seneca Park is located at 2222 St. Paul Street Rochester, New York. The park opened in the early 1890's. There are trails like the Olmstead Trail and the Gorge Overlook trail. Seneca Park is where corn and wheat used to grow. The trails are important because the trails can tell about the Seneca Indians. Most people go to see the animals at Seneca Park Zoo.

Seneca Park



Highland Park by Brooke

Highland Park is a beautiful park where there are many different kinds of colored flower collections. It is a great place for events and has many points of interest. In 1889 the Highland Park opened.

Highland Park has lavender and white lilacs that smell like sweet perfume. It also has a splash of warm colored tulips in a bed. It also has Azaleas, Rhododendron, Magnolias, Pansies, and many Evergreens.

The Lambertson Conservatory has an indoor rain-forest room, a desert room, and a seasonal room. The Veterans Memorial is honoring those who fought in the Vietnam War. There is also the Iris Friendship Garden, the Victim's Rights Memorial, and the AIDS Remembrance Garden.

Highland Park was designed by Frederick Law Olmsted. Ellwanger and Barry donated their nursery land for Highland Park. Warner Castle and its gardens were incorporated into Highland Park in 1951. Highland Park south was developed as an expansion to the park in the early 1980's. Highland Park is famous for their lilacs, tulips, and pansy beds.

My mom took pictures of Traci (my sister) and I pointing to a beautiful lavender lilac bush. She also took pictures of us smelling the tulips in the bed. For the last 8 years we have spent Mother's Day at Highland Park. At the Highland Bowl we saw a movie called the Wizard of Oz.

Highland Park Map by Brooke Weinstein



Highland Park



ROCHESTER'S PARKS: HIGHLAND

ROCHESTER'S PARKS: TRYON

Tryon Park

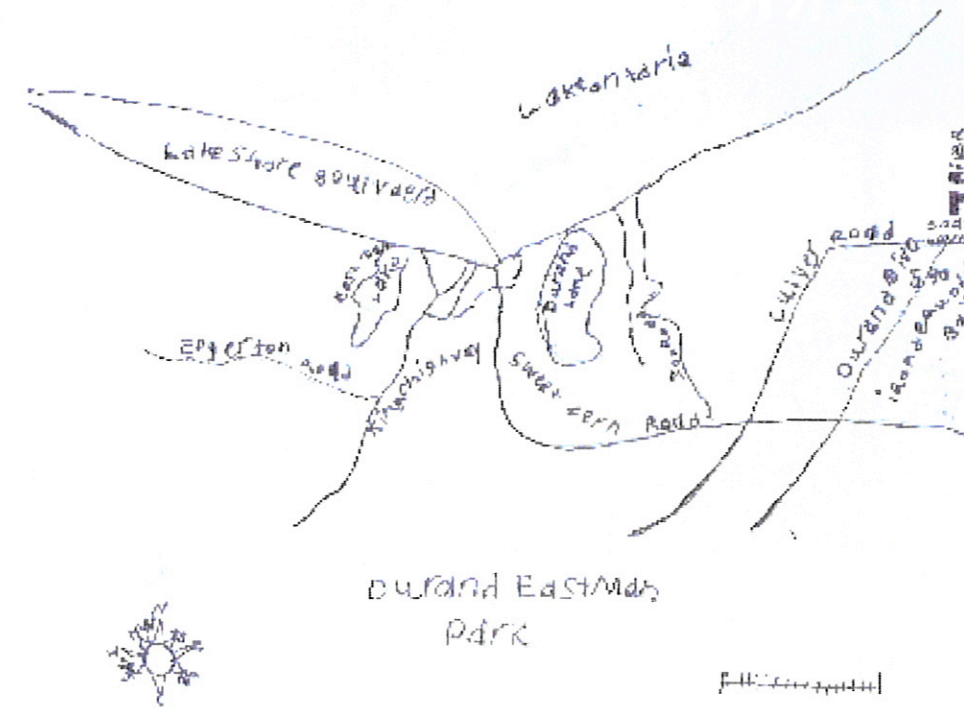
by Natalie

Tryon Park is found off Tryon Road and then off of North Winton Road between Browncroft and Empire Boulevard. Nearby Tryon Park there used to be a settlement from 1797 to 1818 but now it is just park. How did it become a park? Tryon Park in my opinion is a kind of a magical place because sometimes there is something that was not there the day before! Example: a tractor trailer tire on a boulder in a creek but the boulder and the tractor trailer tire weren't there the day before then!

If you go to Tryon Park now a days don't be surprised if you see a dog running lose in the park! Tryon Park is important to the Flower City because it used to be a settlement that was important to people who lived there.



Tryon Park

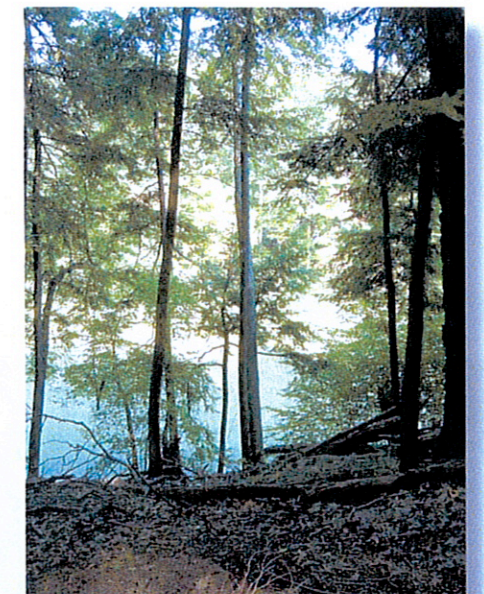


Durand-Eastman Park

Durand Eastman Park

by Emily

Durand Eastman Park is on the shore of Lake Ontario. Durand Eastman Park was opened in 1909. The park has playgrounds and golf courses and trails to explore. There's a great view of Lake Ontario from the overlook. Durand Eastman Park is important to the Flower City because George Eastman donated the land to the city. The connection I have is that I been to a lot of parks that have flowers and been able to pick them.

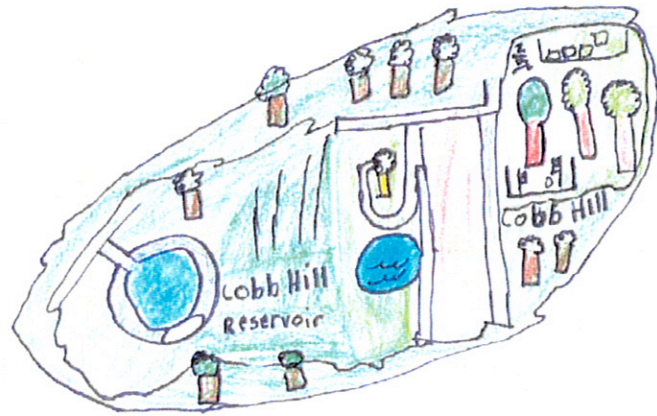


ROCHESTER'S PARKS: DURAND-EASTMAN

ROCHESTER'S PARKS: COBBS HILL

Cobbs Hill Park by Lauren

Cobb's Hill Park is located in the city's southeast area. Cobb's Hill is for ducks, dogs, sports and homes. You can play baseball and basketball there. There is a lake there called Lake Riley that you can fish at. People like to sled there in the winter. The reservoir stores water. Did you know this park used to be underwater from the Erie Canal?



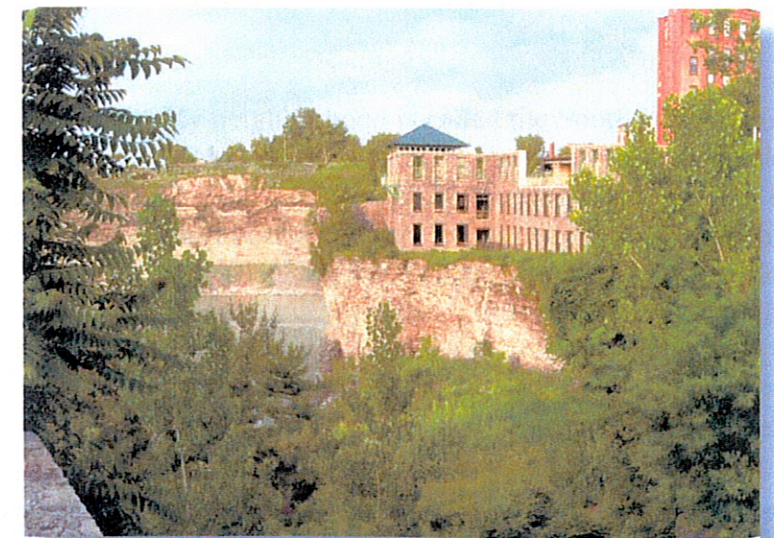
Cobbs Hill Park



EASTERN WIDE WATERS FROM COBB'S HILL, ROCHESTER, N. Y.



**Turning Point Park
Genesee Valley Park
High Falls**



ROCHESTER'S PARKS: OTHERS TO SEE

ROCHESTER'S NEIGHBORHOODS: NORTHEAST

My street is Minnesota St. It is in the North Winton area. It is a little scary to me but mostly quiet. Something you should know about my neighborhood is that there are a lot of dogs on my street. If you ask me I think it should be named Canine Street. A place you have to see when you visit my neighborhood is the Winton library because there are a lot of good books to read there.

By Natalie

My neighborhood is called Browncroft. I live on Dorchester Rd. It is a quiet and fun neighborhood. Something you should know about my neighborhood is that it is very quiet except when cars rush by. A place you have to see when visiting my neighborhood is school 46 and the playground, on Newcastle because people climb and run in it or near it.

By Chloe

My neighborhood is called Browncroft. I live on New Castle Road. It is a quiet and fun place to live. Something you should know about my neighborhood is we have wild block parties. A place you have to see when visiting my neighborhood is #46 School because they have wide open peaceful spaces.

by Caz

My neighborhood is called Hall Street. It is a quiet and loud place. There are very nice people and very nice dogs. East High School is across from my house. And they made a new Football Field, too.

By Lauren

My neighborhood is called Marion Street. It is a loud and fast street to live on. Something you should know about my neighborhood is we have a mini-splash park on our street that you play in on warm summer days. A place you have to see when visiting my neighborhood is the crazy house at Christmas because there are lots of cool lights too see.

By Jessie

I live on Bellevue Dr. Rochester, New York 14620. I think it is a nice, peaceful place to live. Something you should know about Highland Park and Highland Hospital is that they are both within 100 meters of my house. A place you should go to in my neighborhood is Highland Park because it has wild parts like hills with trees on top and developed parts with gardens and valleys with trees and magnolias around.

By Luke

I live in the Swillberg Section. My street is called Benton St. My street is a cool and quiet street. My neighborhood has a school and a playground down the street. In my neighborhood there is a theater and the South Wedge Diner and it is fun and they have good food.

By Isabel

My neighborhood is called Elwanger Barry. I live on Mulberry Street. It is a quiet and pretty place to live. Something you should know about it is that during the summer you can hear a drummer. A place you should see on my street is a Triangle Park because it is a fun place. You can play a lot of games like tag, catch and capture the flag.

by Avi

My neighborhood is called Park-Meigs. I live on South Goodman St. It is a exciting and fun place to live. Something you should know about my neighborhood is it is called the neighborhood of the arts and GCCS is part of our neighborhood. A place you have to see when visiting my neighborhood is the Memorial Art Gallery because it is part of our neighborhood of the Arts and symbolizes the artistic nature of the neighborhood.

By Tommy

I live near Monroe Ave on Edmonds Street. Edmonds Street is a good because we have stores. We have the Strong National Museum of Play nearby. You should visit the Rite Aid near Edmonds Street. You can get stuff you need. Because the Rite Aid has stuff that you need.

By Sean

My neighborhood is called Arnold Park neighborhood. I live on Arnold Park and it's a kind of busy but quiet place to live. Something you should know about my neighborhood is my day care is right on my street and so is the Zen Center. A place you have to see when visiting my neighborhood is my day care on Arnold Park because you should see how many kids there are. Something I do at my day care is lots of arts and crafts like making little Santa Clauses.

By Catherine

My neighborhood is called the South East. I live at on Laburnam Crescent. It is a quiet and windy place to live. Something you should know about my neighborhood is it is very popular in summer and is very sandy from the baseball diamond across the street. A place you have to see if you come to visit my neighborhood is Highland Park and Pinnacle Hill because in the summer both are beautiful at dusk.

By Giacomo

My neighborhood is called the South Wedge. I live on Nicholson St. It is a comfortable, fun, and wonderful place to live. Something you should know about my neighborhood is it is full of people to play and have fun. There are also parents who help you if no one is home. A place you have to see in my neighborhood is Beale Street Cafe at 695 South Avenue because there is great food and great service!

By Samantha

ROCHESTER'S NEIGHBORHOODS: SOUTHEAST

ROCHESTER'S NEIGHBORHOODS: NORTHWEST

My street is called Collingwood Dr. It is an exciting and fun place to live. Something you should know about my street is that a lot of people on my street go to G.C.C.S. Two places you have to see when visiting my street are the zoo and my tree house. At the zoo you can see endangered animals. Plus my tree house is a cool thing!

By Reid

I live on Flower City Park. My neighborhood is Loud and bad because it is noisy and it keeps you up at night. There is a church next door and you can hear the piano play. In my back yard I can play hockey, football, soccer, dodgeball, lacrosse, and tennis.

By Blake

My neighborhood is called Maplewood. I live on Seneca Parkway. It's a peaceful but loud place to live. Something you should know about my neighborhood is that it's loud in the summer and peaceful in the winter. A place you have to see in my neighborhood is the Rose Garden on Lake Ave. You should visit the Rose Garden because in the summer you can see hundreds of beautiful roses like pink, red, white, and yellow.

by Aniela

My neighborhood is called Charlotte. I live on North Burley Rd. Rochester, NY, 14612. It is a quiet cul de sac place to live. Something you should know about my neighborhood is it backs up to the woods where you can see deer prancing through the backyard. A place you have to see when visiting my neighborhood is Ontario Beach – Beach Avenue because you can play in the sand, have picnics, go swimming, eat Abbotts ice cream and play on the playground.

by Brooke

My neighborhood is called Charlotte. I live on Lake Avenue. It isn't quiet when I'm around. It is a fun place to live well at least when I am around. Something you should know about my neighborhood is that there is a playground right up the street behind Charlotte High School. A place you have to see when visiting my neighborhood is Charlotte Beach because it is so fun.

By Demetrius

My neighborhood is called Seneca Parkway. My neighborhood can be very boring sometimes but not all the times. Something you should know about my neighborhood is it can be fun sometimes. A place you have to see when you visit my neighborhood is my house because it is a nice old house painted red and white.

By Emily

My neighborhood is called Kodak Park. I live on Merrill St. It is a very busy street. Something you should know about my neighborhood it is near a Kodak building. A place you have to see is the Genesee River because it's so close.

by Nick

My neighborhood is called Alameda St. My street is a fun and busy place. Something you should know about my street is that some houses are over 100 years old. One place you should see on my street is Nazareth Hall because Nazareth is the biggest building on my street.

By Caroline

The 19th Ward

My street is Trafalgar Street. It is a quiet, calm and wild place. Something you should know about my neighborhood is it used to be all farm. Also my dad use to be the president of the Community Association. A place you have to see when you are visiting my neighborhood is Aberdeen Square and Genesee Valley Park because there is a fair in Aberdeen Square and Genesee Valley Park is nice a place because of the river and lots of space.

By William

My neighborhood is called 19th Ward. I live on Penhurst Street. It is a quiet and a non-busy place to live. Something you should know about my neighborhood is that there aren't very many cars that go down my street. My street doesn't have a lot of houses, but a lot of dogs. A place you have to see when visiting my neighborhood is my house! Also the dogs on my street, because they're very fun to watch too.

By Diamond

My neighborhood is the 19th Ward. I live on Penhurst. It is a nice neighborhood. Something you should know about my neighborhood is we have a lot of cats and dogs. A place you have to see when visiting my neighborhood is my friend's house on Penhurst because I like the way his house looks.

By Damon

My neighborhood is called the 19th Ward. I live on Somerset Street. It is a wonderful and big place to live. Something you should know about my neighborhood is we have a lot of trees and houses. I live near Chili. A place you have to see when visiting my neighborhood is The Phyllis Weatley library because there are a lot of books there.

By Katera

ROCHESTER'S NEIGHBORHOODS: SOUTHWEST

ROCHESTER'S NEIGHBORHOODS: SUBURBS

GREECE

I live on Fielding Road next to Fetzner and West Ridge Road. Some thing you need to know about my street is it is very quiet and dead - almost boring. A place you can visit in my neighborhood is the Greece Mall on West Ridge Road because there are lots of stores, a food court, and a merry-go-round too.

By Brionna

GATES

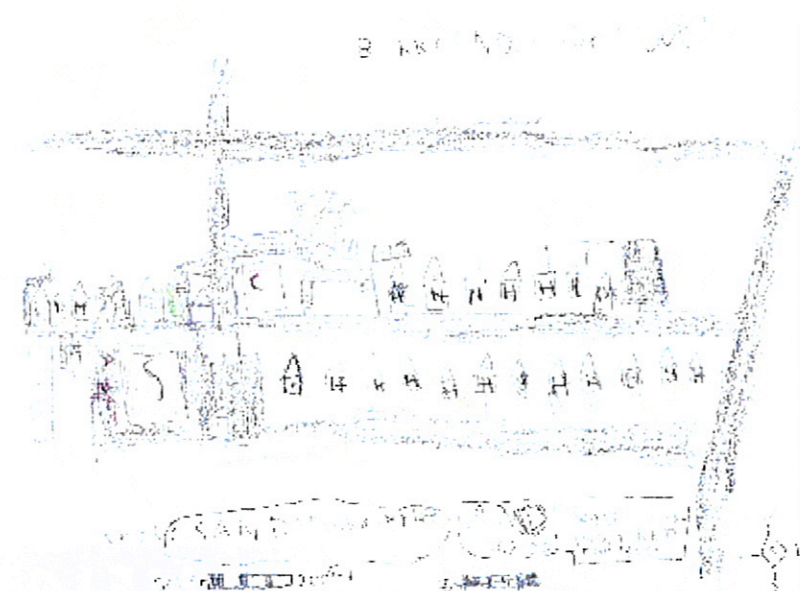
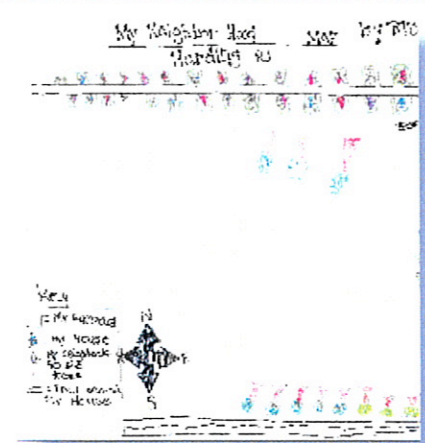
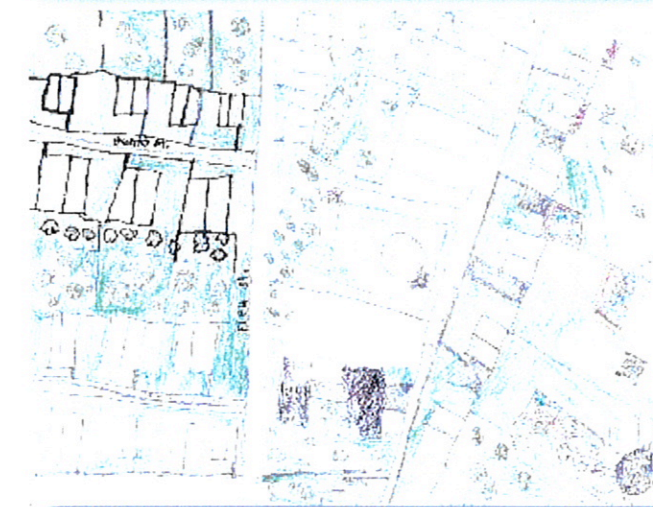
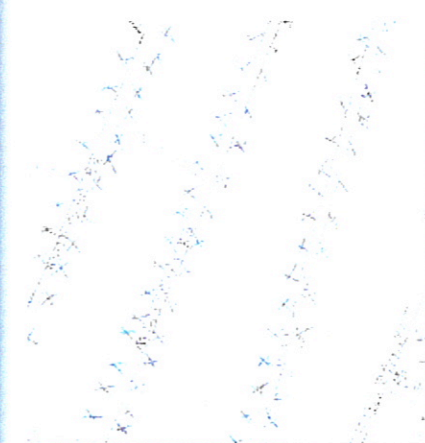
My neighborhood is called Buffalo Complex. I live on Buffalo Rd. in Gates. It is a quiet place and it is big place to live. Something you should know about my neighborhood is that it is a little boring sometimes. Also, I want you to know Tim Horton's has good food. A place you have to see when visiting my neighborhood is the florist shop in the plaza in front of Buffalo Complex. The Florist has good decorations and they mostly see all the stuff you need for the holidays.

By Victoria

BRIGHTON

My neighborhood is called Clover Crest. I live on Clover Street. It is a unexplored, friendly place to live. Something you should know about my neighborhood is that it is a new place and we don't know that many people here. A place you have to see when visiting my neighborhood is my pool.

By Will



OUR NEIGHBORHOODS, OUR MAPS