

Sala

There is an area on the Oswego County map-in the town of New Haven-designated as “Sala.”

This is a history of that name and place.

In 1838-Sala B. Read and his family moved to this area from Lisbon, Connecticut. They purchased about 172 acres here - on what is now known as 52 County Route 51. It was all a wilderness - just a mass of trees. For a while the family lived in a log cabin. There used to be a small hollow in the ground – in front of the present house and my grandmother would say “That is where the log cabin used to be.”

Sala B. Read lived only a few years, so it was up to his wife, Lydia and their oldest son, Sala Hamilton Read, to clear the land and build the present house (which still stands) and also a large barn, sap, house, carpenter shop and stone building (in which pigs were kept) – also a hen house. Those buildings are all gone now. He also built miles of stonewalls – dividing the area into mostly 10 acre lots – except the woods and pasture land.

Sala H. Read, married Martha Ann Millard from Mullin Hill – now known as the Hurlbut Road. They had 5 children – 3 dying at an early age.

Sala H. Read and Martha Ann were known as hard working prosperous farmers – the making of cheddar cheese from their own dairy – was their main source of income. Each Saturday they made the 10-mile trip to Oswego, by horse and wagon, to sell their cheese at stores there.

Family history says that Sala H. Read gave the corner lot (County Route 6 – Darrow Road – and County Route 51) for a schoolhouse to be built on. For many years, the Red School House on the hill was the center of the neighborhood. I can remember many teachers, a nurse, a licensed New York State pharmacist, military people of high rank, factory workers and farmers, all whom received their Grade 1-8 education, in that school. Classes were held there until 1939 – when it joined the MACS school district. This building burned in (about) 1984 perhaps from a lightning strike.

There was a post office at “Sala.” I have a letter addresses to Mrs. Sala Read – Sala, Oswego County, New York. Post marked 1900.

The office was held in the home of Mrs. Hannah Potter – who was postmistress. My mother, who was born in 1890 – said, when she was 10 years old, she used to walk to the Sala post office and get her mail. This was before Rural Free Delivery (R.F.D.). The Potter house was located about ½ mile – on now Route 51. It is now gone – but I do remember seeing the remains of a fallen down foundation – many years ago.

There are still same road signs of “Sala” – marking the intersection of County Route 51, County Route 6 and Darrow Road.

Several of Sala Read's descendants still live on the same land; he cleared and developed way back in the early 1800's – as area named "Sala," in his honor.

Ada Glenister