

Cayuga County: South

Locke

Fillmore Birthplace

Moravia

Cady House

Dubois House, Site of

Congregational (Methodist) Church

Stoyell House

Sempronius

Glen Haven

Millard Fillmore Log Cabin—Purported Birthplace Building
 (actual birthplace is in Town of Locke, off Route 90)
 Fillmore Glen
 Moravia, New York

Significance: Millard Fillmore, President of the U.S., 1849-52, signed the Fugitive Slave Law, September 17, 1850. Represents anti-abolitionist sentiment in central New York and the nation



February 2005

Looking east

Even in central New York, many people opposed the abolitionist movement, fearing it would lead to Civil War. President Millard Fillmore was one of these. Born nearby in Locke, New York, Fillmore married Abigail Powers from Moravia; moved to Buffalo, New York, to practice law; and in 1848 was elected Vice-president of the United States. When President Zachary Taylor died shortly after taking office, Millard Fillmore became President.

On September 18, 1850, as part of the Compromise of 1850, President Fillmore signed into law the Fugitive Slave Act. By the terms of this Act, Congress used the power of the federal government to maintain slavery wherever it existed. Those who helped people escape from slavery faced heavy fines—up to \$1000 for each offense plus six months in jail. Federal marshals

Sites Relating to the Underground Railroad, Abolitionism, African American Life

Sponsored by Auburn Historic Resources Review Board

Cayuga County Historian's Office

Funded by Preserve New York (Preservation League of NYS and NYS Council on the Arts)

Coordinated by Historical New York Research Associates

2004-05

must assist slave-catchers to capture accused runaways wherever they were found. Federal commissioners would hear each case, but an accused person could not testify in his or her own behalf. If the marshal found in favor of the slave catcher, he would receive \$10.00. If he ruled in favor of the accused, he would receive only \$5.00. Abolitionists called this a bribe. And it was.

As a result of the Fugitive Slave Act, African Americans throughout the North, whether officially free or not, feared for their safety. Many fled to Canada. Only after the successful rescue of William “Jerry” Henry in Syracuse in October 1851, and the subsequent trials of his accused rescuers—the first of which were held in the Cayuga County courthouse in Auburn—did many African Americans feel comfortable about returning to their homes in central New York.



Fillmore's Birthplace
Town of Locke
Looking northeast

Isaac Cady Tavern, c. 1807
33Main Street
Moravia, New York
Moravia Historic District—National Register

Significance: Underground Railroad safe house



February 2005
 Looking NE

Description: This tavern was built by Isaac Cady's father, Zadoc Cady, in place of the original log cabin, built in 1801. It was originally a five-bay central hallway Federal building, with twelve-over-eight windows and chimneys at either end of the building.

Significance: With John Stoyell, Isaac Cady represents the core of the Underground Railroad and abolitionist movement in Moravia, centered in the Congregational Church. Cady kept a tavern here, which was headquarters for a stage line between Ithaca and Auburn. From here, according to James A. Wright, *Moravia, 1791-1918*, James Stoyell and Isaac Cady took freedom seekers to

Skaneateles.¹ They may have taken people to the home of James Canning Fuller and Lydia Fuller, noted Underground Railroad agents in Skaneateles.²

In 1908, Sophia Wright Cady, Isaac Cady's widow, celebrated her 94th birthday. A report of the party in the *Auburn Citizen* noted that "many an evening a wagon left this place in the darkness with a negro hidden [?] beneath the blankets, bound for Skaneateles, whence the trip to Canada was made in safety. The punishment for aiding the colored man was very severe, but the work was regularly carried on and more than one colored man received his liberty."³

Both Sophia and Isaac Cady were members of the Congregational Church, where Isaac Cady was a leader of the choir and "stood side by side with Deacon John Stoyell on questions of church polity." Church members erected a memorial window to his memory.

In 1840, the tavern was the headquarters for the Whig Party's local campaign for "Tippecanoe and Tyler, Too." After Zadoc's death in 1846, Isaac Cady took over the business and ran the tavern as a temperance hotel.⁴

Research by Sheila Tucker, Cayuga County Historian.

¹ James A. Wright, *Moravia, 1791-1918*, 54-55; Robert Scarry, "Cady Tavern: Building Inventory Structure Form," Copy in Cayuga County Historian's Office.

² The Fuller home is on the National Register as part of the Historic Resources Related to the Underground Railroad, Abolitionism, and African American Life in Central New York.

³ *Auburn Citizen*, March 7, 1908.

⁴ [*Auburn Citizen*], June 8, 1872. Copy in Cayuga County Historian's Office; Richard Palmer, "Taverns Dotted the Road West," and "History on tap at old tavern," May 7, 1978, [newspaper articles, unknown newspaper], in vertical file, Cayuga County Historian's Office

Sites Relating to the Underground Railroad, Abolitionism, African American Life

Sponsored by Auburn Historic Resources Review Board

Cayuga County Historian's Office

Funded by Preserve New York (Preservation League of NYS and NYS Council on the Arts)

Coordinated by Historical New York Research Associates

2004-05

**Site of Store of Caesar Dubois
Corner Church and Main Streets
Moravia, New York**

Significance: Family born in slavery who became independent free people of color and property owners



February 2005
Looking SE

Caeser Dubois of Sempronius (later Moravia) was most likely born in slavery. In deeds dated April 15, 1826, and August 13, 1832, he purchased part of Lot 83 in the Town of Sempronius (later Moravia), and then bought a second lot in 1833, valued at \$300 in the 1850 census.⁵ When his will was recorded in 1857, he left his real and personal estate to Leonard Aiken of Moravia and listed the following heirs: Hannah Taylor of Auburn, Diana Prime of Owasco, Susan Van

⁵ Deed, Dudley Loomis to Caeser Dubois of Sempronius, 15 April 1826: Part of Lot # 83, in actual possession (of Dubois), beg at SW corner of Asaph Leonards west to Asa Little's, N to creek, SE along creek bank to West line of Asaph Leonard's to beginning., 32 rods; Deed, Caeser Dubois to Lorenzo Little, 13 August 1832: Same 32 rods as above described. Signed by Caeser's mark. 1850 U.S. census.

Schaik of Skaneateles, and two nieces, with no surviving widow.⁶ He was buried at Moravia Dry Creek Cemetery.

Caesar Dubois's daughter Diana Dubois married Richard Prime of Auburn. His daughter, Hannah, married James Taylor, and also moved to Auburn.⁷ Diana Prime listed herself as "Washerwoman" in 1859-60 city directory, living on Miller St. near the mill dam.⁸

⁶ Will recorded in County Records Book 32, p. 254, 29 Dec 1857.

⁷ Dubois Will.

⁸ *Boyd's Directory*, 1859-60.

Deed: Dudley Loomis to **Caeser Dubois**, both of Sempronius
Book P P, p. 345

15 April 1826
 \$16.00

In the actual possession of Caeser Dubois, part of Lot # 83. Beginning at the southwest corner of Asaph Leonards (John Leonard), west 1 chain, 79 links to Asa Little's west along Little's land 6 ½ rods to the creek, southeast along the creek bank to the west line of Asaph Leonard's land then southwest along Leonard's land to place of beginning.

Recorded 19 September 1832

 Deed: **Caeser Dubois** to Lorenzo Little
Book P P, p. 346

13 August 1832
 \$35.00

Part of Lot # 83. Beginning at the southwest corner of Asaph Leonards (John Leonard), west 1 chain, 79 links to Asa Little's west along Little's land 6 ½ rods to the creek, southeast along the creek bank to the west line of Asaph Leonard's land then southwest along Leonard's land to place of beginning.

Witness: Ebenezer Smith
 Signed Caeser X Dubois-his mark
 Recorded 19 September 1832

 Deed: Elias Branch to **Caeser Dubois**, both of Moravia
Book V V, p. 356

14 September 1833
 \$150.00

In the Town of Moravia, part of Lot #83 of Sempronius, now Moravia, it being a village lot. Beginning at the northeast corner of the village lot of Rowland Day on the south side of the highway and then running east to Henry Cutler's village lot, to the south to Isaac Cady's land thence west to the village lot of Rowland Day, then north on Day's east line to the place of beginning, being 59 rods of land, with appurtenances.

Witness: Ebenezer Smith
 Recorded 11 May 1835

Will: Caesar Duboise of Moravia

Petitioner: Leonard Aiken of Moravia, executor

Heirs:

1. Hannah Taylor of Auburn*
2. Diana Prime of Owasco*
3. Susan Van Schaik of Skaneateles*
4. Isabel Thorn & Catherine (illegible) of Oswego-nieces of the deceased.

He left no widow.

Will, dated 29 December 1857:

Proved, 5 February 1858

“I, Caesar Duboise of Moravia...being of sound mind and memory...do make this my last will and testimony.

1. I give all my real and personal estate to Leonard Aiken, executor, with full power to sell and dispose of same at private or public sale.
2. I direct my executor to purchase and erect at my grave, suitable grave stones.
3. Lastly, I direct him to pay over to Mrs. Sarah Wright*, wife of Justus Wright, the rest and residue of my estate.

Witness: Henry B. Hewitt of Moravia, “I witnessed the deceased making his mark to the will. Deceased requested me to become a subscribing witness to its execution, said deceased being under no restraint that he knew of.”

Witness: Samuel E. Day, with similar claim.

Notes:

***Diana Prime** is the wife of Richard Prime of Owasco. They appear in the 1840 (Genoa), 1850, (Owasco) and 1860-1870 census of Auburn.

***Sarah Wright**, wife of Justus Wright of Moravia. Justus Wright, son of Luther and Loraine Gibbs Wright, born 15 May 1798. No further information can be found other than an entry in the 1830 African-American census of Cayuga County showing a white family of Luther Wright possibly having 1 African-American girl under 10 living with them.

***Hannah Taylor** is likely the wife of Henry Taylor, freedom seeker born in Virginia. See the 1850 and 1855 census entry for Auburn in the African American census.

***Susan Van Schaik** is likely the wife of William Van Schaik of Skaneateles, (see 1850 census)

Research: Tanya Warren, Auburn, NY

Congregational Church (now Methodist)
Church Street
Moravia, New York
Moravia Historic District (National Register)

Significance: Strong abolitionist church



February 2005
 Looking southwest

Description: This Federal frame church with an octagonal double-tiered bell tower and delicate round-topped windows may have been patterned after a design in Asher Benjamin's *American Builder's Companion* (1827), which has a parapet evocative of the one on the façade of this church. Originally Congregational, this church is now a Methodist Church.

Significance: Like many Congregational churches in upstate New York, this one in Moravia became a center of abolitionist and Underground Railroad activity. According to James A. Wright, *Moravia, 1791-1918*, Deacon John Stoyell and choirmaster Isaac Cady were the most active members of the local Underground Railroad network. Cady kept a temperance tavern in Moravia, which was headquarters for a stage line between Ithaca and Auburn. From here, Stoyell and Cady took freedom seekers to Skaneateles.⁹ A memorial window in this church is dedicated to Cady's memory.¹⁰

The first abolitionist meeting in Moravia may have been held in February 1840 by William O. Duvall of Port Byron, who reported to the *Friend of Man* on March 12, 1840 that

Our next meeting was at Moravia, in the south-east part of the county, about 15 miles from Auburn. The audience here was large, attentive and respectable and though there are but a very few real, thorough abolitionists (and ours was the first meeting of the kind ever held in the town,) yet there are a good many who begin to “*apologize*” for abolitionism.¹¹

In 1853, William Harned, antislavery agent who was collecting bail for William Chaplin, (jailed in Maryland for attempting to free about 50 slaves from Washington, D.C.), reported that he had collected \$7.00 from Moravia. William J. Watkins, Assistant Editor of *Frederick Douglass' Paper*, spoke in Moravia, on May 14, 1854.¹²

Research in Congregational Church records for Moravia might well reveal more information about abolitionism in Moravia.

⁹ James A. Wright, *Moravia, 1791-1918*, 54-55; Robert Scarry, “Cady Tavern: Building Inventory Structure Form,” Copy in Cayuga County Historian's Office.

¹⁰ *Auburn Citizen*, March 7, 1908.

¹¹ W.O. Duvall to *Friend of Man*, Seneca Falls, March 12, 1840, printed in *Friend of Man*, April 1, 1840.

¹² *Frederick Douglass' Paper*, January 25, 1852; January 13, 1854; March 11, 1853; May 5, 1854; *The National Era*, May 5, 1853.

John Stoyell House
North Main Street
Moravia, New York
Part of Moravia Historic District—National Register [?]

Significance: Underground Railroad safe house



February 2005
 Looking northeast

Description: The Stoyell house is Federal house with central doorway flanked by two six-over-six windows on each side. It has two large chimneys that appear to serve two rooms on each side.

Significance: John Stoyell and his fellow church member Isaac Cady represent strong Congregationalists who committed their lives to abolitionism and the Underground Railroad. In the case of John Stoyell, his abolitionist commitment led him, at age 61, to join the Union Army and to die in Louisiana.

One clue to the Underground Railroad activity of both John Stoyell and Isaac Cady appeared in James A. Wright, *Moravia, 1791-1918*:

These were Abolitionist, [wrote Wright], known as John Stoyell and Isaac Cady, both prominent members of the Congregational Church. These men sheltered the slave by day and fed him by night and by private conveyance conveyed him to the next station, Skaneateles. These men drove their own teams. Sometimes concealing the fugitive under hay in the bottom of the wagon, and even the driver hiding his identity in various ways

from any chance acquaintances who might happen to be on the road. John Stoyell upon one occasion in the night time, near Kelloggsville with a fugitive concealed under hay in the wagon, actually passed a United State marshal and his assistant who were on the watch for this particular slave, and were really close upon his trail, without knowing it, but did not succeed, as the man reached Canada in safety.

These two citizens of Moravia kept their own counsel, were fearless, conscientious and intelligent, and in argument as well as action had few equals in Southern Cayuga. John Stoyell proved himself fearless in time of peril.¹³

They may have taken people to the home of James Canning Fuller and Lydia Fuller, noted Underground Railroad agents in Skaneateles.¹⁴

Born December 20, 1801, John Stoyell, Jr., was the son of John Stoyell, Sr, and his wife, the first white settlers in the Owasco Valley. Bouth father and son were deacons in the local Congegational Church. Local traditions about his abolitionist and Underground Railroad activity received support from several contemporary sources. Abolitionist agent J.R. Johnson confirmed Stoyall's abolitionist sympathies in newspaper references in 1852, when he noted that "Deacon John Stoyell of Morvaia, may appoint a meeting for me at Milan, Thursday evening, January 29th, and at Morvaia, Friday evening, 30th." In 1854, Frederick Douglass noted that Stoyell sent him a contribution of \$3.00. In 1853, William Harned, antislavery agent who was collecting bail for William Chaplin, (jailed in Maryland for attempting to free about 50 slaves from Washington, D.C.), reported that he had collected \$7.00 from Moravia. William J. Watkins, Assistant Editor of *Frederick Douglass' Paper*, spoke in Moravia, on Mary 14, 1854.¹⁵

Athough Stoyell was sixty years old when the Civil War broke out, after McClellan had been driven back from Richmond, Stoyell joined Captain Jewett's Co. F of the 160th Regiment, New York State Volunteers as a common soldier. Supposedly, he walked all the way to Auburn to join his regiment, refusing a ride. His obituary noted that, "when asked by one of his friends if he would like a commission, he very quietly answered, 'I can accomplish more with a gun.'" He was sent with his company to New Orleans, where he died on July 5, 1863, of dysentery, aged sixty-one. "While with the Co." noted his obituary, "was looked upon by his Officers as a father, and loved by the men as a friend."

For years he was known throughout the country as man of strong anti-slavery sentiments and his house was literally a refuge for the down trodden and oppressed as they journeyed from the bondage of Virginia and farther south to the freedom of Canada. He showered his blessing alike upon the white man and the black, and reaped his reward in the sweet consciousness that he had 'done unto others as he would that they should do unto him.' He had grown up with the country, helped establish its institutions, and had been protected by its laws, and when the attempt was made to destroy it and wipe out

¹³ James A. Wright, *Moravia, 1791-1918*, 54-55.

¹⁴ The Fuller home is on the National Register as part of the Historic Resources Related to the Underground Railroad, Abolitionism, and African American Life in Central New York.

¹⁵ *Frederick Douglass' Paper*, January 25, 1852; January 13, 1854; March 11, 1853; May 5, 1854; *The National Era*, May 5, 1853.

forever from the earth the liberties established by the fathers, he contributed liberally of his means to aid the cause.¹⁶

Ultimately, he gave his life. "He was," read his obituary, "one of the last links between the present and the past of our Valley."

Robert Scarry identified this house on North Main Street as the John Stoyell house.¹⁷

Research by Sheila Tucker, Cayuga County Historian.

¹⁶"Died." [Obituary, John Stoyell, Auburn Advertiser, 1863]. Found by Sheila Tucker.

¹⁷ Robert Scarry, "Building Structure Inventory Form," Owasco Lake Historical Society, copy in Cayuga County Historian's Office.

**Site of Glen Haven Water Cure
North Glen Haven Road
Southwest end of Skaneateles Lake
Town of Sempronius**

Significance: Water Cure operated by James C. Jackson, Lucretia Jackson, William C. Chaplin, and Theodosia Gilbert, abolitionists. Chaplin was involved in at least two nationally-publicized Underground Railroad events.

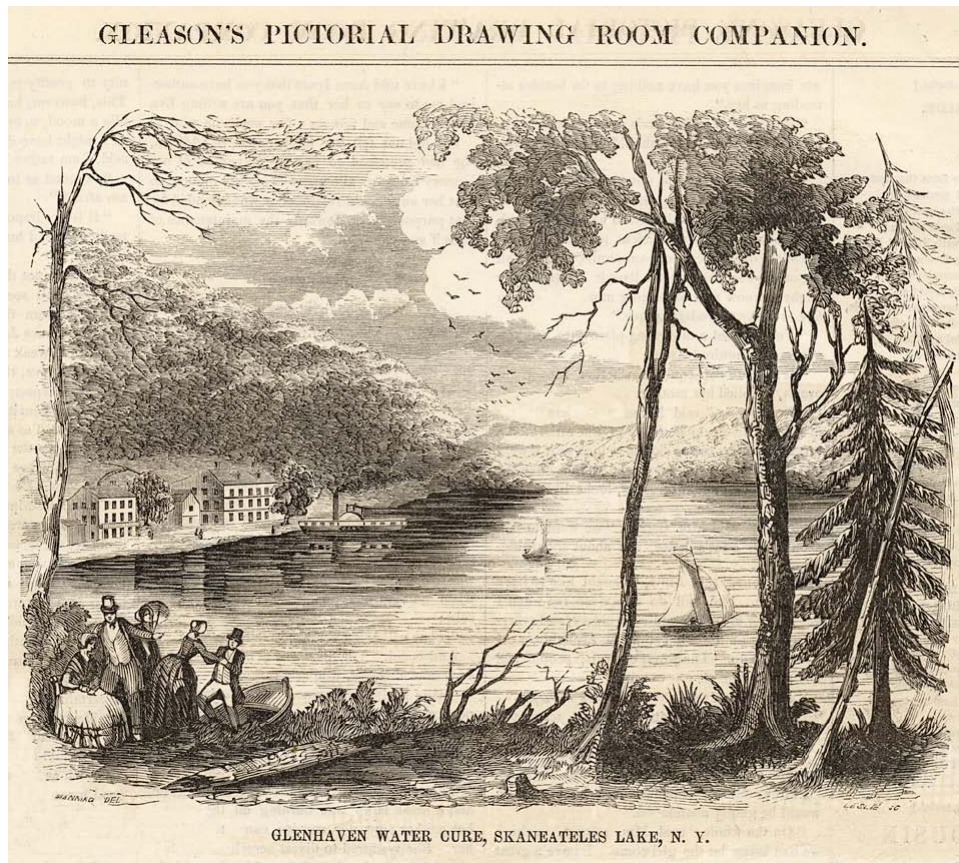


Southwest corner of Skaneateles Lake, looking southwest
Approximate site of Glen Haven Water Cure, south of current sign
Photo by Paul Malo, July 2005



Sign in front of 1822 North Glen Haven Road

Signs reads: "New York. Site of Glen Haven house which in 1945 was converted to Glen Haven Sanitarium. Destroyed to protect Syracuse Water Supply. State Education Department. 19???"





Map of Cayuga County, 1853.

Glen Haven Water Cure, although today only a wooded site along the west shore of Skaneateles Lake, was in the 1850s a major center for alternative medical treatment, frequented by abolitionists, woman's rights activists, and dress reformers, and operated by two noted abolitionist and Underground Railroad families: James C. Jackson was former abolitionist lecturer and editor of the *Liberty Press*, and William Chaplin was lecturer, editor of the *Albany Patriot*, jailed in Maryland for his Underground Railroad activities. They operated Glen Haven as a water cure, the nineteenth century equivalent of a spa, with their wives Lucretia Brewster Jackson and Theodosia Gilbert Chaplin.

James C. Jackson, known as the "farm boy speaker," abolitionized his section of Oswego County before Gerrit Smith brought him to Peterboro as lecturer and editor of the *Liberty Press*. He later became an antislavery lecturer in Massachusetts before turning to medicine, operating first the Glen Haven Water Cure and then the nationally-famous Dansville Water Cure. William Chaplin, also part of Gerrit Smith's circle, became a member of the Albany Vigilance Committee. After Charles Torrey, editor of the *Albany Patriot*, died in a Maryland prison in 1846 for his Underground Railroad work, Chaplin took his place, both as editor and as Underground Railroad operative in the Washington, D.C. area.

Sites Relating to the Underground Railroad, Abolitionism, African American Life
 Sponsored by Auburn Historic Resources Review Board
 Cayuga County Historian's Office
 Funded by Preserve New York (Preservation League of NYS and NYS Council on the Arts)
 Coordinated by Historical New York Research Associates
 2004-05

In 1848, Chaplin helped organize the famous attempt to free 77 people from slavery in Washington, D.C., on a ship called the *Pearl*. BeCALMED by a storm, they were all caught and returned to slavery. Among them were two sisters, Mary and Emily Edmondson, whose plight attracted the attention of abolitionists throughout the North. Freed with the help of their father, Paul Edmondson, and donations from northern abolitionists, especially those from Plymouth Church in Brooklyn, they attended New York Central College before going on to Oberlin in Ohio. Attempting to free two more people from slavery in 1850, Chaplin was caught in an unexpected gun battle and jailed in Maryland with bail set at \$20,000.

A convention met in August 1850 in Cazenovia, New York, to protest the Fugitive Slave Act. They heard a report from Theodosia Gilbert, Chaplin's fiancé, and J.C. Hathaway, Quaker abolitionist from Farmington, who had visited Chaplin in jail, and they took steps to raise money for Chaplin's bail. Chair of the committee was James C. Jackson of Glen Haven. Jackson wrote an impassioned plea, printed in the *North Star* the following month:

Glorious man! faithful Christian! noble representative of freedom! Yours shall be a prophecy that shall have speedy fulfillment, if the spirit of liberty and justice among the abolitionists and in our court of law has not utterly perished. Come, then, men, women, and children! Come Whig, come Democrat, come all, without reference to sect, sex, or party, come to this noble man's defence and deliverance, open your purses and pour out your money. He is the impersonation of this Cause, its most prominent representative. In him, Slavery strikes at all of us. In him it maddens our cause. At the Cazenovia Convention a Committee of twenty-five was chosen, consisting of prominent men over the Free States.

James C. Jackson, of Glen Haven Water Cure is Chairman; Samuel J. May and Charles A. Wheaton, of Syracuse, Secretaries; Gerrit Smith, of Peterboro, Treasurer.

Persons are appointed to visit different sections of the Free States, and collect the sum of \$20,000, to protect him. This money must be had in thirty days. Will you not bestow your silver? Oh, you will I know, or freedom is but a name and your love for it a shadow. Small sums, and when the sums are large certificates of deposit may be transmitted either to Gerrit Smith, Peterboro, or to James C. Jackson, Samuel J. May, or Clarke A. Wheaton, Syracuse, N.Y.¹⁸

Ezra Greenleaf Weld, brother of noted abolitionist Theodore Weld, took a famous daguerreotype, perhaps to send to William Chaplin in his jail cell as a remembrance. Only two copies are known to exist, one in the Madison County Historical Society and one in the Getty Museum. Gerrit Smith stands tall in the center of the photo, flanked by Frederick Douglass and the Edmondson sisters (in plaid dresses), with Theodosia Gilbert sitting in the center.¹⁹

Sympathizers everywhere across the North collected money for the Chaplin bail fund. In Cayuga County, Wm. R. Smith, E. M. K. Glen, E. W. Clark, Ames Baker, Samuel J. May, George Bradburn and the Edmondson sisters held meetings in Port Byron, Auburn, Ledyard, Northville,

¹⁸ *North Star*, September 5, 1850.

¹⁹ Hugh Humphreys, *Agitate! Agitate! Agitate!: The Great Fugitive Slave Law Convention and Its Rare Daguerreotype* (Madison County Historical Society: Madison County Heritage, 1994).

Sites Relating to the Underground Railroad, Abolitionism, African American Life

Sponsored by Auburn Historic Resources Review Board

Cayuga County Historian's Office

Funded by Preserve New York (Preservation League of NYS and NYS Council on the Arts)

Coordinated by Historical New York Research Associates

Scipio, and Union Springs. Emily Howland remembered that she was in charge of collecting funds in the North Street Meetinghouse in Sherwood, New York. Gerrit Smith donated the last several thousand dollars so that Chaplin could go free.²⁰

Everyone expected that Chaplin would quickly raise funds on the lecture circuit to pay back at least his largest contributors, but his health seem broken by his experience. He joined the Jacksons and Theodosia Gilbert at Glen Haven Water Cure, where he and Theodosia were married in 1851. A guest at the hotel, who signed her/his name only "Undine," wrote an account of the ceremony for *Frederick Douglass' Paper*:

From a conversation which I accidentally overheard, I learned these facts. It was the wish of Mr. Chaplin and Miss Gilbert to have all their friends present on this occasion, especially those whom Mr. Chaplin has been the instrument of delivering from a worse than Egyptian bondage. But their name is Legion, and as the house is full of patients, it was impossible to entertain these and others whose long-trying affections gave them a sort of right to witness a ceremony in which Mr. Chaplin had so deep an interest. It became necessary, therefore, to give no invitations. At two o'clock the large family of Dr. Jackson assembled in the parlor, and in a few moments the groom and bride presented themselves. When they had taken their places, Mr. Chaplin said: "My friends, we have come before you today to celebrate the marriage rite. In all civilized communities, the outward ceremony is recognized, and it is fit and proper that it should be so. but this ceremonial does not of itself constitute true marriage; if there were nothing more, the outward form would be a mere dead letter. There is a marriage of the soul which must be consummated before these vows are publicly assumed. That marriage we have already realized in some degree by anticipation, and we stand before you now, to take upon ourselves these vows, and solemnly to promise, in the presence of God, that we will perform the duties and meet the responsibilities which they impose with unchanging fidelity and love towards each other." When Mr. Chaplin had ended, prayer was offered by Mr. Joy of Ludlowville. Immediately after, Miss Elizabeth J. Smith, on behalf of the "Chaplin Pitcher Committee," presented to Mr. Chaplin a silver pitcher, with these words: "Mr. Chaplin, it gives me great pleasure to have the honor of presenting to you this pitcher, in the name of one thousand of your friends. Accept it with the congratulations and blessings of all who are present, as well as of those who are absent. And let it ever be a memorial of their confidence and their gratitude to your devotions to the cause of God and of humanity. In the accompanying book you will find recorded the names and residences of the donors." - Mr. Chaplin responded very handsomely, though briefly: "He could not but feel unworthy of such a testimonial; but coming as it did from one thousand of his friends, who thereby signified their approval of an act which had left him in a small minority of his countrymen, he could not express the deep gratitude which he felt towards them. He would make no attempt to justify the act, but he would say that were he placed again in the same circumstances, he would not hesitate a moment to repeat it, though life in the Penitentiary, or death itself were to be the consequence."

Mr. and Mrs. Chaplin then received the congratulations of their friends, and the bell of the steamer "Homer," which lay puffing at the wharf, giving the signal for departure, farewells were spoken, and they left the Glen. I have given you but a faint idea of the

²⁰ *The North Star*, September 5, 1850; Emily Howland to Caroline Putnam, 1908.

Sites Relating to the Underground Railroad, Abolitionism, African American Life

Sponsored by Auburn Historic Resources Review Board

Cayuga County Historian's Office

Funded by Preserve New York (Preservation League of NYS and NYS Council on the Arts)

Coordinated by Historical New York Research Associates

2004-05

impressiveness and beauty of this marriage scene. Its solemnity affected the hearts of all present, and many afterwards remarked that the simple eloquence of Mr. Chaplin would linger in their memory forever. UNDINE.²¹

Glen Haven Water Cure proved to be a major success. It was advertised widely, particularly in reform newspapers. Typical descriptions included those such as C.W. G.'s in May 1852:

DEAR FRIEND: - Many of your readers have heard of Glen Haven, the beautiful site of the successful Water Cure Establishment of Dr. J.C. Jackson & Co. The very name is pleasant to the ear, and suggests thoughts of shady walks, cool retreats, and running waters. Nor does the reality in any respect disappoint the anticipation. Nature did her best when she made this delightful retreat for invalids. The forests are so cool and shady, the air so pure, the water so soft, the sunshine so bright, the lake so lovely, the hills so smiling, the "Cure" so comfortable, the "treatment" so agreeable, and Dr. and Mrs. Jackson so kind and attentive, that one might almost be willing to be ill for the sake of being ministered to under such favorable circumstances.

The Cure, this spring has undergone thorough repairs. The rooms are all newly papered, painted and carpeted, and are as neat and inviting in appearance as an invalid could desire to see. Two boats are furnished for the use of the patients upon the lake. - The steamboat, Homer, will, in a week, commence its daily trips from Skaneateles to the Glen.

The reputation of the Glen Haven Water Cure was never higher than now. Patients come from the east and the west, from the north and the south to bathe in its purifying waters and be healed of their diseases, and none come wholly in vain. During the entire winter, there were between twenty and thirty patients, to whom the treatment proved quite as agreeable and beneficial as during the warm season, though the prevalent opinion is that one must necessarily find it disagreeable in cold weather. The prospects for the coming season are very fair, at no time since the cure first opened have they been more so.²²

Theodosia Gilbert and William Chaplin had two children before Theodosia's death, perhaps in childbirth, in 1855.

The site of the arrest of William Chaplin in 1850 in Montgomery, Maryland, has recently been listed on the NPS's Network to Freedom trail.

For more information on the Jacksons and the Gilberts, see:

Stanley Harrold. *Subversives: Antislavery Community in Washington, D.C., 1828-1865*. Antislavery, Abolition, and the Atlantic World Series. Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 2003.

Milton Sernett, *North Star Country*. Syracuse: Syracuse University Press, 2003.

²¹ Undine, *Frederick Douglass' Paper*, Coral Grove, August 13, 1851.

²² C.W.G., May 5, 1852, *Frederick Douglass' Paper*, May 27, 1852.

Sites Relating to the Underground Railroad, Abolitionism, African American Life
Sponsored by Auburn Historic Resources Review Board
Cayuga County Historian's Office

Funded by Preserve New York (Preservation League of NYS and NYS Council on the Arts)
Coordinated by Historical New York Research Associates

Sites Relating to the Underground Railroad, Abolitionism, African American Life
Sponsored by Auburn Historic Resources Review Board
Cayuga County Historian's Office
Funded by Preserve New York (Preservation League of NYS and NYS Council on the Arts)
Coordinated by Historical New York Research Associates
2004-05