

concrete. There is one example of a more elaborate cast iron model. Molten iron can be molded into almost any form and this allowed a wide range of decorative patterns to be made available to the American public. An entire industry rose around the decorative cast iron hitching post.

The village also has a number of posts and steps carved from Medina sandstone, a locally quarried stone used the world over for decorative stonework. With that influence comes a whole history of immigrant stonecutters who worked the stone, and the Erie Canal where it was ferried to ports along its route.

Over time simple horse mounting blocks evolved into more elaborate carriage steps. Blocks consisting of two steps, sometimes with a hand rail or a recessed area for an engraving of the owners name are seen in front of several of our village homes. Many of these belonged to prominent residents, the Seeleys, Delands and Potters, to name just a few.

The Historic Structures Committee is dedicated to identifying and educating the public about the unique and venerable historic structures in Perinton.

We invite you to enjoy this self-guided tour to see these wonderful relics of our past. Some artifacts, like the hitching post at 187 South Main are not visible from the public walkway.

While you are in the neighborhood stop by the Fairport Historical Museum at 18 Perrin Street. See hours below.



Cover: Early photo of 58 Roselawn. Hitching post relocated to 53 Roselawn Avenue.



Fairport Historical Museum

☿ Museum Hours of Operation:

Tuesday 2-4 p.m.

Thursday 7-9 p.m.

Saturday 10 a.m. - noon

Sunday 2-4 p.m.

Closed January and February

☿ Contact Information:

Fairport Historical Museum

18 Perrin Street

Fairport, New York 14450

Phone: 585-223-3989

www.PerintonHistoricalSociety.org

Hitching Posts & Mounting Blocks in the

Village of Fairport

Self-guided Tour

*Prepared by the
Perinton Historical Society
Historic Structures Committee*



Preserving History Today for Tomorrow

The Perinton Historical Society Historic Structures Committee invites you to take a self-guided tour of hitching posts and mounting blocks(carriage steps) in the village of Fairport.

The Committee walked the village for visual sightings in order to inventory and photograph all the remaining hitching posts and mounting blocks. The public was enlisted to assist in finding these



Locations of Artifacts

The following artifacts are located in the southwest area of the Village:

- 1 East Church St. - mounting block (medina sandstone), 2 hitching posts (medina sandstone on concrete)
- 10 East Church St. - mounting block (medina sandstone)
- 25 George St. - mounting block, hitching post (sandstone)
- 106 Hulburt Ave. - mounting block (medina sandstone) not visible from walkway
- 6 Perrin St. - hitching post (limestone)
- 53 Roselawn Ave. - mounting block inscribed Silver, 2 hitching posts (concrete)
- 98 Roselawn Ave. - 2 step mounting block (medina sandstone)
- 76 South Main St. - hitching post (concrete)
- 138 South Main St. - hitching post (medina sandstone)
- 187 South Main St. - hitching post
- 200 South Main St. - mounting block - not visible from walkway
- 249 South Main St. - mounting block, part of porch foundation
- 61- 63 West Ave. - mounting block (limestone)

Hitching Posts & Mounting Blocks in the Village of Fairport

artifacts, especially the ones not visible from the street.

This effort was undertaken to encourage preservation of, and to educate residents about these artifacts of days gone by.

Few communities have as large a collection of steps and posts as Fairport. Having said that, we know many more

graced our streets at one time. The 19th century was the great age of horse-drawn transportation. Americans were on the move in wagons, coaches, shays, sleighs, and on horseback.

During the last century hitching posts and mounting steps were a common visual item in American and European cities, towns

and villages and a common feature of inns, churches, farms and country houses where they were once almost an obligatory feature.

Fairport is very fortunate to have over 25 locations with these artifacts still standing. You will find several locations with multiple examples.

Most of the village hitching posts are rather simple pillar style structures cast from

Continued on back page ...



Locations continued...

- 68 West Ave. - mounting block (medina sandstone) on Beardsley side
- 83 West Ave. - 2 step mounting block, 2 hitching posts (limestone)
- 111 West Ave. - mounting block (marble) inscribed Hitchcock
- 112 West Ave - block with ring (marble, iron)
- 120 West Ave. - hitching post (marble)
- 155 West Ave. - mounting block (marble)
- 53 West Church St. - mounting block (limestone)
- 54 West Church St. - hitching post (medina sandstone) on West St. side of property
- 106 West Church St. - hitching post (concrete)
- 182 West Church St. - hitching post (cast iron)
- 8 West St. - mounting block (medina sandstone)
- 36 West St. - mounting block (marble) inscribed J. Duncan
- 42 West St. - mounting block (stone)
- 22 West St. - hitching post (concrete)
- 30 West St. - mounting block (concrete)
- 31 West St. - curb ring (iron)

The following artifact is located in the northeast area of the Village (not shown):

- 26 East St.-mounting block (concrete)

