

Town of Morristown, NY

Morristown, Brier Hills, Black Lake

Notes from Joanne Marcelletta, Town Historian

Brier Hill - Mid 1920



Here is a photo of Brier Hill taken in the mid-1920s. I used a magnifying glass to read the signs. Walter Kastner's is on the left with "The Shady Nook" sign promoting a quick lunch, rooms and baths. A folding sign board for "Boyers Velvet Ice Cream" (made in Ogdensburg) stands on the sidewalk. A small sign over the last door leads to the post office. The gas pumps are S.O.CO.NY, which stands for Standard Oil Company of New York...the dominant gasoline company in our area.

Mr. Kastner operated this business for 32 years and was postmaster for 27 before retiring in 1952. He died later that same year at the age of 62. Russell Spotswood operated the business there after.

Across the street is the International Harvester owned by Byron Carter and son. They sold farming machinery. This building was originally the Union Church built in 1847. Mr. Carter, a former blacksmith and wheelwright, moved the church closer to the road and changed businesses keeping up with the times. The building still stands next to the cemetery.

It may be hard to see, but there's another small white sign further up the road on the left stating; "Meals, Rooms, Baths, and Cabins". I may have dreamed this, but does anyone else remember cabins in the general area of where Ray and Snookie Langtry live now?

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