

Early Milton Village



The Birth of Main Street

In 1788 Judge Noah Smith, Milton's first lawyer, acquired the original rights for 6 land parcels in Milton. He eventually owned most of the land in the village of Milton Falls. A public-spirited man, Judge Smith donated land for the "East-West Road" (Main Street), an acre for the Village Cemetery and a building with surrounding land for the first Town church (Congregational).

Where Joseph Went, the Town Followed

In 1816, Joseph Clark, Milton's most prominent benefactor, arrived in West Milton, about 5 miles downstream from here on the Lamoille River. He became successful with lumbering, trading, mills, factories and real-estate for over fifty years. In 1837, Clark moved to Milton Falls where he built an elegant brick residence, office building and townhouse. In 1850 he used his influence to gain a station stop in Milton on the newly-formed Vermont & Canada Railroad. This linked Milton to New England cities, Canada and the Great Lakes and brought increasing prosperity. As you view Main Street, with its many historic buildings, imagine an earlier community bustling with townspeople trading, worshipping and socializing.

The Milton Historical Museum

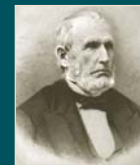
Do you want to learn about 200 years of Milton's past, from early lumbering and farming to the present? Visit the Milton Historical Museum, established in 2001 in the former Trinity Episcopal Church on School Street (see map). A Soldiers Monument, honoring the 200 Milton men who served during the Civil War, is located on site.



Milton Falls Village in 1840, looking east.



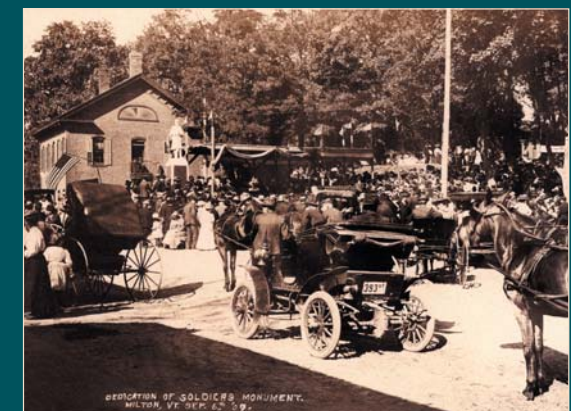
Milton Historical Museum on School Street.



Joseph Clark, mid-1870s.



Built in 1835, the Joseph Clark residence on lower Main Street was deeded to the town in 1919. Known as the Clark Memorial Building, it housed the town offices until 1994.



Over 2,000 people attended the Civil War Soldiers Monument dedication in 1909. The monument is now located at the Milton Historical Museum on School Street.

Milton Historical Society

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