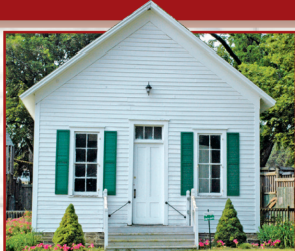


## Historic Sites

### Kelloggs Corners Schoolhouse

This is one of the few one-room schoolhouses built in Newfield that exists today. It was originally built in 1887 on Van Kirk Road north of Kelloggs Corners.



The schoolhouse is currently located on the front lawn of the Newfield Central School campus on Main Street. The town's first log schoolhouse was built in the early 19th century. Newfield had about two dozen school districts to accommodate children spread over the town's large, hilly terrain. The exact number of districts and schoolhouses is not known.

### Trumbulls Corners

The small hamlet in the northern part of the town was settled in 1813 by brothers Jacob and James Trumbull and their families. The First Christian Church was organized in Trumbulls Corners in 1854. In 1946, after the nearby Methodist Church was destroyed by fire, the two congregations combined to form the Trumbulls Corners Community Church, 628 Trumbulls Corners Road.



### Newfield Public Library

198 Main St. The Italianate-style building was originally built for the Grange. It is now used by the Newfield Public Library and the local history archives. Library

hours: 2–8 p.m., Monday–Thursday, 10 a.m.–2 p.m., Saturday. The Newfield Historical Society on the second floor is open by appointment. Call 607-564-3594.

## Census

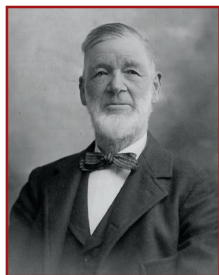
Like many Tompkins County communities, Newfield's population rose in the early 19th century and then declined. The town's population did not surpass its 1850 population of 3,815 until the last quarter of the 20th century.

Town of Newfield	Tompkins County
1850: 3,815	38,746
1920: 1,456	35,285
1960: 2,193	66,097
2010: 5,179	101,624

## Residents of Note

### Nellie E. Ryding (1872-1953)

Was Newfield's only female photographer who began her career at 15. She supported herself and her mother with her photography, and later opened a studio in Tully, N.Y. She moved to Buffalo after her 1902 marriage and gave up her photographic career. Some of her photos are archived at Yale University.



### Percival S. Dudley (1824-1903)

Began his career buying and running a mercantile store from 1848 to 1859 and became a prominent Newfield businessman. Following Newfield's devastating 1875 fire, he built the Dudley Block for his business. He also ran two flouring mills for about 20 years. He was an investor; a Mason, a member of the King Hiram Lodge and a town supervisor.

## Cemeteries

### Newfield Village Cemetery

Bank Street. Located in village. It is the oldest public cemetery in the town.

### Sebring Corners Cemetery

Trumbulls Corners Road.

### Trumbulls Corners Cemetery

Millard Hill Road.

### Woodlawn Cemetery

Main Street, Newfield. There are many inactive small cemeteries and family plots in the town. For details <http://newfieldhistoricalsociety.org/>



## For more local history:

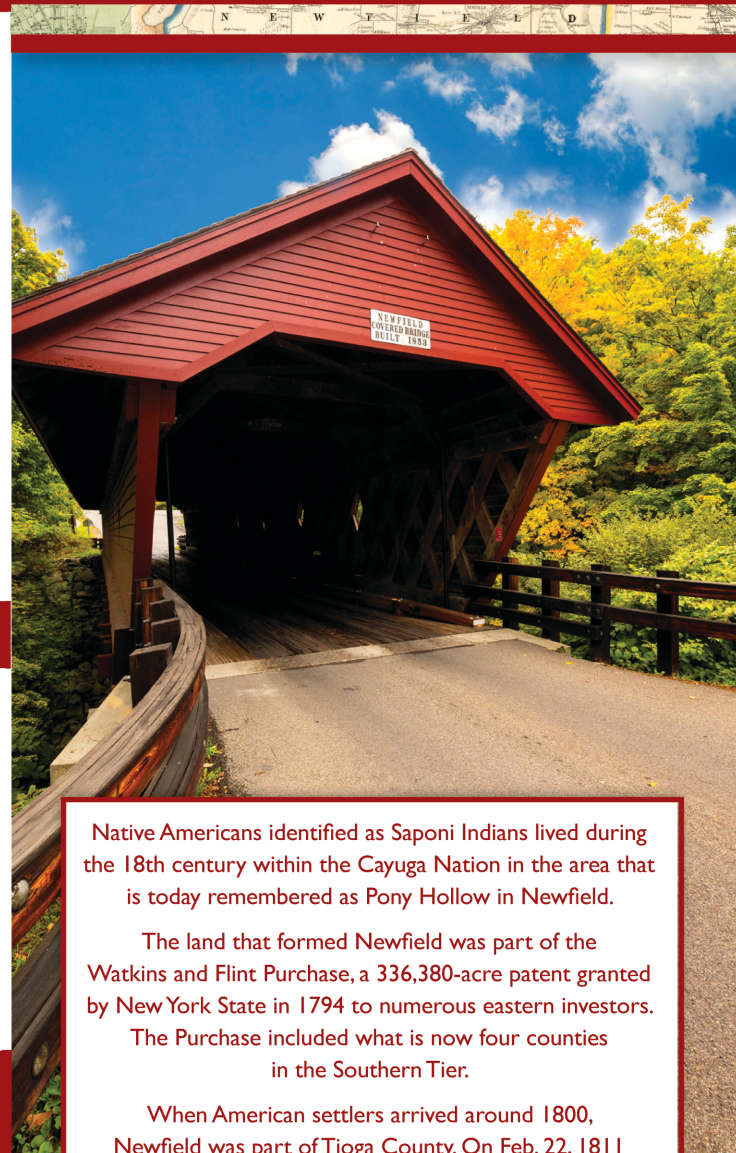
- <http://www.nytopmki.org/tcem.htm>
- <http://www.tompkinscountyny.gov/historian>
- <http://www.thehistorycenter.net/>

Text: Alan Chaffee, Town of Newfield Historian and Rosemary Rowland, Deputy Historian. Design/production: Allison Kaiser. Cover photo: Adam

Baker. Editing: Bruce Estes, Carol Kammen. The Tompkins County Bicentennial Commission sponsored city and town history brochures to commemorate the county's 200th anniversary in 2017.



## Town of Newfield



Native Americans identified as Saponi Indians lived during the 18th century within the Cayuga Nation in the area that is today remembered as Pony Hollow in Newfield.

The land that formed Newfield was part of the Watkins and Flint Purchase, a 336,380-acre patent granted by New York State in 1794 to numerous eastern investors.

The Purchase included what is now four counties in the Southern Tier.


When American settlers arrived around 1800, Newfield was part of Tioga County. On Feb. 22, 1811 the towns of Cayuta (Newfield's former name), Danby and Caroline were formed out of the Town of Spencer. On March 22, 1822 Cayuta was annexed to Tompkins County, and a week later changed its name to Newfield. It was added to Tompkins County in 1823.



# Newfield Points of Interest



**Newfield Hotel (c.1876)**  
182 Main St. Theodore Roosevelt visited in 1910 and spoke about farming to Newfield residents from the hotel's balcony. He also attended a picnic that day at Van Kirk and Irish Hill roads where a new history marker commemorates that event.

**King Bowstring Arch Bridge**   
222 Main St. Built in 1873 by the the King Iron Bridge & Manufacturing Co. of Cleveland, Ohio, the 60-foot-long bridge is one of only five of its kind left in New York State.



**Presbyterian Meeting House**  
10 Shaffer Road. Built in 1832, this Greek Revival style building was the First Presbyterian Church of Newfield. It is the only original church edifice remaining in the hamlet. After 1910, it was used as the Odd Fellows Lodge and for community events. In 1984 it was turned into apartments.



**Greensprings Natural Cemetery Preserve**  
293 Irish Hill Road. Greensprings was founded in 2006 to offer ecologically sound burial options and a natural return to the earth. The cemetery preserve is on 130 acres of rolling hilltop meadows bounded by state forests.



Rose-breasted Grosbeaks are year-round resident birds in Newfield. Photo by David Brezinski, Cornell Ornithology Lab.

**Early 1800s**  
The hamlet of Newfield, originally called Florence, was formed near the West Branch of the Cayuga Inlet.

**1809** First saw mill was built on the West Branch of Cayuga Inlet in the hamlet of Newfield. A grist mill for grinding grain followed in 1811. By 1836 Newfield's mills were producing a variety of food, cloth and lumber products.

**1852** A plank road built connecting Newfield to Ithaca. The road later becomes NYS Route 13.

**1854** The western most part of Newfield was added to the Town of Catharine when Schuyler County was formed.

**1860-65**



Capt. Joseph Gregg joined hundreds of Newfield men to fight in the Civil War. He was 26 when he led a bayonet charge at Gettysburg and was fatally injured. He is buried at Newfield Village Cemetery.

**1870**  
A secondary public school established in the hamlet of Newfield.

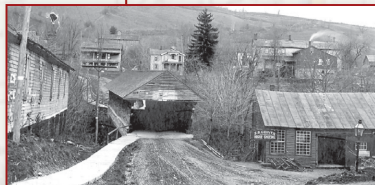


**1930s**  
The federal and state governments purchased thousands of acres of abandoned farmland in Newfield to use for reforestation and wildlife conservation.

**Late 1930s**  
Voters approve a central school district. About 20 small schools were consolidated into a new Newfield Central School building on Main Street.

**1959** NYS Route 13 was rebuilt and bypasses the hamlet of Newfield.

**Mid-1700s** The Cayugas allowed another group of Native Americans, the Saponi, to resettle in the present Town of Newfield after they were driven from Virginia and the Carolinas. The Saponi resided in what was once called Saponey Hollow, later Pony Hollow, now spelled Pony Hollow.



**1853**  
Town's red-painted covered bridge was built. It is the state's oldest covered bridge still in daily use.

**1872**

The Geneva and Ithaca railroad opened a line through Newfield and up the west side of Cayuga Lake to Seneca Falls.



**1875** An early morning fire on June 17 broke out on Main Street in the hamlet of Newfield destroying or damaging 20 businesses. Many of the early town records were lost in the fire.

**2016** Agriculture, forestry and small service and cottage industries remain important parts of the town's economy. The town's largest employer is the Newfield Central School District and many of its residents commute to work in Ithaca and nearby communities.