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### **The Town of Canajoharie – A Bit of History**

Excerpts from "Canajoharie's Beginnings" by Kathleen Hanford, Town Historian  
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The town of Canajoharie, organized in 1788, is located in the south central part of Montgomery County, with an area of approximately 24,764 acres. The Mohawk River sets the northern boundary, with the town of Palatine on its northern bank. On the south, it is bordered by Schoharie county and the township of Sharon, on the east by the town of Root, and on the west by the town of Minden.

Originally, the present village was called Scrambling (Schrembling) after a tavern keeper by the name of Henry Schrembling, who operated a tavern on the river opposite Frey's.

The name Canajoharie is derived from the Mohawk name Can-a-jor-ha, which means the "pot that washes itself". The name was given because in the creek flowing through the area there is a pot hole about 20 feet in diameter and about 10 feet deep at the base of a falls. Though time has eroded the edges, at one point it was nearly round with vertical sides.

Hendrick Schrembling and Marie Janse Van Alstine were partners in the purchase of a tract of land from the Morris Patent of 1723. It encompasses nearly all of the village of Canajoharie as it is today. The first house on the Van Alstine property was built in 1730. The cannon placed in front of the Fort Rensselaer Club on Memorial Day 1912 [since removed] was brought to Canajoharie in 1825. It was used during the Revolutionary