

FORT WILLIAM HENRY HOTEL GUEST REGISTER

OVERVIEW OF THE RECORDS

- Repository:** Crandall Public Library
Center for Folklife, History, and Cultural Programs,
Glens Falls, NY.
- Creator:** Fort William Henry Hotel (Caldwell, N.Y.)
- Title:** Fort William Henry Hotel Guest Register.
- Dates:** 1860-1862.
- Abstract:** The Fort William Henry Hotel, Lake George, NY, was built in 1852 near the earthworks of the Fort William Henry. Guests from July 4, 1860 to September 27, 1862 signed the Fort William Henry Hotel register. It lists names of guests, date at the Hotel, room number, and place of residence. At front of the volume are timetables for July 1860 of the Rensselaer and Saratoga Railroad and the Saratoga and Whitehall Railroad.
- Quantity:** One volume.
- Identification Number:** Archives & Manuscripts: Businesses

ADMINISTRATIVE HISTORY

The Fort William Henry Hotel, Lake George, NY, was built in 1852 by Mr. Thomas, near the earthworks of the Fort William Henry. The hotel opened under the management of Daniel Gale. In 1868 Daniel Gale, at that time sole owner of the hotel, sold the property to T. Roessle & Son of Albany, NY (proprietors of the Arlington Hotel in Washington) D.C. Roessle tore down Gale's hotel and built a new, larger structure on the same site. This hotel burned in 1908 and was replaced with a smaller structure.

(Sources: Center for Folklife subject files: Lake George—Hotels. *History of Warren County*, H.P. Smith editor Syracuse, NY: D. Mason & Co. (page 571); *The Great and the Gracious on Millionaire's Row: Lake George in its Glory* by Kathryn E. O'Brien, Sylvan Beach, NY: North Country Books, 1978.)

SCOPE AND CONTENT OF THE RECORDS

The Fort William Henry Hotel register was signed by guests from July 4th, 1860 to September 27th, 1862. It lists names of guests, date at the Hotel, room number, and place of residence. The volume is arranged chronologically. Daniel Gale is mentioned in the volume as proprietor. At front of the volume are timetables for July 1860 of the Rensselaer and Saratoga Railroad and the Saratoga and Whitehall Railroad.

Guests came to the Fort William Henry Hotel not only from New York State, but also from all parts of the United States including the Southern states. Many came from the South in 1860, few after that year. Most of the large cities are represented in the guest list, especially Baltimore, Boston, Brooklyn, Chicago, New Orleans, New York City, Philadelphia, San Francisco, St. Louis, and Washington. Some guests came from other parts of the world, especially Canada, England, and Ireland, but also including Chile, Cuba, Germany, Jamaica, Panama, and Venezuela.

INDEX TERMS

- Topics:** Hotels—New York (State)—Lake George—History.
Railroads—New York (State)—History.
- Places:** George, Lake (N.Y.: Lake)—Commerce.
- Organizations:** Fort William Henry Hotel (Caldwell, N.Y.)
Rensselaer and Saratoga Railroad Company (N.Y.)
Saratoga and Whitehall Railroad Company (N.Y.)
- Form/Genre:** Registers (lists)

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

- Preferred Citation:** Fort William Henry Hotel Guest Register,
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