# The Little Yellow House

Subject Area: Social Studies

**Grade Level:** 6-8

**New York State Learning Standards** 

**New York State Social Studies Learning Standards** 

Standard 1

History of the United States and New York

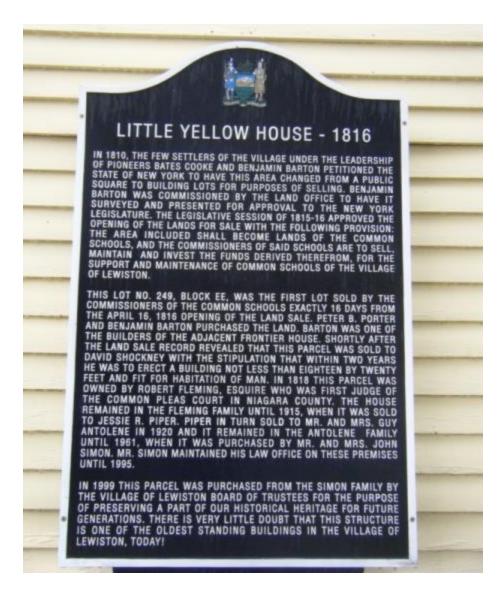
Students will:

- Use a variety of intellectual skills to demonstrate their understanding of major ideas, eras, themes, developments, and turning points in the history of the United States and New York.
- Distinguish between near and distant past and interpret simple timelines,
- Investigate key turning points in New York State and United States history and explain why these events or developments are significant.
- Gather and organize information about the important achievements and contributions of individuals and groups living in New York State and the United States,
- Prepare essays and oral reports about the important social, political, economic, scientific, technological, and cultural developments, issues, and events from New York State and United States history,

#### Overview

The Little Yellow House

Location 476 Center Street Lewiston, NY 14092 United States



The Little Yellow House one of the oldest standing building title the Village of Lewiston.

In 1810, under the leadership of Bates Cooke and Benjamin Barton, pioneers of Lewiston petitioned the state of New York to have this area of the village changed from a public square to building lots so that lots could be sold to the public. The land office commissioned Benjamin Barton to have the area surveyed and the proposition presented for approval to the New York Legislature. The Legislative session of 1815-16 approved the opening of the lands for sale with the following provision: The area included shall become lands of the common schools, and the commissioners of said schools are to sell, maintain, and invest the funds derived therefrom, for the support and maintenance of common schools of the village of Lewiston.

Lot no. 249, block EE, was the first lot sold by the commissioners of the common schools. It was sold exactly 16 days from the April 16, 1816 opening of the land sale. Peter B. Porter and Benjamin Barton purchased the land. Barton was one of the builders of the adjacent Frontier. The land sale record revealed that this parcel was sold to David

Shockney with the stipulation that within two years he was to erect a building not less than eighteen by twenty feet and fit for habitation of man. In 1818 this parcel was owned by Robert Fleming, the first judge of the common pleas court in Niagara County. The house remained in the Fleming family until 1915. It was then sold to Jessie R. Piper. In 1920, Piper sold to land to Mr. and Mrs. Guy Antolene .It remained in the Antolene family until 1961. The new owners were Mr. and Mrs. John Simon. Until 1995, Mr. Simon maintained his <u>law office</u> in the building. In 1999, Village of Lewiston Board of Trustees purchased the parcel of land to preserve a part of the village's historical heritage.



Little Yellow House Source: http://s4.hubimg.com/u/4870459\_f260.jpg

## Activity

#### Students will:

- Recognize that the sale of the lots on Center Street in Lewiston was used to finance public schools,
- Research how elementary and secondary public education is currently financed

### **Extension Activity**

#### Students will:

Create a map of the buildings that currently occupy the 400 block of Center Street, Lewiston

#### References

Little Yellow House at http://www.wheretowhento.com/little-yellow-house