



A Brief History of Amboy, Oswego County, New York

When the Wassons first came to the United States, they settled in Amboy Township in eastern Oswego County, New York. Amboy was and remains a mix of farms and forests located off the beaten path with little interesting history.

John and Jane Lambie Wasson and their sons John and Hugh settled in Amboy Township, Oswego County, New York in the 1830s after emigrating from Scotland to the United States. Although son John later returned to Scotland, he returned to Amboy in 1842 with his new wife Jemima and their son John. Parents John and Jane and their son Hugh stayed in Amboy the rest of their lives. Son John, his wife Jemima and their children left Amboy for Iowa in 1854. Daughter Janet, her husband David Black and most of their family emigrated from Scotland and settled in Amboy in 1859. We are direct descendants of John and Jane Wasson and John and Jemima Wasson.

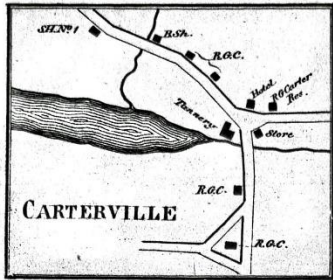
Amboy History

Amboy is located in Oswego County, New York, which borders on southeastern Lake Ontario. But Amboy is located far from the lake at the east end of the county, bordering on Oneida County. Its remote location led to slow settlement. The first settler, Joseph Perkins, arrived in 1805, but the township wasn't organized until 1830 when it was separated from Williamstown Township. It was one of the last townships in the county to be organized.

The township has a few villages, Amboy Center, West Amboy and Carterville, primarily, but there isn't much to any of these. There were 699 people living in the township in 1830. The population peaked at 1,431 in 1870.

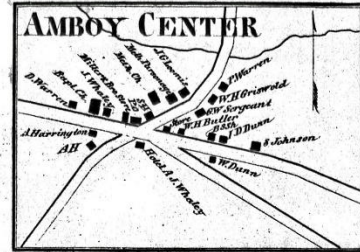
In the 1800s, Amboy Center had a couple stores, a hotel, a cheese factory, a post office and a pair of churches. The Free Will Baptist Church was organized in 1824, but after the congregation ceased to exist, the building was converted to the town hall in 1892. The Amboy Center Methodist Church was probably organized in 1830, and continues to serve the community. Its current building was likely constructed before 1850.

Amboy Center, Carterville and Amboy Township in 1867

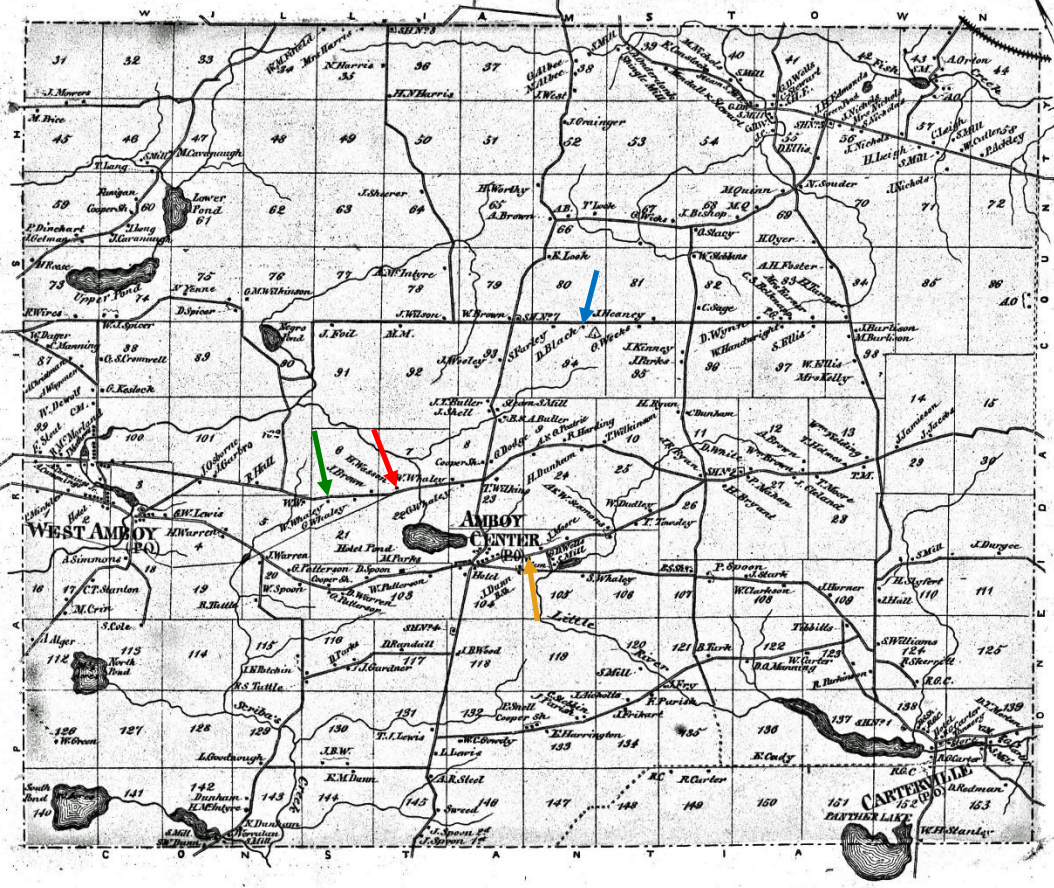


AMBOY CENTER BUSINESS DIRECTORY.
 Miller & Bro...Dealers in Dry Goods, Groceries, Hardware, &c.
 P. M.
 G. W. Sergeant... " " " " " "
 A. J. Whaley... Proprietor Hotel.
 W. Sozanna... Carpenter and Joiner.
 I. D. Dunn... General Blacksmith.
 A. H. Foster... Surveyor and Civil Engineer. Farmer.
 Geo. D. Wells... Lumbering, two Saw Mills and
 A. Orton... " " " " " "
 Gilbert Albee... Saw Mill
 B. & A. Butler... Steam Saw Mill.
 J. H. Edwards... Hermann Improved Farm Gals. Farm and
 Towns Rights for Oswego Co. P. O. Address, Williams-
 town.
 John Jamieson... Farmer.
 J. B. Wood... " " " " " "
 Wm. Field... " " " " " "
 Wm. C. Gowdy " and School Teacher.
 D. Randall... " Justice of Peace.

CARTERVILLE BUSINESS DIRECTORY.
 B. G. Carter...Tannery, Store, Grist, Saw and Stave Mills, &c.
 Farmer.



AMBOY Scale 1 1/2 Inches to the Mile.



Map of Amboy Township, Oswego County, New York in 1867. Arrows mark the location of the original John and Jane Wasson farm that was later owned by son Hugh Wasson (red), the former location of the farm of son John Wasson and his wife Jemima (green), the location of the farm of daughter Janet Black and her husband David (blue), and the location of the Amboy Center Cemetery where John and Jane Wasson were likely buried (orange).

Photos of Amboy Township



Looking east from the Amboy Center crossroads



Amboy Center Cemetery, where John and Jane Lambie Wasson were likely buried



The old hotel in West Amboy

Prepared by Mark David Wasson
Last updated August 31, 2021