# Year-long Local History Project • 7th grade Social Studies

People come from all over the world to witness the spectacle of Niagara Falls, but because it is in our backyard, we often take it for granted. And so it is with many significant places throughout Western New York, including Wilson. Throughout history, the Niagara Region has been a strategic consideration, because of its location (near the point where the Niagara River meets Lake Ontario) and its shared border with Canada. Through participating in this project, you will gain increased awareness of locally significant people and places, and learn more information about important locations and historical events that have taken place in Niagara and Erie Counties.

This year, you will be asked to visit a minimum of eight historical places from the following list. (If transportation is an issue, the places listed with asterisks\*\* are within walking distance of the school). Once you visit, you will create an entry in your online Passport, including a description of why the site is important and a photo of yourself next to the marker. You will also indicate where the marker is, on a map inside your Passport (Google Slide). A minimum of two Slides must be done for each month, with the first deadline happening on Friday, 10/30. Students will need to finish their online passport including 6 slides by the end of the first 20 weeks. Pictures that have been photoshopped will not be accepted. Only official state markers are acceptable.

List of Historical Markers & Places in Wilson (\*\* within walking distance of school) 1 - Reuben Wilson Landing. Marker is located near 4455 Lake Road, (Rte. 18), east of Maple Road.

**2** - **Port of Entry.** Marker is on a large stone at the entrance to the Wilson Boathouse Restaurant at 57 Harbor Street.

**\*\* 3 - Wilson Collegiate Institute.** Marker stands in front of the Town Hall at 375 Lake Street.

**\*\* 4 - Tabor Bridge**. Marker stands next to the bridge just south of Wilson high school on Route 425 (Lake Street).

**\*\* 5 - Anchor Farm.** Marker is on the east side of Wilson Cambria Rd (Rte. 425), in front of the old cobblestone house known as the Morgan House (address is 2533).

6 - Wright Homestead. Marker is on the east side of Daniels Road, south of Braley Rd.
7 - 1824 Log Cabin. Marker is up next to the cabin in front of 4787 Chestnut Rd, east of North Rd.

**\*\* 8 - Hojack Park.** Marker is at 645 Lake Street on the grounds of the Wilson Historical Society, south of the Wilson Station.

**\*\* 9 - Clark Obelisk.** Located on the grounds of the Wilson Historical Society, at 645 Lake Street.

**10 - 1836 Pease Homestead.** Marker is on the east side of 4455 Wilson Burt Road, just east of Maple Rd, in front of the large brick home of the Pease family.

11 - Randall Road Cemetery. Marker is near 3378 Randall Rd.

**\*\* 12 - Site of the 1st Schoolhouse in Wilson.** Marker is just south of the main entry of the Wilson House Restaurant, at the intersection of Young St. and Lake St.

13 - Clinton Pettit House. Marker is located at 2471 Maple Rd, south of Wilson Burt Rd.

\*\* 14 - Billy Sherman. Marker is on a large stone in front of 4259 Wilson Burt Rd.

**\*\* 15 - Reuben Wilson's House.** Marker is on the north side of Young Street, just west of Bay St.

**\*\* 16 - Randall Rd. Schoolhouse District #8**. Marker is in front of the schoolhouse which was moved to the grounds of the Wilson Historical Society, 645 Lake St.

\*\* 17 - Iron Fireman. Marker and fireman are inside the Wilson Volunteer Fire Company #1 Hall, 250 Young Street.

- 18 - Michael Witkop Memorial. Marker is attached to a large stone located in the Greenwood Veteran's Memorial Park, located at the northwest corner of Greenwood Cemetery.

- 19 - Veterans Memorial Wall. Located on Park Street, at the northwest corner of Greenwood Cemetery (on the same drive leading to the Sunset Grille Restaurant).

- 20 - Greenwood Cemetery. Located on the west side of Lake Rd (Rte. 18), opposite Pettit Street.

- 21 – \* Lake Island Park. Located at the entrance to Tuscarora Yacht Club on Shore Drive (across from the Clark Island fish sign). \**New in 2019, courtesy of Wilson student Jesse Rodgers.*- 22 – Brick Kiln. Marker is near 2483 Beebe Road in the town of Wilson.

- 23 - \* **Rexford G. Tugwell.** Located on the grounds of the Wilson Historical Society at 645 Lake Street, in front of Rex Tugwell's log cabin. \**New in 2020, courtesy of town historian Frank Gallagher*.

## **Ransomville**

- **20 MM Anti-Aircraft gun:** Marker is located to the east of the O. Leo Curtiss Post 830 (American Legion building) on the north side of Rte. 93.

- Large stone cenotaph, located in the Curtiss Cemetery, on the north side of Rte. 93, east of the United Methodist Church.

#### **Cambria**

- Mt. View Cemetery Civil War Memorial. Located on the highest point in the cemetery. Enter from Upper Mountain Road, and drive straight to the back.

### <u>Olcott</u>

- Civil War monument. Located at the end of Route 78, and crossed by Main Street.

### Newfane

- World War I Memorial Boulder. (This plaque has recently been restored and should be reinstalled by now.) Located on the far left side of Krull Park, near Franklin Street.

- **Memorial Hall Plaque.** Located on the right side of Memorial Hall, adjacent to the First Baptist Church, 6047 East Avenue.

### Old Ft. Niagara

- Rush-Bagot Treat Memorial. Located east of the French Castle, overlooking Lake Ontario.
- Fanny Doyle Marker. Located inside the French Castle on the 3rd floor, overlooking the Niagara River.

- Unknown Soldiers Monolith, and Cenotaph. Both are located in the 1812 Cemetery of Old Fort Niagara between the Officers' Club and the Lighthouse.

- Chism and Ferreby Bell, and Memorials. Located near Fort Niagara, where the River enters Lake Ontario, at the U.S. Coast Guard Station.