



### **Marker #11**

The two-story white building at the corner of Dunnsville Road and the Western Turnpike in Dunnsville is referred to by Guilderland residents today as the "old Grange." Some residents remember the turkey dinners served there, though it hasn't been used for Gifford Grange 1549 meetings in many years.

Prior to the Grange occupancy, the aged building was a tavern and inn run by John E. Winne. Winne died in 1823 and is buried 150 feet west of the former hostelry. William Brinkman's small history of Dunnsville notes that the school meeting of the Dunnsville District 2, Town of Guilderland, was held at John Winne's Inn on the 11th day of May, 1816.

Peter Waggoner was elected moderator and a new schoolmaster was chosen, David Pratt. Pratt agreed to teach in the Town of Guilderland's Dunnsville school across the road from the inn, at the rate of \$14 a quarter plus board, lodging and washing. By 1835, 84 children attended the school and the teacher's annual wages went up to \$145. Included in school expenses for the year was \$20 for five cords of wood and 87-1/2 cents for cleaning the schoolhouse.

Records are vague on the entire history of John Winne's Tavern and Inn; numerous names appear in reference to ownership. Christopher Dunn kept a tavern there but no dates are given, and a hotel was operated by William Wagner in the same building at one time. Ernest Rau is the present owner and the building is used as a district voting place.

The blue and gold historic marker west of John Winne's Inn does not begin to tell the interesting history of the place. We are grateful to the faithful clerk whose detailed records provide us with a glimpse of the beginnings of Guilderland's school system.