



### **Marker #2**

The marker reads "Redmen's Hall," but older Guilderland residents remember it as Redmen's Wigwam. Those older residents also remember the large one-story frame structure that was once the hub of Guilderland community social activities.

Redmen's Wigwam was a Baptist Church in 1875 and was then purchased by a temperance society, The Good Templars. The Templars used the building for their own meetings and rented it out to community organizations. The Redmen, a fraternal organization, and their auxiliary, the Pocohontas, met in the sturdy building. Older senior citizens in town may remember the ceremonial Indian garb used for Redmen's functions.

In the World War II era, women of Guilderland met in the Wigwam to roll bandages and make clothes for refugees; townspeople voted for their selected officials; and local organizations held their annual Christmas parties in the aging building.

In the early 1950s, Redmen's Hall was condemned for public assembly. The tiny piece of land went on county rolls for back taxes. Guilderland records show 1966 taxes were \$28.69. The Wigwam stood as a ghostly derelict for several years until it was destroyed by fire.

The historic marker stands near the highway on the south side of Route 20 about 1/4 mile east of Willow Street in Guilderland, conserving a place in local history for Redmen's Wigwam and remembering its better times.