

PAVILION

Henry Flagler (1830-1913): The Presbyterian Church in Pavilion was organized in 1834. Diligent search failed to uncover any original records. Fortunately, during his lifetime, the late William L. Bradley wrote his recollections of that church...

“The first pastor of whom I have any recollection was the Rev. Mr. Flagler... Mr. Flagler’s family occupied the Minister’s pew and attracted much of my attention as Henry, his son, a boy three or four years older than I , but with whom I was very friendly and who rather protected me, as boys do younger dependents, in a kindly way, was in full sight from our side seat. Little did any of us dream that the lively, round-faced light-haired lad was to become one of the wealthiest men in the world, the builder of the City of Miami, Florida and of the Railroad through the sea to Key West, besides being a real power in the development of the Standard Oil Company. At that time, however he was certainly a fine lad and we boys were told to regard him as a model.”

Taken from: The Pavilion Community of New York State 1800-1941 (Pages 68-69)

John Peisley (1916-1887) was a native of Australia. His art education began at the National Art School of East Sydney, Australia and after winning a traveling art scholarship, he came to America to study at Yale University, where he earned a master’s degree in fine art. Mr. Peisley’s inspiration, he was quoted as having said was “just a matter of waking up in the morning. I paint the way I feel on a particular day”. Although portraits earned him recognition in the public eye, landscapes were his favorite subject. In 1991 he won the coveted Macowin Tuttle Memorial Art Award for a landscape depicting a bridge in the Town of Nunda. During his career he painted several well-known celebrities; including Sammy Davis Jr., Liza Minelli and Albert Einstein. He was a member of the Salmagundi Club, the oldest art organization in the country and had more than 30 one-man shows throughout the United States. He lived in Pavilion for 18 years.

Submitted by: Susan Conklin, Genesee County Historian