

1827, has been used as office, commercial, and residential space. At 1822 Trumansburg Rd is **The Trees**, a handsome early Italianate house built in 1865 by James M. Mattison, owner of a popular nursery and tree farm on the site, which was started in 1845 and continued through the early 1870s. It is a private residence today.

9 Hector Monthly Meeting House, at 5066 Perry City Rd, 1 mile W of the Rt 96 intersection on the north side of the road, this white clapboard building was erected c.1910, for the area's Quaker community. There is also a cemetery. An old stone post at the driveway entrance has the carved letters HMMSOF, Hector Monthly Meeting, Society of Friends. Today the building is used by the Ithaca Society of Friends for summer worship only.

Annual Events and Festivals

May – Trumansburg Festival of Flowers – Main St, Mother's Day weekend.

Summer – Farmers' Market, W Main and Hector Sts, Weds 4–7 pm.

July – Grassroots Festival of Music and Dance, Trumansburg Fairgrounds. 607-387-5098. www.grassrootsfest.org.

Aug – Trumansburg Fair, Trumansburg Fairgrounds. Oldest operating fair in the state. Rides, games, food, and events including traditional track horse racing. 607-387-6504.

Dec – Trumansburg Winter Festival, village-wide. Art and craft sales, food, music, fireworks. 607-387-6501. www.tburgwinterfest.com

Museum, Library, Art Trail

Art Trail – studios of local artists. 607-273-5072. www.ArtTrail.com

Ulysses Historical Society – 39 South St. 607-387-6666. See #6.

Ulysses Philomathic Library – 74 E Main St. 607-387-5623. See #4.

Bed & Breakfasts L

The Gazebo, 151 E Main St, Trumansburg. 607-387-4952.

Gothic Eves, 112 E Main St, Trumansburg. 607-387-6033. www.gothiceves.com

The Halsey House, 2057 Trumansburg Rd. 607-387-5428. www.halseyhouse.com

Juniper Hill, 16 Elm St, Trumansburg. 607-387-3044. www.AtJuniperHill.com

McLallen House, 30 McLallen St, Trumansburg. 607-387-3892. www.mclallenhouse.com

Mom's Place, 5040 Perry City Rd. 607-5597. www.momsplacebandb.com

Morning Glory, 89 Cayuga St, Trumansburg. 607-387-5305. www.morningglory.com.laurie

Reunion House, 7550 Willow Creek Rd. 607-387-6553. www.reunion-house.com

Taughannock Farms Inn, Rt 89 at Taughannock Falls State Park. 607-387-7711. www.tfarms.com. See #2.

Westwind, 1662 Taughannock Blvd. 607-387-3377. www.fingerlakes.net/westwind

Antiques and Speciality Shops S

Cold Springs Pottery Studio, 4088 Cold Springs Rd. 607-387-4042.

The Collection, 9 W Main St, Trumansburg. 607-387-6579.

Green Horse bookstore, 9 E Main St, Trumansburg, part of a second-floor artists' community.

"iseesparkle," 57 E Main St, Trumansburg, basement of Masonic temple. 607-387-3096.

Ithaca Antiques Mall, 1607 Trumansburg Rd. 607-272-3611. In the former Babcock Industries building.

Juniper Hill Art and Antiques, 16 Elm St, Trumansburg. 607-387-3044.

Mixed Bag Studio, 12 Elm St, in old Post Office building. 607-387-4334.

Phil's Antiques, 2105 Agard Rd. 607-387-6550. Open by appointment only.

Ponzi's Antiques, 9838 Congress St Ext. 607-387-5248.

Reflections on Trumansburg, 43 E Main St. 607-387-4424.

Up Country Antiques, McLallen St. Open weekends or by appointment. 607-387-7540.

Recreational Areas

Cayuga Nature Center, 1420 Taughannock Blvd. 607-387-9225. See #1.

Spruce Row Campsite, 2271 Kraft Rd. 607-387-9225.

Taughannock Falls State Park, Rt. 89. 607-387-6739. See #2.

Trumansburg Nature Area, Smith Woods, corner Cemetery and Falls Sts. Now part of Cayuga Nature Conservancy. Trails for hiking. Parking along Rt 96.

Trumansburg Public Golf Course, 23 Halsey St, Trumansburg. 607-387-8844. 18 holes.

Cemeteries C

Grove, corner of Cemetery and Falls Sts, Trumansburg. See #7.

Jones-Goodwin's Point, Gorge Rd, west of Taughannock Farms Inn.

Quaker, see #9.

St. James, Searsburg Rd, Trumansburg.

Historical Markers H

Camp Site – Taughannock Falls State Park, north side. Site of 1788 exploring party's camp.

Samuel Weyburn – Taughannock Falls State Park, south side. First settler, 1790.

Halsey House – see #3.

Abner Tremen's Log Cabin – E Main St, Trumansburg.

Sullivan Campaign Route – W Main St, Trumansburg.

Camp House – see #6.

Indian Fort – Indian Fort Rd near Rt 227.

Log Meeting House – corner of Podunk and Perry City Rds. Built in 1811 for Presbyterian worship. Small cemetery.

Cooper Inn – Rt 96, Jacksonville.

Dann House – Rt 96, Jacksonville.

Sullivan's Campaign – 150th anniversary plaque on boulder, corner of Duboise and Krums Corners Rds.

For further information: Town of Ulysses, 10 Elm St, Trumansburg NY 14886. 607-387-5767. www.ulysses.ny.us. Karen Dickson, Town of Ulysses Historian, 607-387-9658; Nancy Dean, Town of Ulysses Deputy Historian, 607-387-9323.



East Main Street, Trumansburg late 1800s

Credits

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Text and photographs by Nancy Dean, Town of Ulysses Deputy Historian

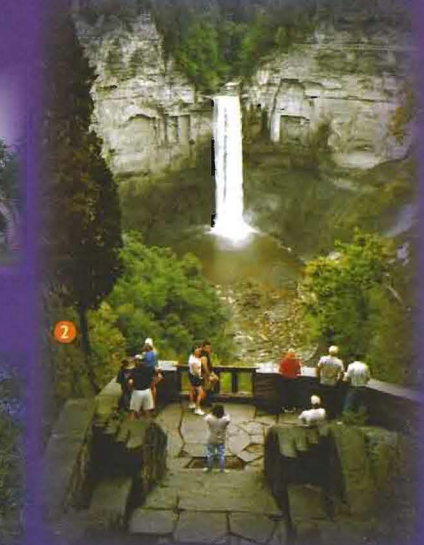
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Touring the Towns of Tompkins County, New York



Destination Ulysses



TOWN OF ULYSSES

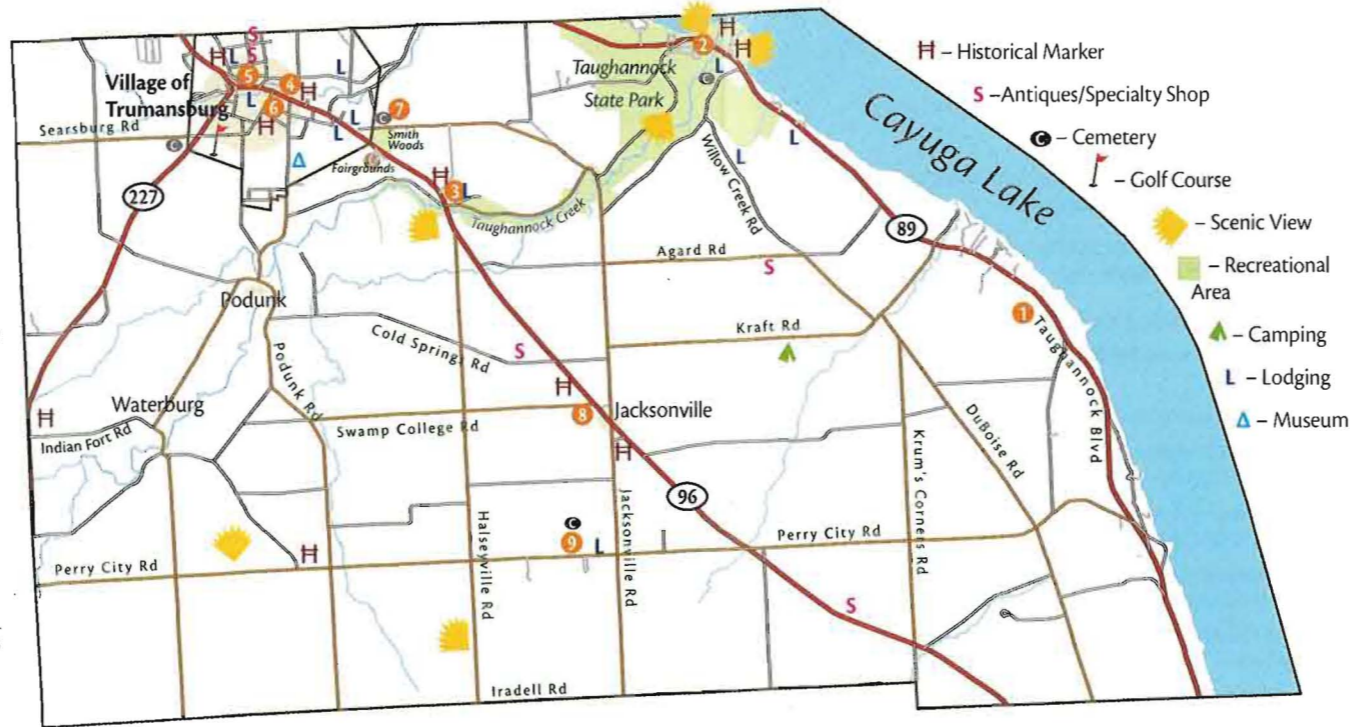
The Town of Ulysses, in the northwest corner of the county and bounded on the east by Cayuga Lake, has beautiful lake views and farmland vistas. On the northeastern corner is Taughannock Falls, one of the outstanding natural attractions of the northeast. The town's incorporated village, Trumansburg, is a county arts and cultural center and a link between the popular Cayuga and Seneca wine trails. Several significant industries, including the Gregg Iron Works and Morse Chain, flourished here in the 19th century; at a later time the Babcock Poultry Farm, with scientific poultry breeding, grew into a huge enterprise, located in France today. The Robert A. Moog electronic synthesizer was developed here in the 1960s.

Ulysses was originally Township #22 of the Military Tract. It was named for Homer's great wanderer who spent twenty years to find his way home to the island of Ithaca. The town was organized as early as 1799 and became part of Tompkins County in 1817. You can relive much of early NYS history here. During the 19th and early 20th centuries, people lived either in small communities with manufacturing and milling operations using the plentiful waterpower or on farms working the land and keeping animals. Enjoy the beauty and the sites and read the historical markers. You will remember your visit.

1 Cayuga Nature Center – Open all year, this 75-acre nature preserve features environmental education with exhibits and observation of birds, animals, and reptiles, along with hiking trails and a six-story Treetops tree house. Visitors can climb up and view the lake and forest. In the summer the center maintains a Butterfly House. Completed in 1939, the building was originally used as a children's sanitarium. The nature preserve opened in 1975.

2 Taughannock Falls State Park – The area by the lake was settled in 1790 by pioneers coming on foot from Pennsylvania and up the lake by boat from Ithaca. The first portion of the park (64 acres) was opened in 1925 on land purchased by the state; later the park was expanded to 742 acres. The 215-foot falls (called the Great Falls in the Woods by the Cayuga Indians) draws some half-million visitors to the park every year. In the late 19th century the park was a popular tourist stop for pleasure boats. Today Taughannock Farms Inn, a Victorian mansion built in 1873, overlooks the park and offers a restaurant and guestrooms. The lower park features

swimming, boating, fishing, picnicking, hiking, and camping, plus skating and sledding in the winter. Weekly concerts are held on the Great Lawn every summer. The



scenic overlook on the north side of the gorge offers splendid views of the falls and surrounding rock formations. **H**

3 Halsey House – In the 19th century Halseyville was a small community with a mill and a famous covered bridge, built c.1832 by Dr. Lewis Halsey. The bridge was in use until 1926, while the mill was swept away in the great flood of 1935. The Greek Revival house, built in 1829 for local politician and public servant Nicoll Halsey, features a full pediment on each of the gable ends. Listed on the *National Register of Historic Places*, it is a B&B today. **H**

4 Trumansburg – Main St. Abner Treman with his family and brother-in-law John McLallen were the earliest settlers, arriving in 1793. McLallen opened a tavern in 1802. The first post office was established in 1811 under the name of Treman's Village, but because of a U.S. post office error, the community's name became Trumansburg. The village suffered fires in 1864 and 1871, after which solid brick structures with unique cast iron and plate glass storefronts were built on both sides of the street. The 1935 flood destroyed much of the business district.

Coming in from the south you see on the right side the **First Presbyterian Church** and **Session House**, Greek Revival buildings constructed in 1850. The church features a working clock in the steeple; the interior was renovated in 2006. The **Session House**, originally a chapel, is now the meeting room. Across the street is the

"new" Ulysses Philomathic Library, built in 2001. Further on at 57 Main St is the **Trembly House**, of brick and cast iron with wrought iron decorative railings. Built as the Trembly House Hotel in 1871–1873, it was renamed the Cornell House in 1881. It serves as the Masonic Temple, and has been owned by the Masons for many years. They rented space for the library (from 1935 to 2001) and the historical society until 1998. Further along on the left is the **Commercial Block**, featuring solid brick buildings erected after the 1871 fire. With many original storefronts and all the upper levels remaining fairly intact, it is an outstanding example of commercial architecture c. 1900. Of particular interest are 4 E Main St and the 1911 former Biggs Department Store at 9 W. Main.

5 Trumansburg – Northern Side of Main St. At the corner of Main and Union are the century-old telephone company business and the local Chamber of Commerce organized in 1919. Where Union joins Congress St is the **Trumansburg Conservatory of Fine Arts**. This 1851 classic Greek Revival building was originally the First Baptist Church and featured a tall square-based steeple that was lost in the 1871 fire. Today the conservatory offers classes, shows, and concerts. For more information call 607-387-5939.

The historic district features beautiful old homes, mostly in Greek Revival and Federal styles. Along Congress St you can see several fine examples, most notably #3, the **D. K. McLallen House**, a distinguished combination of the two styles, built by John McLallen's

son David. It has two major façades; the one on Congress St has a handsome doorway with an elliptical fanlight. Further along McLallen St. on the right is Up Country Antiques, housed in an 1835 Greek Revival Baptist Sunday School building. On Washington St are the **Tower House** at #29, a unique Gothic Revival home with an octagonal tower and picturesque windows and roof trim; the Italianate-style residence with a cupola at #37, dating from 1867; and another



house with a cupola at #38. At #34 Seneca St (corner of Bradley St) is a striking c.1870 Second Empire home, complete with mansard roofs on the house and porch, round-arched windows, and gable-roofed dormers.

6 Trumansburg – Southern Side of Main St. Start out on Elm St, on the left is the **Church of the Epiphany**, an Episcopal church that today holds Sunday worship in the adjoining chapel. At #16 is the neo-classical residence **Juniper Hill**, built in 1921 for a local merchant. It is now a B&B, featuring artwork and antiques. On Camp St is the **Camp House**, a Greek Revival mansion built in 1845, almost entirely with local labor and materials, for local merchant and community leader Hermon Camp. The spacious property once included formal gardens. The house is on the *National Register of Historic Places*. **H** At #39 South St is the **Ulysses Historical Society**. The museum, built in 1998, features artifacts and collections from the town. In the window is *Silver Dan*, a papier-mâché horse that stood for years in Biggs Department Store's second floor window at 9 W Main St. The historical society was established in 1975. Continue out South St to what was once a bustling hamlet of mills and industry on Bolter and Taughannock Creeks called Podunk. Nothing but the homes and the name remain today. Returning to Main St, on the near right corner is the brick **United Methodist Church**, dating from 1857. In the sanctuary, facing south, is a lovely stained glass window, *Jesus by the River*.

7 Grove Cemetery – The largest cemetery in the town with over 1500 plots, are interesting examples of unusual tombstones. Many early families are buried here. The red sandstone chapel was built in 1893.

8 Jacksonville – This hamlet, settled in 1799 and located on the Ithaca and Geneva Turnpike (1811), was first known as Harlow's Corners. In the late 1800s it had a variety of civic institutions and small businesses. The **Jacksonville Community United Methodist Church** at 1869 Trumansburg Rd is a good example of diverse architectural elements. Completed in 1898, an addition was built on the eastern side in 1981. The much earlier Greek Revival **Methodist Episcopal Church** on Jacksonville Rd, built in

