

Richard Gaskin House, c. 1899
18 Aspen Street
Auburn, New York

Significance: Home of Freedom Seekers



Richard Gaskin was born in Virginia and came to Ledyard about 1864, with his wife Mary and their four children. He became a Quaker and owned property on Dixon Road in Ledyard from 1869 until the late 1880s. He was listed in the Auburn assessment rolls as owning a house here on Aspen Street worth \$600 from 1899 to 1903, until he moved to Sherwood, New York, to live with his daughter Rose Gaskin Phillips, before his death. His son, Philip Gaskin, married Mary Elliott, daughter of Thomas Elliott and Ann Marie Stewart. They lived for many years at 34 Union (Richardson) Avenue before moving to the Belt-Gaskin house at 77 Chapman Avenue in 1927.

**Cooper House
22 Aspen Street
Auburn, New York**

Significance: Home of freedom seekers, b. Canada and Delaware



February 2005
Looking South

The Cooper family represents a very common pattern in Auburn, of freedom seekers who migrated first to Canada and then, during or after the Civil War, settled in Auburn, where they purchased a home on the south side of the city on streets that were newly-opened for development.

Charles and Anna Cooper and their children came to Auburn sometime between 1865 and 1870, when they were first listed in the census. Charles Cooper, age 30, listed his occupation as a farm laborer and his birthplace as Delaware. Anna Cooper, age 27, listed her occupation as keeping house and her birthplace as Delaware. Their children, Alexander, age 8 and Arenta, age 4, were born in Canada. Laura, age five months, was born in New York). By 1880, they were living at 143 South Division Street. They listed their names as Henry and Anna, laborer and washerwoman, ages 45 and 47, both born in Delaware, with children Alexander (age 17, born Canada), Araminta (14, born Canada), and Laura (10, born New York State).