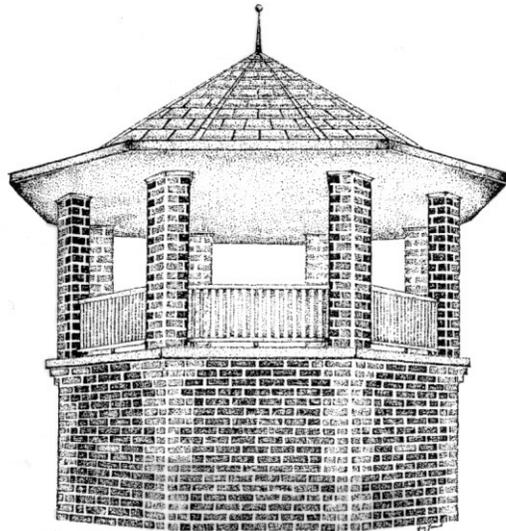


WELCOME TO ALDEN, NY



HISTORICAL CHARM

GATEWAY TO DARIEN LAKE THEME PARK

BRIEF HISTORY

Part of the Holland Land Purchase in the 1700's, the town of Alden recorded its first resident in 1806. The first village resident was in 1810. Mainly an agricultural area, the railroad came in 1843. The Town of Alden was incorporated in 1823, followed by the Village of Alden in 1869. Early businesses included a cheese factory, glass factory, tannery, wagon shop, sawmill, and stores. The dawn of the 20th century saw the Black Water Baths attract many people to the area, which has continued to grow and prosper over the last one hundred years.

CENTURY HOUSES

Alden's long history has created a wealth of homes and public buildings more than 100 years old. Homes are marked with special Century House signs. Information about these homes can be found in the Historical Museum.

BLACK WATER BATHS

Alden's healing water (the black water baths) is a colorful part of its history. In 1891, while drilling for gas, Frank Westcott encountered Black Mineral water. Believing in its medicinal qualities, people soon began coming to Alden for cures for a variety of ailments. Bath houses, inns and boarding houses were built to handle the influx. More than 60,000 baths were given in the first 10 years of operation. After devastating fires and other events, only one of the original buildings remains – now St. Aidan's Episcopal Church on West Main Street. An historical marker in front provides a brief history.

MOFFATT'S TANNERY

An historical marker near Eckerd's Drugstore marks one of Alden's earliest businesses.

SLATE BANKS

Northeast of the village, Spring Creek has banks of shale that contain a variety of fossils dating back millions of years when the area known as Alden was at the bottom of the sea. Through papers and books written about the formation, the marcasite nodules and pyritized fossils of Alden's Spring Creek are known in the scientific community worldwide.

OLD HENSKEE SCHOOL

This mid-1800, rural one-room school has been relocated next to the Community Center in the Town Park. It is being refurbished by the Town, the Alden Garden Club, and the Historical Society as a living history exhibit.

TOWN PARK & NATURE TRAIL

The 1½ mile long Joe Panza Nature Trail, accessed off West Main Street behind the Town Park, is a hidden treasure. Meandering along Ellicott Creek, the trail passes fields of wildflowers and a wide variety plants & trees. Birding is abundant. Trail booklets are available from Town and Village Offices, Alden State Bank, *Alden Advertiser*, and the Chamber of Commerce.

The Robert O. Smith Town Park includes lighted sports courts, picnic tables, barbecue pits, covered shelters and playground. No camping. Several small parks also serve the town.

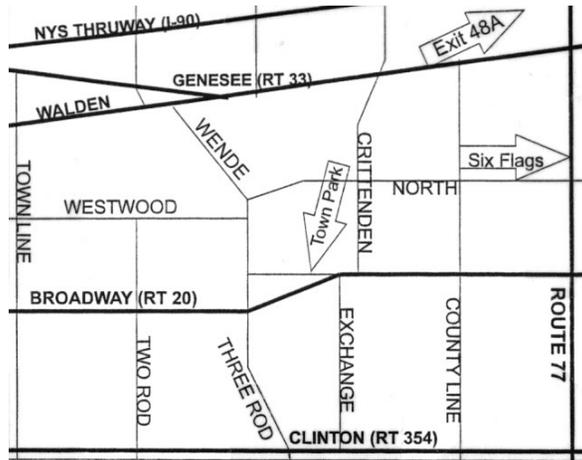
Senior Citizens, the Garden Club, youth groups and many other community organizations meet at the Community Center.

The triangular park with the bandstand in the heart of the Village is Firemen's Park.

A labyrinth circle behind St. Aidan's Episcopal Church is open to the public for exploring.

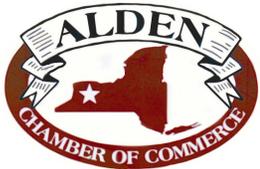
LOCATOR MAP

Situated midway between Buffalo and Batavia, on the East edge of Erie County, Alden is easily accessible.



ANNUAL COMMUNITY EVENTS

Alden Farmers Market
Lion's Club Plant Sale
Alden Garden Club Plant Sale
St. Aidan's Plant Sale
Firemen's Heritage & Reunion Weekend
Taste of Alden
Free Concerts in the Park
Alden Art Club Art Show
Christmas in the Park
WinterFest
ACTS Productions



PO Box 149
13500 Broadway
Alden, NY 14004
Phone: 716-937-6177
Fax: 716-937-4106
Website: www.aldenny.org
Email: secretary@aldenny.org

HISTORICAL MUSEUM

In the heart of the Village, Alden's Historical Museum offers a variety of well-organized treasures in easy-to-understand displays. Informative programs and open houses are held frequently. Individual tours by appointment.

CEMETERIES

Cemeteries provide history and green space. In the Village, Alden Evergreen Cemetery includes many community pioneers. The oldest remaining grave dates from 1819. The tallest monument is that of the Ewell family (builders of the library and Presbyterian church). Several other historic church and independent cemeteries are located in the Town.

DARIEN LAKE THEME PARK

Alden is a full-service gateway to Darien Lake Theme Park & Resort. Less than 7 miles East of Alden, on Rt. 77, the huge theme park offers rides and entertainment, a campground with 1200 spaces and a 161-room hotel. This is the only amusement park between Lake George, NY and Cleveland, Ohio and is New York State's largest theme park and resort.

DARIEN LAKE STATE PARK

Located between Alden and Six Flags, this lovely State Park offers beautiful campsites and picnic areas; plus swimming, hiking, hunting and nature trails. Concerts and other programs are held in summer. Snow-mobiling is popular in winter.

ENCHANTED FOREST

This award-winning nonprofit Wildlife Sanctuary is licensed by New York State and the US Government. Classes offer training as wildlife rehabilitators. Programs are available for schools, colleges and organizations. Open by appointment.

RESOURCES FOR TOURISTS

Alden has numerous restaurants, delis, gas stations, car washes, pet hospitals, laundromats, hair salons, dry cleaner, hardware stores, general retail shopping, pharmacies, gift shops, Henry's Candy, and a Tops supermarket. Doctors, dentists, accountants & lawyers also are available. Majestic Oak Bed & Breakfast is located on Exchange Street.

Alden State Bank has served the community continuously since 1916.

The weekly *Alden Advertiser* has served as the community newspaper since 1914.

Golf: Kis-N-Greens is a public course on the northeast side of the Town.

CHURCHES

St. John The Baptist Church (RC)
St. Paul's United Church of Christ
Alden Mennonite Church
Alden Presbyterian Church
Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints
Alden United Methodist Church
Crittenden Presbyterian Church
Millgrove Bible Church
St. Aidan's Episcopal Church
St. Patrick's Roman Catholic Church
Alden Community Church
Town Line Lutheran Church

TOWN & VILLAGE OFFICES

Village of Alden
Municipal Building
13336 Broadway – 937-9216

Town of Alden
3311 Wendel Road – 937- 6969