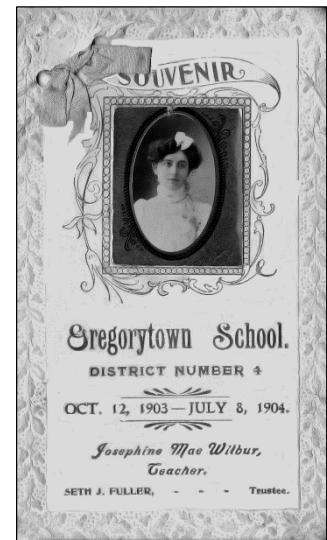


Gregorytown

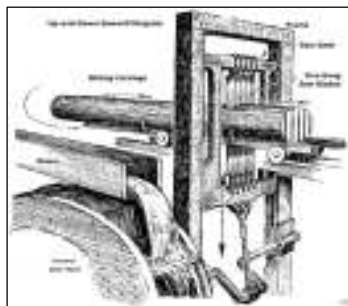


Gregorytown School Group 1903

Gregorytown was named for Timothy Gregory, one of the first settlers in Colchester. Gregory is said to have followed the "Sun Trail" a forest trail that was blazed from Minisink to the East Branch of the Delaware River. Gregory was the first person to build a house and barns in Colchester at the base of Fuller Hill. Other Gregory relatives followed Timothy from Westchester before the American Revolution and started their homesteads. As the Revolution began the Tories encouraged Mohawk's Chief Joseph Brandt's warriors to erect a kind of fort on the west side of the Delaware River below Downsville. From this outpost they began harassing the local settlers forcing them to flee to the safety behind the American lines on the Hudson River. Before Timothy's family abandoned their home in 1778; his family aided two American scouts, Anderson and Osterhout. These scouts were sent to report on the Tory's encampments and activities but were captured. The scouts managed to escape and made their way to Timothy's cabin; he fed and took them to a hiding place known as Anderson's mountain. After several days Gregory determined that it was safe for the scouts to continue and led them down to a point on the river where there is a sharp bend in the river called Tim's Turn and Big or Gregory's Island. From this point the patent line runs straight along the "Sun Trail" to the Hudson. The scouts arrived safely and sent back American soldiers to accompany the settlers to safety. Timothy, Daniel, Thomas, Samuel, John and Elnathan Gregory all served in the Revolutionary War and only returned to the area after their service.



Timothy opened the first Up-and Down Sawmill in Gregorytown in 1816



Judge John H. Gregory, a member of the New York Assembly in 1820 used his influence to bring the first State road into Delaware County. It started in Gregorytown, came up the river to what is now Corbett, went up Campbell Brook, over Campbell Mountain to Spring Brook where it joined the State road leading to the Hudson Valley.