

Horton



Hotel Leroy -Johnson Store and Post Office 1914

Horton named for David Horton, who settled at the foot of Horton Brook and was one of the first raftsmen in that area. He built a mill and rafted large amounts of sawn timber down the East Branch of the Delaware River. He was the father of seven sons, who all joined their father in rafting on the Beaver Kill. Herschal Horton became the most influential in the area becoming a Justice of the Peace, farmer, lumberman, as well as, a famed rafter.



Samuel W. Cable bought 2,000 acres on Russell Brook in 1880 and started a wood products business. Hemlock and hardwood were used to make shingles and wooden pegs to hold the soles on shoes. Cable employed one hundred people. His complex included a blacksmith shop, boarding house and several houses for his workers. A series of five dams were built by Cable to power his factory, one of which was one hundred feet wide near Russell Brook Falls.

In 1898 George I. Treyz built a retorts acid factory on Russell Brook. They operated six days a week, consuming 32 cords of four foot wood per day from 1898 to 1924. In 1911 Treyz installed a Roebling Bridge over the Delaware River to connect his factory to the O&W Railway in Cooks Falls. This side rail allowed Treyz to ship timber directly to New York City. In 1924 a new style oven plant with the capacity to burn 36 cords per day was installed. This new factory burned in 1925 and was rapidly rebuilt. George's son Victor modernized the factory and installed an alcohol refining column which produced pure methanol. This product was sold as antifreeze under the name Treyzone. The factory was last acid factory operating in New York State closing in 1949.



Treyz's Acid Factory - Russell Brook

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