

## DENMARK TOWNSHIP

Established from Harrisburgh on April 3, 1807, Denmark is triangular in shape and lies upon the northwest border of the county and contains 31,245 acres. Denmark was comprised of township V, of the Black River Tract, or *Mantua*. The first settlement in the town was on the site now known as Deer River. Copenhagen, situated in the western part of Denmark, was the only incorporated village. Castorland, located in the eastern part, was noted for its large lumber mills, owned by T.B. Basselin. Denmark and Deer River were hamlets.

Denmark settled with great rapidity, and in less than three years, most land was in the hands of actual settlers. The first framed house in Denmark village was built by Freedom Wright, innkeeper, and the first in Copenhagen by Levi Barnes. Urial Twitchell opened the first store and Andrew Mills kept the first inn on the hill south of the village. In 1824, a large stone mill was built by Richard Meyers and A. Wilson and a large sawmill was built in 1848. Deer River Station and Castorland Station would become points of shipment on the railroad.

Denmark is the oldest village in the town and its post office was one of the first in the county, having been established in January of 1804. The first school in Copenhagen was taught by Tyrannus A. Wright and the first school house in town built near the inn of Freedom Wright, in Denmark village. An academy was built by Charles Brown in 1829. Wright's Tavern was the site where the citizens of northern and central Oneida County met in 1804 and discussed the concept of setting off both Jefferson and Lewis from Oneida County.



Blodgett House