

FEATURED EXHIBITION

In addition to the permanent historical exhibits, temporary Featured Exhibitions in the Aurora History Museum highlight unique aspects of our community's history with artifacts and documents from the collections of the Aurora Town Historian's Office and Aurora Historical Society.

**This Featured Exhibition,
“Checking In: The Globe Hotel
Guest Registers,” will be on
view through January 31, 2025.**



Checking In The Globe Hotel Guest Registers

THE GLOBE HOTEL on East Aurora's Main Street opened its doors 200 years ago, in 1824.

Thousands of visitors stayed there in the years since.

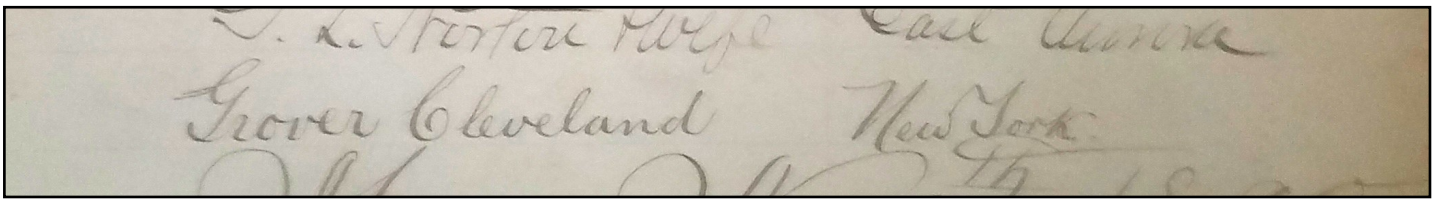
Five volumes of guest registers from between 1890 and 1926 are among items from the hotel preserved in the archives of the Aurora Town Historian's Office. In commemoration of The Globe's bicentennial, the Historian's Office is putting them on public display for the very first time.

To better preserve the guest registers for future generations, hotel proprietors over the years donated them to the Historian's Office archives. An effort will soon be underway to digitize and index the registers, which offer a unique insight into one of the region's oldest businesses.

A stagecoach stop in the early 1800s, The Globe operated for decades as a restaurant after no longer serving as a hotel. It remains closed after shuttering its doors in December 2022.



**Two of the earliest known photographs of The Globe Hotel.
The third-floor ballroom hosted many large parties and events.**



A Presidential Visit?

Look closely at the guest register below, and you'll see "Grover Cleveland, New York" listed on Sunday, November 2, 1890. Could this be *the* Grover Cleveland?

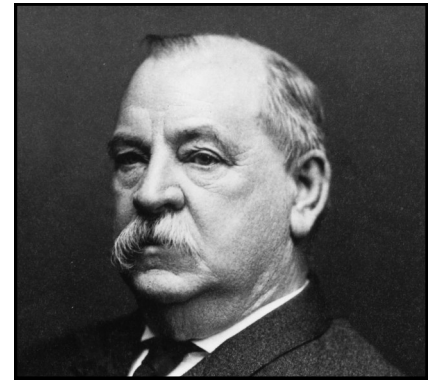
Cleveland would have been in-between his two non-consecutive presidential terms. After his first term, he was working as an attorney in New York City.

Although newspapers confirm that Cleveland was in Washington, D.C. to argue a case before the Supreme Court on October 27, 1890, and that he traveled through Ohio in mid-November, there are no newspaper reports documenting a trip to Western New York at the time. In fact, newspapers place Cleveland in New York City in the days immediately before and after his supposed visit to The Globe on November 2. On the morning of Election Day two days later, he waited in line to vote in New York, according to a newspaper report. Although unlikely, there's a chance that a *different* Grover Cleveland visited from New York City. Or his name in the guest register could simply be the work of a sneaky hotel clerk. (The writing does not match the president's signature, although it was common for hotel clerks to sign in the guests).

Adding to the intrigue is the arrival at The Globe one day later of Charles A. Hamilton, a former East Aurora newspaper publisher who was working as a prominent Washington, D.C. newspaper correspondent. Hamilton interviewed many presidents during his career, but the *Advertiser* noted that he was back in town to vote, and the newspaper made no mention of Grover Cleveland.

Even if Cleveland wasn't a guest in 1890, there is little doubt he previously visited The Globe. Before becoming Buffalo mayor and New York governor, he served as Erie County sheriff and owned land at the corner of Quaker and Davis roads in the Town of Aurora.

There also is little doubt that as a young lawyer on Main Street in the 1820s, future-President Millard Fillmore visited The Globe.



**GLOBE HOTEL,
AURORAVILLE, ERIE CO. N. Y.**



THE subscriber begs leave to inform the publick, itinerant and local, that he has purchased the "Temperance House," formerly kept by G. Peirson, in this village, which he has opened for the reception of company. The premises have undergone a thorough repair, and are fitted up in a style of neatness which will render it in appearance worthy of patronage. It will be his purpose that this Hotel be kept in a style which will merit the patronage of all who have occasion to make it a place of resort, (*save the drunkard.*)

His Bar is constantly supplied with the choicest of Wines, Liquors, &c. and his Table will at all times be furnished with the varieties of the season—and nothing shall be wanting on his part to render the stay of his guests agreeable.

His Barns and out houses are commodious which, together with the other advantages, the subscriber is confident will render it a place of comfort to the citizen or traveller.

MARTIN TABER

Auroraville, June 22, 1836. 1f46

BLACKSMITHING.—The subscriber having taken the shop recently

An 1836 *Aurora Standard* newspaper advertisement announcing new ownership of The Globe Hotel. East Aurora was known as the Village of Auroraville at the time.

**BUFFALO AND WARSAW
LINE OF**



STAGES.

FROM AURORA TO BUFFALO DAILY

THE subscribers would respectfully inform the travelling publick that the Winter Arrangement for the Buffalo and Warsaw Line of Stages is as follows:—

Leaving Warsaw, Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, at 6 o'clock, A. M. arriving in Buffalo the same evening.

Leaving Buffalo every morning, (except Sundays,) running no farther than Aurora on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, where they will intersect the Aurora and Olean Stages.

Leaving the Globe Hotel in Aurora, every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday, at 8 o'clock A. M., and every Monday, Wednesday and Friday, at 1 o'clock P. M. for Buffalo.

This arrangement has been made solely as a matter of publick convenience, which leads the Proprietors to expect a liberal share of publick patronage.

Extras provided at Aurora on short notice. All Baggage at the risk of the owners.

M'ELWAIN & BETTS.

Dec. 14, 1836. 191f

An 1836 advertisement in the *Aurora Standard* newspaper confirming The Globe Hotel as a stagecoach stop.

—The Globe Hotel is the first to "take water" from the city waterworks. The tap will be made to-day. Peek's livery stable is the second application. The two applications amount to \$50. If there were a few more such customers it would soon make the works nearly self-supporting. Everybody who has no good well should put in city water.

The Globe Hotel was the first to "take water" from the village water system. Article from the February 20, 1891 issue of the *East Aurora Advertiser*.

WANTED!

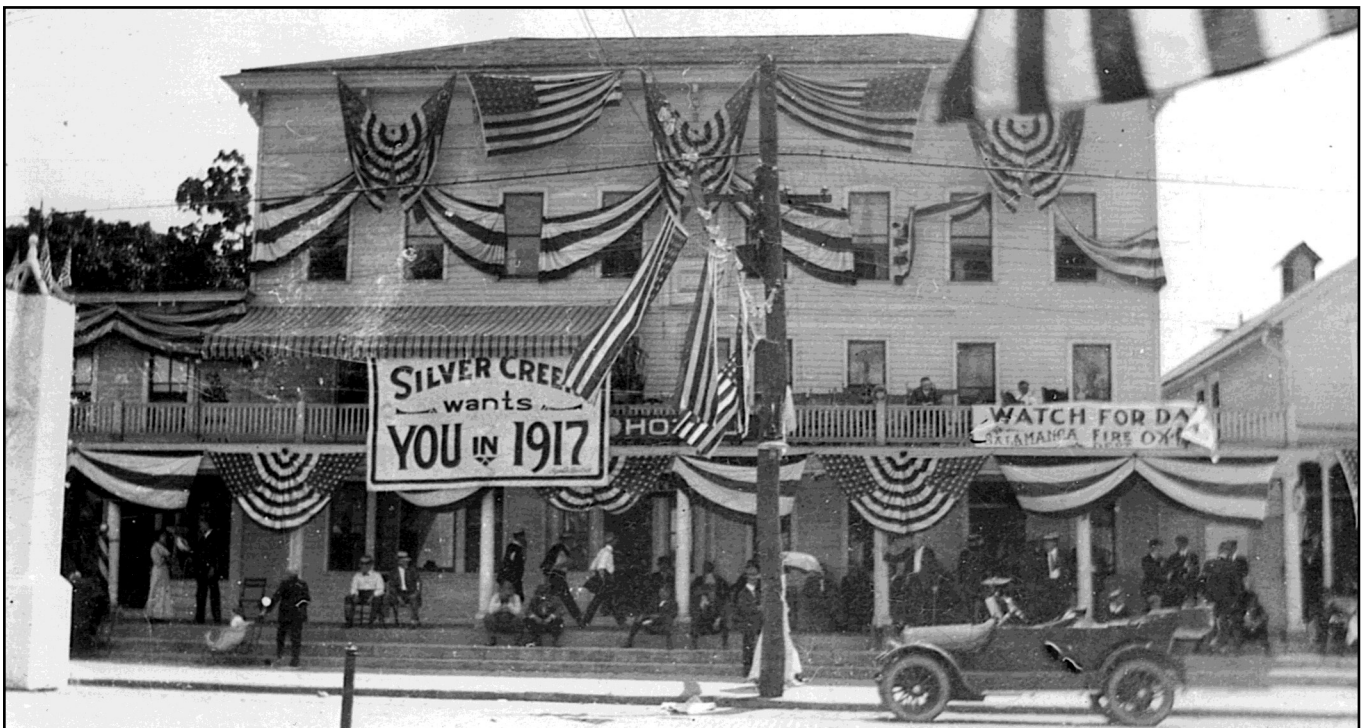
Girl

GLOBE HOTEL

From the April 25, 1929 issue of the *East Aurora Advertiser*.



1890s



Decked for a firemen's convention in 1916. The convention in Silver Creek the following year was advertised on the front of the building.



During the ownership of Victor “Vic” Balthasar, who took over from his father after World War I. Members of the Balthasar family owned The Globe for 74 years, between 1906 and 1981.



1977

**GUESTS WITHOUT BAGGAGE
ARE REQUIRED
TO PAY IN ADVANCE**

Baggage made it more difficult for a hotel guest to “skip out” on their bill. As a result, some of the guest registers note The Globe’s policy requiring advanced payment for visitors who arrived without baggage.