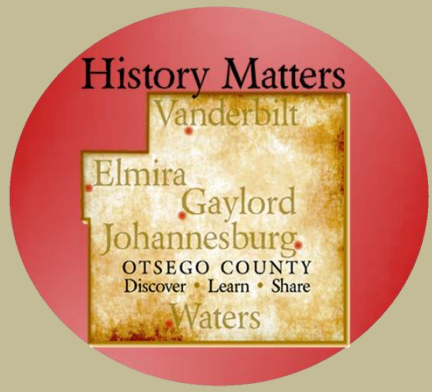


# Update # 35



September 1, 2018

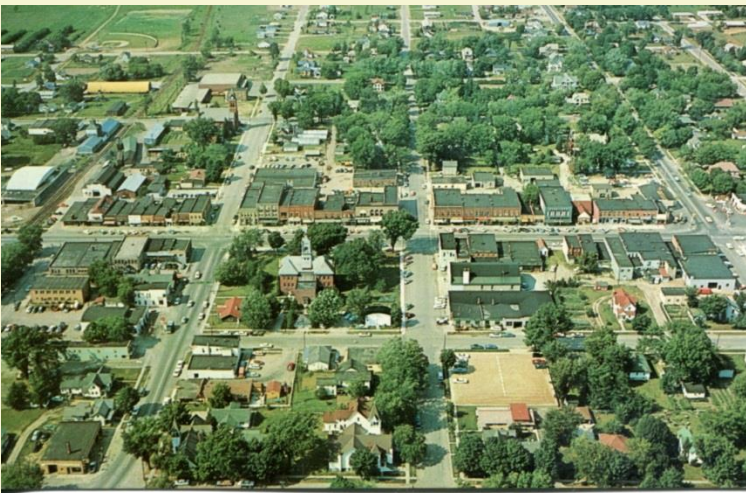
If a picture is worth a thousand words, then an aerial photo must be worth ten times more. Aerial photos provide the “big picture” – they show the complete layout of a town. Each building can be viewed in context to its location and the surrounding businesses. What’s even better is when we can compare aerial photos over time. “Then and Now” comparisons point out what has changed and what has remained the same. Earlier this year, Dutch Neubecker put his drone to flight and created these “after” photos shown in the right column.



An undated aerial photo of downtown Waters is shown to the left. Any guesses at what year or decade? A similar view from 2018 shows how Waters has changed over time. We should continue taking these photos every 5 or 10 years to record the town’s progression.



Below is a 1950s or ‘60s era postcard in the left column and what downtown Gaylord looks like now is shown in the right column. See how many buildings have come and gone in 60 years. The photo to the left depicts life before I-75. All the north-south traffic went on South Otsego, Main Street, and North Center through the heart of the downtown business district. There were three car dealerships, several gas stations, and most of the town’s retail shops were all within walking distance. Notable differences shown in the current view include the “new” courthouse, the pavilion, and fewer trees.



## Discover ♦ Learn ♦ Share

Aerial photos – sometimes called bird’s eye views – give us a dramatic perspective of places we normally see from a limited street view. The aerial photos shown in this Update are just a sample of what’s in our archives. Others include photos of Vanderbilt, Otsego Lake, and industrial development projects. There is also an extensive series taken in 1975 by a local engineering firm.

Do you have Otsego County aerial photos to **share**? We can make a copy, save the digital image in our archives, and return the original to you. What a great way to **learn** about our past. What a great way for future generations to **discover** History Matters.