

# Oranges Don't Grow Here!

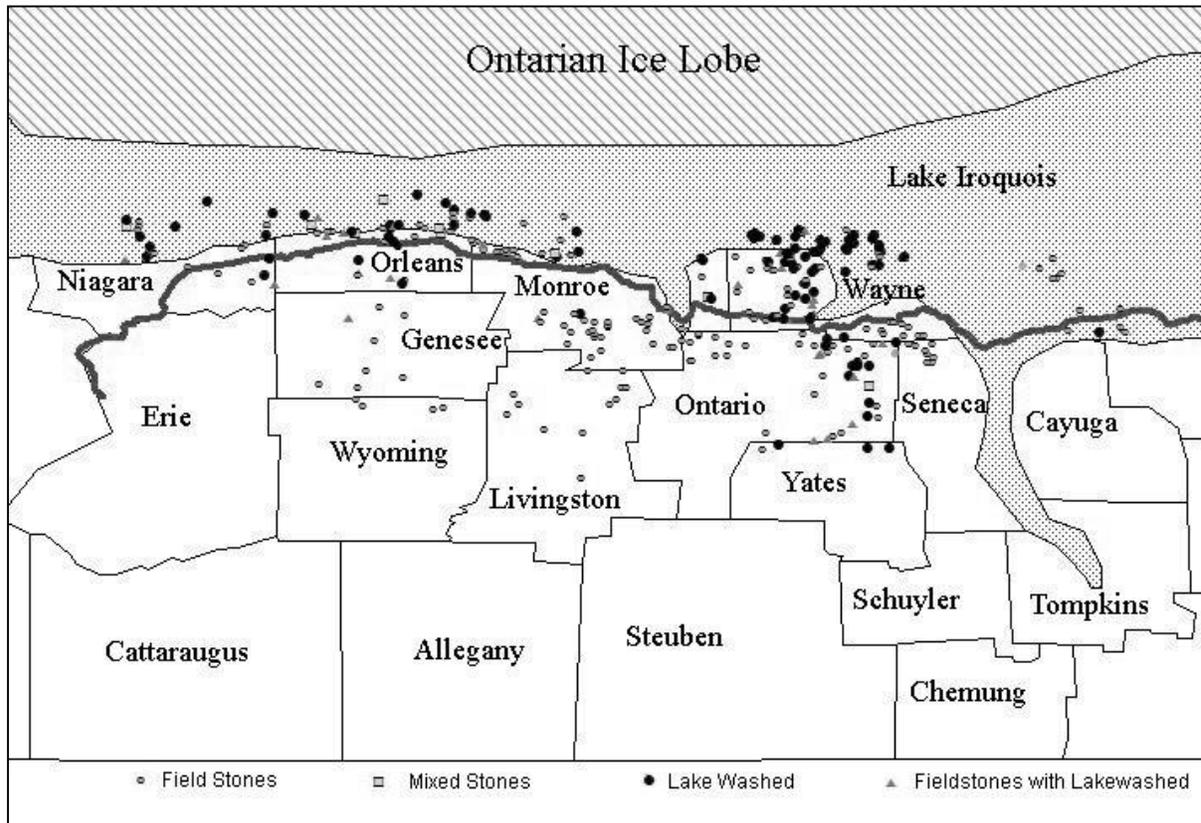
## Lesson for the *Atlas of New York State: Legacies of the Erie Canal*

For farmers to be successful, they must produce enough crops to sell for a profit. They must have a way to get their crops to market. List several conditions here that farmers must have to grow crops: \_\_\_\_\_

---

1. Turn to page 18 in the *Atlas of New York: Legacies of the Erie Canal*. The first map is "Frost-Free Days." Of course, plants can't grow when the temperature drops below freezing. Some crops are hardier than others. Tropical fruits (like oranges and lemons) can't handle any freezing temperatures, so we don't grow them here in New York. *But we can grow wheat*. It was especially an important crop in the 1800s. According to the text on page 18, what are the two important factors that wheat needs to survive: \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Name one place in New York where wheat *can't* do well. \_\_\_\_\_
3. Explain why. \_\_\_\_\_
4. Look at the map on the bottom of the page ("Wheat Production in 1840"). Most of wheat was grown in \_\_\_\_\_ New York (northern, eastern, etc.). Here conditions were much better (longer growing season, the right amount of precipitation).
5. We don't eat raw wheat. Instead it must be milled into \_\_\_\_\_. Rochester was a major milling center in the 1800s. Why? (HINT: There are three waterfalls on the Genesee River in Rochester): \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. The next problem is getting your product to a market, preferably a big city that's on the ocean. What city is the best candidate in our state? \_\_\_\_\_
7. How could the millers in Rochester get their product shipped cheaply to a port city? (See page 14 in the Atlas for an important clue). \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

8. Since the farmers of New York's Wheat Belt could get their crops to market at a low cost, they became very prosperous. One way to show your good fortune is to build a nice house. Between 1830 and 1860, hundreds built **cobblestone houses**, made from rounded small rocks brought there by the glaciers. Those still standing are shown on the map below. What does this have to do with map on page 18 of your Atlas? Most of the cobblestone houses are found \_\_\_\_\_.



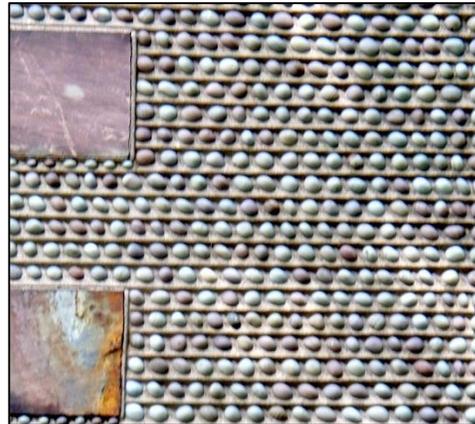
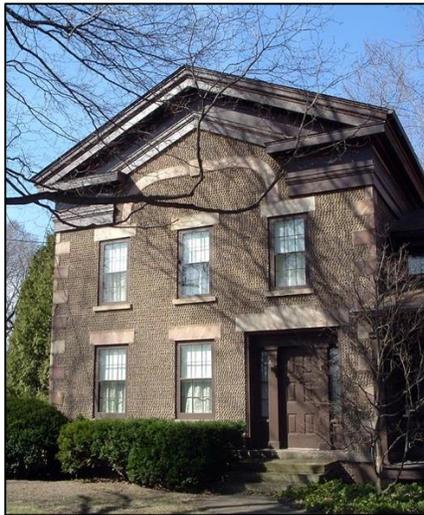
9. What is the important waterway that runs right through the middle of the Cobblestone Country? \_\_\_\_\_
10. Lake Iroquois was formed when the glaciers (Ontarian Ice Lobe) were melting around 10,000 years ago. It no longer exists, but Lake Ontario sits in its old basin. It did have an impact on the type of cobblestone houses built 150 years ago. Those built of very round "lake-washed" stones are found \_\_\_\_\_.
- Those houses made of more irregular "field stones" are found \_\_\_\_\_ from Lake Iroquois. (See photos of each type on the next page).

## Cobblestone Houses in New York State



### Fieldstone Home in Henrietta, New York

Henrietta is south of Rochester and it was never flooded by Lake Iroquois.



### Lake-washed Cobblestone Home in Lyndonville, NY

Lyndonville is north of the Erie Canal and it was once at the bottom of Lake Iroquois.  
Notice that the stones are rounder. Why?