



NORTH GREENBUSH NOTES

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Nuns and News in North Greenbush

In the 2th century on an otherwise ordinary road named Glenmore, Holy Name Convent and then later the broadcasting studios of WROW and Channel 10 occupied the same building.

The large two story edifice was located on 60 acres with a view of the Hudson River. Begun in the 1880s, this property was owned by the Sisters of St. Joseph and was a children's home for many years. Census show the convent had 10 residents in 1925 and 47 in 1940. There was also a caretaker for the property who cut the grass and made any needed repairs. In 1950 the convent closed and the grounds and building were purchased by what was to become Capital Cities Broadcasting.

The building was ideal for a news organization company. There were 57 rooms which were converted into broadcasting studios and offices. WROW radio was on the second floor and WTEN television the first floor. A powerful signal transmitter tower was placed adjacent to the structure.

Several well-known personalities worked for the stations. Sam Stratton who later became a Congressman introduced movies under the name "Sagebrush Sam." Ted Knight from the Mary Tyler Moore Show also worked there for a few years.

By the early 1960s, the station broadcasters needing more space moved to Albany and the property was sold to Rensselaer Polytechnical Institute. The Glenmore building remained vacant until June 1966 when a fire raged out of control for over two hours. Ten fire companies fought the blaze. The building was destroyed and only the transmission tower was saved.

The property was transferred to the New York State National Guard and in 1971 they constructed an Armory on the approximate location of the convent.

If you are driving east over the Menands Bridge, glance to the right. At the skyline you will see the old radio tower which is still in use now to transmit EMS calls.