

Stephen “Pitt the Painter” Nichols



Who among us has not seen this iconic painting of Little Falls?

We see it all around us ... in the signs marking the entrances to our City, in the oval on the side of the fire trucks, in the badge worn on the arm sleeve of our City Police, in the mural high on the wall on South Ann Street, and in the signs marking the entrance to the walkway connecting Route 5 and Canal Place, ...to name a few places.

Have you ever wondered who was the artist?

It was Stephen Pitt Nichols...affectionately called “Pitt” by those who knew him.

A master sign painter, Pitt is responsible for many of the signs you see marking our local businesses still today and for the mural adorning the side of the Antique Center in Canal Place. Not limited to sign painting, Pitt was a prolific painter of landscapes and portraits. His mark on Little Falls has not gone unnoticed...in 2013 Pitt’s work was the subject of a Master of Art’s Thesis by Laura B. Laubenthal for the Cooperstown Graduate Program at SUNY of Oneonta.

During Canal Celebration there will be two exhibits of Pitt’s landscapes, portraits, and signs. Visit the Travelodge and Rose Petals Florist on Sat. Aug. 13th, 9am – 4pm & Sun. Aug. 14th, 9am – 3pm. A self-guided tour of 27 of his still existing signs will also be available at both locations. Don’t miss this opportunity to view his works!