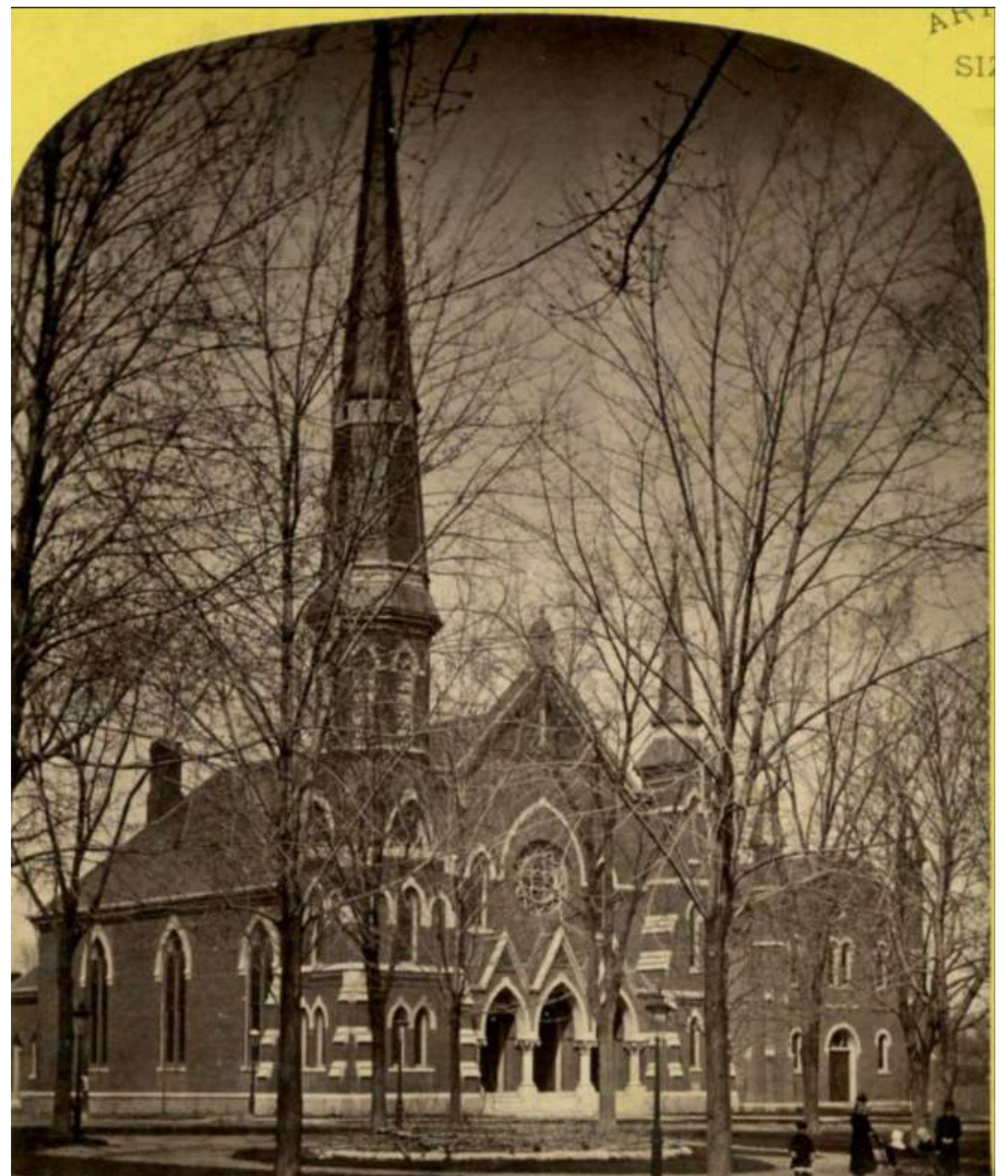


Pulteney Park



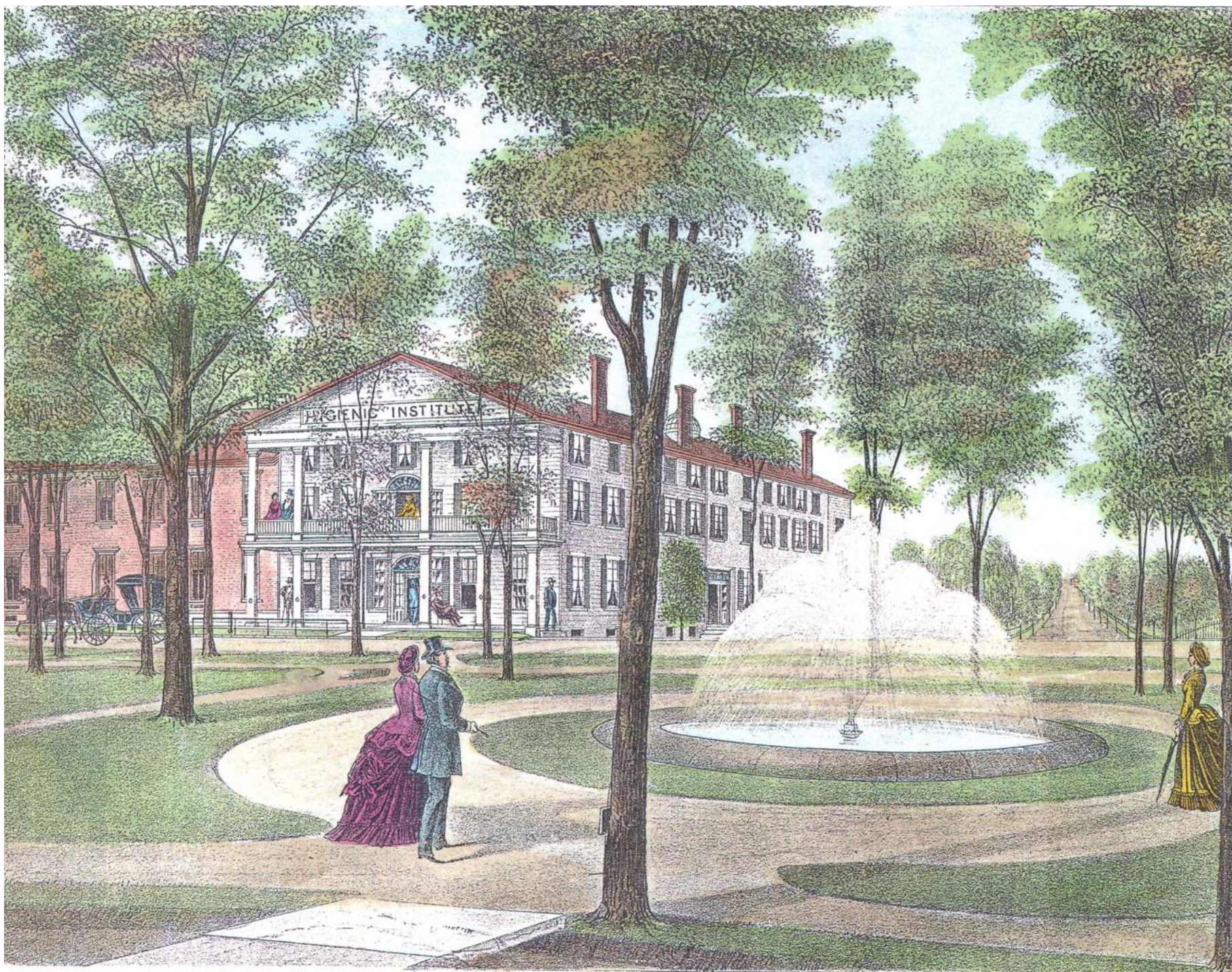
The Geneva Hotel, now the Pulteney Apartments, was constructed in 1796. Travelers wrote that it was the finest hotel in this part of New York State. From 1854-1909 it was home of the Geneva Water Cure and Hygienic Institute. It has been apartments since 1917.

In 1793 Charles Williamson, an employee of the Pulteney Associates hired Joseph Annin to survey and lay out the village of Geneva. Pulteney Park was originally the village green and the center of Geneva. By 1800, the Geneva Hotel, the post office, a grocery store, and the Geneva Academy stood around the village square overlooking Seneca Lake. In the 1820s row houses were built around the square; most had shops on the ground floor and living quarters for the owner above.



In 1798 the Presbyterian Church was the first religious organization in Geneva. An 1811 wooden church was replaced in 1839 with the current building, which has been renovated several times.

Pulteney Park



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After the Erie Canal opened in 1825 businesses moved to the lakefront and the village green fell into disrepair. Cows, dogs, horses, and wash lines were frequently seen on the green. In 1874 a group of ladies formed the Village Improvement Association to install a fountain. Five years later when the ladies' work was completed, the space was officially named Pulteney Park.



In 1939 the City installed the current pool and statue "Peace" by Jean McKay as a memorial to Geneva soldiers in all wars to that point. Other war memorials were added in the mid-20th century to the south end of the park.

All photos courtesy of Historic Geneva

