

Historic Marker

The City of Beacon, NY will hold a dedication ceremony to install the Margaret Fuller Marker at Beacon's Visitor Center/Polhill Park located at the intersection of 9D and Main Street on Saturday, May 21, 2016 at 11:00 am. This marker commemorates the historic visit of women's rights activist Margaret Fuller to then Fishkill Landing in 1844.



“Today a reader, tomorrow a leader.”

Check out some books by and about Margaret Fuller at the Howland Public Library...

- The Essential Margaret Fuller/ edited & introduction by Jeffrey Steele
- The Lives of Margaret Fuller: a Biography/John Matteson
- Margaret Fuller: a New American Life/Megan Marshall
- Men, Women, and Margaret Fuller: the Truth that Existed Between Margaret Fuller and Ralph Waldo Emerson and their Circle of Transcendental Friends/ Laurie James
- The Portable Margaret Fuller/ edited and introduction by Mary Kelley
- Summer on the Lakes in 1843 and Woman in the Nineteenth Century/ Margaret Fuller

<http://www.margaretfuller.org>

Beacon Historical Society

477 Main Street/PO Box 89
Beacon, NY 12508

www.beaconhistorical.org

Margaret Fuller Woman in the Nineteenth Century



“Possessed more influence on the thought of American women than any woman previous to her time.”
Susan B. Anthony

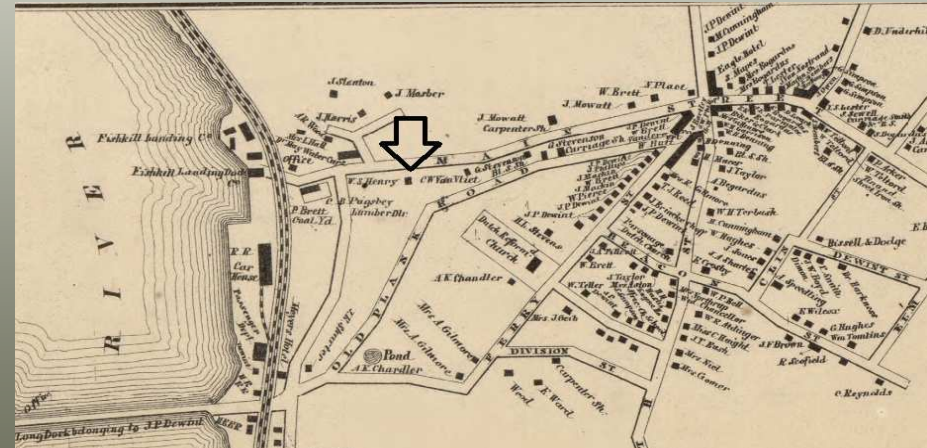
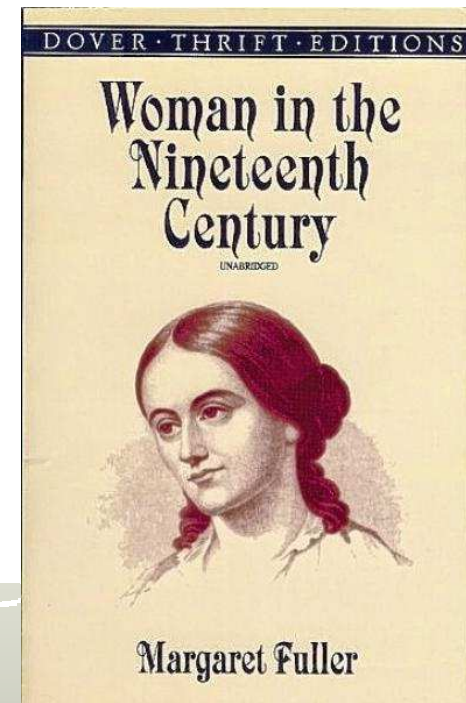
Margaret Fuller, the most respected woman in American literary circles, wrote her seminal book “Woman in the Nineteenth Century,” while visiting Fishkill Landing in the autumn of 1844. Her “pamphlet on women” profoundly impacted the women’s rights movement, inspiring the 1848 Women’s Rights Convention in Seneca Falls, New York.

Fuller stayed at the Van Vliet boarding house, located somewhere near Main Street, within walking distance of the river. At the time, she was on sabbatical from her job as reporter at Horace Greeley’s *The New York Herald Tribune*. She wrote to a friend on October 20, 1844, “I was prevented by attacks from headaches from finishing the pamphlet on women in August. I hope to do it here (at the boardinghouse), as I remain till December. At present, however, I pass all the fine weather in the open air, and grow stronger daily.” Fuller wrote to her brother on November 23, 1844, “I have finished at leisure the pamphlet, and written one or two trifles, also studied much in the evenings. All the fine weather I have passed in the mountain passes, along the mountain brooks or the river.”

Margaret Fuller was a writer of fiction, non-fiction, criticism and poetry. She was a visionary, a scholar, and a social activist for women’s equality, prison reform, abolition, human rights, and democracy.

She was the first American woman to accomplish the following:

- Foreign correspondent in Italy, France, and England, and during battle
- Journalist and literary critic for American newspapers
- Writer for Horace Greeley’s *NY Tribune*
- Critic who set literary standards for American writers
- Researcher at the Harvard College Library
- Author and editor of the *Dial*, the Transcendentalist journal
- Intellectual equal and friend to Ralph Waldo Emerson and Henry David Thoreau



1850 Map of Fishkill Landing (now Beacon). Arrow points to the Van Vliet Boarding House where Fuller stayed from October to December 1844.

