

NUTTEN - CRAFT HOUSE (Site)  
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General Information

Name of Structure: Nutten-Craft House (CFS)

Address: 112 E Miller St

Tax ID: (542001) 68111-18-362027

Atlas: 1853: "E Grant"; 1858: "P W Kenyon"; 1874: Dr W F Nutten;  
1904: "Jesse G Pitts"

When Built / Mason: c.1832; unknown mason

When Razed: June, 1964

Why: Torn down for a parking lot

Original Owner: Eliab T Grant

Subsequent : Philander W Kenyon (Eliab Grant's son-in-law )  
Dr Wilbur F. Nutten; Jesse G. Pitts; Dr James Sanford, Dr George Craft

Original Use: House

Subsequent: Dr's office, boarding house, transients, office supply business

Pictures : Yes

Description:

Structural: 2½ -story, gable end faces road; 2 windows down w/2 centered above them, and a small rectangular 4-paned horizontal window above it in the tall gable; no entrance on the front facade of main block. 2-story recessed wing on right with a similar smaller sized window arrangement, and on the lower left the opening is a door, not a window. Wing has very unusual roofline, suggesting it has been modified. Originally it may have been a slightly smaller replica of the main block. At some point thereafter the slope of the roof abutting the main block appears to have been changed, possibly add more interior space. The new roofline changes pitch to a less steep angle to join the roofline on the main block—giving the new roofline a crook in the middle effecting a lean-to like appearance.

On the left wall of the main block there's a door very near to the rear quoin-line with a window centered above it; the rest of the wall is completely cobblestone. There is a chimney at the rear of the main block (cannot tell from any photos if the wing has a similar one or what the side window arrangement might be).

Masonry: Limestone quoins, lintels, and sills throughout. Difficult to tell from existing photographs, but it may have had a water table. Multi-everything field cobbles, on the front were set 4/Q. Very neat rows with joints that appear to be rounded, likely

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made with some kind of "jointing tool".

NOTE: It actually appears to have been quite a pretty house based on one picture before it was painted yellow with red trim (quoins, lintels, sills) and very nice curb appeal for a doctor's office in the wing.

Owners of the Cobblestone — Timeline

- 1853: Eliab T Grant
- 1858: Philander W Kenyon (E.T.Grant's daughter & son-in-law)  
early 1870's they move to IL
- ????: Dr Wilbur F Nutten acquires it  
"for many years it was the home and office of Dr Nutten ... After Dr Nutten left the cobblestone it was occupied by the late Dr Thatcher for several years" — Newark Courier, 3/24/1927 NOTE: Dr Thatcher occupied it 1885.
- 1887: Jesse G Pitts acquires it  
"J G Pitts has made a fine investment in the purchase of the Dr Nutten cobble-stone house on Miller street. He will make various improvements on its interior, and it will be rented as heretofore." — Arcadian Weekly Gazette, 5/25/1887
- 1912: Dr James R Sanford  
"Dr Sanford has bought of Calvin Vary the stone house on East Miller street adjacent to the Grange Block. He will make improvements and move into it for a residence and office." —Newark Courier, 11/14/1912 (Mrs Louise Vary was Pitt's daughter)  
NOTE: "Dr Sanford's residence" per Newark-Union Gazette 12/22/1922; he dies 1928
- 1927 Dr George H Craft  
"The cobblestone house on East Miller street just sold by Dr Sanford to Dr Craft is one of the old houses of Newark."—Newark Courier, 3/24/1927  
NOTE: "Following his death his offices were used for a time by Dr V. James Palmeri" — Rochester Democrat & Chronicle, 6/1/1964
- 1955 Florence nee Botcher Craft (widow)  
"Mrs Craft owns this home on East Miller Street in Newark. Before that Dr Sanford, and then Dr Thatcher had owned the house." — Verlyn Klahn, 1955 Hoffman Essay.  
NOTE: Dr Thatcher occupied the stone house of Dr Nutten. Dr Thatcher practiced in Newark from 1883 until his death in 1911. Dr Thatcher preceded Dr Sanford and never owned the house.
- - - Just prior to being razed the cobblestone was "leased by the Arcadia Typewriter Company" — Newark-Courier Gazette, 7/7/1966

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1964 Cobblestone is RAZED

<http://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn88074531/1964-06-04/ed-1/seq-6/> Newark Courier Gazette, The Marion Enterprise, Clifton Springs Press, 6/4/1964  
Captioned photograph: "LANDMARK RAZED — Familiar landmark in Downtown Newark yielded to modern times this week when wreckers razed old cobblestone house next to Grange Hall. The home, an early cobblestone, was built about 130 years ago." — no accompanying article.

[Rochester NY Democrat Chronicle 1964 b - 1312.pdf](#) (6/1/1964)

Newark Landmark to Vanish

"Downtown landmark—a cobblestone dwelling next to the Grange Hall on East Miller Street... John Bilotta, owner of the landmark, has no definite plans for the present other than to remove the building and clear the property... The cobblestone house is believed to have been built sometime around 1830 when it was used as a school and church, though what church the histories fail to say. The Masonic order, according to a history written by the late F.D. Burgess voted to erect a second story on the building where meetings were held for a time in 1841.

In later years maps of the village indicate that the property was owned in 1874 by Dr Wilbur F. Nutten and in subsequent years by Dr James Sanford. Dr George H Craft and his family took over the house. Following his death his offices were used for a time by Dr V. James Palmeri. During the time Rev Irving McGrew was rector of St Mark's Episcopal Church (1911-13) the cobblestone house was empty. The Rev Mr McGrew interested a group of businessmen in a project to maintain the house as a home for transients where a meal and a clean bed could be had. The house has also been used for offices and most recently it was used as an office supply shop."

<http://fultonhistory.com/Newspaper%2024/>

[Rochester%20NY%20Democrat%20Chronicle%201949-1970/](#)

[Rochester%20NY%20Democrat%20Chronicle%201964/](#)

[Rochester%20NY%20Democrat%20Chronicle%201964%20b%20-%201312.pdf](#)

NOTE: Rev Irving McGrew was rector of the church from 9/1911 and preached his last sermon there 11/20/1913. He came to St Mark's from New York City where his work "was largely along the line of rescue work, mission work, etc, among the slums of that city". Reported in the *Newark-Union Gazette* on 10/14/1911 he advocated for improving the condition of homeless men in Newark: "We should have here some lodging place where the homeless men can get a clean bed for 15¢ a night." The matter was discussed and the name 'Newark Civic League' was chosen for an organization to address this concern. Nothing more about it appears in any subsequent newspapers.

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NOTE: Dr V. James Palmeri was a practicing physician in Newark since 1935. Dr Craft died in 1941.

NOTE: <http://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn88074531/1966-07-07/ed-1/seq-12/>  
Newark-Courier Gazette, 7/7/1966

"In June 1964 the cobblestone house on East Miller St next to the Newark Grange Hall was razed for a parking lot. It had been a school, a home for derelicts, and the residence of a succession of Newark's physicians: Dr Nutten, Dr Sanford, Dr Craft, and Dr Palmeri, before it was finally leased by the Arcadia Typewriter Co."

### The Owners

#### **Eliab T Grant and Philander W Kenyon**

1853 map indicates E. Grant as owner of two properties fronting Miller St on the NE corner of then Miller and Main streets. #9 Miller is on the corner; #4 (the cobblestone) is abutting on the east.

1858 map has a "Resident List" showing E.T. Grant at #9 and P.W. Kenyon at #4.

Both in Newark Cemetery

<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/104274387/eliab-thompson-grant> (1804-1865)

<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/139993960/philander-w-kenyon> (1825-1891)

Obituary (Kenyon) <http://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn88074454/1891-04-15/ed-1/seq-6/>  
—Arcadian Weekly Gazette

Per his obituary notice, Philander Kenyon was married to Eliab T Grant's daughter. In the early 1870s—"some 18 or 20 years ago"—they moved to Odell, IL where he died and was brought back to Newark for burial. So they moved about 1871 and by 1874 atlas W. F. Nutten's name is shown.

No information was found about Eliab Grant, Sr.

#### **Dr Wilbur F Nutten**

Newark Cemetery

<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/25620570/wilbur-f-nutten> (1849-1904) 4/19/1904

His obituary notice is posted on his 'findagrave' site.

Obituaries are also at:

<http://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn85026906/1904-04-21/ed-1/seq-3/> — Newark Courier,

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<http://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn88074454/1904-04-20/ed-1/seq-9/> — Acadian Weekly Gazette, and <http://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn85026906/1904-04-21/ed-1/seq-3/> — Newark Courier

In 1863 got his M.D. degree from the College of Physicians and Surgeons in NYC and entered into a 4-year partnership with Dr. Charles Pomeroy after which he entered private practice. "He had built up in Newark and vicinity a large practice, but unfortunately of late years his health had somewhat impeded his progress." He was a very caring doctor, "Many a time has he done his work all day, driving many miles and then sat up all night with a very sick patient, doing his work again the next day with little rest."

Renting it out (to Dr. Edward P Thatcher)

<https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn85026908/1885-04-04/ed-1/seq-4.pdf> — Newark Union

"The April Changes - The Names and Location of Newark People who Moved into New Quarters — Dr. Thatcher, to Nutten house, East Miller street."

<http://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn85026906/1927-03-24/ed-1/seq-4/> — Newark Courier

"... For many years it was the home and office of the late Dr Nutten, until he bought the Stephen Culver house. After Dr Nutten left the cobblestone house it was occupied by the late Dr Thatcher for several years."

NOTE: Dr E.P. Thatcher died in 1911.

## **Jesse G Pitts**

Pine Hill Cemetery, Westfield MA

<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/60535929/jesse-gifford-pitts> (1823-1911)

Obituary

<http://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn88074501/1911-05-27/ed-1/seq-7/> Newark Union Gazette

Jesse G Pitts came to Newark "about 1873, where he conducted a boot and shoe business about 20 years, including the manufacture of moccasins under letters patent, making about 6,000 or 8,000 dozen pairs annually, selling them to jobbers and the finding trade."

"In his vigorous days Mr Pitts was one of our most prominent men and has always stood high in business and social circles."

"The remains will be taken to Westfield MA for burial tomorrow where Mrs Pitts was buried in 1903." He is survived by a daughter, Louise, and her husband Calvin Vary. They are his heirs and they sell the cobblestone house in 1912 to Dr. James R. Sanborn.

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How did J. G. Pitts get the cobblestone and what did he do with it?

[https://fultonhistory.com/highlighter/highlight-for-xml?](https://fultonhistory.com/highlighter/highlight-for-xml?altUrl=https%3A%2F%2Ffultonhistory.com%2FNewspaper%2520%2FNewark%2520%2520NY%2520Arcadian%2520Weekly%2520Gazette%2FNewark%2520%2520NY%2520Arcadian%2520Weekly%2520Gazette%25201888-1888%2520pdf%2FNewark%2520%2520NY%2520Arcadian%2520Weekly%2520Gazette%25201888-1888%2520-%25200374.pdf)

[altUrl=https%3A%2F%2Ffultonhistory.com%2FNewspaper%2520%2FNewark%2520%2520NY%2520Arcadian%2520Weekly%2520Gazette%2FNewark%2520%2520NY%2520Arcadian%2520Weekly%2520Gazette%25201888-1888%2520pdf%2FNewark%2520%2520NY%2520Arcadian%2520Weekly%2520Gazette%25201888-1888%2520-%25200374.pdf](https://fultonhistory.com/highlighter/highlight-for-xml?altUrl=https%3A%2F%2Ffultonhistory.com%2FNewspaper%2520%2FNewark%2520%2520NY%2520Arcadian%2520Weekly%2520Gazette%2FNewark%2520%2520NY%2520Arcadian%2520Weekly%2520Gazette%25201888-1888%2520pdf%2FNewark%2520%2520NY%2520Arcadian%2520Weekly%2520Gazette%25201888-1888%2520-%25200374.pdf), Arcadian Weekly Gazette, 5/25/1887

"J G Pitts has made a fine investment in the purchase of the Dr Nutten cobble-stone house on Miller street. He will make various improvements on its interior, and it will be rented as heretofore."

The house is locally known as the "Nutten stone house" and will continue to be referred to as such. Jesse Pitts did rent it as evidenced by news clippings in the Arcadian Weekly Gazette:

[Newark NY Arcadian Weekly Gazette 1888-1888 - 0177.pdf](#) (8/4/1888): SPRING REMOVALS —"Arthur Blackmar to part of Nutten stone house, Miller street"

[Newark NY Arcadian Weekly Gazette 1888-1891 - 0243.pdf](#) (4/3/1889) "Mrs Decker to stone house, owned by J.G. Pitts, Miller st."

[Newark NY Arcadian Weekly Gazette 1888-1891 - 0379.pdf](#) (7/31/1889): "Rev. Mr. Wyman, of the Christian church, moves his family to town and will occupy the Nutten house, No 11 East Miller street."

[Newark NY Arcadian Weekly Gazette 1890-1891 - 0418.pdf](#) (Wed 4/16/1890): "Chas. Williams, from Lyons to east side J.G. Pitts stone house, Miller St."

[Newark NY Arcadian Weekly Gazette 1888-1891 - 0695.pdf](#) (4/8/1891): "Orlon Markel to part of Nutten hse."

[Newark NY Arcadian Weekly Gazette 1888-1891 - 0722.pdf](#) (5/6/1891): "Fred Brewer occupies the Nutten house on East Miller street."

[Newark NY Arcadian Weekly Gazette 1891-1893 - 0580.pdf](#) (Wed 4/6/1892 ): "W.C. Burgess to Nutten house, East Miller street."

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**Dr James R Sanford**

Newark Cemetery

<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/54717709/james-raymond-sanford> (1886-1928)

Obituary:

<http://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn85026906/1928-12-27/ed-1/seq-1/> continued on  
<http://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn85026906/1928-12-27/ed-1/seq-8/>

Newark Courier, 12/27/1928

Obituary

DR J.R. SANFORD TAKEN TO LAST RESTING PLACE ... Dr James Raymond Sanford, prominent physician in Newark for the past 17 years, died at his home on South Main Street, Thursday morning, after an illness of 7 weeks. Dr Sanford was born in Palmyra Township 1/19/1886. He graduated from the Newark High School in 1905 and from the Syracuse Medical College in 1909. He began practicing medicine in Newark, February 1911 ... He enlisted for foreign service in the Spring of 1917 and was called for active service 8/9/1917, going immediately to London with the first contingent of physicians loaned to the British Army. He saw 20 months of continuous service on the British front and went through the St Quentin drive of March 1918, where his regiment was practically annihilated. For his services at this time he was decorated with the British Military Cross and was promoted to the rank of captain. He was discharged at Camp Dix in March 1919 and returned at once to Newark to resume the practice of medicine ..."

Dr James Sanborn bought the house from the estate of J.G. Pitts in 1912 and used it for a home and doctor's office. In 1927 he sold it to Dr George H Craft.

<http://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn85026906/1912-11-14/ed-1/seq-4/> — Newark Courier  
"Dr Sanford has bought of Calvin Vary the stone house on East Miller street adjacent to the Grange Block. He will make improvements and move into it for a residence and office."

<http://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn85026906/1927-03-24/ed-1/seq-4/> Newark Courier  
"The cobblestone house on East Miller street just sold by Dr Sanford to Dr Craft is one of the old houses of Newark. For many years it was the home and office of the late Dr Nutten, until he bought the Stephen Culver house. After Dr Nutten left the cobblestone house it was occupied by the late Dr Thatcher for several years."

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**Dr George H. Craft**

Gorham Cemetery

<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/115932224/george-h-craft> (1868-1941; age 71-72)

[Penn Yan NY Chronicle Express 1941 00474.pdf](#) (9/4/1941)

"Deaths — Dr George Craft, a native and long time resident of Gorham passed away at his home in Newark on Monday, September 1, 1941 after a long period of ill health. He is survived by his wife ... The funeral was held from his home on Thursday afternoon with burial in Gorham cemetery."

After Dr Craft uses it as his home and doctor's office, the ownership and use of this cobblestone is elusive. The Rochester Democrat & Chronicle (6/1/1964) article written at the time the building was razed (referenced above) indicates that Dr V. James Palmeri used it as his office after Dr Craft; and henceforth for various and sundry other uses.

<https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn85026906/1939-11-02/ed-1/seq-3.pdf> — Newark Courier

"Mr and Mrs Jerome Martin and children moved Saturday from Austin Magee's house to the north Main street house in Newark, formerly occupied by Dr Craft. Mr Martin will move his upholstery shop to the same location."

NOTE: Per 1904 Map, Main and E Miller Sts is the location of the 'Dr Craft' cobblestone house (northeast corner).