



Photo by Gerda Peterich

# **EIGHTH COBBLESTONE TOUR**

**A MOTOR TOUR IN YATES AND SOUTHERN ONTARIO COUNTIES**

**ORGANIZED BY THE COBBLESTONE SOCIETY WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF THE  
CROOKED LAKE YORKER CLUB**

**SATURDAY, JUNE 15, 1968**

**MORRISON-WAGENER-GUYLE HOUSE 1 OPEN**

LEACH HOUSE 2

**RYAL HOUSE 3 OPEN**

ANGUS-JENSEN HOUSE 4

EARL-BOERNER-ABBOTT HOUSE 5

**BARNES-HARKNESS HOUSE 6 OPEN**

BARDEN-FONTANA HOUSE 7

**NICHOLS-SCHULZ HOUSE 8 OPEN**

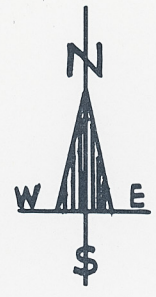
BARDEN-WARREN HOUSE 9

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ONTARIO CO.

YATES CO.

SENeca LAKE



EIGHTH COBBLESTONE TOUR - JUNE 15, '68, 1-5 P.M.

# THE COBBLESTONE SOCIETY

DEDICATED TO THE PRESERVATION OF  
COBBLESTONE BUILDINGS IN AMERICA

FOUNDED IN 1960 IN CHILDS, N. Y.  
POST OFFICE: ALBION, N. Y. 14411

## EIGHTH ANNUAL COBBLESTONE TOUR

Saturday, June 15, 1968  
1 p. m. until 5 p. m.

### BUILDINGS

1. Morrison - Wagener - Guyle House. . . . . OPEN
2. Leach House . . . . . not open
3. Ryal House . . . . . OPEN
4. Angus - Jensen House . . . . . not open
5. Earl - Boerner - Abbott House . . . . . not open
6. Barnes - Harkness House . . . . . OPEN
7. Barden - Fontana House . . . . . not open
8. Nichols - Schulz House . . . . . OPEN
9. Barden - Warren House . . . . . not open
10. Oliver House (Yates County Historical Society). . . . . OPEN

### IN APPRECIATION

The Cobblestone Society gratefully acknowledges the cooperation of the Crooked Lake Yorker Club, The Yates County Historical Society and the cobblestone home owners whose generosity made this tour possible, especially those who opened their homes: Mr. & Mrs. Fred Guyle, Mrs. W. D. Ryal, Mr. & Mrs. Bernard Harkness, and Dr. & Mrs. Ernest R. Schulz.

1. MORRISON - WAGENER - GUYLE HOUSE - OPEN  
105 Highland Drive, Penn Yan

Sitting serenely on a knoll, looking down on the Penn Yan Academy, this house has graced this location since 1834. The original owner was Roderick Morrison who sold it in 1843 to Abraham Wagener. Mr. & Mrs. Fred H. Guyle have owned it since 1950.

Its construction is of the earliest form of cobblestone masonry. Fieldstones of greatly varying size - 2" dia. to 10" dia. are laid in random pattern, some of them being split to present a smooth face to the weather. Corners and openings are framed with brick to give the necessary straight, square surfaces at these points. This form of construction was used 100 or

more years earlier in the Hudson River Valley with the stone locally available there.

Across the front of the house is a double porch with simple square columns rising up to the main roof and interrupting the wood railings and floor line at the second story level. The main entrance door is flanked with leaded glass sidelights and elliptical fanlight. The leading is an intricate pattern and embellished with small applied ornaments. It is rare to find, now, an entrance such as this in such an excellent state of preservation.

Inside the house, the spacious rooms make a comfortable setting for the Guyles' furnishings - a happy blend of old and new.



2. LEACH HOUSE - not open  
Route 14, east side

This house is a simple two story building with center entrance and a one-story wing extending to the south. It was built in 1837, George R. Young was the mason, and has been for six generations in the Leach family. The ornamentation is confined almost exclusively to the masonry - the main walls being laid in a herringbone pattern.

3. RYAL HOUSE - OPEN  
Route 14, west side

Built in 1835 this house has been in the Ryal family since 1870. The main portion is a story-and-a-half building with the gable end facing the road. A one-story wing is on the north side. The cobbles are a mixture of field and water-rounded stones of varied colors; the quoins, lintels and sills are limestone.



The upper story in the front has unusual triangular windows which show the builder's solution to the problem caused by the sloping roof, limited area, and need for windows. The porches are constructions dating from the latter part of the nineteenth century.

The main front door is flanked with sidelights glazed with red glass of the same vintage as the sheltering porch. Inside the entrance is cased with simple cornerblock trim. Directly opposite this door the stairway rises to the second floor turning the corner with graceful winders and a curved railing. The newel at the foot of the stair has a bit of carved ornament at the handrail termination. In the first floor rooms of the main portion are plaster cornices which are unusual in a smaller house.

4. ANGUS - JENSEN HOUSE - not open  
Route 14, west side

Built between 1830 and 1834 this house remained in the Angus family until 1960. It is a small Greek-Revival style building given distinction with a most unusual pedimented front porch. Instead of Doric or Ionic columns to support the roof, this function is now performed by lattice panels with flat "gothick" arches in the center. The front entrance, onto the porch, has handsome wood trim of paneled pilasters (with typical fret design) supporting a wood entablature with a carved vine ornament.

The rear wing of the house was built, apparently, somewhat later than the front for the cobbles are smaller - 5 courses per quoin as opposed to 4 in the front.

5. EARL - BOERNER - ABBOTT HOUSE - not open

Route 14 (old road) & Earl's Hill Road

Sitting several hundred yards back from the main road, on the old road, this large house sits confidently overlooking Seneca Lake. Built in the late 1840's, it shows the changing tastes of the 19th century: the Greek Revival style giving way to the Italian Villa.

A bracketed wood cornice crowns the stone walls, the outline of the building is more irregular than a Greek Revival building. The walls are of very small red water-rounded sandstones laid 6 courses per quoin on the main portion, and 5 courses per quoin on the south wing. The columns of the entrance and side porches have curious capitals that perhaps owe their inspiration to the Egyptian lotus blossom.

A porch apparently once spread itself comfortably across the main portion, onto which the French doors gave access; now it is euonymus vegetus and yew.

6. BARNES - HARKNESS HOUSE - OPEN

Pre-Emption Road, east side

The land slopes gently up from Seneca Lake for a mile and a half until it crests at Pre-emption Road and the Harkness House - most fittingly a great house with a two story Ionic portico on the main section and a small sister porch on the front of the north wing. Construction of this house was started in 1835 for David Barnes and completed in 1838. It remained in this family until the 1940's. Mr. & Mrs.



Bernard Harkness acquired it several years ago and it shows their loving care and respect for its quality.

The walls are laid up of field cobbles, varied in color, shape and size, 4 courses per quoin on the front and sides, 3 courses per quoin on the rear. Small Ionic columns appear again at each side of the main entrance door which retains its original brown-black color.

Inside, the main rooms are trimmed in the height of the Green Revival style with carved corner blocks and key blocks. The fireplace mantels continue to display the builder's fondness for the Ionic column.

Throughout the house are furnishings showing the wide interests of the Harkness family: 18th and early 19th century American furniture, art from the near and far-east; all splendidly set off by the handsome surroundings.

7. BARDEN - FONTANA HOUSE - not open  
Wabash Road, west side

This house sits about one mile due west from the Harkness house on the next road. It is a story-and-a-half building facing east and given distinction with various sorts of elaboration. A Doric columned, pedimented porch graces the front and shelters the main entrance which has a wealth of carved ornament of classical origin. On the south end of the building in the gable end is a palladian or venetian window - a most unusual feature.

Another porch stretches across the front of the service wing and the wall of the building at the back of the porch has flush wood boards for its surface. The side and rear walls of this wing are of cobblestones.

Built in 1842, the front and south walls are laid 4 courses per quoin while the rear wall and those of the service wing are laid 3 courses per quoin; all field cobbles of varying colors.

In the rear is the old stone smoke house, now stuccoed over. Along the road, in front of the house and remaining since the latter part of the 19th century, is a handsome wire fence with cast iron newels and ornamentation.

8. NICHOLS - SCHULZ HOUSE - OPEN  
Alexander Road, north side

In 1935, Ashley Hatch of Bellona related the following facts about the building (Mr. Hatch was a great-grandson of Mr. Grow, the mason) Purnton Grow was originally an 'engineer' on the Erie Canal and a house builder in this area later, dying in 1848 - age 52. The house was built in 1838 of Ontario Lake stones, brought here by ox team. These stones were sorted for size and color by the ladies - this being considered fit work for the fair sex.



The house is a handsome one-and-a-half story building whose main walls are faced with red sandstone water-rounded cobbles, laid 6 courses per quoin on the main walls and 5 courses per quoin on less important walls, while the rear walls are field cobbles.

8. NICHOLS - SCHULZ HOUSE - continued

It is the front entrance that is unique and gives the building much of its great style. The builder used, instead of the usual Doric or Ionic columns, this splendid variation with flutes termination in outcurving scallops. Originally there was a projecting porch here, but it succumbed to the ravaging hands of weather and time.

Inside the house is trimmed with the simple wide woodwork usually found in houses of this period.

West of the house at the end of the garden is a cobblestone smoke-house. This enjoys the distinction of still being occasionally used for its original purpose. Inside are the rough wooden poles supporting wrought iron hooks for hanging the meat while it is smoked. In the gable end there is a vent hole formed by a small grinding stone. The walls are of field cobbles laid in a crude herringbone pattern.

9. BARDEN - WARREN HOUSE - not open  
Ferguson Corners Road, north side

This simple one-and-one-half story farmhouse was built in 1848 by George Barden and is a typical western New York farmhouse in the Greek Revival style. The five openings on the front at the first floor level are overscored with small windows in the wide frieze of the cornice. Walls are of field cobbles of varied colors, laid 4 courses per quoin. A one-story wing stretches to the rear and to one side there is a small separate one-story cobblestone building.

10. OLIVER HOUSE (Yates County Historical Society) - OPEN  
200 Main St., corner Chapel St., Penn Yan, N. Y.

This building, owned by the Village of Penn Yan, houses the Yates County Historical Society and the Chamber of Commerce.

MEMBERSHIP FORM

The Cobblestone Society welcomes new members and we invite you to fill out the form below and mail together with check or money order to Mrs. Charles Thompson, Ridge Road, Route 1, Albion, N. Y. 14411.

Please enroll me as a member of the Cobblestone Society for the coming year. I enclose a check for \_\_\_\_\_ dollars, payable to the Society.

Annual Dues:

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Active Membership...\$2.00

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Patron.....\$25.00

Life Membership...\$100.00

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