

THE MARK SMITH HOUSE

1990 Lake Road

We call it Coll-Mar the red brick house we fell in love with and bought 15 years ago.

The house was built in 1862 by Lorenzo Boynton. The original barns which have long since burned down were located across the road. As far as we can learn the whole house was built at one time even though the ceilings in the front part are 11 feet high compared to the 9 feet ceilings in the rear rooms. The fireplaces were not originally in the house despite the fact it boasts 5 chimneys. The front terrace also was added in later years. On the second floor there are 7 bedrooms and two baths. Above the attic a stairway leads to the cupulo, a favorite hide a way for the boys.

In the recent past a lovely old kitchen was restored by the Smiths and at that time a Dutch oven and fireplace were added in keeping with the old theme yet including all those modern conveniences to accommodate a family of 6 children and two adults.

At the same time a swimming pool was completed however still leaving room for the vegetable garden Mrs. Smith enjoys so much.

Last year a gambrel roof barn was built to house the Smith's two horses as well as an indoor basketball court.

At the present time a summer porch is under construction.

The Town of Ontario Historical Society and the Ontario Women's Civic Club are grateful to the owners of the houses shown today. So that these homes may be protected we ask you to abide by the following rules.

PLEASE:

- * park outside of driveways
* do not smoke in any of the houses
* wear footcovers when provided
* do not enter areas that are roped off
* refrain from touching objects in the house

NOTE:

- * No. 6 (Not On Tour)
An original log cabin built in the 1830's.
* Bathroom facilities are available at No. 2 and No. 9
* Tickets are sold at

No. 10 H & N 5 & 10c STORE
Main Street - Ontario

No. 11 METHODIST CHURCH
Corner of Ontario Center Rd. and Brick Church Rd.

- * A light lunch is available at No. 11

THE COVER

Entrance of the Mark Smith House
1990 Lake Road
by resident artist Deirdre Lindquist

THE BARRY SWIFT HOUSE

2141 Lake Road

This Greek Revival clapboard house built around 1840 was purchased six years ago by Mr. and Mrs. Barry Swift. The old weathered schoolhouse, east of the home was the Ontario District Public school for many years.

Later the quonset dairy barn and small buildings were added to care for the large prized herd of dairy cattle. At this time in history two tenant families occupied the house to tend the farm and cattle.

The Swifts have completely and personally remodeled and decorated the entire home. Taking down walls, opening up closed wings and removing the back section to accomodate this growing family of four young boys.

The present dining-family room was once a summer kitchen. Barn siding and hand hewn beams were saved by Mr. Swift when the Engleson homestead barn was demolished. The third fireplace and a gas charcoal broiler were built with the brick wall of the dining room. These are most accessible to the pool, patio, and dining areas. Entertaining here is ideal and unique.

Recently added to the kitchen are colorful Mexican tiles. Also color predominates in the small area rugs made by Mrs. Swift.

Utilizing the old farm office behind the house a bright and cheery play house was built for year round use.

Throughout the house one will find a large variety of memorabilia acquired by the Swifts during their many travels.

Much of the 150 acre farm is still being worked and planted.

THE HOMER A. SMITH HOUSE

1 Ontario on the Lake

In 1965 Mr. and Mrs. Homer A. Smith personally completed final drafts for their "old" Early American Home.

Extensive use was made of exposed barn timbers both inside and out. The exterior is southwest United States style. A long columned porch runs the length of the house.

Thirty inch wide boards are used. An overhead beam in the family room still has the hand wrought hinge pins in it for the barn door. One door to this same room is a small barn door on its original hinges embedded in its original timber. All the beams were pit sawn rather than adzed.

In the basement game room the left over barn siding was used for wainscotting and a bar, a collection of old patent medicine and beverage bottles is conveniently displayed over hidden lighting in the wainscot.

The brick fireplaces and foyer are made of old handmade brick. The dining room fireplace has a warming oven frequently used for raising bread.

The cast iron post lamp by the drive was used forty years ago in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania before they converted to electricity.

The low ceilings throughout create a cozy atmosphere as do the hand made square cut door and window trim and the narrow stairway.

A collection of old tools is on display in the family room. The primitive scene rug on the living room wall took Mrs. Smith a year to hook.

On the first floor is a workshop used initially for making the molding and woodwork. It now serves for refinishing antiques and making "our own antique furniture". Of special interest may be the large blacksmith bellows made into a coffee table, a refinished jelly cabinet in the dining room and several restored antique clocks. The refinished washstand in the front hall was the Smith's first antique bought "well used and broken for One Dollar" The hutch in the family room is just the opposite, it's a brand new product of the workshop sized to hold rug making material.

THE DR. NORMAN R. LOOMIS HOUSE

2671 Lake Road

The Dr. Norman R. Loomis family became owners of this lovely brick cobblestone home in 1959.

This home was built on or before 1835 by Zebedee and Polly Hodges. The cobblestone addition was constructed in the late 1830's of water rounded cobblestones. It is believed that originally this addition was built as a woodshed.

Originally the brick house had a recessed porch on the north side. However this porch had been enclosed before the Wickes family bought the house in 1914. Traces of the brick arch of this recessed porch can still be seen. Some time prior to 1914, the cobblestone woodshed had been remodeled into a kitchen. The Wickes family did a great deal to the home including removal of several partitions in the present family room, building several fireplaces, opening bricked-up fireplace in the parlor, and adding several windows on the southern exposure. The west porch was finished in time for the bridal party supper for Elizabeth Wickes's wedding. The roof was raised on the cobblestone portion in 1926.

Several changes have been made since then, including removal of a partition in the parlor, completely remodeling the first floor portion of the cobblestone area into a new kitchen, an additional stairway, a dining room, and a utility area. A downstairs bathroom was added and windows have been replaced in the family room.

It is interesting to note that the original owner left the following inventory in his estate dated August 23, 1853:

"1 cook stove, large spinning wheel, weaving loom, cows, stoves, bed, buggy, suckling colt, potatoes and apples, 145 bushels of wheat, 6 knives and forks, 6 teacups and saucers, 6 tablespoons, 6 plates, 6 teaspoons, 6 chairs, 1 cherry table, 1 white sow, 1 red roan cow, bedding, 1 bedstead, and large family bible."

This an interesting contrast to our material necessities of today.

There are many points of interest in the home. The exposed stone wall of the dining area is the original. The beams and posts in the kitchen are original. There is a variety of flooring downstairs. The kitchen floors are oak, the family room is cherry and the parlor and hall have the original flooring of pine and ash.

The paneling in the family room is cherry. There are four fireplaces and one stove, all in working order.

Thus, we have an old house redone for modern family country living.

THE FREDERICK MICHA HOUSE

211 Brick Church Road

The Pease Homestead now owned by Mr. and Mrs. Frederick R. Micha was built in 1839 by Able Pease and his son Charles. Flanked by its original white picket fence, the home was the first framed house built between the Ridge Road and the lake. The front door was recently restored. In the original front section of the house the ceilings are 9 feet, 3 inches high and the woodwork was handmade by Charles and his son Wes Pease.

The bannister in the main hall is solid black walnut. The curves were hand steamed.

The paintings in the dining room are primitive oils of Mr. and Mrs. McLeen, Wayland, New York. The center chandelier sculptured piece was given to the Pease family by an early horse and buggy salesman in gratitude for room and board.

The dining room cupboards were recently designed by Mrs. Micha to maintain the period theme and conceal the radiators.

In the center room you see examples of some of the woodworking tools used to build the house. In the early days this room was used as a meeting room for the Methodist people prior to the North Ontario Methodist Church being built across the street. In this room is a large primitive pine cupboard stained with red ore bed paint from the old ore beds nearby.

The present kitchen was once a butler's pantry. At one time it served as the North Ontario post office.

In the winter room, the Franklin stove sits on a hearth of old sour beer bricks that were taken from a kiln used by Mr. Pease in his wood drying process for making coffins.

The present utility room was once used as a summer kitchen and was also used for hatching chicks. The outside smokehouse is the original structure used for smoking meats for the family.

The house is steeped in Ontario early farm development. It sits on high well drained soil typifying the sound thinking of the Pease family.

Interesting trees surround the house, American larch, red pine, austrian pine, striped maple, norway spruce and introduced trees of such species as Japanese scholar tree, hackberry, katsura tree and European hop horn bean.

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THE CHARLES BUCK HOUSE

150 Walworth Road

Originally called the Freeman House, it has had several tenants. Mr. and Mrs. Charles Buck have lived here 19 years. Some of the original out buildings, including a dryhouse for apples, have been removed.

The architecture of the home suggests it was built during the Middle period of cobblestone construction. A rafter exposed during redecorating and dated 1838 probably pinpoints the date. The frame part of the house was probably added 75 years later. No major structural changes have been made since this time, however, Mr. and Mrs. Buck since acquiring this home in 1950 have completely redecorated the interior to accommodate 5 children and 2 adults. The charming old kitchen boasts a large lovely old fireplace which is still used.

Visitors may note the interesting design and construction of the windows in the cobblestone walls. The flat arch lintels laid above the windows and the window sills cut from 3 3/4 inch thick planks plus the thick wall are typical of cobblestone construction.

Mrs. Buck is hand hooking stairtreads and the hooking frame is in evidence in the living room where she works.

Today Mr. and Mrs. Buck call their home the "Gaywind" because of the everpresent northwest winds.

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THE WILLIAM D. SCULLY HOUSE

246 Walworth Road

Mr. and Mrs. William D. Scully call their farm "Stone Ends" because of the cobblestone house located on their property. As with all cobblestone construction, the exposed cobblestone is a veneer wall over a fieldstone wall. The cobblestones themselves are laid so that only one end is visible. One will notice that all windows and doorways are 24" in depth.

The Scully home, built in 1834, is a center entrance cobblestone with all rooms both up and downstairs leading off a main center hall.

For over 120 years no structural changes were made until 1956 when it was purchased by the Scully's from Dr. Charles Camp. Since that time, most of the restoration, with the exception of the major framing of the fieldstone wing, was accomplished by the Scully's themselves. The fieldstone wing was converted from a one to a one and one half story structure. At that time, a hand-split cedar shake roof was added to cover a master bedroom, a modern bath with a walk-in combination shower-steam room, a hall and staircase. On the main floor the former summer kitchen gave way to a living room, office and hall with white oak pegged floors. The original hand hewn beams still remain in place in the living room.

Although the original fireplaces have been removed, a large 50" fireplace was constructed by the owners in the living room. The home has been completely wired for high fidelity music. Also, the braided rugs throughout were hand made by Mrs. Scully.

The house is furnished in Early American antiques.

To the rear of the house the old milkhouse is now used as a woodshed and the original farm bell is put to good use today to call the children playing out the back lane.

Outside, the hand pump is used by one and all for a refreshing drink of well water. A pear orchard was removed and replaced by a 3 1/2 acre lawn with 180 pine trees and such ornamental trees as redbud, hawthorne, white birch, sycamore and silver maple.

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IN WALWORTH TOWNSHIP

THE DR. THOMAS MORGAN HOUSE

695 Walworth Road

During the decade that the Erie Canal was built (1817-1825) and the following few decades, the Irish canal-workers were busy constructing cobblestone homes for their families when the weather was too cold to work on the canal. The women would bring the round cobbles up from the lake shore for their men-folk to work with. Often, brothers, or fathers and sons, would construct their houses using the same basic plan. Nowadays, these pairs of houses are still distinguishable, despite the modernization that has taken place.

The cobblestone house which stands on the corner of Finley Road and Walworth-Ontario Road was constructed in 1828 (approximately) by an unknown builder. The first record of the property changing hands is listed as 1843. Around 1854, the family of Assemblyman Joseph Finley occupied the house, hence Finley Road.

In 1960, The Three Pines Farm, after being run as a dairy farm by tenant farmers for many years, was purchased by Dr. Thomas Morgan from the estate of Helen Tobin. In '61, the old white clapboard wing was torn down and replaced by the present five room wing and basement. The wing consists of a kitchen, family room with cathedral ceiling (both paneled in butternut), a laundry room, a studio-bedroom and bathroom and powder room. The butternut paneling is put up in short pieces, unlike pine, because the tree itself is very short. Originally, there was no wing at all, for there was a dug well found directly beneath the old kitchen.

In the upstairs of the main cobblestone part, the original floors are still in the two front bedrooms, hall, and staircase. The original indoor bathroom, put in by Mrs. Tobin, was restyled and modernized. Downstairs, the floors were in such poor condition that they had to be evened off with plywood and replaced. What is now used as a back-hall-closet was at some time a kitchen, and later a summer-pantry to the kitchen in the first clapboard addition.

Three Pines Farm can boast only two pines now, for, after being struck by lightning three times, the third majestic pine had to be removed.

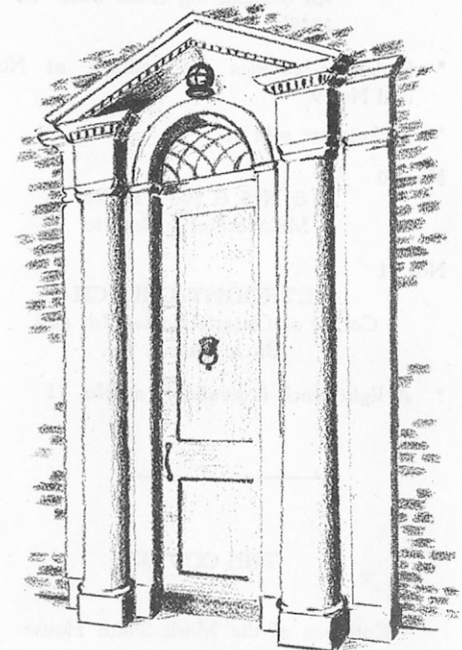
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Margaret Ann Morgan
April 11, 1969

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THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
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= PRESENTS =

A
Tour
Of
Homes



Deirdre Lindquist

= SATURDAY, JUNE 7, 1969 =

11 A. M. - 5 P. M.

\$ 2.00