

AN HISTORICAL SURVEY

- by members of-

MONROE CHAPTER, DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION.

SOME OLD HOUSES OF WESTERN MONROE COUNTY

Foreword.

Did you ever, in looking over your old photographs, feel provoked with yourself because you did not know who all of them were and now it is too late to find out? Grandma and Aunt Betsey used to tell you about those people but you never wrote down what they said and now Grandma and Aunt Betsey are gone.

It may be the same way about the old houses in your neighborhood. You were told interesting things about some of them - stories you would like to have remembered, - but your memory has failed you again.

It is to remedy this situation in our locality, as far as possible, and provide against what would really be an irreparable loss, that the records in this portfolio have been gathered and set down.

Sources of information have been various; the published histories of Monroe County, particularly, the "Landmarks" which has been a mine of information; the earliest town records and old manuscripts such as letters, school circulars, store ledgers and "title searches". Also,

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newspaper articles early and late, dealing with the history of this section, and Wilkinson's unpublished history of Clarkson and Miss Elizabeth Martin's "Story of Brockport". Last but not least, is the word of mouth testimony of descendants of the people who built the houses under consideration or lived in them many years. Some of these descendants are still living in the "old homestead". If it is a farmhouse and the farm is still being worked by the same family, it is eligible for a marker and can be known as a "Century Farm".

The name of the earliest known owner of each house is given but since 1935 when we began collecting this material, there have been so many turnovers of real estate, especially in Clarkson, that we have discontinued giving the names of present owners except incidentally at the end of each record.

This work has been a D.A.R. project in the field of historical research. We were required to send three copies of each record to our D.A.R. State Historian and the latter would then send one copy to our National Headquarters in Washington, another copy to the State Library in Albany, and then she retained the other copy for her files. Our Chapter made for our selves three additional copies of each report. We gave one to Seymour Library, kept another for our portfolio, and passed on the remaining copy to Miss Helen M. Hastings who did most of the compiling and needed a complete set of the records for reference.

Although we have been working on this project for some years we have only made a good beginning in our studies of the old landmarks in this general locality. But possibly our efforts have led the owners of interesting old places to value them more and the public to appreciate them better. We have not tried to bring everything up to date but leave our earlier records as they were written.