

Cobblestone homes, never to be built again. .

By Tom Gable

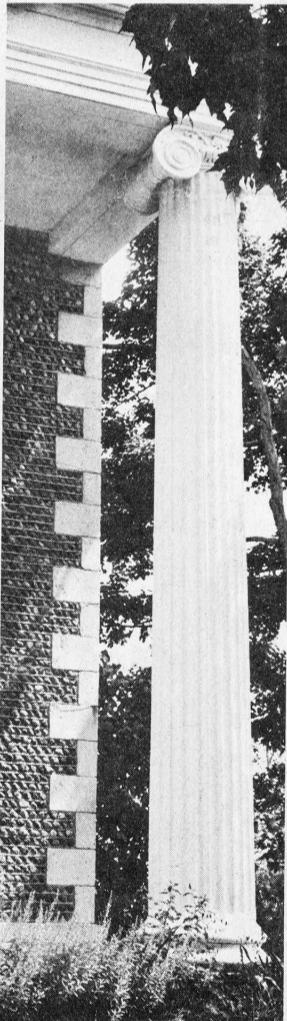


Cobblestone porches are for contemplation and reflection.

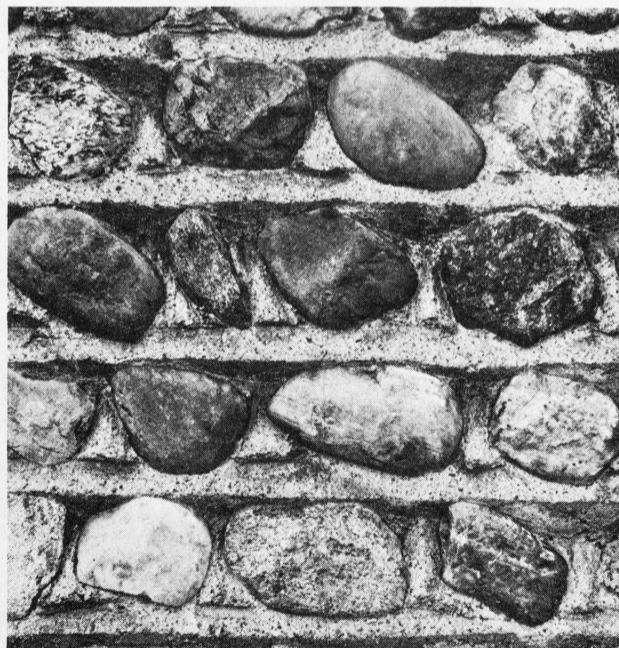


The Lawrence Gracey home, near Geneva, on 5 & 20, is an excellent example of cobblestone mastery. Built in the Greek Revival Style, the lake-washed red sandstones were carried from the shores of Lake Ontario. Cost of construction is estimated at \$2,100, but 100 years ago the masons would work for \$1 a day plus lunch.

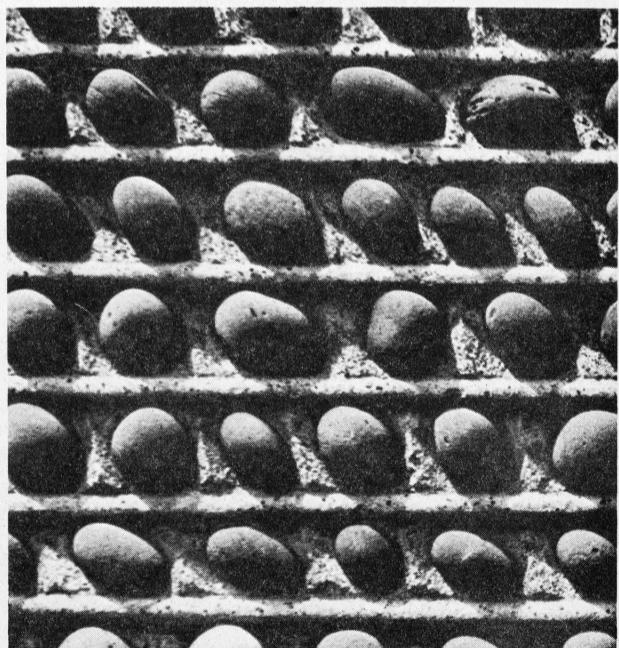
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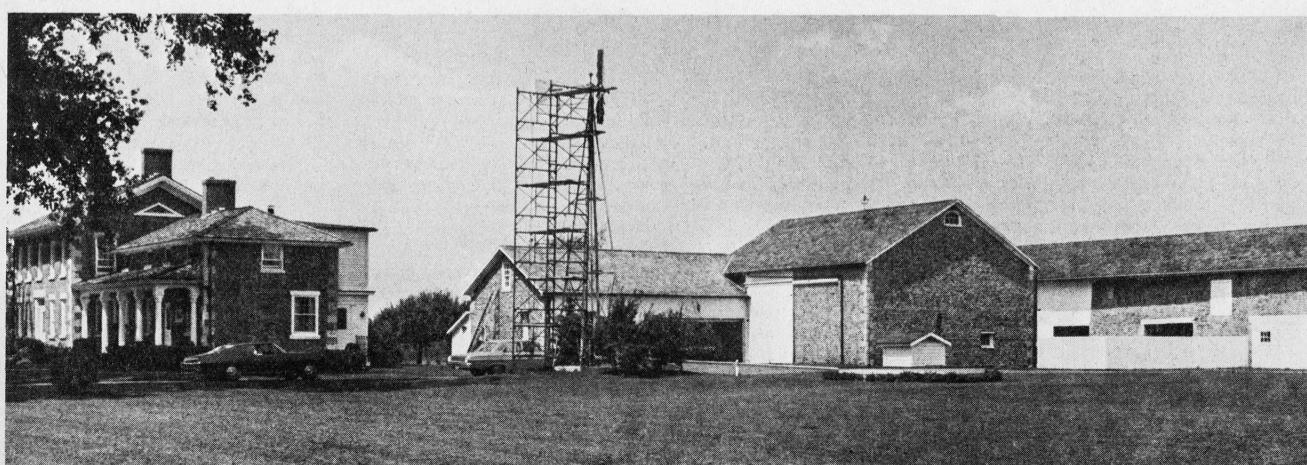
The graceful white columns of the homes accent the cobblestones beautifully, with the corner quoins (made of limestone) adding stability to its appearance. (Harkness home at Bellona.)



The houses were made by laying the cobblestones horizontally, between thick layers of the exceedingly hard mortar. The walls would range in thickness usually from 16 to 24 inches, leaving no doubt about its strength.



The perfectionist of years ago might have selected these very small, red sandstones with which to build his home. Can you imagine how long it would take to find these stones, match them perfectly, and build the Gracey home?



Cobblestone barns as well as cobblestone homes are a rarity. The Gleason home and barns on Rt. 96, near Phelps, could very well be the only ones of its kind. Farm is shown with the old windmill, under restoration.