

Cobb's Corners Schoolhouse Joint Dist #1 (Site)

HISTORY SHEET

General Information

Name of Structure: Cobb's Corners Joint District SH #1 (Galen, Savannah)

Address: 12079 Clyde Hunts Cnrs

Parcel ID: (544000) 75113-00-923894

Lot 9

Atlas: 1853: "School", 1858: "SH N° 1"; 1874: "SH", 1904: "School N°1"

When Built / Mason: 1833

When Abandoned: SH closed 1940 per taxpayer vote

When Razed: 8/1997

Why: Unk, preferred a clean site of vacant land

Original Owner: Trustees of Joint Dist #1

Subsequently: Bessie Crawford, unknown others, Savannah DHU Preserve

Original Use: Schoolhouse

Subsequently: Residence rented out, then abandoned

Photographs: Yes

Description:

Structural Details: 1-story, gable end entrance placed on right near quoin line w/one 9-over-9 paned window to its left, 2 risers to door.<sup>1</sup> The left long side had two original windows similar to those on the front (cobblestones filled the space where a 3rd window could have been set between it and the front corner quoins). The opposite long side was modified to add more windows. Window lintels abutted the roof line. Sometime after Roudabush pictures dormers were added to allow an upstairs room.

Masonry Details: Multi-colored, shaped, and sized field cobbles; horizontal joints Vs, verticals crude pyramids; mortar was brown and pebbly. Roughly squared gray limestone quoins, wood lintels. 3/Q on long side w/modified windows, 4/Q (more refined masonry and stones) on opposite side. Just the quoin line is revealed on the façade and shows 4/Q (otherwise completely obscured w/frame addition).

At the point Roudabush took photographs, it appears to have been undergoing renovations and occupied (mailbox and bicycle and wagon in yard). It had a sagging roof and dormers had not yet been added.

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<sup>1</sup> Additions added to both gable ends, predating pictures. "Galen District Schoolhouses", W.C. Morrison, © ? — sketch depicts entrance before addition.

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Verlyn Klahn, 1955 Hoffman Survey winner, documented the schoolhouse as owned by a Bessie Crawford who had put some additions on and was renting it out. In 1966 Carl F Schmidt described it as abandoned. Property records show a deed transfer from the estate of Rowan L Malbone to Madeira Associates on 6/11/1997 in the amount of \$4000. The address given was 12079 Clyde Hunts Corners Rd, of which the schoolhouse site is one little piece. They further note that a building of no description was removed from that property in August 1997.

Jim & Ruth Chatfield email: 12/2/2014: "We have a little more info for you concerning the Cobbs Corners School House. It came from one of the neighbors we know. They talked with the manager of the "Savannah DHU" Preserve. The property was bought by a Robert Congel—"Maderia". The last ones to own it before Congel was Querrie. It was still standing in 1989 when the East Lodge was built, but torn down shortly after in the early 90's. The front faced the east, Hadden Road, according to the neighbor." Note: Robert Congel was a Syracuse developer.

### Vote to Close the School

Clyde NY Herald 1938-1943 - 0379.pdf (3/13/1940): "Former Common School District Savannah No 1 (Hunt's Corners School or Cobb School - Notice is hereby given that in accordance with the provisions of the Education Law of New York State a special meeting of the inhabitants of that portion of Central School District No 2 of the Towns of Galen et al that formerly constituted School District Savannah No 1... on 3/18/1940 at the schoolhouse of former School District Savannah No 1 to vote on the following question: Shall the legal votes of that portion that formerly constituted School District Savannah No 1 authorize the central board of eduction to discontinue maintaining the central school district that formerly constituted School District Savannah No 1?"

Clyde NY Herald 1938-1943 - 0382.pdf (W, 3/20/1940): "At special meeting held Monday night, March 18, in the schoolhouse at Savannah District No 1, known as the Hunt's Corners school, the voters of the district voted to close the school entirely at the close of this school year... The vote was 9 to 1."

Clyde NY Herald 1938-1943 - 0382.pdf (Wed 3/20/1940)

"SCHOOL DISTRICT HOLDS MEETING: At a special meeting held in the school house at Savannah District No 1, known as the Hunt's Corners school" ... the voters of the district voted to close the school entirely at the close of this school year. At the meeting held Monday night, March 18... on the question to close, there were 9 yes, and only 1 no."

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Historical Reference - Excerpts from Excellent Article

Clyde NY Herald 1933-1938 - 0046.pdf (3/8/1933)

Cobb School, District No. 1, towns of Savannah, Galen and Butler, was built in 1833 at a cost of \$1890 on land donated for school purposes by J.M. Cobb. Cobb School has been in continuous operation ever since its establishment... The Cobb School was a 22' x 28' foot building built of water-glazed cobblestones hauled by ox-carts from the shores of Lake Ontario. The cobblestones were set in mortar by masons whose workmanship apparently cannot be duplicated today. During the 100 years of existence, very little repair work has been required.

The long board seats were used in the school until 1904, when they were taken out to make room for 16 modern single seats. A new floor was laid at this time. During the past four years, an eight foot extension has been built on the south side of the building (front) for a cloak room and wood house. Windows have been placed in the east side (right) as recommended by the State Department of Education. Ten more new seats have been added to take care of the increased enrollment...

Link to entire article: <https://fultonhistory.com/Newspaper%202/Clyde%20NY%20Herald/Clyde%20NY%20Herald%201933-1938.pdf/Clyde%20NY%20Herald%201933-1938%20-%200046.pdf>