

JONES - STROHM - BASTIAN HOUSE
HISTORY SHEET, Page 1 of 10
General Information

Name of Structure: Charles Strohm House

Address: 8785 Lyons Marengo Rd¹ (CR 224)
Tax ID: (542800) 71111-00-807195
Atlas: Great Lot #9, Lot 68—
1853, 1858: R Jones; 1874: not shown; 1904: C Strome

When Built and Mason: Unknown

When Razed: Ruins until at least when Roudabush took 6 pictures.²

Why: Fire, 7/10/1962

Original Owner: R Jones

Subsequent Owners:

Charles Strohm,
Carrie Bastian (son-in-law Herman Schleede renting & evicted)
Later tenant house for migrant workers
(owned by estate of Mrs Edward Bastian at time of fire), Esther Schleede

Original Use: House

Subsequent: House, mainly rented out

Pictures: Roudabush 1980s (ruins), Verlyn Klahn(1955; Mrs Edward Bastian)
Dorothy Wells Pease (1940; Mr Schleede; photo)

Description:

¹ Per Galen Historical Society email 7/19/2021: Assessment search of town records suggested the property was ~8785-8809 Lyons-Marengo Rd. #8809: Ranch house built 1976. This is about the same time when Roudabush took photos of the ruins. There are structures at #8793 (year built 1875), and #8785 (year built 1987). The #8785 site has a time frame most consistent with clearing the ruins and preparing a new building site.

<https://wayne.sdgny.com/report.aspx?file=&swiscode=542800&printkey=07111100008411390000&sitetype=res&siteNum=1>

² <http://www.cobblestonemuseum.org/CobblestoneStructuresCatalog/Gal-7%20Ruins.htm>

JONES - STROHM - BASTIAN HOUSE

HISTORY SHEET, Page 2 of 10

General Information

Structural: 2-story, 5-bay w/center entrance; long side faced highway. Fireplace on each end. 6-over-6 sashes. 5-risers from ground to entrance; rubble foundation. Sidelights on each side of door; limestone lintel spanning entire door opening. Limestone watertable spanning front.

Masonry: Robert Roudabush: On Lyons-Marengo Road, there is the ruins of a 2-story building. The quoins and window lintels are gray limestone. The varied color stones are irregular and rough and are laid 3 rows to the quoin. On the front wall, there is an area in which the original mortar is visible. The stones are surrounded by mortar having an uninterrupted horizontal, while the vertical is depressed at both the top and bottom where it meets the horizontal. The interior shows the holes into which the floor supports were inserted into the walls.

Determining the Site Footprint

7/19/2021 Email from Galen Historical Society:

HS checked and gave the address: ~8785-8809 Lyons-Marengo Rd and last owner was Esther Schlede.

Karen Crandall email: "Cobblestone House on Lyons-Marengo Rd, Burned 1962" sent to galenhistoricalsociety@gmail.com on 1/3/2021 with text: "I am looking for the approximate address of the footprint of the cobblestone house I believe was owned by Charles Strohm in early 1900s and by Mrs Edward Bastian by the 1930s. It was destroyed in a fire 7/11/1962 and the ruins remained for a number of years before being removed and the entire site being subdivided and developed (maybe in about the 1990s)."

Nicole L Malbone, Galen Historical Society, President: email (1/12/2021) — "I finished looking through the assessment records. I found one property listed as being owned by Esther Schlede (formerly owned by Edward Bastian, who was mentioned as owner in 1930). It stated "Old Stone House - Down". The property consisted of 24 acres of tillable land and 2 acres of pasture land, valued at \$750 combined. Given the clues - previous owner and 'old stone house - down' - I'm thinking this may be the land where the house in question was located. The records must be from a time after the fire." ... "Here's the address... ~8785-8809 Lyons-Marengo Rd"

JONES - STROHM - BASTIAN HOUSE
HISTORY SHEET, Page 3 of 10
General Information

References:

Dorothy Wells Pease (© 1941, p 29): "A house on the Lyons-Marengo Rd was occupied by a Mr Jones in 1858. The present owner is Mr Schleede. In Galen Township." KC: It was owned by Elizabeth Bastian, occupied by son-in-law Herman Schleede.

Wayne County Cobblestone Architecture: *Bounty of the Field and Shore* © 1979: Galen 5
—"Lyons-Marengo Road, Interesting ruins of large colonial"

Ownership Trace

1850s wall maps indicate "R Jones". Searches of newspapers and regional cemeteries³ have yielded no information.

Strohm Family

The Strohm's were not a family who made the newspapers very often. Searches of Ancestry databases yield the following.

Michael Strohm, Sr (1797-1856), born Alsace France (wife: Barbara [nee] Humbert)

son: **Michael Strohm, Jr** (3/27/1833 in Galen — 6/28/1906 in Rochester)

9 children: **Carl "Charles" Heinrich "Henry" Strohm** (1859-1935)

son: Charles Strohm (b. ? d. ?)

sons: William, George

<https://wayne.nygenweb.net/cemeteries/southlycem.html>

STROHM, Chas. H., 1859 - 1935

STROHM, Magdalena, 1858 - 1936

1867-1868 Town of Lyons Directory

Strohm, Michael, (Galen) farmer 100

The 1874 atlas doesn't even show the building on the map. However, as early as 1882, Michael Strohm is involved with the active management of this property.

³ Regional cemeteries via "Find a Grave" searches. These may not always be complete, so the family members may be buried locally but not easily traceable.

JONES - STROHM - BASTIAN HOUSE

HISTORY SHEET, Page 4 of 10

General Information

<http://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn85026908/1882-09-23/ed-1/seq-4/>

Newark Union, September 23, 1882

Michael Strohm, of Lyons, has concluded the sale of about seven acres of land off his farm, to the West Shore company, at a little less than \$400 per acre."

At some point Michael moves off the farm and into the village of Lyons.

Rochester NY Democrat Chronicle 1895 - 2880.pdf (5/17/1895)

"Burglars effected an entrance into a confectionery, cigar, and peanut stand owner by Michael Strohm at Lyons early morning by prying the door open. The burglarized stand is situated on William street in the busiest part of the village ..."

By 1894 this was being referred to as the Charles Strohm's farm.

Rochester NY Democrat Chronicle 1894 - 3448.PDF (7/28/1894)

"Thomas Hilliard, Jr and wife, residing about 4 miles north of Lyons, had a very narrow escape from being killed by the Buffalo local on the West Shore railroad at what is known as Michael Strohm's Crossing, about 2 miles east of Lyons yesterday afternoon about 3:15 o'clock ... They drove down at Strohm's crossing, not hearing any bell ringing or whistle blowing, and when on the tracks saw the Buffalo local coming but a few feet away. Before they could get across the tracks the train struck the carriage, wrecking the hind wheels and smashing it badly. Mr and Mrs Hilliard were not hurt and managed to control the horse. They went back to Charles Strohm's and secured a road cart behind which they rigged up the damaged wagon with two fence rails for hind wheels and went in Lyons. Mrs Strohm was standing near the scene of the accident at the time and avers that no whistle was sounded or bell rung. The West Shore crossing at the point is a most dangerous one, the track being obscured from view either way by a dense growth of underbrush so that approaching trains cannot be seen until the driver is on the tracks."

Rochester NY Democrat Chronicle 1903 a (1069).pdf (2/3/1903)

"Michael Strohm, one of the best know residents of Lyons, met with a very peculiar accident last Thursday night from the effects of which he is closely confined to his bed. It came closed to causing his death. Mr Strohm is early 70 years of age and a retired farmer. He ran a brewery once and for every years past has conducted a small candy and peanut stand. He has but one arm, and is obliged to walk with a cane. When he sits down or lies down, he has to be assisted to arise. Thursday night the electric lights were out and sidewalks were slippery and rain fell in torrents. Mr Strohm started for home, walking in the middle of the road. He lives on Jackson street a few rods off Maple street. When he turned in the darkness from Maple street to reach the Jackson street corner, he made a misstep in the darkness and stepped into the gutter, in which was rushing a torrent of water. He struck his side against a large stone. The water

JONES - STROHM - BASTIAN HOUSE

HISTORY SHEET, Page 5 of 10

General Information

rushed over him and he was perfectly helpless. He called for help ... He had been lying in the ditch nearly a half hour.

Mr Strohm formerly lived at Utica and belonged to the state militia. When the Utica and Black River canal was completed, the governor of the state visited Utica and there was a great time. The militia turned out as an escort with a cannon, Everybody was afraid to fire the gun. At last the commanding officer order Mr Strohm to fire the cannon. He did so, there was an explosion, and Mr Strohm lost his arm. Several times since bills have been introduced in the Legislature to grant Mr Strohm a pension, but they never succeeding receiving the governor's signature. The bill at one time came very close to getting the governor's signature, but parties from Lyons, it is said, represented to the governor that Mr Strohm was wealthy, and the signature was withheld."

About the loss of his arm

Oswego NY Daily Times Jan-April 1899 - 0425.PDF (3/4/1899)

"LYONS, March 8 — Assemblyman Greenwood has introduced a bill in the Legislature for the relief of Michael Strohm of this village ... for injuries sustained by Michael Strohm while in the performance of his duties as a soldier in the German Lafayette rifle company attached to the Forty-Fifth regiment, Twenty-first brigade and Sixth division of the militia of the State of New York. The accident occurred July 4th, 1852 at Utica, whereby Mr Strohm lost his left arm at the shoulder, owing to the premature explosion of a cartridge in a six point rifle."

Lyons NY Wayne County Review 1902-1903 - 0062.pdf (7/31/1902): "New York Central in Lyons and vicinity for purposes of obtaining options on the property of owners in the district named... the price agreed upon is \$200 an acre. An offer was also made to Charles Strohm across the river to the north. No agreement was made in this case. Mr Strohm is holding out for \$325 an acre and the company is refusing to pay the price. Mr Strohm feels that he is justified in asking this figure inasmuch as the land wanted is the most valuable on his farm and in close proximity to ??"

Rochester NY Democrat Chronicle 1902 - 0834.pdf (8/22/1902)

"Work was begun south of Lyons yesterday on the construction of a track somewhat over a mile long connecting the Pennsylvania division of the New York Central with the West Shore ... most of the new track goes over the land of Charles Strohm, who received the handsome sum of \$3,250 for a grant of ten acres of rather poor farm land."

Lyons NY Wayne County Review 1902-1903 - 0222.pdf (1/22/1903): "... new bridge that crosses the river by the Charles Strohm farm on the New York Central is nearly done..."

JONES - STROHM - BASTIAN HOUSE
HISTORY SHEET, Page 6 of 10
General Information

<http://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn85026906/1913-07-03/ed-1/seq-1/>

Lyons, June 29 — Charles Strohm, a farmer residing about 2 miles east of this village, took the law into his own hands Saturday night and marched two tramps, who were endeavoring to get into his house, to this village where he turned them over to officers who locked them up at the police station. Mr Strohm was starting for town when he noticed two men coming down the road. When a short distance beyond his home, the men turned around and went back. Strohm had been watching them and, thinking something was wrong, he left his family in his carriage and cut across lots back to his home and found the men trying to get into the back part of this house. Mr Strohm picked up a couple of good sized stone and jumped out in front of the men ordering them to walk ahead of him to town, In the meantime the family drove ahead and notified the officers who met him at the foot of Montezuma street.

The farm is sold in 1920, then again in 1923—unknown exactly what happens between now and when the the 1962 fire happens. At that time, however, it is clearly in the Bastian Est (Mrs Bastian having died in 1960).

<http://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn85026906/1920-12-02/ed-1/seq-3/>

The Newark Courier., December 02, 1920

Uriah Utter, Jr has purchased the Mike Strohm farm, southeast Lyons, and will move there in the near future.

<http://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn85026906/1923-05-10/ed-1/seq-6/>

The Newark Courier, May 10, 1923

The Strohm farm of about 100 acres, situated on the Creager bridge road, has been sold by Uriah Utter to Burt J Goodman and Viola M Goodman of Phelps. Consideration, \$12,000.

Charles' widow dies (many years after the farm is sold out of the family)

<http://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn85026906/1936-03-05/ed-1/seq-8/>

Mrs Magdalena Strohm, widow of Charles Strohm, died at her home in Geneva St last Sunday, aged 77. Mrs Strohm was the daughter of the late Mr and Mrs Frederick Frick. Surviving are two sons, George and William Strohm of Lyons ... Burial in the South Cemetery.

There is no paper trail about this property, its ownership, its management UNTIL...

[https://fultonhistory.com/highlighter/highlight-for-xml?](https://fultonhistory.com/highlighter/highlight-for-xml?altUrl=https%3A%2F%2Ffultonhistory.com%2FNewspaper%252024%2FRochester%2520NY%2520Democrat%2520Chronicle%25201949-1970%2FRochester%2520NY%2520Democrat%2520Chronicle%25201962%2FRochester%2520NY%2520Democrat%2520Chronicle%25201962%2520a%2520-%25204109%2520%25282%2529.pdf)

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JONES - STROHM - BASTIAN HOUSE
HISTORY SHEET, Page 7 of 10
General Information

House Destroyed in 1962 Fire

Rochester NY Democrat Chronicle 1962 a - 4109 (2).pdf (7/11/1962)

OLD LYONS FARMHOUSE DESTROYED IN BLAZE

LYONS — A cobblestone farmhouse, more than 100 years old, was destroyed by fire yesterday morning.

The 15-room house, owned by the **estate of Mrs Edward Bastian**, was on Cole Road about 4 miles south of the village of Lyons.

The building recently has been used to house migrant workers. Six adults and three children were asleep in the house when the fire was discovered about 4 a.m.

Willie Bell, one of the occupants, said he was awakened by a "crackling" noise and found the building full of smoke. He awakened the other occupants but found himself trapped in his second-floor room. As he was preparing to jump from a window another occupant who had escaped raised a ladder to him.

Others in the building, all of whom were on the first floor of the 2½-story building were Willie's brothers, Edward and Arthur, their mother, Lucile Bell, James and Willie Mae Wilson and their three children.

Edward Bell drove his mother's car to the firehouse in Lyons to sound the alarm. Flames were shooting through the roof when Lyons firemen ... arrived.

The occupants lost all their possessions—Willie Bell even lost his eyeglasses. There was no insurance on the contents but some on the building.

<https://fultonhistory.com/highlighter/highlight-for-xml?altUrl=https%3A%2F%2Ffultonhistory.com%2FNewspaper%252011%2FGeneva%2520NY%2520Daily%2520Times%2FGeneva%2520NY%2520Daily%2520Times%25201962%2520Jul-Sep%25201962%2520Grayscale%2FGeneva%2520NY%2520Daily%2520Times%25201962%2520Jul-Sep%25201962%2520Grayscale%2520-%25200096.pdf>

[Geneva NY Daily Times 1962 Jul-Sep 1962 Grayscale - 0096.pdf](#) (7/10/1962)

\$5,000 BLAZES RAZES COLE RD COBBLESTONE

LYONS — Eight occupants of a cobblestone house on Cole Rd escaped safely early this morning from a blaze which completely destroyed the building owned by **Ed Bastian**.

The fire, which started in the northeast portion of the lower floor, was reported to the Lyons fire department about 4:15 a.m. by William Bell, one of the occupants. At about the same time, village police officer Paul Tavano spotted the glow from the blaze and reported to the Sheriff's department.

Lyons firemen report an estimated loss of \$5,000. Nothing was saved except for a few articles of clothing.

JONES - STROHM - BASTIAN HOUSE
HISTORY SHEET, Page 8 of 10
General Information

The occupants, all safe, were William and Arthur Bell and their mother, Lucille, and James Wilson, his wife and three children.

Edward and Carrie Bastian Family

There were many, many Bastian farms in Galen. We are interested only in the one with the cobblestone house. No record has been found of this property being acquired by Edward and Carrie Bastian or of them living there or even farming it. Local newspapers generally didn't have "farm report" type columns, ads for selling hay, alfalfa, etc, or auctions. Search of available resources tells us about this branch of the Bastian family.

Census:

1900 Census: Edward Bastian, Head of Household, Carrie Bastian aka Carline Bastian (wife), Edward Leveret Bastian, son; Esther Bastian, daughter; Olga Bastian, daughter

1910 Census: Head of Household: Carrie L Bastian, 39, Widow; Household Members: Edward L Bastian, 17, son; Esther V Bastian, 14, daughter; Olga A Bastian, 11, daughter; Olive F Bastian, 4, daughter.

1930 Census: Head of Household: Edward L Bastian, 37; Carrie L Bastian, 59, Widow; Olive F Bastian, 24; sister

1940 Census: Head of Household: Edward L Bastian, 47, son; **Carrie L Bastian, 69**, single;

NOTE: Edward Levere Bastian

<https://wayne.nygenweb.net>

TOWN of GALEN Partial Death Records 1910-1914

December 7, 1909 - January 9, 1915 (from Galen Town Clerk's records)

January 1910 **Edward Philip BASTIAN**, age 39, Farmer, b. Galen,

Parents Michael BASTIAN, Germany and Magdalena HEIDLEY, Germany,

Ruptured pancreatic cyst,

buried Lyons Elmwood Cemetery

(born 1871)

WAYNE COUNTY FARM DIRECTORY 1914 GALEN

BASTIAN, CARRIE (wid Edward) 3 ch retired (Ed Bastian estate) rd1 Lyons H44.

BASTIAN, EDWARD ESTATE 126a rd1 Lyons H44.

BASTIAN, EDWARD J. (son Carrie) farmer (E. Bastian estate) rd1 Lyons H44.

JONES - STROHM - BASTIAN HOUSE

HISTORY SHEET, Page 9 of 10

General Information

In the years before the cobblestone house fire, the few anecdotal newspaper clippings suggest that Carrie Bastian's daughter Esther Schleede and her husband Herman and their five children may have been living in the house and working the farm.

<http://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn86053181/1932-05-19/ed-1/seq-1/>

Gertrude Nichols ... from Easter 1931 till the latter part of June "taught" the Ganz district school south of Lock Berlin, being the sole occupant of the little building. This was because the Schleede family with five children moved during the Easter recess. They went to the Bastian farm which is on the bus route into Lyons, and there were no others of school age in the district.

[https://fultonhistory.com/highlighter/highlight-for-xml?](https://fultonhistory.com/highlighter/highlight-for-xml?altUrl=https%3A%2F%2Ffultonhistory.com%2FNewspaper%25202%2FClyde%2520NY%2520Herald%2FClyde%2520NY%2520Herald%25201933-1938.pdf%2FClyde%2520NY%2520Herald%25201933-1938%2520-%25200078.pdf)

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[Clyde NY Herald 1933-1938 - 0078.pdf](#) (5/17/1933):

REFUSES TO VACATE HIS MOTHER-IN-LAW'S FARM; GOES TO JAIL

Herman Schleede, 39, father of five children, began a 90-day sentence in Jamesville Penitentiary Wednesday for alleged disorderly conduct in court following repeated refusals to obey an eviction order obtained by his mother-in-law, Mrs Carrie Bastian, owner of the 100-acre farm he worked south of Lock Berlin.

When police served the order on Schleede he is reported to have defied them and his kin to make him vacate the premises. Brought into court before Justice of the Peace James E Ammerman, he still was in a belligerent mood and as a result he was charged with disorderly conduct and contempt of court.

After hearing the 90-day sentence pronounced by Justice Ammerman he was confined in the Clyde jail Tuesday night and taken to Jamesville Wednesday by Police Chief T.P. Gallagher.

It appears at some point the Schleede's were evicted and the house was tenanted out; presumably the farm was somehow getting managed.

Carrie Bastien dies in 1960; then her son Edward L in 1979

Rochester D&C, 3/5/1960: MRS. CARRIE L. BASTIAN LYONS, March 4 Mrs. Carrie Louise Bastian, 89, died today (March 4, 1960)...Born in the Town of Galen, Nov. 23, 1870, a daughter of Fred and Barbara Claus Gansz, she always lived in the Perkinsville area. Surviving are one son Edward L. Bastian of Lyons RD; three daughters, Mrs. Esther Schleede of Brockport, Mrs. Olga McLeod and Mrs. Olive Bornheimer of Lyons; one brother, Herman Gansz of Lyons, one sister Mrs Alice Groescup of Lyons... Burial will be in Elmwood Cemetery, Lyons, at the convenience of the family. <https://www.newspapers.com/newspage/136297609/>

JONES - STROHM - BASTIAN HOUSE
HISTORY SHEET, Page 10 of 10
General Information

Geneva Times: 11/28/1972 Death Notices—Edward L Bastian, 79, born in Galen, farmer, survived by sister Esther Schleede.

After the 1962 fire, the remains of the house were left to the elements. Robert Roudabush took photographs in the mid-1970s of what remained of the ruins—a partial section of what appears to have been a front corner of the house. Shortly thereafter the area was cleared out and subdivided into building lots. No telltale sign of the once large federal tyre cobblestone house that once existed there remain. This being the case, the actual footprint cannot be confirmed, just an approximation.

—— END OF STORY AS WE KNOW IT ——