

The Cobblestone Blacksmith Shop

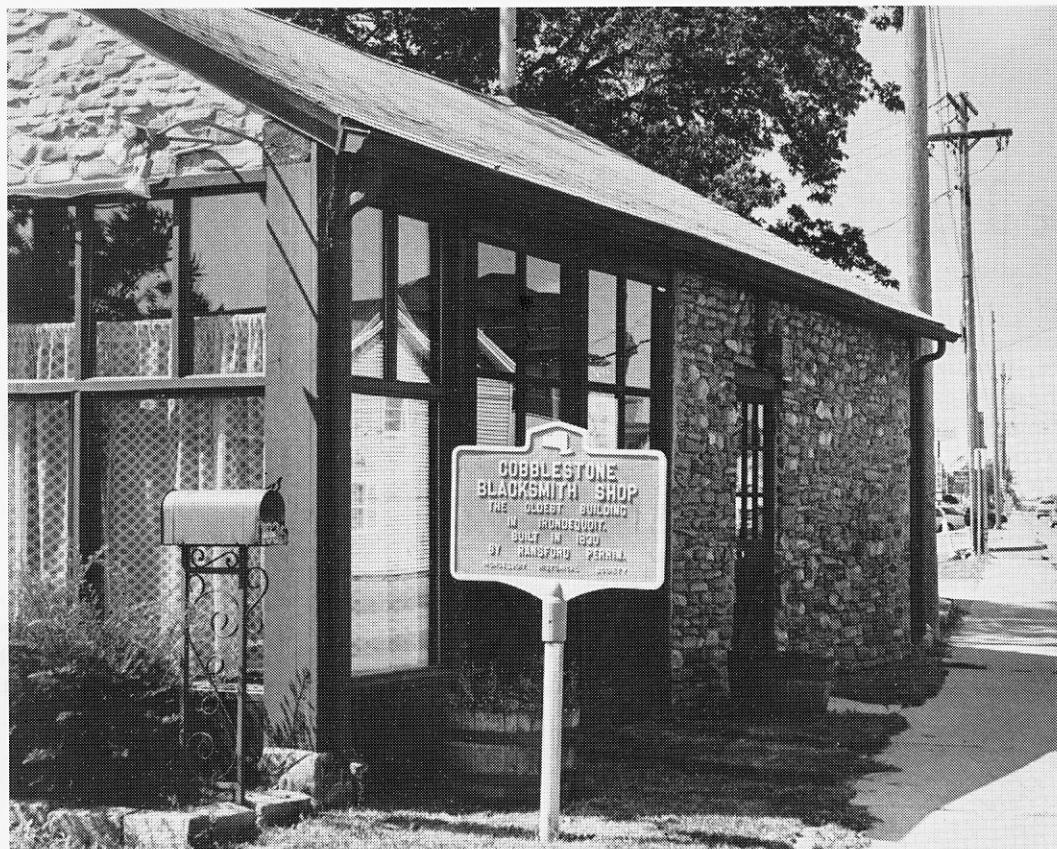
The Cobblestone Blacksmith Shop, located on the south side of East Ridge Road near Culver Road, was built by Ransford Perrin in 1830. Mr. Perrin laid the field stones in rich mortar for the 2-foot-thick walls, and to this day the walls appear in perfect condition, with no cracks or falling stones. This speaks well for the thoroughness of work done in those early days.

The last blacksmiths to work at the forge were Patrick MacElligott and his helper, a Mr. Hopkins. MacElligott bought the shop from the widow of Al Krischke. Mr. Krischke had owned and run it for many years. He died in 1924, but the new owner never changed the name of "Al Krischke" over the door. It hung there as long as he had the shop, but when automobiles began to take the place of "old Dobbin" and the buggy, the shop's work changed from fitting horses with durable footwear to mending auto springs and tire carriers.

Situated diagonally across from Swayne's Tavern, Irondequoit's first "town hall," the Old Blacksmith Shop was long a favorite meeting place for gossip and politics.



The Cobblestone Blacksmith Shop in an early photograph. The sign above the door reads: "Practical Horseshoeing."



The oldest building in Irondequoit, the Cobblestone Blacksmith Shop, on East Ridge Road.