

AGETT - HEIDENREICH HOUSE RUINS (Site)  
HISTORY SHEET  
General Information

Name of Structure: James Agett / Edward Heidenreich House

Address: No longer has a street address, just vacant land  
formerly 1702 Warncke Rd

Parcel ID: (542800) 71111-00-778963

Atlas: 1853, 1858: 'J Agett'; 1874: 'T.J.Agett'; 1904: 'J.Moran'

When Built / Mason: Unknown

When Razed: Ruins remain on site 2012

Why: Abandoned, left to elements

Original Owner: James Agett, Thomas Agett

Subsequently: Several generations of Heidenreich Family

Original Use: Homestead

Subsequently: Farm laborers' living quarters

Pictures: Yes, including site visit on 5/5/2012

Description:

Design details:

Federal style: 2-story, 5-bay, center entrance w/2 windows on each side, long side faces road. South gable end, 2 windows down w/2 smaller sized windows above them and 2 very small windows high in the gable. Instead of being equally spaced across the side, the windows were set close to the quoin line, the 2 in the peak were also set to the side of the interior chimney which ran between them. The north gable end had a recessed 1-story cobblestone wing. 6-over-6 windows throughout.

Masonry details:

Multi-everything fieldstones, rectangular shapes predominating. Limestone quoin blocks were much smaller than generally used, only able to accommodate 2 rows/ quoin; very coarse and pebbly gray mortar. Attempts at free-handed Vd horizontal joints and crude pyramids on the vertical.

Note: The interior is completely gutted—floor is completely gone; trees and assorted vegetation has completely taken over the basement, vines growing up walls. Same situation for the rear and the few remaining remnants of the wing—design details are completely obscured.

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EMAIL: Per Kevin Wolfer ([kvwolfer2@msn.com](mailto:kvwolfer2@msn.com)) 1/2012: "There are some remains of an old cobblestone on Warncke set back quite a bit from the road on the east side accessed by an old orchard road that comes off Warncke by the house where Herb Heidenreich lived. I think Brian Williams owns the land now, but the best bet for information would be to call Gregg Heidenreich. (315-946-3351)"

Followup: 5/5/2012 my friend Ross Marshall and I visited the site with owner Brian Williams—an acquaintance of Ross'. Brian and teenage sons accompanied us and invited us to take as many pictures as we wanted and wander around and touch the stones and mortar, etc. Didn't try to hurry us along or anything. A great day. (Ross and I also went over to the Munn School Dist #9—Middle Sodus Rd at Stern Rd—to survey the site).

Notes from Site Visit, May 5, 2012

This was a typical federal style 2-story, 5-bay house, the long side facing the road. It had a 1-story recessed wing to the left. Its ruins sits atop a hill, now hidden in trees such that it is not visible from the road. It is accessed from a path adjacent on the south of the house at 1704 Warncke Rd. Neither CFS nor Klahn make any mention of it. There was an internal chimney on each of the gable ends.

Robert Roudabush<sup>1</sup> gives the name "Heidenreich" to this house. He photographed it on 9/8/1980 and documented in part: "A cobblestone house at 1702 Warncke Road sets on a hill about 150 yards from the road ... unoccupied and ... in a state of disrepair."

The top dozen courses or so of the structure was more eroded than shown in Roudabush's 30-year old pictures, but the building was still amazingly well intact—especially on the gable ends, albeit with unfettered vegetation climbing up in places.

The basic details are: multi-colored, shaped, and sized fieldstones used throughout—mainly larger sized. The rough-hewn, variously dimensioned gray limestone quoins accommodated generally 2 and sometimes 3 courses. Wooden lintels and sills—many now missing. 6-over-6 windows, most openings' windows also missing. Immediately above the door was a series of ~4 narrow window panes separating it from the wooden lintel; no such embellishment on the rest of the door's perimeter. The mortar was pebbly, and rows were defined by strong horizontal joints and pyramided joints. The non-wing gable end had 2 windows on the lower and upper levels set very close to the quoins and two smaller window tucked in the gable between them. The back wall of the structure was completely smothered with tangles of vines which obscured the masonry details—despite the fact that spring growth had not yet started.

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<sup>1</sup> Roudabush Survey, 1976-1980: <https://www.cobblestonemuseum.org/CobblestoneStructuresCatalog/CMPPubs/Wayne%20County%20Structures%20180702.pdf>

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Ross and my summarized notes: Infrastructure walls are about 12" and comprised of rubble, rather than tablet-like stone. The long side of the stones are laid such that they form the faces of the walls (unlike the Munn SH—also examined on this field trip—where the butt ends were on the façade). Despite the roof being gone for more than 30 years, the ruins are still in amazingly good shape, although the mortar near the door jam is crumbly when picked at. The adjacent area is considerably overgrown and threatens the integrity of the ruin. It is atop a hill set back from the road—unless you know exactly where to look, it is invisible and will be missed by passers by.

Historic Context:

In researching historic ownership, I found very little about the people who lived there in the early years.

James Agett (wife Rhoda) is likely the original owner of this house. His family immigrated in the 18-teens and the property appears to have remained in the family at least through the time the 1874 atlas was published. By the 1904 atlas it was owned by a "J Moran", of whom I could find nothing. At some point it became owned by Edward Heidenreich, father of Herb Heidenreich—both of whom had a successful fruit farm on their Warncke Rd properties.

**A g e t t**

Watkins NY Express 1872 Nov-Aug 1875 - 0032.pdf (12/19/1872)

"The *Republican* chronicles the death of the oldest citizen Lyons, James Agett, aged 83. Mr Agett was a native of England and settled on his farm in Lyons in 1816."

Rochester NY Evening Express 1875 Nov-Jun 1876 - 0723.pdf (5/26/1876) Lyons — "Rhoda Agett, relict of James Agett, and one of our oldest inhabitants, died Sunday morning, aged 84 years. She leaves four children, two sons and two daughters."

**H e i d e n r e i c h**

Newark NY Union Gazette 1916-1919 - 0455.PDF (3/2/1918)

Our soldier boys who left for military service at Camp Devens ...John A Heidenreich is the 24 year old son of John Heidenreich of East Lyons. Since leaving the district schools has been helping his father on the farm ...

South Lyons Cemetery

<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/49016128/herbert-edward-heidenreich> (1929-2/4/2010)

Excellent obituary notice findagrave.

Wayne County (Lyons)

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Karen Crandall 3/15/2016

Updated: 7/1/2022

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<http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/fltimes/obituary.aspx?n=herbert-edward-heidenreich&pid=139431757>

Herbert Edward Heidenreich, 81, born in Lyons Jan. 22, 1929, went to be with his beloved wife, Martha Loucks Heidenreich, on Feb. 4, 2010, at Clifton Springs Hospital. Herbert was born Jan. 22, 1929, in Lyons, son of fruit farmers Edward A. and Grace Van Marter Heidenreich. He retired from fruit farming in 2000, but continued working by running the 325-acre fruit farm with son Gregg. ( FINGER LAKES TIMES, 2/7-9/2010 )

Newark Courier <http://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn85026906/1932-10-20/ed-1/seq-5/>  
Death of John A Heidenreich on Tuesday, October 11th ... survived by ... son Edward Heidenreich ... Interment was in Rural Cemetery.

[https://www.ancestry.com/1940-census/usa/New-York/Edward-Heidenreich\\_jd1gj](https://www.ancestry.com/1940-census/usa/New-York/Edward-Heidenreich_jd1gj)

Lyons, Enumeration Dist 59-23  
Head Edward Heidenreich 45  
Wife Grace " 40  
Son Herbert " 11  
Son Saxon " 9

Lyons NY Republican 1947-1948 - 0911.PDF (7/22/1948)

"Farms Now Harvesting large, Fine Cherry Crop—Harvesting the sour cherry crop is in full swing this week on the **Heidenreich Fruit Farms**, according to Edward A Heidenreich. The Heidenreich farm finished harvesting sweet cherries July 16 ... The Heidenreich farm markets its cherries, both sweet and sour, at the Hills Brothers Company plant in Lyons."

This ruin is located at what was 1702 Warncke Rd at the time it was in use. In 1965 a new frame house was built at adjacent 1704 Warncke Rd. The ruin is high on the hill barely visible from the road; 1704 is along the road like the other houses.

Geneva NY Daily Times 1969 Jan-Feb 1969 Grayscale - 0333.pdf (1/21/1969)

Fire destroys living quarters at Heidenreich Labor Camp on Warncke Rd. Herbert Heidenreich, owner, declares building a complete loss.

Note: Roudabush's note that the place was unoccupied and in a state of disrepair when he took his photographs in 1980.

Geneva NY Finger Lake Times 1986 Jan 1986 - 0599.pdf (1/21/1986)

Deed transfers—Herbert Heidenreich to Gregory E and Kim Heidenreich.