

JACKSON schoolhouse in South

Lyons, built of cobblestones on the Pleasant Valley Rd. in 1831, has been sold by the Lyons Board of Education to Judson L. Rice of Sodus Center who stated he will make it over into a residence and specialize in growing wildflowers. Contents of the 119-year-old school were sold at auction last week.

History of the school has been prepared by Mrs. George S. Ennis of South Lyons, president of the Wayne County Historical Society. Condensed, it is this:

Early in March 1831 Hugh Jameson of Lyons, one of the commissioners of common schools, sent a notice to Lyons and Newark districts in regard to building a school. At a meeting held Mar. 19, 1831, at the home of Dr. Cyrus Jackson it was decided to build a schoolhouse of cobblestone laid in lime and sand to measure 24x28 feet, and the land was purchased from Sarah VanInwagen. Total cost of the mason and carpenter work was \$187 and the finished building was opened for school purposes the following April.

First officers were: Trustees, Christopher Myers, Peter P. Ackerson, Reuben Penoyer; clerk, Dr. Jackson; collector, Peter Lott. It was voted that each family furnish one-half cord of wood, split and ready to burn for each child they sent to school.

At the 100th anniversary celebration held Aug. 20, 1931, about 400 persons attended. Four grand old women were accorded special honors on that ideal day because of their combined ages of 359 years. They were Mrs. Adelia Tyler, 93, Lyons; Mrs. Lydia Crittenden, 90, Eaton Rapids, Mich.; Mrs. Catherine Westfall, 88, Hillsdale, Mich.; Mrs. Martha Twogood, 88, Syracuse.

There were 16 former teachers present.

The school was named in honor of Andrew Jackson, then president of the United States. Miss Carrie Jackson, who still lives on an adjoining farm, comes from the same Jackson family line. Miss Jackson tells that when she attended school there the desks were fastened to the walls around the room with the teacher's desk in the center. The pupils sat on long benches. The inside row of desks were especially nice in Winter, Miss Jackson recalls, because they were nearer the stove. Clark Mason of Lyons was the first teacher, and Mrs. Myrtle Storms of Lyons was teaching there when the school was closed in 1947 with the pupils going to Lyons Central School.

The stone walls, two feet thick, remain as when first erected even to the beams laid upon the stone walls.

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