

COBBLESTONE HOUSE, WILSEY ROAD, TOWN OF SAVANNAH, WAYNE COUNTY

This house, now owned by Mr. & Mrs. Charles L. Langner, is a simple 1½ story, L shaped structure built mostly of field cobbles. The front (south) facade is faced with water-smoothed cobbles laid in herringbone pattern. The east and west walls are faced with field cobbles with the standard mortar joint treatment. The rear (north) wall of the main portion is not faced with cobblestone, it either was removed or had none originally. The east and north walls of the rear wing are wood framed. The east end of the house has a salt-box profile, rare in cobblestone buildings. The gable end of this wall has a circular ornament worked in cobbles. Cut stone is used only for the quoins, which are rectangular but somewhat roughly worked. Windows are 20th Century replacement double-hung single panes. At the second floor on the front two double-sashed dormer windows have been added, and a wood band, approx. 4' high of post 1950 siding covers the top of the original masonry. The door in the east wall is the only original door remaining in situ, all other doors are 20th Century. The east and north walls of the rear portion are of wood construction. The porches are 20th Century. The only chimney is of concrete block. The second floor walls of the rear portion are wood framed and clapboard sided.

Inside, the only remaining woodwork of c1840 is the paneled (single panel) reveals of the three windows of the southeast corner room; all other window reveals are plastered. The stairway to second floor has one side open with a post 1950 wood railing. Virtually all interior walls and ceilings have been covered with post 1950 materials. There are no fireplaces, however on the west wall in the basement there remains a stone foundation for a first floor fireplace. The first floor alcove under the stair may have been a bed sink (recess). In the southwest room, first floor, between the two windows on the south wall there is a small recess which was originally intended to hold a clock. Underneath the modern wall coverings there may be some remaining original trim, but it would be very simple with either a beaded edge or chamfered edge.

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Olaf William Shelgren, Jr.

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