

34- BARKLEY HOUSE IN SODUS CENTER

Jacob Barkley owned this house for many years after which his daughter owned it until her death at 90 years of age. This house is unusual in that there are no regular joints between the stones. The mortar is badly weathered. This and the house across from the store were the only houses seen in Wayne county that did not have shaped joints.

STONES: The stones are mostly of the field variety of all colors. They measure 3-8 x 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ -4 inches.

JOINT: The distance between stones is from 1 to 2 inches. There is no shaped joint.

MORTAR: The mortar is very crumbly and pebbly, of a brownish color.

QUOINS: The quoins are long, irregular, gray stones.

LINTELS: The lintels are wooden.

meticulous masonry than most cobblestone houses have.

Sodus must have been the location of the earliest masons because two houses there are definitely different and more primitive. They have no shaped joints and are of very large and irregular stones. The cornerstones in these two houses -- the Ellis and the Barkley Houses -- are irregularly cut native stone. Since they are the only houses of their kind in the county, one may conjecture that they were built by a local man with no previous experience. However, I cannot honestly tell whether they were built before all the other cobblestone houses or whether they were constructed by some novice during the middle of the building period.

Cobblestone buildings have served many uses -- as inns, warehouses, blacksmith shops, milk and smoke houses, barns, carriage sheds, churches, schoolhouses, and homes. Cobblestone building was contemporary with the peppermint industry, and one wonders how many of these structures were made possible by the raising of peppermint, which brought good money and made many wealthy.

These stone buildings were not the first examples of stone masonry in this county. Years before, cut stone buildings had attained much popularity and to-day many of these houses in almost perfect condition may be found

