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ON TOUR OF HOMES



This is the beautiful Greek Revival residence of Mr. Jerim Klapper located on the Phipps Road just west of Albion. It is one of eight residences on this year's tour of historic homes presented by the Cobblestone Society on Saturday, June 2. Tickets for the tour may be purchased that day beginning at 10:30 A.M. either at the Cobblestone Museum or the Pullman Memorial Universalist Church in Albion. The homes on this year's tour will be open from noon to 5:00 P.M. on this self-guided driving tour. Along with the purchase of a ticket you will receive a booklet with historic information on each house and a map locating them.

Here is what was written about this property in the 'New Century Atlas of Orleans County' published in 1913 by L.J.G. Ogden when it was owned by W.A. Howard: "Pleasant View Farm" one mile west of Albion, at the junction of Telegraph andaines Basin Roads, in Lots 18 and 19, Township 5, Range 2, of the Holland Purchase, contains 122 acres. Soil and fruit products comprise the farm's chief industries, seventeen acres being in apple and peach orchards alone, while cherries, pears, quinces and berries and grapes are cultivated to some extent. All grains and vegetables common to the Lake Region can be successfully grown on this farm. Mr. Howard is also interested in the poultry industry and is well equipped for handling it. Four springs and three good wells furnish an overflow of pure water. The farm's name was suggested by the picturesque view looking east from the residence. Building improvements are most extensive, and include a commodious residence, 26x36, with two wings, 12x24 and 24x31 respectively; barn No. 1, 34x76; No. 2, 26x32 and No. 3, 20x36; tenant house, 12x26; work shop, 12x16; ice house, 12x16, and two poultry houses, 12x24 and 16x14, respectively.

The main residence is modern in structure and conveniences. It is heated with a hot water system and lighted by acetylene gas, the barns also have up-to-date water and lighting system. Mr Howard purchased this farm of Willis P. Loveland, in

1892, it had remained in the Loveland family since its purchase from the Holland Land Co. Name registered in Orleans County Clerk's Office.

Mr. Klapper in turn, writes as follows describing the property today: "Pleasant View Farm, as it was originally called, was constructed in three stages: The first dwelling, the single-story east wing, is characteristic of the period with butted plank construction. It was built by Artemis Loveland around 1828. The southern double-story clapboard structure — the main house — was built to the south adjoining the original dwelling, in 1868, by a grandson of A. Loveland. The fluted columns on the wrap-around porch were a later innovation. The small front porch has been completely reconstructed using a portion of the original columns. The parlor originally contained a large stairway removed by the family around the turn of the century because, in their view, it was "oversized." The music room contains one of the two original pianos — a Boston Chickering No. 1. The wallpaper was specially reproduced as an exact match of the original. All of the doors and windows in the front rooms have been stripped and reglazed, matching the original elements. The adjacent bedroom called the "French Room," contains art and furniture beginning with the Directoire Period (1795). The kitchen has been largely restored to blend in with the south and west wooden walls and the original cabinets. The ceiling has been removed to expose the beams. Four layers of flooring have been taken up revealing an early floor (probably not the original). The pioneer sink is hand-carved stone from the early part of the last century.

"Charles Howard opened the Santa Claus School here in 1937 and the property eventually became known as Christmas Park. Following the death of Ruth Howard in 1974, the house was communally occupied by a religious group, 'Peace in Jesus,' from 1975 to 1980. Their sanctuary was created by removing the wall between the music room and parlor; it has since been restored with matching moldings by the present owner.