

# Bethinking of Old Orleans

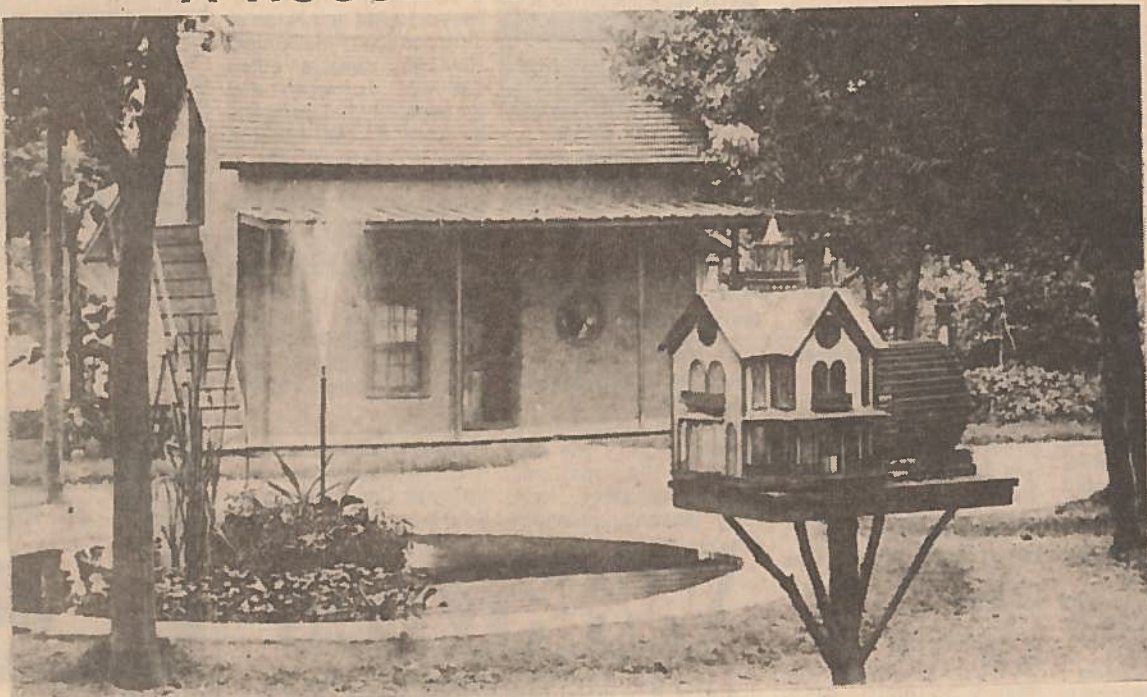
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## A HOUSE FOR EVERYTHING



"A House For Everything, (Well Almost)" is the title of a children's book which will be released on Mother's Day, May 11, between the hours of 1-5 p.m. at the historic Cobblestone Museum Church in Childs, N.Y. As the author of this 16-page unique book, I will be present to sign copies. Published by the Cobblestone Society and selling for \$3.25, it is suited for children ages 4 to 9 years and older. A note to parents and teachers in the book indicates: "This publication is intended to encourage children to take an interest in their local history and to develop a beginner's appreciation of regional architecture."

While there have been, over the years, books written on local history for the adult level, to our knowledge, this is the first attempt at a publication dealing with local history and architecture for children at their level in the county. We believe however, children living anywhere will enjoy its text, photographs and illustrations.

Mother's Day was selected for the release of the book since all seven buildings at Cobblestone Museum Complex are open free to the public that afternoon from 1-5.

So, what's the book really all about? We use the term house in a most liberal manner. From text in the book we find: "People live in houses, but there are houses that people have built for other purposes too. There are dog houses for dogs, bird houses for birds, and tool houses for tools."

For the most part, interesting old photos have been used to illustrate various kinds of old houses. Some of the houses shown in the book have long been destroyed. Houses included in the book are: Auto House, Hen House, Firehouse, Tree House, Boathouse, Doll House, Schoolhouse, Outhouse, Greenhouse, Haunted House, Playhouse, Light-house, Movie House and Springhouse. All the

houses are from different places in Orleans County, including Albion, Medina, Shelby Center, Holley, Oak Orchard and Childs. The ones selected for this edition were picked because we felt they would be the ones most interesting to little kids.

The photo which accompanies this story comes to us through the courtesy of Lysbeth Hoffman, Carlton Town Historian. It was taken around 1890 and shows the caretaker's house and a squirrel house which were a part of the Lakeside Hotel Complex and summer resort years ago where Johnson's Creek flows into Lake Ontario. This photo is the illustration for the front cover of "A House For Everything, (Well Almost)." Although the photos in the book have to be in black and white, color has been used for decorations and type face. Incidentally, the book, measuring 7-by-8½ inches, is in the shape of a house.

The book committee on this project has been made up of C.W. Lattin, author; William Nestle and Michelle Watt, editors; Delia Robinson, Patricia Morrissey and Avis Lattin, consultants, and James Orr, photography.

This children's edition of "A House For Everything" is a juvenile sample of what to expect from a book of the same theme for adults. The adult version will include more than one example of certain houses and more textual material. In essence, it will be an Orleans County history, oftentimes dealing with the mundane pieces of vernacular and utilitarian architecture that have so often been ignored or disregarded. We can expect the adult volume will contain over 60 examples of different kinds of houses. Photos of both existing and non-existing examples will cover around 100 pages in a unique publication which we hope to have available within two years.