

Bethinking of Old Orleans

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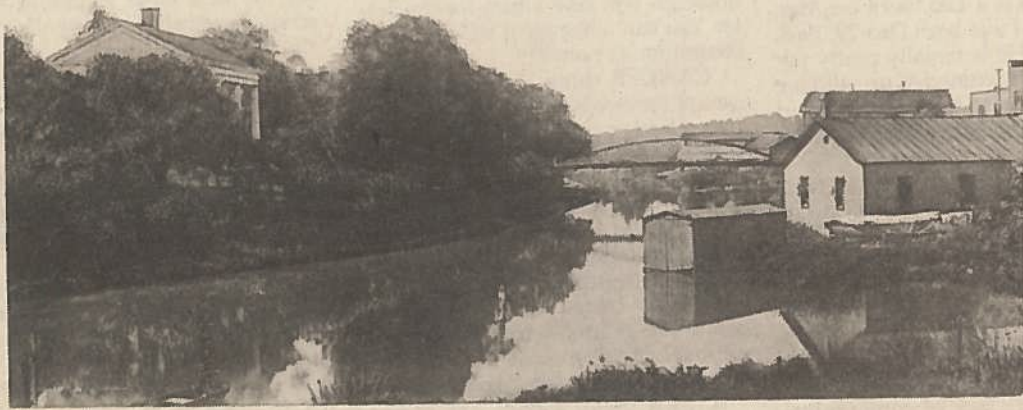
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HOUSE PROGRAM JUNE 13

A VIEW HOLLEY, N. Y.



As County Historian it will be my privilege to present a slide/lecture program on the theme "A House For Everything", Friday, June 13 at the Pullman Memorial Universalist Church in Albion. This will occur during the annual Strawberry Festival with selections of piano and organ music provided by Richard Della Costa of Kendall, beginning at 7:00 p.m. At 7:30 p.m. the house program will take place.

As a side note, the Orleans County Quilt Guild will be holding a quilt show and sale at the Pullman Memorial Church also on Friday, June 13 during the hours of 11-8 and Saturday, June 14 from 11-4.

The slide/lecture program about houses and musical opening is free to the public. The term 'house' is used for many different kinds of structures. Our photo from a turn of the century post card shows the old Erie Canal loop in Holley. Situated in the water, we note here a boathouse. It was this same photo that local artist Arthur Barnes used to paint a mural of the likeness for the Murray-Holley Historical building. Likewise, the Cobblestone Society, in its recent publication "A House For Everything", used the same view to illustrate a boathouse for this children's edition.

When I began looking for various house types, I figured there might be close to thirty. To my surprise, I now have a list of close to eighty which exist or have existed here in Orleans County. Indeed, we use the term house in a most liberal manner. My slide/lecture program will include pictures of things which no longer exist as well as those which remain.

So often, books on architecture have extolled great residential masterpieces. And of course, there is a handsome book by Daniel Fink on barns in our region. By contrast, my program will show the lesser and often ignored structures which have

been built to house various things. Often these kinds of historic buildings have no style to them as they are strictly utilitarian in nature. The recent children's edition of "A House For Everything" includes such buildings of utilitarian character such as a hen house, greenhouse, lighthouse and the boat house. Of course, not all houses are completely pragmatic in appearance. The Court House is a good example along with meeting houses, opera houses and banking houses which are usually in some kind of architectural style. And the list goes on! Some houses are totally frivolous in nature, such as a tree house or doll house, while other kinds of houses serve needs of a higher priority. A couple of examples might be a gas house or a pump house.

It is my hope that within a year and a half the Cobblestone Society will be able to publish an adult version on this theme with much more textual material than what is in the children's edition. In essence, the adult book will in a way, be a county history as it will touch upon farm buildings such as corn houses and brooder houses, etc. It will include the canal through warehouses and the railroads with freight houses and section houses. Industry with bean houses, cabbage houses and scale houses. Recreational buildings such as a clubhouse and bath house will not be left out. And the list goes on!

The slide/lecture program June 13 at 7:30 p.m. will be a prelude of what to expect in a book on this theme. The children's edition of "A House for Everything" will be on sale for \$3.25 per copy.

And finally, if you know of some unusual kind of old house (out building) which you think should be photographed for the record, please call me at 589-4174. It just might be something I am unaware of and could possibly be included in a publication for future generations.