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COBBLESTONE MUSEUM PRINT SHOP

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Orleans County has a rich architectural heritage with many different styles. One of our gems is a relatively small structure tucked away at the Cobblestone Society Museum in Childs.

Although small in size, it stands out for uniqueness. It is a very good example of the Second Empire Style that became popular in the 1860s and lasted through the 1870s.

Characteristic features include Mansard roofs, which have steep sides and fairly flat

tops that are often capped off with cast iron crestings. This element of design is unmistakable with the decorative porch roof shingled in the fish-scale pattern.

Unlike some earlier styles, the Second Empire buildings have very high pitched roofs that we see on the main body of this fine specimen.

Recently, the Print Shop has been repainted and the cast iron cresting restored to the porch roof.

Only a handful of buildings in this style remain in Orleans County today with any

integrity.

That is why almost 30 years ago this example of Second Empire was saved and preserved.

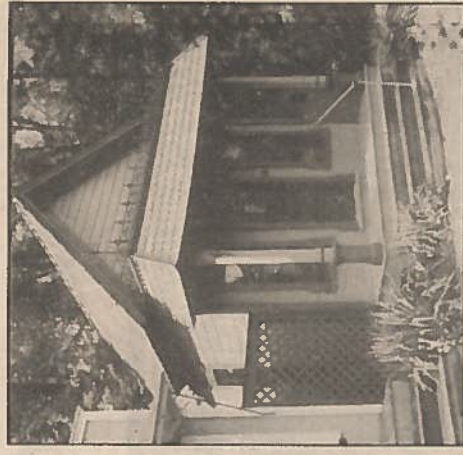
In February 1977, Mr. Erling Maine donated this Medina building to the Cobblestone Museum. It was moved to the museum in July 1977, with donated help from Keeler Construction Co. Through a CEFTA grant employing five workers, the structure was then rejuvenated. It is located on land donated, along with Joe Vagg's Blacksmith Shop, to the museum by Mrs. Nellie

Vagg in 1975.

The 1875 Orleans County Atlas shows this building on the north side of East Center Street in Medina near the west edge of Oak Orchard Creek.

It was built by William Hedley, probably in the early 1870s, for use as an office. Hedley, it seems, ran the adjacent lumber yard.

Consequently, the O'Donnell Brothers (Francis and Bertram) used this as an office when they owned and operated the lumber yard. By 1977, when given to the



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museum, this little office had been used for storage over a number of years.

Once relocated from the Maine Lumber Co. to the Cobblestone Museum, it has been reused as a print shop where printing presses and movable type, once used by Herbert Hill, can be seen on display. This working exhibit, supplemented by Sidney Eddy, not only shows a bygone era of printing using hard set type, but a well preserved example of Victorian architecture.