

## A STORY IN PRESERVATION

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It was 30 years ago that the Cobblestone Society Museum dedicated its print shop on Route 98 in Childs.

One afternoon in February 1977, Erling Maine, the owner of the lumber yard in Medina, was approached to see if he would give the museum a small building on his premises.

Our photo shows the structure as it appeared at the time with boarded up windows.

He readily consented to pursue a CETA grant for moving the building from East Center Street to Childs.

In June 1977, the rear addition was removed and the side made ready on Route 98. In July 1977, Keeler Construction donated moving the building.

A sandstone foundation was created to rest the small building on. The rest of the fair weather season was spent in putting up a rear wall, rebuilding the roof which had to be removed for going under wires and restoring the porch.

The CETA workers also painted the interior and exterior with several coats of paint. The original color scheme outside was dark green trim with a dark gray body. The color scheme at the lumber yard for many years, however, was white trim with a yellow body.

However, when William Hedley had the building built for a lumber yard office in the early 1870s, it was indeed green and gray.

Its use at the museum is reuse as a print shop. The Cobblestone museum did not need a lumber yard office. A print shop was needed since the museum owns presses and hand set type once belonging to Herbert Hill a local job printer from the 1890s to 1940.

In May 1978, in an impressive ceremony, the most Worshipful William R. Punt, grand master of the State of



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New York, laid the cornerstone according to the rites set forth by the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons.

For the past 30 years, this little restored building has stood as an architectural treasure for all to see. It is a superb example of the Second Empire style, which was popular in the 1870s.

Characteristic features

include mansard roofs with flat tops and steep sides.

Many professionals operated out of little business buildings like this. Hedley was obviously trying to show off the wonder of wood by making his office very showy with very decorative window trim, fancy door and outstanding porch roof.

This is an example of how

preservation of an old building can be beneficial. Once restored, it stands as an architectural jewel at the Cobblestone Society Museum.