

Kendall settlers faced hardships and formed lasting friendships

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BY C. W. LATTIN
Orleans County historian

In 1928 Fanny Randall Green of Rochester, a descendant of an early Kendall pioneer, sent the following letter which was published in the Holley Standard.

"Dear Editors:

The items published in a Rochester daily and in local papers in reference to the 91st anniversary of the founding of the Town of Kendall, which was established from a part of the Town of Murray on April 7, 1837, have compelled me to write this letter with the hope that the information which it contains will prove of interest.

Amos Randall, my grandfather, who came from Vermont, took up lot 123 in 1814. This is on the southwest of the four corners of what is now

the Village of Morton.

In the winter of 1814-1815 he felled trees and built a log house. His wife, Fanny, spent the winter in Avon, N.Y. in the family of Rev. Stephen Randall, her husband's father.

In June she went to her new home in the woods. She rode by wagon on Ridge Road, west to a point where it crosses Sandy Creek. From there she went on horseback, with her three month-old babe (my father) in her arms; following the west bank of Sandy Creek in a path marked by blazed trees.

They grew their first apple trees from seeds

brought from Vermont.

Amos Randall taught one of the first schools in Kendall. The site of the present school-house, and ground for the cemetery at Morton, came from his farm.

In 1815 Benjamin Morse, Alden or Aiden Manley, David Jones and Nathaniel Brown, came to Kendall.

Rev. Stephen Randall came in 1816; and located on lot 135.

Caleb, Robert and James Clark formed a settlement that year and called it Clark's settlement; the location of which I am not sure.

My grandmother Randall was with Mrs.



Morse when one of her children was born. I could say without, I think, fear of contradiction, that it was Bartlett Morse, the first white child born in Kendall, November, 1815.

The story is that on the approach of the stork, Mr. Morse blew the dinner horn, as pre-arranged,

and grandmother rode on horseback in the night through the woods, her husband leading the horse to the Morse homestead, one mile west, on what is now the Norway Road.

The friendships begun in those pioneer days, lasted through life ...
Sincerely yours,

Fanny Randall Green"
Our photo shows a pioneer settler's log cabin built on the West Kendall Road during the second decade of the 19th century. It was one of the last dwellings of its type to remain in Orleans County having been removed in the early 1950's.