

2208 Maple Avenue  
Charlton

January  
1981



JUL • 65

1790

In the early days one-over-one logcabins were replaced by structures of larger dimension, but by exploring the interior of this house one can find the similarity to the logcabin structure. A unique feature of this house is that with that similarity the building is constructed with brick. It appears that this may be the first brick house built in the area. In later years a center hall stairway was added, the loft partitioned into two bedrooms, and a master bedroom made on the first floor to the north of the stairwell. Also, the rear addition was added where the kitchen, bathroom, and woodshed are contained. The farm is now owned by Sandra Torngo who moved here in 1976.

The farm is part of Lot D, 103-1/6 acres, of Lot 3 of Lot II, XIII Allotment that Seth Kirby purchased in 1790. Twenty-five acres of the original farm was sold to John S. Parent, in 1864.

The farm was productive until the death of Raymond Bielawski in 1975. Raymond, like many small dairy farmers, was forced to discontinue his dairy operation by the mandate of the refrigerated milk tank, the cost of which was so prohibitive that it did not warrant the continuation of producing milk.

The farm extends north and south along the road and is separated by a valley where a stream of the water shed flows southward. This stream was a constant source of water supply for the dairy cows. Generally milk has a water content of 50 percent, so this stream was important in the production of milk.

2152 Maple Avenue  
Charlton



January  
1981

Ca. 1800

This sturdy, handsome colonial house, owned by S. Wells Corbin and his wife Dorothy, is truly one of our landmarks of the town. This farm was Lot C-103-1/6 acres Lot 3 of Lot II, XIII Allotment of the patent. Seth Kirby, John Kirby, and John Jr. purchased this farm in 1787 from Thomas Palmer, agent for the commissioners.

In 1855 Francis D. Curt resided here and in 1868 he served as town supervisor.

Over the years additional land was purchased to add to the original farm so that the land holdings of this farm are nearly 200 acres. Legend tells us that the first house was converted into a barn so this house is the second home of the Kirby families, and possibly was built sometime before 1800.

Althout commercial farming is not carried on here, the surrounding acreage enhances the rural setting of this house.

2093 Maple Avenue  
Charlton



February  
1981

JUL 65

Ca. 1833

With the picture in this letter we are recording a part of our heritage of the past. Here you find a brick house designed and built in the tradition of the early Waterford House design. In 1865 John Graves, while renovating this house, had the sweep-steps on the roof removed thus destroying the Waterford facade.

Eli Northrup purchased a 100-acre tract in 1785, in Lot 2 of Lot 2, of Lot II, XIII Allotment of the patent. The land extended from Main Street to just south of Packer Road. In 1789 Thaddeus Northrup purchased the south 50-acres and Wilson Northrup purchased the north 50 acres. William Packer purchased both tracts in 1833 and built this brick house. He was followed by John Boyd Packer in 1834.

The Clute family resided here in 1921, and Jacob Clute established a large herd of Guernsey cows. With the dairy products of his farm he had a home delivery service which he called the "Maple Avenue Dairy".

This home is owned by the Calabrese family and the farm acreage has been reduced as over the years building plots have been sold off.

On the south end of the farm John Clute, in 1952, purchased a 1.72 acre tract and built the logcabin now owned by Mark Lansing.

746 Main Street  
Charlton



February  
1981

1829

There have been some changes in the facade of this brick store over the years so here we show you what it looked like about 1906 when the post-office was discontinued to be replaced by Rural Free Delivery from Ballston Lake.

Eleazor Dows built this store in 1829 and sold it to John Dows in 1835. Ownership was followed by Roland Wright in 1857 and then to Melancton Callaghan. Melancton continued operation of the general store until his death, at which time his daughters took over. They continued operation of the business and then sold it to one of the clerks, John Sanders. The shop changed owners two times after Sanders and the present owner is the Maloney family. The Maloneys built on the front porch, and at the north end they replaced the storage-shed with an addition to house the many articles of furniture that they sell. The left end of the building was at one time two apartments but the furniture store now uses the complete building as display rooms.

At the far left of the picture is a  $1\frac{1}{2}$  story stone house. As far back as 1835 the building was a meeting place for the members of the Universal Church of Ballston. In later years the building was used as a shoeshop by Philadelphia Snell.

Before electricity was introduced in Charlton in 1926, this building was used as an icehouse by John Sanders. The building was removed about 1952. The building for many years was called the "Stone Jug" because it was built of field slaterock.

745 Main Street  
Charlton

March  
1981



Ca. 1829

Fortunately we are able to include here a picture of the Charlton House taken about 1919. William Dodge purchased this property then and converted the barroom into a grocery store. Three months after he opened his doors for business he was killed at a railroad crossing. His widow sold the property to John Sanders who used the store as a storehouse and the living quarters to house his aging parents.

When Sanders retired in 1935 he sold the property to Milton Myers, who continued on with the grocery store until he sold to Frank Lafforthun in 1952. Lafforthun enclosed the front porch for more floor-space for the growing business. The livingroom was also used for floor-space as the business increased. In a few years the competition from the supermarkets caused the local trade to dwindle so in 1963 the store was changed over into a Western Wear store. William Maloney purchased the property in 1969 and converted the store back into a tavern which still flourishes today under the ownership of John Maloney.

To the rear of the tavern stood a barn that once was the Charlton Union Cheese and Butter Factory building that was moved to this location about 1865. The tavern lot is within the south bounds of the historic district of the hamlet.

749 Main Street  
Charlton



March  
1981

Ca. 1798

This is the home of the Richard Haviland family who moved to the hamlet in 1965. Recently the house has been covered by gold colored aluminum siding. The pilasters then were hidden so that the facade lost some of its Greek Revival aspect.

The left wing of this house, with its hand-hewn beams, was the home of Andrew Richey in 1798. The right wing was added on at a later date by Birdseys Sanders after the use of the circular saw became known.

In the past two decades the tract was subdivided and the fire-pond and the home of Frank Lafforthun are built on this tract. Richard Haviland, present owner, resided here while he operated the Charlton Main Street Garage next door. The garage now houses an annex of the Village shop, and is now a ladies boutique.

In the research of the deeds for this house it was learned that the tract in 1798 bordered the northeast corner of the houselot of Dr. Newell Wright. Many early land transactions of the early periods are sometimes not able to be found but in such a case we often learn who the adjoining landowners were.

This houselot is within the south bounds of the historic district of the hamlet.

764 Main Street  
Charlton



April  
1981

JUL 6  
Ca. 1791

This lovely house, on the north side of Main Street and east of the Freehold Church, is a true picture of a colonial farmhouse. It is of colonial architecture with a touch of Gothic trim at the main gable. Gideon Hawley Sr. settled here before 1791. The house has oak hand hewn beams.

The Crawford family resides here and operate the farm. It is the only operable farm in the hamlet. Major Millard resided here in 1840 at which time he also owned a five acre tract across the street where the O'Brien home is located. In 1866 several local farmers organized the "Charlton Union Cheese and Butter factory". Their factory was located on the west side of the Gideon Hawley Memorial Park. The factory had water rights to the fresh water spring that was located in the rear of the District No. 8 school, on Maple Avenue. The factory was closed down in 1868 and the building was moved to the rear of the Charlton House.

When Mr. Lewis Male resided at this farm in 1937 he discovered that the factory lot was on the tax delinquent list so he purchased it to once again be a part of the original farm. The land where the factory once stood is now owned by John Desmond.

This farm is in the north bounds of the historic district of the hamlet and is Lot 1 of Lot 2 of Lot II, XIII Allotment.



destroyed Ca. 1902  
Main Street Charlton



Ca. 1827

743 Main St April 1981

This corner of Main Street and Stage Road has seen many changes over the years so with this letter we will try to capture some of its history.

As early as 1827 Martin Curtis resided here while he operated the blacksmith shop that stood around the corner on Stage Road. The shop was still in operation in the 20's but the smith resided in the Duscharme house on the north side of Main Street. In 1840 Robert Willis purchased this property from Charles B. Murray and continued the operation of the blacksmith shop here.

Lyall Thompson Heaton purchased this property in 1858 and built and operated the carriage shop pictured on the left. Mr. Heaton built carriages of the finest quality while he also operated the blacksmith shop. It is not known when the carriage shop was removed but we believe it was in 1902.

A deed of 1793 from Jesse Conde to David Barker describes the lot as being 8 rods in width, and 20 rods in depth thus taking in the house lot of Larry Ellis. In an 1803 deed the Ellis lot contained  $\frac{1}{4}$  acre and was known as the Conde lot. An early deed for this house mentions that it is nearly across the road from the Charles Taylor store, and in a later deed we learn that it adjoined the east line of the William Cromer Tavern, this with research we find some answers to our past history. This house is in the south bounds of the historic district of the hamlet.





CHARLTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC., Charlton, Ballston Lake, N.Y., 12019

#29 of 151

771 Main Street  
Charlton

May  
1981



Ca. 1813

Here we find the home of Robert Killen and his family. They moved to the hamlet in 1961. This house is located on the east farm of the 200 acre tract that Jeremiah Smith purchased in 1774. It is a part of Lot 4, 5,000 acre tract of the patent and is in the south bounds of the historic district of the hamlet.

This east farm contained 89 acres but has recently been subdivided into building lots and the southeast corner of the farm contains the Elmer Smith Memorial Park. Jeremiah Smith set off a plot of ground from this farm for a burial ground and deeded this burial ground to the town in 1808.

As early as 1813 Nathan Hollister resided here and operated a store at the corner of Swaggertown Road. The store later became known as the "Slover Store". In 1853 Archibald Smith, son of Jeremiah, sold this farm to his son Theodore. Julia Ann Chalmers, wife of Theodore Smith, willed the farm to Jane Bunyan in 1905, who in turn sold it to Laura Houch in 1911. Harold Fobian moved here in 1919 and resided here until 1936.



CHARLTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC., Charlton, Ballston Lake, N.Y., 12019

#30 of 151

798 Main Street  
Charlton



May  
1981

Ca. 1835

This two story colonial house, with its elaborate pilasters, is the home of Richard LeGere and his family, who moved into the hamlet in 1956.

As in some cases while one researches land deeds we come to a situation where you will find an early land deed and then there follows a period of several decades where none appear, and such was the case here. At the corner of Jockey there once stood the store of Davis and Bostwick. We learned that the store was destroyed by fire in 1828 and it was not until 1866 that a land transaction could be found again for this property.

Chauncey Belding was our first postmaster when the post office was established in 1802 in the hamlet. His son Melancton married Esther M. Conde in 1835. It is believed that Melancton Belding built this house at that time for his new bride.

The house is in the south bounds of the historic district of the hamlet.

John Young operated the wooden pump factory on Jockey Street in 1898 and was followed by Henry Springer in this adventure. The pump factory was closed down in 1926 when electricity was introduced in the hamlet. Since that time the factory has fell into disrepair but now Richard LeGere is restoring the factory.