

CHARLTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.



CHARLTON, SARATOGA COUNTY, NEW YORK

#141 of 151

Ca. 1835



Ca. 1801



Sweetman Rd. December 1986 Charlton Rd. # 719

Addendum: As we conclude the research on this series of early homes in Charlton, we must include now houses that were overlooked before.

On the right is the home of the Floyd Brady family. Frances, widow of Floyd Brady is the daughter of Frank Cervenka, who moved here in 1921.

This 57 acre farm is the east portion of the Jesse Conde lot. Elind Davis resided here as early as 1801, and possibly he built this house. In 1857, Garrett Cavert purchased this farm. Regretfully we could not find any earlier deed to this farm.

After Cavert subsequent owners were; Capen; Hedden; Kernan; Cervenka, and Brady.

On the left is the home of the Gary Lulli family, who moved here in 1975. There remains 7 acres of this farm with this house. The balance of the farm has been subdivided into building lots. The Lulli family have had new siding applied to the house, and it now stands, with dignity, as a show-place in our rural area.

Walter Maxwell resided here, in 1835, and the farm contained 85 acres of land. It is the north portion of the 250 acre tract of land that David Maxwell purchased in 1775.

Harry Smith owned this farm in 1884. Carrie Smith purchased the farm from Kenyon Smith, but lost it at a tax sale to Milton Wiley.

The balance of the farm has been subdivided into building lots, now sporting new houses. Once more one of our productive farms has given away to 20th. century houses.

CHARLTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.



CHARLTON, SARATOGA COUNTY, NEW YORK

#142 of 151

741 Main St.



Ca. 1874

January 1987

This is the home of Florence, widow of Stanley Robinson. They purchased this property from Mary Bailey in 1940.

In 1874, Peter Brewster, Inkeeper, purchased this property. We believe that Mr. Brewster tore down the two sets of houses, and barns that made up this property. In the period between 1801 and 1832, there were separate lots, and buildings. One was located on a $3/4$ acre lot, and the other on a 1 acre lot. Over the years additional land has been added to the present house lot. Robert Benedict resided in the house on the $3/4$ acre lot, and Eleazor Dows owned the 1 acre lot. In 1831, Robert Benedict owned both properties.

Amelia Hiller, daughter of Summers Hiller the miller, resided here in 1866. The above picture is a copy of the picture taken when the Bailey family resided here in 1925.

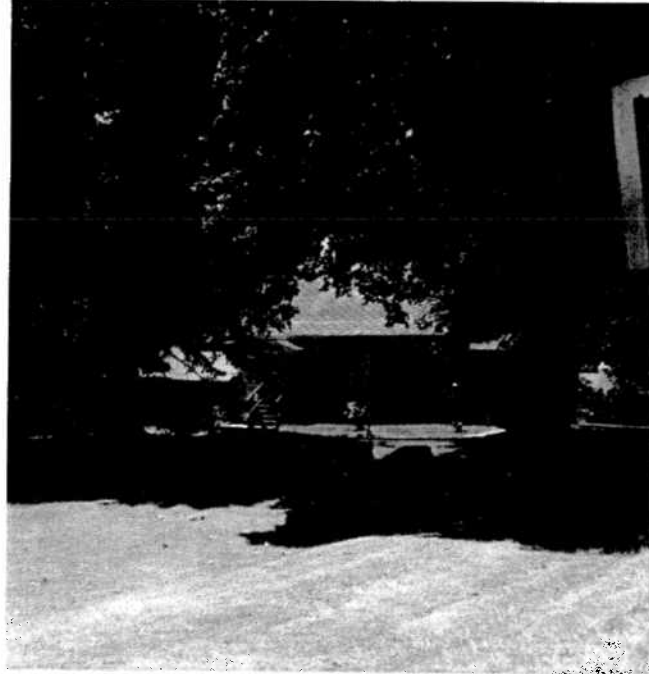
The following families resided either in the Robinson house, or one of the two earlier houses; Johnson; Burgess; Benedict; Watrous, Hollister; Brown; Northrup; Potter; Thorpe; Kernan; Hiller; Manning; Brewster; Hastings; Bailey, and Robinson.



CHARLTON, SARATOGA COUNTY, NEW YORK

#142A of 151

759 Main St.



1932

This is the home of the John Kavicky family, who purchased this property, in 1955, from J. Donald Robinson, who in turn purchased from Merritt Simpson in 1942.

Merritt Simpson purchased a house lot from George Grovesteen, heir of this family who settled here in Charlton. Mr. Simpson built this house, planted Norway Maple trees in 1932. Later he purchased, from Elizabeth Sanders Estate and additional tract of land to add to the house lot.

The Grovesteen family settled here, in 1882, and in their tenure members of this family held the position of Poormaster, at which time they often had to board transients. We find listed in the Beers Atlas that in 1866 a shoeshop was located here. A history of the first house is a mystery, but we find listed in the town records that the Grovesteen men were listed as shoemakers.

When Frank Lafforthun moved to Charlton, in 1916, it was his chore to walk to the Charles Haynes farm for milk. At this time the first house was vacant, and rumors spread that the house was haunted. On several occasions passed this house to be greeted by howls, and at these times would arrive home with half buckets of milk. Mother was understanding, but yet did not believe the ghost story. That house was destroyed as a Halloween prank.

It was in 1876 that James Lynch sold the property to Andrew Capen, but we could not find a deed for Lynch's purchase.

John Grovesteen was born June 6, 1809, died October 10, 1879, and was the father of Alexander the shoemaker. John was the progenitor of this Charlton family, but we have been unable where he first settled. He was a veteran of the Civil War, and is buried at Fine Grove Cemetery.

Ca.1804



767 Main St.-January 1987

Ca.1828



787 Main

On the right is the home that Bessie Maso inherited from Perry Mead, for her diligent care in his declining years.

Perry Mead, born at Charlton, died September 22, 1978, age 96 years. For many years Mr. Mead was employed as a maintenance foreman for Rt. #67.

James Dunning purchased this house lot from Jeremiah Smith, in 1826, built this house, and brought his new bride, Relief Clark, here in 1828. This house lot was a portion of the 200 acre tract of land, of Small Lot 4, that Jeremiah Smith purchased in 1774.

After Dunning, subsequent owners were; Kernan; Chalmers; Cullen; Arnold; Gardiner; Nead; and Maso.

On the left is the home of the Paul O'Brien family, who moved here in 1965.

Sarah Bradt, daughter of Seldon Ely, purchased this property, in 1853, and sold to Melancton Callaghan in 1861. The members of the Callaghan family resided here until it was sold to the Sellars in 1936. While the Callaghan family resided here Melancton operated the general store where the Village Shop is located. His daughter Mary taught school in the Academy, and the other daughters helped operate the store. Melancton Callaghan, a Democrat, was appointed postmaster, in 1886, and at his death daughter Augusta finished his term of office. The postoffice closed down, in 1906, when Rural Free Delivery was initiated.

It is believed that Melancton Callaghan was responsible for the two different period facades of this house.

From a mortgage book we find that William Ely resided here in 1804.

CHARLTON, SARATOGA COUNTY, NEW YORK

#144 of 151

Ca. 1800



1021 Packer Rd.

February 1987



1804

Maple Ave. # 2006

On the right is the St. Paul's Folk Museum, and Meeting House, purchased by the Charlton Historical Society in 1971.

The society has made extensive repairs to the building, and filled the interior with Charlton artifacts of the past. Each year, on the first Sunday in June, the society sponsors a parade and opens the museum open to the public. Local organizations make up the contingents of the parade, and music by the school-bands from Burnt Hills and Galway add zip to the marchers in the parade.

In 1803, a group of Charlton residents were granted a charter to form a society for St. Paul's Episcopal Church, and in 1804, Eleazor Dows built this church for \$1,200. The lot was purchased from Joseph Brown for \$50.00.

On the left is the home of the Everett Barnes family, who moved here in 1923. Before his retirement, Mr. Barnes transported bulk milk to Schenectady. It was a delight to see, for the youngsters, Mr. Barnes swing these 40 quart cans of milk on to his truck.

Joseph Sweetman resided here in 1835, and then sold to Nathan Sherman. We were unable to find an early deed for this farm, but the house-construction, of handhewn beams, places it in the 1800 era of colonial houses.

William Packer resided here, in 1873, and the road is named in honor of this family. The farm then contained 51 acres of land.

In 1934, Everett Barnes purchased the 87 acre Taylor farm on the west side of Maple Ave. He subdivided this 104 acre farm into building lots. James Taylor settled on this farm in 1791, and was a successful farmer.

CHARLTON, SARATOGA COUNTY, NEW YORK

#145 of 151

Ca. 1917



Ca. 1930



784 Swaggertown Rd. February 1987 Valentine R. # 102

On the right is the home of the Joseph Garve family, who moved here in 1947. This is a replacement of the Chapman house.

This farm was made up of several parcels of land over the years. Frederick Valentine purchased this farm from Stephen Chapman, but we could not find the early deeds. An early survey of the present Lakehill Rd. mentioned a lane that led to Chapman's house.

This farm now contains 44 acres of land. In 1867, Taulor purchased a 46 acre tract that included the Hiller's mill-site at the creek. William Taylor sold a portion of this farm to the Charlton Farm School. After Valentine subsequent owners were; Jennø; Holmes; Morehouse; Sweet; Taylor; Stanton; House; Ferro; Boyle; and Garve.

On the east side of Swaggertown Rd; facing Newman Rd.; is the home of the Gabrielle Sorino family, who moved here in 1943.

Joseph Zacher resided here in 1917. The old Rogers house was destroyed by fire so Mr. Zacher built this one for his family about 1921.

This farm has land on the west side of the road. but the house is located on the 37 acres that John Rogers purchased from Alex McAuley in 1794 which was a portion of the south end of Small Lot 10. This farm was called the south farm when John Rogers resided in the old house, near the Alplaus Kill, that the Jankowski family demolished to make room for their new house.

After Rogers subsequent owners of this farm were; Edwards; Caveney; Lample; Lord; Furdy; Brown; Boughten; Post; Zacker; Federal Land Bank; Wolff; Bush; and Sorino.

The Zacher children attended Dist. #8 school, at Maple Ave. At that time there were no school buses to stop at the door.

CHARLTON, SARATOGA COUNTY, NEW YORK

#146 of 151

Ca.1897



Ca.1859



32 Old Route #67 March 1987 Old Stage Rd. 4 Little Troy Lane

On the right is the home of the Robert Smearing family, who moved here in 1970, having purchased the property from Joseph Bodnar.

Mr. Bodnar purchased this school property from the Central District, and converted the building into a dwelling-house in 1965.

In 1859, Robert Ketchum, trustee, purchased this lot from Hiram Morehouse, which was a part of the sawmill property. As early as 1783, Seth Kirby, and others, built an earth-dam that ran to the creek by the old bridge. A fullingmill was added to this mill-complex at a later date. The homes of Ethel Clauder, and Robert Bull are located on the old dam.

This schoolhouse, of Dist. #7, replaced the old one that stood at the Corner of Valentine Rd. In 1828, that old schoolhouse was moved and added to the Plummer house at the north end of the old bridge.

On the left is School #1, of the ten Charlton schools, that were a part of the Common School System initiated by Gideon Hawley Jr., when he was State Supt. of schools in 1813.

Robert Coppola converted this schoolhouse into a dwelling house, in 1970, and soon sold the property to Edward Cooper. Recently this property was purchased by the Tretiak family, and the building is rented to one of the Nowicki boys, their neighbors.

In 1897, the district purchased a plot 44 feet square from Stephen Lawson whereupon the schoolhouse was built. In 1920, the district purchased an additional tract 21 feet west by 21 feet north from John Michalowski. Again in 1924, a tract 100 feet west and 292 feet north was added to the lot.

In the early days schoolhouses were erected on land under agreement with the owners, usually in lieu of taxes. We believe that such was the case with David Alexander when the first schoolhouse was built in this area. David Alexander owned the farm, in 1810, where this school-lot is located.



CHARLTON, SARATOGA COUNTY, NEW YORK

#147 of 151

1966



1931



4008 Jockey St.-March 1987

On the right is the old town garage built in 1931, by the highway department, under the leadership of Emmett Martin who was the Supt. of Highways at that time.

When this garage was built a concrete lined room was built at the east end. Here old records were kept, and the board held its meetings. These meetings were seldom visited by the public, but as the town expanded with new houses this room soon became inadequate for meetings. The garage lot of 124 by 175 feet was purchased from Henry Conde.

On the left is the new town garage built in 1966. John Morgan was the Supt. of Highways at this time.

At the south end of this building a meeting-room was installed for town board meetings, and this too soon became overcrowded so the board purchased the K. of P. Hall for meetings and polling-place.

About 1978, the meeting-room was converted into a State Police satellite station to serve the towns of Charlton, Glenville, and Galway.

This lot of 150 by 380 feet was purchased from Rodman Kieft, who at the time owned the Conde farm.

Not in view in this photo is the huge sandpile stored there for use in sanding roads. The aesthetic view of the historic district would be enhanced if this pile of sand was stored elsewhere.



Ca. 1834



Ca. 1837



Route #67 April 1987 Jockey St. # 4268

On the right is the home of the T. Reidinger family, who purchased this property in 1979. They had to live in a mobile home while renovating the house from the cellar walls upwards.

George Beller, of New Jersey, purchased this farm, of 30 acres, in 1938. Over the years the house fell into disrepair, but now by the diligent efforts of the Reidinger family, it once more enhances the countryside. This farm was the 3/7 ths. of 70 acres that David Mead purchased, in 1793, from Eber Isbell. The south 4/7 ths. is the Koenig farm.

Subsequent owners were; Watkins; Smith; Hartman; Bartholomew; Arnold; Morgan; Holbrook; Flynn; Wood; Van Patten; O'Conner; Beller; and Reidinger.

On the left is the house on the George Sowles Estate. The Eugene Coon family resided here for many years. The farm was willed to Ruth (Waite) Mundy, a ward of the Sowles family. The Leroy Mundy family reside here now.

This farm, of 70 acres; extends on both sides of the road. When Eliphallet Saunders resided here, in 1834, he purchased a 10 acre plot on the west side of Maple Ave. Here W. Guy Smith set out an orchard, and it now is a part of his estate.

The earliest deed found for this farm was in 1837, when James Deremer purchased the farm from Saunders. From a very early deed we find that this farm was a part of a 104 acre tract of land owned by William Morfet (Morford), in 1797, which he purchased from Everett Bancker, who was an heir of the patent.

Following Deremer; subsequent owners were; Slingerland; Duel; Vedder; Brann; Sowles; and Mundy.

Ca.1880



Ca.1840

1331 Sacandaga Rd.-April 1987

On the right is the home of the Henry McCune family, who moved here in 1933.

We were not able to find the first deed for this house lot, of 10 acres, but in a later deed description mention is made that it started at the northwest corner of the farm of Alexander F. Alexander, who resided at the Barth farm in 1840.

In an 1844 deed for the Knox farm, Eliza Vrooman was a defendant at a mortgage sale of that farm, and the deed excluded the above house lot of Mr. McCune., which, at one time, was a part of the Vrooman farm.

The first deed we found for this property was for Richard Pearse, in 1861. Subsequent owners were; Travis; Alexander; and McCune.

On the left is the West Charlton Presbyterian Church, which is the third church, of this faith, at the Scotch Church area.

Legend tells that the first church was built over the Galway Line. From deeds of the cemetery there, we find mention of the second church being located at the cemetery grounds. Recently the society was given a Crane drawing of this church, and the drawing dates this church as 1803.

In the early days the congregation was known as "Associated Reformed Church of Galway."

Legend tells that the congregation received a land deed, for the present church, from George Mead. As yet we have not located the recording of this deed.

The steeple of the present church has been struck by lightning on more than one occasion. Hopefully the trustees have taken precautionary methods to prevent the occurrence of such calamity. The countryside would truly be bare without the presence of this lovely bit of architecture.



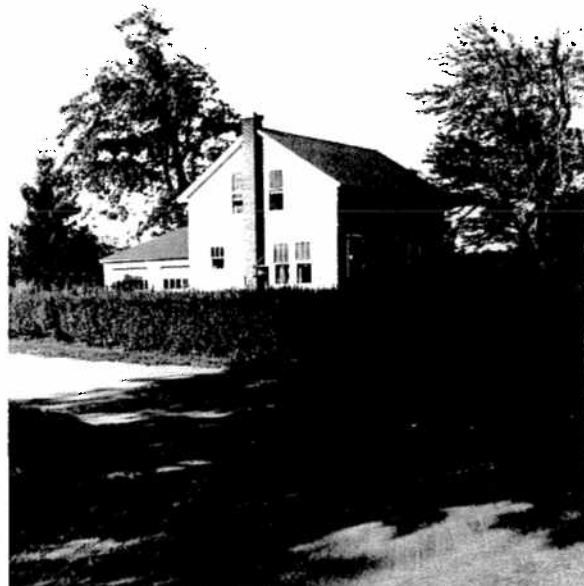
CHARLTON, SARATOGA COUNTY, NEW YORK

#150 of 151

Ca. 1856



Ca. 1837



1292 Eastern Ave.-May 1987

1160 Eastern

This is the home of Frank Evans, whose parents moved here in 1929. This is not the original house built on this lot when David Smith purchased this 11 acre tract of land from Andrew Smith, in 1837. This house was moved here from the Ward lot at Cook Rd. where Donald Shearer recently built two new houses. It is not known who, or when, this house was moved to this lot, but we can imagine that it was a bold, and tedious venture for the horse-and-buggy days.

George Plummer purchased this property, in 1865, and it was the home for this family until 1907. In 1896, Martha Plummer had to acquire quitclaim deeds from the heirs of George Plummer, and then again in 1907 the Gilchrist family, in order to foreclose on the mortgage, had to acquire quitclaim deeds once more from 5 heirs of George Plummer.

Following Gilchrist subsequent owners were; Wheeler; Sommers; DeVoe; and Evans.

The house on the left is the home of the Richard Zeh family, who moved here in 1956. This house lot makes a dogleg around the Teller Blacksmith lot, and is made up of two parcels of land. As John L. Pearse owned, at one time, nearly all the properties at these Liberty Three Corners, this was one of them. It was too difficult to separate this lot from the other Pearse holdings to obtain a definite age of this house, so we settle for the 1856 approximate date of construction.

In 1856, Christian Steinmetz purchased a 5/36 acre tract of land, with this house, and in 1921, Waite A. Cotton purchased a tract 33 by 150 feet of land from Dayton C. Watkins, who owned the farm where the Morack family resides.

After Steinmetz subsequent owners were; O'Conner; Simmonds; Brundage; Cotton; Minor; and Zeh.

CHARLTON, SARATOGA COUNTY, NEW YORK

#151 of 151

Ca. 1867



2112 Route #67 May 1987



Ca. 1831

34 Western Ave.

On the right is the house on the David Ernst farm, purchased from Raymond James in 1967. Recently the farm has been sold to Walter Shader, from Campbell Hall, N.Y.

To many residents this property was known as the "Teller Farm", who moved here in 1907. William Teller Jr. held the position of assessor for many years, and his home was a showplace of the countryside. In recent years the house has fallen into disrepair, as the photo shows.

This farm was originally a 100 acre tract of land that Andrew Mc Adams purchased in 1792. As early as 1831, Robert Bunyan operated a successful farming operation here. Over the years other parcels of land were added, and recently land on the north side of the road has been subdivided into building lots.

Following McAdams subsequent owners were; Gilchrist; McWilliam; Bunyan; Hamlin; Wemple; Oakley; Alexander; Hayes; Teller Sr.; Teller Jr.; Pustolka; James; Ernst; and Shader;

On the left is the home of Caroline Setzer, who moved here in 1974. This building was the old Dist. #3 schoolhouse, known as the Mynderse school, and at times the Holbrook Corners school.

Little is known of the first school at this area, but in 1867, Orrin Tabor sold a $6\frac{1}{2}$ by 8 rod plot of ground for the schoolhouse.

In 1955, Joseph Salodino purchased this property from the Galway Central School District as a summer home. He sold the property to William Cronin, who in turn sold to Caroline Setzer.

Caroline had planned to operate here a small antique shop, but was thwarted by the Zoning Ordinances.