

COBBLESTONE STRUCTURES

September, 1979

HERKIMER COUNTY

- 1 - Thomas, Rt. 51, south of W. Winfield
- 1a - Barn
- 2 - Price, Wall St., Cedarville (1856)
- 3 - Davis, Barn, Rt. 20, East Winfield
- 4 - Knapp, Smokehouse, Rt. 51 at Chepatchet. (Not cobblestone)

HERKIMER COUNTY

Her - 1

The house on Route 51, just south of the village of West Winfield, has unique treatment of the mortar. The quoins are short vertically and elongated horizontally, leaving a narrow space between quoins, which has relatively large stones set in the space. These large stones are in squares of mortar, the edges of which are elevated, so that the stones appear to be in a box. The stones at the end of the quoins are in rows one and one-half rows per quoin. The mortar is fairly flat between stones and has horizontal ridges between rows, the ridges being drawn to a sharp edge, so that the cross section would resemble a V. On the south wall, which is now inside an enclosed porch, the stones between quoins are similar to the northwest corner, but the squares are scored on flat areas of mortar. The area outside of the quoins has stones embedded in a matrix of mortar, with a flat surface scored in squares. Some of the squares have edges raised above the surface of the matrix. Toward the back of the south wall, the mortar matrix is scored without being embellished.

Her - 1a

The barn has elongated quoins of variable dimensions. Stones are in a mortar matrix scored in squares.

In both of the above buildings in areas where the mortar is scored in squares, the horizontal scoring is usually double, although single lines exist in some areas, particularly in the barn. Vertical lines are almost invariably single.

Otsego - 3 in Schyler Lake, which is about 10 miles southeast of West Winfield, has the same mortar scoring characteristics and probably had at least one mason who worked on both structures.

Her - 2

The former one story schoolhouse on Wall St, Cedarville, has quoins of gray limestone that are variable in length and height. Door and window lintels are made of the same type of stone. Stones are moderate in size, of varying color, and some are smooth mixed with a majority of rough and irregular. In the front wall, the stones are embedded in mortar which is depressed immediately around the stones and crudely marked, so that the stones appear to be in square boxes. On the right side wall, the point of a trowel was apparently used to mark horizontal and vertical lines between stones. It seems apparent that at least two masons, or masons from two schools, were involved in the construction.

HERKIMER COUNTY (continued)

Her - 3

The Davis barn on the north side of Rt. 20, between East and West Winfield, is a massive structure with frame additions on both ends. The quoins are gray limestone and are variable in size. The window lintels are made of the same material. Stones are extremely variable in size and shape and include some long thin stones. In some areas, the stones appear to be smoothed, but the vast majority are irregular and are set in a matrix of mortar which is almost flush with the stones. Inside the frame addition on the north end, the original front of the building is still intact and not weathered. In the center of this wall, stones are arranged in interesting formations which include a diamond in the center, flanked by rows of stones laid in different directions, some simulating herringbone patterns.

Her - 4

This octagonal smokehouse on the west side of Rt. 51 at Chepatchet Rd. is constructed of bricks and stones, and is not a true cobblestone structure.