

Marlene Slocum's Home Story by Bob Mogray

One of the more unique homes in the area is owned by Marlene Slocum, a long-time resident and WHS member. The address of this house is 5103 Lincoln Road, just around the corner from the Lincoln Fire Department. It is a two-story early 1800's style farmhouse. On the property are also a large barn, garage, and a wood shed. The estate now totals 25 acres.

The house was built in 1806 by Theron Gould and family, the cost of which was a whopping \$4,000.00. This was probably quite a large sum in those days. It was originally 36 acres and has been reduced over the years to the 25 acres that it is today. The next owners were the Collier family. Mr. Ellis Collier was born there in 1900 and sold it to Marlene Slocum in 1980. The photos below show how the home looked in the early 1900's and how it looks now. The Amsler family rented part of the land even into the 1970's and 1980's from Ellis Collier and then from Marlene.

On the property is an old chimney, the only remains of an old barrel-making factory. Ellis Collier told Marlene that an old building stood there in which the metal hoops for wooden barrels were manufactured. The old chimney and a few bricks are all that remain of this business from the 1800's. Also on the property are old wagon wheels, a wooden bench, an old outhouse, and a new deck added to the house several years ago.

Marlene and her husband Lee raised 5 children in this house. It had the original cupboards, lathe and plaster walls, and old wooden floors when they bought it from Ellis Collier. Almost nothing in the way of renovations had been done since it was built in 1806. Over recent years, the floors were restored and the cupboards replaced with refinished wood from the Chapman barn in Palmyra. A sitting room area was converted to a bedroom area and is now a sewing room.

There are many antiques and collectables throughout the home. The entire house is completely furnished with items collected over the years by Marlene and her family. There are memories in every corner as evidenced by the many personal family items. A friendship quilt belonging to Marlene's grandmother hangs over the second floor railing, a child's Mickey Mouse rocker is on the second floor landing, an old wooden playpen and cradle sit in one of the bedrooms against the wall, and many framed photos of her family hang in almost every room.

This was a great opportunity to see a very interesting home that was furnished with many items from the 1800's and early 1900's. The Walworth Historical Society wishes to thank Marlene Slocum for opening up her home to us, sharing its history, and allowing us to share it with you in this newsletter.



**Marlene Slocum's house
photo taken around 1900**



**Marlene Slocum's house
photo taken in 2006**



**Old chimney on Marlene
Slocum's property**