

By Submitted to The Post

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Yawman house, barn designated historic landmark

The Italianate style home and carriage barn at 42 Woodlawn Street in Fairport has been designated an historic landmark by the Fairport Historic Preservation Commission (FHPC). This landmark, named for its current owners, Phil and Donna Yawman, was built circa 1878.

History and Ownership Martin Wood, a farmer, owned the property, which was then called Woodland. Mr. Wood sold the land on Woodland in 1875 to Lorin L. Knapp.

Lorin L. Knapp An early settler, Lorin came to Perinton in 1835. He bought land from Jerry Ramsdell and built a grocery and boat barn on the south bank of the Erie Canal. The bridge beside the store was called Knapp's Bridge, now Lyndon Road Bridge. In the early days of canal travel, most packet boats stopped there to secure fresh fruits, vegetables, meat, and fresh drinking water. After buying the land on Woodland he built the home and carriage barn and moved his wife Mary and family into the village.

Albert Henry Knapp By at least 1898, one of their sons, Albert Henry Knapp owned the home and lived there with his children. Albert, like his father, was a farmer. Mr. Knapp is said to have not liked living in the village and subsequently moved back to his farm. He advertised in 1902, "My house, barn, with one acre land, variety of fruit, situated on Woodland...will be sold or rented."

Warren Pannell Another successful farmer purchased the property in 1904 after selling his farm and fruit stand business on Pannell Road. He likely lived there until he died in 1924. The Pannell's were life long members of the Southern Methodist Church on Wilkinson Road.

The Yawmans Donna Yawman has served the Fairport community in numerous ways. She is a member and has been an officer of the Urban Renewal Agency, now the Office of Community Economic Development (OCED) from 1972 to the present. She served as Village Trustee, Deputy Mayor and ran for Mayor in 1990. Donna also volunteers for Dollars for Scholars and the Church of Assumption.

Phil has worked and served many not-for-profits organizations in Monroe and Livingston County. He has served on numerous government and community boards and is a permanent ordained Deacon in the Diocese of Rochester's Roman Catholic Church. Donna and Philip Yawman III have lived at 42 Woodlawn for over 45 years.

Italianate House & Carriage Barn This Italianate, a style popular from 1840 to 1885, is a two story cross-gable form with a secondary gable. The porch on the south side makes it appear asymmetrical which is typical of about 20% of Italianates. It has overhanging eaves, tall rectangle top windows with pediment crowns.

The one story front and back porches have supports with beveled edges and brackets. The front entry porch leads to tall wood double doors with elongated octagon panels on the bottom half and the same shaped glass panels on top half.

The windows are two-over-two double hung with the original operable louvered shutters. On the south side there is a one-story bay window with same window detailing.

The carriage barn is a simple front gable structure constructed with posts and beams. The barn also built circa 1878 has vertical wood siding, second story hinged loft door and entry doors that open on medal gliders. There is a oculus window in front peak and a stall window on the back. A large grain bin, hay drop and a stall are still intact in the lower level. The barn housed horses until the 1950s.

Feature of the Neighborhood As you turn the corner onto Woodlawn Avenue, you see this Italianate from the side and it is striking. The large double lot allows you to see the front and side along with the carriage barn.

For more information on the FHPC and designated landmarks, go to the village website at www.fairportny.com and the Perinton Historical Society site at www.PerintonHistoricalSociety.org.



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