



Built by Abial Whitman in 1847, this home has been better known as the Belden House. Whitman never lived in the house. He was one of several from Rochester lured to the California gold fields. He made a fortune in the grocery business, but died on the return trip home. His widow, Aurilia Farr Whitman Brown, willed the house to her 10 year old step-grandson, later Judge Ellsworth Burnett Belden, in 1876.

Though the interior later was remodeled it still boasts hand hewn laths and wooden pegs. Present owner is Mrs. Robert Belden.

It is thought this house is about 145 years old. Believed to be the home of Dr. George F. Newell, Sr., who had a practice in Rochester during an unnamed epidemic in 1862, which claimed many lives. Now owned by Ken Wienke, also the former proprietor of the filling station next door.

Down the hill is a red brick house tagged as a Cady house. Henry Cady operated a drug store and confectionary and was Postmaster for many years.

Grey and Marge Abendroth, present owners in doing research found the house is made of St. Louis brick, brought all the way from the Mississippi. Many houses along the Mississippi are made of this brick.

The boyhood home of Clarence "Ginger" Beaumont. He put Rochester in the news when he made the Wisconsin Hall of Fame as a baseball player. He hit .357 in 1902 for the Pittsburgh Pirates to lead the National League. Present owners are the James Radewans.

*Eileen Albright*

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The two story red brick and fieldstone part of this dwelling was built in 1850. It has a living room, small kitchen and pantry on the ground floor, with two bedrooms under the rafters. A frame kitchen was added in 1868, later a bedroom was added on the rear.

August and Regina Albrecht purchased the property in 1874. He built and operated a wagon factory around the corner. Grandchildren knew he came home for lunch everyday about 10 am and were on hand to maybe get a piece of kuchen or gooseberry pie, or a bit of blood sausage.

This graceful pink brick building with wood pillars is the original exterior of the house. The earliest information on this house is a Land Patent dated December 10, 1840 by Martin Cole Whitman.

In the early part of the century, Mrs. Eliza Davis kept her very spirited horse in the accompanying barn. She literally waged war with her horse and buggy for she loathed the "devil wagons" as she called the new fangled motor cars. But her young neighbors of the time remember her treat of sour cream cookies: 3 cups sugar, 1 cup butter, 1 tsp. baking powder (in flour), 1/2 tsp. vanilla, 3 eggs, 2 cups sour cream, 1/2 tsp. lemon. Add as much flour as can be stirred with a spoon. Roll out, cut and bake in a quick oven.

Another of Rochester's graceful brick houses is next door. The house was built c. 1845, later bought by John Wood, a blacksmith from England. It has remained in the Wood family until 1974. Wooden additions were added in 1860 and 1896. It is thought that an upstairs room was used as an early school. It was purchased by the Philip Clarks in 1974.

Labeled Greek Revival style, the red brick house was built in 1848 by Joseph Jackson and is one of the many Jackson houses found in the village. It has three interior walls made of stone. Joseph is listed as a boot and shoe dealer, and this was the first house in Rochester to be wired for electricity.

*Eileen Albrigt*

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