

The house was built around 1850 and was owned by the Bartlett family. Nathan W. Bartlett joined the Civil War, and due to exposure and illness contracted, he came home a semi-invalid and was never able to do manual work. He became a lawyer and was admitted to the bar in 1877, settled in his home Town of Parishville and married Jennie Cook. He passed away in 1897 and she moved her two children to Potsdam. The son later became a Baptist Minister. She sold their home to Pliny Clark about 1898 and he had it completely remodeled and brought his new wife, Eva Cole home to this beautiful home in the year of 1900. Stanley Shepard was the carpenter that did all the fancy work on the house. Pliny was the son of Simeon Clark. The Clark family was a prominent family of Parishville and very wealthy. They went by the name of Simeon Clark and Son. They owned several of the Mills in Town, the Saw Mills, The Butter Tub Factory, which surpassed all others in the United States. They owned farms and rented them to people, they owned acreage of wooded area in the south woods of Parishville and lumbered.

Pliny and Eva had three children born to them, all at home in their bedroom, which is now the Museum Circus room and they were delivered by Dr. Charles Duffy.

Their lives were to change as Pliny was taken ill with Anemia which was an inadequate supply of hemoglobin and red blood cells and Doctors at that time knew nothing about vitamin B-12 shots. He died in a Rest Home near New York City in the year of 1915, leaving his wife and three children Walter, Charlotte and Margaret.

The children graduated from Parishville school and Walter went on to St. Lawrence University and graduated.

A few years later, Charlotte was taken ill with tuberculosis. At that time they closed the house in Parishville and moved to Saranac Lake where a Tuberculosis Sanitarium was located. They designed a sun porch off the girls bedroom in Parishville like the home they lived in Saranac Lake. Charlotte passed away Sept. 29, 1940 at age of 29. At that point, the mother and the rest of the family left Parishville. Walter was in Business at Grosse Pointe, Mich. and Margaret married and lived at Cornwall-on-Hudson. Her mother stayed with her and family.

Eva passed away Jan. 29, 1963 at age 87. She willed the house and property to the Town of Parishville with the stipulation that the property could be used for any purpose other than anything to do with illness, like a rest home for example.

In the meantime on April 29, 1959, the Parishville Historical Assn. was organized with Elsie Bresee having had inspiration and influence to get this group formed. The Museum was assembled in the balcony of the Town Hall, but this did not prove to be very successful.

When the Clark property was received from Eva's will, immediately the Town turned it over to be the permanent Museum and the Historical Group started moving into the home. The Clark house was beautifully situated at the top of the hill on Main St. commanding a view of both

downtown and uptown. It was spacious and well cared for over the passing years. It also had a Historical significance. Regular open house days are set up each Tuesday and Thursday - 1:00 to 3:00 PM, during July and August and the rest of the time by appointment with our Annual Historical Day always the 2nd Saturday in August.

Our members have volunteered their time and we have money making projects to buy supplies and as of the year of 2007, there are only two rooms left to re-do. The decor has been brought back to papered walls and with the Carriage Barn, Hen House and Blacksmith Shop, it is the most beautiful and educational Museum in St. Lawrence County.