

Cobblestone HOMES TOUR

WILSON, NEW YORK



1. Morgan Johnson
2533 Wilson Cambria Road

Built in 1844 by *Captain Morgan Johnson* of the schooner *Millie Cook*. The recessed center entrance is approached by limestone steps, flanked by recumbent stone consoles that act as low railings. A 500 pound anchor, lost from the schooner *Franklin Pierce*, was recovered in 1897 and placed in the front yard, where it remains today.



3. Jesse Smith
2995 Maple Road

A Greek revival style house built in 1833. English-cut stones are approximately 4" wide and laid in the same manner as those used in regular cobblestone construction. For several decades in the mid-1900s, a replica wooden cannon was placed in the front yard by previous owner *Robert Hedrich*, a history enthusiast.



2. William Woodcock
4831 Chestnut Road

Built on the north side of Marsh Settlement Road (which is now Chestnut Road) in 1836. Stones were brought by wagon from Lake Ontario over trails cut through the

woods. The surrounding area was still a wilderness covered with sprawling swamps. Bears and wolves roamed the area freely and the only passageways through the forest were rough trails.



4. William Wilson
2804 Maple Road

Built in 1861, the facing on the building is laid with English-cut stones, which means they were cut in two with the flat side exposed on the outer wall. When the

home was completed, it was originally occupied by two families consisting of 13 people.



5. James Morse
2773 Maple Road

Built circa 1845, the house features the typical farmhouse plan of Western New York. The walls are faced with gray and brown cobblestones and the windows are

capped with stone-label moldings, made in Lockport, in an English Gothic style. This building has been placed on the National Register of Historic Places.



6. Exley
2546 Maple Road

Constructed with fieldstones, the painted corner quoins stand out in sharp contrast. After the passing of the owners, two Exley farms were willed to the Methodist

Episcopal Church in Wilson. The family name was actually given to the church after they donated substantial financial help to build a new brick edifice in 1884.



7. Clinton Pettit
2471 Maple Road

Built circa 1835, the house is constructed from fieldstone cobbles of various sizes and colors. The quoins, window sills and lintels are made of gray limestone. The house

was the boyhood home of *Ira Pettit*, who was born in 1841. He served as a Union soldier during the Civil War and died in Andersonville prison. The book *Diary of a Dead Man* is based on him.



8. J Whitlock
2449 Maple Road

Built circa 1835, the home is separated from the road by a stone wall. The water washed cobbles are mainly gray and brown, and smaller on the front than the sides. The main

entrance features a pair of Doric columns and the grilles over the belly windows in the cornice are made of wood, which was unusual for the time. The cut stone is all gray limestone.



9. Wilson House
300 Lake Street

Luther Wilson's home was built in 1844 on the site of the first log schoolhouse in the village. It has gray, water-washed cobbles, with gray limestone lintels, sills and

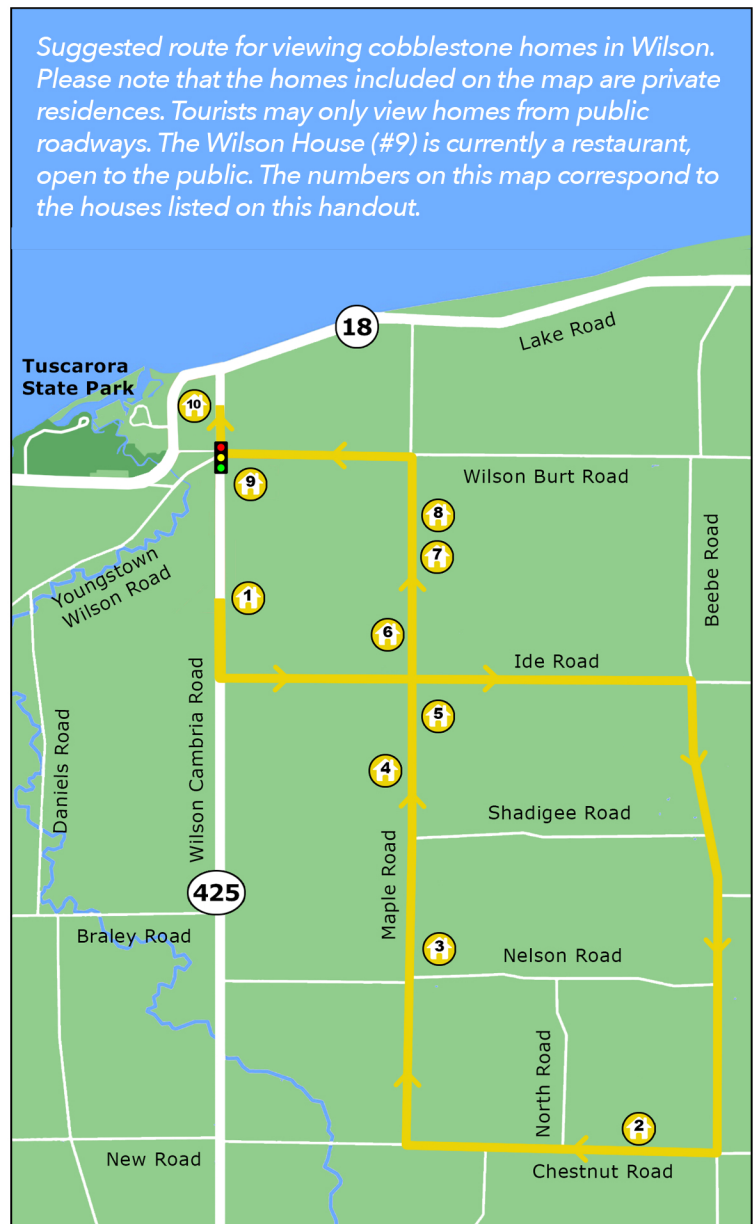
quoins. For many years the historic home was known as the *Wilsonian Club* and since 1947, it has been used as a restaurant and inn. Renovations have exposed the interior stone walls.



10. Case Homestead
81 Lake Street

Built circa 1935 from lake washed cobblestones of various sizes and colors. The story goes that in the early 1800s, Rachel Case gathered

lakeshore and carried them in her apron to the building site. In 1908, the house was used by Buffalo State Hospital as a colony for its patients, to provide them with recreational activities.



Copy adapted from the booklet *The Land of Cobblestones*, edited by Donald Croop (1976). Photos courtesy of Charles Horton.

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Museum grounds located at 641 Lake Street in Wilson, NY.
wilsonhistoricalsociety.org

