

Family Finds Home in a Barn

By Jean Simons

Few people would admit that they live in a barn. But Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Holmök are proud of their barn-house at 25747 Butternut Ridge in North Olmsted.

Three years ago the Holmöks were house hunting and discovered the 11-room dwelling. A house, built on the original site had been destroyed by fire, so the barn was moved to its place.

Much of the conversion from barn to house was completed before the Holmöks bought the house. Needed repairs were made later.

NOW THAT the decorating is completed, the Holmök home will be a featured stop of the North Olmsted Historical Society's Sesquicentennial House Tour and Museum Opening next Tuesday, 1-4:30 p.m. Tickets for the tours may be obtained from Mrs. Robert C. Barlik of North Olmsted.

Early American dominates the decor. On display are various bird plates and antiques which Mrs. Holmök has collected from New England, Canada and Denmark.

Life-size and miniature carved ducks and geese also are collected by Mrs. Holmök. One large Canadian

goose was a final project by famous wood carver Miles Hancock before his retirement.

MRS. HOLMÖK explains that their hand-made wall-to-wall carpet (resembling a hooked rug) is made to last for 50 years on each side.

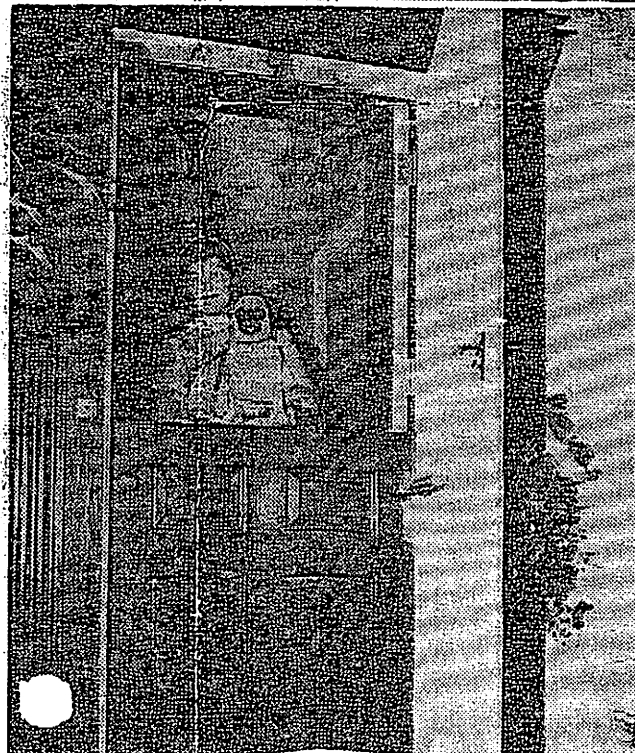
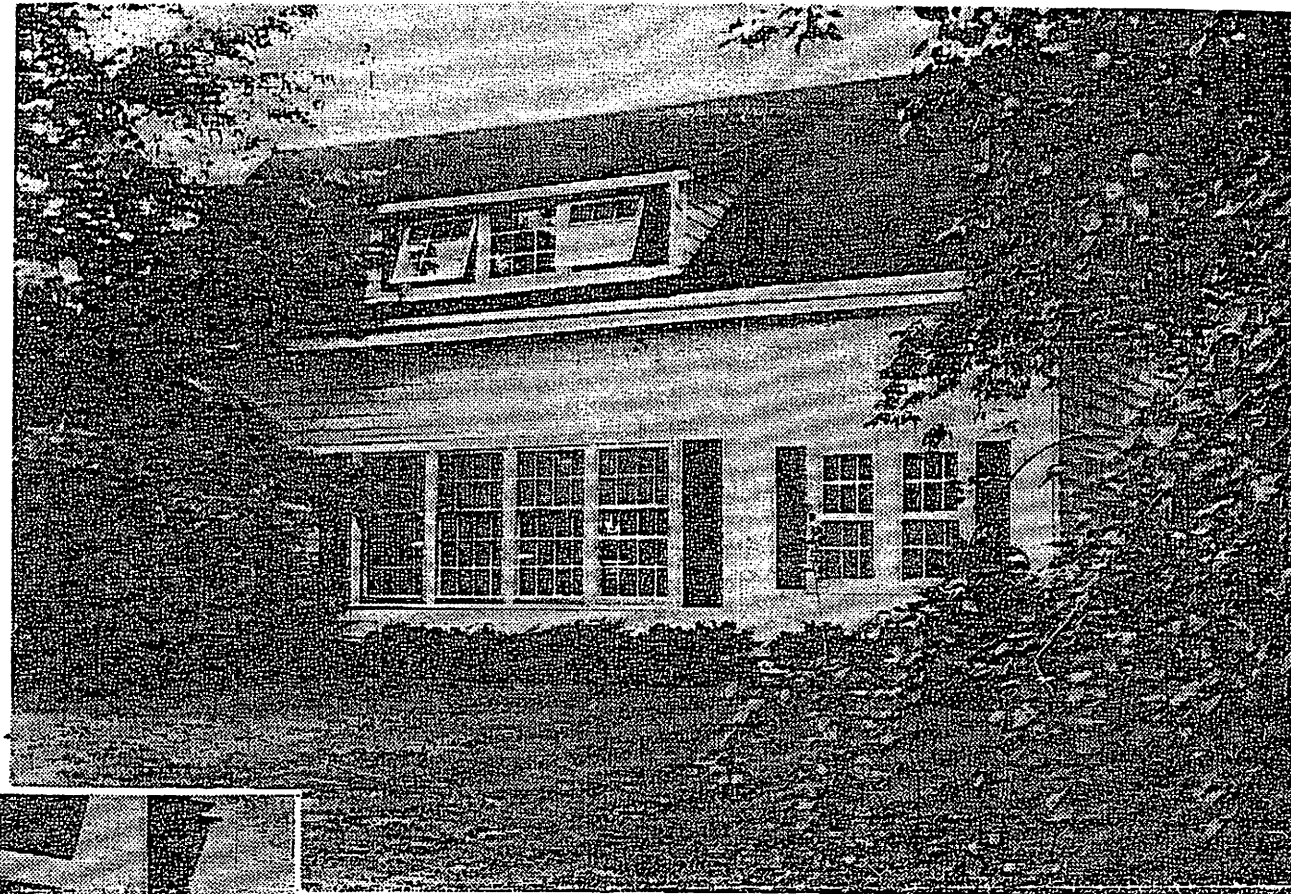
Other features of the house include a concave stone fireplace, Dutch doors and slanted upstairs ceilings, characteristic of the original barn. The living room floor consists of three separate floors which were built one atop the other.

Mrs. Holmök's only complaint now is that the house seems too large for the Holmök family which includes Allan, 16, and a pug dog, Elizabeth. She says the family may buy a smaller place someday.

AFTER CONVERSION from barn to house was complete, Mrs. Holmök, a horse-lover, wanted to buy a pleasure horse.

Guess why she couldn't. There was no barn!

Plain Dealer Photos
William A. Wynne



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Historical tour will include the Holmöks' converted barn.

