

# Clinton County Historical Society Archives

## Chronology Address Histories

**ADDRESS:** 200 Church Street

**CITY:** St. Johns

**ZIP CODE:** 48879

**TOWNSHIP:** Bingham

**YEAR BUILT:** 1890

**BUILDER/DESIGNER:**

**LEGAL DESCRIPTION: (2019)** T7N R2W, CITY OF ST JOHNS, ORIGINAL PLAT BLK 18, N 100 FT OF LOTS 1 & 2. EXCEPT AN EASEMENT: 81.5 FT N & S BY 1.5 FT E & W OUT OF NW COR LOT 2

**OWNERS (by year):**

1890	Roswell Dexter	
1938	Jennie Dexter	
1949	Florence & Jennie Dexter	
1985	Michael Muehlenbeck	
1991	Jon & Elaine Rise	
2019	Jon Rise	Photo

**STRUCTURAL CHANGES (by year):**

?	Front porch enlarged	
?	Gingerbread removed from the roof peaks	

## Historical comment by Jarod Schultz:

The Dexter Home, was built in 1890 for the Dexter family in a Gothic-Victorian architecture style. The home was in the Dexter family for 90 years. The home features oak and mahogany woodwork, an Italian marble fireplace, beveled glass, and oak parquet flooring. I have to say it's one of the most impressive corner lot homes in SJ

## Newspaper articles:

CCN 10 Sep 1975 p 2B

September 10, 1975

# Rare and unique antique "finds" in Dexter home

Visitors interested in antiques will enjoy the rare and unique "finds" of the Dexter home. Built like the house two doors south in 1890 and separated by a white frame residence, which was the former carriage house of the Dexters, this dwelling has remained in the family for 81 years.

The only change in the architecture of this lovely red-brick Victorian home is an enlarged front porch and the removing of "gingerbread" from the roof peaks. Miss Florence Dexter has retained its two-story bays, ten foot ceilings, large curved double arches, the beautiful parquet and miter-laid oak floors on which oriental rugs abound.

Stepping into the front hall the original light fixture, converted from gas, lights the L-shaped open stairs featuring newel posts with acorn finials.

The front parlor features an octagon tabletop of fiddle or tiger maple with a solid cherry pedestal support. The beautiful oil painting, one of two, was painted in 1910 by a local artist, Mrs. A.B. Corbin, who also painted china. The parlor painting is of the Winchelsea church in England where the Dexter ancestors are buried.

A black marble fireplace greets visitors walking into the sitting room where a Corbin painting of roses hangs. This room also has beautiful leaded glass windows.

Remodeled in 1912, the style of Adams gives the dining room its elegant simplicity. The very dark mahogany is featured in the oval table and chairs, the beamed ceiling and plate-rail-like molding around the room, and the built-in buffet, which is laden with 1886 silver wedding gifts.

Though the upstairs is an apartment, the entire eleven room home will be open for the tour, as both residents, Miss Dexter and Mrs. Cederquist, possess beautiful and fascinating antiques of glass, china and furniture.