

Marian Reist shows a chocolate server, a family heirloom, standing in front of the restored cherry corner cupboard.

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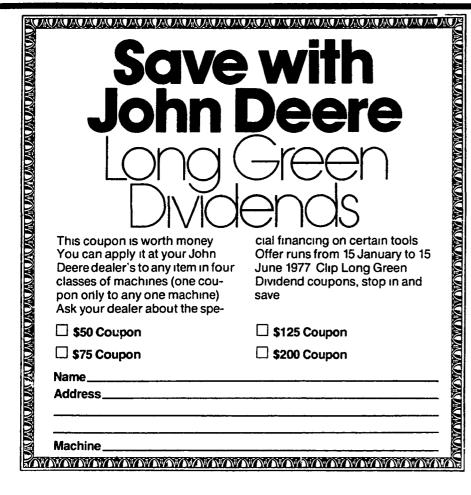
# **'Poor tenant house' teaches** history through artifacts

#### By SALLY BAIR Feature Writer

of the following story is one of five homes which will be part of the Lancaster County Farmers' Association Heritage Trail tour to be held on April 20. For further information on the time and price of the tour, refer to the article dealing with that subject in this wee's Lancaster Farming.

LANCASTER, those interested in early Pennsylvania antiques, the Arthur Reist home, 1050 Eden Road, Lancaster, is a must on the Heritage Trail Tour.

Reist is modest in talking about his 99-year-old frame home, saying, "It is just a poor tenant house; no one will want to see it." While it may be a "poor tenant house," the Reists have done a lot of work to preserve its natural features, and the house, itself, is sure to attract a lot of attention on the tour



Editor's note: The subject

Pa.-For

Reist pointed out that the

was built in 1875 on a corner porch to the "icebox." lot of the Reist property. the acreage on Eden Road. collection is Sperry-New

The Reists have lived in the "tenant" house for 25 years, and began fixing it up in 1956. In remodeling the home, Reist said, "We tried to keep it in the same basic style as it was when it was built." He related how he had tried to have a new window sash made, but wanted to preserve the wavy panes of old glass. He was told there was no guarantee the glass could be kept intact, so he worked and worked and restored the wood to its natural state-and saved the old glass.

All the doors and window frames are restored to their natural wood, and in getting to the original finish, Reist said, "I scraped and scraped until my fingers were bare."

Reist said he feels people often make a mistake in old houses by trying to mix contemporary architecture with older styles and the result is not complimentary. He said modern kitchens and bathrooms can, easily be installed in old homes, but owners must be selective."

There is an addition built onto the original tenant house which added a kitchen and bathroom to the structure. The present kitchen was once a glassedin porch which was expanded. Reist recalls that as

house cost just \$800 when it a child he went out to the Holland, whose agricultural

Even though Reist refers There were tobacco beds in to his home as a "common front of the house at that house, it has some unime, partly because of the common features, the most economical use of the land, striking of which may be the and partly because Eden family heirlooms and road was narrower in those acquired antiques of the days. The original Reist Reist family. Reist makes it farm, located just up the clear that his family enjoys road from Reist's is also the using the antiques they have, site of the third oldest and are especially happy to tobacco shed in Lancaster be able to share some of the County. Reist's father, Linn wide variety of early farm Reist, Sr., resides in the equipment he has collected main farm house. Arthur is over the years. One of the the fifth generation fo farm largest single users of his

exhibit utilizes much of his antique implements.

Explaining his interest in antiques, Reist said, 'I have always been interested in anything old; the older the better." His wife Marian said, "We used to have fun going to sales".

In the house visitors will notice the huge corner cupboard, made of cherry and restored to a lovely lustre. Mrs. Reist says, "It was in sad shape when we got it." In the living room,

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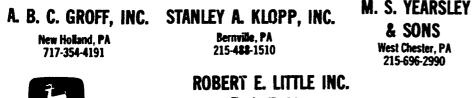
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