

## BLACKHAWK FOREST PRESERVE

Before the turn of the twentieth century there was a resort at this location where people would go to spend the time with nature. There is a spring which is partially visible below the bluff to the south. At one time an access drive went all the way from Perryville Road through the resort and over a bridge over a deep ravine and onto Mulford Road.

Besides the house, there was a large barn, a corn crib, and a newer machine shed. To the south of the barn was a group of cement pilings that I don't know the purpose of. There was a large room (a cistern for fire protection, maybe) under the west end of the barn.

About 1910 Claude Green and my mother's cousin, Alice Peacock Green, lived there and farmed the land. Mr. Mulford, who owned the land and was a bachelor, boarded with them.

The county bought the property for a forest preserve (circa 1980). Soon after that the barns burned down and the house was torn down.

I have been told that the porch that was on the house was salvaged and installed on the house on the southwest corner of East State Street and Van Buren Street in Cherry Valley.

Written by

John Larson