

## The Snider House

The John Snider House was built in 1813 by John and Elizabeth Snider following their escape from the United States after the American War of Independence. John Snider was a United Empire Loyalist (U. E. L.) who refused to fight alongside revolutionaries and migrated north following the conflict to avoid persecution.

The Snider family was granted the entirety of Lot 73 by King George III in 1798. Parcels of land like this were often granted to Loyalists to reward them for their loyalty to the British Crown and encourage settlement in Upper and Lower Canada.

The Snider house is one of the oldest homes in Essex County and is a rare example of a house built in the Loyalist architectural style. According to family history, during the construction of the home, smoke and the sound of cannons from the Battle of Lake Erie were noticeable from the property.

The Sniders continued to live and work the surrounding farmlands until their death. Both John and Elizabeth are buried at the Tofflemire-Snider Cemetery just east of the Hamlet of Colchester.

In 2024, the Snider house was recognized by the Town of Essex for its architectural and historical significance and received formal designation under the Ontario Heritage Act.