

I do not know exactly what information you desire so I shall say things that may be of interest. As you know our doorway was used as the frontespiece in Carl Schmidts' "Cobblestone Architecture". Carl and Ann Schmidt know our home well and can tell you a great deal about the changes which we made over the years. *Rush Library has copy of "Cobblestone Architecture"*

We bought the house and farm from the Allens in 1936. All legal changes are on record in the Court house. There is nothing in those records which said much about the house.

When the Allen's bought the house it had been used only for storage for some time. They installed the downstairs ~~stairs~~ bathroom and the fireplace in the living room. All original fireplaces had been taken out, but the Allens found at a blacksmiths the arch, crane and dogs which are now in the living fireplace. We also built the garage where there had been an open woodshed.

In 1939 we built the greenhouse wing which was a joy to us and all our friends for some years. Early members of the Rush Garden Club can tell you about it. After my husband retired we converted it into the apartment as you see it now. We built that sitting room with the fireplace built of stones which I gathered and sorted from the garden. We built the picture window looking into the greenhouse with the drop leaf tables ~~where~~ we could have breakfasts etc., looking on to the mass of flowers while snow was piled high outside. The room which is now a Bedroom was then a workroom. I wish everyone could have seen it as it was then. *Mr. & Mrs. Lambert, Rush Mendon Road, Rush, might be willing to give you details of the greenhouse.*

After we returned home after World War II we remodeled the kitchen. Prior to that it had been an old-fashioned kitchen. We had it panelled, the picture window installed, and every convenience I could think of put into the kitchen and laundry room.

The lovely old Blackwalnut tree must have been in the East lot as long as the house. Over the years we added trees, shrubs and flowers. I am afraid that at the time of the tour the lilacs and tree peonies will be past their prime. But the garden was planned so that there are flowers in bloom from early spring on. Mr. Montanous of Kodak took pictures of the house and garden at lilac time last spring. I do not know if it would be possible for you to see their master file of the pictures he took. I was given a few, and the other models were given few. It is not possible to have duplicates made. I do not know if it would be allowable for you to see the pictures in their studio.

Bessie Hallick, the town historian, may be able to give you some of the historical facts. The Rush Library has copies of her Historical pamphlets. Carl Schmidt is the most accurate person you could find on the subject.

Sincerely yours, *Abigail A. Van Wageningen*