

FISHELL HOUSE, 512 Fishell Road, Rush, N.Y.

Residence of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas A. Tuety

In 1808 Henry Fishell, from Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, settled along Honeoye Creek in the town of Rush. During the nineteenth century three generations of Fishells cleared the forests, farmed the land and, probably in the early 1830's, built this sturdy homestead of cobblestone gathered by the children in adjacent fields. John Fishell, the second generation, lived here until 1879 and fathered 21 children. This explains the necessity for the large wooden addition to the rear of the stone house. Its hand-hewn pegged frame construction indicated it was constructed in the 1840's or early 1850's. It now contains the kitchen and garage.

After three generations of Fishells, the house lost its occupants, its fireplaces, and was used only for storage. In the twentieth century it came into the Allen family who added modern conveniences and the unusual stone fireplace in the living room. Its iron work was purchased from a local blacksmith.

In 1936 Mr. and Mrs. William P. Van Wagenen bought the house and created the garage from an open woodshed. The wing at the rear was added in 1939, originally as a greenhouse, but later changed into a separate apartment.

The Tuety family now use it as a teenage ^{rec}creation center and a son's bedroom.

Since 1968 extensive redecoration has been undertaken by Mr. and Mrs. Tuety utilizing an attractive blend of colorful rugs, fabrics and antiques.

The main entrance, one of the finest post-colonial doorways of any cobblestone home, appears in the frontispiece in the book "Cobblestone Masonry" by Carl Schmidt.