

BRIGADIER-GENERAL E.A. CRUICKSHANK - one of his homes - The house between the Queen's Hotel and Hawkins' Garage, Fort Erie, Ont.

This was a two-storey house. The front door divided in two, vertically, a style of a certain period. As I recall there was a hall and there was a front staircase. The room in the front of the house had a simple mantel piece on the south wall, though this seemed to be placed against the wall, and it was plastered where there would ordinarily be the fireplace. The mantelpiece appeared to be made of wood. There was a room west of this room, but I don't remember what was beyond this. I do remember there being what seemed to have been a pantry as I think it had shelves, and there was another stairway leading from this little room upstairs. Both stairways were on the same side of the house, the North. There was not a great space between as they reached the second floor.

Upstairs, as I recall, there were two rooms, and as I can remember, the one in the front of the house was the larger. I think one of them had a clothes closet made of V-boarding, small width as was sometimes used in kitchens, but I don't think there was a door to the closet. I went through the house sometime between the years 1925-1932, but I do not know what year it, though I believe it may have been closer to 1925. Hawkins' Garage was operating at that time and it was, I think, some years before the house was taken down. There was a small porch over the front door, and as I recall there were regular turned pillars in a style of that period. (not simple straight pillars) I am sorry that I cannot give more detail but as it is now so long ago I cannot remember what was beyond the second room (to the west of the front room) though I should think there must have been more rooms there. The front staircase faced West and the other staircase faced East.

One half of the front door was often open and the wallpaper covering the space where the fireplace would be, was coming away from the wall and the plaster behind it was showing. I should think this would suggest that the wallpaper was very old. The house looked very old and as though it had not been lived in for many years. Likewise in the little room with the shelves and the second stairway, there was a big strip of wallpaper that had come away from the wall far enough that it curled over and hung down.

The house was quite close to the sidewalk and one could see the mantelpiece through the front windows. The house may have been altered since the time that General Cruickshank ^{OWNED} it and there may have been a fireplace in the sitting room. I cannot remember what kind of woodwork there was in the house.

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