

THE PRATT FARM HISTORY CONTINUED

The original house was built of logs, which is still the residence. This has undergone additions and remodelling throughout the years. The outside walls are 14 inches thick. The outside was finished in tongue and grove siding. In 1947 red and white insul brick was put on. In 1968 aluminum white siding with green trim was put on. In 1951 the bathroom and pressure system installed. In 1961 the house was remodelled and a sun porch added to the east side, also an oil furnace replaced the old coal and wood furnace.

The barn is L shaped 96x90 ft. in size. The foundation was built around 1911, and the wooden barn raised on this foundation. The roof is shingled. The milk house was built in 1924. In 1973 the wooden stanchions were replaced with steel and a stable cleaner installed. A roscoe steel granuary was built.

The hydro was installed in the house and barn in 1939.

The water System is a 300 ft. drilled well which was pumped by a windmill. After a severe wind storm in 1959, the windmill was damaged beyond repair. An electric motor was then installed which pumps the water.

The cattle were grade holsteins. A few sows were kept and little pigs raised. Until 1953 some sheep were kept and the wool sold. Chickens were kept to supply the family with eggs. The surplus eggs were traded for groceries at the local store. Chickens were not kept after 1955. The only livestock at this time are holstein milking cows and the calves are raised.

The crops grown are oats, corn and hay. There was a woods of about 17 acres. In 1956, 7 acres were cleared leaving a wood lot of 10 acres. There are about 90 acres of working land.

The orchard was planted at the turn of the century with a variety of about 25 different types of apples. At one time many barrels of apples were sold. The trees deteriorated and the old orchard was bulldozed out in 1956.



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