



**Fox River Hotel - Waterford**

Ole Nelson, his wife and four daughters, ran a successful hotel for twenty-six years. The wood frame hotel was destroyed in the disastrous Waterford Fire of 1889. It was rebuilt with three layers of brick, steam heat and up-to-date conveniences, and was considered one of the finest hotels in Wisconsin.

Joe Wieners and Emma Nelson worked in the hotel for her uncle. After their marriage they bought the hotel in 1906. They had two children, Russell and Helen.

Helen remembers today that they always had good help and faithful workers. Helen

was born in the hotel and remembers it as an exciting place, with summer guests from Chicago and chicken dinners every Sunday along with home-made ice cream.

Helen remembers vividly the jubilation after the armistice of WWI. A huge bonfire was set in Ten Club Park where they burned a very large picture of The Kaiser.

The Wieners sold the hotel in 1921 to Floyd Plucker and C. Madden. A variety of businesses used the old building. Today, Granny's Restaurant is the newest piece in the on-going history of the Fox River Hotel.

*as told by Helen Walle*