



Ray and Mary Stromer 1953



Ramsey Mills 1948



The Old Mill Restaurant 1950



Ramsey Mills bagging room, circa 1921 main dining room



The Old Mill Restaurant main dining room, 1950, 1990



Ray Stromer by the gear box in the basement which is now the "wine room"

As the Mill stood idle it would lose it's appearance as Walter Meyer disassembled the top two floors of the wooden structure. Walter started a new business called Ramsey Golf Course in 1945. He used the lumber from the structure of the mill to build a club house directly across the river. Walt decided to preserve the old stones whose history meant a lot to him, by using them in the fireplace setting. A neighbor, Jens Nielson, did the building, fitting the buhr stones in the metal band, and placing the wheel into the chimney.

Ray and Mary Stromer purchased The Old Mill in 1948 feeling that there was opportunity in this vicinity for an eating place serving the finest obtainable foods carefully prepared and served in a pleasant atmosphere. Upon remodeling Ray used the old framework and beams also preserving what was left of the hand hewn posts and beams. Living quarters were built in the subbasement of the structure as well as a living room in the north side dining room, which is where they lived while working in the restaurant.

Ray and Mary opened The Old Mill Restaurant on Mothers Day, May 1950 and operated it until October 1974.

Jim and Karen Kellogg purchased the restaurant in October 1974. They changed the appearance of the structure again by building an apartment on top of the restaurant so they could move their living quarters from the basement gaining space for supplies as well as third dining room instead of the living room. They came close to the similar look of the original mill by adding the height of the apartment however the pitch was not added until years later.

Vern and Mary Busho purchased the restaurant from the Kellogg's in October 1977 and ran it until November 1988.

The Old Mill Restaurant is now under the constant supervision of the owner, Dave Forland, who purchased it in January 1988. David added the pitch to the top of the apartment in the summer of 1988 to finish the look of the historic flour mill. In 2006 he built a small dining room in what used to be the subbasement where the gear box once was and sits eye level to the dam. It is what we call the "wine room" now and used for intimate tables for two to four or private parties.

Dave, his wife Ann and family lived in the apartment above the Mill until December 2010 when they built their home directly across the street where the Meyer family home once stood.

It is the Ramsey Dam that gives us the never ending beautiful view along with the Red Cedar River that flows by "The Old Mill". It affords many fishermen great pleasure as it is stocked each year by the Minnesota conservation department with pan fish, bass, walleye and northern pike.



1950 buffet table, now our waitress station



1950 Main Dining Room



Room #3 Dining Room



8 bedroom home built by Gregson (circa 1875) welcomed travelers from long distance to sleep while grain was being processed.



Dave Forland seated in "The Wine Room"



The basement where the gear box was (left) sits just above the subbasement or "raceway" which is now "The Wine Room" eye level with Ramsey Dam