



The porte-cochère of Ringwood Manor

As the mines brought wealth to the Hewitt family, the house and gardens were enlarged and embellished. There is no trace in the present mansion of the simple Colonial lines of Robert Erskine's house, partly destroyed by the British raiding party. Each owner has altered it according to his tastes and needs. Finally the whole has been covered with stucco.

The gardens have been laid out with walks, rose arbors, terraces and ponds; adorned with statues, ornamental gates, Chinese vases, Italian marbles and French fountains; and sprinkled with relics of Colonial and early American history. In the garden there are columns from the old New York Life Insurance Building. In the tower of the house hangs the bell from the old furnace which summoned the workmen in times of danger. The windows of the glass piazza were formerly part of the Cooper Union Art School in New York City.

Fortunately the proprietors of Ringwood have treasured relics of the past. Museums, expositions and private collectors have drawn on this storehouse of treasures. At the Centennial Exposition in Philadelphia in 1876 there was shown a complete Revolutionary kitchen, with utensils, spit crane, spiders, etc., all furnished by Mr. Hewitt. Those were never returned.

The stables are unusually elaborate, with paneled cypress walls. When Henry Ford founded his American Village at Dearborn he was supplied with 5 car-