

Big Red, home of FW Cheney, on the Great Lawn was torn down in the early 1930s.

(A 1934 aerial view shows only the paths leading up to the mansion; the mansion itself was already gone.)

One of FW's daughters, Ruth Cheney Goodwin, spoke of this house in her memoir *Under the Family Tree*.

Ruth Cheney, 1884-1952, married Charles Archibald Goodwin in 1912. Ruth was the youngest child of Frank Woodbridge Cheney (1832-1909) and Mary Bushnell Cheney (1840-1917). Book was privately published in 1949. Here is a quote from the book: "Christmas and the fourth of July gave full vent to the family capacity for doing things on a large scale. And Thanksgiving was the miracle of the loaves and fishes in reverse. The largest number of people I remember dining in the house on that day was seventy-two—my sister says eight-nine. Thirty would have been considered few. When we wanted to get the whole clan together we hired Cheney Hall. Our family had one extraordinary custom which I have never heard of anywhere else. There being fourteen in our family and thirteen in Uncle Knight's, who lived next door, it was found much easier to have the dentist come to us than to take all the twenty-seven to the dentist. So, regularly, twice a year Dr. Hopkins or Dr. Keep came to spend a week or two with us. In the interval a dentist's chair was stored in the barn, but when he arrived, it was hauled out and set up in a little room. He brought his tools with him and the whole family was put over the ropes, one after the other."



RESIDENCE OF COL. FRANK W. CHENEY, SOUTH MANCHESTER, CONN.

1904 photo of "Big Red" from the Connecticut Historical Society



Below, this 1907 postcard on ebay is the KD Cheney house, which after 1920s renovation became the Philip Cheney house.

