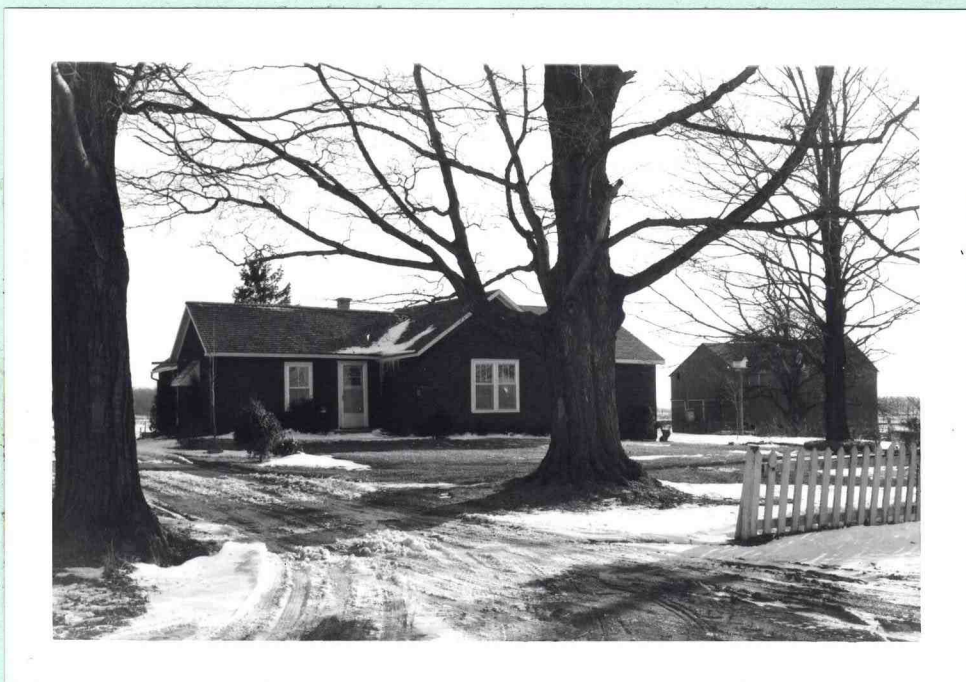


THE ALVIN AND THOMAS SCOTT FARM

The north half of Lot 13, Concession 10 was taken from the Crown by the Canada Company in 1840. In 1850 it was deeded jointly to Ephriam Parke and Thomas Scotcherd, and in 1852 Thomas Scotcherd became the owner. The next year he sold it to Benjamin Livingston. By 1870 when the Great Western Railway was built, the farm belonged to Dancey Livingston, probably a son of Benjamin. In 1874 Dancey Livingston sold the farm in two halves. The east fifty acres was sold to Edwin Irvine Torrens. In 1899 Edwin Torrens sold the fifty acres to Albert E. Clinton who sold it in 1903 to Everett N. Wardle. In 1936 it passed to Charles Dunham and his wife, Maude, who was a daughter of Everett Wardle. In 1944 the Dunhams sold the farm to Alvin and Thomas Scott. Thomas Scott and his family lived on it for several years. They moved to Prince Edward Island to grow tobacco there in 1962. In 1968, Alvin Scott sold the farm to James Elliott and it became part of Orchard Crest Farms Ltd.

THE GEORGE GREEN FARM

This farm is the north half of Lot 14, Concession 10. The whole of Lot 14 was taken from the Crown in 1823 by Hiram McDonell. He sold the south half in 1831 but kept the north half until 1846 when he sold it to Daniel Willson. In 1854 it passed to Gershiam C. Willson, probably a son of Daniel Willson. In 1857 Gershiam C. Willson sold it to James Turnbull. When he died in 1893, it passed to his son Charles Turnbull, whose life history is recorded elsewhere in this book. In 1923, Charles Turnbull sold the farm to James Walter Green, who passed it on to his son, George T. Green. In 1949, George Green sold it to James S. Elliott. For several years now the house on this farm has been occupied by Mr. & Mrs. Peter Pybus and their family. Peter Pybus is herdsman for James Elliott.



Mr. & Mrs. Peter Pybus



Geoff, Margaret & David Pybus



The Pybus family in 1962

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THE BALDWIN FARM



The whole 200 acres of Lot 17, Concession 10, in the township of Bayham was taken from the Crown by Mathias and Margaret Woodley. The deed was registered in the name of Margaret Woodley in 1846, but the Woodleys had undoubtedly been living on the farm for several years before that in order to perform their settlement duties. In 1849 the south hundred acres was sold to John Crossett for 50 pounds and the north hundred acres to William Crossett for the same price. In the same year William Crossett sold twenty acres off the south of his farm to John Crossett.

William Crossett was left with eighty acres. About sixty acres of his farm was between the Forge Road (now No. 3 Highway) and the North Bayham Road (10th Concession of Bayham). The rest of it was east of the Forge Road. This eighty acre farm remained in the Crossett family for more than eighty years. In 1859 it passed from William Crossett to Peter Crossett. In 1891, Diantha Crossett, probably Peter's widow, deeded the farm to Andrew Melvin Crossett and Charlotte Crossett. In 1906 it was handed down from Andrew Crossett to Charles S. Crossett who farmed it until his death in 1931. During all this time the

Crossetts had owned the Ken Scott farm (part of Lot 19) also, though they lived on this farm and for many years rented the Lot 19 farm. Apparently Charles Crossett had no surviving children because he willed the Lot 17 farm to Santfred Lester, his wife's sister's son. The Lot 19 farm was willed to Santfred's sister, Mrs. Mel (Minnie) Pembleton. She claimed all the stock and implements on the Lot 17 farm also and was able to make good her claim to these. She even tried to claim the house on the Lot 17 farm. She lived in it and stubbornly refused to let her brother and his family move into the house when they moved to the farm to begin farming operations. From early spring until late fall Santfred and his wife and family lived in a tent and worked the farm, while Mrs. Pembleton sold the eggs from the hens, and claimed the milk cheques. One can easily imagine the difficulties of the Lester family that summer, especially Mrs. Lester, who had to cook in the open for her husband and four sons, Alex, Howard, Fred, and Blake. Howard says that he had enough of camping, that summer, to last him the rest of his life. At last the will was probated and Mrs. Pembleton was forced to move out and let the Lester family move into the house. Santfred Lester owned the farm for about twenty years. During this time his first wife died, and his four sons grew up, and all but the youngest, Blake, left home. Blake was in the army during the Second World War and returned home at the end of

the war. His mother was dead at that time and his father and Howard were keeping a bachelor establishment. Howard says this was another period of his life that he wouldn't want to repeat. Neither he nor his father was a very good cook. The chief foods on the menu were porridge and beans. Shortly after Blake returned from the army, Howard married Lillian Chipps from Courtland and moved away from the home farm. Howard was probably one young husband who really appreciated his bride's cooking.

In 1952 Santfred Lester sold the sixty or more acres west of No. 3 Highway to Victor Baldwin. A few years before he had sold the few acres across the highway to Beckett's. It was on this piece of land that the Becketts built a new house and the buildings for their farm machinery and hydroponics business.



Picture showing older frame house at the back of the brick house

Upstairs in this part there were two bedrooms. The Baldwins tore down the old frame house about 1958 and built a sun porch on the west side of the house. In 1967 they closed off part of the large downstairs hall and used the space for a bathroom. In 1970 they took down the bricks of the south wall, which was showing signs of weakening, and cleaned and replaced them. In these ways the older house has been transformed into an attractive modern house.



Beckett's farm machinery business

When Victor and Lucille Baldwin moved to the farm in March of 1952, the house was quite different than it is in 1972. At one time a verandah had gone all the way around the brick part of the house, and a balcony at the front could be reached from a door opening from the upstairs hall. When the Baldwins took over the farm part of the verandah, and the balcony had been removed but the part on the north side of the house still remained. The Baldwins removed this also because it was in poor condition. At the west end of the brick house there was an older frame house. The lower part had been used as a summer kitchen by the Crossetts and Lesters.

In 1965 Victor and his brother Charles Baldwin bought one hundred acres of land (Lot 20, Concession 10) from Roy Beckett. This land is used mainly for growing corn. Victor Baldwin keeps a herd of about forty-five purebred Holsteins and milks about sixteen cows. The milk is trucked to the Carnation Plant at Aylmer. He also keeps six or seven sows and raises weaned pigs to sell. Corn, oats, and hay are the chief crops.



Back - Melvin, Dale, Calvin, Beverley
Front- Lucille & Victor Baldwin



An old rail fence on the Baldwin farm -
a relic left over from pioneer days

OURHOLM FARM - THE SWANCE FARM HISTORY

Lot 17, Concession 11, Bayham was taken from the crown on October 26, 1833, by the Canada Land Company. Joseph Crossett purchased it from the Canada Land Company in June, 1845. In 1855 it was divided into two parcels when Crossett willed the east half to his wife, Phoebe, and the west half to George Eaton. George Eaton leased his part to Nichol Dépeel for a time. The West Pennsylvania Building Society held a mortgage on the west half on the lot and took it over in March, 1861. In May, 1861, John and Catherine Marsh bought the west half and George Best held a mortgage on it. In 1864 George Best bought the whole farm. In November, 1867, he sold the east fifty acres to Rebecca Brown, who was apparently a relative, possibly his daughter. In December, 1870, grants were made to the railway of 1 32/100 acres from both halves of the farm. The railway paid \$90 for the grant from the east half, and \$86 for that from the west half. George Best insisted on, and got, an underpass under the railway.

In December, 1870, George Best sold the west half of the farm to his son, George W. Best. In September, 1873, Rebecca Brown and her husband, Alick, sold the east half of the farm to George W. Best. George W. Best owned the whole of lot 17 for almost 30 years, but in 1888 Conrad Swance and his brother Jacob rented the farm. On Feb. 1, 1889, Conrad Swance was married and brought his bride to the farm.

Cutting ice on Baker's Pond (later called Tupper's Pond)



From left to right:

John Scott, Norm Minshall, Conrad Swance, Ted Broomhead (hired man), Alec Boughner, Harry Mills, Hiram Smith

In June, 1903, George W. Best sold the whole farm to Conrad Swance. In 1921, Conrad Swance died, leaving a life lease of the farm to his wife, Edith. The farm was willed to his son, Leslie, who worked the land during the time that his mother held the lease. In 1922 Leslie was married and brought his bride to the farm. In 1959 when his mother died, Leslie Swance became the owner of the farm. On October 9, 1948, Leslie's son Murray was married. In January, 1960, Leslie Swance gave a grant of one-third of the farm to Murray.



Jacob Swance Conrad Swance Mrs. Conrad Swance Mrs. Fletcher Swance Mrs. Jacob Swance



Murray Brian Swance Mrs. Conrad Swance Leslie Swance

- Marion's Graduation 1955



Leslie Swance Marion Swance Mrs. Leslie Swance

On October 18, 1960, Murray and Leslie purchased the Arthur Green farm, lot 12, Concession 12, Dereham. The total acreage of the farm was then 200 acres. In April, 1970, the ownership of the whole farm passed to Murray and Doris Swance.

The large house on the east side of the lane was built prior to 1888 and was remodelled about 1904 or 1905, just after Conrad Swance purchased the farm. The front part of the house is the original house and a woodshed was behind it. A telephone was installed sometime before 1900 and hydro was installed in 1928.

In 1948 the new house on the west side of the lane was built, and Murray and Doris moved in on December 9, 1948. In the spring of 1965 Murray and Doris found their family was outgrowing the smaller house, while the larger one was too much house for the needs of Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Swance. So the two families traded houses.



1968

Later Leslie Swance built an addition on the smaller house consisting of a new kitchen and dining room.

The basic part of the barn also dates from before 1888 when the Swance brothers first took over the farm. George W. Best is said to have moved the barn and put it on a foundation. An old well marked the former location of the barn. This old stone well was north and west of the present location of the barn. This well was filled in by Leslie Swance. Another early well was located north of the railroad. In 1955 a milk house was built and a bulk milk tank was installed. In 1959 an addition was built on to the main barn and a stable cleaner was put in. In 1965 a new cement-slab silo was built, replacing a former wooden one that had been torn down.



About 1930