



1968

A milk transfer system was installed in 1966.

The farm has always been a dairy farm with Holstein cattle being kept by the Swance family. About 1937 Leslie Swance bought his first purebred Holstein cow and began to build up a purebred herd. In about ten years the herd was entirely purebred and was on R. O. P.



Brad & Lynn Swance



Murray, Lynn, Doris, Brian, Brad



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## THE GRAYDON FARM



The Graydon home farm

Lot 18, Concession 11, Bayham, consisting of 230 acres, was taken from the Crown by Joshua Brown. Josiah Smith purchased it in 1891 and sold it again in 1894 to Andrew Louis Scott.

The four young children in the centre of the front row were the children of Andrew Scott. The others were the family of James A. Scott who lived on the Safranka farm, except Will Scott who was a cousin from Toronto

At the time Andrew Scott bought it, the barn was very old and as was the case with many of the early barns, it had been built without a foundation. Andrew Scott built a new barn. He painted all the boards, and also the trim, before they were put on the barn. When they were tearing down the old barn they found a great many rats in it. A cousin, Fred Brown, who was helping with the job suggested a way to get rid of them. He caught one of the rats and told Andrew to paint it red. This was done and then the rat was released. Apparently it frightened the other rats away because they all left.

People from all over the neighbourhood came to the barn raising, and even people from Tillsonburg attended. Mrs. Scott was busy for days before, cooking all kinds of good things to eat, to be served to the volunteer helpers on the day of the barn raising.



Back - John Scott, Rose Scott (Mannell) Bob Scott, Will Scott  
Front - Ertle Scott (Mrs. Fred Benner) Myrtle Scott, Harry Scott, Bob Scott, Hazel Scott (Mrs. Earl Turnbull) Minnie Scott (George Elliott's first wife)





Harry Scott's family

Back - Bryce, Ross, Donald, Douglas  
 Front - Leland, Harry, Minnie, Roger

Andrew Scott died in 1930. His son Harry was working with him on the farm then. Harry and his wife, Minnie, lived there and worked the farm for three years after Harry's father's death. After that, it was rented to several different people. In 1938 Henry Graydon bought it.

Henry Graydon and his family had been living on the Ken Scott farm for four years before they bought lot 18. In 1937 they bought their first tractor, a 10-20 International.

In 1939 they installed hydro in the buildings of their newly-acquired farm. Dick Graydon worked with his father on the farm. Before his father's death in the Fall of 1951, Dick was managing the farm.



Hilda Graydon, Mrs. Henry Graydon, Dick Graydon



Dick, Brian & Madge Graydon

After his father's death he became the owner. In 1963 he bought the Ken Scott farm, and the next year, the Robert C. Ball farm. Also, from 1964 to 1969 he owned the Humphrey farm at Straffordville. This had belonged to his wife's father. However he sold this in 1969 because it was too far away to be convenient to work.



Robert C. Ball farm





House on Graydon home farm

In 1968 Dick and Madge bought two acres from Becketts and built a modern ranch style house on the east side of No. 3 Highway. Dick's sister, Hilda, lives in the farmhouse on the home farm.



The Graydon Family

Jeana, Madge, Brian, Dick



Home of Mr. & Mrs. Dick Graydon

Dick's chief crop is corn. He grows about three hundred acres of corn each year. He also grows some wheat, oats and barley. He keeps about five hundred pigs on the average. He doesn't keep sows, but buys weaned pigs and feeds them till they are ready for market. He also does quite a lot of custom work, such as ploughing and combining.





House on Bye Farm 1972



Buildings on the Bye farm 1972

In April of 1844 Jeremiah Tupper obtained from the Crown the deed for lots 13 and 14 in Concession 11, Bayham. In 1851 he sold the land to William H. Tupper, who, two years later, sold it to Chauncey Smith, a brother-in-law of Jeremiah Tupper. It seems that Chauncey Smith never lived on the farm himself but his son, Josiah Beckwith Smith moved to this farm after his marriage to Eliza Jane Chapin in 1867, January.



Josiah B. Smith



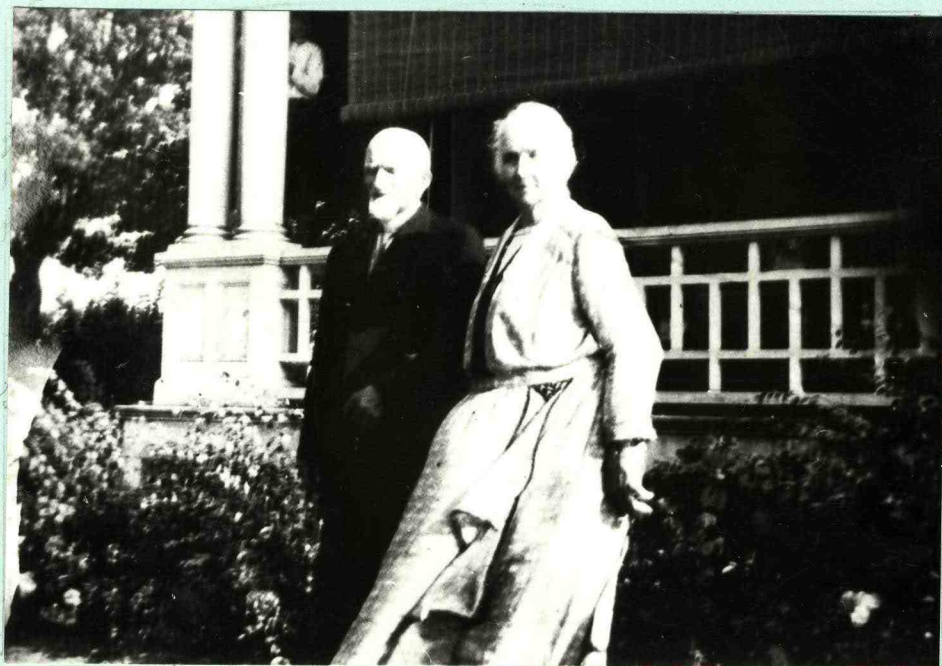
Mrs. Josiah B. Smith  
Taken on their wedding day

10/10



Apparently not much of the farm had been cleared of trees at that time. The first spring they cut down trees and fed their cattle and horses with the leaves, until there was sufficient grass for pasture. Their first house was a frame house and they lived in it until 1902. In that year they built a new house from lumber cut on the farm and kiln dried by Tillsons. In 1904, this new house burned to the ground. The fire started in a wood pile behind the house and it was suspected that a man who had tried to borrow money and had been refused, had started the fire. The house burned in the summer. The spot was cleaned up at once and another house, the present brick one, was built. The old frame house which was still standing was used as a dwelling again, until the second new house was built.

Josiah B. Smith Sr. and his wife had four sons and three daughters. At one time they owned the Brown farm (Graydon farm) on the North Bayham Road, also, but they never lived there. They kept some cattle there and used to go over there to milk the cows. Telephone service was installed quite early, even before the brick house was built. Electric service was installed about 1928.



Mr. & Mrs. Josiah B. Smith Sr.

Taken in later life in front of their farm house



Back - Josiah Jr., Mable Smith (Scott)  
Elam Smith, Florence Smith (Brown)  
Front- Josiah Sr., Eliza Jane, Elmer P.,  
Ida Smith (Purdy) Bryce Smith

On side porch at the farm

By that time Josiah B. Smith Jr., the youngest son, was the owner of the farm. His father deeded it to him in 1921 but kept a life lease on the property. In 1947 J. B. Smith Jr. sold that farm to Mr. and Mrs. Alvin Wilton.

Before they moved in, the Wiltons did some extensive remodelling, making the house into a two-family dwelling. Mr. Wilton was a retired business man, and Mrs. Wilton's nephew, Bill Kiddie, lived in part of the house and did the farming.

In 1951 Alvin Wilton sold the farm to Stanley Holman who kept it only one year and sold it to Mr. & Mrs. Ralph Bye. In 1957 Mr. Bye built a new milkhouse and installed a bulk tank for milk. His son, George, and his family now live in part of the house and George is a partner in the farm operation. During the time they have owned the farm the Byes have put in about 20,000 tile. In 1972 they built a metal machine shed. Dairying is the chief business of the farm. They have a fine herd of about forty-five Holsteins, and regularly milk about thirty cows.