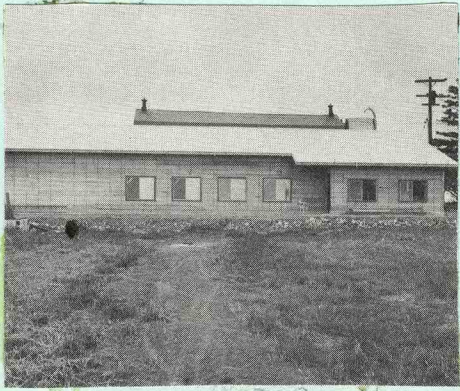
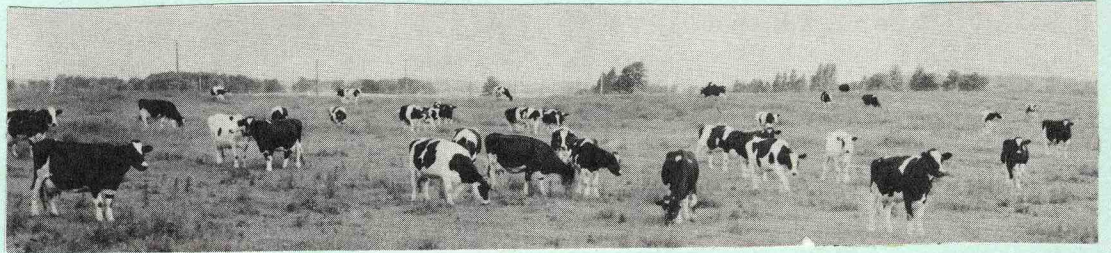


In the spring of 1963 James and George Elliott constructed a new milking parlor, one of the most modern in Canada.

In the spring of 1965 a new silo, 66 feet with self-unloading equipment was built just west of the barn.

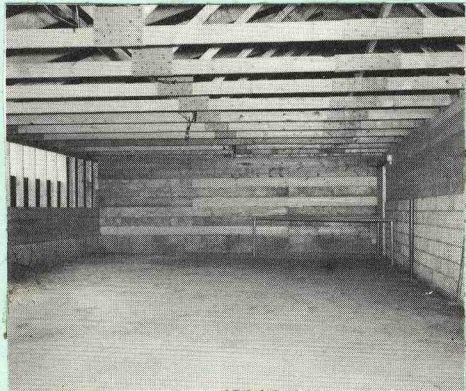


Milking parlor

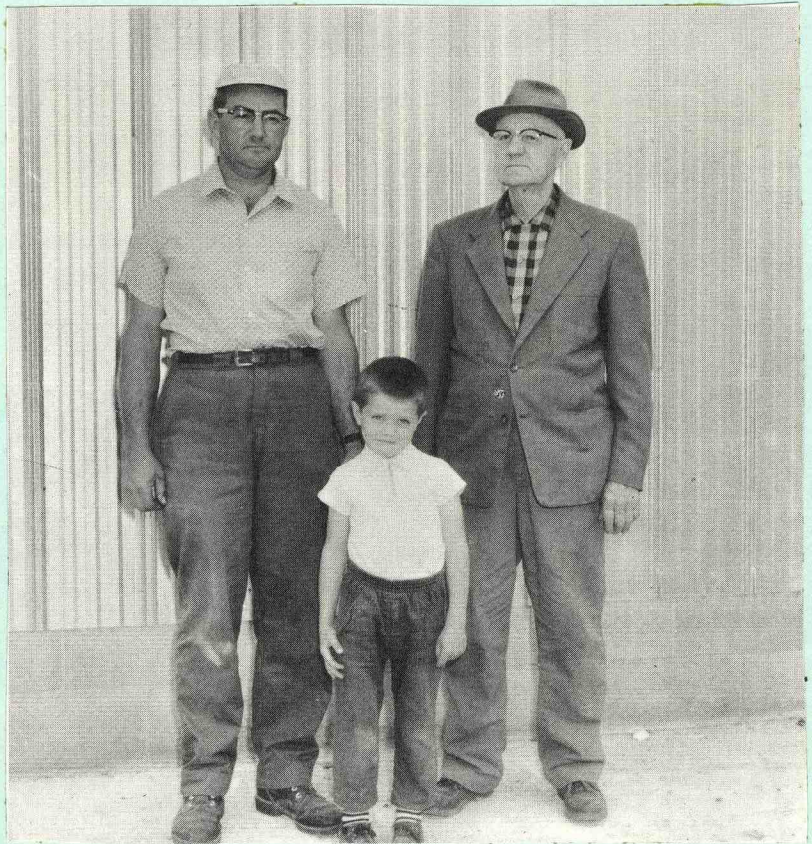


The Elliott herd of cows

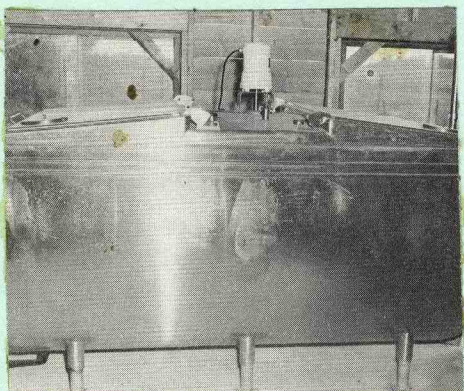
They still kept the former dairy barn with stalls intact, to house the herd in winter between milkings. The new installation consisted of a four-unit milking parlor, a holding room where the cows wait their turn to enter the milking parlor, and a milk room where a 700 gallon bulk cooler is installed which keeps the milk at 35 degrees, and the equipment for washing the milking machines.



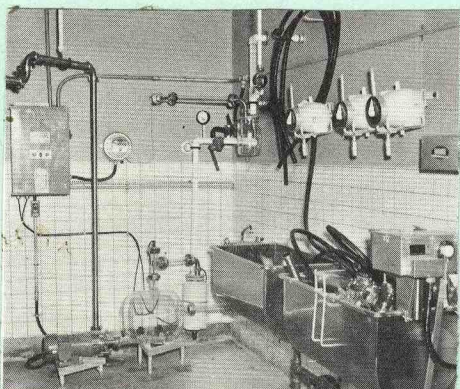
Holding room



3 generations of "Dairymen."  
Jim Elliott                      George Elliott  
Mark Elliott



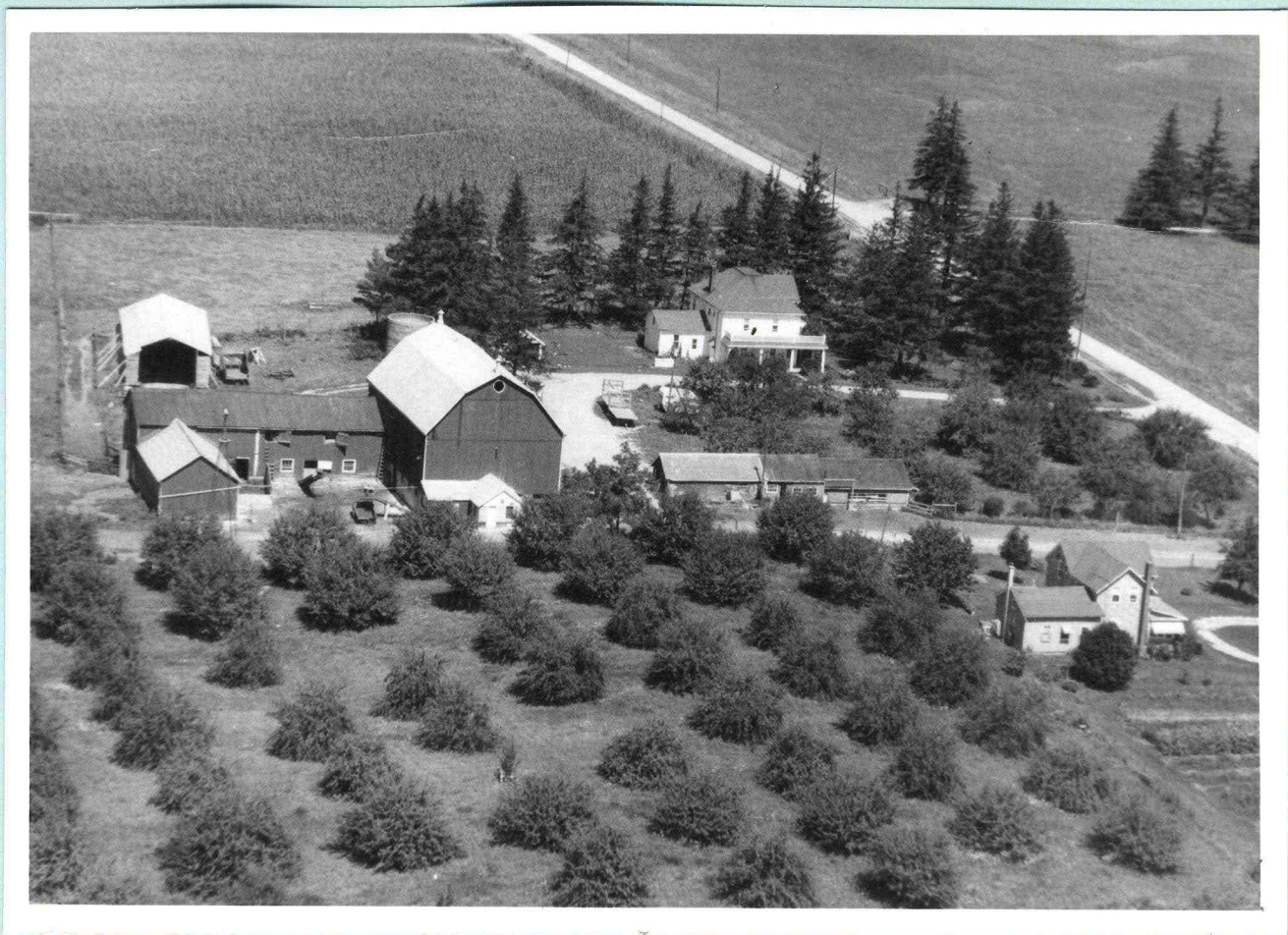
Bulk cooler



Washing equipment.



Big house 1971



Aerial View 1961

In 1967 a 20 foot by 72 foot silo for haylage was built and a new barn for free stalls about 40 feet by 80 feet in size was built around the silos. In 1969 a glass-lined silo, 20 feet by 42 feet was built for high moisture corn. Since that time corn has been fed for grain instead of oats. In 1970 for the first time more than a million pounds of milk was shipped in one year.



New silo and barn

In stages the orchards from which the farm name originally derived were removed. The last orchard was removed in 1970. Only a few trees to supply apples for the family remained.



Milking house 1971

In August, 1970, a frame barn for young cattle on the east farm, (originally a Smith farm) collapsed, killing three cattle and injuring two others. In the summer of 1971 a new pole barn was built to shelter young cattle and steers.



South house 1971

In 1949 the George Green farm, the north half of lot 14, Concession 10 had been purchased. In 1968 the Thomas Scott farm, the north-east quarter of lot 13, Concession 10 was added to the farm making a total of 350 acres less the railroad.

In May, 1966, George Elliott passed away and James carried on the farm alone. In 1968 the farm business was incorporated as "Orchard Crest Farms".



Elliott Family

Back - Mark Elliott, Susan Elliott, Marilyn Elliott  
Janet Elliott, Rick Johnston, Mary Johnston  
Carol Johnston

Front- Jim Elliott, Shirley Elliott, Pearl Elliott,  
Mary Johnston, Bob Johnston



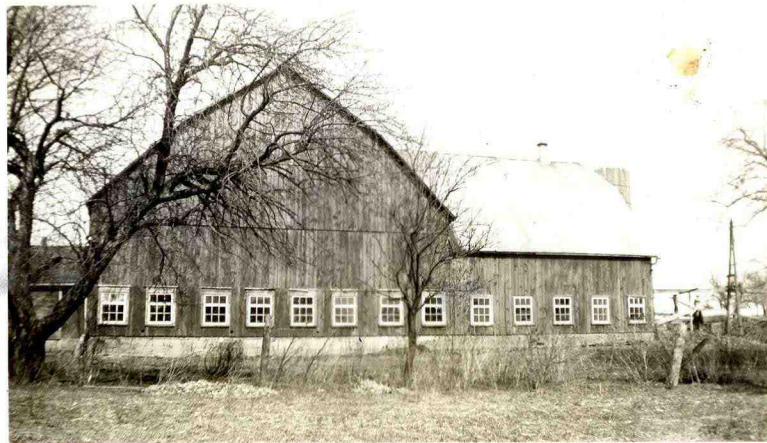
View of farm buildings  
1971

WHITHOLM FARM

Whitholm Farm, named for and by the White family who have owned it for nearly fifty years, is lot 4, concession 5 of Middleton Township. It was purchased from the Crown by Joseph Mathias Sanders ~~Sr.~~  <sup>Jr.</sup>. The date of purchase has not been ascertained at present but Mr. Sander's father, Joseph Mathias Sanders ~~Sr.~~ fought in the battle of York in 1812, and was wounded in the knee by a cannon ball. His leg had to be amputated and he died soon afterwards of the wound. His widow was given two hundred acres of land at Thornhill which would be in the centre of the present city of Toronto. She had three sons. The two elder sons went to California and the youngest, Joseph Mathias, acquired the land at Thornhill. He later sold it for \$4,000. and came to Tillsonburg where he bought a thousand acres of land covered with white pine forest. Two hundred acres of it were in Dereham Township and the rest was in Middleton. In time he sold this farm to his second cousin Reuben Wilcox who sold it to H. G. Cummer. Two other cousins of Mr. Sanders, Charles and Eden Wilcox bought it from Cummer. In 1905 they sold it to William Crandall. Elmer White purchased it from Mr. Crandall in 1920 and sold it to his son Williard White in 1944.

The farm originally contained about 115 acres. William Crandall sold 25 acres of bush to John House of Courtland. Williard White added to the farm 60 acres which he bought from Bruce Ball, so that the present size of the farm is 150 acres.

by William Crandall in 1916. It replaced a small frame barn 30 feet by 50 feet that stood behind the present barn.



The farm was operated as a dairy farm with purebred Holstein cattle until 1962 when most of the cattle were sold. The well that supplies water to the farm is a brick well 60 feet deep. A few years ago a point was added when the water level was low. The Airline (C.N.R.) Railway runs through the farm and a lane bridge over it is kept up by the railway company.

A telephone was installed in the house before 1920. Electricity was installed in 1926 by Elmer White, and running water was also put into the house at that time. A bathroom was installed in 1964.



The present house was built by Charles and Eden Wilcox to replace an older small frame house that stood just back of the present house. The present barn, the main part of which is 44 Feet by 90 feet was built

## THE SANDERS AND GILLETT FARMS

Mathias Sanders married Elizabeth McLaney in New York City in 1797. His family had come to America from Germany. In the same year that they were married, he and his wife moved to Thornhill, Ontario, near what was then the town of York (now Toronto). They had a large family of sons, the youngest being Joseph Mathias, who was born in 1812.

In that year Mathias Sanders fought for his adopted country in the battle of York. He was wounded in the knee by a cannon ball and his leg was so badly shattered that it had to be amputated. He died a few days later. As compensation for the death of her husband, his widow received 200 acres of land on the north-east hill of the Don River and Yonge Street.

In the course of time the youngest son, Joseph Mathias, received 100 acres of his mother's land. He married Charlotte Willcox in 1833. In 1849 he sold his hundred acres in Toronto for \$4,000 and came to Tillsonburg where he bought a thousand acres. Two farms were in Dereham (the Roy Lowrie and Joy Sanders farms) and the rest of the land was in Middleton Township - Lots 2,3,4 and 5 of Concession 5, Middleton, North of the Talbot Road.

Joseph Mathias Sanders sold the south part of Lot 2 to his brother Andrew Sanders. Andrew Sanders passed his farm on to his daughter, Elizabeth, who married Andrew Derrough. Their daughter, Edith Sabina Derrough, married her second cousin, Joseph Mathias Jr. Her son, William Sanders, bought the farm from her estate. William Robertson bought it from William Sanders. Mrs. Robertson was a granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Dobbie and a niece of Mrs. James Elliott Sr.

In 1919, William Robertson sold the west half of Lot 2 to Alfred Green. In 1939 he sold the east half to Harold Gillett. In 1950 Harold Gillett bought the west half of Lot 3 from Bruce Ball, making it a 140 acre farm.



Farmhouse on the Gillett farm

Dairying was the main business of this farm. Harold Gillett milked a herd of about thirty Holstein cows and grew crops of oats, hay and corn. In 1958 he gave to his son Bob, a lot along the highway on which he built a house.



Bob Gillett's house