

Mr. Hughes, of Frome, is a descendant of these families. In 1830 he sold his farm to Henry Payne for the sum of 1,800 dollars.

E. Brown one of the first settlers sold his farm (lot 33) to Mr. B.P. Brown, a Methodist minister, who only lived a few years on his farm till he sold his property and moved to Brownsville; which place was named in ~~###~~ honor of him. It was during his stay in this locality that he married Mr. Amsa Wood, (St. Thomas) and Miss Fowler, of Fingal. Having previously known that Mr. Wood was coming to be married, he invited a number to see the ceremony performed, which took place in the evening. After they were married Mr. Wood and his bride drove to Fingal where he resided for a great many years. The other settlers stayed but a few years until they sold their farms and moved to other places.

DECENDANTS OF THE SETTLERS NOW LIVING IN THE SECTION.

The oldest persons living in this section are Jacob Gilbert (son of David Gilbert) and his aged partner whose maiden name was

(Picture of William Sells inserted here)

Chestina Knight. Absalom Gilbert, David L. Gilbert, Edgar Gilbert and Rowley Gilbert are all grandsons of David Gilbert. ✓

The descendants of Wm. Sells are Miss Sells (daughter) Fred Sells and Mrs. H. Kirkley, grandchildren, and K.W. McKay of St. Thomas is also a grandson.

E. Berdan (son) George and William Berdan are grandsons of Jacob Berdan.

The descendants of Charles Knight (are Mr. Samuel Knight and Mr. s. Jacob Gilbert, also Miss Lizzie Knight, granddaughter, child.) *see #1*

EDUCATION

The scholars # in this settlement had to go to the schools at Talbotville and Frome; the Kettle creek forming the boundary between ^{the} two sections. William Sells agitated ~~###~~ a school nearer home, ^{and} so those in the neighborhood having children helped build a frame school house on Lot 34 south, known as the Wade Union School House. In 1832 money was raised by subscription to buy nails and shingles. James Jackson prepared the lumber, as he had a saw-mill on a branch of Kettle Creek, after wards known as Paynes Mills. Jonathan Wade did the carpenter work. As a playground was an uncommon thing the children had to use the ^{roadway} highway. Andrew Boyd, the first teacher, was paid so much per ~~###~~ scholar, and boarded amongst the pupils. The only books used were the Bible, English reader and spelling book.

Although there never was any church in this section the school house was used as a place of worship in the early days. B.P. Brown, a Methodist, was the first preacher. Mr. Jenkins, a Freewill Baptist minister, who came from New York State, held meetings in the different houses. One Sunday he baptised twenty-two ^{persons} in Kettle Creek. After the year 1862 a school site on the North side, opposite the old one, was purchased ^{from} ~~###~~ Henry Payne, lot 35 north on which a new frame school house was built. In 1889 the school house was rebuilt and is now our present school house. The trustees are John Down, Byron Wade and A. McGugan, and D. McBane is ^{the} our present teacher.

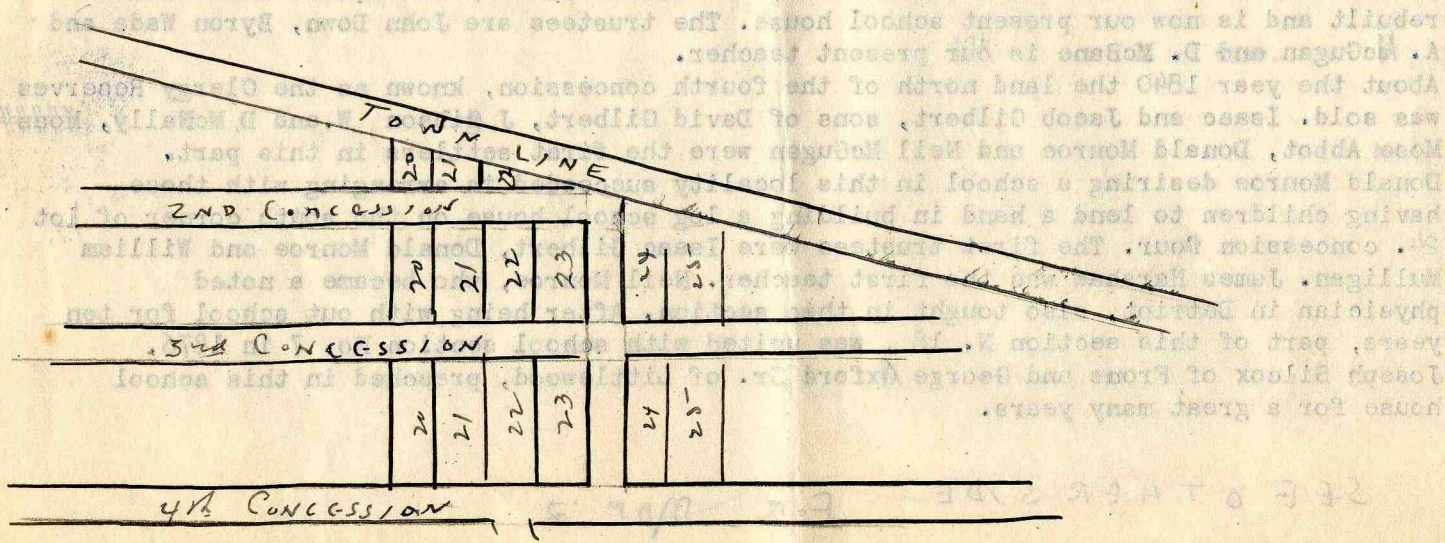
About the year 1840 the land north of the fourth concession, known as the Clergy Reserves was sold. Isaac and Jacob Gilbert, sons of David Gilbert, J. Gibson, W. and D. McNally, ~~###~~ Moses Abbot, Donald Monroe and Neil McGugan were the first settlers in this part. Donald Monroe desiring a school in this locality succeeded in arranging with those having children to lend a hand in building a log school house on the south corner of lot 24. concession four. The first trustees were Isaac Gilbert, Donald Monroe and William Mulligan. James Harshaw was the first teacher. Neil Monroe, who became a noted physician in Detroit, also taught in this section. After being without school for ten years, part of this section N. 18, was united with school section No. 7 in 1876. Joseph Silcox of Frome and George Oxford Sr. of Littlewood, preached in this school house for a great many years.

SEE OTHER SIDE FOR MAP 2.

W. Space

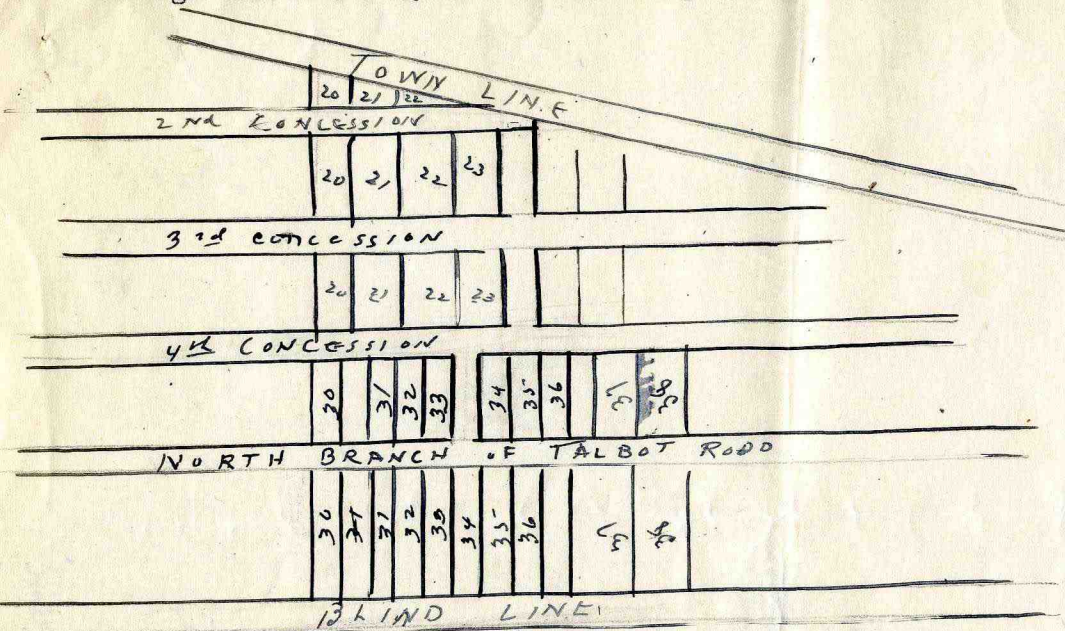
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Map 2



(4)

The boundary of this section formed by union in 1876 is shown in the map below. This section contains about five thousand acres. There are three lines of railway running through this section; but we have no post-office, church cemetery nor hotel.



MILLS

Mr. Henry Payne, an Englishman, built two flour mills in this section, described as 1 & 2 No. 1. About the year 1839 this mill was built on lot 35, south, on Kettle Creek. It did a good business in gristing, but finally was burned down along in the early fifties, and it was rebuilt but was soon burned down again and was never rebuilt. *as follows.*

No. 2. On lot 34 north on Kettle Creek *and* about the year 1840, *Payne built his second* this mill was built on the same dam as the Jackson Saw-mill. These mills, (grist and sawmill) became the property of Henry Payne Jr. who ran these mills successfully for a number of years. These mills were sold to J. Walker and about 1888 were destroyed by fire and never built again. Mr. John Sells also built a steam sawmill and saw and grist mill on lot 33 south, which did not prove a success, the buildings of which are now standing. Mr. John McGugan built a steam saw mill on Lot 24 third concession which is still doing a good business. In the year 1876 they sawed one hundred and thirty thousand feet of walnut lumber.

We also have a cheese factory run by a joint stock company, known as the Payne's Mills factory. Mr. George College runs a blacksmith shop.

It was evident that people once occupied some of this land before the settlers came. One instance of this was shown on Jacob Berdians farm. When he settled there, on one of the small hills near the creek, rows of corn or potato hills could be seen. The rows were plainly seen at that time, also flint and arrow heads were found on the same ground. Maple trees two feet through had grown up among these rows, which would lead one to think those trees had grown since it was cultivated. This section was the birthplace of Col. Payne, now of London, who served in the Northwest Rebellion.

Dr. McClay, of Aylmer, was one of our teachers, and proved himself to be very efficient. Grant Silcox, who was so brutally murdered at Middlemiss a few years ago, also taught school in this section.

Mr. Wilson was the only councillor in this section.

We have no magistrate since the death of Sturgeon Sharon, some twelve years ago.

About four o'clock, one clear, November morning 1833, a great shower of meteors fell. It seemed as if all the stars in the sky were falling.

One clear winters evening, 1836, as the sun was setting, the snow showed a blood-like tinge. Superstitious people predicated war, which followed the next year.

In the year 1838, five hundred regular British Soldiers (32 regiments) were billeted, for one night, in Five Stakes, now Talbotville, and along the Back Street, (North branch Talbot Rd).

thirteen stayed at each house, their destination being Rondeau or Amherstburg.

After being gone for three or four days, they returned to London. It was a false report of a fresh rebellion. Previous to this a number of prisoners were taken in a skirmish near Amherstburg, and brought through here on their way to London to be tried. The largest tree, { an oak }, in this part, grew on ^{Wm.} Mr. Sell's farm, lot 33 south. It was thirty feet in circumference.

The length of the longest tree found in this part was one hundred and twenty five feet, found on A. ^{bsa} Gilbert's farm.

Mr. Jones, the first shoe maker, went around to the different ~~houses~~ houses, to make shoes enough to last each family the year.

On the farm of Mr. E. Down, ³⁵ part of lot ---, is the remains of an old wolfe trap or ~~***deadfall~~ ^{part-fall} ~~fall~~.

About 1868 or 1869, two distinct shocks of an earth quake were felt. It rattled the glass in the windows.

Bradford Williams, a volunteer, took part in putting down ~~(?)~~ ~~Re~~ the second ~~(?)~~ Reil Rebellion. He was at the battle of Batoche, and ^{was} wounded in the thigh.