

The house on S.E. $\frac{1}{4}$, Lot 15, Concession 7, Yarmouth
Township. Home of George H. Walters.
After front was separated -- after 1917



Picture and information supplied by
Mrs. Robert (Jeanette) Walters (1982)



Family Group: 1915. Family of Thomas Dymond and Ann Lemon
Halls Walters.

Back: Ella, Aleta, Richard, Hazel, Hilda

Front: Edna, William

Family settled originally on Lot 15, then to Lot 13.

Picture and information supplied by
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House with family in front: South $\frac{1}{2}$, Lot 15, Concession 7,
Yarmouth Township--farm of Thomas, George, Jack Walters.

Doorway: Ann Walters with baby Hilda:

Left: (chair) Jennie, wife of Jack Walters:

Standing: Mrs. Yeo: (girl) Ella Walters:

Behind: Yeo son: Richard Walters (boy):

Seated: Mrs. Bawden:

Standing: George H. Walters (with horse and colt)

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Walters Family

LOT 19, CONCESSION 7, YARMOUTH

On June 23, 1862, a farmer James Lewis obtained from the Crown, the east half of Lot 19, Concession 7, Yarmouth Township, County of Elgin comprising 100 acres.

James Lewis later willed this property to his son, Edward Augustus who had possession for many years.

In 1901, Polly (Oakes) Cottington and her husband Lorne, came to Yarmouth from their home in Texas, purchased this farm and proceeded to show the Johnstown folk, something of life in Texas. A twelve foot verandah was built around the entire white brick, two-story house, which Mr. Lewis had lately built, thinking it one of the finest. New water tank with flagpole and castle top, and silo to correspond were erected. Also the first basement barn to be equipped with glass doors, offices, etc.

Many of the older residents will recall the lone eagle, with wings outspread that adorned the gold flagpole from which the stars and stripes proudly waved in the Canadian breeze. Truly Lone Star Farm--where guests wined, dined and danced to music by outstanding orchestras, was the show place of Johnstown.

However, glory was short lived, and in 1917 the Cottingtons returned to their beloved Texas.

Albert Mitchell bought the Lone Star farm, lock, stock, and barrel and proceeded to farm it in a more sane manner.

In December 1924, Silas B. Cook purchased the farm from Albert Mitchell and willed it at his death to his son, William F. Cook who still resides here with his family.

John Marlatt was the first of his family to settle in Johnstown. The Marlatt farms are at present owned by Mrs. Doan and Son; William J. McCaw and Sons; and Claude Derrough. The McGinnis and Morrison farms were also Marlatt property but were taken over by the Airforce during World War II, buildings dismantled and cement runways built on their fertile fields.

Isaac Courser held the crown deed to the farms of Daniel McIntyre and Andrew Mills. Daniel McIntyre died on April 17, 1922 at the homestead.

Andrew Mills resided at Argyle Farm for forty-six years, later retiring and moving to St. Thomas; sold his home to George Johnston in April, 1943.

Lot 13, Concession 7 was deeded to Abraham Newcombe later to his son, Cooke Newcombe and his sons, A.C. and Percy. This was a very beautiful, well-kept farm home.

Mr. Newcombe had one hobby, it was bees--the finest honey in the township came from the Newcombe apiary.

James Ross now owns the farm.

The next parcel of land to the west across the sideroad leading south to the school, is now owned by Dr. Kenneth Penhale. His grandfather, W.G. Sanders and his brother Richard came to Canada as young men from England, to try their luck in the new world. They had a shilling each when they landed in Yarmouth, but they also had a good trade, well learned in the old land that of carpenter and stone mason.

In later years, W. G. Sanders, was able to buy his farm from his uncle, William. There he raised five daughters and one son, Fred Sanders who farmed many years after his father's death. Fred died a young man leaving a family of small children. His widow disposed of the property; Dr. Kenneth Penhale buying his grandfather's old home. Kenneth is the son of Bertha Sanders and Silas Penhale.

Many of these deeds from the Crown call for two hundred acres, many of them one mile in length. Such was the purchase made by George Page Mills, who came from Plymouth, Devonshire in 1828 with his wife who was Jane Axford, his two sons, George 5 and Robert Page Mills age 3 and a daughter Mary Ann, who married George Wickett and settled in Caradoc township, Middlesex County. Another daughter Elizabeth married William Brower, whose only son, Andrew holding the position of M.L.A. for Elgin for 28 years.

In later years he divided his land between these two sons-- George having the north half and Robert the south. George was one of the better known men in the community.

Although a deaf mute since he was four years old, he took a very active part in all affairs of worth. His pew at the Yarmouth Centre church was seldom vacant on Sunday. He raised two sons and a daughter; Henry and Ernest Mills and Mrs. Quigley. Ernest Mills' son, Dayton now resides at the old Mills home.

Robert Page Mills married Sarah Knight of Talbotville, better known as Five Stakes. They had eight sons and two daughters; six sons living to manhood. They were George, William, Robert, Charles, Andrew, Benjamin, Phoebe Ann and Hannah Jane. Phoebe Ann married John Maynard and Hannah Jane (Jennie) married Stephen Mills, an American. All the family settled within the township except Jennie whose husband Stephen, believed that a setting hen never got fat and so set out to see the world. His last move was to Riverside, California where the evening of their long interesting life was spent.

The farm is now divided between William Holtby and Alfred Connor. *LATER CAMPBELL BROS.*

Robert Page Mills later bought several other farms, doling them out in small parcels to his many sons.

The six Mills boys were known to have been pallbearers for more funerals than anyone else in the community, even carrying their own father and mother to their last resting places as well as relatives, friends and neighbours.

LOT 13, CONCESSION 8, YARMOUTH
WEST HALF

BY LEONARD NORMAN

The earliest records we have of the West half of Lot 13, Concession 8, or as it was originally known as Lot 58, south on Talbot Road, is in the year 1819 when this property was leased from the Crown to Mr. David Caughell and his wife Mary (Wismer) Caughell.

In the year 1820 the said property was enclosed by a rail fence. In 1824 the property was purchased by Mr. David Caughell, the original lessee, from the Crown.

David Caughell and his wife, Mary, were blessed with six children. Four sons were named John, Henry, James and Edward and the two daughters were Maria and Alma to comprise the family.

During this early period, the land was covered by much fine timber which was sold to the sawmills and residents of the area.

Upon the death of David Caughell on October 4, 1874, John, the eldest son gained possession of the land. His wife's name was Martha.

One of John's first projects was to build a fine house which still stands on the property. At this time the builder of the house, Mr. Cedric Sanders, received the sum of one dollar a day for his labour, while his helper received fifty cents. The hand hewed framing and much of the lumber used in construction of the house was taken from the woodlot on the property.

John and Martha were the parents of two fine sons namely Walker (Celey) Caughell and Thomas Edward (Heathcote) Caughell.

With the death of John Caughell in 1903, the property, consisting of one hundred and ten acres passed on to his son Walker who with his brother, Thomas, removed more of the remaining timber from the