



**GENERAL
FARMS**

Lots 17 & 18, Concession 1, Dunwich. Farm of Hugh McCallum & Son.



This land at that time consisting of 400 acres was given by the Crown to Wm. Shaw on 30th June 1801. In 1845 it was divided among Shaw's family into three farms, the Western part of Lot 17 going to Thomas Shaw, the centre part to John Shaw, and the Eastern part of Lot 18 to Johnson Orr and his wife Hannah Shaw.

Thomas Shaw kept his farm for only four years, when he sold it to Richard Pumfrey who, five years later, in 1854 resold it to John Duneanson. The Star Loan Company, now the Huron & Erie Company carried the mortgage, and had to take over the property in 1888. In 1897 they sold it to Alex Finlayson. This time it was taken back by the Southern Loan Company until 1921 when it was purchased by Dan H. McCallum who, on his death in 1935 in his 63rd year, willed it to his son Hugh McCallum.

In 1848 Archibald McWilliam purchased the North East part of Lot 18 from John Shaw for 39 pounds 13 shillings and 9 pence. In 1850 he also bought the remainder of Lot 18 from Johnson and Hannah Orr for which he paid 75 pounds. At this time the land was in Concession 1, Dunwich, in the County of Middlesex. These deeds were drawn up at Niagara.

In 1864 Archibald McWilliam died intestate leaving his widow and five children. His son Archibald McWilliam then purchased the North East part of Lot 17 and South West part of Lot 18 from his mother and family. His brother Alex McWilliam took the Eastern part of Lot 18 consisting of 65 acres.

In 1898 the land belonging to said Archibald McWilliam was purchased by Dan H. McCallum who in 1906 bought from Alexander McWilliam the remaining 65 acres of Lot 18. In 1921, when Lot 17 was bought from Southern Loan Company, 50 acres of the Eastern part of Lot 18 was sold to Duncan G. McTavish leaving 250 acres.



Mr & Mrs Dan H. McCallum

Dan H. McCallum was born on 16th June 1873 on the McCallum homestead, Lot 2, Concession 3, Dunwich. He and his twin brother William were the youngest sons of Barbara and Hugh McCallum. Except for clerking in the general store in Middlemiss, he farmed with his family until he purchased this farm from Archibald McWilliam. Here he brought his bride Mary Milton, daughter of Mr. and Mrs Joseph Milton of Dunwich-Southwold Townline on 15th February 1899. They had one son and three daughters. Hugh, who remained on the farm, Wilma, who taught school in Lawrence Station and Cochrane, married Ivan L. MacAdam, lived in Kapuskasing and Montreal, then returned to the Milton farm where her mother was born. Amy, after graduation from Victoria Hospital nursed in Cleveland and New York, then married Colonel F. Bradley Smith. On his retirement from the American Army they took up residence in Dunedin, Florida. Ellen taught school in Frome, No 8 & 20 Southwold and Cochrane before her marriage to Howard H. Warrell of Cochrane where they still live.

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Dan H. McCallum died 25th April 1935 in his 63rd year. Mrs Mary McCallum (his wife) continued to live on the farm until her death on 12th October 1964 in her 90th year. The farm was taken over at the time of her death by their son Hugh McCallum, who married Annie Anderson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ebenezer Anderson in 1934. On February 2nd., 1952, in her 39th year, she died leaving one son, Daniel H. McCallum. After his graduation from Ridgetown Agriculture School, Daniel returned to farm with his father. On 15th August 1964 he married Jean Eddie, daughter of Mr. Russell Eddie of Glencoe. They have one daughter Cynthia Ann born 5th September 1966.

The story goes that during the Fenian Raids a chest of gold was buried on this land. It was supposed to have been landmarked by four Maple trees. These four trees grew closely together into beautiful trees on the banks of the river Thames. At different times, several ambitious people attempted to dig for this alleged treasure chest in the area of the Four Maples. However they all gave up the attempt before digging very far. Only two of the Four Maples remain standing today to mark this spot. A plot of reforestation trees was set out by Dan H. McCallum in 1932.

The first home on this land was a log house which stood close to the road opposite the home presently owned by Mr Ray Jewell. A new frame house was built by Mr. McWilliam on the site on which it now stands. This was rebuilt by Dan H. McCallum in the year 1912. A new barn was built on Lot 17 in 1950, and an addition put on in 1965. In 1964 an Oil Well was drilled by the Blue Water Oil & Gas Company.



Hugh McCallum - with team.

1983 Update

Dan and Jean's second child was a son, born on November 21, 1970, and he was named Andrew. Dan bought the Ray Jewell farm on the 2nd concession and on May 1st, 1980, he, Jean and the two children moved there. Hugh continued to live alone in the house, still being active in the farm and looking after his flock of sheep with the help of his grandchildren. When his health failed, he moved to Elgin Manor, near St. Thomas on December 1, 1982.

Hugh McCallum passed away 11 November, 1986, burial Cowal-McBrides.

Lot 21, Concession 1Alexander McLachlin

This 100 acre farm was owned by Alexander (or Sandy to his friends) McLachlin. Alex's brother, Archie, and his sister, Effie, lived here until they bought Lot 23, Concession 4, which they farmed until their retirement and sold the farm to Mrs. J.A. Patterson in 1932.

Alex married a Miss Finch and to their union two children were born - Winona who married Jim Graham and Archie McLachlin. She died at an early age and Alex hired Margaret (Maggie) Gordon as a housekeeper. Later they were married. Alex left the farm and moved to London where he only lived a short time, moving back to Cowal and living in the old manse, where both he and Maggie died.

When he moved to London, Alex McLachlin sold his farm to Jim Graham , who later sold it to Archie McTavish, whose son, Duncan McTavish is now the owner.

The house on this property was torn down and in 1932 the barn burned under mysterious circumstances.

Part Lot 22, Concession 1Belldoon Farms

This 50 acres was first owned by a Mr. McCrea, and other owners have been Jack Watson, Robert Martin, George Douglas, and Walter Gosnell. The present owners are Belldoon Farms. There are no buildings on this property.

Part Lot 22 and 23, Concession 1Belldoon Farms

This corner farm was first owned by Archie McNabb. Later owners included Robert Martin, George Douglas, Walter Gosnell, and the present owners are Belldoon Farms. The house has been vacant for some time.

The following account was written by Mrs. Alice (McGaw) MacVicar, Strathroy.

At the time we lived here, it was owned by Archie McNabb, brother of D.A. and John McNabb. Archie was a bachelor and never very strong as a result of the diptheria epidemic. He found it convenient to have his share grower and family move in with him.

My parents moved there as his share grower in 1915 just two months before I was born. I had the distinction of being the first child born in the house after it was moved to that property in the valley. I don't know where it was moved from. Archie probably moved to that property when his brother, John, took over the home property in 1902 (place now owned by Robert Patterson). We lived there until 1930 when the farm was sold to Robert and Jean Martin. Then we moved to the house about a mile north of Dutton between the two Currie Roads (where Stewart McGaw lives).

My parents were James McGaw, of the Wallacetown area, and Rebecca Beecroft of Muskoka.

Children:

- Irene married Cecil Winger (deceased) and lives in Lambeth. They have two sons, Ross Winger who has the Ziebart business in St. Thomas and Murray Winger who works at C.P.R.I. in Byron.
- Stewart lives in the house north of Dutton.
- Alice married John MacVicar (deceased) and lives in Strathroy. She is a retired school teacher. One daughter, Donna, is married to Bruce Harris. Donna teaches at North Caradoc School.
- Jean married Thos. Morrish (a nephew of J.A. Davies of the Dutton Flour Mills). Jean has retired from the nursing profession in 1982. Three children: Francis married Donald Leahy, a London lawyer and have two children; Jennifer is a graduate of Oxford University, England and works in a museum in Baltimore, Maryland; John lives in Vancouver and has two children.
- Marion died at age three from meningitis.

North $\frac{1}{2}$, Lot 24, Concession 1

Archibald McNabb

This lot was part of a 2000 acre land grant given to Lieut. Col. William Campbell in 1795. Archibald McNabb, who immigrated from Scotland, purchased 210 acres of this lot in 1863. The south half was leased to Alex McRae in 1865 and later sold to the John Watson family.

Archibald McNabb was a stonemason by trade and died quite a young man as a result of inhaling so much of the dust from this work. He married Jean Gilmour who also immigrated from Scotland. They lost several of their children as the result of a diptheria epidemic. Those surviving were Duncan, John, Elizabeth and Archie.

John (who married Jane (Jennie) Alexander from Ekfrid Township) purchased the North $\frac{1}{2}$ and broken front A and B from the other members of the family in 1902 for \$1,000. Three of their family, Kathleen, James A., and Margaret were born here.

Later, owing to ill health, he rented the farm to Henry Lilley and family (and later to Henry's son, Harry Lilley) and moved to Middlemiss.

Harry and his wife Cassie (Wrightman) lived here for several years, until 1934. Six of their children - Flossie (Mrs. Lloyd Paton), Allen, Ella, June, Martha and Cliff - were born here.

Mr. and Mrs. William Gunst had the farm rented for a few years as did Robert and Jean (Carroll) Martin.

James McNabb inherited the property in 1926 and sold it to Mr. and Mrs. Charles Douglas in 1945, who later sold it to Mr. and Mrs. Leroy Merwin.

The present owner is Robert Patterson, who purchased the farm in 1963.

A full basement was put in, a kitchen built on, and the outside of the house stuccoed about 1936. Hydro was installed in 1945. Leroy Merwin installed an oil furnace while living there. Rows of evergreen trees were planted in 1937.

S $\frac{1}{2}$, Lot 24, Concession 1

Byron Murray.

Col. Campbell obtained this land from the Crown. Later he sold it to a Mr. Watson, whose son, Jack Watson, eventually owned it. In 1940 Byron Murray bought the farm from the estate of Jack Watson. Byron raised cattle, pigs and cash crop on the farm and when Jack graduated from school he joined his father on the family farm. Today, pigs and cash crops are the main enterprises. Jack and his brothers also rent land for corn and soybeans.

Byron Murray married Lillie Tooley McLellan in 1933 and there were five children born to them:

<u>Jack</u>	b.1934	
<u>Malcolm</u>	b.1937	married Lise Maas
<u>Elizabeth</u>	b.1939	married Leroy Fulmer
<u>Marilyn</u>	b.1942	married James Reeves
<u>Darlene</u>	b.1952	married Keith McCann
<u>Byron</u>	b.1954	married Mary Waterworth

Byron passed away August 10, 1983, age 74 years and Tooley and Jack remain on the farm.

Compiled in 1984.

November 8, 1984 Tooley Murray passed away at the St. Thomas General Hospital in her 73rd year. Interment was in Murray Cemetery, Ekfrid Township.

North $\frac{1}{2}$, Lot 17, Concession 2

C. Ray Jewell

written by Eleanor Jewell.

On June 5, 1858 the Crown sold this property to Dugald MacConachy. Christena Duncanson was the next owner. An interesting note is that MacConachy and Duncanson are the same name.

In 1881 Archie McLashan sold the farm to John Turner for \$3,900. In 1895 John Turner and his wife turned the farm over to their two sons, Duncan and Daniel "with natural love and affection". In 1906 Dan Turner sold his share to his brother, Duncan Campbell Turner for \$2,000.

Duncan Turner married Mary McMillan and they had three children: Robert Wilfred, Velma May, and Duncan Basil, who married Jean Duncanson.

In the January 17, 1901, Cowal news, it stated "D.C. Turner is building a new residence on Lot 17, Conc. 2."

On December 17, 1923 William McQuaker bought this farm from Duncan Campbell Turner and his wife. However they did not move to the farm for some time.

William Wilson and his mother lived in the house for some time.

In 1930 William McQuaker and his wife Amy came to live in the farmhouse and continued to live there until March 1947 when the farm had been sold to C.R. Jewell.

The McQuakers kept a few cows, with the milk being separated and the cream sent to the Dutton Creamery. Usually there were some pigs, turkeys and a few chickens.

Hay, wheat, oats, and corn would be the main crops and would mostly be fed to the animals and fowl on the farm.

They had a good size garden patch and counted on it to provide year round vegetables and berries for the table. It was they who planted the asparagus bed, the strawberries and two peach trees.

Mr. McQuaker installed lightning rods on the house, barn, and driveshed; wired these buildings for hydro and installed the grain grinder in the barn.

Mr. McQuaker usually had a live-in hired man. William Anderson was with him for nine years.

Mr. and Mrs. McQuaker came to this farm from the Cameron farm in Concession A, Dunwich. From this farm they bought a home on Highway # 3, near Shedden. Both originally came from Kirkcudbrightshire, Scotland.

In March, 1967 Ray and Eleanor Jewell sold the farm to their son James and his wife Audrey, and in December 1968 moved to Dutton.

In July 1973 James and Audrey Jewell sold the Farm to Daniel and Jean McCallum. They renovated the house and moved there in May 1980.



Two views of the C. Ray Jewell home taken between 1964 and 1950.

North 1/2 Lot 17, Con. 2, Dunwich Township, continued.....(by Eleanor Jewell)

In March 1947, Clifford Ray Jewell purchased the farm and, with his wife Eleanor Rose Jewell (nee Watson) and their three children, James Ray, Marjorie Eileen, and Marilyn Rose, came to live there.

The children attended S.S.#9 Public School, Jim having two years and Eileen one year previously in Dutton. Jim attended Dutton High School during its final year, then attended West Elgin District High School in West Lorne in it's first years, as Eileen and Marilyn did later.

The children grew up here and went their ways, Jim into the Royal Bank of Canada, Eileen to Teacher's College and Marilyn into Nursing.

Dutton was the village center for shopping, banking, horse-shoeing, milling, shoe repairs, etc.

For a few years the family attended Chalmers' United Church at Cowal, then the Anglican Church in Dutton.

4-H and Homemaking Clubs had their part in the lives of the children.

I have been pleased to be a member of the Cowal Women's Institute since 1948.

The children took part in the P.S. Christmas concert held in Cowal Hall until P.S.#9 was closed.

Upon the closure of the school, we, with a large crowd of pupils and former pupils and friends shared a happy Reunion celebration.

Cowal Sale was enjoyed by our family - the men interested in the many fine animals, the women in the hall, preparing meals for all who attended and the children enjoying a day off from school.

In December, 1968, Ray and Eleanor Jewell left the farm to reside in their newly built home on Shackleton St., Dutton.

In the years immediately following 1947, Ray Jewell was engaged in general farming, growing hay, wheat, oats, corn, white or yellow-eyed beans and soyabeans.

From four to eight milk cows were kept. Calves were allowed to suck until they weighed enough to sell for veal. Then the milk was milked by hand, separated in a separator machine turned by hand and the cream sent to Strathcona creamery in Dutton. The creamery truck came around to farms to pick up cream and eggs and to sell butter if wanted.

The hay, oats and corn were fed on the farm. The beans were cash crop and were counted on to pay mortgage and taxes.

It may be of interest to quote figures from Tax Receipts:

1955 - Total taxes	\$194.99		
1965 - Total taxes	\$260.16	- broken down into -	
		P.S. trustees rate	- 54.73
		County rate-14.017393 mills	- 71.84
		High School-14.72982 mills	- 75.49
		General rate-11.3364 mills	- 58.10

When we went to the farm, I think the taxes were under \$100.00

In 1947 there was still a fenced orchard with a few apple and pear trees, the fruit is not of much use and is used as a calf pasture.

There was a large walnut tree near^{the} house and two or three small ones growing from seed. There is a plentiful supply of nuts. There are two peach trees and a winter pear tree, a grove of poplar trees, black currant bushes, asparagus and rhubarb plants, a strawberry patch and good size garden plot.

Around the yard are three large old spruce trees, a spruce hedge of younger trees, two or three elm trees around the house yard. The old lane had a row of maple and elms along each side. The elms on the farm died out the years the Dutch elm disease was prevalent. There is some evidence that

North half Lot 17, Con. 2, Dunwich Township continued.....

they may be re-establishing themselves. Maple, oak, beech, ash are found among the trees on the farm.

In 1947 the grass of the lawn around the house was badly eaten off by turkeys. It soon grew up with grass ahead. We kept it mowed with a push hand mower.

Later, when the girls joined 4-H Garden Clubs, they became interested in the appearance of the place and mowed the grass beside the lane out as far as the road and in the yard between ^{the}driveshed and barn. Then we got a new gasoline powered push mower which encouraged each of the family to continue mowing that extent of grass as long as we were there.

In the yard and around the house there were old fashioned mauve lilacs, yellow roses, a Snowball bush, spirea bush, honeysuckle vine, white peony, snowdrops, lilies of the valley, golden glow, hollyhocks and ferns.

While there, we added red and rose coloured peonies, a pink and a red rose bush, white lilacs, delphiniums, forsythia, blue iris, canterbury bells.

The garden lay beside the lane so we always planted the first two or three rows to annual flowers. Had great success with Zinnias, Marigolds, Petunias, Bachelor's Buttons, Sweet Alyssum and Cosmos. Some years we had Dahlia and Gladiolias bulbs.

In 1964, Funks Corn Company sent us three kernels of an experimental corn for us to plant and see how tall it would grow. One kernel was planted in a flower pot, then transplanted to ^{the}garden, the other two kernels planted in the garden. A cow nipped off the transplanted one. It grew again and was the tallest of the three at time of Fall frost. Final height - 16 feet and 4 inches. It was a 320 day corn and not expected to ripen in Canada. Each stalk had one ear and others forming not nearly ripe. We staked the stalks up to prevent any wind damage. They were quite noticeable and a good conversation piece!

1947 Harvesting - Man and horse power were all we had. Hay was mowed by horse drawn machine, raked into windrows, loaded by hayloader machine onto flat rack steel wheel wagons; taken to ^{the}barn to be unloaded with hay fork, rope and pulleys attached to roof of barn and down to ground, pulled by a team of horses up and into the mow where it was spread out in the mow by man with a pitch fork.

By 1960's, hay is mowed by tractor power, gasoline fueled, with attached mower, raked into rows, then baled in the field by a custom machine operator that ties each bale, 60 or 70 lbs., with baler twine, loaded by man power onto a rubber tired wagon. At the barn there is a mechanical elevator, gasoline powered, which lifts them into the mow. The bales must be moved from wagon singly, onto elevator by man power and placed around in tiers in the mow by man power also.

1947 grain was being cut with horse-drawn binder. Usually a third horse was added to the team for this heavy job, which left sheaves in rows, to be set up into stooks to dry by man power. They were then taken to the barn in horse drawn wagon, hay fork, rope and slings took them up into mow (slings being previously placed around portions of the load when loading wagon) where they were tiered by hand. A custom threshing machine operator came to several farms. Neighbours exchanged teams, wagons and labour to get grain threshed and straw stacked. Then, trusting souls began to thresh directly from field, saving labour, but causing anxiety if rain came. A neighbour woman gave much appreciated help in the kitchen to help the housewife feed 12 to 20 hungry men. Grain went into the granary by hand carried tubs or sacks and was fed on the farm.

By 1960's, no oats were grown. Wheat was combined by custom operator directly into trucks and sold as cash crop. Straw ^{was}raked and baled and used on ^{the}farm. The last year or two some straw was sold.

North half Lot 17, Con. 2, Dunwich Township, continued.....

1947 Corn required a different binder which left sheaves on ground to be set up by man into shocks in the field and tied together, later to be hauled on stone boat to the barn as needed or when weather was favourable.

By 1967 we had gone through the stage of corn picking with custom operated picker attached to tractor, which delivered the ears into trucks to be stored in cribs, some to feed, some to sell; and have now gone to corn being shelled by self contained corn picker-sheller machine, custom operated, closed in cab, which shells corn into trucks to go directly to the grain company elevator. It could be sold then or stored to sell or bring home to feed later. It required special drying in order to keep satisfactorily, as moisture would be high.

1947 - White and yellow-eyed beans were cultivated with a horse (team) drawn two-row cultivator with seat for driver or sometimes yet the one horse one row scuffler with driver walking behind, driving steering and controlling depth. The entire family was called upon to hoe out weeds from in the rows which cultivator missed. Cultivating teeth were exchanged for knives for pulling two rows of beans in together. Man power forked them out of the dirt, four rows into one row of small heaps, left until dry. If it rained they had to be turned over. When dry they were to the barn and stored in mow until custom operator with tractor driven threshing machine placed on barn floor. The beans were stored in granary until sold, the straw saved for cattle roughage feed.

By 1960's, beans were being threshed in the field; some even combined from the row through self-propelled combine, custom operated directly into trucks and taken to grain company elevators for drying then sold or stored for future sale.

In 1947 weed control in row crops was by horse drawn cultivators, with hoeing especially important in bean crop.

By 1960's cultivating is by tractor with attached cultivator though most weed control now is handled with the use of weed sprays both pre and post emergent.

Manure from the barn yard still goes on the fields and garden, but more and more commercial fertilizers are being applied. There has been noticeable increase in crop yield also. Thorn trees and other bushes grow on the hillsides. Control used to be by chopping down. Now small ones may be chopped down, larger ones may be girdled with an axe and then treated with Brush Kill spray solution. If not too large, whole bush is sprayed.

1947 - We had one team of horses, wagon, farm sleigh (Bob sled) and one stoneboat, one furrow walking plough, 4 sections smoothing harrows, one disk harrow, one land roller, spring tooth harrows, and soon bought a used drill hay loader and grain binder. Around 1948 we bought a new Ford pick up truck. In 1952 we purchased our first tractor, a gasoline powered International H with attachable cultivators and bean pulling attachment, new spring-tooth harrows and tractor plough (2 furrow) still used other horse drawn implements with tongues shortened for tractor use.

By 1967 we were hiring planting and harvesting by custom operators with modern planters and combines.

By the 1960's there were no milk cows. Milk and butter were bought at grocery store. This is not unusual now in this community.

Horses have disappeared from the farm.

A few feeder cattle or thin cows are fattened on pasture. Perhaps 25 head are fattened in the barn in winter.

Cattle and pigs now are usually sold through Talbotville livestock market.

Six or seven sows raised their litters to weanling size and were sold. The occasional purchase of weaners kept and fed until resold.