

Emma - perhaps you
do not have this
information

The white cottage just
south of the Dundas property
came from the Dan Patterson
farm off Hogg Street (where
Minnie Patterson so regretably
had taken her own life).

Dan's son Mike came home,
was given deed and gave
his father life lease.
He married Eva Lodge,
lived in the new house
he had built a short time
when they moved to Sutton.
[Eva was sister of Minnie. Mrs
John Archie McNeil]

Sam Campbell from
across river had married
Sarah Jane Patterson, Dan's daughter.
Mr Campbell bought the place
subject to Mr Patterson's life lease.

Daniel Brown bought the
farm and moved the
house to Gona Station.

Austin bought the barn
and moved it to the cedars
just south of Gona Sta. Later
sold farm to Kenneth & Elmore.

The vacant lot just
 next (east) ~~to~~ ^{to} Smith's on
 the Talbot Road running
 west from the store at Lona
 was the ^{site of the} first post office
 in Lona.
 Mr. George Wicks
 lived there at one time
 a building on the
 back lot now owned
 by Mr. Arthur (south
 of Eva Fletcher) had
 been used by a Mr.
 Pines who was surely
 a going concern.
 It was part tin shop,
 a cooper made saps
 buckets there and barrels.
 Mother told me caskets
 were made on the
 property also and
 there were two
 houses on the front -
 Pines in one, quite a
 few had lived in the other.
 It was to just north of Lona Sta. Hall.

Dda Grisdale came from Sparta and was probably
 adopted by Grisdales. Became second wife of John Grisdale.

I can
 find
 out
 more

The Township of Huron

This township enjoys the distinction of having there planted the germ of the Talbot Settlement. The first home of the white man was in what is now our town Elgin. A portion therefore of its early history has been given in the general sketch. There are however left some facts of general interest which belong to Huron township.

The only settler who came with Colonel Talbot was George Crane, whose sons now live near Tyngsboro. and altho this was 1803, it was not until 1809 that other families came to keep them company. These were Colonel Paterson and John Pearce and Mrs Sturges a sister of Colonel Paterson and of Mrs Pearce. William Pearce Esq. some of the well-known and highly respected citizens of Huron tells that Colonel Talbot met them at the beach and carried the little William (himself then 4 years old) up the hill in his arms. These families came from Pennsylvania and those who have driven along the road from Port Talbot to Tyngsboro past their beautiful well-kept farms and dwellings with honor the judgement of Colonel Talbot in encouraging such settlers.

At the close of the War of 1812-1815 there were but twelve families in all of Huron. In 1817 five or six families of Scottish Highlanders left Lord Selkirk's settlement on the Red River and located on 50 acre lots donated by Col. Talbot along Talbot road in the west of the township. Two of these were Mr. Bannerman and Angus Gummage lived to be 89 and 87 respectively. Their hardships in reaching Canada were not slight. At the beginning of the winter of 1814

they were left at Fort Churchill and during that winter the climate was so cold that even the
tear drops froze. They and all who had crossed
the Atlantic with them had to subsist chiefly
on quails caught by nets in holes cleared
by great labour out of the snow which
covered the earth to a depth of four feet.
From Fort Churchill they travelled on snow shoes
to Hudson Bay.

The Iona Station District.

For the purpose of writing up the history of our community for this Guedesman Book we have limited the territory to that bounded on the south by the Iona Institute district on the east by the Kensington Club territory on the north by the Cowal Institute terrain and on the west following the school district boundary.

This is a prosperous part of Elgin County. The soil is fertile clay and clay loam and is excellent farm and grazing land. The area lies in both Southwell and Dumfries on either side of the town line. A watershed or height of land runs ^{east} and west through it, dividing the water going into the Thames River from the water into Lake Erie. The sandy gravelly soil is a natural soil for orchards of apples, peaches. The timber was and still is elm, hickory, black ash, beech and maple and once upon a time black walnut.

Some of the older houses are finished in that fine wood. Some of the black ash was particularly good. Mr. Andrews of London purchased one tree cut the logs and sold them for three thousand dollars to a buyer in New York. Mr. Andrews later bought the stump for one hundred dollars.

The first school in the Talbot settlement was where the Watson's Corner School now stands.

Early Settlers

The Aldborough settlers had large families, and when the original farms were cleared, several members of the family would start out together to win new homes. Archibald and Alexander Kerr settled on adjoining farms, lots 2 and 3, Concession 5, and their sister Jane and her husband John McInnes across the townline in Dumfries. Arch. Kerr was 21 and eligible for a grant of land in 1831. But when he journeyed to Port Talbot from Aldborough, the old Colonel was just dismissing another ^{claimant} with so much guffiness and profanity that Archie took flight and went home. It was a year or two before he gained enough courage to return to renew his request. When he came to his farm it was seen that a tree had been cut. He had completed his settlement duties and gathered together the \$4: 9s. 6d. patent fee necessary to gain the patent by November 12, 1842. His brother-in-law, Archibald Black secured the patent for Lot 4. The same day. By 1848 sufficient building and clearing had been done to enable Archie Kerr to support a wife and he married Eliza McCall, a daughter of Elder James McCall of Aldborough. Alex Kerr came down shortly after and secured a crown grant of the adjoining lot to the north. There is a happy figure of one Randall who previously

settled there, and did some clearing. However he did not hold a crown deed. He seems also to have cleared some of the Galbraith farm across the way and to have set out an extensive orchard. He may have squatted on the two places before the road was opened, or there may have been two brothers. Alex Kerr secured his crown deed in 1855 and married Christina Patterson.

The next farm was also settled by an Aldborough relative Zachariah McCallum who secured his patent in 1852. His wife was Jane McIntyre. Across the town line John Galbraith had settled some time in the late thirties. He had come out from Argyle Scotland in 1830.

Among the settlers on the farm between Galbraith and McIntyre came an Englishman Daniel Hares or Ayres but it is usually spelled. He had some ^{man} and built some of early frame houses and most of the other buildings.

Duncan McCallum, one of the family who had settled on Dalhart Street near Thallacetown had moved to a place on the Currie Road where his son John was born, then took up land near Glenora. However this was very low - the Beavers Dam - and he came to Dunwich and secured the highest farm he could find and this was the 100 acres across the road in Dunwich on the town line and the land across the road is Saeckwald.

On the Gore, John Campbell, of the Bruce Campbells, took up the farm now in 1964. owned by Duncan Turner. John Kerr, a relative of the Kerrs already mentioned who had come out from Scotland in 1831 had stayed for a while with the Bruce Campbells, took up his place and married Janet Campbell about 1841. Donald McTellan settled on the farm ^{now} owned by John McTellan, in 1842. John Kennedy took the adjoining farm and Archie Black settled across the way. The Blacks moved to Inwa Slits

SEE Reference at the top of this page to Israel Randall.

Had Mrs Galbraith consulted the Land Records she would have found that Mr. Randall was anything but a shadowy squatter. He did not have a Crown Deed because the Crown Deed was issued to Thomas Talbot, 22 March 1821. Born in the U.S. about 1800, Israel settled on small lot 4 in Con. B & C, Dunwich, had done his settlement duties and received his deed fro Thomas Talbot, 1 April 1824, the price 3 barley corns. (50 acres) This is where the buildings were built and the large orchard planted.

Small lot 3, the next farm to the south Talbot located a Thomas Huckins, who sold his improvements to a Charles Peats of Dunwich, yeoman, he didn't last either and sold his improvements to a Michael McCormack, a wheelright. He must have had the means because he also got title to small lot 1 the same day, 8 March 1823, paid Talbot the barley corns and received title. Exactly one year later, 8 March 1824 Michael McCormack sold both lots to one William Brooks, yeoman of Dunwich for 175 pounds.

Witnessed by Samuel Griffin and Duncan McLellan. McCormack held a mortgage on the property. On 6 Feb 1835 Brooks sold lot 3 to Israel Randall for an unstated amount, witnessed by Jeston Robinson and Moses Warner of Caradoc. This gave Israel 100 acres, he was educated enough to sign his name.

On 18 July 1838 Israel Randall sold this 100 acres to John Galbraith for 100 pounds, (hardly a squatter). Israel Randall then located on lot 23, Con. A. where he made improvemts, sold timber, cleared land etc. then sold the south $\frac{1}{2}$ to John Lodge and the north $\frac{1}{2}$ to John DeCou. After this he farmed in Southwold.

in 1852. This was
+ D. D. H. had settled some time in