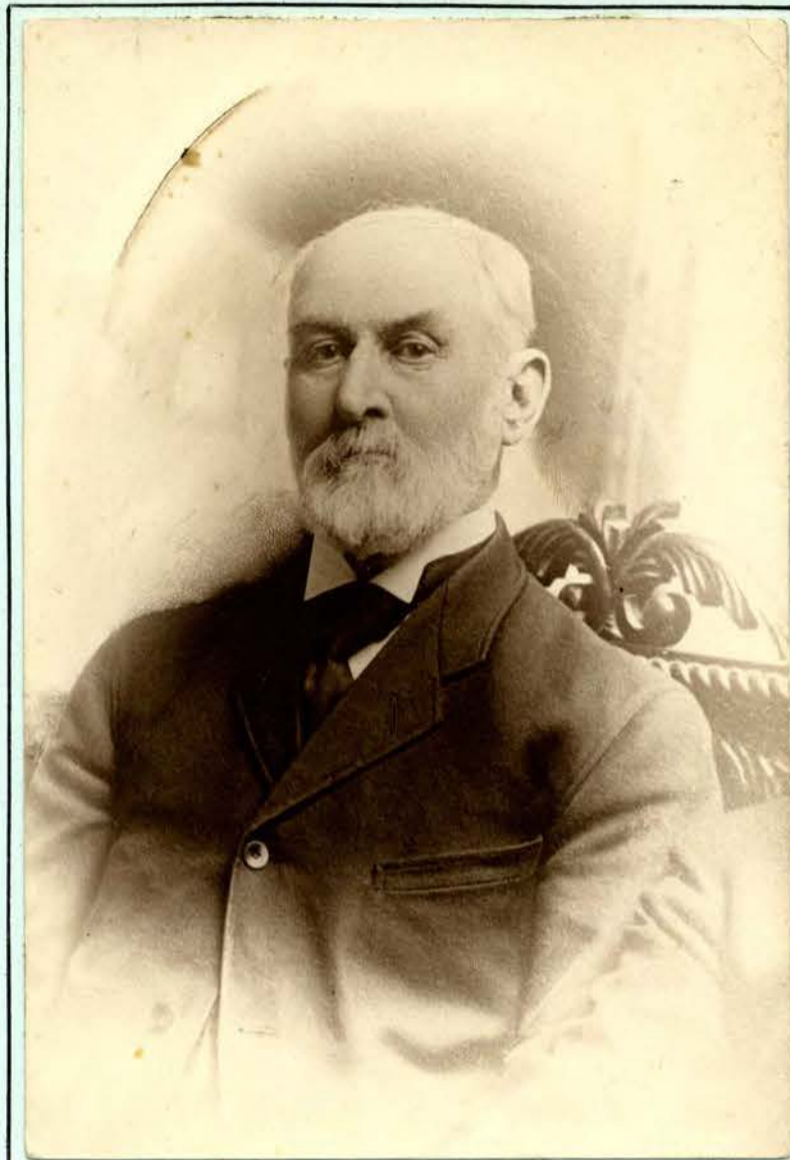


(A Century Farm)



Duncan MacAlpine

The MacAlpine family emigrated to Canada from Argyleshire, Scotland. They first settled at New Glasgow. Little is known of the first family, except that there were Alexander and a sister Rebecca along with other brothers and sisters.

For many years the name has been spelled "McAlpine", but information obtained from older papers leaves no doubt that the proper spelling was "MacAlpine" in Scotland.

Alexander moved to Yarmouth Heights, possibly at the time of his marriage. Later, in 1840, he and his wife Christina moved to the farm at Iona, which was known as the N.W. Part of Lot 5, and $\frac{1}{2}$ of Part Lot 6, N.T.R.E. in Southwold Township, with their two small sons Daniel and Duncan. Duncan at this time was only three weeks old. There were three girls and four more boys born to them on this farm.

Alexander died August 28, 1857 at the early age of 43, leaving his wife with nine children, the eldest at this time was twenty. He became heir to his father's farm.

Three years later in 1860, John, the fourth child died at the age of 16, and in 1863, Henrietta, the third child died at the age of 21.

In 1865, Daniel, who by this time had married Jane Campbell of Lobo, sold the farm of 100 acres to his brother Duncan for \$800.00. Christina continued to live on the farm until her death, October 11, 1894, at the age of 82.

In 1874 Duncan married Catherine Graham, also of Lobo, and they raised six children on the same farm. In 1877 Duncan purchased 21 acres of land from Thomas Pearce, known as part of Part Lot 4, N.T.R.E. for the sum of \$550.00, so as to have a right of way in which to reach the road known as the Southwold-Dunwich townline.

Duncan was well known in the community first as a school teacher and later as a farmer. He taught both at S.S. 45, Dunwich, and S.S. Dunwich. He was for a term, president and director of the West Elgin and Southwold and Dunwich Agricultural Societies. He served at the council board of Southwold, and was appointed a magistrate by the Liberal government. He was a life-long member of the Covented Baptist Church at Wallacetown. He took a keen interest in his church. At the time of his death he was both clerk and deacon of the church.

Duncan and Catherine were buried in Fairview Cemetery, Dutton.

Other children in Alexander and Christina's family were Mary, who married William McLandress of Dunwich. They lived in Iona, Dunwich, and later in Dutton.

Alexander, Jr., married Nancy Sinclair. He was a railway employee and lived in St. Thomas. Alexander died in 1899. His widow remarried a Robert Bowie of Buffalo.

Nancy was married to Matthew Silcox. They lived in Southwold Twnsp. on the road now known as number 3 Highway.

Elizabeth, better known as Betsy, married Donald McTaggart and lived in St. Thomas.

Peter, who was a school teacher was married twice. His first wife was Mary Campbell. She died in 1876. He later married Cora Brooks. Peter first lived in Kalamazoo, Michigan, but later moved to Los Angeles, California.

In 1914 when Duncan's son Donald (Dan) took over the farm, after his marriage to Jane Anne Smith of Ekford, he purchased another 40 acres known as part of Part Lot 4 from Samuel Pearce, Thomas Pearce's son. The farm was now 161 acres.

Later again in 1951, after the death of their father, Duncan and John (Jack) purchased the balance of the Pearce property (39 acres) to bring the farm to its present size. (200 acres).

Jack married Margaret Pyatt and still lives on the original farm with their three children, who are the fifth generation. Duncan married the former Catherine Larson. They live on another farm, but continue to work the MacAlpine Farm with Jack and Margaret.

Information has been obtained from the old family bible and a family tree compiled by someone in the MacAlpine family in 1924. It is believed this was Samuel D. Campbell and his family. It has now been brought up to date and written by Mrs. Jack (Margaret) MacAlpine, January, 1967.



Wedding of Miss Etta
McAlpine and Mr. Sam Campbell

Mr. and Mrs. (Elder)
William Pollard are second row
from right front at end of row.

William McLandress is
immediately behind Mrs. Pollard.

Mr. Malcolm Graham is second
in back row on left, and John
McPhail is fourth.

(Pictures courtesy of the Pollards)



Front Row - Left to right

Third from left is Mrs. Johnnie (McCallum) Campbell, Dutton, (undertaker), the 14th is Isabel (Essie) Carswell, 16th (last) Maggie Campbell, Wallacetown.

Second Row

1-Mrs. John McPhail, 2-Mrs. John McTaggart (Christina Campbell), 3-Mrs. Jim Small and baby, 5-Johnnie Campbell (undertaker), then the flower-girls, Mr. and Mrs. Duncan, Elder and Mrs. William Pollard.
(McAlpine)

Third Row

Mrs. Dougal Blue, Mrs. Bell Graham, Mrs. Malcolm Graham, John McPhail, Jim Small, Dr. John McColl, Sam Campbell, Henrietta McAlpine (the bride), Kate McAlpine, Willie Graham, Mrs. McLandress, Daniel McAlpine, Mrs. John T. Kerr, Tena McAlpine, a younger brother of the bride next to Tena, Dougal McAlpine, last two in line, Malcolm Graham's mother and William McLandress.

Back Row

1-John Graham, 2-Malcolm Graham, two unnamed, 5-John T. Kerr, 13-Dougal Blue, 15-Jim McLandress, 17-Willie Graham.

1867-1945

1866-1964

Mr. Lindley McCallum and Miss Elizabeth Preston were neighbors. Their marriage took place in 1896. Mr. McCallum, of pioneer ancestry, was born on the farm which is on the north corner of Shackelton Street and the Iona Road in Dunwich. Mrs. McCallum was reared on the farm now owned by Joseph Carroll, a short distance north in Southwold. There were two other brothers in Mr. McCallum's family, J.C. and Ardah. Ardah did not marry. Mrs. McCallum's early home is now on the north side of the McDonald - Cartier Highway, (Provincial Highway Number 401). She had one sister, Margaret Preston, who became Mrs. Black. The Prestons later moved to Iona Station, opposite the Colin Kerr home on the north corner of the street running west off the Iona Road. Becoming a widow, Mrs. McCallum sold their farm home one mile north of Iona, Lot No. 3, Dunwich, and moved to the Kerr home mentioned above. The building of this home is remembered for its exceptionally fine construction, so meticulously supervised by Mr. Kerr personally so long ago. It is there she lived in comfort with her daughter Gladys (Mrs. Donald McCallum) until her death at the age of 98 in 1964. Those who had known her were proud to see her make a notable appearance on CKLW shortly before her death. Her eight daughters shared faithfully in ensuring her companionship and comfort in her declining years.

The grounds surrounding the home where Mr. McCallum was born have undergone much change in the past decades. About sixty years or more ago, a very high tower is remembered on the opposite side of the Iona Road, north corner of the Gore Road. It was said to have been erected on the highest elevation in Elgin. Daring boys and some girls climbed it. Some of these made the ascent by keeping their gaze always upward and experienced much terror in the descent. Only grim determination and fear of the scolding awaiting them if their parents became aware of the escapade, generated the courage required to climb down.

The sisters in this family remember with amusement when their one and only brother, just nicely talking and walking, found his aunt joining his mother and her helper, Mrs. Wesley Lumley from Iona, fashioning baby clothes for an anticipated arrival. He glowed with approval that his aunt (Mrs. Preston) was "making such nice nighties for Aunt Muggsy's little boy."

There were eight girls in addition to the one boy in this family. All are alive and appear to be enjoying the good life.

Catherine, (Kate), born 1897, who married Mr. W. Jay Lumley in 1919, spent the years between the completion of her schooling at S.S. No. 5, Dunwich, and her marriage in giving welcome assistance to her mother at home. She and her husband purchased a home in Dutton recently, leaving the family farm in the hands of one of their two sons. Mrs. Lumley was a long faithful worker in the Iona Women's Institute and in the Iona Methodist (United Church) which her husband's family had supported from its inception. Most, if not all, of his father's and mother's immediate relatives were also active members.

Gladys, (1899), became Mrs. Donald McCallum in 1927 and was widowed with one daughter in 1931. She has been a valued employee of the R.M. Anderson Company in St. Thomas for twenty-seven years. Staying with her aged mother, she commuted each working day for many years. She has made her home in St. Thomas since her mother's death.

Verna, (1902), graduated from the Amasa Wood Hospital and after receiving her Registered Nurse degree, was employed there. For some time she has lived in Cleveland, Ohio. She was first at Women's Hospital, as the Supervisor of their operating room. For her later years in that city, she has been an industrial nurse. She is the only member of the family who chose to remain unmarried.

Meta, (1903), is Mrs. Tyrrell F. Begg of Middlemarch. Before her marriage, she was employed as a saleslady at Ramsey's and at R.M. Anderson's. She has been an active member of the Women's Institute since her marriage.

Stewart, (1905), married Addie Clay of Wallacetown and has lived in Talbotville and Shedden.

Iola, (1906), (Mrs. Vernon Young), is a trained nurse. A widow, she contributes much as a volunteer worker where her abilities are valued by those who benefit by her attention. She is seen often at Valley View and Elgin Manor residences for senior citizens, as well as the General Hospital and the Memorial Convalescent Hospital in St. Thomas. She is also an active member of the Women's Institute.

Jean, (1908), a school teacher, is the wife of the Reverent Edwin Hancock.

Daurine, (1910), is a Registered Nursing Assistant.

Hazel, (1912), Mrs. J.R. England of Stratford, was trained as a business woman. As a change of pace, she has returned to her profession.

Mrs. McCallum attended Moulton Ladies' College in Toronto before her marriage. Mr. McCallum graduated from the Westervelt Business School in London which training he found helpful as Tax Collector, in Dunwich. He was also on the Council for a year, giving up that position because of the time it required away from his growing family.

Curator 1962-1968.



Daurine, Stewart, Jean and Iola



Back Row: Verna, Catherine, Gladys, Hazel
Front Row: Jean, Iola, Meta and Daurine.

Lot 1 , was owned and occupied by a colourful family. The father is remembered as "Big Jake" McIntyre who had seven children. A rhyme by which the family made themselves known is recalled as:

Dad and Mam,
John and Sam,
Dunc and Dan,
Malcolm, Will,
Christy and Betty Ann.

A former neighbour believes there were three girls.

Mr. McIntyre's property stretched along the east side of the Iona Road from Iona to what became Iona Station. His will divided his property as equally as possible among his children.

Mr. DUNCAN McINTYRE, lot 1 , was a well known thresher. His steam engine, pulled by horses, was a common sight from summer to late fall trying to reach the farmers eager to have their harvest in the barns. The poor beasts were forced to strain to their utmost capability to get the heavy engine up the many steep hills. Mr. Duncan married Addie Clay. They are not remembered as having children.

Much has been written of the hired men and volunteer neighbours who came to help with these threshings. Meals had to be ready to suit the progress of the threshers who barely spared time to eat. The quality and quantity of these delicious meals would seem unbelievable to modern home makers. The spirit of helpful generosity in donations of food and labour on these and many other occasions is practically lost today.

Curator

MR. JAMES VOGAN

Mr. James Vogan who occupied the house on lot 1 , Iona Road, before the George Pyatts, came from Cowal. He was a protege of the Willsons from that locality. Three children were born to them - Robert, a boy who called himself Barcas and a girl.

The adjacent farm on the north was the property of "Big Jake" McIntyre, as was this one time. His son Malcolm "Mic" inherited this twenty acres as his share of his father's property. He, it was, who moved the house from Iona to this location.

Curator

Mr. John Pearce and Mr. Richard Williams from England in 1817, each purchased 75 acres from Mr. Thomas Lumley in 1838 at the corner of Iona Road and the 10th Concession. Mr. Pearce's son Thomas married Merinda Williams, Mr. William's daughter, and had arranged to buy her father's adjoining 75 acres. In 1879 he was able to buy an additional 100 acres from Colonel Burwell. The first home they occupied was of frame, about fourteen feet by eighteen in dimension, which had been built in 1831 or 1832. The first barn was bigger - about twenty-six feet by fifty-two feet, built about 1833, hand framed and set on large stones as a foundation.

Their farm on Lot B8C, Concessions 9 and 10 Dunwich was first named "The Grove", but it was found that this name had been registered earlier by Colonel Cockshutt of Brantford, when Mr. Williams had tried to register a shorthorn in 1922. The name was changed to "Grovelea".



Mrs. Arthur Wilson
(Alice Pearce)

IN MEMORY

of

JOHN LUMLEY

who died

May 12, 1842.
Aged 76 years.

-

ANN

His Wife,

Died Aug. 29, 1837.
Aged 71 years.

On the brow of a hill, a mile and a half south of Iona, on the farm now owned by Thomas Pearce, are about fifty graves. Many of these have never been marked by marble, and are now but nameless mounds, never again to claim the memorial care of relatives or friends. The few mounds that were marked by headstones sometimes serve as the Mecca of relatives far removed by time and space from the places hallowed by the early struggles of their ancestors.

Here, side by side, under the stately maples that overlook the scenes of their mature years, lie the remains of John and Ann Lumley. Prostrate above their graves, like a shield to save their memories from oblivion, heaved over by time and fractured by frost, are the several pieces of a large slab that bears the inscription above.

From Dr. C.C. Lumley's book "Records of the Lumleys."

Mr. Pearce sold his holdings with its large brick home to the United Church. It is now the main building of the Pearce-Williams Christian Centre. The hills which sweep downwards to the Talbot Creek (better known as the Big Creek), and the beautiful forests make it an attractive centre for the purpose it was acquired.

Ponds and wells were dug to water stock, and a bathroom was added to the house in 1896, a telephone in 1905 and electricity in 1905. A drive barn and implement building were added in 1900 and a hog barn in 1902.

The present barn, forty-four by sixty-six feet was cement walled, a stable was built in 1905.

Originally the farm has 150 acres, 100 acres were acquired from Colonel Burwell in 1879 and sold to Donald McAlpine in 1914. The land sold to the United Church was 165 acres - in 1959.

An orchard had been planted in 1890 and a bare corner of the woods was planted to spruce in 1914. The crop of wheat, oats, corn and beans were commonly cultivated. Livestock had been successfully produced. The outstanding yields per acre were: wheat 55 bushels, oats 81 bushels, corn 110 bushels and beans 41 bushels. (Anyone questioning the above yields should know that Mr. Pearce would never exaggerate intentionally).

Taxes paid were as follows: 1916 - \$127.16 to 1925 - \$154.05 on 150 acres. 1950 - \$190.98 to 1958 - \$384.44 on 165 acres.

ANCESTRY

Richard Williams born 1779 near Manchester, England, married Mary Rice (born 1783) in 1798. They came to New York in 1816 where Mr. Williams kept store for a year, but the shrewd business men in New York were not pleasing to him and he determined to try farming.

By boat they arrived in Buffalo, thence to Long Point and the family arrived travel worn and weary by oxcart in 1817 to settle on Lot 8, Southwold (Watson's Corners).

By patience and industry they prospered and soon surrounded themselves with the comforts they had been accustomed to in England. The respect and friendship of new neighbors added to their satisfaction in this new land.

Richard died in 1856, his wife in 1874. To them were born nine children - William, Maria, Thomas, George, Elizabeth, Marinda, Lavina, Samuel and John. Maria and Elizabeth had died in England. Samuel and John were born in Southwold.

Samuel married Harriet Waters and there were three children - Marinda, Diadama (wife of Moses Lumley) and Maria who married Dr. McClay. Marinda married Thomas Pearce who purchased the farm on which they later made their home, from Thomas Lumley, who had settled on the homestead owned by his father John Lumley.

Thomas Pearce and his wife had four children: Alice (Mrs. Arthur Wilson), Anna (Mrs. John Orchard), William who married Sarah Northcote and Samuel whose wife was the former Minnie McKillop. Another boy was brought up by Mr. and Mrs. Pearce and looked on as their own, Cecil Sloan, who was born on this farm, the son of Mr. William Sloan of Iona.

All are deceased, but Samuel and William who brought his wife Sarah to the Pearce home, but later moved to his present home in Exeter.

William leaving, Samuel who had been living in the red brick bungalow near the south west Burwell's Corners, moved back to his birthplace.

In large part from information obtained from Mr. Samuel Pearce and from Dr. C.C. Lumley's book "Records of the Lumleys". Curator 1962-1968.

John Pearce -M- Frances Patterson

William Pearce -M- Miss Morehouse

Thomas Pearce -M- Marinda Williams

Alice Pearce -M- Arthur Willson

Anna Pearce -M- John Orchard

William Pearce -M- Sarah Northcote

Samuel Pearce -M- Minnie McKillop

Marinda Williams Pearce

Richard Williams -M- Mary Rice
1779-1856 1783-1874

Nine Children from this union.

Samuel Williams -M- Harriet Waters
1777-1856 1782-1874
three children

Thomas Pearce -M- Marinda Williams

Harriet Waters Williams

Truman Waters -M-

Charles Wells Waters -M- Diadama Warren
Thirteen Children

Samuel Williams -M- Harriet Waters

This is Mrs. Arthur Willson's Story of the Farm where she was born, and of the early pioneers who lived on this farm. We are indebted to Mrs. Zilpha Pearce, (Mrs. Willson's daughter) who copied a paper her mother had prepared for the Iona Women's Institute in earlier years. This farm is now the Pearce-Williams Christian Centre. (Edited by Curator).

Leslie Patterson with his family left Fermanagh, Ireland, settling near Baltimore, U.S.A. Some of his family died there with yellow fever. Following their doctor's advice, they left that part of the country and settled permanently, as they thought, in Pennsylvania where Frances Patterson and John Pearce were married.

However, discovering that a clear title to the land they were buying depended on their willingness to swear allegiance to the Stars and Stripes, they decided to move on, so thirteen people set out for Ontario.

In 1809, Mr. Patterson, his wife and two children; John Pearce, his wife and three children; Mrs. Mary Storey and her three children began their journey. The trip was made by boat along the Lake Erie shore, their cattle driven through the wilderness. Arriving at Port Talbot in 1809, they were met by Colonel Talbot, who carried the youngest of the Pearce family up the hill. This was William, my grandfather.

The families were given land a few miles west of Tryconnel in "Little Ireland". They had brought their looms and spinning wheels with them.

During the War of 1812-1814, their homes were plundered. Those men who had burned Talbot's mill, emptied the feathers from the ticking covers, seized the clothing from their backs and made the men prisoners.

About this same time part of Lot C on what is now the Iona Road, north-west corner of the 10th Concession of Dunwich Township, had been allotted to a person who sold it to John Lumley, lately arrived from Nova Scotia. His son, Thomas, later settled there with his wife Christina Willey Lumley, whom he had married in 1808. He sold this farm to Samuel Williams at a later date. Thomas moved to the 10th Concession not far away.

Richard Williams, father of Samuel Williams, was born December 8, 1779 at Manchester, England. In 1798 he married Mary Rice who was born in 1783. At this time he was a silk manufacturer and had a family of seven children. He heard such glowing accounts of the new land of America that he decided to try his fortune in the new world.

He took passage for New York and was six or seven weeks on the water. When he arrived he started in the same business of silk manufacture. He established a silk store, but soon found that he was not succeeding there, so he decided to start for Upper Canada. While they were settled in New York, my grandfather Samuel Williams was born, September 20, 1817.

The journey was made by boat and ox team and finally following the trail through the wilderness, landed at Watson's Corners. Here he obtained land from Colonel Talbot where he resided the rest of his life and died in 1856, aged seventy nine years. He was buried in Fingal Cemetery. His wife died in 1874 in her ninety second year. She too was buried in Fingal.

Samuel Williams remained on his father's farm and on him fell the major portion of the work to be done on the homestead.

When the war broke out in 1837, the Williams boys, as would be expected, were called upon to take a prominent part. Samuel joined Colonel Ermatinger's troop and he took part in the battles west. He joined the St. Thomas Cavalry Troop, January second, 1838. When they arrived near Amherstburg they met a messenger who told them to shove on as the enemy was expected to land anytime from the American side. They had several days of fighting and lost several men. These men were buried at Amherstburg with military honors on Monday, March 5, 1838. The troops returned to St. Thomas in June.

He then bought the farm one and a half miles south of Iona in Dunwich, Lot C Concession 9, from Thomas Lumley, which was afterwards known as the model farm.

In 1814, Trueman Waters who was of English ancestry, came with his wife and family to the Talbot settlement. His son Charles Wells Waters married Diadama Warren. They were the parents of thirteen children. Their daughter Harriet, born in 1820, was married to Samuel Williams, April 26, 1841, and went to live on the farm south of Iona. They had a family of three daughters: Marinda, who married Thomas Pearce of Wallacetown; Diadama, married Moses Lumley of Iona; Maria married Doctor Arch McLay of Southwold Station.

Randall Williams, with his wife Rachel, came to Dunwich and settled on the edge of the forest on the 10th Concession, west of what is now the United Church Christian Centre. He was a relative of my grandfather. Their carpet loom took up much of the space in this home. Their daughter Hannah married Joseph Canfield of Iona. After the death of his wife, Randall married a woman of Irish descent whose first name was Barbara. Their daughter Mary died as a young woman. Randall Williams last years were spent in Iona with his daughter and his son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Canfield.

On January 19, 1865, Marinda Williams was married to Thomas Pearce and went to live at Tryconnel for three years and then she and her husband bought the farm where she was born. They returned there to live the remainder of their days. Mr. and Mrs. Williams continued to live there until 1881 when they moved to 100 Hincks Street, St. Thomas. Mrs. Williams died in 1889 and is buried in the St. Thomas Cemetery with her husband.

Thomas and Marinda Pearce had four children: Alice who married Arthur Willson, Anna who married John Orchard, Samuel married Minnie McKillop and William married Sara Northcott; all named after our grandparents.

While we were still living in the old house, mother started a Sunday School in our home. This continued until the house was too full to hold them and then she got permission from the school trustees at Watson's Corners School to hold Sunday School there. We had taken music lessons on the melodian and later had an organ. When Sunday School was at the house I played the organ, but was too short to pump, so father stood and pumped while I played. When we went to the school we carried the melodian with us every Sunday. Mother continued the Sunday School as long as she lived.

There was another house at the edge of the woods on the 10th Concession for the hired man to live. We used to go out past Hattons' and about four of the Hattons would join us. Then on to Breems where four more were ready to come with us, then on

to school at S.S. No. 14, Dunwich, which now has two schools at other locations.

Father had one hundred fifty acres in the one block and twenty five acres across the creek and through Mr. Breen's field. He had this for pasture, also seventy nine acres on the Southwold side. There was a barn and about four fields which were worked, the rest was woods. This woods was at the back end of the Old Fort. The Fort was two circular mounds of earth high enough to hide behind. There was an entrance to the outside, one at the head of the fort and to the inside one a little further down, so that no one could harm anyone in the enclosure. Between the mounds was a stream.

Every year while I was at the Disciple College in St. Thomas, Father had a sugaring-off party for the teachers and scholars and friends, (about forty or fifty people) in the sugar bush. Mother knew how to prepare a lunch for people filled up with wax.

The house was built in 1891 or 1892. We had a busy summer, as all the men were there for their meals. It was well worth the work for all the good times we had.

One of the things she used to do was to dip candles. I read in her diary that she dipped four hundred sixteen candles that day. Another day she said, "I brought my spinning wheel out and started to spin."

Mother died in March, 1906, and was buried in the St. Thomas Cemetery. Father died in 1912, and he too was buried in the St. Thomas Cemetery.

Sam bought the farm of Mr. Barber on Front Street, opposite the Sutherland house. Here he built a new house to which he brought his bride, Minnie McKillop, to live. The house and barns are set back from the road one quarter of a mile.

When William moved to Hensall, Samuel moved to the old home again.

There used to be an apple orchard half way up the lane. One of the apples we thought was the best was the Black Spitzenburg. In the orchard back of the house were the Sheepnose and another, the Seek-no-farther, varieties.

Father and mother had everything up-to-date in their day. There was a brick smoke-house for smoking the meat. They burned corncobs for fuel. There was also a contraption for making lye to make soft soap and also an outside vegetable cellar which had three doors to open and shut as one went in.

Samuel raised Durham cattle and he had some beauties. He took many prizes at the fall fairs.

My father always had Bible reading and prayer every morning before breakfast. Everyone was to be there, hired men as well, before grace at the table.

The last few years when we were all home on Sundays we went to Sunday School at Iona at ten o'clock, church at eleven, home and had dinner, went down to Watson's Corners to Sunday School, home for supper, and usually to Iona to church again that evening.

Samuel is still owner of the farm.

I have taken notes from the Talbot Regime, the Lumleys, Dr. Lumley's writings and from the History of St. Peter's church, Tryconnel. Thanks to them.

(Signed),

Mrs. Alice Pearce Willson.



Mr. Arthur Willson with his wife Mrs. Alice Pearce Willson.