



Robert Willson, Purcell's father.
John Piper, brother of William.

On March 27, 1854, in a little chapel in Devonshire, England, William Piper and Mary Ann Yoe were married, and on April 18, 1854, left England for Canada, sailing in a boat carrying four hundred passengers, which was a large vessel in those days. They were six weeks crossing the Atlantic, landing at Quebec.

Upon landing at Quebec, they left immediately for Hamilton by train, which took them a week. Then leaving Hamilton they made the rest of the journey to London and St. Thomas by stage coach. They lived in St. Thomas and Yarmouth nearly three years.

Mr. Piper hired to a farmer, on landing for fifteen dollars a month, and Mrs. Piper for three dollars a month.

On leaving Yarmouth they settled on the Campbell farm, about a mile east of Iona on Back Street, (now number 3 Highway) remaining there nine years, where several of their children were born.

After twelve years they moved to Port Talbot on the late Richard Bobier's farm. After living a year at Port Talbot they bought a farm in Iona, which is known as the Piper Flats. Later buying the farm which their son John bought. Ten children blessed this happy union.

Mr. Piper passed away 1898. Mrs. (Mary Ann) passed away in 1928.

John J. Piper and Cordelia Fillmore were married in 1888: living all their life in Iona. Their two children, Mrs. Hazel Lumley and Mrs. Eva Fletcher, still reside in Iona.

John Piper was born on the Piper Homestead in 1865. He died in 1949. Cordelia (Fillmore) Piper was born on the old Talbot Road, west of Fingal in 1868, passing away in 1954.

William Piper married Annie Silcox - their children - Roy Piper of Iona still lives in the village. Ethel (Piper) Morrish

Mary Piper married William Lodge - their children being Blake (deceased), Alice (Lodge) Henderson - deceased, and Gordon deceased.

Eliza Piper married William Lumley - their children Gertrude (Lumley) Patterson deceased, Jay - living and Vesta (Lumley) Rycroft, living.

Sarah married James Lumley - their children Stella (Reed), Annie (Eggart) and Sherwood all lived in Michigan, are now deceased.

Jane (Lodge) married MacKenzie Lodge, no children.

Samuel Piper was a school teacher.

Eva Fletcher

Courtesy Mrs. Herbert Fletcher
(Eva Piper).



Left to right: Mrs. Mary Lodge; Miss Yoe, niece of the Piper's; Mrs. John (Cordelia Filmore) Piper; Alice Lodge; John Piper with his two horses and family pets.

Seated: Granny Piper - mother of John and William; Eva and Hazel.

William Piper and his wife made their home on Lot C on the west side of the Iona Road, about one-half mile south of the village of Iona. This home on the north (then steep) slope rising from the Talbot Creek was surrounded by tall spruce trees. These beautiful trees were surely planted by the Lumleys or Johnsons who occupied the land before them, as they surround the house. Their neat large barn was separated from the home by a slight dip immediately to the north-west. Both buildings are gone, the house being destroyed by fire when it was vacant.

This home is well remembered for the gracious hospitality following the welcome one received on entering. The sincerity of Mrs. Piper's devotion to her religion was evident in her every word and action. Her ancestors, descended from the Reverend Joseph Silcox, who founded the first Congregational Church in Upper Canada, had a firm basis.

Mr. Piper and his brother John, whose farm bordered his to the north, were faithful members of the Iona Methodist Church. This writer remembers both well and their wives, and in a day when much personal criticism was common, can never remember anything but good of them - their hard work, complete honesty, good neighbourliness - yet they were friendly and cheerful.

There were two children: Roy was an excellent student. He married Maggie Robbins and lives in Iona. Ethel, a gifted pianist, married Mr. Morrish.

Curator.

Frank, youngest of Thomas A. and Maggie Silcox, graduated from the Agricultural College at Guelph, earning a medal, also for his efficiency in public speaking.

He settled on his father's farm west of the village and moved the attractive Cascadden home in Iona to this location.

As his herd of pure bred Jersey cattle became widely known, he prospered, adding barns and acreage to serve his needs.

This farm was used as a training school for young men wishing to use his knowledge, with his cattle as concrete examples to further their knowledge of the industry. His son James and wife Agnes were helpers, their location nearby, becoming more valuable as he grew in years.

James who had married Agnes Dell, had one son Franklin. The home they occupied was destroyed by fire and too soon later his fine modern barns suffered the same fate. Both were replaced by more modern buildings, but it was a severe shock to a man beginning to lose his youthful vigor. He was about to succeed to the presidency of the London Fair when he died.

Mr. Silcox was married three times. He and the mothers of his children are buried by the church - his mother's ancestors founded - in Frome. His third wife Edna Lumley (Mrs. Peter Carswell), survives.

Frank H. Silcox - 1882-1962

Jean Steele - 1888-1914

(Mother of Clifford of California and James at home).

Mabel Steele - 1885-1946

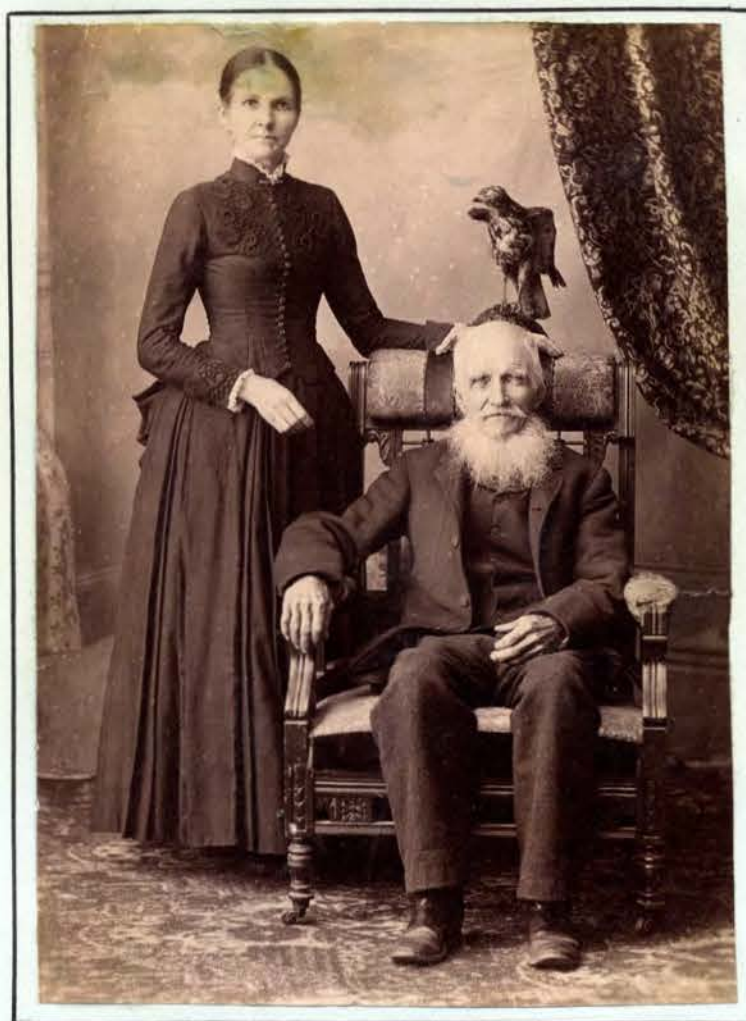
(Mother of Alice - Mrs. Neil McLean of Boxall).

Curator 1962-1968



The former Dr. Cascadden home which was moved from Iona to the Frank Silcox farm west of the village.





Mr. John Silcox
Elizabeth Shackleton Silcox

John Silcox came to Southwold early in the Nineteenth Century, returning with his Uncle Joseph on Joseph's second return trip from England. Although the birthplace of Joseph and family is recorded as Corsley, Wiltshire, England, Thomas (father of John and brother Henry) has always been mentioned by his family as being in Somerset, adjacent to Corsley. He settled on lot 8, north side of North Talbot Road.

He first married Mary Ann Lodge and there were no children.

He next married Elizabeth Shackleton who was not born or reared in this vicinity.

The farms of John and Henry were immediately east of their Uncle Daniel at the time they secured their land. John lived to a very old age, having retired to a home in Shedden and being alive in the present century. A relative, Dr. Logan Silcox, grandson of Daniel Silcox, was practicing in Shedden during part of this period from his home, on the south-west corner of John and Orchard Streets.

The elder of John's children Alice married Dr. Frederick Guest of St. Thomas. Their home was immediately south of the brick foundry (now the offices of the law firm established by Mayor Fanjoy) on Metcalf Street in St. Thomas. This home has been converted to apartments. One of the memories, of this writer recalled when under four years of age, was having dinner at this home. My mother's sister, Mrs. D.J. Lumley, then living at the north-west corner of St. Anne's Place and Metcalf, was also a guest. Dinner was served by a maid in black with frilly white apron and cap. For me to be served by a nice person in such an attractive outfit who wasn't seated with us, was just too much.

The Guests later moved to Western Canada with their two children, Harold and Thelma.



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1. Mrs. Thomas Silcox, mother of John and Henry.
2. Mary Anne Silcox
3. Elizabeth Shackleton Silcox.
4. Alice Silcox Guest.
5. Harold Guest, son of Dr. Frederick and Alice Silcox Guest.
6. John Silcox, brother of Alice Silcox Guest.

The second child of John was named for him. He was a young doctor just through school, when suffering from tuberculosis, died at the home of his sister Alice and her husband. This must have been at much the same time that it is remembered the son of Doctor McGeachy of Iona, contracting the same disease, also named John, and also a young graduate in medicine, who did not live to practice.

Curator.



Mr. and Mrs. Robert Willson and son Purcell.

Joseph Lumley, born in Nova Scotia in 1789, settled on the farm north of his father, John Lumley, on the south-west corner of the Iona Road and the 9th Concession of Dunwich. He was his father's oldest child and dying in 1864, was buried on this farm together with his wife Mary Ryan and several of their six children. This nicely fenced plot with fine monuments is easily remembered by many residents though only a large stone remains.

Joseph and Mary Ryan Lumley's children were: James, Margaret, Marion, Harriet, Ann and Elizabeth.

The second daughter Margaret married George Mills and have one daughter, Mary Elizabeth, living near Port Huron, Michigan.

Marion married Edward Harris and had two sons who had several descendants whose names seem strange - with the exception of Laura Jane Harris who married Duncan McLean.

Harriet married Aaron Smith whose descendants also seem unfamiliar.

Anne married William Thompson, one daughter Mrs. Charles Groves.

Elizabeth died young.

The oldest son James inherited this farm, he and his descendants remaining until Mrs. Purcell Willson sold it to the Yates in recent years.

James married Louisa Curtis who had one daughter Mary Elizabeth who married Robert Willson.