

Mr. George Knight and Mabel Russell settled on the Talbot Road about one mile south of Iona, south-west corner of the Mill Road, in 1922. Their farm was formerly owned by William Sloan, who moved to Iona.

Mr. James Owen Lumley was building the new home for himself and his wife at that time. Mr. Sloan became his next door neighbor on the west side.

Mr. Knight was born in Surrey County, England. His sense of humour provided many happy get-togethers with Mr. and Mrs. Gould. (Mrs. Gould is Mrs. Knight's sister. The Goulds were well known for their gaiety and humour.

Mrs. Knight had taught school seven years, (four years at Iona Station and three at Belmont) before she decided she preferred domestic life.

Her choice was fortunate for Iona, as uniting with the Methodist Church, she served as teacher and superintendent of that Church's Sunday school. She was also active in the Iona Women's Institute for thirty years, acting a term as its president.

Retiring in 1956, they made their home in Shedden, at 120 Brook Street, where Mr. Knight passed away in 1962. Both he and his brother-in-law rest in the Tryconnel Cemetery.

(Curator 1962-1968).



Mr. and Mrs. G. Knight



Bill Sloan and George Knight and Mrs.
George Knight.

1783-1873

1808-1885

Mr. Andrew Liddell, a Lowland Scott, came to Southwold from Sterling, Scotland, with his brother John very early in life.

Margaret Patterson came from the Highlands of Scotland as a very young girl. Her reminiscences to her granddaughter Flossie (Liddell) McAtteer, are well remembered by Mrs. McAtteer and passed on for this Tweedsmuir History by request. Miss Margaret Patterson married Andrew Liddell.

Corn on the cob was served to the Pattersons on their voyage across the Atlantic. This was food that was completely unknown to them and they didn't know how to eat it.

When she and Mr. Liddell were first married, they lived in a cabin in the woods on the farm of a Mr. McPherson, who owned acres of land and woods south west of St. Thomas. Her husband was one of the men employed by Mr. McPherson to cut down many trees and to build roads through the land. The door on their cabin had only a latch that was of little protection from the many men - white and Indian - who passed by night and day, and she was frightened very frequently.

She remembered some of the Indians who lived throughout the woods playing some kind of instrument while sitting on a three legged stool. Mrs. Liddell enjoyed this music very much. She spoke of the animals who came from the woods, and the frogs and toads from the grass to listen.

On one occasion Mrs. Liddell, after walking miles to St. Thomas, was drawn to enter the old Catholic Church by the music she could hear issuing from it. Seated inside she was curious as to the source of this beautiful music seemingly originating from the balcony. She turned around not once but twice. A nun reproached her by raising two fingers and whispering: "Shame, shame." Mrs. Liddell was not offended as she knew she had been wrong and remained to enjoy the complete service. In those days turning around or talking just was not done during a church service.

Mrs. McAtteer believes her grandfather Andrew Liddell came earlier than his wife. She also spoke of the children born to them who died in childhood, not unusual in those days.

The eight children of Andrew and Margaret Liddell who survived were: Andrew, Margaret (who is buried in the Hunter Cemetery, born 1865, died at 2 years, 10 months), John, James, Alex, Jane, Mary and Duncan.

Andrew, junior, married late in life and was left a widower. A railroad accident left him with only one leg and the cruel nickname "Peg Leg". (This was a common name applied to the victims of such accidents in those days. Also common was the rarity of a properly fitted, comfortable artificial leg). He had been a member of the St. Thomas Fire Department. He was known as an outstanding keen marksman with an expert knowledge of guns. After his accident, he learned the trade of harness-making, at which he was able to earn a living for many years. A nephew with his wife cared for this man in later years in Michigan. He died when 98 years of age and is buried in Dearborn Cemetery.

Alex became an apprentice in the blacksmith and carriage shop of Luke H. Brown in Iona. He married Lucy Crocker from Middlemarch and had two children - Alex and Claudia, (Mrs. John Miller of Detroit). She and her husband now live on the bank of Lake Erie in a most unusual home near Harrow. The large living room ceiling must be at least sixteen feet above its floor. A stairway connects it to a gallery surrounding its outer walls, and providing access to several bedrooms. Alex, Junior, retired in 1973. He had been principal of Patterson Secondary School in Windsor for many years, where he had, himself attended from 1924 to 1929. A lengthy account in the "Windsor Star" of that city records the closing of the historical building and the celebrations at the time of its closing coinciding with Mr. Liddell's retirement.

James Liddell married an Iona girl, Julia Morris, and settled in the United States. They had a son Ray and a daughter Florence (Flossie). After the mother's death, Roy remained in Detroit and Flossie came to Iona. She was brought up by her grandmother and grandfather Andrew and Margaret Liddell. This home where she spent her youth was on Lot 2, Southwold side of Iona, opposite the General Store built by James Owen Lumley.

Curator 1962-1968.



Miss Sadie Graham and Mrs. McAtteer, whose grandmothers were sisters and came to Upper Canada together.
(Courtesy Miss Graham)



Andrew and John Liddell
Sons of Andrew and Margaret Liddell.

1859-1896

1861-1941

Mr. and Mrs. John Liddell began their married life on the south part of lot 4, west side of the village of Iona, south of the main corner in a house Mr. Liddell built for his bride.

Three children were born: Laura 1885, Shirley 1887 and St.Clair 1893. At the age of thirty-seven, in 1896, Mr. Liddell died, leaving his widow with their three children - and there were debts.

This lady wasted little time in lamenting her difficulties, but set up a dressmaking shop at home, paid the debts and made a good home for her family. Soon becoming well known for the excellence of her work, she taught others the trade she had learned by herself and continued her shop until a few years before her death in 1941 at the age of 81 years.

She was a faithful member of the Iona United Church for many years, regular in support and attendance although in advance of the rigidity of thought prevalent at that time in many fellow members.

The elder daughter Laura became her mother's efficient assistant until her marriage to Dr. Amos Ripley of West Lorne. Dr. Ripley had at one time been a teacher in the Iona School Number 5, Dunwich, where the two had learned to know each other.

Miss Shirley, the second daughter, then became her mother's assistant and an excellent dressmaker. She was also a gifted musician, an asset to the church and other organizations. The Liddell home had become a happy meeting place for their friends in the neighborhood. Her death came in 1962.

St.Clair having finished school and a business education, married Mildred Fredenburg and settled in West Lorne, where he had secured employment. His wife died in 1947 and he in 1966.

The family were united in winter, where Mrs. Liddell and Shirley were welcomed to the Ripley home in West Lorne for the severe weather.

Dr. Ripley had found an exceptionally helpful wife. His practice was heavy and he did not spare himself. In spite of all the efforts his wife and son Lawrence made to lighten his heavy load, he died in 1943, aged 67 years. Both he and his wife are remembered and revered in West Lorne and in Iona.

Mrs. Ripley was a petite woman with beautiful hair and a serene manner. Her kindness and hospitality to old friends from her native village never varied. Her garden and beautiful flowers afforded pleasure to herself and others. Many homes far and near have shrubs and perennials which were planted from slips or roots she gave away so generously. She died, apparently in her sleep in 1967. Her son survived only a year.

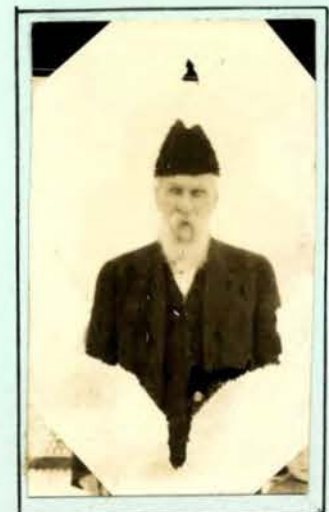
All of this Liddell family and all their descendents, including Dr. Ripley and son Lawrence Ripley, lie in the same plot in West Lorne Cemetery.

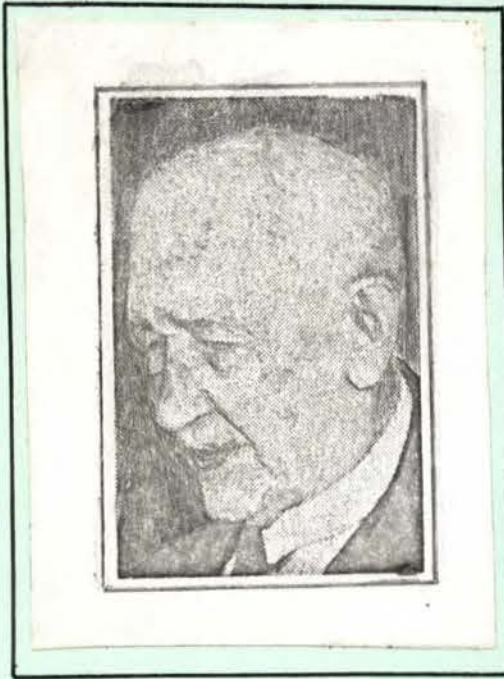
Curator 1962-1968.



Left: Bessie Brown at the wheel,
Shirley Liddell, and Mrs.
L.H. Brown standing.

Right: Mr. John Liddell.





Dr. C.C. Lumley was a member of a pioneer West Elgin family, his parents being Mr. And Mrs. Moses W. Lumley, of Iona, where he was born on Christmas Day, 1874. His father was a builder who, these days, would be known as a general contractor engaged in building houses, barns, bridges, and larger structures through that part of Elgin County.

Because of a special interest he had in the boy, Neal Gunn, who taught the one-room school at Watson's Corners, two and a half miles west of Fingal, had young Charles come to his school and he walked there all the way from Iona down the Townline between Southwold and Dunwich and along the Talbot Road. His secondary schooling he gained from another well-known early-day Southwold Township teacher, John McLennon.

He also taught school in Iona before going to the College of Dentistry in Toronto, where he graduated in 1899. Before his college days, Dr. Lumley had been a student in dentistry with Dr. J.J. Teetzel.

Not content with his dental degree, Dr. Lumley returned to university for academic studies, receiving his B.A. from McMaster University (then in Toronto) in 1903 and his M.A. in constitutional history in 1912, the latter work being done extramurally. In 1903 he opened a dental office in St. Thomas but continued his academic interests by teaching English in a voluntary capacity at the Disciples College on Hiawatha street for several years.

Retiring from dentistry in 1927, he became secretary of the Chamber of Commerce and the Motor League, a temporary position which finally lengthened into eighteen years. During that time, the Chamber of Commerce and Motor League separated, when the former turned emphasis on securing industries and took an office in the city hall. For about ten years Dr. Lumley issued motor licenses and examined drivers for their licenses.

ARTS AND CRAFTS

All this meant a busy life and it is just since his retirement in 1945 that he has had leisure to develop the crafts in which he has shown such skill and also take up the painting, which has resulted in the treasured pictures which he donated to our Women's Institute to be hung in the Iona Community Hall and which he painted from memory.

He has made fifteen grandfather clocks, two beautiful examples of which adorn his home. He also tried his hand at the pioneer craft of hooking rugs. And then other woodwork, making a number of fine coffee tables. One with inlay of thousands of pieces of many varieties of wood also adorns his living room.

Mrs. Lumley, the former Maud N. Westron passed away a few years ago, but members of the family have shared pleasure in the work of their father, examples of which now grace the homes of Mrs. Alfred Bell (Dana), of Stratford; Mrs. Dan Gillies (Margaret), of Wheatley, and Westron of Delhi, Ontario.

It was only three years ago that Dr. Lumley took up the art of painting, which now absorbs much of his time, for in the meantime he has painted nearly two hundred pictures. He has been much interested in the work of Kriehoff, who did so much to perpetuate the rural life of an earlier Quebec, but his own pioneer background gives rise to his interest in this type of painting, and it is good to have customs of the early days in this locality thus recorded, simply and vividly, by one so steeped in local pioneer lore.

He himself as a boy used an old flail on beans, although never on wheat. An uncle, Thomas Pearce, used to use a cradle to cut the corners of his wheat field. Dr. Lumley often heard, too, of the bread his grandmother used to bake almost daily in a big outside oven.

He heard, also, the story of his great-grandmother's first attempt to cook corn on the cob. Mr. and Mrs. Richard Williams, who were silk weavers in Manchester, emigrated to New York, where they kept store for several years without much success and then moved to Watson's Corners on the Talbot Road. Neighbors helped them build a home and one of them brought Mrs. Williams a basket of unhusked corn from the field. It was to be cooked just until tender. Mrs. Williams boiled it over an open fire, trying it for softness every few hours, but even after being boiled three days and still not tender, she threw it out.

FROM YORKSHIRE

It was in the 1700's that Dr. Lumley's paternal great-great-grandfather, Thomas Lumley, of Rillington, Yorkshire, having had his rent raised, decided to come to America. He and his wife with their daughter, Diane (14) and son John (6) sailed in the *Adrian* in 1774. They settled near Maccan in Nova Scotia, and there John grew up, married Ann Harrison and remained until his family was grown up. Then, with the exception of the eldest daughter who had married and remained in Nova Scotia, the rest of the large family moved to this part of Canada and settled just south of Iona on the farm now the United Church of Canada Pearce Williams Christian Centre.

Thomas Lumley, son of John, married Christianne Willey and they lived on the same farm which they later sold to Samuel Williams, moving to the tenth concession, and later to Iona. They were living in Iona when their son Moses Lumley married Diadama Williams, daughter of Samuel Williams, to whom the original homestead had been sold years before. It was sold about ten years ago (195) by a decedent, Mr. Samuel Pearce to the United Church.

Dr. Lumley died Saturday morning, June , 1962, at the St. Thomas Elgin General Hospital. He was taken seriously ill last October while visiting in Stratford with his daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. A.M. (Dama) Bell, and was in hospital there until April, when he was able to return home to St. Thomas. These past two months he had enjoyed good health, but went to hospital here a week ago when a recurrence of his sickness came on suddenly, and at his age, 87, he failed to rally again.

The last time the compiler of this record remembers seeing Dr. Lumley in Iona, was when he presented the pictures he had painted of this old village. He was standing in front of the Community Hall, which was formerly the church to which he and his family were devoted. He was looking south to his old home next door, and he said, "To me this is Holy ground."

(Compiled by Curator chiefly from an article in the St. Thomas Times Journal).

Laid Out For Town	The Winter Carnivals	Kay said he would take a choice
Iona was laid out for a town. Streets were surveyed in the community, 75 years ago, that no longer exist. And at that time, Iona residents were justified in preparing for community growth. It was a thriving place. In fact, at one time more business was in Iona than in St. Thomas.	Another highlight in Dr. Lumley's recollections of old Iona is the annual carnivals that were held in the old wooden drill shed that stood off one of those forgotten back streets. Young people were much more numerous in the Iona district than today. As many as 600 persons often attended those carnivals in fancy costume. And what a merry time they must have had in that old drill shed with its sawdust covered floor.	wild turkey or two, a brace of partridges and a hunk of venison and visit the "King of Malahide" at Port Talbot, returning home with a selection of fruit that was a greater delicacy to him than wild turkey. He told me that there was nothing to equal the flavor of a wild turkey roasted on a turning spit over the coals in a stone fireplace.
The Iona that Dr. Lumley knew as a boy was still a busy little community, although not the business and industrial centre that it had been some years previously.	The shed was built originally for volunteer soldiers to drill in but later it became the "Crystal Hall" of the Iona fair. The old shed disappeared with the march of time and the Iona fair moved to Shedden.	Much of the trading throughout the countryside was done with "wagon merchants," in Dr. Lumley's boyhood. The buying of wood ashes was quite a business. The farmer always saved his wood ashes and periodically a buyer would call and purchase them. Kitchenware was usually given in trade. In this way, the farmer's wife kept supplied with many of her kitchen utensils, including the big pan in which the Christmas turkey was roasted to a gorgeous brown.
Iona was a thriving community in those days. In addition to the McSherry plow works and Daniel De Cow's tinsmithing establishment and wool and other produce warehouses, there were five blacksmith shops, two carriage shops, two hotels, two general stores, two harness shops, shops where boots and shoes were made, and McCallum's tailoring establishment. It was under his father that Reeve McCallum of Dutton learned the tailoring trade. Dr. Lumley recalls that at one time at least ten people were employed in McCallum's tailoring establishment at Iona.	Dr. Lumley never saw a wild turkey in his boyhood, let alone shoot one, but wild turkeys provided the Christmas feasts for many pioneer settlers long before he was born.	Christmas in old Iona in Dr. Lumley's boyhood was a wholesome time—a period of goodwill and simple cheer.
	The late George McKay, who settled on the Lake road in Southwold township, used to tell Dr. Lumley about the wild turkeys he shot as a young man and traded to Colonel Thomas Talbot, founder of the settlement, for fruits. Mr. Mc-	

Times Journal

In the Iona Hall

In answer to a request from Dr. Charles Lumley of St. Thomas, the writer called at his home where she was shown a group of paintings. These had been his effort to show the old village of Iona as the streets and buildings were, as he remembered them, about 1877.

Dr. Lumley had decided that he wished to give these pictures to the people of the community as a lasting tribute to the early settlers, if the Iona Women's Institute would accept the responsibility of their care, have them hung in the Iona Hall and reimburse him for the cost of the frames.

Following the program at the June 1961 meeting of that organization, a contest was held as to whom could identify photographs of members of the community of long ago. Dr. Lumley could recognize nearly all, and Mrs. Jay Lumley quite a few. They both received prizes which were turned over to Mrs. MacAteer of Florida, the former Flossie Liddell, whose early years had been spent in the village.

Dr. Lumley's paintings were spread around the Hall at the above meeting and were viewed with great interest by all present.

An arrangement had been made for Dr. Lumley and Mr. Dan McCallum to come to the home of the writer after this meeting. Mr. and Mrs. Duncan Galbraith had previously enjoyed a visit with Dr. Lumley at this home when they had been invited together with Mr. and Mrs. Frank Silcox.

Mrs. Silcox, the former Edna Lumley, who had always been very close to the Doctor, was pleased, but asked that it be held at her home. This was agreed upon and a few more people were included: Mr. and Mrs. Hershell McLandress of Dutton, Mr. and Mrs. Luke Vernon Brown, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas H. Edwards, Mrs. Verne Young and the former Clara Near - all of St. Thomas, Miss Sadie Graham and her guest Mrs. MacAteer. All accepted with the exception of the former Clara Near. The co-hostesses had provided a supper of cold meats, salads, deserts, etc., to be served on the broad verandah of the Silcox home. It had turned out to be a balmy warm evening. The view of the country surrounding this home was at its best. We felt it had been a happy event.

At the following meeting of the Women's Institute, the majority of the members present were quite enthusiastic about these paintings and willing to reimburse Dr. Lumley for his expenditure for the frames. However, by this time the writer had been offered five dollars by Mr. Donald McCallum, ten dollars from Mr. and Mrs. J.W. Keith, and felt the remainder would be forth coming. The members instructed the secretary to write a cheque for one-half the cost of the frames - in the amount of twenty dollars. The remainder of the cost was met partly by Miss Verna McCallum.

This writer is of the conviction that Dr. Lumley had not planned to accept any reimbursement, for, when given cash as well as a cheque, he seemed surprised. The Women's Institute cheque was not cashed. It seemed evident that he wished some proof that the members of the organization, acting on behalf of all the community, would appreciate and preserve these paintings.

Mrs. Herbert Gould and Mrs. Ray Johnson were appointed to arrange and hang these pictures. There is now no doubt of the interest of all who come to the Iona Hall. Several persons have wished to purchase a picture, but the members realize the trust placed in them and have refused to part with at least one offer. Other offers had not been brought before a meeting by those who knew they were given to the community - that we remember our pioneer ancestors.

Curator 1962-1968.

In part from minutes of above meeting.

Iona 1882

West side, north of the Back St.

1. Common - Site of brick store built by J. O. Lumley in 1889.
2. Warehouse - Wm. McHandress
3. General Store, Duncan Sinclair.
4. Harness Shop. John Stett.
5. Residence. James McHandress
Lane
6. Wagon Shop. Arthur Danglefield.
7. Blacksmith Shop & house, Robert Beadle
8. Temperance Hall
9. Dr. John Cassadden.
Lane
10. Methodist Church
11. Widow Morris
12. Wm. McHandress.

West side

1. James M. Sherry
2. Hidden - John Kiddell
3. Rev. Reece. R. B. minister
4. Sorelle house Mrs. De Cou & Mr. Eastlick
5. Back street - going west.

These are the lists (in Dr. Lumley's hand writing) of the buildings in his paintings which hang in the Iona Hall. They were given to Mrs. Ray Johnson, when she gave him the Institute cheque and cash donations to reimburse him for the frames.

Iona

from the west 1881

- 1 Wm. Britton's Saw and grist mill.
- 2 Thomas Lumley
- 3 Later? James Hutton
- 4 Black Smith's shop. Geo. Brown
- 5 Cobbler's shop. — Young
- 6 John Miller Hotel — facing Back st.
Burned in fall of 1892.

on the right side were

- 1 Wm. Britton
- 2 Methodist parsonage — later Peter Temple
- 3 Mrs. Kingsberry.
- 4 Field
- 5 "Quinty" Gibson — later Flora Gowan Lock
- 6 Lane
- 7 Mrs. Jean Bell
- 8 James Lawther Sr.
- 9 Corner lot where Eph. Lumley's
Hotel had burned down.

Jona -

East side 1882

- 1 Lona Fairground
- 2 Edward Roach Sr.
- 3 Mrs. Symonds
- 4 Lane leading to Drill Shed & Fairground
- 5 Mary Patterson Sr. beside gate of Fairground
- 6 Carpenter shop. James Lumley
- 7 Residence " "
- 8 Dougald McCann
- 9 Tailor Shop. D. McCann
- 10 Sam Pines
- 11 Wagon Shop. D. Pines
- 12 Carpenter Shop. Maroon Lodge upstairs
- 13 Owen Lumley's house Owen Lumley
- 14 Edward Keerton
- 14 Dr. McGeachy barn and house
- 15 Alex McKay house and Blacksmith shop.
- 16 Lane leading to Regular Baptist Church
- 17 Loretta Payson's Hat shop.
- 18 Two ware houses - wood & grain.
- 19 House and Harness shop - later used by Mr. Galbraith (Kobler) and family
- 20 Post office - Edward Roach Sr.

East side

- 1 2 McSherry Plow Works.
He took prizes in England and
in Philadelphia in 1876
- 2 John McHandeen
- 3 Thomas A. Silcox
- 4 Coates Keiller
- 5 Ware house - later used by
Murdoch McLennan, cobbler
- 6 John Mills Hotel.

- x Baptizing in Feb. ¹⁸⁸⁴ at Elijah Clark Bridge
- x Baptism on James Lodge Farm
- x Sugar Bush - James Lodge Farm.
- x Threshing by horse power.
- x Sugar off party at bush of Thomas Pearce

Lona Hall

- x Built in 1864 by Rufus and David
Lumley.
- 4 in for frame drawn across
lots from farm of Jonah Clark,
by Coates Keiller driving oxen.