

AN 2011-05

RIVER ROAD W. I.

Organized April 21, 1921

Commencement of Tweedsmuir Book 1946

Curators:

Mrs. G. Campbell	1946 - 1948
Mrs. C. Campbell	
Mrs. S. A. Fulton	1948 - 1949
Mrs. G. Campbell	
Mrs. S. A. Fulton	1949 - 1951
Mrs. C. Campbell	
Mrs. S. A. Fulton	1951 - 1961
Mrs. C. Lindsay	
Mrs. S. A. Fulton	1961 - 1969
Mrs. C. Lindsay	
Mrs. C. Campbell	
Mrs. C. Lindsay	1969 - 1972
Mrs. C. Campbell	
Mrs. C. Lindsay	1972 - 1973
Mrs. T. Cook	
Mrs. John Begg	1974 - 1975
Mrs. Cyril McCaig	
Mrs. L. Jones	1976 - 1977
Mrs. J. Begg	
Mrs. C. Lindsay	
Mrs. C. Lindsay	1977 - 1978
Mrs. T. Cook	
Mrs. C. Lindsay	1978 - 1980
Mrs. C. Lindsay	1980 - 1982
Mrs. C. Campbell	
Mrs. C. Lindsay	1983 - 1984
Mrs. C. Campbell	
Mrs. E. Reck	
Mrs. C. Campbell	1984 - 1985
Mrs. B. Veenstra	
Mrs. B. Veenstra	1986 -
Mrs. J. Palmer	

Farms of River Road Community

In our River Road Community with the possible exception of one farm none remain in the name of the grantor of the Crown Deed.

Many have been sold several times. Some have been subdivided or enlarged by the acquisition of neighbouring land, others remain in the same family with the owner bearing a different name. It is difficult to write a completely detailed history of each but we have endeavoured to give the names of original and present (1966) owners as well as many of the names of some of those who have owned the properties through the intervening years. The farms are situated on land bordering the Bush Road, Mill Road, Southwold Road, West River Road, River Road, East River Road, which formerly was east of its present location in the valley below.

In the southern part of the community several farms were settled by members of the Fulton family from Ireland. The Campbells from Scotland settled on the River Road. Included in the names of other early settlers are, Monro, McIntosh, McLarty, McIntyre, Mellor, Chaplow, Doan, Davis, Francis, Nicol, Joiner, Brady, Thompson, Geary, Rapelji, Lipsey and others.

House on Lot 39



1983

John Begg

Farms - Cont'd

Lot 39 -

Futcher Begg occupies the farm originally owned by Mr. J. Dunn. He lives on this place with his wife Kathleen and their children, John and Joan.

1961-

Futcher and Kathleen Begg have 2 other children. Jane, and Jacqueline.

Futcher Begg and wife moved from this farm to the McIntyre farm in 1961, and his son John Begg and wife now live on this farm. They have one son Brian, and a daughter Beverley,

In 1970 this farm was bought by Mrs. John Begg.

HISTORY OF FARMS IN THE RIVER ROAD DISTRICT

Lot 42 -

Fred Lindsay Sr. owns the farms which his father owned. The original owner was C. P. Geary, the father of Mrs. R. D. Ferguson. Fred Lindsay resides there with his wife and family. They have three children, Dorothy, Myrtle-now Mrs. Robilliard and Gordon.

1961-

Fred Lindsay passed away July 1956⁵. Mrs. Lindsay, Gordon. and Dorothy still reside there.

Mrs. F. Lindsay passed away in Dec. 1965.

1983-

Dorothy and Gordon (Pete) Lindsay still reside on this farm.

Houses on Lot 42

NOV • 61 •



1963 Mrs. Clara Lindsay

Houses on Lot 41

NOV • 61 •



1963 Mrs. Marg. Lindsay

JUL • 61



1963 Mrs. Catherine Lindsay

NOV 61



1963 Mrs. Marg. Lindsay



1964 Mr. D. Bryden

House on Lot 41



John Lindsay

Farms - Cont'd.

Lot 41 -

Mr. Richard Lindsay's farm was originally the property of Mr. Chas. Treadwell, he being the son of T.M. Treadwell who originally owned the Talbot street farm now owned by Jack Ferguson. Dr. John Rolfe once lived in a humble log house on the Treadwell farm. He was paymaster to Col. Talbot's regiment during the war of 1812.

Mr. Lindsay married Annie Jones and they had seven children Thelma, Addelene, Jack, Morley, Fred, Mildred and Robert.

Fred Lindsay Jr. has built a house on a lot on his father's farm in 1943. He lives there with his wife Catherine McPherson Lindsay and their two children Alice and Alex.

Mr. R. Lindsay passed away June, 1945, and his wife still resides on the farm.

Fred Lindsay Jr. passed away Feb. 1949, and his wife and children still reside on their lot.

Jack Lindsay built a new home on the farm in 1959, and he passed away Jan. 1961. His wife with her two sons, John and David and daughters Bernice and Patricia reside there.

Mrs. R. Lindsay passed away in Oct. 1961, and the farm is now owned by Mrs. J. L. Lindsay. (Mrs. C. Haley)

Mr. & Mrs. Don Bryden, (Patricia Lindsay) granddaughter of Richard Lindsay built a home on this lot in 1963. They have two children Scott and Jan

John Lindsay, son of Jack Lindsay, built a home on this property (lot 41) in 1973.

On March 1, 1982 Mrs. Jack (Marg) Lindsay died and the farm land was left to John Lindsay and Marg's home at the corner of the farm was left to David Lindsay.

Part of Lot 9 East River Road



B. Wilson



Earl Whalls

Farms - Cont'd

Part of Lot 9 E. R. R.

Jim Coleman's farm was settled by Mr. Lee. He had one son who lived in Detroit. Mr. Lee died and his widow married Larry Coleman and she gave the farm to Larry who afterwards gave the farm to his son James. James had two sisters Mary and Alice. This farm was later conveyed to John Sommerville and then to J. Y. Harper. Tenants now occupy this place.

This farm went to Ethel Harper on October 16, 1973.

Mr. Earl Whalls bought the farm on June 13, 1977. He and his wife Nyla have two daughters, Nichole and Nancy.

The other part of this lot was purchased by Mr. Bryan Wilson on February 15, 1978. He and his wife have three children.

Farms - Cont'd.

Lot 1 and 2 Con. 7 and 8 Yarmouth

This farm for years was known as the Ponsford gravel farm. In 1938 Mr. Ed. Wigmore bought the farm from Mr. Ponsford. In 1948 Mr. Fred Austin bought from Mr. Ponsford.

Mr. F Austin died in OCT 11/52 and his wife owned it until Mr. C. McCaig bought it in 1957 and he built a new home beside the old home, tenants occupy the old home now.

1983

The new house is now occupied by Robert McCaig and family, son of C. McCaig.

Lot 1 and 2 Con. 7 and 8 Yarmouth



1957 Mrs. C. McCaig

Farms Cont'd

Pt of lots 40 - 41

Adair Douglas built on this lot on the corner of the J.Y. Harper farm. Later Adair Douglas sold the house to a Mr. W. Airheart and moved to Glencoe.

The house burned down and the lot was sold to Dalton Binks, who built a new home on it in 1959, and lived there with his wife Esther and children, Until they sold it in 1966 to Alexander W. Lindsay, son of Fred Lindsay Jr.

In 1976 Alex Lindsay sold this lot to Mr. and Mrs. Bazil Baskin.



Baskin Home

Farms - Cont'd

Lot 9 E. R. R.

William Chaplow immigrated from England in 1843 and settled in St. Thomas where he carried on the business of manufacturing for 17 years. He then bought the farm afterwards occupied by John and William Chaplow and went into farming and stock dealing until his death in 1884.

Mr. Chaplow bought the farm from Honsinger who lived on the flats.

The William Chaplow farms was afterwards owned by his son Fred but it is occupied by Mr. Bob Johnson who resides there with his wife and family.

This farm was sold to Dr. R. Tucker and then to Mr. L. Van Tright and then to a Mr. E. Bridge and is now occupied by tenants.

This house was destroyed by fire in 1969.



Original Chaplow home.

Farms - Cont'd

Lot 9 E.R. R.

The John Chaplow farm is now owned by Mr. Douglas who bought it from Amos Barnes. The lower story of the Douglas house is made of mud and was built by an Englishman. Mr. E. J. Douglas and his wife reside on this farm. Their son Maurice is attending Western University. Their son Adair and his wife Amy built a house near the old farm. They have two sons, James and Robin and a daughter Donna.

Mrs. Douglas passed away, and later Mr. Douglas went to reside with Adair and Amy.

The farm was sold to Jacob and Jerry Van Meppelen Scheppink, who have erected 3 new houses on the farm.

On this property the following houses have been built:

1960 Jerry van Meppelin Scheppink

1968 an addition put on Jerry's house

1969 Jake van Meppelin Scheppink built and in 1976 sold it to Alex Lindsay. In 1976 Jake van Meppelin Scheppink started another house on the site of the original house.

In 1979 another house was built on this farm and Jackie and Trudy van Meppelin Scheppink live in it, daughters of Jerry van Meppelin Scheppink.

Lot 9 E. R. R.



Jimmie Douglas Age 2
1945

Picture shows a part of Douglas House and chicken house.



Flat land behind Douglas home 1945

THE CLAY BARN

An old landmark that has disappeared from the River Road neighborhood was a combination drive-barn and horse stable on the John Chaplow farm on the south corner of East River Road and the Bush Road. This farm is better known to present day residents as the Douglas or the Van Meppelin farm.

The barn was situated at the end of the long lane to the right of the house. The size would be approximately 36 x 40 feet. The walls of the stable were about 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ feet thick and the mixture which formed them was blue clay mixed with wheat straw and water. Horses were walked back and forth through this mixture until it was the right consistency to be handled by men and shaped into the walls. It stabled six horses. The stalls were in a row along the south wall and the horses faced into the wall. This made it necessary to walk in beside the horses in order to put feed in the manger boxes. There were double doors both at the east and west sides of the building which were wide and high enough to drive high top buggy straight through. There was enough room behind the stalls to store two or three buggies and a cutter. In this part there were about four windows along the north wall. Overtop was a hayloft. The floor of this made the ceiling for the barn and stable below. It was made of unhewn logs with the bark still on and rough pine flooring over them. The roof was formed of unpeeled poles covered with the rough pine sheeting and cedar shingles.

With the six horses in there it was always warm and never reached freezing point in winter. To supple the water needs, a huge cistern was built right against the outside wall and wooden eavestroughs fed the rainwater down into it. The cistern was planked and when the planking started to give way this caused the crumbling of the clay walls at this point.

I do not know if there was another barn like this in the district and have no record of when it was built. It was torn down in the early nineteen-thirties while the Douglas family were residents on the farm.

William Chaplow.

Houses on Lot 9 E.R.R.



Jake Van Meppelen Scheppink



Jerry Van Meppelen Scheppink

Houses on Lot 9 E.R.R.



Jackie and Trudy Van Meppelen Scheppink



Alex Lindsay