

January 19th, 1865, Marinda Williams was married to Thomas Pearce and went to live at Tyrconnel for 3 years and then bought the home farm and returned there to live the remainder of their lives. Mr. and Mrs. Williams continued to live there till 1881 and then moved to 100 Hincks Street, St. Thomas. Mrs. Williams died in 1889 and was buried in St. Thomas Cemetery. Mr. Williams died in 1884 and was also buried in St. Thomas Cemetery.

Thomas and Marinda Pearce had 4 children - Alice who married Arthur Willson, Anna who married John Orchard, Sam who married Minnie McKillop and Will who married Sara Northcott - all named after our grandparents.

While we were still living in the old house, my mother started a Sunday School in our house. This continued till the house was too full to hold them and then she got permission from the school trustees of Watsons Corners School to hold Sunday School there. We had taken music lessons on the melodian and later got an organ. When Sunday School was at the house I played the organ and was too short to pump so my 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 Hatton's and about 4 of the Hattons would join us. Then on to Breen's where 4 more were ready to join along with the 4 of us. Then on to school which was S. S. No. 14, Dunwich, which now has 2 schools somewhere else.

Father had 150 acres in the one block and 25 acres across the creek and through Mr. Breen's field. He had this for pasture. Also 79 acres on the Southwold side. There was a barn and about 4 fields that were worked and the rest woods. This woods was right at the back end of the Old Fort.

The Fort was 2 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 no one could harm anyone in the enclosure. On the inside was a stream of water. Every year while I was at the Disciple College in St. Thomas, my father had a sugaring off party for the teachers and scholars and friends of about 40 or 50 in the sugar bush. My mother knew how to prepare a lunch for people filled up with wax.

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

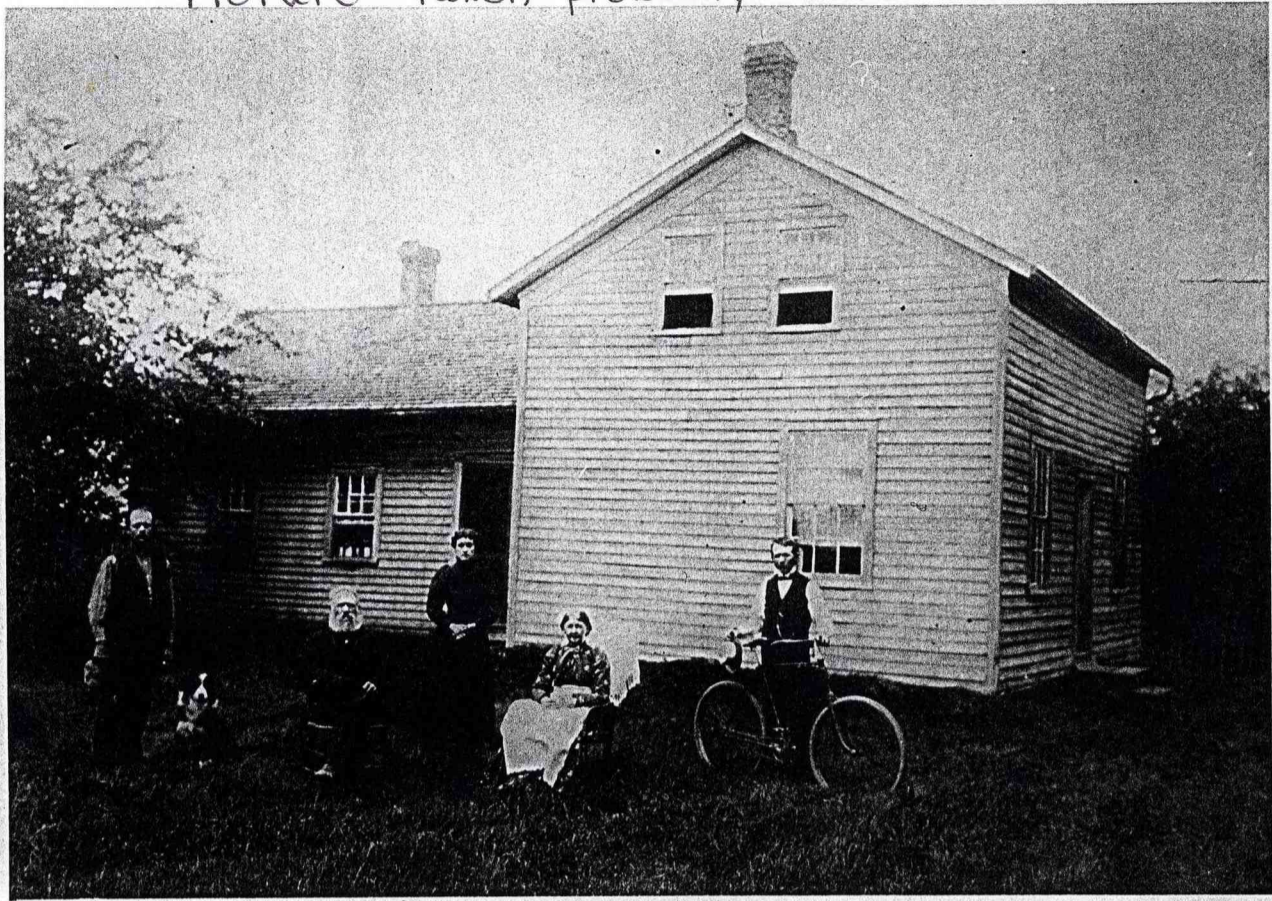
One of the things she used to do was to dip candles. I read in her diary that she dipped 416 candles that day. Another day she said, "I brought my spinning wheel out and started to spin."

Mother died in March, 1906 and was buried in St. Thomas Cemetery.

Father died in December, 1913 and was also buried in St. Thomas Cemetery. After this, his son, Will Pearce, took over and conducted the farm.



House presently owned by William A. and Joan H. McLandress  
 Picture taken probably about 1880.



↑ Edward (son) of Alex & Sarah.  
 ↑ Alex CLARK (son) of Alex & Sarah.  
 ↑ Mary (daughter) of Alex & Sarah.  
 ↑ Sarah (wife) of Alex.  
 ↑ Dan (son) of Alex & Sarah.

Alex Clarke married Sarah (McGugan)

Alex Clarke (b. ? d. about 1900)

Sarah (McGugan) (b. 1837 d. 1906) wife of Alex.

Children:

- Edward married Louise Cusack  
 ↓ Murray                      ↓ Clifford                      ↓ Harold

- Dan married Eliza Cusack  
 ↓ Bernice (Berna)      ↓ Jean                      ↓ Wallace (Wally)                      ↓ Marion

- Mary married James Cameron  
 ↓ Sarah Catherine married Will Lunn



SUGAR SHACK

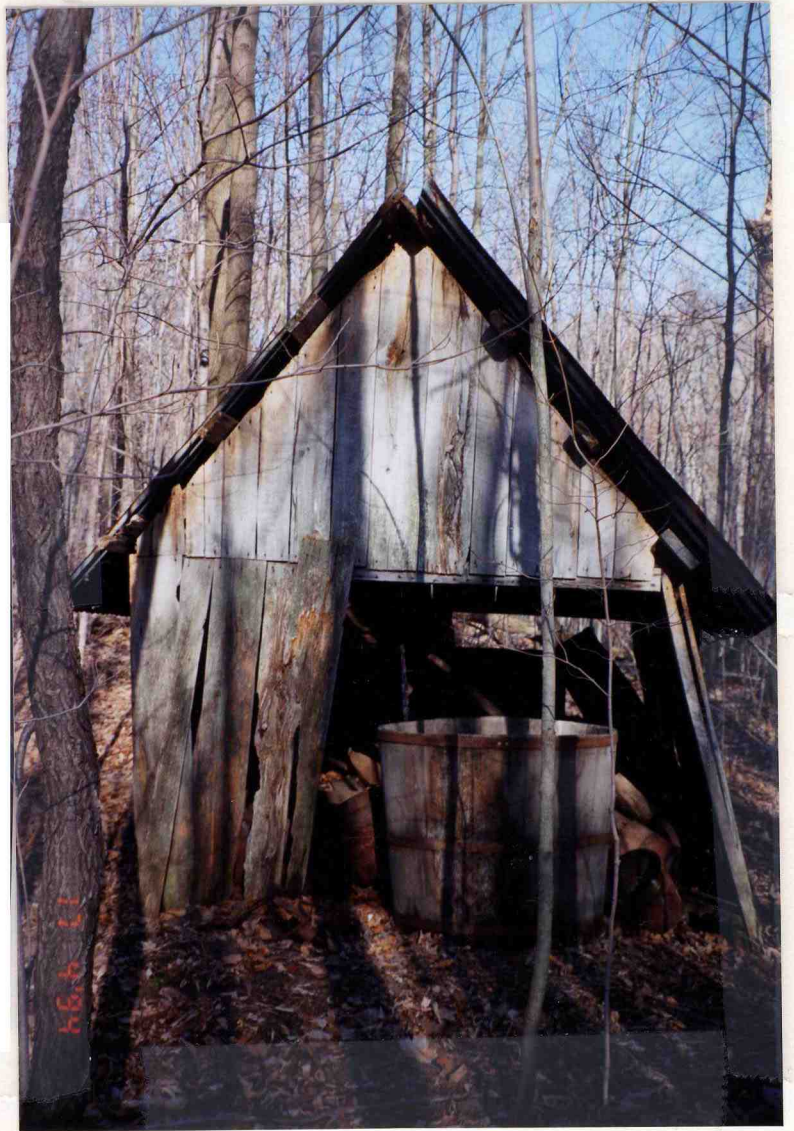
BUILT APPROX. 100 yrs ago AND MAPLE SYRUP WAS PRODUCED HERE.

LOCATED ON MURRY HURDLE LAND. LOT A-B CONCESSION 10. 1894  
TOWNSHIP of DUNWICH.

This photos was taken on April 17th 1994.









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BUILT APPROX. 100 yrs ago AND MAPLE SYRUP WAS PRODUCED HERE.

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Sam bought the farm of Mrs. Barber on the Front Street opposite the Sutherland home and built a new house there and brought his bride who was Minnie McKillop there to live. Will's wife was a charter member of Iona Women's Institute.

The house and barns are set back from the road  $\frac{1}{4}$  of a mile.

When they moved to Hensell, Sam moved to the old home.

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 was the Sheep Nose apple and another one was Seek No Farther.

Father and Mother had everything up to date in their day. There was a brick smoke house for smoking meats. They burned corncobs for the fuel.

There was also a contraption for making lye to make soft soap. Also an outside vegetable cellar which had 3 doors to open and shut as you went in.

Sam went in for raising Durham cattle and sure 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 and all. Also Grace at the table.

The last few years we were all home on Sundays, we went to Sunday School at Iona at 10:00 o'clock, Church at 11:00. Home and got dinner and down to Watsons Corners to Sunday School, home and had supper and usually to Iona to Church.

Sam is still the owner of the farm. I have taken notes from Talbot Regime, The Lunley Family History and St. Peter's Church, Tyrconnell.

Thanks to them.

(Signed) Mrs. A. E. Willson

History of the farm at home  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles south of Iona where Sam Pearce, son of Thomas Pearce and Marinda Williams Pearce now resides.

Alice Pearce Willson

This was written in about 1920.