

Feb 21, 1956

West part of Lat 29, Con 2, King Township:

This farm was settled by the Late Dave and Margaret Lapp. It was still standing in bush when this couple came as bride & groom to settle and pioneer. A log cabin was built on the north side of the lane and made a happy home till the present brick house was built. In the mean time work went on clearing land, stumping, stoning, building fences, digging a well and building a barn. Later a stone wall was built under the barn. After farming the greater part of their lives, the Lapps sold to Fiske Lloyd, who remained only a few years and he sold to Jelf and Emily Shanks. The Shanks farmed this land for eighteen years and sold to Albert Barr's son Owen in 1940. After farming the land for twelve years Barr sold the farm to the present owner W^m Fittkin in 1952. Owen Barr



David Lapp and wife Margaret
in front of farm house 1912.

History of the Ferguson Farm,
Lot 16, Concession 3,
King Township.

In 1790 Thomas Ferguson, my great grandfather, was born in Ayrshire, Scotland, in the parish of Kirkmichell. Katharine Kerr, his wife, was born in Glasgow, Scotland, in 1793.

They landed in New York in 1818, on their way to Canada. In 1819, their eldest son John, was born in New York. Their second son, Thomas, was born in 1820 in Canada, on the farm on Yonge Street, now known as the Jail Farm. A third son Alex, was born in 1822, but died in 1824. Their eldest daughter, Margaret was born in 1824, also on Yonge Street. Another son, also named Alex was born on Yonge Street in 1826.

On the fifth of June 1826, said Thomas Ferguson purchased Lot 4 and 5 on second ^{line} Concession of King. These lots were Crown Lands which had been granted to James Macaulay in 1802. In connection with the purchase, each party gave the other a bond, Mr. Ferguson binding himself to pay 2000 pounds by June 1834, Mr. Macaulay binding himself under penalty of 500 pounds to hand over the two lots, free from any encumbrances, both signed June 5, 1826.

The lots were at this time virgin forest, heavily timbered and abounding with swamps. Mr. Ferguson at once set about the building of a dwelling and the large frame house stands to this day. The only changes have been the removal of the spacious fireplaces, the substitution of weather boarding for rough cast and the placing of a cellar underneath.

NB There lots
4 & 5 had to be in
wpt records to
no memorial
facing on
the second line
L.R.
Roads were
wrongly
established
concessions
instead of
Concessions
lines

Early in his life, Mr. Ferguson mastered the trade of a weaver. He set up his loom in a big room upstairs, half the size of the house and when not engaged on his farm, kept himself busy at his trade.

In this house his son Hugh was born in 1825, a daughter Catherine in 1830, the youngest son Mark Carmont in 1833, and daughter Mary Carmont in 1837. Mark was the father of the well known Alice Ferguson.

Mr. Ferguson felt the burden of 400 acres uncleared land a financial responsibility, so on June 12, 1832, he sold off 100 acres, each, to Henry Stewart and Barnes Byron. The lots were divided crossways so that each farm consisted of one quarter of each lot. In 1844, 18 years after the original purchase, he completed his payments of his 200 acres farm. The clearing of the forest with axes by his sons was now large and a fruitful orchard was flourishing beside the house.

Thomas Ferguson died Nov. 7, 1849, Catherine, his wife Dec. 18 1857, their daughter Mary Apr. 5. 1860.

The Estate was left by will to the five sons, after providing for the mother for life. Rather than divide it, they all sold their shares to Alex, and all, except the youngest, Mark, left the old roof to make their own homes.

Alex, affected by the death of his sister Mary, decided to travel, and left his estate for Mark to look after. He disposed of his estate by a gift to his sister Catherine, 8 acres with a house and 92 acres with houses and buildings to Mark. The remaining 100 acres without buildings to John.

Mark married Agnes Scott in 1865 who lived until 1925 Maple Avenue Farm, so named from the avenue of maple

House, planted by Alex in the spring of 1858, was the home of Thomas A. and Miss Alice A. Ferguson.

Thomas J., the eldest son of John, and his son Lincoln lived on the adjoining half of the old farm. Other members of the family are scattered from Saskatchewan to Florida and even to China.

Now we come to the East Half Lot 16 Concession 3, King, where Thomas Ferguson, my grandfather, came from the old farmstead. There he lived with his wife, the former Frances Wade. The land was partially cleared and a small log house was built with a kitchen and two bedrooms. In this log house, Thomas Kerr Ferguson (my father) was born in 1850, also other members of the family. My grandfather later rented this farm and purchased what is now known as Eaton Hall Farms, where the younger members of the family were born and where they grew to manhood and womanhood. As each son became 21 years of age he received a farm, my father being given the farm where he was born.

T. K. as he was called, was called, was married twice, first to Margaret McKellar to whom Edward and twins were born, Edward only surviving, his mother passing away at the birth of the twins. In 1884, his second marriage to Rosanna McKellar took place. Leonard, the eldest son, was born in 1885, Charles in 1887, Francis in 1889, George in 1891, John in 1893, butler 1895, Wilbur 1898, and Harry 1902.

In 1885 a barn was built, which was struck by lightning and burned in 1892. In this year, the present house was being built. Lumber being used for the house stored in the barn, was burned and it was necessary to

rebuild the barn and complete the house. Material for building had to be procured, so bees were formed, logs and lumber to be sawed at the Mill Pond on the John Ferguson farm at Lumsby. Neighbors and friends came to lend a helping hand many times. At this time, board was supplied and hence the bake-oven (as pictured) was built. As many as twenty pies could be baked at one time, and many loaves of bread were baked in this oven.

Flour was brought by the barrel, sugar by the bag, lard by the tub and Pork butchered and salted. The ^{present} house was completed by Thomas, 1872.

Much of the land was not cleared at this time, so the men were kept busy withing the soil, taking out stumps and preparing the land for crops. Mother, with a small family was kept busy feeding the men.



In 1893, the first year in the new house, Eva was born, in 1895 Rutha, in 1898 Mildred and in 1902 Harry. Frances passed away in 1901 at the age of twelve, Mildred at the age of fourteen in 1912, Charles at the age of 22 in 1909, Leonard at the age of 33 in 1917. He was buried at sea, on his way to the first World War. Eva passed away in 1932. My father passed away at the age of 65 in 1915, my mother at the age of 86 in 1949.

When this property was purchased, it contained 125 acres, so about the turn of the century, when my father purchased an additional 25 acres Lot 17 South

East Quarter, making 150 acres in the farm, in the bargaining, a red cow with white legs was exchanged, as part payment.

The Selomberg Railway from Oak Ridges to Selomberg was built in 1902, passing through west half of the farm. Some years later when the road was demolished, the property reverted back to the farm.



← This is a picture of our home as it looked in the 1920's.



→ And this is the pond with a flock of geese as it was so many summers.

In 1940, the farm was sold to Mr. A. A. Emmett, with a family of three daughters. Mr. Emmett built an addition to the north side of the house, as well as making many changes inside the house. Mr. Emmett sold to Mr. Smith reserving five acres, south east corner, later selling same to Mr. George Linton who built a ranch house.

Bertha Ferguson Cull,
Newmarket, Ont.

Co. 3, Lot 21, Con. 3.

Con. 3. Lot 21

King Ontario
1954.

About one hundred years ago Mr James Edwards lived on this place. Then after that his son Will Edwards took over. Then Will's Brother Ely farmed for a few years. Will Edwards bought the farm from his father James.

Then later Herb Brown bought the farm from ~~James~~ Will Edwards then rented it to George Brown his Brother.

After that Art Storey bought the same farm from Herb Brown and farmed for thirty yrs. Then William Storey rented the farm for six years. Then we built a bungalow on corner of farm in six years time Art took over the farm again and has been farming since that time

Arthur & Mabel Storey.

The Thomas Leetting Farm.
-E. pt. Rait

