

N. pt. Lot 20, Con. 2.

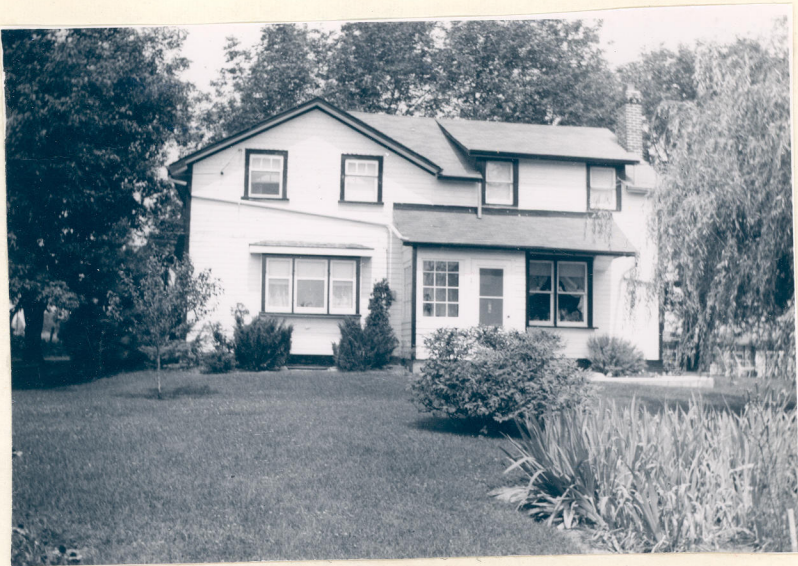
The farm Lot 20 Con ~~3~~² King
was, fifty-years ago owned by
The Late Melvin Andrews
He rented the farm to Arthur and
William Storey

Afterwards it was sold to
the late Archie Mitchell after
his death two of his sons Calvin
& Norvel Mitchell took over the
farm later Calvin sold it to

Leah's Milgate of Aurora
It was again sold to Jim Ball
who in turn sold it to the

Collier Leather Comp. Aurora
They rented it to William Storey &
Son when again after 3 years
It has been sold to John Deere
of King City —

Annie Storey



Was Originally Crown Land

Mother Nature Is Glorified In Beautiful Country Garden

Under an arbour and through a little white gate on the road between Aurora and Schomberg, which is a continuation of Wellington Street West, there is romance, history and beauty. It is found on the property of Mr. and Mrs. William Davison, on the bend of the road just west of Snowball.

More than a hundred years ago, the Crown deeded land to a family by the name of Davis. As each of her several sons up and married, mother Davis divided the land so that each one of her boys would have a farm of his own. Clayton Davis settled on the one where the hundred-year-old frame home the Davidsons now occupy, is situated. Later it was owned by a blacksmith, who plied his trade in a large barn, which has since given way to one of the prettiest corners in the Davidson's famous garden. For year Bill Davidson, as he dug the clay loam in preparation for planting perennials, would find horse shoes of every kind and size, nails and bits of iron. If he is at all superstitious about horse shoes, he must realize, he has discovered enough to assure him continued luck for all of his life time.

Native Daughter Wed

Ruth White was born and raised on the farm at the rear of this property. She was a member of the little community church, and it was here she met a young Englishman, who had come to the district from his homeland to learn farming. Bill Davidson and Ruth White were married eighteen years ago and were lucky enough to rent the pretty little white house and set up housekeeping. Both keen horticulturists, they went about developing flower beds, experimenting with various roots and bulbs and coaxing the difficult soil into production of their well known prize winning stock.

It wasn't however, until five years later, when they bought the property, that they undertook any major reorganization of the garden or remodelling of the quaint old home. Since then Bill Davison has shown his skill, not only in gardening, but in adding a kitchen, upstairs rooms, and opening up the

livingroom into a spacious area which is the hub of their home life.

Favourite Varieties

They both have their favourite flowers. Mrs. Davison, who said all flowers were her favourites, admitted that tulips would be her special choice if she had to make one, probably because they are the first splash of colour in the garden after the winter-locked land was warmed sufficiently to waken the dormant bulbs. The hundred and thirty varieties of peonies are evidence of Bill's choice. Though their blooming season is a short one, they have been most rewarding for his hours of care and cultivation. Always among the top award winners at the Aurora Horticultural Society's early summer show, they have brought pleasure to a great many who regularly attend these events.

Members of the Horticultural Society for twelve years, they have both been directors and Mr. Davison is at present vice-president. He has been a member the staff of Collis Leather Co., for a number of years and they have one daughter, Sheila, who attends Aurora and District High School.

From Aurora Banner 1954.



Corner lot at S. E. Cor
Lot 21. box 3. King Prop.

By Mrs. Jas. King 1961.



at S.S. No 10, "Snowball", 1950
Born on 3rd Concession King Ont. 1871.



Among my Regal Lillies
J. Hervey Rush. 1953

story of my birth place etc

J. HERVEY RUSH
241 WANLESS AVENUE
TORONTO 12

N. 1/2 Lot 26. Box 2.

MS Written by J. Harvey Rush, 1953.

Page 1

When I was seven years old, about 1878, in the spring I started to old #10 school to meet my much loved ~~the~~ teacher, the late Alfred Love. During the many times I walked up and down the third I would pass an old, small log house (later used for cows, later for pigs) opposite the Wm Clarkson home and I was told the fact that in that log building I was born July 22/1871. The house to the south west of the log and is still a lovely home, my father built for his mother. The frame house north of the lane which still stands, my father built about the same time ^{and we all moved in when I was an infant} ~~this~~ left the log house empty — and I was two years old when father sold the farm and bought the one on the corner, lot 26 west ^{concession 2} where my life was spent until Jan'y 1887 when I received a letter from a firm (dry goods) in Brillia asking me to take a position with them as cashier and I left home, with all its love, hopes and best wishes, on the second Tuesday in Jan'y 1887. Now I will return for more about first at the log house farm, its owners and our moves. I must explain here that my brother Leslie has, during past years, given considerable time and research to our family tree and to the moves up to the time father bought lot 26, our home for so many years.

J. HERVEY RUSH
241 WANLESS AVENUE
TORONTO 12

As I remember the history of events, I understand my Father's uncle Nathaniel Pearson once owned the farm down the third facing on the third to the east and running back to the west clear through and facing on the fourth concession. The east-lot facing on the third, # 23, of 50 acres later known as the John Cutting farm. This was before I was born and I must explain just how this was. When my father and mother were first married there was a 2 acre lot on the third being the south west corner of lot 26 opposite Clayton Davis's blacksmith shop & home, where Mr & Mrs Davison now live. On the 2 acre lot above mentioned was a log cow barn and a frame house and this was Father & mother's first home. I believe Marshall was born there, Jan'y 1856.

(Now I must watch or I will get you mixed)
Records show that in 1864 Father exchanged this 2 ac corner lot with John Cutting for the Log house farm no 23 referred to in page 1 which accounts for their living down the third where I was born in 1871

Now I refer you back to the red underlined explanation as to how we came to be back to the # 26 farm after Father sold the log house farm # 23.

- see page 3 -

J. HERVEY RUSH
241 WANLESS AVENUE
TORONTO 12

As I re-read pages one and two I seem to have put the cart before the horse, as following the two red lines I ran off telling a bit about myself instead of sticking to my ~~own~~ text about the places.

* In 1874 my father sold the Log house lot No 23, and bought from ^(to Sam Edwards) ~~from~~ Wm McGill 50 acres of lot 26, being the south west corner of the original big farm of megills. But this did not take in the corner 2 acres - Father & Mother's ^{first} home. This we bought some years after, which makes the homestead 52 acres. From here on you will know, how that as folk grow older and some passed away, Father was left alone on the farm and finally Marshall took over. After which Mary stayed for a while to help out, but when Marshall's wife died, ^{Sister} Mary was looking after Maude & the boys, ^{Marshall's children} until finally Marshall sold the farm and all made Niagara-on-the-Lake - Maude's home - their head quarters. First Jos Hilborn ^{Maude's husband} died, later Father, later Maude, later Mary leaving Marshall alone with Maude; and about 2 years later, in 1945 I think Marshall

J. HERVEY RUSH
241 WANLESS AVENUE
TORONTO 12

passed away. Following this the old Niagara home was finally sold and Maude made her home for a time with relatives in Toronto until she and Lou were married. This left Leslie in Ottawa and me in Toronto since Nov 46. Just 2 out of the once happy family of 9 including Father and Mother. Ben is in California and Maude in Philadelphia and of course Dr Winfield, the other brother died before I moved to Toronto.

And now going for a ~~little~~ distance back in our family history of both Father & Mother and their parentage, —
a co-incidence here — and I think I am right, my father's uncle Nathaniel Pearson — whom we mentioned as once owning the old farm from Third to Fourth, being lot 23, once owned as crown land the strip from the 3rd concession including Megills and ^{*Ref 26} Copsons, width of those present farms through to the second, then on east the same width including Joe Buggs and

J. HERVEY RUSH
241 WANLESS AVENUE
TORONTO 12

Geo Walkers farms through to Yongest.

My memory goes back to my Brides, as a young boy, to Aurora with my father and he used to show me a hollow formerly the cellar of a house ^{E. part lot 26, cont.} on the north side of the road opposite The Thorcosford farm and about 20 rods or so from Yongest near a huge willow tree. This hollow he said was the cellar of the house in which my grandmother Rush (his mother) was born. She was Mary Pearson. And so my fathers Parents were Peter & Mary Pearson. And that is the connecting link with our family with Lambert & Robert and all the Pearsons of those days.

In 1855 my father married Jane Edwards daughter of James ~~he~~ and Lavina Edwards, who lived on the 9th just below Schomberg.

This closes the record up to and on the old farm 26

Another time I might trace my grandfather Edwards beginning at Wm the Conqueror in England, Henry I and immediately consecutive down to grandfather and the Rushes John Rush (1620-1699) Oxfordshire Eng, a troop, horse commander in Cromwells army and in 1683 settled with his large family at Byberry near Philadelphia. PA. A descendant of Johns was Dr Benjamin Rush who signed American Declaration of independance. Sec 24-1745.

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, stonings, 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 Telf and Emily Shanks. The Shanks farmed this land for eighteen years and sold to Albert Barr & son Owen in 1940. After farming the land for twelve years Barrs sold the farm to the present owner Wm Fitch 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 Kirkmichael. 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 200 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.

N.B. There lots
4 & 5 had to be in
wpt. of con. 1. to
"no members"
"facing on
the second line"

L.R.
Roads were
wrongly
called
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 1828, 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

Trus, 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 forcatad. 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 Rowland McKellar took place. Leonard, the eldest son, was born in 1885, Charles in 1887, Frances in 1889, George in 1891, John in 1893, Butler 1895, Wilfred 1898, and Harry 1902.

In 1888 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 Eversley. 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 bought 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 axe, 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, son was born, in 1895 Bertha, 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 1918. 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 Schomberg Railway from Oak Ridges to Schomberg 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.

C. pt., Lot 21, Con. 3.

Con. 3. Lot 21

King Ontario
1954.

About one hundred years ago Mr James Edwards lived in 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.

Farm now owned by Herbert Patrick
1952

This farm of eleven acres, situated on South East corner of Lot 22, Concession 3, King Township, was purchased from the Crown in 1845, by Adam Wilson, to Joseph Elliott 1848, to William Webster 1854, to Henry Pegg 1871, to James Edwards 1883, to William Patrick and his wife Fanny Edwards Patrick in 1898. They had three children, Emily, Jesse and Herbert born here.

The house is solid plank, covered with clapp. board, and later with insul brick.

Herbert was born in this house in 1897. and was married to Annie Caroline Farren in 1921. They have three boys, Bruce, Russell, and Douglas, two girls Louise and Shirley all born and raised here.

Answer to Women's Institute Roll Call. "Give the History of your farm." by Mrs. H. Patrick.
"April 1952"

Later notes.

The Thomas Leutting Farm,
-E. pt, La. 11



Farm Land now owned by Aubrey Wood
1952

This farm of one hundred and five acres situated Lot 27, Concession 3. Middle part, King Township, County of York, was purchased from the Crown by Edward Heacock, and was sold to Seth and his wife Rachel in 1855, for the sum of one thousand pounds.

In 1896 Seth Heacock sold to George Heacock and his wife, Hannah, who sold it to Washington Heacock for the sum of one dollar.

In 1915 William Wood purchased from George Washington Heacock for the sum of \$7000. He had been married three times.

Elizabeth Wells, his second wife bore six children, William, Rhena, Dora, Aubrey, Walter and Stanley. Dora, Walter and Stanley passed on.

In 1917 William died and his wife Huldah Lavelle Wood inherited for her lifetime. She passed away in 1938 and it was inherited by William's and Elizabeth's son Aubrey.

In 19 Aubrey married Margaret Robson daughter of Edwin Robson of King Ont. Their three children, William, Catherine and Roger were born on the farm.

"Oakland Farm"

Answer to Women's Institute Roll Call "Give the History of your Farm." by Mrs. Aubrey Wood, April 1952.

Harry Fitch Mills

East half Lot 28, Concession 3. King Township.
The patent covering this property was secured
for the Crown Heed, on the above farm
July 3rd 1856 by Seth Throck and his wife
Hannah Halton Throck of King Township

June 6. 1870 this parcel of land passed into
the ownership of Edward and Washington sons
of Seth Throck.

June 10, 1881, it was sold to Seth Throck Jr
son of Edward and grandson of the original
owner.

March 26, 1896 it became the property of
Franklin Halfield and his wife Libbie (Curtis)
Throck, a nephew of Edward and son of Seth
Throck Jr.

Aug 6, 1910 Franklin Halfield Throck deeded
of this farm to Samuel J. Sloss and
his wife Josephine Favis Sloss.

May 1913 Samuel J. Sloss died suddenly
and on October 6th of the same year his
widow sold the premises to Thomas
Frederick and his wife Mary Jane (Gale)
Mills, who farmed it for seven years.

November 20, 1920, the title of this land
was taken over by their only son Harry
Fitch Mills and his wife Mabel Florence
(Black) Mills who have two sons.

Allan Frederick and Stuart Wilhoir also
one daughter Mary, now Mrs Austin

Olin who resides on their farm on
Con. 6. Innaple Township in Larned County
Their daughter Susan Joanne Olin was
born June 8, 1955.

NB Judy Elisabeth Olin born Nov. 1. 1862. mo.

While Harry and Mabel Mills still reside
in their rural home, at the above location,
Harry Mills retired from active participation
in 1949 and the operation of the farm now
registered as Fox - Olin Heights, is conducted
by their sons Allan H. and Stuart H.

Official Registry Records through Mabel H.
Mills, a former Women's Institute President

written by
May A. Olin

