

COPY OF INDENTURE OF PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

A memorial of an indenture made the twenty ninth day of October in the year of our Lord One thousand eight hundred and sixty one in pursuance of an act respecting short forms of conveyances:

Between the Honorable David Reesor of the Township of Markham in the County of York and Province of Canada esquire of the first part

Emily Reesor wife of the said part of the first part of the second part and...

William Goodfellow of the Townsh p of King in the county of York, aforesaid farmer..James Marsh of the same place farmer trustees of the Canada Presbyterian Church congregation of Laskay of the third part....

Whereby, after reciting as is therein recited it is witnessed that for and in consideration of the sum of twenty pounds of lawful money of Canada to him the said part of the first part in hand well and truly paid (the receipt whereof he did thereby acknowledge) he the said part of the first part did grant unto the said parties of the third part and their successors appointed as thereafter specified by the name of "The trustees of the Canada Presbyterian Congregation of Laskey" All and singular that certain parcel or tract of land and premises situate lying and being in the Village of Laskay in the Township of King in the county of York and Province of Canada containing by admeasurement two fifths of an acre of land be the same more or less, being composed of part of the east half of lot number four in the sixth concession of the said township of King, and may be more particularly known as Village lots number twenty-four and twenty-five on the west side of and fronting on Main street in the village of Laskey aforesaid according to a plan of said village made by George McPhillips Esquire a provincial land surveyor and filed in the registry office of the said county of York on the thirteenth day of August one thousand eight hundred and fifty-six.

To have and to hold the said lands tenements and hereditaments with the appurtenances to the said parties of the third part and their successors to be appointed as thereafter specified in perpetual succession by the name aforesaid. Subject nevertheless to the reservations, limitations, conditions and provisions expressed in the original grant thereof from the crown and nevertheless upon the trusts and to and for the purposes thereafter...expressed declared and contained of and concerning the same, and it is thereby provided and declared that the said land is granted upon the trusts and to and for the purposes and subject to the provisions thereafter expressed and contained..

That is to say for the sole and only use and benefit of the said congregation, as well for the site of a church, chapel or meeting house, burial ground and residence for the minister (as the said congregation may direct) with the appurtenances for the use of the congregation as for the support and maintenance.

INDENTURE Cont'd.

of --public worship and the propagation of Christian knowledge..According to the Doctrines, discipline and modes of worship of the said Canada Presbyterian Church, and up further trust that they the said parties of the third part, and the trustees for the time being shall and will, well and truly, obey, abide by, perform and fulfil and permit and suffer to be obeyed performed and fulfilled.. with respect and in reference to the above granted premises and to any church, chapel, meeting house or other building or buildings now erected or to be erected upon the said land (the lawful orders and directions of respectively the said congregation the Kirk session of the said congregation, the Presbytery within whose bounds and under whose inspection and Ecclesiastical jurisdiction the said Congregation Church, provided that, and so far only as such orders and directions respectively are and shall be within the scope of the authority of such persons and bodies respectively..according to the laws customs and usages of the said church and with respect to the election and appointment of trustees in succession to the parties thereof of the third part, it is thereby provided and declared that the lands tenements and hereditaments thereby conveyed shall be held upon the trusts and to and for the uses intents purposes thereinbefore expressed..declared and contained of and concerning the same by three trustees elected by the said congregation and who shall all be members of the said congregation in full communion and it is thereby declared that it shall and may at all times be in the power of any trustee or trustees whether named in the said indenture or to be elected in succession to the parties thereto of the the third part, to resign the trusteeship and also that in the event of any trustee or trustees whether named in the said indenture or to be appointed as aforesaid, ceasing to be recognized by the Kirk session of the said congregation as a member in full communion or removing from the bounds of the said congregation or resigning as aforesaid, then and in such case such trustee or trustees shall ipso facto cease to have any right to act under the said indenture.....

..... In witness my hand and seal this twenty-ninth day of October, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-one.

Signed and sealed in presence of
Henry Baldwin,)
William Blackburn) David Reesor L.S.

LASKAY PRESBYTERIAN W.M.S. MEETING

At the home of Mrs. Charles Neill, Lot 5, West Half Con. 6.

About 1914



1st. Row -- Mrs. C. Neill & Mildred Armstrong, Mrs. John Watson, Mrs. James Finch, Mrs. J. Harris, Mrs. Kenneth Blanchard, Mrs. John Boys, Mrs. John Ireland, Mrs. Walter Monkman, Mrs. John Gray, (Rev.) Mrs. Robert Brydon & Mary, Mrs. Joe O'Brien.

2nd. Row -- Mrs. Will O'Brien, Mrs. Will Bryson, Mrs. John Readman, Mrs. Aaron Campbell, Mrs. Chas. Hately (Jean Paton), Mrs. Arthur Caldwell (Nora Neill), Mrs. Hughie McEachran

3rd. Row -- Mrs. William Glass, Sandy & Mac Brydon, Mrs. Fred Willis, Mrs. Len Glass, Mrs. Albert Wells (Annie Glass), Mrs. George D. Paton, Mrs. John Woods, Mrs. Colin Sinclair.

4th. Row -- Norman Willis, Roy Neill, Howard Neill, Dudley Watson.



Left.
Presbyterian
Manse.

Right.
house built
on site of
Pres. church,
by Charles
Black.



WESLEY METHODIST CHURCH

King township

Wesley Church would appear to have its origin in the congregation known variously in the early days as "6th Con. Kin," "David Love's Branch", "Love and Dickinson's Branch", the designation more frequently used being "6th King". (There was also a Love's Branch on the 9th of King--Nobleton). The Wesley congregation must have started around 1845, for the Rev. Henry Wilkinson in describing a missionary meeting held in the district refers to it as a "new" appointment. An interesting fact is that the meeting was held in the Presbyterian Church. The extract appearing in the Christian Guardian of Feb. 18, 1846, is as follows:

"The first (i.e. meeting) at Love's in the 6th concession of King, held at 2 p.m.--a new appointment. The meeting being quite back in the woods and held in the day-time, my expectations were very moderate, both as to attendance and the avails. A fair congregation, however, met us in the Presbyterian Chapel which was kindly loaned to us for the occasion. Several of us spoke to the people and God was with us of a truth. It was truly good to be there and I confess I was taken by surprise when the boxes held 2 pounds, 2s. 9d., which handsome collection was followed up by a noble subscription of 8 pounds, 12s. 9d., making a total of 10 pounds, 15.6d., contributed to our Missionary Society in an obscure part of King, and by comparatively a poor people."

And in the Missionary Reports of the Wesleyan Methodist Church for the year 1845-46 the names of some of these subscribers are listed;

Robt. McMullen, Andrew Morton, Nancy Carley, Isabella Wood, John Wood, Wm. Dickinson, Jane Dickinson, Esau Wood, Samuel Hollingshead, John Stevenson, Mary A. Wells, David Love, Sarah Hollingshead, Jesse Jones, Mrs. Jones, Mary Smelser, David Jones." (The Missionary Collectors had been "Mesdames Wood & Jones").

It is also of interest to note that in the following year amongst the subscribers listed at this appointment was the name of "Taws": Rev. John Taws was the Presbyterian minister who had come to the 3rd King in 1837, preaching also on the 6th and 10th of King.

Just where the meetings on the 6th of King were first held cannot be determined from the records available here. There was a report of a log chapel but no definite evidence can be found to substantiate this. In the year 1855-56 the appointment appears in the Missionary Reports as "Roughcast Church Branch"--this is the first time that the word "church" is used in connection with the appointment--and continued to be so designated until 1871-72, when the name "Wesley

WESLEY METHODIST CHURCH cont'd

Church" appears. Unfortunately, no account of the opening of these churches could be found in the Christian Guardian.

From 1845 to 1856 the appointment on the 6th of King, as it was called, was part of the Newmarket Circuit, after that date becoming part of Kleinburg circuit. In 1857 the appointments comprising the circuit were Peterman's, Roughcast, (9th King, Kleinburg, Morrow's, Taylor's.) In 1866 they were listed as Kleinburh, Peterman's, Kellam's, Nobleton, Roughcast, Morrow's, and by 1875 Teston had been added.

The names of families listed as subscribing to the missionary funds of the church in 1856-57 continued to include the names of Love, Marshall, Dickinson, Wood, Hollingshead, as well as Andrews, Crane, Hunter, Morton, Cook, Hill, Samson, Starr, Matchetk Hutty, Porter, Boys. In 1881 the families listed included Harvey, Carley, Marshall, Dickenson, Love.

Just what happened to the Wesley Church congregation after the union of all Methodist bodies in 1884 is not very clear from the records available here. But from a typewritten history of Laskay Church, locally prepared, the following reference to this period occurred.

"In 1884 all Methodist churches were united, but Laskay Primitive Methodist church and the Wesleyan Methodist Church continued to hold services in their buildings, and were served by the same minister until the year 1890."

In 1893 Laskay and King circuits united to form the King and Laskay circuit, which became known later simply as the King Circuit. On this combined circuit were six appointments; King, Wesley, Laskay, Teston, Snowball, Purpleville. This arrangement apparently lasted until 1900, to quote again from the local history.

"In 1900, under the leadership of Rev. George Robinson, the congregation of Wesley Church moved to Laskay Methodist Church and both congregations worked together to build one edifice. When this move took place, the people brought with them the organ, the minister's chair, and carpet. It is in this time of transition the letter of appreciation was drafted and the presentation made of a silver tea set to Miss Annie Marshall (Mrs. Duncan McMurchy) for her services as organist for seven years in the Wesleyan Methodist Church. That tea set was used when celebrating the 50th anniversary.

"This church was situated on lot 8, east side of concession 6. The graveyard still remains).