

MACTAGGART

WILLIAM and MARTHA MACTAGGART came from Campbeltown, Argyllshire, Scotland in or about the year 1832 with a group of other Scotch families namely the MacMurphy's, McCallum's, McGillvray's and Kelly's. They all settled in the same area which was later called New Scotland, in and around the seventh and eighth Concession of King Township.

The Mactaggart's took up land from the Crown on the eighth Concession just below the 16th Sideroad. The farm is now owned by a Mr. Black. The McGillvray's settled on the 16th Sideroad between the seventh and eighth Concession on property on which a mushroom plant is now situate.

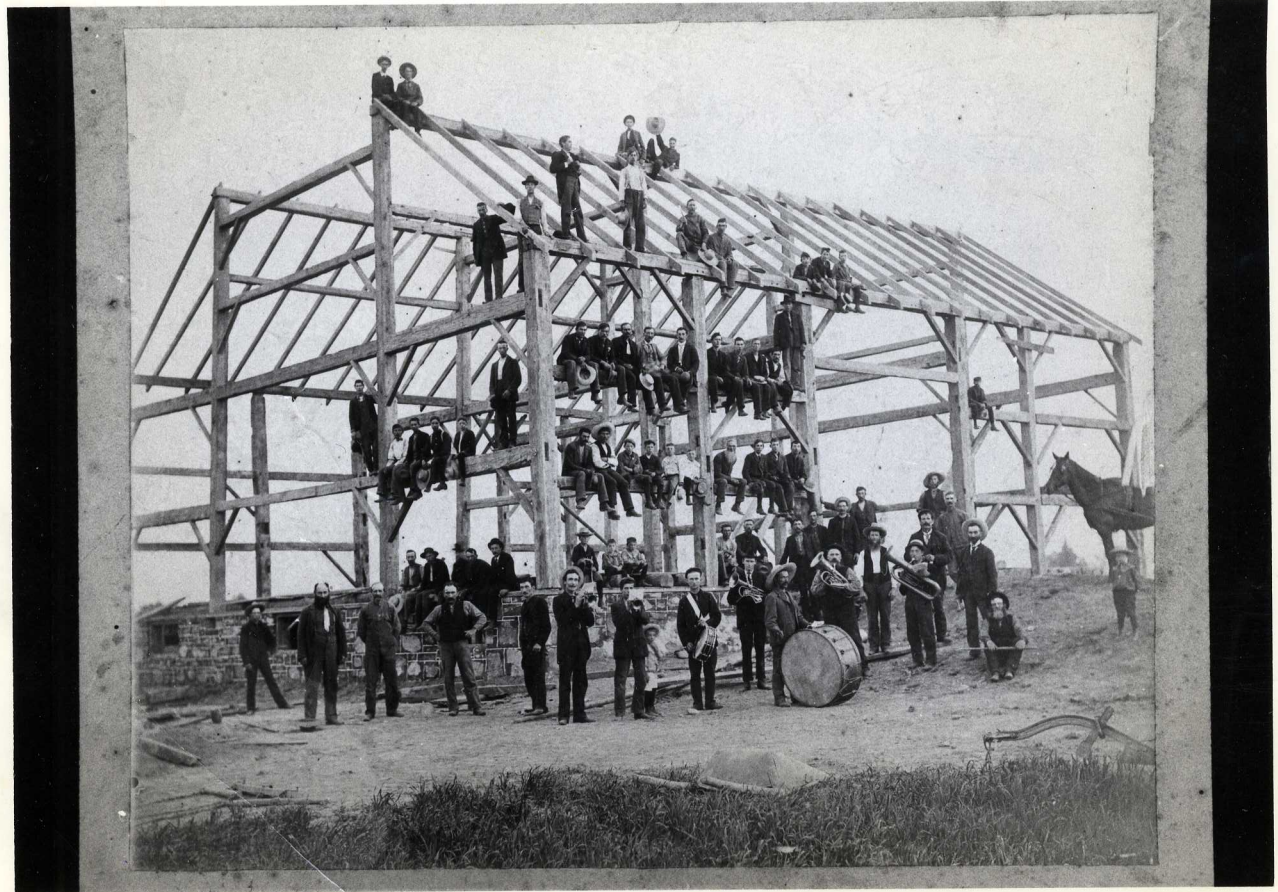
The Mactaggarts had seven children namely; James, Alexander, Robert, Martha, Hugh, Isabella and Janet. Martha was named after her mother. She was born on the voyage across the Atlantic, a voyage which took between six to eight weeks to complete.

After the family arrived and settled, they broke their land and farmed it for about thirty to forty years in the New Scotland area.

Four of the Mactaggart children married. Alexander, Hugh, Isabella and Janet. Hugh married Janet McGillvray and bought 200 acres being all of Lot 1, Concession 9 in King Township, in the year 1860. He and his wife lived in a house



FOREST mactaggart Home



Goodfellow Barn Raising



The Irwin Farm Home



A gathering at the Ellis
farm home

which he later enlarged and bricked on the King - Vaughan Township line. Here their entire family was born namely: William A., Robert James, Mary, Archibald, Tena and Margaret. Alexander married Nancy Cairns on June 16th, 1869 and they had four children, William, Martha, Isabella and Janet Isabella. Alexander, in the year 1879, purchased the east half of Lot 3, Concession 9 in the Township of King from George Hambly and it was on this farm that he raised his family.

Robert bought the west half of Lot 3, Concession 9, around the same time that Alexander purchased the east half. Robert and Martha moved down to live on the farm that Hugh had purchased, in the stone house. This house was originally built of mud and burned to the ground. The stone house was built to replace it.

Janet married a blacksmith, Gordon King, from Thistletown. They bought a farm in Collingwood and Janet and her husband moved there to farm the same. It is believed that they had no children. After her husband died, Janet moved back to the Village of Nobleton to live with her sister Martha. After Martha died in 1922, she moved back to Collingwood and there she died a couple of years later. Issabella Married a John Kelly. They lived in the Nobleton area and it is believed that they had no children. Isabella died in her 27th year on March 18th, 1871. On January 23rd, 1867, William died and was

buried in the cemetery surrounding the Strange Presbyterian church on the 6th Concession. His wife Martha, died on March 14th, 1884 and was buried beside her husband at Strange. Robert died in 1909. After his death, Martha bought a house in Nobleton. Here she lived until her death at the age of 94. James died on June 1st, 1886.

After the Mactaggart family moved into the Nobleton area, they attended the Presbyterian church on the 10th Concession which was known as the "Old Kirk". The family had to drive about five miles in the Democrat Wagon to attend church. Hugh was an elder for many years at this church. During his life time, Hugh was made an executor of many estates and he made a couple of trips back to Scotland to carry out his duties. Hugh brought up his family in the brick house on the King - Vaughan Township line. His son William A., took up the Ministry and made one trip to Scotland to complete his education. He was ordained into the Presbyterian Church and after Union in 1925, Continued his Ministry with the United Church of Canada. He preached for 48 years in the St. Columba United Church on the corner of Vaughan Road and St. Clair Avenue. He was married to Mattie McEakeran and they had two children Hugh and Mary. Hugh also was ordained into the Ministry and Mary was a physiotherapist.

Archie went to Western Canada in 1909 and farmed for one year. In 1919 he came back home and married Orpha Pringle

of Nobleton and they returned to the west and purchased a quarter section of land at Weyburn Saskatchewan. They had four boys, Garnet, Howard Harold and Donald. Howard and Harold were twins but Harold died when only four years old. The three boys are still out West: Howard still on the farm Garnet at Regina, Donald at Dawson Creek. Orpha, their mother is still living at Regina, Archie died some years ago. Tena married Herbert Patton of Laskay but died in about 1914 when she was giving birth to her child. Mary was married to James Bryson and they went West where James was an engineer with the Canadian Pacific Railroad, at Medicine Hat. They later took up farming at Drumheller and after five years they were forced to leave their farm due to drought and they bought more land at Tisdale Saskatchewan. They had three sons, Alex, Donald and James. Alex was for two terms, The C.C.F. Member of Parliament of Humbalt Riding. Donald and Jim farmed until about 1967 when they sold the farm and moved into Tisdale. The father and mother both died at Tisdale and Donald also died, in 1968.

Margaret taught school in Toronto until she was superannuated. She was never married. Robert James was married in or about 1906 to Viola Ham. They had four children, Marguerite Kenneth, Templeton and Norene. In or around 1908 Hugh left his farm and moved to Nashville. Margaret went with them to

continue her schooling that she was receiving at HumberSide Collegiate.

Hugh lived about one year there when he died and Margaret and her mother Janet moved to Toronto. Janet died in 1931. Robert James took over the family farm that his father Hugh had left him and as well he worked the west half of Lot 3, Concession 9, the 100 acre farm that his Uncle Robert had left him. He farmed these farms for a couple of years. He then sold the west half of Lot 3, and bought his brother Archie's farm on the King-Vaughan Town line. He had been previously renting this farm. Apparently Hugh had divided the family farm into a North and South and left the South half, Thistlebrae, to his son Archie, and the North half, Willow Grove, to his son Robert. In 1911 Robert James sold his stock and implements and moved to Toronto to go into real estate with his brother-in-law, Herbert Patton. In 1915 he came back to Nobleton and purchased the General Store from J. W. Larkin. Along with the store, he also took over the school books as Secretary Treasurer of the Nobleton School Section. This position he held for forty-two years. Kenneth took over the books for ten years after his father retired. In 1919 Robert James gave up his store and moved back to the farm where he lived up until his death in March 1956. At his death, he left the farm to his son Kenneth who operated it until 1962 when the barns were destroyed by fire and he decided to

give up farming. That fall, Kenneth ran for the King Township Council and was successful. He served three years as councillor and five years as Deputy Reeve. Kenneth married Marion Smith of Victoria Square. They had one daughter, Cheryl who married David Scott. Cheryl and David have two children, Darlene and Ken and are living in the Nobleton area. Marguerite was married to Clarence Mylks of Richmond Hill and had two children, Grant and Shirley. They in turn were married and both have two of a family.

Norene married Ken Brown of Oak Ridges and had two girls Barbara and Kendra. Barbara married David Douglas and lived on the farm next to the one on which the Mactaggart's first settled in the New Scotland area. Kendra is continuing her education. Templeton married Madeline Hauman of Nobleton. They now reside in Nobleton and Templeton is employed with the Department of Highways. They had two children William and Nancy. William married Marion Bishop of Maple and they have a family of four and live in Oakville. Nancy married William Sanderson. They have a young daughter and live in Brampton. Kenneth sold the family farm in 1966 but retained the stone house along with two hundred acres of land. He and his wife still reside there with his mother Viola who is now 86.

Alexander (Sandy) and Nancy had only two children who reached adult years, William who was born in 1875 and Janet Isabella who was born in 1881. Martha the first born (1870)

died as an infant in 1872 and Isabella the second born (1873) died also as an infant in 1876. Sandy farmed his farm until his death on August 25th, 1898. Sandy and his wife Nancy hosted many parties in their home. Peeling bees and dancing were the mode of the day. Often the dancing and festivities would last as late as five in the morning. Nancy, after her husband's death purchased a house in the Village of Nobleton. There she lived with her daughter Janet until her death on January 27th, 1904. In the same year of 1904, Janet married John Franklin Hershey of Weston. After their marriage, Janet and her husband moved to Arthur Township, near Mount Forest and farmed. There were nine children born to them; William, Annie, Abner, Russell, Muriel, Noncel, Gwen, John and Nancy. With the exception of William who died as an infant, all these children grew up and made their homes in the same area. Janet died suddenly with a heart condition in 1926. After his father's death, William (Billie or sometimes known as Willie), took over the family farm (Maple Hill). He had, in the year of his father's death 1898, on March 16th, married Mary Matilda Kinnee of Vaughan Township. Billie and Tillie farmed the family farm and had four sons, Elmer, born July 1st, 1900, Emery, born August 18th, 1902,; Forest, born February 21st, 1907 and Fergus, born October 23rd, 1912. During his lifetime Billie was for many years an Elder in the 10th Presbyterian church and

after Union a steward in the Nobleton United Church. On October 22nd, 1929, Billie tragically lost his life. He was electrocuted by a fallen hydro wire in front of his farm. It was during a violent October storm. Billie, thinking Malloy's barn was afire, went racing across the road to assist when he stepped on a live wire burning in the leaves. Almost a year later, June, 1930, Emery died suddenly at his home with a hemorrhaged lung. He was never married. Elmer married a Marjorie Leonard of Schomberg and moved to Kleinburg to live. There he operated a garage for many years. Three children were born to them; Shirley, Leonard, and Muriel. Shirley married Jack Davis and they lived in Kleinburg with a young family. Leonard is a flying instructor and is unmarried. Muriel married a William Maw and they live in Bolton with a young family. Elmer died on January 15th, 1969 after a lengthy illness.

After their father's sudden death, Forest and Fergus assisted their mother in operating the home farm. Fergus in the fall of 1938 married Pearl Chamberlain of Nobleton and in the year of 1940, they started farming their present farm on the 11th Concession of King. They had three children Evelyn, William and Jack. Evelyn, a school teacher, married Bruce Farr. They live with their one son in Guelph. William married Jacqueline Robertson and they also live in Guelph with their young family. William completed his Master's Degree

at the University of Guelph. Jack married Bonnie Huycke. They live in Toronto with their young daughter. Jack is working on his Doctorate at the University of Toronto.

Forest (Frosty) married Muriel Irwin in March of 1937 and continued farming the family farm. His mother, Tillie lived on the farm until just before her death in October of 1950. Forest along with his farming, has been quite active in community affairs, especially in the sports; baseball and hockey. Forest and Muriel had two children Bruce and Gail. Bruce was called to the Ontario Bar in 1968 and is practising law in the area. Gail married Donald Dalziel and they live in Nobleton. She is a secondary school teacher. Forest and Muriel still are operating the home farm which is now known as MAPLE-O Farm.

Presented by:

Kenneth Mactaggart

Bruce Mactaggart

January 1, 1971 the regional Government came into effect and Mr. Ken Mactaggart was elected as the first Mayor of the Township of King.