

History of South Half
Lot 3, Concession 2,
King

On June 5th, 1838, Barnes Beynon purchased Lot No. 3, Concession 2, King Township, in the County of York, in the Home District, in the Province of Upper Canada from the Crown (it being part of the Clergy Reserve property) for the sum of one hundred and twelve pounds, ten shillings of lawful money of Upper Canada. This contained two hundred acres.

On the 3rd day of November, 1838, Barnes Beynon sold the south half of Lot No. 3, or the south hundred acres to Thomas Beynon for the sum of sixty pounds. On the same date, November 3rd, Barnes Beynon sold the north east part of Lot No. 3, containing forty acres, to Charles Grant. This place is now owned by Gordon Phippen. And at the same time he sold the north west part of Lot No. 3 to James Lawrence, now owned by Lyle Baker.

Thirty years later, April 3rd, 1868, John Beynon (the present owner's grandfather) received the south half of Lot No. 3 from the estate of the late Thomas Beynon.

During the year 1872 John Beynon built a house to replace the original log house built, we presume by Thomas Beynon when he bought the farm. The house built in 1872 stood only thirteen years. In the early hours of Sunday morning, November 1st, 1885, it burned to the ground. The fire could easily have been extinguished if a few pails of water had been available, but there just wasn't any water on hand. The fire burned so slowly that they were able to salvage nearly all the contents. They even had time to remove many of the doors, these being used later in the new house, the one now standing. After the fire the family (father, mother and nine children) moved to the farm in Vaughan Township, known then and now as Broadview. One son, George, was away in Australia at this time.

During the year 1889 the house that now stands on the south half of Lot No. 3 was built. In that same year, 1889, the late William Thomas Beynon assumed management of the farm. In September 1890 W. J. Beynon moved into the new house with his bride, Mary E. Legge. He lived on the farm until his death in 1926, when his son, Maurice Beynon, the present owner assumed management. The second bride, Dorothy Paxton, came to this house in 1927. During the seventies and eighties the farm was known as "No. 3". In 1890 it was named "The Maples", deriving its name from the

fine sugar bush at the rear of the property, and from the grove of maple trees along the driveway, that were planted by Thomas and Jonathan Beynon many years earlier.

About 1925 when the present owner was establishing a herd of registered Ayrshire cattle the name had to be changed, in order to use the farm name as a prefix or herd name for the cattle. The farm name then became "Wylldridge". Wildridge was a name closely connected with the family in Ireland.

January 28th, 1956.



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History of Lot 13, 2nd Concession
Township of King

By Mrs. Ray Jennings (Evelyn Bovair)
February, 1958

The property was secured from the Crown in 1797 by Daniel Rose. In 1837, Hugh Moore bought it. It was in his possession until January, 1849, when my great grandfather, James Todd, bought it. He had a general store in Machell's Corners, now Aurora. My grandfather, the oldest of the Todd family, took over the store. In 1861 he married Diana Ransom and in 1864 he and his wife moved to the farm, where they spent their remaining days.

My mother, Annie Todd, was born on the farm October 4, 1868. On March 19, 1890, she married Walter Bovair. They lived in Aurora for two years after their marriage and then moved to the farm. After the death of James Todd, my grandfather, in 1907, my father bought the farm. I was born there.

After my marriage to Ray Jennings in September, 1922, we lived on the farm to assist with the work. Being an only child there were no boys to take over. Our children, Ewart, Emerson and Betty were born there, and Ewart has remained there. In June 1946 he married Shirley Akam. Ewart and Shirley with their family, Diana, Nancy, John and Christopher, still live on the farm.

In January, 1949, when Ewart took over the farm, my mother and father (Walter and Annie Bovair), Ray and I moved to Aurora. We lived there for six years then moved to the farm opposite Lot 13. Mother and Father passed away in Aurora.

Ewart's children are the fifth generation to attend Temperanceville United Church and the fourth generation to attend Temperanceville Public School.

The original house was a two storey log cabin, just across the lane from the present white brick house, which was built in 1882.

The farm, when my great grandfather bought it, was mostly bush and the family, like all pioneers, spent long toilsome hours clearing the land. My grandfather had a general blacksmith shop on the farm.

When my mother was a young girl, she named the farm 'High View' because of the fine panoramic view of the countryside. The house and barn are perched high on the hilltop, the divide between Lake Ontario and Lake Simcoe.

Amusing Incidents in the Life of the Pair
who owned the Farm before the Todds bought
it

They were a quarrelsome pair and the wife's tongue was notorious. She would help her husband in the clearing but they were always jangling about the share of the work.

The custom was to put a little hardwood ashes in each hill to kill cut worms. On one occasion when they were planting corn in a clearing, the supply of ashes ran out and there was an argument as to who should go to the house to get more from the fireplace. Finally the wife had to go, so she decided she would play a trick on her husband.

With a shovel she dug deeply into a bed of red hot cinders, which she put in the bottom of a pail, and covered with cold ashed. When she returned to the planting ground she gave the old man a breeze for having to bring the ashes. He plunged his hand deep into the ashes to find them red hot, and was quick to pull out his hand, badly blistered, as was his temper. Taking after his wife with a hoe, he chased her around the field. Mollie knew her superior sprinting powers before venturing on the trick. Gathering her skirts under her arms, she was able to clear the fallen logs and brush and beat him to the house. She dashed in the door and up the ladder that led to the attic. She had pulled the latch string in after her and before he could get in through the window, she had pulled the ladder up into the garret and was taunting him from this safe perch. When his temper cooled down they resumed their work.

One Sunday afternoon he went to the attic for a snooze but was unable to sleep because of his wife's snoring. She was having a nap on a couch in the room below him. Directly above her was a knot hole in the ceiling floor. He lowered a clothesline through the hole and then very quietly came down the ladder and bound the end of it around her ankle. Although she really was awake, she continued snoring, for she knew he was up to some trick. When he had quietly crept back to the attic, he pulled the rope up with might and main, thinking he would have her with one foot in the air. But while he was going upstairs, she had quickly tied the rope around a bolster, a thing that was in common use on beds in those days, and when he pulled the rope all he had against the ceiling was the old bolster. She grabbed the ladder and made off with it. She had won a victory over her husband in this escapade and left him a prisoner in the attic.

History of East Half of Lot 14, in the
2nd Concession, Township of King

By Mrs. Ray Jennings, February, 1958.

In April, 1797, Daniel Rose secured the property from the Crown. In February, 1837, Hugh Moore bought from Daniel Rose Lots 13 and 14 (two hundred acres) for \$800.00.

In 1852 Mr. Moore sold the property to James Owen and in 1896 George Hendry bought it through Tinline and Todd, executors of the James Owen Estate. In 1911 George Hendry sold it to Charles Reeves. They resided there until 1917 when John Mackay of Toronto bought the property.

In November, 1921, Clarence Doolittle, who had been overseas in World War I, bought the property through the Government. In November, 1926, Ray Jennings purchased it from Clarence Doolittle and it is still in Ray Jennings's possession.