



BRUCE BULLETIN

THE BRUCE COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Box 1083, Port Elgin, ON N0H 2C0

NOVEMBER 2022

VOLUME 32, ISSUE 4

ISSN 1184-7387

Please visit our **NEW Bruce County Genealogical Society Facebook Group Page:**

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1244653066363730> Become a member!

and our Bruce County Genealogical Society page:

<https://brucecountygenealogicalsociety.ca/>

From the Society President

“There is a fine line between a packrat and a serious family historian.”

Source: Pinterest - Genealogy Humour: 101 Funny Quotes & sayings for Genealogists

I laughed when I read this because if you could see the office I am sitting in right now, you would know that it is a very, very fine line.

But if we genealogists didn't keep all of our treasures, documents, family finds, newspaper clippings and books then however could we brag about what we do? I hope at least some of you found time away from your piles of family history files to enjoy our Bring & Brag in person event in October. If not, I'm sure we will be back to brag at a later date.

November promises to be an exciting time too as we join forces with the Huron Branch of OGS for what will be an exciting Zoom presentation by John Palmer. The Malloughs from Dungannon Ireland came to Huron County naming their village Dungannon. Four of their twelve children moved to Bruce County and raised their families there. I can't wait for John to tell us exactly where!

I hope you enjoy our November Bulletin

Glenys

November Military Chat for members hosted by Jan Briggs-McGowan

Nov 2, 2022 10:00 AM America/Toronto

Bring your coffee or tea and join a small group discussion on all things military. No agenda, but a time to talk about your military ancestor, a military website you've found, or maybe ask for help breaking a brick wall regarding someone who served in Canada or in other countries.

Register for Zoom Meeting to help Jan know who's coming:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcvfuuuqT8oHdDIbVzkay0bE-9uDX3j8fLf>

Or email Jan jansgenes@gmail.com

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NOVEMBER WEBINAR

We are pleased to be sharing this webinar between Huron Branch OGS and Bruce County Genealogical Society. Our Nov Webinar speaker will be **John Palmer**, an avid genealogist!

“From Dungannon to Dungannon: A Scots/Irish Journey”

The presentation tells the story of the Malloch clan from Scotland, emigrating to the North of Ireland along with other Planters in the late 1600's or early 1700's and settling around Dungannon in South Tyrone. There, the family worked hard as tenant farmers and cattle drovers for more than a century before emigrating to the New World. They settled in Huron County, establishing the village of Dungannon. By then, their name had evolved to Mallough. They continued to work hard, pulling themselves up by their bootstraps, procreating enthusiastically, and became prominent citizens in the Huron and Bruce Counties as well as spreading across the continent.



Please join us on **Wednesday, Nov 2nd at 7:30 p.m. EDT**

Pre-register for this Zoom webinar at

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0vdu2orTMpGN0Rf5Bm0QHe99wSuTwecJ0w>

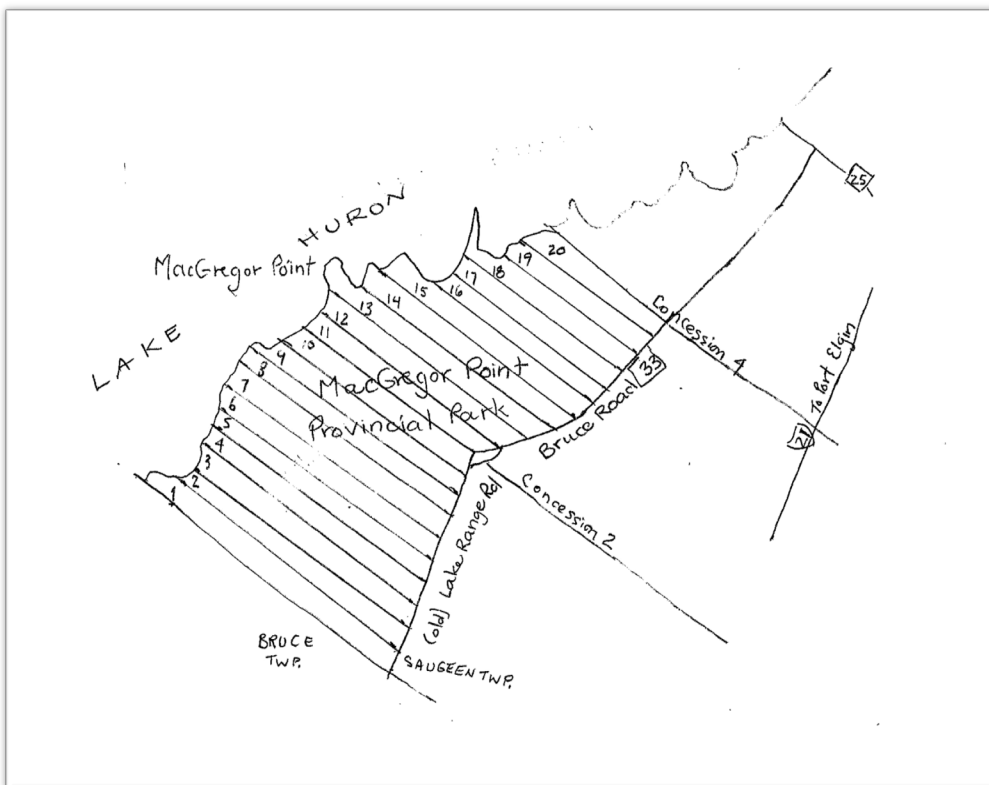
Please note that Bruce County Gen Soc sent you the invitation. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

Or Email: BCGSwebinars@gmail.com

MacGregor Point Provincial Park

Lake Range Farms That Were

The land that today is one of Ontario's most popular Provincial Parks in all seasons was, until 1836 home, hunting and fishing base, and travel route for Indigenous peoples and Metis fishers and traders. As with most shoreline on lakes Erie and Huron, the first survey laid out narrow lots running inland from a road allowance following the shore. This plan intended to provide settlers with closer neighbours, for mutual help and, if necessary, easier defence of the newly-colonized Canada West. Those narrow lots in the "Lake Range" were surveyed in the late 1840s. The rush of settlers began in 1851, when the inland areas of townships such as Saugeen, Bruce, and Huron, were divided into farms, usually 100 acres each. Starting at the Bruce/Saugeen Townline, the Lake Range of Saugeen Township had 60 lots, 10 to each mile-and-a-quarter. Their irregular western limits followed the shore on the inland side of the 'shore road' (little more than a trail). So, your ancestor's Lake Range farm might be 148 acres or 101 acres, or something different. But they could not own the waterfront.



Settlers on Lake Range lots were expected to fulfil the same conditions as elsewhere in the new County of Bruce in order to be granted a 'Crown Deed' or Patent. It was common for some Crown Deeds to follow several decades of struggle to clear land, build homes, and reside year-round.

As the decades passed, lumbering, planting of orchards, pasturing livestock, and small industries changed the dense bush.

MacGregor Point Provincial Park opened in 1976, taking in 2773 acres of Lots 1-20 in Saugeen Township's Lake Range, by purchase or expropriation. The Point whose name applies to the Park juts into Lake Huron at Lot 13.



<https://web.archive.org/web/20090502122806/http://www.ontarioparks.com/english/macg.html>

Some lots were by then divided into smaller parcels, particularly Lot 20 at Concession 4. The western end of that lot was Saugeen Township's Centennial Park of nearly 20 acres with a fine sandy beach which continues as a place of recreation freely available for day-time use by residents.

Home sites marked by ruins of buildings, abandoned wells, and fruit trees give today's visitors to the Park clues about the early occupants' challenges. Following the Lake Ridge Trail, one sees numerous fruit trees, now much overgrown with wild grape.

Some features of the Park carry the names of former dwellers; Punchy's Trail remembers outdoorsman Punchy Brill. The shell of the Brill farmhouse remained standing into the 21st century. He is credited with keeping a stand of large ash trees that grow along both the upper and lower parts of that trail, although many have been damaged in recent storms or by insects.

The late Bill Boettger, a descendant of farmers on Concession 2 a mile or so inland, shared many tales of Punchy and other former owners of lots now within the Park. Here are a few.

“Coming north from the Bruce/Saugeen Townline, teamsters used to see fields and an orchard on the land that is now part of the Park. As the land rose toward the hill known as “the hardwood knoll”, the horses had to work harder, and were usually given a rest when they reached the top. Sometimes you would see a hundred teams a day hauling logs and wood. Of course, the knoll was higher then, before it was cut down during road improvements. You can still see the old height from the banks.”

Crown Deed (Patent) holders Lake Range Saugeen Township

LOT #	ACREAGE	SETTLER OR EARLY OCCUPANT	PATENT GRANTEE / YEAR
1	148	...er Russell	Alexander Russell 1926
2	137	John Rafferty 1858	Reuben Mogg 1876
3	134	George Mogg 1866	Duncan Carmichael 1877
4	270 inc L5	Thomas Mogg 1865	Archie E. Hearn 1922
5	270 inc L4	John Mogg 1866	Archie E. Hearn 1922
6	135	NR owner 1864	Newton R. McArthur 1940
7	133	NR owner 1864	William John Fenton 1888
8	128	NR owner 1864	William John Fenton 1888
9	121	NR owner 1864	Newton R. McArthur 1940
10	112	NR owner 1864	Carl Gingrich [sic] 1938
11	110	James T. Conway 1858	Cecil Gingrich et al 1941
12	113	NR owner 1864	William McConkey 1941
13	125		Earl W. Grant 1941
14	129		Charles Lewis McEvers 1917
15	124		Michael Campbell 1876
16	101	John E. Campbell 1858	Michael Campbell 1876
17	107	Dugald Campbell 1858	Michael Campbell 1871
18	104.5		Robert Young 1872
19	52.5		East half Robert Young 1871
19	51.5	Robert Young 1871	West half William Pulver 1877
20	53	Jacob Rawn 1863	East half M. Phillips 1875
20	25		West part Henry John Pell 1928
20	15		Part George Guyer 1905

NR = non-resident

“McArthurs owned about 1,000 acres, all wooded. Once a young boy got lost there, stayed in the bush overnight. May (McArthur) McConkey said neighbours from Saugeen and men from Port Elgin searched with lanterns, finding the lad at last the next morning. He was badly bitten by mosquitoes, but he didn’t seem

worried.” Vernon Gooding grew up, served overseas in World War II and later played and coached ball and hockey teams.

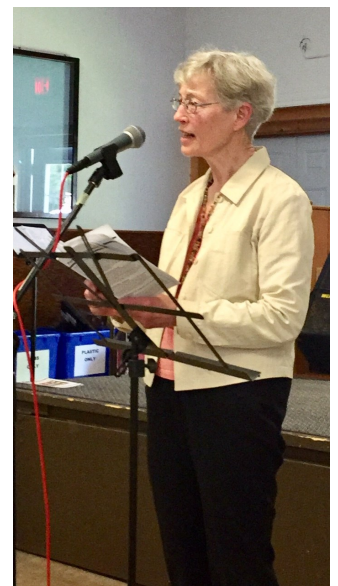
“Where the S bends are (near Concession Two), starts a ‘given road’, called that because it does not follow the surveyed line, but uses land given by the farmers. This let the road stay on the dryer ground, out of the wet hollow that you can see below [to the west of] the present road. There was a camp in the hollow when men were lumbering in the area. There was a stable for horses and a cook made meals. Quite a crew of local men worked there. They hauled logs to Owen Sound.”

(Keenan Woodenware Manufacturing Company of Owen Sound had timber rights to several lots in the Lake Range for five years in the mid 1940s. They were entitled to cut ‘poplar and balm’ trees. Older folks may remember Keenan’s toothpicks.)

“Where the creek runs under the Lake Range Road (now Bruce Road 33), north of the Park entrance, Seamans had a shingle mill. There were two houses on the west side of the road, one on each side of the ravine. You used to see the barn remains on the east side of the road. They kept cows and watered them at the creek. Kids used to fish for speckled trout in the creek.

“The land from the Park gate to the Fourth Concession was all cleared, and most of it was farmed.” The Deer Run Trail passes a number of old fruit trees, remnants of the orchard. The area along the road has been reforested, but you’ll still see a few iris and other garden plants in bloom.

Anne Duke Judd, a neighbour of MacGregor Point Provincial Park, is a writer and editor with an active curiosity about the past.



The REOCH family in Saugeen Township History

By Inez Fenton



John Reoch and Margaret Gray

In early 1851, John Reoch (1822-1898) [pronounced Reo] and Margaret Gray Reoch (1823-1888) came to Canada from Scotland with two children, John and Mary. Where they were for 22 years, we are not sure. In 1873, they took from the Crown Lot 9, Con 6 of Sydenham Township, Grey County. Six more children were born in Canada: William, James, Alexander, Elizabeth, Christine, and Nell. As their family grew, they moved on to further their lives and provide for their own families. John (1846-1935) was in woolen manufacturing as a dyer and finisher, first working in Owen Sound and then moving to Simcoe County to operate a Woolen Mill in Creemore and later in Nottawa; Mary (1847-

1919) married Thomas Wilson and farmed in Sydenham

Township; William (1852-1933) went to the Algoma District, as was listed as a miner, living in Thunder Bay, Ontario; Alexander (1855-1856); Elizabeth (1858-1970) married Charles Campbell, a blacksmith, and lived in the area; Christine Maud (1861-1933) married Alfred Chase in Thunder Bay who worked on the railway; James (1863-1945) farmed in Sydenham and Saugeen; Nellie (1865-1889). John and Margaret along with their son Alexander and daughter Nell are buried in St. Mathew's Anglican Cemetery, Bognor, Ontario. Their daughter Mary and her husband Thomas Wilson are also buried there.

James was the 4th child, married Katherine Alexander and they became the owners of Lot 9, Con 6 in 1895. Their family were all born in Sydenham and attended Hoath Head School and Knox Sydenham Presbyterian (United) Church. The family consisted of Jean, Jim, Nellie, twins Robert and John, Arthur and Effie. One child, Katherine died as an infant and is buried in Bognor. James and Katherine had been to visit the farm in Saugeen in the fall of 1909. It was a more productive property than the land in Sydenham and no doubt they could see more potential for the family. They returned to Sydenham and made the decision to come to Saugeen in the spring of 1910. Arthur Reoch, the youngest son, recalled them setting out on a beautiful spring morning March 10, 1910. The frogs singing by the creeks. John Wilson, a cousin, was driving the team on a democrat with Jean and Nell and brothers Bob, John and Arthur. Katherine and Effie stayed in Owen Sound to let Katherine's health improve and they came later in the year. They ate their lunch near Tara and by late afternoon had reached the home of Sam Smith, near Southampton where they stayed for the night. The following day they came to their new home, which was a small frame house in Saugeen. The machinery

had been moved on sleighs the week before and several days earlier James and Jim had driven the cattle and led the colts behind the wagon. They also stopped at Tara and at Sam Smith's before getting to the Saugeen property. By 1914, the large cement block house was built north of the original frame house. The barns were the same as today with only the milk house and silo added later.

The family moving to Saugeen included: Jean (19); Jim (17); Nellie (16) and Robert and John (12), Arthur (10) and Effie (7). The first crops were planted in the spring of 1910 and the final crop planted by the Reoch's in spring of 2010. This 100 years of cropping by the same family was recognized by the Canadian government with an honorary certificate.



James Reoch Family 1914

*Front Row: James Reoch (54); Arthur Reoch (14); Jean Reoch (Johnson, Mahaffy) (23); John Reoch (16); Katherine Reoch (48)
Back Row: Effie Reoch (Sutherland) (11); James "Jim" Reoch (21); Ellen (Nell) Reoch (Campbell) (20); Robert Reoch (16)*

Jean (1891-1964) married the neighbor, Charlie Johnston in 1913 and following his death, she married Norman Mahaffy. They lived in Port Elgin. She is buried in Sanctuary Park Cemetery, Port Elgin; Jim (1893-1962) enlisted with the 147th Grey Owen Sound Force in 1916 and served in England and France until discharge in Nov. 1918; Ellen (Nell) (1894-1976) married Duncan Campbell and they farmed in Saugeen Township east of Port Elgin. John (1898-1982) moved to Manitoba, became a teacher and married and raised his family there. He is buried in Shaunavon, Saskatchewan; Robert (1898-1978) moved to Michigan, trained as a pharmacist, married and raised his family in Detroit, Michigan.

He is buried in Saline, Washtenaw, Michigan; Arthur (1900-1977) married Aileen Chisholm and farmed with Jim and later with his sons. He is buried in Sanctuary Park Cemetery, Port Elgin; Effie (1903-1985) trained as a teacher and went to teach in Huron Township, near Ripley and married a local Ripley farmer George Sutherland. She is buried in Ripley Huron Cemetery.

Jim, (1893-1962) the eldest son, came back to the farm after the war and married Felicia Wallace in 1920. Felicia's father was the teacher on the Saugeen Reservation and they were married at French Bay. Jim and Arthur farmed while James and Katherine moved to Port Elgin in 1920. Jim and Felicia had a family of three; Jean (Fenton) (1921-2004); Alma (Cluley) (1923-2011) and their son Wallace (1932-1954). Arthur was married in 1925 to Aileen Chisholm, who was the teacher at SS#4 Saugeen. The house was divided and the two families lived in their separate quarters while Arthur and Jim ran the farm.

In 1941, as their health was failing, James and Katherine sold their home in Port Elgin and returned to the farm in Saugeen. This made three generations living in the large cement block house on the hill south of Port Elgin at the 2nd Concession of Saugeen. James (82) died in April 1945 and Katherine (79) moved to her daughter Nell (Campbell)'s where she died in November 1945.

Arthur and Aileen had their family of Margaret (Green) (1933-2011); Allan (1939-2002) and William (1942-2914). By 1950, Wallace and Jim were farming together and Arthur made the move to Bruce Township with his family. Following the death of Wallace in 1954, Jim and Felicia decided to leave the farm and retire to Port Elgin and Arthur sold his Bruce Township farm and returned to the original Reoch property in 1955 with his family. Arthur farmed with his son Allan and later with his son William. Following the death of Arthur in 1977, William farmed until his death in 2014. The farm was sold out of the family in 2016.

Another Saugeen family name removed from the history of Saugeen Township.



James Reoch (77) and Katherine Alexander (74) on their 50th Anniversary Jan 8, 1940

Just a Little Bit History

By Sylvia Hasbury

Life in a “Soddie” on the Canadian Prairies

Sod houses, plowing with oxen and your nearest neighbour is at least three miles away. In your spare time there were thousands and thousands of stones to be picked. Little ones for the under fives, medium size ones for the tweens, and boulders for the men and oxen.

Could you tolerate this?

Here are some of the memories of Habeeb Salloum who emigrated to Saskatchewan in the summer of 1927 from the then French Mandate of Syria and Lebanon with his family.

The following is a poem he wrote:

As a youth in Saskatchewan, I remember thinking,
Why did my parents come and bring us in tow,
From the far Syrian desert with sands blowing,
To the Saskatchewan desert of wind and snow.

Many prairie pioneers came from countries where people have been living in sod huts and houses for generations. Prairie grass has a much thicker, tougher root structure than a modern lawn.

Oxen. What are they?

Oxen are male adult cattle who were castrated before they matured. They are known to be less aggressive than bulls of the same breed, as well as being larger and stronger. In addition to being more docile than horses, oxen tend to have longer legs making them faster as well. Oxen, like other ruminants can survive on tree leaves and branches. Working horses require hay or grass in addition grain when they are working at heavy jobs such as plowing virgin prairie.

Some people used oxen because they were cheaper than horses. Others used horses and oxen together, depending on the type of soil on their land.



Since heavily wooded areas in the southern prairies were pretty well non-existent, building log cabins was out of the question. Following the example of their eastern European neighbours many new western farmers constructed “soddies” as their first new home on the prairies.

Because it was necessary to remove the sod from the prairie before a crop could be planted. Blocks of sod were extracted first by ploughing long 30-40 cm. wide furrows in dry sloughs (seasonal ponds). Over time prairie plows were invented to cut sod 10cm deep. The next job was cutting these sod strips into 60-80 cm pieces similar to bricks and blocks.



The Dominion Land Act specified the minimum size required for a home was 432 square feet (about 40m squared). Sod blocks were held together by overlapping. By placing these sod blocks grass side down, you could produce thick tight walls that were cool in the summer and warm in the winter.

Most people didn't think of their “soddies” as their forever home but as a temporary home until they could afford to build a permanent brick or frame house. The major disadvantages of these sod homes were one day's rain meant two days of rain inside your sod house. Most people tolerated snakes in their sod homes because the snakes ate some of the hundreds of field mice!! Local churches and schools were also built using sod hut construction techniques.

The interior walls were often covered with paper or canvas. Finished off with clay plaster and a coat of whitewash. Room partitions were usually achieved by hanging cow hides and/or blankets as room dividers. Only a few soddies remain across the Canadian and American prairies today. Regular maintenance was required as these houses were vulnerable to erosion by wind and rain. Stucco was sometimes used to protect the outer walls. Soddies came to be regarded as a house for poor people.

Soddies were also built as stables to shelter farm animals. Bachelors “soddies” were thrown up quite quickly, while a family house generally had expensive features such as windows and doors.

The Addison Sod House is a hundred-year-old Saskatchewan homestead made of grass sod. Located 202 Km southwest of Saskatoon, it was built by an Englishman carpenter, James Addison. His descendants have continuously occupied this house since its construction about 1909-1911. His daughter Edith was born in this sod house and still lives in this house at the time of writing. Addison's descendants received an award from Saskatchewan's Lieutenant Governor in 2017 for long term stewardship of a heritage property. In 2005 the Addison Sod House was designated a National Historic Site.



Addison Sod House



L'Anse aux Meadows

Other notable sod buildings in Canada are L'Anse aux Meadows located on the Northern tip of Newfoundland and the Mennonite Heritage Village in Steinbach, Manitoba. These three sites can be viewed on You-Tube by entering the name of each site in the search option.

Sources

Wikipedia – Sod House https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sod_house

The Canadian Encyclopedia Website: <https://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/article/sod-houses>

Addison Sod House https://www.pc.gc.ca/apps/dfhd/page_nhs_eng.aspx?id=10265

L'Anse aux Meadows <https://www.pc.gc.ca/en/lhn-nhs/nl/meadows>

Prairie Post Cards – University of Alberta Libraries
<http://peel.library.ualberta.ca/postcards.html>

Queries

1) From Leigh Olson

I am a Canadian by birth who moved to Australia in 1988. I am trying to find out more information about the ancestry of my maternal great-grandmother, Effie Riley Arscott, who was born in Walkerton, Ontario and who died in Calgary, Alberta. She is the daughter of Elizabeth Bell.

What I think I know:

My great-grandmother's mother was Elizabeth Bell. Born in Ireland. She died in the 1920s? in Bruce, Ontario. Married John Riley

My great-grandmother's maternal grandfather was John Bell. He was born in 1818 in Ireland. He died in 1906 in Bruce County (in Walkerton?) Elizabeth Bell's mother was Mary Ann Scott. She was born in 1814 in Ireland and she died in 1883 in Grey, Ontario.

I am not sure but I think John Bell & Mary Ann Scott married 21 May 1836 in St Thomas church in Stockton-On-Tees, Durham England. The above people immigrated to Ontario, Canada in 1850.



The Riley home sent to Leigh by Jane Dawson

What I want to know: Everything I can possibly find out about Elizabeth Bell, John Bell and Mary Ann Scott. That whole section of my family tree is pretty-much blank.

I would also be interested in contacting any living relatives of these people who are still in Ontario or elsewhere in Canada.

Great news: Erin Netzke, a member, has been working on this tree of her husband so has put Leigh in touch with her sister in law and their cousin. Please let us know if you know any more information. Email: leigh.olson2010@gmail.com

2) From Susan Brouwer

I am trying to find out any information on the MacGregor family of whom the Provincial Park was named after. I have tried the Park and several Facebook groups with no luck.

Do you have any ideas or sources? She is in touch with member Anne Judd.

Susan's Email stnandssnbrouwer@gmail.com

QUERIES (CONTINUED)

Is anyone from Paisley Ontario related to anyone at Paisley Scotland?

My wife, Sandra, has direct relatives to Paisley Scotland. Sandy's 2nd Great Grandfather Hugh Boyd was born at Low Church Paisley Scotland 3 Feb 1786. He died 4 Oct 1872 at 26 Storie St Paisley. His father Hugh Boyd was b 1765 at lower Church Paisley. Sandy has quite a few other relatives born there as well.

We were talking the other day about how strange sometimes it is that we end up somewhere i.e. why did we end up here in Paisley and was it sheer circumstance that brought us here to this beautiful part of Ontario. I have been engaged in genealogy for many years now and I see this very often in my research and as much as I like to say wow what a coincidence at the end of the day-----well a higher power I believe trumps all.

Email Peter Wraight: psmuskoka@gmail.com & copy me too! lolly.fullerton@gmail.com

Editor's Note: I moved to London England in 1996 and felt at home immediately. I started to research my family tree. I found out my grandfather and my great grandfather lived about 3 blocks away. As well, my 2nd great grandfather lived just a few blocks from there. I couldn't believe it.

FEBRUARY WEBINAR

Monday, February 13, 2023 at 7pm

OnLand from a Genealogy Perspective

With Ken McKinlay

As a follow on from last year's "Finding Them on the Ground in Ontario" presentation Ken will be continuing on this theme with his talk "OnLand from a Genealogy Perspective". Once we know where our ancestors lived the next step is to see if we can find the land records such as deeds and even wills.



In this presentation we will be taking a look at the Ontario Land Property Records Portal, AKA OnLand, to help us research where our ancestors lived. We look at the various historical books, try to find a property in an urban area, and even walk through placing an order for an instrument.

Please register by clicking the link below

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_HPZhAtjQmSpAxdAoLHf6A

You will receive confirmation from Zoom

OR email BCGSWebinars@gmail.com

A Short History of the Lamont Family in Saugeen Township

By Ross Lamont

This is a condensed story of the Lamont family who were among the early settlers in Saugeen Township and have maintained a presence there ever since. There are several Lamont families who came to Bruce and Grey Counties, even to Saugeen Township in those early settlement years. Any connection between those Lamonts and my family would have to go back to Scotland. My story is about my immediate family line that came and stayed.

Following the infamous massacre of the Lamonts by the Campbells in 1646, the Lamont clan became very scattered throughout Scotland, Ireland, England, and even North America and Australia. Many Lamonts fled the ancestral area of the Cowal Peninsula to avoid being put to the sword by the powerful Clan Campbell. My ancestors fled to the Isle of Mull and took refuge with the MacLeans. This is where, 175 years later, our story begins.

In 1821 the conditions in Scotland's Western Isles were very difficult. With brave hopes of a better life, Duncan Lamont (my great-great-great grandfather) his wife Mary (McArthur) and their nine children boarded a ship bound for Montreal. The children ranged from 15 years to a newborn. They were accompanied by Duncan's brother, Neil.

The challenges of these voyages with crowded conditions and a lack of sanitation are well documented and many people died on route. The Lamont family did make the crossing, but Duncan died while in quarantine at Lachine. This left Mary a widow with nine children and very little money. They were able to make their way to what is now Markham where Neil and the two oldest boys were able to secure lots to be cleared for farms. Mary was granted 50 acres to be held in trust until son Archie became of age. She may have been the first woman in Upper Canada to actually hold a deed to a farm. Four years later, Mary and six of her children, including Archie, sold their holdings and moved to the Caledon area to be part of a Gaelic speaking community there.

After only a year in Caledon, Archie, his mother and younger brothers Donald and Hector moved to King Township near the current town of Lloydtown. The Lamont family had vivid memories of the cruelty of the British aristocracy in Scotland and felt that the government of Upper Canada was heading in the same direction. Archie and several of his family became deeply involved in the ill-fated rebellion of 1837. Donald and Hector married two of Jesse Lloyd's daughters. (Jesse Lloyd was the right-hand man of William Lyon McKenzie who led the rebellion of 1837). Although he was captured, Archie managed to escape. He remained a fiercely committed reformer and subscribed to Mackenzie's paper, the *Globe*, for the rest of his life.



Archie Lamont

In the early 1850's, stories of new land in the Queen's Bush had Archie seeking another new beginning. He made a solo trip to the newly surveyed Saugeen Township. He walked most of the distance with only what he could carry. The Garafraxa Road took him to Owen Sound and from there it was just a trail to the west to get to Saugeen Township. He picked out lot 10 Concession 3 of Saugeen Township, cut trees for a clearing and built a shanty. That fall, he returned to King Township and planned his move.

Archie secured a team of oxen and a two wheeled jumper for the trip. They disposed of the 108-acre farm and other positions and headed out in early March. It was necessary to travel before the frost came out of the ground because the mud would make the road impassable. With slow moving oxen and most everyone walking, this trip would take over a month. By this time Archie, was married to Margaret McKechnie and they had six children. The family, along with his 69-year-old mother and brother Donald, made the trip.

Archie and Donald were joined in Saugeen Township by his sisters Sarah Schell and Christine Anderson as well as the youngest brother Hector and their families. All five siblings purchased their properties at the "Great Land Sale" which took place in Southampton in the fall of 1854. Archie's property has continuously been owned and occupied by Lamonts since then.

The first school house in Saugeen Township was built on Archie's farm in 1855 and he and his brothers-in-law were the early trustees. Archie remained a strong supporter of the reform movement and a leader in the Presbyterian Church.

Mary passed away in 1877 at the age of 92. She lived a long and challenging life. It would be wonderful to be able to hear her version of the many adventures she had. She is buried in Sanctuary Park (Port Elgin Cemetery). The plot is in the very old part of the cemetery where she rests with Archie, Margaret, and several of their children.

Hector and Donald only stayed a few years in Saugeen and then left for the American West to seek their fortunes. Christine Anderson's family also left in the next generation. Some of Sarah Schell's ancestors still remain in the area. While these families also have their stories, I will focus on my direct ancestors that remained in Saugeen.

Archie and Margaret had 13 children in total. A couple died as children and several died or were killed in their 20's. My story will continue with my Great grandfather Alexander who was born in 1858 and was the eighth child. He was raised on the homestead and attended the log school house on the property. Like most farm kids, he left school at age 12 to work on the farm. At age 22, he purchased his first farm just up the road. He married Agnes McTavish from North Bruce. Agnes's father was the postmaster and an enterprising business man. Her mother is credited with being one of the early promoters of the Women's Institute program in Ontario.



Margaret McKechnie

Alex, like his father, was a very active community member. He purchased and sold many farm properties, served as a school trustee, was an elder at Queen Hill Presbyterian Church and the Township tax collector. In 1906, he purchased the homestead from his brother William and remained there for the rest of his life.

He and his son Donald (Dan) purchased a large plot in Sanctuary Park in the 1930's. Archie passed away in 1938 and Agnes in 1941 and are buried in that plot.

Alex and Agnes had five daughters and two sons. One daughter died at an early age. Three of the girls and the youngest son became teachers. Two of the girls (Margaret McAndrew and Elizabeth Clark) left for the US. Alex, the youngest was the first of the family to graduate from university. He served in the World War II and spent most of his life in Western Canada.

My story continues with son Donald (my grandfather). Donald was raised on the homestead. He was always known as Dan, although his kids and most of the neighbours just called him the "Boss". Only his wife Florence referred to him as Donald. Dan married Florence Webster from the River Road in 1916 just before he shipped out with the Bruce 160th battalion. She was the first church organist at Dunblane Presbyterian Church and taught piano lessons all of her life.

When the 160th was disbanded to provide replacement troops for other groups, Dan and a few others joined the Fort Gary Horse, which was a mounted unit. He saw action on Vimy Ridge and was a part of the Allied offensive that drove the Germans back and led to an Allied victory. Two horses were shot out from underneath him. Dan spent the winter of 1919 in Belgium as part of the occupational force. He and a couple of his mates and their horses spent most of that winter in a small local barn. Although very reluctant to talk about the war, Dan was very loyal to his fellow 160th returnees and a life long Legion member.

Dan and Florence purchased 200 acres on Concession 2 in 1920 and settled there to raise a family. Like his father, Dan was known to buy and sell various farms in the neighbourhood. In 1938 he purchased the homestead from his father's estate. He was the Clerk of Saugeen Township from 1930 to 1950 when he resigned and successfully ran for Reeve. He was elected Warden of Bruce County in 1956. He also served as an Elder at Queen Hill Church and continued the family support of the Liberal Party.

Dan and Florence had six children, four boys and two girls. In the late 50's, they build a retirement home on one of his other farms and son Alex took over the homestead. Unfortunately, Florence passed away in 1959 at age 64. Dan lived until 1971. They are also buried in the family plot in Sanctuary Park that he purchased with his father.

Their oldest son Donald became a pilot in World War 2 and was decorated with the Distinguished Flying Cross. He passed away in 1991 and is buried in the family plot along with his wife Shelia Chadwick, an English War bride who passed away in 2022.

Kent, the next oldest was my father. He farmed on Lot 10 Concession 4 of Saugeen. He also served as a school trustee for many years as well as being a Presbyterian Elder and an active Liberal. He married Edythe Bumstead. They are buried in the family plot.

Daughter Janetta married Earl Williamson and moved to Hamilton but often returned for family events. Daughter Marion was a teacher in the area. She married Clarence McGillivray and farmed in Bruce and then Arran Townships. Marion deserves much of the credit for researching our family history.

Alex, who took over the homestead also took an interest in municipal Government. He was a long serving Reeve of Saugeen Township and Warden of Bruce County in 1976. Alex was also an Elder in the Presbyterian Church. He remained on the farm until he passed away. His wife Wilda (McAngus) still resides there with plans to turn the homestead over to a grandson thus continuing the 168 years of Lamont ownership.

Fraser, the youngest son, married Dorothy Campbell. They lived and farmed in nearby Bruce Township.

I will halt my story there.

The Lamont family overcame many hardships to leave their native Scotland and come to a new unknown country. Through courage and hard work, they found their way to Saugeen Township. While their story is interesting, it is far from unique. Every family who made their way to settle this area has a story of hardship, struggles and successes. Collectively they have created the community we know. I am happy that our family story continues as many Lamonts still live in the area and are engaged in the community. The homestead continues to be owned and occupied by a Lamont.



Lot 10 Cons 3, Saugeen Twp

Deb Sturdevant, Archivist
Krista Keller, Archival Assistant
Nicole Mulder, Archival Assistant

News from the Bruce County Archives

Visiting the Archives & Research Room at the Bruce County Museum & Cultural Centre

The Bruce County Museum & Cultural Centre had a busy summer season! Visitors to the Archives and Museum are steadily increasing as we continue to expand our in-person events and programs. BCM&CC recently launched a full roster of exhibits, exciting events, and unique programming for the fall 2022 season.

The Research Room & Archives continues to be open to drop-in researchers Monday to Saturday though appointments are always recommended. To schedule an appointment to visit us for research or to donate artefacts or archival materials contact:

archives@brucecounty.on.ca or 226-909-2890

Recent Additions to Online Collections

We recently published descriptions of the Committee for Women's Concerns fonds, which consists of materials reflecting the administration, concerns, resources, and activities of the Committee for Womens Concerns (formerly Committee for Women's Studies) in Bruce County from around 1977 to the early 1990s. The fonds features minutes, newsletters, advertisements, newspaper clippings, brochures, and photographs.

We also digitized and published biographies documenting the lives of three generations of the Rushton family who primarily resided in Elderslie, Amabel, and Saugeen Township. These biographies were written by Nancy Rushton who researched the careers, pastimes, and related family members of Dean, Margaret Evelyn, Willard Arthur "Tom", William Earl Dean, and Lillian May (Crawford) Rushton.

The Archives also received a listing of veterans commemorated at the Walkerton Public Cemetery and the Calvary Roman Catholic Cemetery in Walkerton. These soldiers primarily served in the First World War and Second World War, though the lists highlight some soldiers who served in other conflicts, such as earlier battles, the Korean War, and the South African Boer War. This detailed listing generally includes each soldier's birth and death years, grave marker location, rank, regimental number, battalion, awards, and references for obituaries and other relevant Walkerton newspaper articles.

Other donations received by the Archives this year include issues of The Paisley Avocado (1999-2000) and The Paisley Advocate (October 2020 - April 2022), a historical overview of Bruce Pines, a History of Doran Bros. Hardware in Southampton, the 1899 Albemarle Township school census book, and several photographs documenting the past and present residents of Bruce County.

To learn more information about these records visit our online Collections at

www.collections.brucemuseum.ca

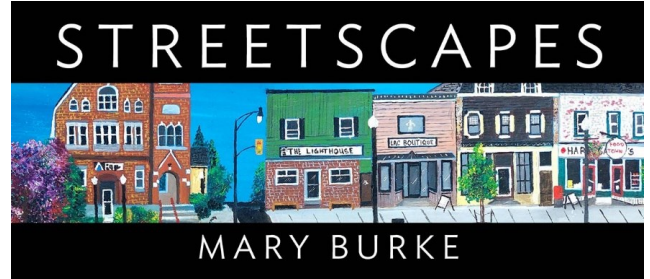
Farm Fresh Bruce County runs until December 31, 2022.

Exploring the history of agriculture in Bruce County, this exhibit focuses on the importance of farming by examining its contributions to early and modern economies, community growth, and fostering strong community bonds. Complemented by items from the Museum's permanent collection, Farm Fresh examines farming technologies, life on the farm, off-shoot industries, community groups, changing trends in the business of agriculture, and Indigenous farming practices. This exhibit will also feature a companion piece from Archives of Ontario's Fresh from the Farm.

Small Town Ontario Streetscapes: Combining Art, History and Your Memories by Artist Mary Burke Runs until December 31, 2022.

In this collection of oil paintings by artist Mary Burke, these unique "Main Streets" are brought to life, like a snapshot in time, capturing the beautiful locations of previous generations and showcasing their importance

in the modern era. Visit the exhibition to reminisce about the unique character and charm of small town main streets.



Grey Roots Museum & Archives and Simcoe County Museum Bus Trip

Nov. 17 2022 from 8:30 am - 6:30 pm

Part two in our Break Out of the Bruce Bus Trip Series will take visitors to Grey Roots Museum & Archives in Owen Sound, followed by an afternoon at the Simcoe County Museum outside of Barrie. Attendees will have the opportunity to view rarely seen artifacts and other interesting behind-the-scenes features at both Museums while on guided tours.

This free event is for adults 55+. Preregistration with BCM&CC is required.

Visit www.brucemuseum.ca or call 519-797-2080 to book your seat!

Bruce Remembers Event

With the beginning of Remembrance Week, BCM&CC presents an afternoon with Canada's top war historian and author Tim Cook, hosted by local historian Mat Johnson. This talk will focus on Canada's role during World War I and Cook's latest book Lifesavers and Body Snatchers: Medical Care and the Struggle for Survival in the Great War. Copies of the book will be available for purchase at the BCM&CC gift shop.

Event will be taking place Wednesday, November 9, 2022, from 2:00PM – 4:00PM.

Preregistration with BCM&CC is required. Visit www.brucemuseum.ca

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS – NOVEMBER 2022

Congratulations to **Anne Goeden, Doug Lennox and Shirley Moulton** on receiving the Ontario Volunteer Service – ‘15 year Award’ this summer. They all contribute greatly to our Society, so this award is well deserved!

We extend a warm welcome to our newest members **Howard Magda and Katie Harrison, and welcome back Keith & Donna Blue, and Mary MacKay**. Bruce County Genealogical Society has 113 members, but we’d certainly welcome a few more who share our love of family history. Encourage a friend to join; there’s an application form on our website, or fill out the form that’s at the Bruce County Museum & Archives. A gift membership makes a thoughtful thank you or birthday gift, even a unique Christmas stocking-stuffer.

And it will soon be time to renew your own membership, below is the renewal form.

Jan Briggs-McGowan
Membership Secretary



REMINDER – 2023 B.C.G.S. Membership now due

If you are paying by e-transfer to annegoeden.bcgs@gmail.com, you do not need to complete this form **unless** there has been a change to your contact information.

Name..... Membership # (if known).....

Address City.....

Province/ State

Postal Code.....

Phone number

Email

If you're paying by cheque (or for changes)

complete form and mail to:

Membership Secretary,
Bruce County Genealogical Society
Box 1083, Port Elgin ON N0H 2C0

Individual Membership \$20 / Family \$25

Income Tax Receipt for donation over \$10

Total cheque enclosed