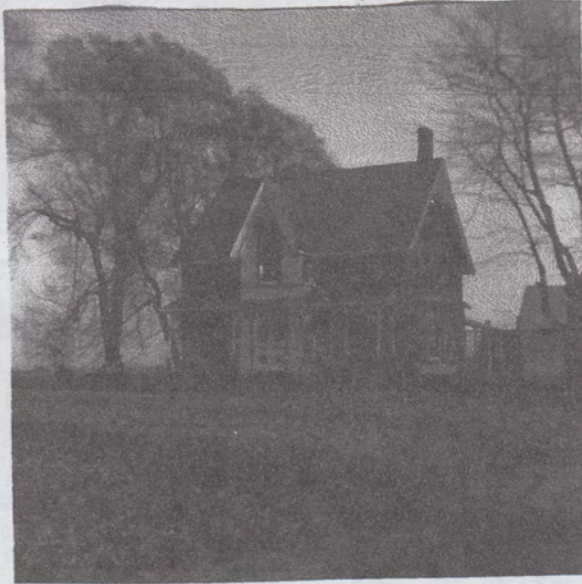


LOT 11
Concession 2, Rear
Fronting on Con. 3



this house built
by James Simpson
Summer 1896
24½ cord stone
—E.D.P. diary

JAMES SIMPSON, (1839-1929) and his wife, FRANCES STARR, (1853-1936) came to this farm on Good Friday, 1856. Their first home was a log house, to the rear of the present stone dwelling, erected 1896.

Two sons were born to them: ROBERT (1877-1965)

JAMES STARR (1878-1962)

Robert, as eldest, was offered further schooling past the secondary level, but was more interested in remaining on the farm. Thus it was that James went on the graduate in medicine, locating in Toronto. He married ANNA BARTLETT (1885-1967), and became the father of a son, James Jr., and a daughter who married JAMES D. WADSWORTH.

Because of the light, sandy soil on the farm, the chief cash crop was hops in the early days. However, in 1909 a blight developed which caused the crop to turn silvery-white overnight and become useless for sale. This continued in succeeding years, and in 1911 and 1912 the crop was a total loss. The hops were used in making beer at local brewery, and the moldy taste carried over into the beverage. Hop-picking time was an exciting time, when Indian families came from the reserves to the east to do the work. They pitched their tents on the farm, the whole family taking part in cropping. At the conclusion of each job, a feast and dance was held for them before they went on the next farm. Local people gathered to watch by bonfire light, and all enjoyed the singing and dancing.

It is said that on this farm, beside the stream which flows east and then north to the Nation River, Indians from the Roebuck encampment came to gather berries, fish and clams. Evidence of their camps has been uncovered in the sandy soil near the now-smaller stream which runs through the farm.

PRIOR to 1856, a MR. COONS operated a blacksmith shop on this property. He had acquired the land from a FINLAYSON family, and in turn it was sold to Simpson.

SIGNAL HONOUR TO DR. SIMPSON FROM CO-WORKERS IN TORONTO

By Sterling LeR. Spicer -



HONoured. Dr. James Simpson, MDCM, MRCS, LROP, native of Maynard, was honoured by his medical colleagues at Toronto when recognition of his leadership in surgery at St. Joseph's Hospital was paid at a testimonial dinner.

Among the honours conferred on natives of Prescott vicinity (Maynard), none has been more merited than that conferred on DR. JAMES S. SIMPSON, M.D.C.M., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., brother of Robert Simpson of Maynard, who for 25 years was Surgeon and Chief of Staff of St. Joseph's Hospital, Toronto.

This honour took the form of a testimonial dinner at the Northgate Hotel, Toronto, attended by over 100 physicians and surgeons and other professional friends of Dr. Simpson.

Many prominent professional men were seated with Dr. Simpson at the head table, among them being: Rev. H. H. Bingham, D.D., of Wolmer Road Baptist Church, Toronto, who, with his brother, Ernest, was a classmate of Dr. Simpson at Woodstock College; Rev. John G. Fullerton, chairman; Pro. W.E. Galley, Dean of University of Toronto, Faculty of Medicine; Col. A. R. Hagerman, Cardiologist on St. Michael's Hospital Staff, Toronto; Dr. Robert James, Chief Surgeon

of Sick Children's Hospital, Toronto; Dr. N.S. Spenstone, of the Toronto General Hospital Surgical Staff; Dr. John T. Haugh, Chief of the Medical Staff of St. Joseph's Hospital, and Dr. Charles E. Knowlton, a prominent Surgeon of St. Joseph's Staff.

BRILLIANT CAREER

After serving in the Royal Army Medical Corps in the Salonika and other campaigns during the first Great War, Dr. Simpson's ability and skill were so apparent that he was tendered the Chair of Head Surgeon of St. Joseph's Hospital in 1925.

In this position his services were so outstanding that he was soon appointed Chief of Staff, which position he held until June 1st of this year. But in retiring from the active duties as Head Surgeon and Chief of Staff, he has been retained on the Staff as Surgical Consultant, which is virtually tantamount to still being Chief of Staff.

Besides the speeches of eulogy from those seated at the head table, several laudatory letters and telegrams were read by the toastmaster. Among these was a letter from Cardinal McGuigan expressing regret that, because of a previously arranged programme, he could not attend the dinner. Mentioning his personal admiration for Dr. Simpson, he made special reference to his skill as a surgeon and paid tribute to his fine Christian character.

A congratulatory message from His Honor, Lieut-Gov. Ray Lawson, O.B.E., L. (a fellow student of Dr. Simpson's during Woodstock College days) was also read and it is expressive of the general feelings of his many friends that it is included in this report:

"The fulfilling of a longstanding out-of-town engagement has deprived me of the great pleasure of being present tonight to personally extend good wishes to my life-long and beloved friend. I am delighted to know that you are being honored by a group of those whom you have served so well in your brilliant medical capacity. On this occasion I extend my best wishes and affectionate regards and regret that circumstances prevent my attending the dinner and joining with the esteemed Sisters of St. Joseph's in honouring you, my friend."

Signed, Ray Lawson."

IRISH DESCENT

Dr. Simpson's people came from Ireland in 1831, and settled in the Prescott district as pioneers. They were well and favorably known in Ireland for a fine letter of recommendation from the Presbyterian congregation minister testifies to the outstanding moral and Christian character of the doctor's grandfather, Robert Simpson, who was the first representative of the family in Canada.

James Simpson was born at Maynard, where he attended public school, and was one of the youngest pupils to be passed for high school at the early age of 11 years. He later attended Woodstock Baptist College where he distinguished himself by taking and completing two years' work in one, and graduated with the Junior Matriculation. After the holiday season, he enrolled at McMaster University, and again took two years' work in one, and graduated with his Senior Matriculation Certificate.

Following the pre-medical studies, he entered McGill University, Montreal, where, after four years of wonderful application, he graduated with the degrees of M.D.C.M. and won the Woodruff Gold Medal in Otto Larangology. Seeking new fields of study, he sailed to London, England, where he made a special study of General Medicine, Surgery and Psychiatry; after which he tried the special examinations of the Royal College of Surgeons and graduated with the degrees of M.R.C.S. and L.R.C.P.

He added to his round of medical activities by serving on the Staff of the Out-Patients Department of the Toronto General Hospital and also did professional work as demonstrator in Anatomy for Toronto University, Faculty of Medicine, in which position his son, Dr. James Simpson, Jr., Followed him.

Dr. Simpson personally received many congratulatory letters and telegrams, among which was a short poem written by his boyhood neighbour and lifelong friend, Lt.-Col. Sterling LeRoy Spicer.

TO YOU

Eyes front and head erect I stand
With upraised right saluting hand
In admiration's trend,
And like your friends in tribute true
I offer my salute to you,
Full proud to call you friend.
May all the days that come and go
Make your life with pleasure grow,
May joys the years transcend
And may you reap life's worthy fruits
With friendship's unalloyed salutes;
I'm proud to call you friend.

In checking over our records, it is apparent that the acquiring of honours is a natural procedure in the Simpson family, as Robert Simpson, the founder of the Canadian branch, served with distinction in the Royal Irish Constabulary, and Robert Simpson of Maynard, was awarded the Silver Medal after passing his High School Entrance examinations.

ARCHEOLOGICAL "dig" Maynard
summer 1987 Simpson/Deacon farm



Dr. James Pendergast
noted archeologist, in charge





Maynard Dig - Students at work
Summer 1987 "Simpson Farm"

Open House
Buffet in tent @ Row house



Following death of
Mrs. Deacon, he bui
a bungalow west of
house. 1988
Transferred farm to
daughter, Debbie or
her husband, Car.
live there.



W. H. PALMER 1848-1929

his wife - MAMIE SMITH

1862-1928

daughter, SUZIE DENISE PALMER

1884 - 1976

Edison Fretwell - early 1800's

The house was remodeled for duplex after the death of Mr. and Mrs. Palmer.

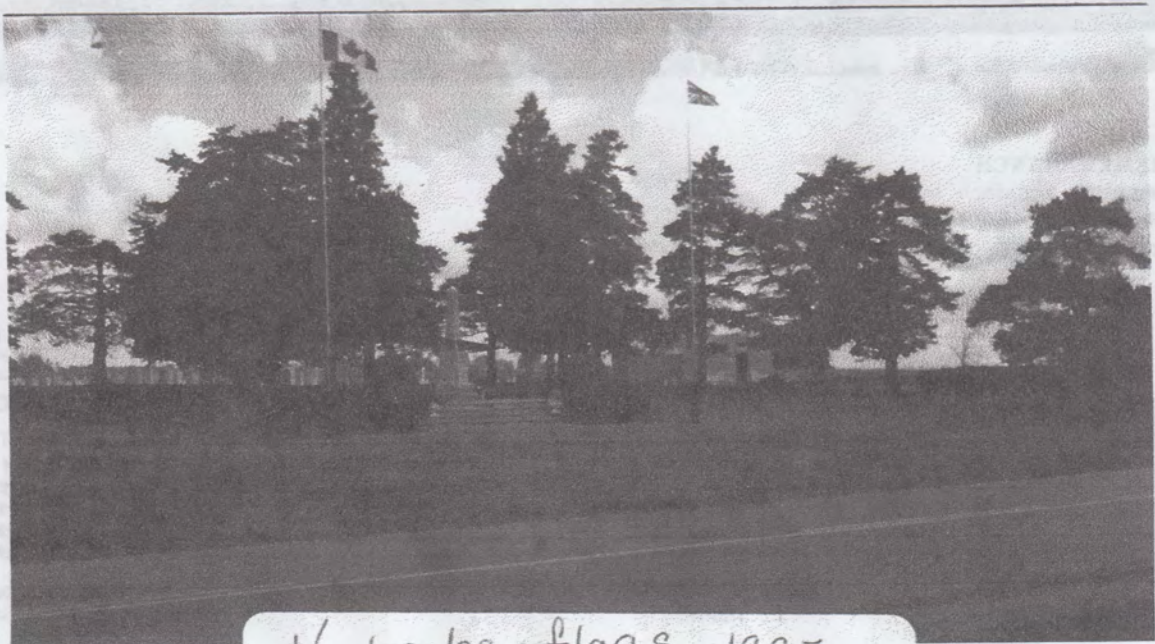
West side rented to Wallace Bain and daughter, Margaret, for many years. Mr. Bain was caretaker for the cemetery.

At the death of Suzie, the place was sold to Nelson Vandusen who rented to various tenants.

In her will, Miss Palmer deeded two acres immediately behind the cemetery to Maynard Cemetery Board for their use. This land has been let to Robinson Farms, who farm the fields and relieve the Board from care. When it is necessary, it will become part of the burying grounds.

The barn on the farm burned during the time that Richard & Joyce Serwa rented the west apartment. It was a case of boys playing with matches.

During her lifetime, Miss Palmer contributed much to the community with her musical ability. She was Baptist by faith, a member of the Maynard Women's Institute, always ready to take part in concerts, etc.



1/2 acre - place 100-

LOT 10, part of front west 1/4
CONCESSION 3



This acre (more or less) was given by MR. AMOS KNAPP for the purpose of building thereon a SONS OF TEMPERANCE HALL. A map, dated 1861, shows this hall, also known as the "Division Hall". Meetings were held of this lodge, and other community meetings, including a singing school, conducted by Mr. Place, and suppers were held in the upstairs hall.

The house, pictured above, was built by MR. CHESTER SPICER, owner, and THOMAS ALKERTON, carpenter, the main part of the building, in 1890. In 1891 the kitchen wing was added, with Charlie Place and Joseph Lindsay, carpenters. Mr. Philip Fretwell built the summer kitchen in 1891. Chimneys on the house were built by Francis Scott, and on the kitchen by Rufus Young.

Lumber for the framework cost \$16.00 per M; rough lumber at \$11.00 per M; flooring \$20.50 per M; soft brick \$5.00 per 1000; and hard brick, \$10.00. The main part of the dwelling has brick lining under the clapboards.

The barn was built by Chester Spicer also, and the west end addition by Mr. Edmund Young, who also built a hen house there. The veranda was added by Mrs. Nellie Barton, and enclosed by Bruce Connell, 1972.

1922 Mrs. Nellie Barton, widow of Joseph Barton, purchased the property from Mrs. Bertha Jane Graham, widow of Charles Graham, for \$1080.00. She sold it to BRUCE ROBERT CONNELL, August 8, 1944 for \$1200.00.

Connell's installed electricity when they moved in May 1945, with Gerry Coligan doing the wiring. It was while he was working in the attic that bells and whistles were heard sounding in Prescott....signalling the end of World War II. Prior to the Connells, the house was rented to Mansell and Nellie Hough for a number of years.

LEAVITT'S HISTORY shows Con. 3, Lot 10, to ELISHA BAKER, June 10, 1801, 100 acres. E 1/2. AMOS KNAPP died June 1853 aged 77 years; his wife, Rachael, died 1851, aged 72 years, both interred in the old part of Maynard Cemetery.

1953 a bathroom was installed at the head of the stairs. In 1954 outside chimney built by George Perrin, when an oil-burning furnace was put in the basement. In 1972 the veranda was enclosed, and in 1974 aluminum siding covered the house, work done by Irvine Salmon, North Augusta.

The henhouse fell into disrepair, and was removed by Mr. Connell.

BRUCE CONNELL, native of Spencerville, married GOLDIE PERRIN, of Maynard. They are parent~~x~~ of 2 children:

Thomas John m. Doris Renwick
and Linda Joyce m. Glenn Stewart

Bruce worked in industry as a plumber, welder, steamfitter, heating and gas fitter. Goldie was employed by the Augusta Township Area School Board, and retired in 1978 as librarian at Maynard Public School, Leeds & Grenville County Board of Education.

Goldie is a member of Maynard Women's Institute, and served in several offices there, as well as in Grenville South District, Ottawa Area, Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario Board, and one year on the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada Board of Directors from which she retired to resume teaching duties. She has been Sec.-treasurer of the Caretaking Fund of Maynard Cemetery for more than 30 years, and active in the work of Victoria United Church, Supt. of that Sunday School for 25 years and on various church boards. At present she is Archivist for Grenville County Historical Society, and interested in local history, compiling this Tweedsmuir History for Maynard Women's Institute.

UPDATE: In 1985 Augusta Township Council published the first authorized history of the township "Augusta: Royal Township number Seven", Goldie wrote much of the text, collected photos and edited the writings of others. She was aided in all this by Bonnie Gaylord, and Dorothy Winmill especially, and many volunteers interested in having this history printed.

For the Grenville County Historical Society, with Laura Brown, co-editor, Pioneer People and Places; Early Grenville was printed and issued over a period of 10 years, 20 volumes in all. With the death of Laura in 1988, Goldie decided to end that project.

1988 She gave up the office of Caretaking at the Cemetery, with Joan Durant Hubbard taking on financial responsibilities. She retained the keeping of records of burials and ploholders and membership on the Cemetery Baord. There are frequent calls for records of burials from researchers and families.

The work on Tweedsmuir Histories continues, but the Archivist position has been declined. Still active in the Society, but ata lesser degree of responsibility and time.

Mr & Mrs Bruce Carver Prescott House 2.
 may God be my guide. I built House
 in 1890 Thomas Albiston Carpenter Kitchen
 in 1891 Joseph Lindson and Charles W Place
 carpenters sumner kitchen 1891 Philip Fretwell
 Carpenter chimneys on House Francis Scott Binkles
 Kitchen Chimney Rufus Young Birch
 Prices of Lumber frame work 11 dollars
 Per 1000 flat other rough lumber 11 dollars
 flooring 20 ⁵⁰/₁₀₀ Per 1000 clapboards I cannot
 remember Brick soft Brick 5 dollars
 hard Brick 10 ⁰⁰/₁₀₀ a thousand
 cellar was built By. I cannot think his name
 sorry. I am sending the Passover Feast
 we were commanded to keep this Feast
 for ever our saviour kept it and why
 not we keep the Passover Christ & Spier

lane

East end of Barn built by Casper
 West end of Barn built by Edward Young
 also Hovel house by Edward Young
 House built by Chester A Spicer
 Thomas Albiston Carpenter House
 Built in 1890 Kitchen built in
 1891. Joseph Lindson and Charles
 Place carpenters sumner Kitchen
 in 1891. Philip Fretwell
 Carpenter

sons of Francis
 Lindson given
 by Amos Knapp

copy of note
 one
 nester Spicer
 he built house
 1890.

LEAVITT'S list of land patents for Augusta:

Lot 10, Con. 3 granted June 10, 1801, $E\frac{1}{2}$ 100 acres to ELISHA BAKER

WALLING'S map 1861-62:

Lot 10, Con. 3 West corner lot $1\frac{1}{4}$ acres, TEMPERANCE HALL
East corner lot TANNERY, at the creek to Nation River
J. LANE, the farm, apparently all frontage.

DANIEL JAMES HENRY SPICER (1834-1908) and his wife, MARIA YOUKER (1836-1922) occupied this farm in their time, and their son

WILLIAM JAMES (1857-1936), with his wife, ROXY A. PEARSON (1858-1932) were next occupants.

Thier family: JAMES, married Annabelle Knapp, and became an evangelist in U. S.A.

CARRIE EDITH married CARMAN HOUGH and moved to the farm when Mr. Spicer was no longer able to carry on. They lived first, following their marriage at a very young age, in a small house well back from the farm home.

ANNIE SAPHRONIA MAY married WALTER LANE and lived on a farm in Maynard until the death of their son, Eldon, made it impossible for her to carry on there. She removed to Prescott and died in Wellington Nursing Home (1879-1976). Eldon's wife, Pansy Spicer Lane, cared for her in their Prescott home until infirmities of age made this impossible.

CARMAN MAHLON HOUGH (1882-1961)

CARRIE EDITH SPICER HOUGH (1880-1976)

Family of Carman and Carrie: Vivian, married Elmer White
Phyllis, married George Dunbar
Mansell, married Nellie Sterrett

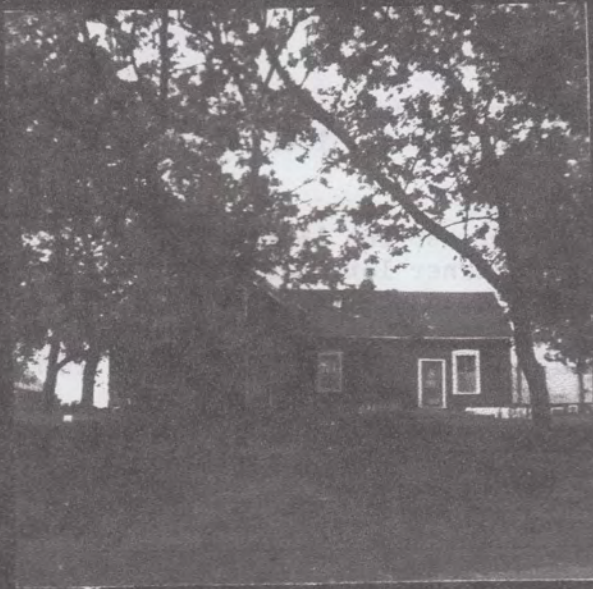
1952 - The farm was sold to ALLAN STEWART, who wanted it for gravel pit, but did not intend to live there. He sold to AIMABLE BERNIER when he found it not practical for his purposes.

Mr. and Mrs. Hough purchased a small lot from Floyd Stephenson, beside the General Store, Con. 3, Maynard, and built a home for themselves there.

MR. AND MRS. AIMABLE BERNIER, with their family, moved here from Grand Falls, N. B. Mrs. Bernier, the former Berthe Legacy, and the older sons went to work in industry in Prescott. The younger members of the family enrolled in elementary school, and Mrs. Bernier worked on the farm. The land, excluding the home lot, was sold to JOHN ROBINSON, who housed cattle in the barns and tilled the land.

BERNIER FAMILY: CLOVIS, married Margaret Greer, and built a house on the west side from his parents. They lived there with their family - Gary, Paul, Lorraine, Christine, David and Kevin - until October 1981 when they moved to Prescott. Clovis and the older sons were involved in construction (Bernier Construction). JOHN and ALPHONSE live in Prescott; CLAUDE died aged 16 years; VELMA married Walter Coville, lives on the Blue Church Road; GISELE AND LUCILLE married and live in Montreal.

AIMABLE BERNIER died Nov. 19, 1981, aged 83 years.



50th wedding anniversary
Carman & Carrie Hough

Carman Hough built this house 1905

1992, the farm is the property of Robinson Farms,
the house was purchased by the Demaria family.
Mr. Demaria drives a tractor trailer outfit.
His rig and that of his son use the former garden
as a parking lot for these big rigs.



LOT 10

Concession 2, Rear
fronting on Con. 3

- HILLSIDE COTTAGE 1944
photo from Maud Row

CHARLES ROW purchased this farm from Mr. Fell, and with his wife, the former GRACE STEWART, born in Scotland, came here from Row's Corners near Brockville sometime between 1855 and 1860. Mr. Row was one of a family of 22 children, a well-known family name in Elizabethtown. He had watched the house on this land being built by Mr. Fell, and told the masons to do a good job as he intended to own it some day himself.

At the time of coming to Maynard, their son, CHARLES HENRY, was a small boy of pre-school age. A brother of Mr. Row, SIDNEY ROW, moved to the neighbourhood also, and erected a home on the opposite side of the road, just a little to the west (Con. 3, Lot 19).

CHARLES HENRY ROW married CAROLINE (CALLIE) KEELER, and their family consisted of 3 daughters:

MAUD AMELIA
GRACE
ESTELLA

Grace married ISAAC BRADLEY, and went to live near Prescott, R. R. # 1. Estella, at the death of her father, secured employment in Toronto where she continued to live.

Maud chose to remain with her mother on the farm which they continued to operate until the death of Mrs. Row in March 1950, at the advanced age of 97. For many years this kindly old lady had been honored on her birthday, May 2nd, by friends and neighbors. She enjoyed visiting and to the last had remarkably good health.

Maud continued to live in the home, known as "Hillside Cottage", but rented out the land to John Robinson. She was very active in Women's Institute and other community endeavours, working diligently for Red Cross, for the erection of the Soldiers' Memorial Monument at Maynard Cemetery. When the Maynard Baptist Church was erected, the family co-operated there, and when it closed, they attended the Presbyterian Church in Prescott. She was a charter member of Maynard Women's Institute and a life member, and responsible for organizing several other branches of that organization.

At the death of Maud Row, 1970, the house remained vacant except for brief summer visits by Estella from Toronto. The land was farmed out to various farmers in the area.

Charles Row - (1852-1912)
Caroline - (1852-1950)
Maud - (1872-1970)

Charles Sr. (1819-1891)
Grace (1825-1916)

For many years Francis Scott lived with these ladies and did the farm work.

The farm for many years had for a cash crop, hops. Miss Row told very interesting stories of the harvest when the Indians came to bring in the crop. That story is contained in another section of this account, with INDUSTRIES.

*Land and buildings sold to Robinson Farms
1988*



*Indian hop-pickers
at Charles Row farm*

Re (Miss Maud Row)

Lot 10, 2nd Concession 100 acres home of Miss Row (3rd Con. road) S. side
house built originally by a man named FELL.

Her grandfather's name was Charles Row and he bought the house from Mr. Fell.

Chas. Row married Grace Stuart from Scotland and the couple had two sons, Sydney and Chas. Henry. The latter was our Miss Row's father.

Charles Henry married Caroline Keeler and this couple had three daughters- Maud, Grace and Stella.

On Wednesday, October 2nd, 1963, Miss Row will be 92 years old. She is hale and hearty. Today, Tuesday Oct. 1, we visited the old hop kiln and she told me a vivid story of the Indian hop pickers and her father's enterprise.

The Row's had 5 acres set aside for hops. This is a perennial plant and as the hop vine grew to about 20 feet high tall poles were required for climbing. The market for the hops was in Boston.

The Indians came from the St. Regis Reserve and brought up river by ferry boats hired for the occasion. Wisers hired the largest number of pickers but many farmers in Grenville County used hops as a cash crop i.e. - the Benningtons, the Rows, the Spicers etc.

A man worked from 7 a.m. until 6 p.m. for .75 per day. during the season keeping the weeds down, tying up the vines etc. Two poles were placed in each hill: a "spud" was used to make the hole and the poles were about 10 feet high. As the vine grew it required tying and an old sock was unravelled as the worker carried on.

Toward the end of August or early September, the hops were harvested by the pickers. Mr. Row employed 16 workers though whole families of Indians often came along, even little papooses. They usually spent about 2 weeks picking and lived in a large log hut a short distance from the Row's home. There were three rooms downstairs and a large loft above. The male Indians were assigned the loft.

In the hop field the vines were cut off about 2 feet from the ground by hand made knives made from old scythes. After being placed in boxes they were carried to the kiln in sacks: a worker was paid by the number of boxes picked and Miss Row often kept the tally.

The kiln was a wooden structure with two floors. The hops were placed in one of the upper rooms on a rack and piled about 2 feet. They had to be turned frequently for drying purposes (usually from 5 p.m. to 6 a.m.) In the room below was the fire in 2 box stoves which stood on a bricked floor. Brimstone ~~was~~ in chunks was placed in pans and put on the stove to be used as a bleach, usually at midnight. The temperature had to be carefully checked and Mr. Row always superintended this part of the work. Elm wood made the best fire. Around ~~the~~ ~~five~~ five a.m. the fires were allowed out and the hops cooled. By 3 p.m. the following day they were shovelled into the cool room which was also on the second floor and after several days they were pressed and packed hard and tramped into bales which weighed 100 lbs. The "hop sacking" used was about 2 yds. A buyer used tongs to take out a "bite" for a sample. Usually the price of hops was about .50 but one year Miss Row said they received \$ 1.00 per lb. She also said that the food served the Indians must be

HOP GROWING IN GRENVILLE COUNTY

This account written by Phyllis Stephenson after an interview with Maud Row whose family grew and harvested hops for many years on their farm at Maynard. (lot 10, Con. 2 rear)

In the early days every little community had a brewery and in Grenville there were several. The 1851 Directory published by Lovell lists THOMAS CREIGHTON, brewer, on Water Street, Prescott. The citizens of more recent years are more aware of the "Grenville Brewery" owned and operated by MR. JOHN MCCARTHY, which stood on the site of the present "Isle of Rest" motel. LABATT, a name still associated with the brewing industry, also operated a business in the town. These breweries needed hops in order to make their product.

In all countries where the hop is cultivated, the crop is localized in fairly well defined areas: this is due largely to the fact that many of the operations involved are very specialized and require experienced labour, which can be obtained only in districts where the workmen have lived among hops all their lives.

In this part of the country, the Indians from the St. Regis Reservation provided the workmen and the sight of them harvesting the hop fields provided a never-failing interest to spectators. Labour in early days was cheap, and the results of hop growing activities to the farmer meant what we now call "a cash crop".

This week I had the good fortune to be invited to spend an evening with one of the members, Miss Maud Row of Maynard, who is now classed as a Senior Citizen. Perhaps some of you may know her as she has always been an active worker in the Womens' Institutes. Fairfield is just a short distance from Row's Corners, where her forbears settled in early days.

Miss Row, whose birthday fell yesterday (October 2nd), reached the age of ninety-two. She is a very wonderful person, as bright and gay as a young girl, except for the handicap of deafness. Even with that, she takes a lively interest in all that goes on and much to our amazement, accompanied us on the August Field Trip, and later received us at her home on the Maynard Road, dressed in her grandmother's silk dress and bonnet. Later, I shall give you a glimpse of her in the slides. I would that I had her figure!

The evening I spent at her home, she had a friend visiting her, and she suggested that I listen to some of the stories of olden days. The one Miss Row told of the hop-picking on her father's property so intrigued me that I decided I would make it the topic of my talk to you.

Miss Row lives on Lot 10 of the 2nd Concession of Augusta. The house was originally built by Mr. GEORGE FELL, who purchased the property about 1837. Miss Row's grandfather, then a young man, watched the building very closely and with great interest as he decided that some day he would become the owner. "Be sure to build this strong and well". he admonished the workmen, "for some day it will be mine." His dream came true and the Registry Office reveals the following information - 'Charles Row from George Fell $r\frac{1}{2}$...98 acres...£450, May 11, 1854.

Charles Row had married Grace Stuart from Scotland, and the couple had two sons, SYDNEY and CHARLES HENRY, the latter became the father of Miss Maud Row.

Charles Henry Row married CAROLINE KEELER, and this couple had three daughters: Maud, Grace and Estella. Maud was born in her grandfather's home, but her parents later moved a little farther east in the old house opposite the stone house belonging to JOHN ROBINSON.

The story unfolded by Miss Row during the evening of my visit held me spellbound, and I asked if I might return the following morning to see where all the activity had taken place, so that I could get a clear picture in my mind's eye.

Apparently Mr. Row planted five acres in hops, which he later marketed in Boston. The roots were planted in the fall, and covered with manure as the vines need fertile soil. In the spring, these were uncovered and cultivated well during the growing season. Beside each hill, a tall pole was erected for the hop vine eventually reached a height of about twenty feet. A "spud" was used to help insert the pole which was of cedar, between two and three inches in diameter.

When the vine had reached a height of from two to three feet, workers went out with an old sock around their arm which they slowly unravelled for thread to tie the vine to the pole. The yarn being stretchy, did not harm the tender plant. Later on in the season, the vines were tied again.

Working in the fields, cultivating and weeding meant steady work, but labour was cheap. An ordinary farm hand was paid seventy-five cents per day, and given his room and board. A working day lasted from six a.m. until 7 p.m.. What a change from today!

The hop fields were attractive during the growing season. The leaves were pale green and the resin-tipped cones rustled in the wind which caused the vines to wave in the air. Toward the end of August and the first week of September, the cones had ripened for picking.

Mr. Row arranged that 16 Indian pickers would be hired, and they arrived with sundry babies and children.

On the Row property, they were housed in a log building a short distance from the house and close to the kiln where the hops were dried. This log building had three rooms on the ground level (2 bedrooms and a common room); the male Indians slept upstairs on blankets laid over hay.

The pickers remained two weeks and had over them a 'boss'. Each picker was given a sharp knife, usually made from the blade of a scythe, and with this the vine was cut about two feet from the ground. These vines had then to be stripped and the cones placed in boxes. The wages of a picker depended on how many boxes he filled per day. Miss Row, herself, often kept track of the tally.

A driver in a wagon then drove between the rows (the vines had been planted between six and seven feet apart), and the hops carried to the kiln. Mr. Row himself, then took charge as the drying was a very specialized operation.

The kiln, which still stands on the Row property, was made of wood with two rooms and a loft. The 'hot' room was bricked to a height of about six feet, and in it were placed two box stoves.

A thermometer showed the amount of heat required for proper drying, and elm wood was used in the stoves as the best type for good results. The hops were taken up to the loft over the 'hot' room, and steewen at a depth of about two feet on slatted surface covered with a thin cloth. During the drying process, these hops had to be turned to allow air to circulate.

Mr. Row usually began firing about five o'clock in the afternoon, and remained until about six the next morning. At midnight, he put brimstone on the stoves to bleach the hops. The heat had to be raised gradually, and never allowed to reach too high a temperature-usually around 100 degrees.

The fires were allowed to die down, and the hops cooled until about 3 a.m. the following day, when they were shovelled into the 'cool' room. After several days, they were pressed. A hole allowed a sack of special dimensions to be filled and the hops were tramped and packed hard. (I suppose it was the resin that made them stick). Mr. Row rented a press from a man named FRANK SCOTT. The finished product in the hop sacking weighed about one hundred pounds.

Buyers came to inspect the pressed hops and tongs were used to take out a 'bite' for inspection. This weighed about a pound. One year, when hops were scarce, they brought one dollar per pound, but usually they were priced at 50 cents.

The hop industry has disappeared, partly because a blight struck, but also because prohibition came into force after the World War I.

Today, the major part of the brewing industry is controlled by a comparatively few groups, and the hops which now come chiefly from the Pacific Coast, are picked by machines.

However, a few of our senior citizens recall the romantic flavour of the Grenville County hop pickers and many travelled to the hop fields in the evening to watch the colourful dancers around the camp fires.

The hop industry disappeared just after World War I, when a blight struck which caused the leaves to turn silvery overnight, and lost a really taste to the finished product. Prohibition, too, struck a deadly blow. Today the major part of the brewing industry is controlled by a comparatively few groups, and hops used come chiefly from the Pacific Coast where they are harvested by machinery. However, there are still those who recall the romantic flavour of Grenville County hop pickers, and Indians dancing around camp fires in the evenings on the farms in the county.

LOT 10

Concession 3

This holding consists of the south-east corner of Lot 10 at the creek, called by some Chippenhook. The stone house was at one time a tannery downstairs, owned and operated by WILLIAM WHITE. He hired cobblers to make and repair shoes upstairs.

WILLIAM WHITE came with his parents at the age of 3 years from Ireland in 1830. In that country his family had operated a linen mill near Belfast. Since the sea voyage was such a long one, they brought a goat with them to provide milk for the baby on the way. This baby died during the long trip. Soon after they landed at Quebec, the father died. His widow and children settled near Athens.

In 1853 WILLIAM WHITE came here to operate a tannery, living in the house now owned by George Robinson. In 1855 he married ALICE ERWIN, of Chantry. For 18 years they continued to run the tannery and shoe business, then they purchased a farm on Concession 2, later owned by JAMES HALL, who married CATHERINE LILY WHITE, born 1869 to William and Alice. Other children in their family were: LIZA, born 1856, became Mrs. Smith
EMMA RUTH, born 1859
WILLIAM CHARLES, born 1862.

In 1901, William Charles White was one of 3 Maynard men drowned in the rapids of the St. Lawrence River, when their boat overturned. All are buried in Maynard Cemetery

-this account from
Mrs. James Hall.



25th anniversary
Ronald, Janice, Ethel, Jack
Harrison

House occupied by
hired help at Robinson
Farms

- Jack & Ethel Harrison
- Glen Countryman

then 1987 MTJB.
Ruth Robinson-Jackson

well drilled 1987 (flowing)
need pictures

ROBINSON FARM
A CENTURY FARM...

LOT 10
Concession 2
fronting Con. 3



JAMES HOLDEN, a school teacher in Springfield, Mass., USA, came to Ontario at the time of the Revolutionary War. He was granted land in Augusta, near where the Maynard Cemetery is located. Soon he bought the farm, Lot 10, Concession 2, fronting on the Concession 3 Road, now owned by the Robinson family.

In 1830 he replaced the log dwelling with the stone structure pictured above.

His daughter, ELIZA HOLDEN, married MATTHEW ROBINSON, and they settled on the farm, where they cared for Mr. Holden and his second wife, CYNTHIA WHITNEY, until their deaths. Matthew Robinson was a native of Yorkshire, England.

ELIZA (1826-1916) and MATTHEW (1821-1889) their family:

1. SOPHRONIA married Richard Robinson
2. ELIZA AMELIA married James Irwin
3. ALEXANDER married Edith Dulmage
4. MARY married George Whitney
5. LOIS JOHNSTON died Sept. 26, 1886, aged 24 years
6. LULU BERTHA married T. Orval Dales
7. CYNTHIA died July 10, 1852 aged 3 years
8. JOHN died Dec. 19, 1862, aged 3 years

ALEXANDER (1853-1935) and EDITH V. DULMAGE ROBINSON (1858-1927)

Alex and Edith lived on the homestead, with their family:

1. ETHEL EDITH married George Carson
2. JAMES IRWIN married Maida Hungerford
3. GEORGE WILLIAM married MARY STILLWELL
4. EDWARD DWIGHT married Maude Hungerford
5. EDNA PEARL married Wesley McLean
6. RUBY married Bert Spero
7. LULU DALES married Levi Cranston
8. MATTHEW ARNOLD died in his youth (1895-1902)

- thanks to Mrs. Cranston
and Mrs. Spero.

GEORGE and Mary (MAMIE) and their family continued on the homestead:

1. GERTRUDE MAY (1906-1926)
2. IRENE EDITH (1908-1930)
3. ELLIOTT ALEXANDER (1910-1925)
4. IRWIN EDWARD STILWELL (1918-1942) RCAF reported missing over the Atlantic
5. JOHN MELVILLE married Irene Mary Dent 1921-1982

Mr. and Mrs. George Robinson observed their 50th wedding anniversary January 1955, with immediate relatives, neighbours and friends calling with good wishes. For a number of years before his death, George was not able to work because of a heart condition.

1951 JOHN and his wife, IRENE, lived in the cement block house on the farm. Their family:

1. BARBARA ELIZABETH, born October 10, 1948, a secondary school teacher
2. GEORGE ALEXANDER, born Sept. 11, 1950 m. Linda Perkins
3. EDWARD JOHN, born July 12, 1953 m. Laura Buker
4. RUTH IRENE, born May 7, 1956, a nursery school teacher,
married David Jackson 2. David Shay

The two sons, George and Edward, took training at Kemptville Agricultural School, and returned to manage the home farms. In addition to the homestead, they now own and operate the farm immediately to the south, formerly owned by the Sterrett family, and the one to the east, known as the Black farm. For many years, JACK HARRISON was employed on the farm, and lived with his wife Ethel and son Ronald in the Tannery house across the road, then in the small house near the barns. Following the death of his wife, and his retirement at age 65, Jack continues to live in the house there. Ronald is employed at DuPont of Canada, Maitland Works. Various hired men have lived in the cement block house, or in one of the other houses on the farms, including Leonard Seargent, and Dan Atkinson who had long terms there. The combined acreage is known as "ROBINSON FARMS".

With modern machinery, they work other farms in the neighborhood, and run a large herd of Holstein cattle.