

on the

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MAIN STREET



Long Point is one of the oldest landmarks on Balsam Lake and some of the pioneer settlers who cleared the land and hauled rocks and mammoth boulders to the centre of a field or dumped them in a fence corner included such names as Haygarth, Rea, Myers, Stone, Staples, McNeish, Cunningham and Parrington, as well as Forman.

George Haygarth lived at the end of the road leading to the lake, a well wooded shoreline which was many years later purchased by Lawyer A. M. Fulton and is today covered with large and beautiful summer cottages.

The William Henry Myers farm is one of the oldest and it is reported that William Henry had to assume complete working of the property following the death of his father who was drowned when he fell into a hole in the ice when he was returning on foot from the village of Victoria Road.

William Henry Myers was an industrious and hard working farmer, was up at the crack of dawn and labored till sundown, and he had a lot to show for his effort, good barns, fine stock and was able to bank in the Victoria Trust and Loan Company in the days when his friend, John Magwood, a merchant at Victoria Road, became the first manager of the Loan Company. Wm. H. Myers became one of the founders and pillars of the Long Point Church, then held in the school house.

A brother of the above gentleman also had a farm on the Point and later on started in the grocery business at Victoria Road and ended his business career by operating a store at Argyle.

A man named McNeish own-

ed an adjoining farm and members of the family are still on the homestead.

The next farm on the lake was owned by Jos. Staples and some years later son Frank Staples built a second house on the farm and was followed by a gentleman named Forman and the latter's son Jasper Forman, now of Lindsay, bought the farm which he cultivated for years and several years ago opened up Jasper Park, a shoreline today dotted with cottages.

Another member of the Staples' clan, John, a man of large stature, was on an adjoining farm and later moved to Whitby. Frank Staples, a brother of John, for many years farmed on what is now Highway 28, a few miles west of Peterborough.

It is interesting to note that another Staples' brother, Clarke G. Staples, of the same family, forsook the farm, graduated from McGill University at Montreal, taught school for a time in Manvers Township and Cavan, and entered the business world as a merchant at Victoria Road and later at Kirkfield. Later on this gentleman was associated with the Turner awning and tent manufacturers at Peterborough and for a time operated Burtol Cleaners in Peterborough.

Other pioneer farmers on Long Point included Robert Staples and Miles Haygarth, while John Cunningham was the local postmaster.

For many years the Stone family had a small acreage on the Point in the days when the late Harry Stone, Governor of the Lindsay jail, frolicked as a boy.

Long Point became a good grain country and was also noted for fine apple orchards.