

INTERVIEW WITH MRS G.E. "MINNIE" ROBERTSON JULY 15, 1984

PLACE OF INTERVIEW: At the home of Mr.
and Mrs. J. Norcop

15 Louise St., Petawawa, Ontario.

PERSONAL HISTORY: Mrs. Robertson was born in Cobden in August of 1895, lived in Pembroke for many years, and spent many summers in Petawawa.

LIFE AT PETAWAWA POINT

Mrs. Robertson talks about her summer stays at the old family cottage, now a newly renovated home by the Petawawa River. She begins the conversation with the first years at the family cottage, talking about the activities that went on. Recreational activities included dances at the dance hall at the point, swimming and families generally visiting with friends and relatives.

Mrs. Roberts had many points of interest:

- In the early days of the Petawawa military camp, there were approximately 8000 men.
- Her family's cottage was built by a Mr. Behnke around 1906, and was one of the first.
- People could travel from Pembroke to Petawawa by train or by horse and buggy.
- The dance hall at the Petawawa Point was run by the Tevens.
- Mrs. Sikorsky worked on the boat called the "OLD VICTORIA" which travelled to "The Swisha," Oiseau Rock and Fort William.
- Her family used to buy milk and eggs from the Hampels who had a farm on the other side of the river (lower part of the base golf course).

***Mrs. Robertson is a most interesting and kind lady. She is one of Joan Finnigan's subjects in the book "Some of the stories I told you were true." The library has this book and I recommend Pembroke and Petawawa history buffs to take a look at this book.

DARLENE FITZGERALD

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