

Lot 10, Concession 5, Kinloss

Original owner was William MacKenzie about 1854. In the year 1873, William Valens and his bride, Catherine Walker, came from Puslinch Township, Wellington County. Mr. Valens took an active part in the progress and advancement of the community, and they were an exceptional couple. They raised a family of five sons and four daughters. Mr. Valens served as an Elder in Lucknow Presbyterian Church for many years and for many years conducted a Sunday School in S.S.No. 5 Schoolhouse from early April till the end of October every year. There was an attendance of over a hundred. Several of his family taught the younger pupils and he conducted the well attended Bible Class to which all the young men and young women of the community came. Mr. Valens was interested in politics and civic affairs and unsuccessfully contested this riding in the Ontario election on the Grange ticket in the 1880's. The family moved to Elkhorn, Man. in 1903, and all filled worthy places in the development of the Canadian West. The oldest son John A. graduated in medicine and practiced in Saskatoon for nearly 50 years. Jessie Walker Valens graduated from Hamilton General Hospital in 1904 and married Dr. A.E. Archer in 1904. They were married at the Valens home in Elkhorn and left to establish a practise at Lamont, Alberta where for a number of years he was the only doctor in a radius of sixty miles. Later, working together they persuaded the United Church to sponsor a seventeen bed hospital at Lamont. On Dr. Archer's death in 1952 this hospital had five fulltime physicians and had become a sizable institution, known as the Dr. A. E. Archer Memorial Hospital. Dr. Archer was created a Member of the British Empire (M. B. E.) in the King's New Years honour list in 1948 in recognition of his services during World War II when he was a dollar a year man with Military Medical Services at Ottawa. Miss Annie Valens graduated as a nurse about 1910, and for a number of years was Supt. of Nurses at a Californis hospital. She died in the early 1920's.. Miss Margaret died in 1910 or earlier from T.B. contracted in her second years in medicine at Toronto University. Dr. Ashley, a graduate in medicine was Senior Medical Officer on board a C.P.R. in the Eastern Theatre of War during World War I. Miss Agnes graduated in law and married a lawyer. Robert, Edgar and Alexander were farmers.

In 1903 Lot 10 was sold to John MacKinnon. He and his family resided there till after Mr. and Mrs. MacKinnons' death. It then became the property of his son, Archie, who sold it in 1952 to Thomas Austin.