

The Doxsee farm borders on and includes a section of what is known as the Big Swamp in Sophiasburgh township. The original farm consisted of eighty acres of land.

The pioneer, Archelaus Doxsee came from Long Island, where his parents, who were English, had their home on the Sound, near Brooklyn. The English living so much among the New Hollanders and inter-marrying with them, both languages were in common use; and the Doxsees were almost as conversant with the Dutch tongue as they were with their own.

Archelaus Doxsee married Martha Rayner of Long Island in 1781, and brought his family with him when he came to Canada about 1800. He journeyed north by way of the Mohawk River Valley, striking the St. Lawrence River a little above Clayton. He came by way of Adolphustown, but did not stop there so crossed the Bay and landed at Green Point where he located on the farm adjoining Coles' Wharf. Green Point was settled earlier than the land that lay to its west and among its early settlers were the Doxsee, Row, Shortt and Carmen families.

Archelaus Doxsee is said to have built the first wagon in the County. He was skilled in the trade of a wheelwright and was well fitted for the task. The wagon was a curious structure and crudely primitive. With the exception of the tires, there was no iron in the construction, the body, shafts and nuts were made of wood.

Sylvanus Doxsee, a son of the pioneer, married Elizabeth Shortt, daughter of Adam Shortt, a Prussian soldier, whose original name was Adam Kurtz. They had nine children, the oldest of whom was named Adam Kurtz.

Around 1830, Adam Kurtz left Green Point and settled the farm at Doxsee Corners. He was married twice, first to Avaon Parks, and then to Mary Dingman. His family was Phoebe, Marshall, Sarah and Charlotte. By his second wife was born John L., Jasper, Hannah and Susannah. A. K. was a man prominent in Church and state affairs. He was a member of the Methodist Church and helped build the Church across the road in 1871. He passed away in 1907 at the age of 96 when the farm was taken over by Jasper and Susannah Doxsee (brother and sister). They managed the farm, a home of hospitality, no one was turned from their door, and the Church across the road was their special care where Jasper was caretaker and Susannah played the organ for over fifty years. Jasper passed away in 1930 and Susannah in 1940.

The farm was passed on then to a nephew Curtis Bolton Doxsee (son of John Lester). He married Bessie Mills who came from West Lake. They had a family of three, the oldest, a son Leland and two daughters Lois and Anne. He was a successful farmer and public spirited citizen serving in municipal affairs, the Church, AF AM Lodge, also an ardent supporter of Sophiasburgh Agricultural Society and Ben Gill Cheese Factory.

*by Phyllis Louise*