

HISTORY OF RICHARDS FARM

The Richards family immigrated from England in 1837, William Richards his wife and some children. They crossed the Atlantic in a sailboat taking six weeks. Due to the time it took for mail to go they never communicated with the rest of the family in England. They settled in Bath. One son, Thomas Richards was twelve years old when they arrived. He at one time carried the mail from Kingston to Brighton by horseback via Prince Edward. He went up one day and back the next, changing horses and staying in Wellington overnight.

Thomas Richards married Almira Badgley of Athol at Wellington in 1848. From Bath he and his parents moved to a farm in Murray Township up north of Wooler. Thomas Richards and his wife had a family of nine children, all but the three youngest were married when they moved to Prince Edward in 1885. They bought Lot 47, 2nd concession Sophiasburgh Township. It was previously owned by a Mr. Demille. Several years later they bought Lot 46. Thomas Richards died in 1910 and his wife in 1905. Their son Willet Richards was born in 1862 and was married in 1890 to Margaret Sprung, daughter of Daniel and Melinda Sprung of Jericho Street. They had a family of three, one died in infancy. Willet Richards died in 1932, his wife died in 1919.

The buildings are all part of the original except the big house which was built in 1909. The old house which was torn down before the new one was built was back further from the road.

Willet and Margaret Richards, son Blake Richards was born in 1892 and died in 1962. In 1916 he married Florence Potter and they had three children, the eldest of which was Ralph who is farming on the homestead. He has two sons making them the fifth generation on this farm.

"Verna Richards"



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*Photo by Phyllis Louie*