

THE WANDERING HOUSE AT 29 ELDON STREET

Oh what an ordinary respectable house. It doesn't look like a house with a past. And it certainly doesn't look like the wandering kind, or a house that runs the roads. Maybe it's the first mobile home. Well listen up and I will reveal all.

This house was born on 689 Penage Lake Road. A one-room house built approximately in 1950 by Kusti Makela. Mr. Makela decided to leave his farm and move to the property of his daughter, Hilja Maki. So he built this house with the help of his son-in-law, Herman Maki in the Maki's backyard. You could say it was one of the first Granny Flats built or in this case Grandpa Flat. Josephina Makela asked her husband, Kusti to come back to the farm, as it was too much for her and her grandson, Arvo Saari, to manage on their own. So Kusti went back to the farm, now known as the Penage Golf Course.

Herman now had an unused house left in the backyard. He being a carpenter and seeing an opportunity to earn a little extra money had a plan. He moved this house in 1952 to Naughton on 11 Murray Street across from the Post Office. At that time there weren't as many houses. As a matter of fact there were no houses between the highway and this house. There was, and still is a huge white house then owned by Robert and Bernice Gorman on the corner, on the opposite side of the street. The highway was being upgraded at the time. Herman Maki with the help of his wife Hilja added on a room to the house. They dug a well by hand and built a privy, as there was no inside facilities. They did have hydro. And so the house was settled with Hilja and Herman Maki and their children Veikko, 8 and Kathy, 5 and Kauko, 1 1/2 and a newborn, Gertrude. After a year they sold the house and returned to 689 Penage Road. Lillian and Leslie Carlyle (a Greyhound busdriver) purchased the house and lived there for seven years.

In 1957, Neilo Ojampera was selling lots in Den Lou subdivision. He was saving a lot for his daughter Eila. Neilo had a well drilled on the lot for Eila, but Eila changed her mind and wanted a corner lot instead. So Neilo sold the lot to Reino and Sherry Maki. There weren't too many