

John Younghusband of Egremont, Cumberland, England was the first Canadian ancestor of the Dunrobin Younghusbands. With his wife, Mary Ashburnem, he settled in 1828 on the farm owned at this date(1965) by Walter Younghusband. Besides farming he taught school and had the honour of being the first teacher in March Township. This couple had ten children, John being the eldest. He became the father of John James who grew up on the homestead in March. In 1877 John, ^{James} married Emeline Beatty and took her to live on the farm he had bought on Lot 24, Concession 3, March now owned by Ainslie Read. However he had a hankering for keeping store so in 1888 when his Uncle Henry, fourth son of the original family, decided to sell his farm and store on Lot 1, Concession 4, Torbolton, John James sold his farm and bought from his uncle.



The Second House

The first transfer of this property was from the Crown to Thomas Reynolds in 1837. Then it went to Thomas Scharf in 1841 and in 1854 Henry Younghusband bought it for 42 pounds. All the first buildings were wiped out in the /70 fire but Henry built a substantial log house with a brick store adjacent. From 1861 the store had been the site of the Post Office and Henry Younghusband was the first Postmaster. Henry's wife was Charlotte Acres. Their family consisted of eight girls and one boy: Mary, Martha, Clara, Susan, Gertrude, Elizabeth, Charlotte, Pauline and Thomas. The family all moved away when they sold the store except Mary, who had married Hugh Armstrong on the next farm, and was around for some years.

A younger brother of Henry, Nicholas Younghusband, had come to Dunrobin about 1870. He was a shoemaker by trade and set up a store with a shoe-maker shop above it and living-quarters at the back. He married Elizabeth Riddell and their family consisted of Maude, Howard, John, Vibert, Ira, Leila, May and Hilda. Nicholas died in 1907 and the family moved to Ottawa.

The store which John James took over was typical of country stores of the day. Counters ran down both sides with bins beneath them. A pot-bellied stove stood mid-way back and burned wood at first but later coal. The post office space was at the back. In the bins were all the commodities which then came in bulk: white sugar, flour (though these were usually sold in 100 lb. bags), brown sugar, icing sugar, Rolled oats, cracked wheat, corn meal, rice, tapioca, dried beans, mixed candies, sulphur. Tea came in chests, dates and prunes in flat



Rear View of Store