

George Webber was the eldest son of Robert Webber and Rachel Gill and was born in Devonshire, England in October, 1808. He came to the United States, to New York State in 1833, the rest of the family following in 1835. He came to East Zorra in 1842. George Webber married Mary Platt in London, Ontario in 1852. George purchased the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of Lot 27, Concession 10, East Zorra in 1852, where their four sons and four daughters were born: George Jr. Sarah, Jane, William Henry called (Bob), Rachel, Mary Ann called (Minnie) John Edwin, Alberta Victoria called (Bert), and Albert B. called (Abe). In 1870 they made an addition to their home and in 1875 when further improvements were taking place, George Sr and son George were bringing home a load of lumber from the sawmill. Coming down a steep hill on the 11th line the containing chain broke letting the lumber slip forward onto the horses, frightening them and they bolted. George Jr. was thrown off and broke an ankle and he had a limp the rest of his life. The father was caught in the reins was dragged and run over and died of his injuries thirteen days later on September 26th, 1875 aged 67 years. His widow Mary Webber and her brother Joseph Bigham were the executors and held his estate in trust until the youngest child, (who was four years old at the time) was of age. With the support of a large and caring family Mary moved to 25 acres, lot 25, concession 11 which she owned. Ten years later in 1885 Mary and her family moved to Woodstock where they found employment. The last years of her life she spent with her daughter in Innerkip. She was buried beside her husband in the Baptist Cemetery near their farm home.

As in all pioneer farms the first years would be mostly hard work, clearing land, and planting crops as well as a garden to provide food for their large family. Everyone had a large orchard usually an acre. They improved the land and buildings but the tragic accident depriving them of a father changed their lives. In 1909 Bob and Alice Ann Bickle bought this property. For 18 years he conducted a butcher business and went to Woodstock Market

He retired from active business in 1933. He rented out the farm with young couples running the farm but the Bickles lived in the front part of the house. The first to rent the farm was the George Yecny family, followed by Scotte and Florence McIntosh, Archie and Merle Brennaman. Bob and Alice Ann Bickle had two daughters, May and Edna who both lived in the U.S. Bob Bickle died May 28, 1944 and Alice Ann Jan. 22, 1951. Orville and Olive Bender bought the farm and their son Marlin and his family live there now.

A barn built in 1904 was struck by lightning in 1944. Bob Bickle was an elderly man by this time but he thought a farm had to have a barn so he built a new barn which also burned in the 1970's. A modern hog barn was built. The white brick house was enlarged and covered with white siding. It is an attractive and productive farm.

1852	George and Mary Webber purchased	NE $\frac{1}{4}$	50 acres
1909	Robert and Alice Ann Bickle	NE $\frac{1}{4}$	50 acres
	Orville and Olive Bender	NE $\frac{1}{4}$	50 acres
	Marlin Bender	NE $\frac{1}{4}$	50 acres.

D.R. '92.



This barn built in 1904
burned in 1944



This barn built 1944
burned in the '70's