

History of the farm of Henry Stouck.

In the year of 1785 the ancestors of Henry Stouck came from East Jersey, N. Y., U.S.A., and settled four miles north east of Beamsville near Lake Ontario on a four hundred acre homestead.

Joseph Wardell who was born in Carnaroon, Wales, came to New York in 1762. He married an American girl in 1764; fought in the American Revolutionary War and was persecuted by victorious rebels until coming to Canada, a six month journey. They had seven children; Goliath, who was killed in the American Revolutionary war. Mike, who remained in the States. Timothy, Isaac, Nancy, Joseph and Deborah. Timothy married Mary Culp in 1790 and had eight children, the third of whom was John. John married Amy Bush; their tenth child, Sarah Lavadna, married William Vosburgh of Beamsville in 1866. Of their twelve children Kate Wardell Vosburgh was the ninth; in 1903 Kate married John Stouck. John's parents were Elizabeth Becker and Henry Stouck, who came from Germany to Canada and were married in Bismarck, Ont, in 1855, coming then to live on this farm. Kate and John Stouck had three children: Carson, Madeleine and Henry. Carson married Orra Shields and had three daughters; he now lives in Vineland. Madeleine died in 1943, leaving her husband and one daughter. Henry married Winnifred Hamilton. They have three sons, and live on the Stouck farm.

This tract of land containing 100 acres was chosen by Jacob and John Stouck, for its favourable climatic conditions for agriculture. Jacob was John's elder brother and died in 1936. It was purchased in 1901 at a cost of \$75.00 per acre, cash, from John Henry's widow, Caroline.

The present brick house; 30' X 40'; was built in 1840 - 1850, in the same location. The first barn was also built in 1840-1850 of wood siding; 60' X 80'; it is located 200' east of the house. In 1902 a large addition was added to the back of the house by the two brothers, John and Jacob Stouck and a carpenter. It was then converted into a double house to accommodate the two families. Electricity was installed in 1923; the telephone in 1908, the Independent system. Bathroom in 1946.

The first livestock on the farm was 15 Jersey and Holstein cattle; 4 Percheron horses; 25 hogs and some sheep.

The present barn was built in 1948 with wood siding; 30' x 40'. A three acre pear orchard was planted in 1936; a 25 acre vineyard of grapes from 1930-1945. This vineyard was judged the best in Ontario in 1957. In 1959 considerable damage was done to the fruit by hail.

A small walnut table, hand made by Isaac Vosburgh in 1821; Mrs John Stouck's paternal grandfather; is a treasured piece of furniture.

This farm of 28 acres is part of the original Crown land granted to James Henry in 1798. His son, John B. Henry bought it for £500 in 1825.



The original
Barn, May 28, 1944
The day it was
torn down.
Driveshed on
the left.