

THE RIDDELL FARM HISTORY



Formerly Mr. & Mrs. Riddell farmed in Middlesex County, near London, on a farm of 170 acres. Being near the city their farm was gradually expropriated for a new Hydro Station and Highway 401.

They were the fourth generation on the farm. They decided to search for another dairy farm and on August 15th, 1959, Alex and his son Allan Riddell, bought from Aubrey and Bertha Buchner, the farm consisting of lots 22, and south half of lot 23, on the 10th concession of Dereham, consisting of 247 acres. They have continued dairy farming.

The east L of the large barn was removed and free stall barn was built for 90 cows. There has been 3 silos built and a feed lot added. A milking parlor with a double 5 stall herring - bone unit built.

In 1960 Allan married Louise Daniel, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Lorne Daniel of Verschoyle. They have three children, Jeffrey, Bradley and Kathryn Riddell.

In 1964, Alex and his wife Grace and daughter Margaret, moved to a new house built on the farm on the Culloden Road. This was the site of the former public school.

In 1964, a lot south of their home was sold to Victor Ruckle, who built a new home on this lot.

The tenant house was burned in 1965 and never replaced.

Crops grown on the farm consisted of grass for silage, oats, wheat and high moisture content, corn also for silo was grown.

On May 1st, 1971, Allan and Louise Riddell purchased from Thomas Burn, 180 acres on the south side of 10th concession, 1st farm out of the village. They have continued farming the land, doing intensive drainage in 1973 and using the barn for young cattle and the house for hired help for the farm.