

HISTORY OF LOT 2, CONC. B, ARRAN TOWNSHIP

H. T. Potts and his brother, Joseph T. Potts, originally came from Ireland to Bolton near Toronto. Like many other of our early settlers they decided to come up to the Queen's Bush to look for land.

Their father, John T. Potts, and his wife, Sarah, came from Ireland in 1846. They had five sons and one daughter: William, Henry, John, James, Joseph and Bessie.

William did not come up to Bruce but went to Philadelphia, U.S.A., and was a maker of artificial limbs until he retired about 1905 and died a couple of years later.

John T. lived in Bruce for a short while later going to Manitoba where he died in 1910.



House built in 1882

James T. Potts was a school teacher and will be remembered as a teacher in S. S. No. 4, Arran.

Bessie did not marry and moved to western Canada passing away between 1920 and 1930.

This farm consisted of 100 acres and was bought for \$200.00 when it was all covered with bush. They built a log house 100 feet north of the present house. Henry later bought out Joseph who went to Dauphin, Manitoba where he died in the early nineteen hundreds.

The farm was purchased from the Crown in 1881.

Henry Potts married Ellen Burns in 1876. Their family consisted of: Joseph and Harry (who both went to Regina, Saskatchewan); J. Deight, Emma (Mrs. Charles Underwood who was the first woman in Shackleton, Saskatchewan, going there in 1910 in a wagon with two little children); Dolly (Mrs. G. Munson) and Eva. Mr. Potts died in 1923

and Mrs. Potts in 1936.

The first barn was built about fifty feet east of the log house and was 36' x 54' of frame construction. In the early days cattle, horses and hogs were raised. They butchered their hogs and drove to Guelph with team and sleigh to dispose of the pork.

The present house was built in 1882 by Joseph Langstaff of Allenford. It is of brick veneer with kitchen at the back.

The first barn was moved to the present site about 1900 and was later renovated by J. Deight Potts in 1914. The lean-to was torn down and side wall shoved out and long posts were put in making it 52' x 72' with 18 foot wall posts. There has been a pig pen and hen house 20' x 50', driving house and garage 24' x 55' built.

Henry T. Potts took an interest in Community affairs and was reeve of Arran from 1878 to 1885. He also was Warden of Bruce County in 1885. He was a strong supporter of the Ebenezer Methodist Church.



Left to right: Eva, 'Purp' in front, Mrs. Potts, Dolly with pet kitten, 'Jack' behind post, Mr. Potts and Deight.

In 1904 a Garden Party was held at the Potts' home which was a huge success. The proceeds (\$50.00) was applied toward the erection of a new shed in connection with the Ebenezer Church. The old shed had gone down with the heavy snow the year before.

In 1912 Henry T., Mrs. Potts and Eva moved to Tara and the farm was taken over by his son, J. Deighton Potts.

J. Deighton Potts was married to Laretta King in 1912; they had a family of three girls and one boy: Dorothy (Mrs. Ross Dudgeon) of Port Elgin; Loreen (Mrs. Max