

**Oliphant as I knew it -1900-
-Mary Hutchinson Moore**

I came to Oliphant with my parents, John and Rebecca (Becky) Hutchinson in 1873, (I was 4 years old) from Rosemont, Mono ^{TWR} Prop, Dufferin County.

Our home was made of logs in the Oliphant Town Plot, Lot 1, West of Bryant St., West of Division St. (A grandson, Bill Moore now lives there)

I attended at Oliphant's first school and we worshipped the little white Methodist church at the corner.

In 1891 - on New Year's Day I had married William Moore. It was a double wedding, my sister Rebecca married Russell Hunter. It was solemnized by the Rev. S. H. Edwards in my parents new brick home on the Wiar-ton - Oliphant road.

Roads were narrow, sandy in places with logs laid over wet and swampy places (corduroy roads). The trees grew close to the sides - pine, cedar, and spruce mostly, some oak. There were lots of fish in the lakes and berries grew in the little clearings. Men fished, farmed or worked in mills.

Neighbors were helpful and visited especially in the winter - bees for barn - raisings, quilting bees and dances.

Our first home was behind the first little school where William, Jan-ey, Roy and Florence were born.

We moved to a house north of Div. St. and west of Bryant St. where our daughter, Jessie was born. (the Jas. Hyatt home)

My brother-in-law, Thomas built the large house on Lot 18, 24 Con. but was forced to move to Wiar-ton because of arthritis.

Our garden was wonderful - potatoes, corn, cabbage, beans, carrots, turnips, beets and onions grew well. Apple trees were planted too. There was a stone milk house to keep milk and vegetables all year around. Six more children were born here Bob, Walter, Mary, Clarence, Ollie and Lloyd. Now 11 children and we enjoyed the large kitchen with a pantry, a large dinning room, a smaller parlor with an organ. Jan-ey married William Preston here, coming down the lovely stairs with her sisters at the ceremony.

The girls learned household tasks, cleaning, cooking and baking. Jessie especially liked to bake cakes and cookies.

The boys, too, had their farm chores. School was farther away now as the stone school was built in 1905.

