

with other area farmers called "The Dereham and West Oxford Independent Butter and Cheese Manufacturing Company Limited", and the co-operative's factory was built on Leonard's farm. He retired from farming in 1880 and moved to Ingersoll where he died in 1889. Today a great-grandson and his family reside on the Leonard Wilson homestead and operate it as a dairy farm.

Robert Wilson purchased Lot 23, Concession 2, West Oxford township to establish his farm close to his parents. Gravel deposits were found on his land and this was used for road upkeep in the community. Much of the Wilson family history was recorded by one of his granddaughters, Mabel Smith Cronk, who questioned her grandfather and assembled a family history which was presented at Wilson Centennial celebrations in 1931.

Richard maintained the original farm and has been described as an extremely religious person and member of the Salford Methodist Church. It is said that all preparations for church had to be made on Saturday night, even with the buggy shafts pointed toward the road so it would not have to be turned on the sabbath. Farming proved a dangerous occupation to Richard as he lost an arm when dynamiting a large boulder. Many of his descendants still reside in Dereham township.

One hundred and fifty-three years have passed since the family of Richard and Sarah Wilson were re-united near Hamilton and walked the lonely wood road to their home in Dereham township. The land was their heritage but perhaps even more important are the scattered accounts