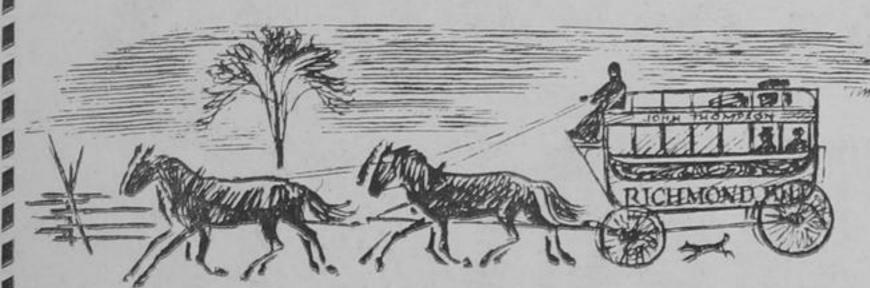
Window On The Past



The Youge St. bus about 1895

In 1889 William Welsh bought

the CNR Overpass, from James

also the farm on Bayview.

Charles Harper were married

and Hazel Welsh were alone in

er property in the village. Finally, some years ago they

sold the farm to Wesley Gamble, and moved to Centre Street where Miss Ella died after enjoying some happy

The garden of Cedar Cottage

is now used for display advertising but the old house still has an appealing charm for

lovers of Victoriana who travel up and down Yonge Street.

Since William Welsh's death the farm on Bayview has been owned by three families, the Charles Robinsons, the Elliots,

and the Burtons and the acre-

age has been reduced by the

sale of lots on John Street and

Green Lane. The late C. L.

Burton, when president of the Robert Simpson Co., used the

horses in the stable. Country

however is no longer a suit-

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years in her new home.

William and Susan Welsh had in 1973," he reported

three daughters, and a son who Mr. Quesnelle reported that

After their sister Mabel and It was pointed out that ap-plans.

By DORIS M. FITZGERALD

Two Old Family Homes

For many years the surname and made plans for a new home ried Andrew Miller, and Wil- worth of inventory. At present, the company for 15 years, and some such as Store Manager Welsh has been an honored one on his farm. The contractor liam, who took over his father's some 10 percent, which is it has since been operated by Bill Sheardown, were still unin the Thornhill district and for this commodious red brick farm, remained in this area. selling at one third of its orig- a group of investors. oldtimers still associate two at- house was his cousin Leslie But it was touch and go with inal price, has been sold. tractive houses with that family. Innes and it is said that young William for a while when Mr. DeGeer said that liquida- all be leaving this year, they Both qualify for historical Mrs. Welsh provided meals for James asked him to come to tion of the company is coming said it would be easier to liplaques but have not been a bevy of bricklayers and car- California to help with the mill about for one reason only, the quidate the company than to marked, possibly because they penters while the work was in He rented the Bayview farm retirement of him and three try to find replacements," Mr. were a little outside the old progress.

Mr. Innes may have come to years but the climate did not Thornhill Village limits. agree with his bride, Susan

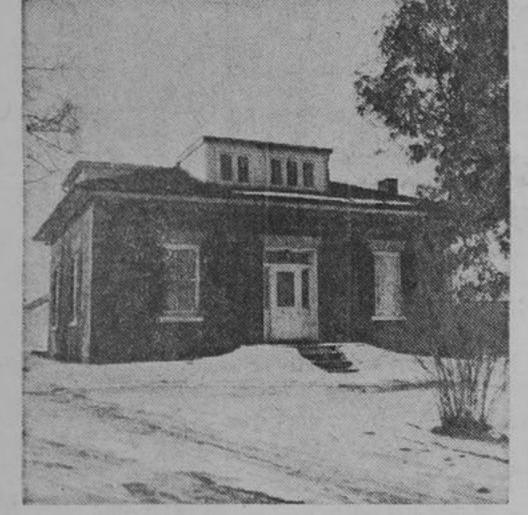


This well-maintained two-storey brick farm- died in infancy. The girls, Ella BAIF plans 100 homes for Mabel and Hazel grew up in 1972, 300 in 1973, another 300 schools do not transfer to the house, built by John Welsh, for many years was the beautiful country surroundings, in 1974, 500 in 1975 and 577 in separate school when it is summer residence of C. L. Burton, president of the yet within easy reach of village 1976. Using the standard yarddoings. Sometimes they walk- stick for separate school pupils LaCroix, Markham trustee. "It Robert Simpson Co. It is located on Bayview Avenue at John Street.

ed to the Thornhill Public from these homes, he arrived at happens if the Cathelland School at Jane and Elizabeth the figure of 466. Streets, but often their father But Father Francis Robinson, is there first. I think you will The first house stands at the Canada at the same time as his northeast corner of John Street relative. He lived in Thornhill drove them back and forth. Richmond Hill Trustee, remindand Bayview Avenue (Lot 5, until 1885, then moved to Rich-Especially enjoyable were the ed him that there are at pres- Trustee Quesnelle reported 125 acre farm bought from the well known firm of L. Innes and bundled with the warmly ent 126 pupils from that gen-that his committee will carry bundled up in the cutter they eral area being accommodated out a comparison examination

1848, for \$820. The buyer was Mr. and Mrs. John Welsh had glided over the glittering white in St. Mary Immaculate School of the Huron Heights area to John Welsh, a youthful widower four sons and one daughter who had arrived in the village who, as they grew up, struck from Dundee, Scotland, during out for themselves with some the previous year and soon be- parental assistance. James and their parents had died Ella came active in the community went to Stockton, California as a founding member of Thorn- and became a prosperous miller and exporter of flour to China; hill Presbyterian Church.

their surprisingly spacious eight room "Cedar Cottage" and as He married for a second time John settled on a farm in Listime went on they began to consider the advantages of a small-



(Photo courtesy of Tim Classey) large brick house as a country Above is seen "Cedar Cottage", also a Welsh residence and kept some saddle home, which still stands on the west side of Yonge Street. The original front porch is missing and the able word to use for this once dormers have been modernized. quiet crossroad.

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By JIM IRVING

has been at its location at 71 McFeeters, who spent 18 years Mr. DeGeer moving in from the Mr. DeGeer said that he Centre Street East since the in the Bowmanville office and Bowmanville yard. beginning, is the end of July. 10 in Richmond Hill. ing, said it may take a little with the company 36 years.

towel, Ontario and George went longer, depending on how fast Neither Sheppard nor Gill, the employees had been absorb- they would have pretty big to Illinois. Only Eliza, who mar- they dispose of the \$100,000 the founders, have been with ed into similar operations, but back yards," Mr. DeGeer said.

and went to the States for a few other employees, Lily Dal- DeGeer said.

Clarke, and they returned to Could Need BAIF Separate School

of Yonge Street just north of By 1974 - 466 Pupils By 1976

Chapman. The land represent- By 1976, the York County Ro-plication for construction of a

ed one-third of the 210-acre man Catholic School Board will public elementary school in the

Crown Grant deeded to Nathan have to provide accommodation BAIF area made by York Coun-

Chapman the father of James, for 466 pupils from the BAIF ty Board of Education has not

in 1796. Mr. Welsh reserved the development in southwest Rich-been approved, because the

cosy red brick cottage, built by mond Hill, Trustee Alan Ques- Department of Education feels

James Chapman in the 1840's, nelle told trustees at their July it premature, therefore a Ro-

and a few acres of garden land 4 meeting. "Indications are man Catholic School might well

remaining 60-odd acres, and in 1974, which means we "The statistics you have used

snow to the cheerful jingle of on Trayborn Drive, Richmond see whether it or BAIF should

should start working on plans

for his family, and rented the that a school could be justified be the first to be built.

rymple, chief accountant and The company was founded in As for the 1.9 acres occupied expect to spend about six secretary-treasurer, who has Toronto in 1919, and 10 years by the company, which has been months of the year at their cot-The impending retirement been with the company 52 later, after first opening a acquired by developers, it is not tage at Rice Lake and the rest vited to quote on the new premof four long-time employees of years; Steve Young, yard super- branch in Bowmanville, it known just yet what the latter of the time at their Richmond ises of the Royal Canadian Leg-Sheppard and Gill Lumber Co. intendent, 42 years; Alex Mc- opened another one in Rich- have in mind so far as building Hill home, "living with all those ion, Branch 375, Ohio Road, Ltd. in Richmond Hill will also Conkey, head mill man, 45 mond Hill on the site of the is concerned. old Jones Lumber Yard.

that company, which has been Another long-time employee. In 1961 the company disposed zoned R-2 for single-family get up anymore." now with Attridge Lumber of both its Toronto and Bow-dwellings on 50-foot lots, with Tentative date for the clos- Company, Aurora, was former manville offices and Richmond the lumber yard a non-conforming out of the operation, which asistant manager, Miss Violet Hill became head office, with ing use.

However, Walter DeGeer, manHowever, Walter DeGeer, who succeeded employed 14 people, but is now that it was up to the developers to place your ad. Just call Progress Avenue, Scarboro, 884-1105 or 884-1983 FOR FAST Telephone 491-9932 or 291-8815. ager of the company, and one Frank Schissler, the original down to five as the company and town council. of the four who will be retirmanager, in 1961, has been gradually disbands. "Right now, al

> decided as to their next move, more definite. He and his wife "When they found out we'd

are based on a public school al-

ready existing. Many Catholic

children signed up in public

be given priority in building

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thought probably townhouses, ified ad in "The Liberal" on are available at M.H.G. and As-At its peak, the Hill office or a high-rise would go in, but sale every Thursday. It's easy sociates, Project Managers, 315 "Right now, all they could RESULTS.

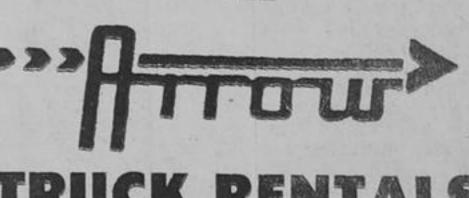
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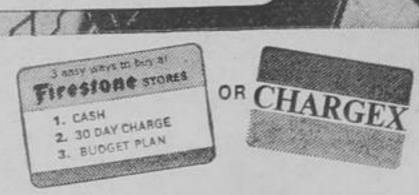
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