

The Evaporator Lot

By Deborah Hudson

On November 4, 1870 James Grimmon wrote his last will and testament bequeathing to his sons various lands on lot 9 Concession 1 North Black River. The oldest son, Alva Ellis, had a military career and had purchased 14 acres from his father in 1869. Edward Robert, the second son, was bequeathed the farm (where I live now) with the stipulation to care for his mother, Mary (Ackerman) Grimmon. Calvin Brinton Grimmon, a fourteen year old at the time, was to receive \$200 or 4 acres from the farm with 1 horse (worth not less than \$65), 1 cow and 16 chantable sheep. This was to be received when he reached the age of majority at 21.



When he came of age, Calvin took over 4 acres of land alongside the Black River and built an evaporator where he dried apples. In those days there were many apple trees on the farm. Howard Dulmage gave an account of what running an evaporator was like when apples were dried at night. "There were two furnaces that made the heat to dry the apples. The apples had to be turned every 3 hours, I believe, and have them ready to take off the next day for the next run. They also made cider. They also dried the skins and cores and chopped up the small apples and dried them when there was a market for them." (Memories of South Bay, 1980, p.7).

After a time, Calvin gave up farming in Black Creek, moved into Picton and became a carpenter working throughout the County as well as in the

boat building trade. He was married to Fannie Irvine and died at the age of 80.

"The Evaporator Lot", as it was called by the family, was owned by my grandparents, Ralph (Calvin's nephew) and Beatrice Grimmon when I was kid. They had a small trailer at the river's edge where Grandma Grimmon fed the bullfrogs pieces of bread. In the 1980's their daughter, Kathleen, and husband Colin Dobbin built Colleen Cottage (their retirement home/Bed & Breakfast) on the lot. Today, under new ownership, it is still a popular B&B on the scenic shore of the Black River.

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The Prince Edward County
Chamber of Tourism & Commerce

2015 Annual General Meeting and Dinner

April 2, 2015 at 5:30 p.m.

Royal Canadian Legion Branch 78, 347 Main Street East, Picton.

Guest Speaker:

Charlene Lunney, Vice President, Network and Membership
Ontario Chamber of Commerce
Topic: *The Chamber Value Proposition*

Business Meeting and Elections to be held following the Speaker Presentation

1. To confirm and ratify the 2015 AGM of the membership.
2. To confirm and ratify the Chamber's corporate by-law as revised.
3. Receive the Financial Statement and Annual Report.
4. Elect Directors of the Chamber.
5. To appoint the Chamber's accountant.
6. Transact such other business as may be properly brought before the meeting.

Anyone who is a member in good standing of the Chamber at the time of the AGM may attend the meeting with full voting rights.

Copies of the financial statements and the Chamber's corporate by-law as revised, may be viewed and are available at the Chamber office at 116 Main Street, Picton, Ontario during normal business hours.

Join us and bring a guest for an evening of information sharing and updates on Chamber business activities. The evening starts at 5:30 pm for conversation and networking followed by dinner at 6:30 pm.

Reserve your dinner tickets or table by calling Karen at 613-476-2421 or by email to contactus@pecchamber.com.
Cash, cheque, Visa and MasterCard accepted.

Chamber Members - \$25.00 person inclusive of gratuities and taxes.
Non-members - \$30.00 inclusive of gratuities and taxes.

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