

Kenneth "Joe" Saint West Gwillimbury Hall

May 2, 1987

Length: 14 minutes and 19 seconds

Ken "Joe" Saint introduces himself and says he will be speaking about his family tree at the Scotch Settlement Historical Meeting which will be taking place in the municipal offices of West Gwillimbury. – Tape cuts out - ... They had nine children (it can be assumed Joe is referring to William Sr. and Sarah Maria who were his great-grandparents). William Jr. remained in England and he was a mailman. Thomas (Joe's grandfather) and his siblings Harry, Annie, Maria, Frank Albert, Arthur Ralph, and George came from London, England to Canada (brother David was born in Canada). They embarked on the S.S. Severn* on June 2, 1871, arrived to Quebec on June 21, 1871, and proceeded to Toronto. They inquired for work and were told there had been a big fire in Bradford (May 22, 1871) so they boarded the train to Bradford. – Tape cuts out - ... came to a log house on the south side of the plank road, west of Middletown, on Lot 9 (it can be assumed that Joe is referring to William Sr. and Sarah's family). The Church family lived in the other two log houses ... William Sr. died there in 1875 from unknown causes and was buried in the Anglican cemetery. Some of the children returned to England. Harry married Sarah Elizabeth Sheppard while there. Then the family returned to Bradford, still leaving William Jr. in England. He died in 1911.

Thomas (Joe's grandfather) was born in 1852 and died in 1932. He moved to Bradford as soon as they came to Canada and worked in construction as a stone mason and brick layer. He worked for George* McDonnell and other contractors. He married Mary Harman who was born in 1849 and died in 1894. They had six children. Sarah Elizabeth lived from 1891 to 1970 and married Walter Reeves. William lived from 1877 to 1901 and is buried in Middletown Cemetery. Leonard (Joe's father) lived from 1885 to 1967 and married on November 14, 1907 in Newmarket to Eva May McMain (1887 to 1960). John lived for two years and was buried in Middletown Cemetery. Violet Jane lived from 1889 to 1966 and married James Armstrong in 1914. Mabel May lived from 1887 to 1955 and married Lawrence Church.

Harry was a teamster in Bradford and had 15 children; 13 lived for some time. He bought 13 pairs of shoes and didn't even have a pair for himself. His children were John, Edith, Elizabeth, Sarah, Bertha, Emily, Richard (also known as Dick, he married Charlotte Bone from Thornton), Joseph, Elsie, Myrtle, Samuel, Helen, Frederick, and Walter.

Annie Maria married Henry Charles Harman who was a stone mason. He and George* McDonnell (who was mentioned previously) plastered the house in Bradford (*it is unclear what house he is referring to*). Annie and Charles had four children named Annie Theressa, George (he was the town bell ringer), Florence May, and Albert.

Frank Albert remained out in the country and married Catherine Annie Campbell. They had five children: one who died at birth, Arthur James (he was a contractor and built barns and married Marguerite MacDonald), Dollina, Katherine Wilma (she married James Bateman), and Fredrick Frank (he married Frances Davies and was a veterinarian). Frank Sr.'s mother was packing up to go back to England but he didn't want to go; he said he would step off the train. From there he moved onto ... Campbell's (first *name is inaudible*) farm on the 6th to work for a few years. Then he married the daughter Catharine Campbell who died in 1926. After that he moved to Hamcorner*. The story goes that it was named Hamcorner* because ... (*woman's name is inaudible*) was working for some farm around there and the pay wasn't very good so she stole some ham from the farm and brought it back home to feast on. Joe doesn't know if the story is true or not.

Arthur Ralph was a stone mason and brick layer. He married Mary Alice Smith and they had seven children named Beatrice, Russel, Eric*, Rita, ..., David, and Archibald. Archibald used to work at different stores in Bradford. He was a bartender at the Queen's Hotel.

George was a stone mason; there were many stone masons in the family. George married Ruth Archer from the Scotch Settlement and had six children. One died after birth but there was also George, Norman Edgar, Gertrude, Gus, and Bessie Victoria. Bessie is still living (at the time of the interview) and she is in Guelph. They lived on John Street in Bradford until around the 1960s.

Maria lived from 1869 to 1897 and married Robert W. Collings. Supposedly, Robert was hauling hay down the river in the spring and his horse went through the ice. He tried to get the horse out and as a result got pneumonia and died. Maria died not long after. They had a son named Ernest and a son named Frederick (Colly). Colly was quite a lacrosse player and was on the local team in Bradford as well as a team in Calgary. He was born in 1889 and died in 1982. Ernest married Nellie Sutton. David was the last son of William Sr. and Sarah Maria and was the only one born in Canada. He was born in 1872 and died in 1886 from drowning.

Joe has the manifest from the ship that brought the family to Canada which shows who was on it. He also has the family tree and some photos. Joe says he has the death notice of Hector A. Sutherland if anyone is interested in it. He went through all of the Bradford

Bradford West Gwillimbury Public Library





Newspapers and got some clippings. For the Bradford Witness, he has been getting all the birth and death notices so he has them if anyone needs them. ... – Tape cuts out -

... Indicates that the speaker is inaudible.

^{*} Indicates that the word or name is written as it sounded, and therefore may be incorrect.