



D.K. Harvey

Interview

March 20, 1974

Length: 1 hour, 1 minute and 6 seconds

Jack Coleman introduces himself and Peter Moran of the Simcoe County Archives who are at the home of Dewitt Henry Kitson Harvey in Beeton. D.K. was born in Tecumseth on Lot 16, Concession 12 and speaks about his father's (from England) and mother's (from Wales) family histories. He speaks about his siblings as well as his own family with his wife. D.K. attended Newton Robinson School. He describes his experiences with Hurricane Hazel in detail, during which time he was Clerk for the township of Tecumseth. They discuss the Nottawasaga Drainage Scheme which started in 1896 and the current water system in Tecumseth. They speak about the Nottawasaga Conservation Authority since D.K. is a member of the executive committee. D.K. describes his career after coming back from overseas in 1919 which included farming and getting involved in municipal affairs. He was the Warden of Simcoe County in 1947 and speaks about his experiences in this capacity. D.K. gives his opinions on the current state of County Council. He describes some prominent people from the Tecumseth area, including Sir William Mulock, Sir William Osler, Sir Frederick Banting, D.A. Jones, and Kate Aitken. They discuss the first railroad and the first automobiles in the Tecumseth area and the effects on farmers. The first mail delivery in the 1920s, the first telephone, the first hydro lines, and the first road maintenance are discussed. D.K. explains how the biggest change in Tecumseth has been the increase in population.

Note: This is a brief summary of what has been recorded on tape. Anyone interested in assisting to transcribe or summarize these oral histories is encouraged to contact Nina Cunniff, Deputy CEO of the Bradford West Gwillimbury Public Library, at (905) 775-3328 ext. 6105.

