



## Marjorie Baynes

### *Interview*

June 20, 1991

Length: 32 minutes and 5 seconds

George Jackson introduces himself, Anne Coffey, and *[name is inaudible]* who are interviewing Marjorie Baynes at the Bradford Public Library. It starts by identifying Marjorie's father as William Richard Baynes, who was born in West Gwillimbury. *[There are a few names that were used many times by the Baynes family making it difficult to know which Richard or William the speaker is talking about. This may cause some confusion while reading the transcript.]* Her mother was Clara Maude Bell and was also born in West Gwillimbury. Her father's family came from England and her mother's family from Scotland. As far as her father's family goes, Marjorie gives credit to her aunt Laura Baynes who along with a Calhoun relative that did a lot of recording and research on their family. George asks who to contact about the Calhoun information and Marjorie says to talk to Arval\* Calhoun who lives in Cobalt\*. The Calhoun's fit into the Baynes picture because her great grandmother from Ireland was a Calhoun and her great grandfather William Baynes was from England and they married in 1845 then lived in Hogshall north of Toronto near Thornhill.

Marjorie cannot remember when they moved to West Gwillimbury. While living near Toronto they had two small kids Ester and Richard. Then they moved to Lot 15 concession 12 West Gwillimbury and had three more kids. The children born in West Gwillimbury is unknown by Marjorie. Their names were Jane, Elizabeth and William. Marjorie says there was always a William all the way down the line. The oldest girl Ester married James C. Meely\* and they had 5 daughters and 3 sons, Isabelle Jane, Mary Katherine (called Cassie), Ester Adeline (called Addy), Annie Lousia, and Amanda Jane (called Jenny) and none of them were married and they lived in Toronto and all are buried at St. Paul's cemetery at Coulson's Hill. The sons are William





James, Richard James who married Rose Baker, and William Wesley who married Florence Hanley\*. The two brother William James and Richard James were buried at St. Paul's at Coulson's Hill while the youngest one William Wesley toured in France during World War One. Richard and Wesley did have families and Richard was better known as Dick. Dick had three sons and two daughters: Helen, Homer, Earl, Harold, and Vivian. Vivian has a daughter Denise and son Scott. Wesley had three sons and two daughters: Viola\*, John, Norman, and Louis (Marjorie is unable to remember the name of the first son). Mrs. Neely was a Baynes. Mrs. Neely Ester was the first of the family and Richard was the second born and he was Marjorie's grandfather. Richard married Hana Francis Tunstead\* and they had 4 daughters and one son: Marie Ethel, Rachel Ida, Laura, Hanna and William Richard (William Richard became Marjorie's father). Marie Ethel had married William Milton Kneeshaw and they had 3 sons and 7 daughters: Wilfred, Laura, Alberta, Velma, Eileen, Francis, John, Doris, Robert, and Isabelle. That is Marjorie's Aunts family.

George comments that is the Kneeshaw family and Ida Roberts wrote a book on the Kneeshaw history. Rachel Ida married Fred Richie and they had one daughter Evalyne who lives at St. Thomas. The third daughter Hannah married Gordon McCutcheon\* and they had two sons and two daughters: Florence was the oldest and she married Lloyd Bluith\* and they had a daughter Glenda who married David Snyder\* and is living in Sundridge. Marjorie married Roy Dunn\* and they had one daughter and one son, (name is not available), and Glenn. Kenneth married Helen Gordon Near and they have a son and daughter. Gordon W. Married Mary Lang and they had 2 daughters. Her father William Richard Baynes who married Clara Bell in 1917 and they had 3 kids: Marjorie, Clarence and Ruth. Clarence married Isabelle Washington and they have a daughter Bonnie and son Gary. Bonnie married Frank Gulianno\* and has two sons Christopher and Michael and a daughter Eilana\*. Their son Gary married Carla Newak\* and has two daughters Ashley and Alysha. Ruth married William Darby and had 3 sons William, Donald and Carl. William married Debra Bradley and that ended in Divorce then he married Debra Cornell and had 2 daughters Laura and Shannon. Donald married





Cynthia McMillis\* and had a son named Donald. Carl married Christina Sutton which ended in divorce and had 2 sons Laurence and Gregory who is now married to Cheryl Bruce.

Now back to third child of William and Mary. Jane Beans\* married Robert Wood and they settled in Lot 16 concession 11 West Gwillimbury. Their children were Maude, Harold, Edith, Wilfred, Leonard, Winifred, Myra, Helena, and Edna. Maude the oldest girl married Mark Roberts and their son Gerald married Mark Refeld. Their daughter Ruth married John W. Booth. Edith married Dr. Wilfred Evans and they lived out west in Calgary. They had 5 sons Elwood, George, Howard, Fred, and Arthur. Now most of the Wood family is buried at St. Paul's at Coulson's Hill. Marjorie Baynes mother was a Bell. [*George asks an inaudible question*]. The fourth child of William and Mary Baynes was Elizabeth and she married Jonathan Kneeshaw and they settled at Lot 14 concession 6 which was part of Bradford. Their family was Mable, Ida, Ethel, Stella, Roy, Elmer, Wilfred, Edna, Loua\*. That is on the Kneeshaw family tree. The fifth child of William and Mary was William C. Baynes who married Francis Kneeshaw and they had no family but lived on lot 15 concession 12 West Gwillimbury. Deerhurst is no more but it was Lot 15 concession 12 it was right across from the Ebenezer Cemetery and there was a post office there. Her grandfather used to go pick up mail for people in the area and go to the post office to send off and would bring back the mail for all the people in the area. Her grandfather died in 1925 and her grandmother died in 1931. The Tunstead's (Marjorie's grandmother's family) came from Ireland and first settled in New Jersey and then came to the Toronto area where she met Marjorie's grandfather.

When asked about the post office having a store attached to it Marjorie says there was no general store attached but it did sell some candy [*inaudible*] George asks where Marjorie went to school and she explains that she went to number 4 in West Gwillimbury. She lived in the north and the school was in the South and explains that after the Deerhurst post office closed in 1914 than her father and grandfather became more serious farmers and moved south which was when she would have started school. In 1919 they bought the Peter Ferris farm on lot 12 concessions 5 when her parents were married. Marjorie wasn't born until 1921 so she went to number 4 schools and then went to Bradford High School. George asks about school and how many students were





at the school. Marjorie says she believes it was 25-30 students. As she finished high school they introduced the one year special commercial so Marjorie took that before going to work in Toronto and then moved to work in Barrie in the early 1940s. Clarence went to school at number 4 and Bradford high school, as did Ruth and she went on to take some commercial classes and was only employed for a short time before she was married in 1947 and then became a homemaker.

George asks about her memories about walking to school and other specifics. Marjorie remembers walking half a mile to school. Her first teacher was Amanda Hodgeson who married her cousin Wilfred Kneeshaw. Amanda Kneeshaw lived on Hurd Street. After that her teacher was Marjorie Sutherland who was one of her neighbours. Marjorie Sutherlands father was John Sutherland and there was Burt, Marjorie, Mible\*, Ronald, Isobelle, and Donald. Her third teacher was Edith Lloyd and she believes the Cranston Ruth was also a teacher [*inaudible*] Isobelle became a teacher at S.S. #4 school before she was married. Marjorie's home was destroyed by fire in 1942 during the winter. Marjorie was in Barrie at that time and the very same morning or the night before there was a bad fire in Barrie at the five points. After the fire Marjorie was given a temporary "shack" and says she doesn't know how they kept warm until spring came but she was there on weekends and had to live in that until the frame of the house. Marjorie said it took a long time to rebuild fully because of a lack of building supplies. [*Tape cuts out*]

*Note: \* Indicates that the word or name is written as it sounded, and therefore may be incorrect.*

