



Cottage and Mill Race (Harry Spiers)

Part Two 1851 - 1900

The First Schoolhouse, S.S. #15 - 1851

FRANCIS SILVERTHORN'S FATHER, AARON FROM ETOBICOKE, was responsible for Meadowvale getting its first schoolhouse. For a few years, the parents in Meadowvale had been discussing the need for a school, but it took the tenacity of Aaron Silverthorn putting in the first request to the newly appointed Council in the newly incorporated Township of Toronto to make it happen. His request by way of a petition was the first to be presented, which took place on February 11, 1850. It was carried over to the next meeting held on February 16th in Streetsville, then again to the 25th. It was resolved that, "No further action be taken on this petition." Aaron persevered and the following spring, it was passed for the building of a school house in School Section #15.

In the summer of 1851, Meadowvale got its school. Francis donated land on which the schoolhouse was built. It sat on a hillside and gave a lovely view of the surrounding countryside. The first teacher was Samuel James McCulloch Woodwick True. The first trustees

were Francis Silverthorn, Andrew Davidson and John Simpson.



◀ Aaron Silverthorn
(Silverthorn Family Collection)

The school was used by the Wesleyan Methodist congregation for church services until the church was built in 1863. They were known to be a boisterous group, who during service would bellow, "Amen" and "Hallelujah," stamp their feet,



▲ Second Schoolhouse, 1871

(Mississauga Heritage Foundation)

clap their hands and pound the desks in their religious excitement.

The same year that free schooling was instigated, 1871, a second frame school was constructed on the Second Line with a stone foundation on a fifth of an acre (0.1 ha) purchased from John Simpson for \$200 by the School Trustees. The front section of the building was covered in board and batten (strips of wood nailed across parallel boards



▲ Meadowvale Public School Award Winners, 1927
(Region of Peel Archives)

for reinforcement, common in 1860-1880 period). It had delicate archading connecting each batten below the eaves. Extensive use of windows were installed on the south side of the building, which provided sufficient lighting for the reading tasks of the children. The back section was covered with clapboard. It had a plaque on it stating the year it was built (which has disappeared).

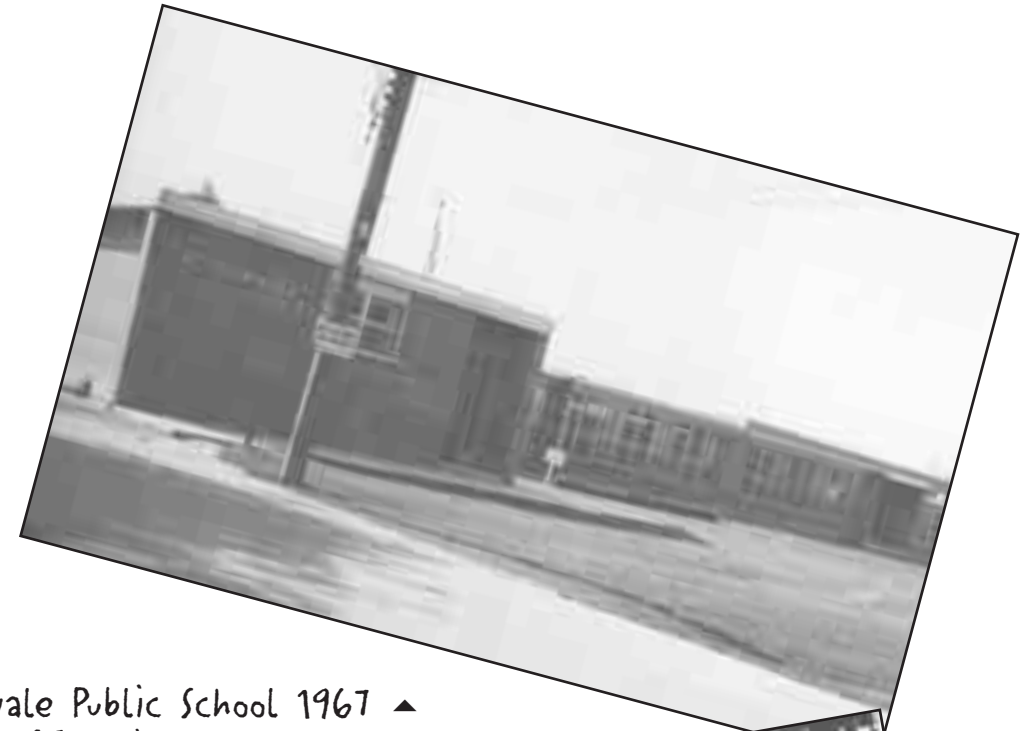
This school was utilized as the Community Hall for the residents and all the activities were held with great revelry. The old school was sold to Mrs. Rankin and used as a residence. She sold to Walter Preston, who made several changes to make it appear more like a

house. On August 29, 1974, this house was destroyed by fire, which was caused by defective wiring. At this time it was owned by Miss Edythe Barber, who had the house boarded up and moved to a nursing home in Streetsville. Mr. Raymond Carruthers of Carruthers Construction Company, built a house in 1991 at this location, 7140 Second Line West, but he prefers 1 Barberry Lane, and still resides there today. Edythe's weaver's cottage still exists, north of his gate.

It has been recorded by Louis Southern in the Meadowvale Women's Institute scrapbooks that the first boy to receive a spanking was James Danby Steen, and Harry Sibbald, who had a wild streak,



▲ School as Community Hall
(Mississauga Heritage Foundation)



Meadowvale Public School 1967 ▲
(Peel Board of Education)



▲ Meadowvale Public School 2002
(Kathleen A. Hicks)



▲ Raymond Carruthers' House, 2003
(Kathleen A. Hicks)

was made to stand in the corner on one foot. Some of the teachers who are remembered fondly are: Mr. Gordon Tucker, 1892, Miss McCracken, 1899, Miss Jean Johnson, 1918, and Miss Sadie Carr, 1920.

In 1959, the schoolhouse at 6970 Second Line West became the Community Centre when a much larger one storey red brick building was constructed. This third school has had several additions put on, and today it has 13 rooms and there are also 20 portables to accommodate the 750 students. On June 12, 2000, the school, located at 890 Old Derry Road, celebrated its 40th anniversary and a Peace Garden, that is being maintained by six local builders, was established. Linda Nicholson has been the principal since 1998.



▲ Edyth Barber's Weaver's Cottage, 2003
(Kathleen A. Hicks)



▲ Home of Raymond Carruthers
(Kathleen A. Hicks)

MEMORIES

"When Robert George Brown was a small boy attending school in Meadowvale, he was sometimes a few minutes late, having walked two or three miles from his farm house on the Third Line (now Creditview Road and presently owned by Mrs. Milson). The school-master locked the door promptly at 9 a.m. and any pupil late was forced to wait outside until recess to enter. On this particular morning in the winter, little Robert George was late and of course was locked out. Instead of waiting, he walked all the way home and told his father what had happened. The elder Brown was a bit upset by this and promptly hitched up the horse and sleigh, and taking Robert George with him, drove to the school and found the door locked. The father knocked on the door and when there was no answer, he knocked louder - nothing! Finally, he seized a piece of firewood that was lying beside the door and smashed the door open. 'Now, damn you, will you let my boy in?' the father cried."

Told by Ian Davidson to Louise Southern February, 1980.

Meadowvale Women's Institute Scrapbooks



▲ School Master and Class
(Artist Norman Price, Perkins Bull Collection)

The Second Hotel - 1852

Mathew Laidlaw built a two and a half storey red brick hotel in 1852 on a half acre of land (0.2 ha) Lot 11, Con. 3, WHS, purchased from James Crawford on September 9, 1846, for £50 (\$125), that would harbor a well used licenced tavern. It was of a Neo-Classical style with a Georgian balance with a gable roof and a Credit Valley stone foundation. Across the front facade, Laidlaw constructed a two tiered open veranda. It became known as the Commercial Hotel.



▲ Mathew Laidlaw
(Bruce Farnell)

Mathew came to Meadowvale in 1834 from Drifffield, Yorkshire, England. In 1837, he sent for his father, Aaron (b.1784, d.1852), mother Ann Danby (1785-1864) and younger brothers, John (1823-1900), Aaron (1825-1891) and William. The oldest brother, Danby, remained in England. Mathew married Ann Farnell. He received a Crown grant, 100 acres (40 ha) of Lot 8, Con. 4, WHS, on November 9, 1844, and sold it to Edward Rutherford for £400 (\$1,000) on March 21, 1865.



▲ The Hotel in 1922,
home of William Lambe
(Region of Peel Archives)

ON SEPTEMBER 19, 1848, HE BOUGHT 67 ACRES (26.8 ha) OF Lot 11, Con. 3, WHS, for £235 (\$598), the west half of the 120 acres (48.6 ha) William Neeland had purchased from John Beatty in 1845. In 1856, he purchased the Bell Hotel and blacksmith shop. He also purchased Village Lot 4 at the corner of Pond Street from Francis Silverthorn on August 29, 1859, for £30 (\$75).

When father, Aaron, died on July 1, 1852, at age 68, he was buried in the Churchville Cemetery. His brother, John, rented property from Joseph Gardner in Britannia for over 20 years. He married twice to Jane Frances (1825-1860) and Ann Large (1832-1887) and had 12 children. He and brother Aaron helped build the Methodist Church in 1863. Then he bought



◀ Aaron and Ann Danby
Laidlaw's Gravestone, 2003
(Kathleen A. Hicks)

Lot 17, Con. 3, WHS, in Chinguacousy and moved there in 1866. He also had Lot 8, Con. 5, WHS. Aaron Jr. married Lucy Kerney (1827-1905) of Streetsville and also moved to Chinguacousy to Lot 8, Con. 6, WHS. He had a hotel in Churchville on Lot 14, W 1/2, Con. 2, WHS, purchased from Thomas Clark in 1882, and the Royal Albert Inn at Whaley's Corners. He died on May 15, 1891, age 66.

Some years later, Mathew Laidlaw leased the hotel to Moses Strong, and left the hotel business. He took over the operation of James Ward's store that had been constructed in 1849.

Over the years the hotel underwent considerable alterations by its owners such as Joseph Kerney, who bought from Mathew on May 26, 1870, for \$3,200, Christopher Rutledge, 1875, for \$4,700, Joseph Bessey, 1881, for \$3,420, who sold to George Loughheed, for \$3,600 and he to Frank Sibbald on January 23, 1884, for \$860 and other property. Frank leased it to Ephraim Hopkins for two years and then sold it to John Callaghan in May, 1886, for \$3,380. Callaghan received \$3,500 for it in 1909 from William Royce. On September 1, 1915, Royce made a transaction for \$3,600 with William Kindree, a traveller from Toronto, who on the same day transferred it for the

same amount to William Lambe. John Callaghan was the last to operate it as a hotel. It became the Lambes' home.

William Lambe sold the building to Goldwin Smith in 1944 for \$4,000, and then it was turned over to Ethel Smith in 1948 for \$1. On January 31, 1949, Ethel sold to Harold Livingston Robson for \$6,000. Robson divided the substantial building into apartments. One evening, when he and his friend William Lambe got together over a bottle of booze, they decided to tear down the decorative veranda and second storey balcony. Around 1955, Robson added hipped gable dormers to the roof. Son Gerald took over the premises upon his father's death in 1956 and resided there with wife, Phyllis, and children until he died in 1974.

The heritage dwelling, painted white around 1970, is located at 1051 Old Derry Road, and is owned by Gerald's son, Robert, and his wife, Cheryl, and is still utilized as apartments. In 2002, Robert began preparing to reinstate the original veranda/balcony facade to his building, restoring the heritage aspect. As of this printing, he is still determined to carry out this plan.



◀ Robson Apartment Building, 1978
(City of Mississauga Community Services)

The First Post Office - 1857

THE FIRST POST OFFICE WAS established in 1857 in Francis Silverthorn's store, which was located on the north side of Main Street (Derry Road), with Luther Cheyne as postmaster. It was opened on August 1st and called the Meadowvale Post Office and thereby the Village legally received its name.



▲ Luther Cheyne
(Region of Peel Archives)



◀ James Gooderham
(Region of Peel Archives)



Charles Switzer ▶
(Region of Peel Archives)

Before this, residents had to pick up their mail at Derry West, one mile (1.6 k) east of Meadowvale.

In 1861, the Gooderhams took over Francis Silverthorn's mill and store. Luther kept his postmaster job until 1862 when James Gooderham took on the position. In 1865, James' brother, Charles "Holly," replaced him. When Holly decided to move back to Toronto, Charles Switzer became the postmaster in 1882 and bought the Gooderham store in 1890. Then Mr. J. H. Whitlam was running it and in February, 1907, it burned down. The day after the fire, a Postal representative from Toronto came to the Village to make arrangements to carry on the operation of the Post Office.



▲ James Craig, Rural Mail Carrier
(Region of Peel Archives)

However, Mr. Whitlam did not want to continue in the position and William Lambe, son of Albert S. Lambe who ran a sawmill, took over the Post Office, which was relocated temporarily in the former Gardner store that Albert Lambe had bought in 1903, located east of his Mill. Makeshift tables were set up to sort the mail. The building was then turned into a store and post office and William had his father, William Gardner, and William Royce take on the postmaster duties until 1917.

Francis J. Jackson (Toronto Township councillor 1903-1906, Deputy Reeve, 1907, and Reeve 1908-1909) built a large two storey red brick building in 1916, that had a flat roof with a brick cornice, next door to Lambe's and opened a general store. A year later the Post Office was moved there with William Jackson as postmaster. William Lambe bought the store in December, 1921, and relocated his business to the larger premises and resumed the position of postmaster until 1936. The Post Office remained there until 1967, with William's son Albert Lambe (1936-1945), James Van Allan (1945-1954), David

Loker (1954-1955), John Smith (1956-1957), James Ogle (1957-1959), Archie Ragan (1959-1960) and Arthur J. Mongeau (1960-1970) handling the mail duties. Rural delivery was started around 1920 and Mr. James Craig was the first rural mail carrier.

In February, 1967, the Post Office was moved to Mr. Mongeau's new house across the street. At this time, 72 locked boxes were installed and Mr. Mongeau delivered the rural mail. He died in 1970 while on the job and his wife, Simone, continued as postmistress until she retired in 1977.

The villagers were determined to keep the post office functioning and so Miss Paddy Ogle, who lived on Mill Lane (now 7076 Old Mill Lane), had the Post Office moved to the front veranda of her parents' residence. In 1981, it was moved back to the Jackson/Lambe store that had just been purchased by Robert and Judith (Jody) Harrison, who became postmistress. On December 5, 1981, Jody officially

opened the Meadowvale Post Office, General Store and Craft Shop with a ribbon cutting ceremony by Mayor Hazel McCallion, Ward 9 Councillor, Ted Southorn, and Bill Thomson from the City of Mississauga's Planning Department.

Margarita (Rita) Fromm purchased the building from Jody on August 2, 1983, and continued the duties the store and post office entailed. When she announced she was going to retire on December 1, 1989, there was a meeting held on October 17, 1989, to discuss the future location of the Postal facility in the Village. The decision was to have post boxes installed for the residents on the corner of Old Mill Lane, which was carried out on November 19, 1990. In 1994, an octagonal wooden Gazebo structure with a wood shingle roof was built to house the boxes, identified as 1081 Old Derry Road, and they are still used today (2004). Marguarita still resides in her heritage designated residence at 1060 Old Derry Road.



▲ Post Boxes on Old Mill Lane
(Region of Peel Archives)

Former Post Office ►
(City of Mississauga
Community Services)

◀ Post Box Gazebo
(City of Mississauga Community
Services)



The Village's Growth - 1857

BY 1857, THE VILLAGE OF MEADOWVALE WAS flourishing and could boast: a blacksmith, one flour mill, one grist mill, one schoolhouse, two hotels, a wagon shop, the first in the village built in 1848 on Water Street by James Johnson, three general merchants, one Minister, one Postmaster, two sawmills and one shoemaker. Many local farmers grew mostly fall wheat, which was taken to Silverthorn's mill and then "teamed" (a term used for horses and a wagon) to Malton or Brampton to be sent out on the Grand Truck Railway, that had been constructed in 1855.

There also was the Johnson's foundry, built by Hugh Johnson and his brother, Horatio, in 1853, the first in Canada West (Ontario). It was a major industry called Mammoth Iron Works and Foundry that manufactured first class farm equipment, such as reapers, mowers and separators. It started out employing 20 men and would eventually have 70 workers. The Johnsons erected cottages for their employees to reside in. The foundry was credited with making the first reaper in Canada West.

In the Provincial competition for best farm equipment, the Johnsons won first prize two years in succession. At this time, the population of Meadowvale was approximately 200.

The Johnson Wagon Shop was on Silverthorn's Lot 11 and is still in existence on the former Southern/Mead's Lot 89 of the Village plan. The former Johnson Foundry building can be found on Goran Skalin's Lot 87, both on Willow Lane.



▲ Silverthorn Mill
(Region of Peel Archives)

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NEWS ITEM

A story on Francis Silverthorn's mill fire ran in the *Brampton Christian Guardian* on November 16, 1853. It read in part: "Meadowvale Mills, consisting of flour, oat and barley mills, were destroyed by fire Thursday the 10th of November. The fire broke out about 12 or 1 o'clock in the morning and was supposed to have originated in the smut machine. The only insurance we understand was about 1000 pounds upon the stock and 800 pounds upon the mill".

Francis was known as "The Honest Miller." He rebuilt the grist mill, had another fire in 1859 and it stood until 1954 when it was torn down. It has been said that the Bank of Canada held the mortgages on Francis' property, with Gooderham & Worts being the biggest shareholder, so that company took over the mill. In the Region of Peel Land Registry, there is no record of the Bank of Canada, only William Gooderham is down as the mortgager and he did indeed take over Francis entire operation in 1861.

The Orange Lodge - 1857



▲ John Rutledge
(Perkins Bull Collection)

The Orange Order had been flourishing in Toronto Township since 1820 thanks to the ingenuity of Irishman John Rutledge, who it has been said organized a Lodge in Grahamsville. The first parade in the Home District was held in York on July 12, 1822. Invariably, the

Roman Catholics would oppose the festivities of the Orangemen celebrating England's King Billy, William of Orange, delivering them from Papist authority when he conquered Ireland in the "Battle of Boyne" July 1st, and "Battle of Aughrim" on July 12, 1690, and would start a riot.

The Orangemen of Meadowvale went to the other lodges such as Streetsville, 1822, Grahamville, 1820, and Derry West, 1822, until 1857, when Luther Cheyne, the post master, decided to organize a Lodge in the Village.

It got started with nearly 30 members, some of whom were George Birdsall, Alexander and James Broddy, Luther, George and Andrew Cheyne, William Elliott Sr., Thomas Grafton, Thomas and

George Graham, George and William Hamilton and William Tilt. Luther Cheyne became the Worshipful Master, William Elliott, secretary, Thomas Graham, treasurer, with George Cheyne as the first Deputy Master.

It became Eldon Temperance L.O.L. No. 708, Meadowvale. They rented a hall for 5 shillings (60¢) a month while they raised the funds to build a hall. They could not find a site, so used the upstairs room over the carriage shop on Joseph Kerney's Lot 9, Con. 4, property.

Finally in October, 1872, they opened their new Lodge. In 1873, they rented the use of the hall for six months to the Sons of Temperance. This group prohibited imbibing on the Lodge premises.



▲ Orangemen's Day Parade, 1822
(C.W. Jefferys/Perkins Bull Collection)

George Gooderham provided a white horse for the July 12th parade each year. The members would march from Samuel Brown's on Derry Road over to Gooderhams and up Second Line. When William Elliott Jr. was Member of Parliament (1878-1882), he would carry the banner. Record books were kept until 1878 and dues were paid to the provincial Grand Lodge until 1884. By 1902, the Lodge no longer existed. When the Lodge was discontinued, the building became Drake's Furniture Shop. In later years, it was demolished.



The Lambes - 1860



▲ Albert Lambe's Sawmill, 1904
(Harry Spiers)



▲ Albert Lambe's House, 1904
(Harry Spiers)



▲ A.S. Lambe & Son Store
(Region of Peel Archives)

Albert S. Lambe, who had been born in Chinguacousy in 1854 and raised in Meadowvale Village by the Simpsons since 1860, grew up to be an industrious young man. In 1884, Albert bought a saw mill from Frank Sibbald for \$1,300 that had been owned by Jonadab Hardy. He married Mary Ann Piercey from Fergus and they had a son, William, in 1888. On June 30, 1890, he bought the Bell Hotel from Ann Laidlaw Davis for \$300 and remodeled it for a rooming house for his employees and accommodations for visitors to the Village. Around this time, he received a contract from the Eatons store in Toronto to supply a substantial order of lumber.

Mary Ann purchased property on the north side of Derry Road, Lot 11, where James Ward's store had burned down, and in 1893, Albert built a new house on it. George McClintock of Streetsville painted this building for him. On March 12, 1894, Albert purchased 50 acres (20 ha), E 1/2 of Lot 10, Con. 4, for \$2,000, part of the William Birdsall grant. The saw mill was still operating at the turn of the century.

In 1907, Albert's son, William, took over the Meadowvale Post Office and became postmaster. He put the post office in his father's building next door to the mill, and within a year turned it into a store. It became called A. S. Lambe & Son. Bread, not wrapped or sliced, was delivered by train from Toronto in wooden boxes marked Weston's Bread. William married Maude Williamson, the daughter of David and Anne Williamson of Halton County and they had Albert, James, Annie and Dorothy.



▲ Sidewalks put in along Main Street (Derry Road)
(Region of Peel Archives)

In 1909, a sidewalk was laid on the south side of Main Street (Derry Road) from the Methodist Church to the last building across from Willow Lane. Albert Lambe and Bill Harris had to sign a bond for Toronto Township Council before the sidewalk could be installed, stating that they were liable if any accidents should occur. The local residents and farmers gave of their time, money and labour to prepare the area and Albert supplied the cement and paid Mr. Joe Drennan of Streetsville to install the sidewalk. Gravel was put on Main Street (Derry Road), which was donated by Francis Jackson, Sig S. Reeve and William T. Davidson. In 1922, the Women's Institute had the sidewalk laid on the north side up to Pond Street. Miss Elizabeth Trevorror was president at that time.

Albert Lambe closed down his lumber business in February, 1909, and at this time it was reported that "Messrs, A.S. Lambe & Son have installed a new lighting system, gasoline. Each light gives over 100 c.p. They have two lights inside the store and one outside. This is a great improvement and makes the store as bright as day."

In 1913, Albert became blind, which caused him to retire. On September 1, 1915, William Lambe purchased the Laidlaw Commercial Hotel from William Royce for \$3,600 and it became his residence.

On December 29, 1921, William paid \$2,500 for Francis Jackson's store that had been operated by Jackson's brother, William, until they sold it to Alfred Hall, and he relocated his business there. It was around this time, when William was out delivering groceries in his Model T Ford car, that he was hit by a train at the station and his vehicle was demolished. He did escape injury, however, ending up with only a scratch on his face and the seat torn out of his pants. His mother died at age 62 on September 28, 1918, and Albert Lambe passed away on November 1, 1925, at age 71. Both are buried in the Churchville Cemetery. William took over his father's holdings and remodeled the old Bell Hotel, which was rented.

In the 1930s, William Lambe had four break-ins in his store in five years. In 1975, this account of the incident was written up by Louise Southern for the Women's Institute Scrapbooks: "Mr. W. Lambe was the owner and after four break-ins at his store in five years, he decided to do something about it. He constructed a signal device which rang a bell in his house when anyone entered the store. Then he hooked up a special switch so he could turn all the store lights on from his home. At 3 a.m., he was awakened by the alarm. Getting up, he picked up his gun and warned his wife not to turn on the store lights until he was in position. Armed, and accompanied by a neighbour, Thomas Preston, he walked the short distance to the store and took a stand at the bottom of a ladder leading to an open window. With everything ready, Mrs. Lambe flipped the switch which bathed the store in light. The two men scrambled for the window only to find Mr. Lambe calmly waiting for them at the bottom of the ladder. There were no more burglaries after this."

After running the grocery store for 30 years, William retired in 1938, turned his properties over to his son, James, and moved to

Florida, where his wife, Maude, died on May 29, 1941, of liver cancer. He returned home to bury Maude in the Churchville Cemetery. He married Margaret Milner of Malton on July 1, 1942. William and Margaret resided in his parents' house. He build a new



◀ Margaret
Milner

William
Lambe ▶

(Region of Peel
Archives)



house, east of his store, which was sold to John and Lula Reeve, then to Bertram Hale, then Donald McLaren and in May, 1947, to Mary Evelyn and Gordon Rae. James and Albert were busy with the Lambe enterprises, while William held mortgages for them and others in the village. Albert married a Miss Wilson from Brampton and they lived in the house across from his father. The Laidlaw Hotel was sold in 1944 and the Bell Hotel in 1948.

William died January 17, 1963, and was buried in the Churchville Cemetery with his parents and first wife. It was said of William Thomas Lambe that his traits were many, he had a respect of his neighbours, loved children, achieved success, lived well, appreciated nature, had a sense of humour, accomplished much and looked for the best in people and gave the best of himself. Margaret passed away in 1970.

Albert's house at 1045 Old Derry Road is owned by the former president of the Meadowvale Village Community Association, James Holmes. The Lambe/Rae house at 1050 Old Derry Road is now owned by Jason Holmes. The Jackson/Lambe store is a residence to Marguarita Fromm at 1060 Old Derry Road. The Bell Hotel at 1090 Old Derry Road has been owned by Elisabeth Mowling since 1976.

The old Laidlaw Commercial Hotel located at 1051 Old Derry Road is presently owned by Robert Robson and used as his residence and an apartment dwelling. Another Lambe owned house, 1066 Old Derry Road, has been owned by Les MacDonald since 1967. Lambe Court in the Monarch subdivision to the east of the Village is named for the Lambe's contribution to Meadowvale.



▲ The Lambe/Holmes
House
(City of Mississauga
Community Services)

Former Post Office/
Store ▶
(City of Mississauga
Community Services)



MEMORIES



▲ CPR Train Station
(Region of Peel Archives)

"Dad was on his way to deliver groceries from his store and just as he got to the crossing, he suddenly thought, 'It's about time for the 11 o'clock train.' When he looked up, the train was already slowing up for the station, but it was too late for Dad to stop. He was thrown into the back of the truck under some boxes and the first thing he saw was gasoline pouring out of his gas tank, but luckily, it never ignited. By this time, the train was stopped and the crew and some passengers had come on the scene. After making sure Dad was all right, the conductor said to him, 'Pull your coat down, Bill.' He had lost the seat of his pants."

Albert Lambe's account of his father's accident, April, 1975, from Meadowvale Women's Institute Scrapbooks

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▲ Bruce Farnell, 2002

"My great, great grandparents were John and Martha Lambe who lived in Chinguacousy Township. Martha died in 1859 and John in 1860, leaving three small children, William, Albert and Mary Ann. Mary was adopted by Mathew Laidlaw and his wife, Ann Farnell, and Albert by John Simpson. He was called Albert Simpson Lambe. My paternal great, great grandparents were William and Mary



▲ Mary and William Farnell (1804-1893)

(Artist John Wycliff Lowes Foster)

Farnell. Ann was their daughter. They came from Yorkshire, England in 1853 and settled north of Sandhill in Chinguacousy Township. They had 13 children, one was my great grandfather John, who married Mary Ann Lambe. John and Mary had four children, Albert, my grandfather William, Annie, who married Harold South, and Martha, who married William Gardner. They bought the house that is now called the Apple Tree Inn in 1890 and lived there until 1920. My dad's uncle, Harold South, bought the Gooderham farm."

Bruce Farnell, 2002

The Gooderham Connection - 1861

In 1861, William Gooderham (b.1790, d.1881) of Gooderham & Worts, Toronto, took over Francis Silverthorn's mills and store when Francis' business failed due to tragic circumstances such as his mill burning down twice and the Crimean War causing wheat prices to flounder.

The Gooderhams were prominent Toronto businessmen. The name Gooderham came from a Danish leader of soldiers named Guthrum, who in the year 866 A.D. invaded East Anglia and conquered the Kingdom. Ten years later, the Kingdom was divided amongst the soldiers with Guthrum as its crown. Over the centuries, Guthrum was changed to Gooderham. William was the second son of James and Sarah Gooderham. In 1832, William and Ezekiel Gooderham (1794-1870) emigrated to York (Toronto), Upper Canada, from Norfolk, England. Their brother-in-law, James Worts, who was married to their sister, Elizabeth, had preceded them in 1831. He had been sent by William to scout for suitable property for the purpose of operating a milling industry. The Worts family were prominent millers in Norfolk, where windmills were the main source of power. The site Worts chose was near the mouth of the Don River. Here he erected a wind mill, the first to be constructed in York. The millstones, main shaft and castings were transported



◀ William Gooderham
(Louise Southern)

from England. William and James formed a partnership in the flour milling business, then Worts died in 1834. In 1837, William built a distillery, utilizing the surplus wheat and barley, flour waste and siftings, which were converted into alcohol. Both businesses were flourishing in Toronto. In 1845, his nephew, James Gooderham Worts, joined him with a full partnership.

When the Gooderhams came to Meadowvale, their activity increased the tiny hamlet's economy. They expanded the mill and added a third floor so that it was capable of producing 300 barrels of



▲ Gooderham Mill, 1865
(Louise Southern)



▲ George, Catherine, Jennie, Jessie, and William Gooderham
(Region of Peel Archives)



▲ Gooderham farm
(Region of Peel Archives)

ground wheat per day. Farmers teamed their grain from Milton and Erin to be ground at the Gooderham Mill. Quite often, the wagons were waiting in line to have their grain unloaded and ground. The mill operated day and night to accommodate the business. At this time there were over 600 grist mills and over 1,500 saw mills in the province. They built a cottage on the Island that Francis Silverthorn had made when establishing his mill site.

The Silverthorn store was gradually customized to carry more staples so people did not have to go far afield to shop for essentials. Being quite progressive for the times, it was managed by Joseph Sutcliffe, who supervised five clerks. There was a grocery section, a paint department, a dress making department managed by Miss Elizabeth Trevorow with three dressmakers, millinery by Miss Maintie Armstrong and three milliners and a tailoring department overseen by Thomas Wilson, who had four tailors and five tailorettes. The Post Office was also located here and was run at this time by James Gooderham. A record taken from 1876 stated that the store's total sales for that year were \$40,000. One year it surpassed \$45,000. With the Gooderhams' expertise at bringing prosperity to the Village the population rose to over 350. In 1881, the store would be sold to Switzer & Partridge. Charles Switzer ran it until 1904 when he sold it to Mr. J.H. Whitlam. While in Mr. Whitlam's hands, it burned down on February 13, 1907.

On April 4, 1865, William Gooderham purchased all of Francis Silverthorn's former farm properties for \$4,000 from John Wilmot, a New Yorker, who resided in Toronto. Then on October 23, 1865, he purchased the Hugh Bell grant, 100 acres (40 ha), Lot 11, Con. 2, WHS, for \$3,300.

In 1869, Ezekiel's son, George (1826-1912), was summoned to work for his Uncle William. He and his wife, Catherine, 1831, came to Meadowvale with their seven children, Elizabeth (1853-1938), Harriet, called Jennie (1854-1934), John (1856-1919), George (1859-1944), Jessie (1861-1936), Archibald (1863-1904), and William Ezekiel (1865-1963). He leased a house on the 94 acre (37.6 ha) Bell farm for \$800 a year from his Uncle William (the six acres [2.4 ha] were used to build a house for Charles Horace "Holly" Gooderham in 1870). He bought the farm, 194 acres (78 ha) of Lots 11 and 12, from his cousin Holly on March 26, 1883, for \$12,000.

George took over the management of the 450 acre (182 ha) Gooderham farm and the Cooperage factory, built in 1865 to handle Francis' operation, that was operated by steam. The factory, located on Village Lot 73, produced staves and barrels necessary as storage containers for shipping flour, produce and other items to market. He supplied thousands of barrels to mills all over Ontario. The coopers making barrels were John Cathcart, George Coulter, James and Thomas Johnson, David Spellman and Richard Ward under the management of William Trevorrow. The local farmers and fruit growers mostly purchased apple barrels. Over 8,000 barrels were made annually. William Trevorrow bought the Cooperage from the Gooderhams in 1884. When Trevorrow died in 1889, it was sold in 1890 to Mr. J. H. Stillman, who used it as a cheese factory until he constructed a larger building, which opened on May 7, 1894. Joseph Gardner of Britannia was one of the farmers who took his milk to Stillman's cheese factory for processing. The cooperage and the workers houses were eventually torn down.

Following the death of William Gooderham on August 20, 1881, Gooderham & Worts started to pull out of the Village. They ran

Francis' mill until 1882 when it was sold to Edward and John Wheler, millers from Stouffville, for \$12,000. The transaction, which included 118 acres (47.3 ha), composed of parts of Lots 11 and 12, Con. 3, excluding the occupied village lots, was handled by James Gooderham Worts. On August 14, 1895, the mill and acreage was bought by Henry Brown for \$7,800. At this time, the mill stone process was still being used. He operated the mill until his death in 1911, when Lillie Brown sold it to William J. Brett, who used it as a chopping mill for grain. Stanley Gorman bought it in 1943, then on August 15, 1946, Luther Emerson, Lillie Brown's son-in-law, an engineering drafting instructor at the University of Toronto, purchased it. He still owned it when it ceased operation in 1950 and was demolished in April, 1954. Only the mill race of the grist mill is any indication of the existence of the Silverthorn/Gooderham mills. The Gooderham cottage still exists at 1101 Old Derry Road and is owned by Derek Teal. The Gooderhams are remembered by Charles Gooderham's mansion, now the Rotherglen Montessori School, and the street, Gooderham Estate Boulevard, in the Monarch homes subdivision to the east of the Village.



Former Mill Office, now Taman's, 7017 Old Mill Lane
(Kathleen A. Hicks)



▲ Charles "Holly"
Gooderham



▲ George and Catherine
Gooderham



▲ James Gooderham



▲ George H. Gooderham at
wooden pump



▲ George Gooderham's House
(Photos courtesy of Region of Peel Archives)



▲ Gooderham Cottage, 2003
(Kathleen A. Hicks)

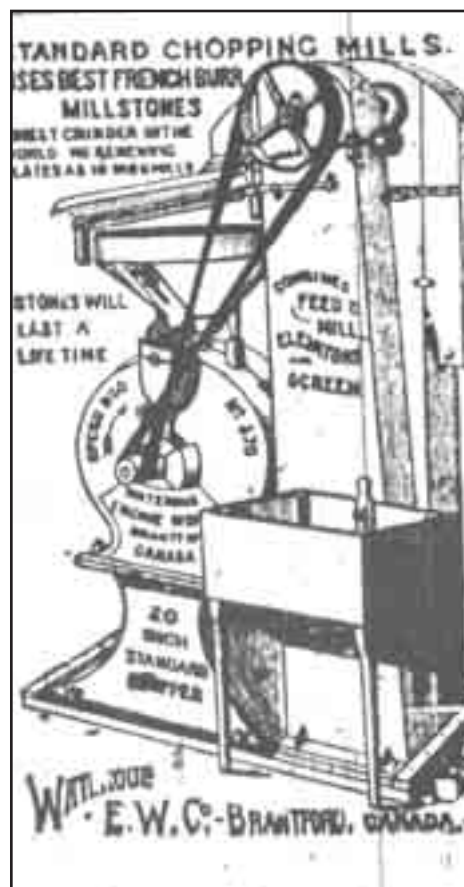
*We have just recently
remodelled our*
MEADOWVALE MILLS
AND THE
-FLOUR-

*We are now making cannot be ex-
celled in Canada. Bring along
your GRISTS and give this
good Flour a trial, and you will
be very highly pleased.*

*Special attention is given to
CHOPPING, for which we
charge FIVE cents per bag.
Large quantities of Bran and
Shorts always on hand.*

*Highest cash price always
paid for Wheat.*

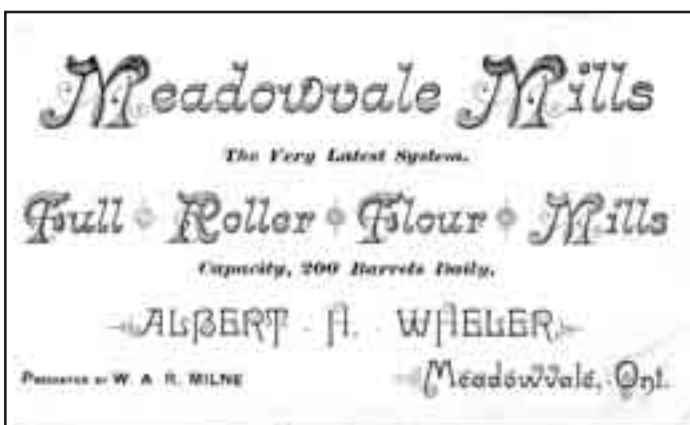
WHEELER BROS.
Meadowvale, who formerly suc-
ceeded Gooderham & Worts.



◀ Wheeler's ad, 1891
(Streetsville Review)

▲ Chopping Mill, 1911
(Streetsville Review)

◀ Wheeler Business
Card
(Charlie Humber)



MEMORIES

"Meadowvale was a flourishing little place where a lot of business was done. There were as many people living there then as we have now and everybody was working. Gooderham and Worts employed a great many of them in their different lines of business. The heads of the families were nearly all English, Irish or Scotch and nearly all had large families. The public school used to have 60 to 70 pupils. There used to be young men with whiskers going to school in the winter, big fellows who worked all summer and went to school only in the winter. The Church was one of the places well looked after, and it was always well filled on Sundays. The Sunday School used to have 60 or 70 attending it. Children were made to go to Sunday School and Church to show great respect for the Lord's Day. They don't appear to be doing that much now.

"The young people used to have a good time then, skating and sleighing parties. The Young People's Society would put on debates and spelling matches and choose up sides. I remember being on one and Jane Trevorow was on the opposite side and they gave Jane the word 'ache' to spell and Jane said 'aik.' I spelled it right and my side won. Some would get up to recite and would forget their lines and then come down to their seats and cry.

"On the 1st of July, they used to have a big day over in Reeve's Flats, baseball, all kinds of races and fireworks at night. People used to come from Brampton and all around the area to see the sport. A big platform for dancing was erected and old Mrs. McCabe showed them how to dance the Irish jig. She was a big, fat old lady and she always did a little better if they gave her a good glass of whiskey before she started and she always got it."

From an interview with W.E. Gooderham, 1948, at age 83.
From the Meadowvale Women's Institute Scrapbooks.

Author's note: He was four when he came to the village with his father, George, who had been summoned to operate the Gooderham farmlands in 1869.

Meadowvale Village Church - 1863

AFTER YEARS OF HOLDING CHURCH services in parishioners' homes and the school since 1821, the Wesleyan Methodist finally got a church building in 1863 on land donated by John Simpson, Lot 10, Con. 3, WHS. Luther Cheyne and a circuit minister had travelled about soliciting funds for this venture and they succeeded. It was a one storey, red brick rectangular structure situated on a river stone foundation. It had trim fashioned out of yellow bricks used for the buttresses and lintels and the "weeping" design beneath the front gable of the roof, with two chimneys and three elongated, round headed windows on each side. One of its attractive architectural features was the rose window by the entranceway. There were box stoves used for heat and oil lamps fastened to posts at the end of the pews at intervals along the aisle. Two of the builders were John and Aaron Laidlaw.

It was announced in the *Christian Guardian* that the dedication of the new Wesleyan Church in Meadowvale took place on January 13, 1864. The speakers were Reverend Dr. Green, Rev. I. B. Howard, Rev. J. A. Williams and Rev. Charles Fish.



▲ Meadowvale United Church, 2002
(City of Mississauga Community Services)

The Church became the focal point of community activity and social life with tea meetings, concerts, Harvest Home Services, camp meetings and Sunday School picnics.

Meadowvale was part of the Brampton Church Circuit in 1859-1865, which meant that the minister in charge of this area would come and conduct services. Between 1866 and 1928, it was part of the Streetsville Circuit; 1929-1949, Cooksville, and after 1949, it was under the Huttonville Pastoral charge.

In 1866, a Reverends' Revival services was organized by Rev. Charles Fish. In 1872, by Rev. Henry Hanning and 1889 by Rev. W. T. Hicks. The Choir was organized in 1875 and was conducted by Mrs. Baskerville. They would sing at tea meetings. The choir was later led by Charles W. Switzer, then Jenny Gooderham, who was also



the organist. The organ was donated by her father, Charles Holly Gooderham. When a larger one was implemented, the old one was utilized as a music cabinet.

In 1890, upholstered pews were installed and wall to wall carpeting, donated by Joseph Graham, was laid over an underlay of lambs' wool carded by the farmers. At the turn of the century, additions were added at the front and back, such as a porch, a room for a Sunday School and a kitchen. A coal furnace eliminated the box stoves, and in 1957, a new oil furnace was installed.

In 1925, the Congregational, Methodist and Presbyterian Churches amalgamated to form The United Church of Canada and thus this Church became the Meadowvale United Church.

There was much activity within the congregation over the years. The women belonged to the Women's Auxiliary and the Women's Missionary Society of the United Church of Canada. They organized The Canadian Girls Training Group (CGIT), which began in 1951 and was affiliated with The Women's Missionary Society. The CGIT promoted "Christian Friendship amongst all the peoples of the world through Understanding, Appreciation and Service." After completing its yearly Missionary Exploration and

having made a contribution to the work of the Society, The Explorers Group was affiliated with the Women's Missionary Society on June 3, 1957. There was also the Hi-Neighbour Club. In January, 1962, the Auxiliaries and Women's Societies were amalgamated to form the United Church Women's organization and the women's group of Meadowvale held an inaugural service to commemorate this event.

Every year, the congregation celebrated the Church's anniversary. The Centennial anniversary was held September 29, 1963, and the guest preacher was Reverend Thomas Jones from Streetsville United Church. He gave a dissertation on the early history of the Church.

In 1978, the Church Trustees decided to discontinue church services because of low attendance. The remaining congregation went to Huttonville, Norval or Eden. The Christian Church of Mississauga congregation began services in the church that same year. For 20 years they took care of the building during their occupancy. They changed the heat from oil to a gas furnace, installed air conditioning and brought the electricity up to 220 amps. They wanted to purchase the church, but were given their notice to leave in 1998. The Village residents also contributed over \$80,000 in restoration work, such as a new chimney and a new roof.

The Church, located at 1010 Old Derry Road and owned by the United Church of Canada, was made an heritage site in 1980. In 2000, a Korean congregation began holding regular worship services there. They also did some redecorating to the interior of the building and removed the old addition on the back and had a new addition added to conform to its heritage aspect.



(James Holmes, 2002)



▲ Meadowvale United Church Interior, 2004
(Kathleen A. Hicks)

NEWS ITEM

A very enjoyable lawn party was held at the Methodist Parsonage here Tuesday night. There was a fair attendance, the proceeds being somewhere in the neighborhood of \$50. Rev. W.T. Hicks occupied the chair. Addresses were delivered by Revs. Hart, Scanlon and Glassford.

The musical and literary part of the programme was sustained by Misses Mason, Mr. W. Steen, Miss Hardy, Miss M. Graydon, Miss Hill, Mrs. C. Switzer, Dunton Bros., A. Fawcett and the Church Choir. Club swinging by Mr. Irwin Steen and excellent music by the Meadowvale Brass Band.

Streetsville Review, Wednesday, July 7, 1892.

CHURCH'S CENTENNIAL - 1963

Beautiful is the large church
With stately arch and steeple.
Neighborly is the small church
With groups of friendly people.

Reverent is the old church,
With centuries of grace;
And a wooden or stone church
Or a poor church anywhere,
Truly it is a great church
If God is worshipping there.

Author Unknown

The Trevorrows - 1865



▲ Trevorrow's House
(Harry Spiers)

THE TREVORROWS MOVED TO MEADOWVALE in 1865, where William secured work in the Gooderhams' Cooperage Factory and made barrels for the Gooderham and Worts's Mill and other mills in the area.

William Henry Trevorrow had been born on June 24, 1821, in St. Ives, Cornwall, England. At a very early age, he learned to be a cooper. He was so small that he had to stand on a low bench, called a tricket, to put a hoop on a barrel. As a young man, he became a ship's carpenter and in 1848 made his way to Canada, via New York. During the six week voyage, he was sea-sick and he realized that a seafaring life was not for him.



▲ William Trevorrow
(Region of Peel Archives)



▲ Elizabeth Trevorrow
(Region of Peel Archives)

William met Elizabeth Rawe (b.1821), daughter of Thomas and Juliette Hugo Rawe of Mavagizzy, Cornwall, England, in Toronto and they were married on May 8, 1849, by the rector of the St. James Cathedral, Rev. Henry J. Grasett, in the Holy Trinity Church because the Cathedral had been burned to the ground on April 7, 1849.

They moved to Norval, Ontario, where William operated a milling company and their children were born. They had Margaret, 1851, Elizabeth, 1852, William, 1853, Jane, 1854, and Laura, 1856.

The Trevorrow family enjoyed fishing in the Credit River. It was a sport even the girls participated in. They were all very involved in the community, especially the activities at the Methodist Church. Daughter Elizabeth became manageress of the dress making department at the Gooderham store and when Laura was old enough, she worked as manager of the millinery department, replacing Maintie Armstrong. Jane moved to Philadelphia, where she operated a business

as a manufacturer's agent. She returned to Meadowvale in 1887 and on July 25th married Robert Baillie, whose father operated a store in Meadowvale.

The Trevorrowes purchased numerous pieces of property. On June 24, 1874, Jonathan Robinson sold William Lot 27 on Pond Street for \$450 on which he had built a house. This was the start of the Trevorrowes buying all the Lots from 78 to 88 on Water Street (Willow Lane) between 1882 and 1884. In the early 1880s, the Gooderhams began to sell off their holdings and William purchased their Cooperage on June 9, 1884, which was on Lot 73. Lot 78 held Cooper's Row, the houses the workers lived in. They also bought Lots 31 and 32 on Pond Street from Joseph Folwell in 1883 for \$50 each. These properties also provided houses for their workers.

William died on January 8, 1889, and Elizabeth sold Lots 78 to 86 and 88 in 1889 and the Cooperage in 1890. She died on November 24, 1908. They are both buried in the Brampton Public Cemetery at 10 Wilson Avenue. Some of their children still remained in the Village. Margaret, a spinster, was one of the first members of the Meadowvale Women's Institute (MWI) in 1910. She wrote a small book entitled, *Meadowvale on the Credit*, in 1922, and in 1929, when the Library was started by the Institute, she was the first paid up member. By trade she was a teacher, an accountant and a bee-keeper. Sister Elizabeth, also unmarried and a dressmaker, was president of the MWI in 1922. Laura, who was a nurse and unmarried and the first president of the Ladies Aid founded in 1913, passed away from a cerebral hemorrhage on February 14, 1926, in Peel Memorial



Hospital. Elizabeth died in 1934, Margaret in 1935 and Jane on August 7, 1939. All but Jane are buried in the family plot.

Lots 27, 31 and 32 were still in the family's name in 1941. Lots 31 and 32 were sold by Jane's estate to Clara Gatehouse on November 25, 1941. Lot 27 was sold in 1943 to Edith and Western Lemay for \$1,800. Annie and

◀ Miss Elizabeth Trevorrow
(Region of Peel Archives)

David Hart purchased the Robinson/Trevorrow house at 29 Pond Street (now 7025) from the Lemay family in 1959 and took over residency with their two children, Morton and Carol. David passed away in 1969 and Annie in 2002. Morton and Carol were co-owners of this heritage home until November, 2003, when Adam Viarid and Darlene Pearson bought it.

BEE-KEEPING AS AN OCCUPATION FOR WOMEN

As a rule, to the woman who has had no practical experience with bees, if she thinks of the subject at all, bee-keeping stands for honey, large profits, studies in natural history, and stings, the latter probably being considered the surest and most objectionable adjunct of the business. But a few years acquaintance with the little pets will teach her that stings are but insignificant incidents in the bee-keeper's life, that honey is not always sure, nor profits always large, but the study of the nature and habits of the bee can be depended upon at all seasons of the year to yield a fund of interest to any woman who engages in this occupation.

I started bee-keeping in 1900 with one colony. They did not swarm nor give any surplus honey during the summer, were weak the following spring and gradually dwindled away until the hive was empty. I purchased another colony in May, 1901. From this swarm, I received 30 lbs. (13.6 kilograms) of honey. In the spring of 1902, I had three colonies. I purchased two more and those five colonies gave me 928 lbs. (421 kg) of extracted honey and increased to 16. At the end of the next season, I had 35 colonies and 1,400 lbs. (635 kg) of honey. In 1904, they yielded about 2,600 lbs. (1180 kg), and in 1905, I had 33 colonies that stored 4,700 lbs. (2132 kg) of honey and increased to 49. Last spring the numbers decreased to 40, five being queenless and four too weak to go on alone. They yielded 1,600 lbs. (726 kg) of honey this year and I have 39 colonies this fall.

Bee-keeping may be looked upon as a healthy occupation for women in comparison with many of the avocations to which she is called wherein exercise, fresh-air and sunshine are denied her.

Excerpt from an article written by Margaret Trevorrow for the Beekeepers Association's Annual Report, 1906.

The Hardy Family- 1866

In 1866, Jonadab (John) Hardy (b.1831), came to Meadowvale Village from Vaughn Township, County of York, and purchased a piece of property, Lot 8 of the Village plan, from John Simpson, Lot 10, Con. 3, WHS, for \$375 on February 1st. Here he opened his own operation, being an agricultural implement manufacturer. The business didn't work out with the Johnson competition doing so well, so he added a new innovation to the village, a steam powered saw mill, which remained in operation at the turn of the century when it was thought to have out served its time. He had married a young lass named Mary Ann in 1854 and they had William, 1855, John, 1858, Sarah, 1861, and Lancelot, 1863.

In 1876, John sold his Meadowvale enterprise for \$3,000 on November 21st to Thomas O'Shaughnessy Jr., who owned his father's property, the west half of Lot 7, Con. 2, WHS. John bought the east half of Lot 6, Con. 4, WHS, on July 19, 1878, for \$7,050 from John Folwell, which he sold to James Benyon in 1879. He also purchased property in the Village in 1880 and 1881, Lot 10, Con. 3. The 1880 parcel was the former Jonathan Robinson store. The indenture reads, "Thomas Clark (William Elliott's lawyer) to dispose of stock in trade and book debts and

equity of redemption in the store for the sum of \$2,500 to John Hardy, land and premises." He also held many mortgages in the village and on December 31, 1881, sold the store to William Campbell. He bought the northeast part of Lot 3 of the Indian Reserve Range in December, 1886, for \$5,000, and it is thought that he moved there.



▲ O'Shaughnessy ad - 1878
(Streetsville Review)

Thomas O'Shaughnessy (b.1840), operated the lumber, lath and shingle factory constantly. On Friday, February 8, 1878, he ran an ad in the *Brampton Conservator* to promote his business. At this time, Thomas had a brother who was killed by a tree falling on him. He composed his brother's epitaph, which read, "Here lies the body of Patrick O'Shaughnessy who died and was killed by a rampike (a dead tree)." Thomas ran the mill until 1882, at which time Frank Sibbald purchased it. Frank sold the business to Albert Lambe in 1884. He was still managing to eke out a business from this popular 19th Century enterprise 20 years later.

John Hardy's brother, Joseph (b.1823), operated a shingle factory. He lost his wife, Isabella, and was left with six children, Ella, 1855, Eliza, 1856, Rebecca, 1862, John, 1864, William, 1866, and Henrietta, 1869. In 1875, he married a widow named Jane, who had a daughter. Jane was a good mother to her stepchildren and raised



▲ Carthew Gravestone, 2002

(Kathleen A. Hicks)

them as her own. Joseph died and Jane made her livelihood by being a seamstress and sewing for the women of the Village. She also was a midwife and nursed her ailing neighbours. Jane's daughter married, had five children, lost her husband and then passed away. Jane took in her grandchildren and raised them. Jane, who occupied Lots 66 and 67, married a Mr. Carthew, who predeceased her. She died at age 79 in 1902 and was buried in the Churchville cemetery. Her granddaughter, Elizabeth Hallam, who became a nurse, lived in the Village 1935-1940 and 1944-1945 at 7050 Second Line West. In 1937, she bought a memorial window for the United Church and had it installed in memory of her grandmother, Jane. It reads: In Loving memory of Jane Hardy Carthew. Erected by her grandchildren, Alice, Samuel, Elizabeth, Jane and John Hallam. "She Hath Done What She Could." A monument in both these ladies' memory stands at the central gate of the Churchville Cemetery.

Artist, A. J. Casson's mother was Henrietta Hardy, the daughter of Joseph Hardy. His maternal grandmother lived in the mill cottage built by the Gooderhams (now 1101 Old Derry Road). Casson spend many summers in the Village from 1907 to around 1920.



▲ A.J. Casson

(Region of Peel Archives)

INFORMATION

In 1917, Casson ventured on his first extended sketching trip to the village of Meadowvale, not far from Toronto. With his brother, John and Bill McCullough, he rented an old white plaster house there which had once belonged to his grandmother. For two weeks, Casson and McCullough painted. Most of Casson's sketches were done in oil on small pieces of academy board. Executed with a palette knife, the Meadowvale compositions are marked by a boldness of design, a directness of technique and a richness of colour. Painted with a heavily loaded knife, The Cowshed and Mill Race at Meadowvale are compelling and original in concept. The Meadowvale trip provided Casson with his first concentrated period of painting and the confidence he gained from it affected his creative attitude from then on.

Excerpt from A.J. Casson, *His Life & Works*

Confederation - 1867



▲ Map of Canada (Historical Atlas of Canada, 1927)



▲ Village of Meadowvale (Region of Peel Archives)



▲ Sir John A. MacDonalld
(Region of Peel Archives)

On July 1, 1867, when Confederation took place and the Dominion of Canada became a reality with John Alexander MacDonalld (b.1815, d.1891) as the first Prime Minister, the inhabitants of Meadowvale numbered 300. The businessmen were listed as Hardy Baskerville, Constable; Michael Clipsum, blacksmith; Walter Davidson, boot and shoemaker; Joel Fleetham, tailor; James Gooderham, postmaster; Gooderham & Worts, general merchants and mill owners; Thomas Idle, boot and shoemaker; Horatio Johnston, founder and machinist; John and W.H. Johnston, coopers; John Hardy, agricultural implement manufacturer; Mathew Laidlaw, general merchant; Mrs. George McKee, hotel keeper; William Miller, wagon maker; John Simpson, sawmill owner and lumber merchant.

The Gooderham Mansion - 1870

In 1870, the Gooderhams built a large red brick Georgian Survival style mansion, decorated with ornate Italianate features at a cost of \$30,000, for William's youngest son, Charles Horace, known as Holly (b.1842, d.1915), who was to operate the mill and store. William had purchased Hugh Bell's original 100 acre (40 ha) grant, Lot 11, Con. 2, WHS, from Bell on October 23, 1865, for \$3,300. George Gooderham leased 94 acres (37.6 ha) in January, 1870.

The elegant two storey house sat on the remaining six acres (2.4 ha) at the northeast corner of Derry Road and Second Line, just east of the property once owned by Francis Silverthorn and now part of the Gooderham estate. It had 21 rooms with a separate wing for the servants' quarters. While this homestead was under construction, Charles and his wife, Eliza Folwell, who were married on September 30, 1862, resided in the mill-workers houses. Charles had been brought from Toronto to Streetsville in 1860 to run the Gooderhams' Alpha Knitting Mills. This is where he and Eliza met. They eventually had ten children.



▲ Gooderham Mansion

(Louise Southern)

ONCE SETTLED, HE PUT UP A SMALL BUILDING FOR A school and 13 Gooderham children were taught by a governess. This was later used as a Band Hall until it was torn down in 1920.

After Holly left the area in 1884, the 10,000 square foot (870 m²) house changed hands many times over the years. Angelique Douglas purchased the mansion for \$4,500 on October 1, 1884, followed by Thomas Graham in 1888, who paid \$3,600. In 1895, John Watt Sr., Louise Gooderham Southern's maternal grandfather, bought it for \$2,000 and called it, "Rose Villa," and used it as a tourist resort to accommodate Toronto's elite. George Chavingnaud, an artist, bought it

for \$3,000 in 1904. He sold it to Samuel Curry for \$3,500 in 1905. At this time, it was occupied by Samuel's brother, Walter Curry, a member



▲ Major General Lessard
(Streetsville Review)

of Parliament. Major General Francois-Louis Lessard, a veteran from the Boer War, paid \$9,000 for it in 1920. When he died at his home in 1927, at age 66, Hubert Page bought it the following year for \$8,750. For a token \$2, it was passed on to Mary Gillespie in 1939. Bruce and Shirley Neilson purchased it from Gillespie for \$40,000 on November 1, 1951. The Neilsons sold to the Ukranian Catholic Mission and the Most Holy Redeemer on September 15, 1952. R.H. & J. Cook Constructors, held the mortgage and sold it to the Ontario District of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synagogue in 1973 for \$175,000.

William Johnson bought it in April, 1974. He is responsible for the Greek Revival columns that grace the front of the mansion. The 14th owner, Paul Horvat, bought it in 1979 and used it for people to demonstrate their crafts at which time, Louise Southern was the house captain. In 1989 Horvat sold to 810407 Ontario Limited, and the luxurious homestead was turned into apartments. In 1997, Monarch Development took it over for its sales presentation office. Monarch spent \$500,000 renovating the mansion. Over the next four years, Monarch built authentic Victorian homes to augment the historical atmosphere of the tiny hamlet of Meadowvale.

The Gooderhams left behind a beautiful two storied structure that over the years would draw people in to check out its opulent elegance and explore its interior. The house was designated a heritage house when Meadowvale became a Heritage District in 1980, and it is now a private school, called Rotherglen Montessori School, which is located at 929 Old Derry Road.



◀ Watt Residence
Rose Villa,
1900
(Louise Southern)



▲ Rotherglen Montessori School (Kathleen A. Hicks)

HUNTING WITH CHARLIE

Charles "Holly" Gooderham enjoyed hunting. During his time in the Village, he was known to bag considerable game for his family's table. His companions in his hunting excursions were Thomas O'Shaughnessy, the operator of the saw mill, and Mr. Griffiths, the saddlemaker, whose shop was beside Elliott's Liquor store. They often took cousin George Gooderham on these outings, which were mostly taken to the Caledon mountains.



▲ Charlie Gooderham Goes Hunting
(Harry Spiers)

According to the artist, Harry Spiers, an incident worth mentioning, related to him by Charles Gooderham, goes like this, "Mr. Gooderham was watching on the outside of a swamp, the other shooters being inside, when the hounds bolted a rabbit right across his path. He took good aim, fired and missed. The rabbit, being more afraid if its foes behind than in front, dashed close by him. forgetting for the moment that it was a gun he was handling, he made a vicious lunge at the intrepid quadrupled with the muzzle of the gun, but this also failed. Possibly the descendants of that rabbit may be laughing over the incident yet: anyway, it's a risky thing to try to do any clubbing with a gun."

The Meadowvale's Community Hall - 1871



◀ Minerva Castle's Plaque
(Kathleen A. Hicks)

▲ Community Centre

(City of Mississauga Community Services)

THE SECOND PUBLIC SCHOOL THAT WAS BUILT in 1871 on property purchased from John Simpson was also utilized as the Community Hall. It had a bell tower, picket fence and was enhanced with trees and shrubs. In 1959, this schoolhouse was taken over to be used strictly as a Community Centre, when a larger modern facility was constructed to accommodate the growing number of school children. It was utilized for all kinds of activities.

On Friday, October 21, 1977, a plaque was unveiled at the Community Centre for Minerva Castle, who had passed away in 1976, for her dedicated service to the Meadowvale community. It hangs over the inside front door in her memory. Eight of local artist Goran Skalin's drawings of heritage buildings are also on display here.

In 1981, the Mississauga Recreation and Parks spent \$70,000 to structurally reinforce the foundation, the roof and add a water system with washroom facilities. In 1993, the structure received a paint job that was based on appropriate historic colours. Today, the building stands bare of its bell tower, fence and tree ornamentation, a pale comparison of its former heritage presence in the community.

The Hall, located at 6970 Second Line West, was used for Sunday Church services by Exodus Apostolic Church under the direction of Reverend C. Thompson from 1999 to July 1, 2003. Today, it is used by the Girl Guides, Boy Scouts and other organizations for social events.

The Meadowvale Concert Band-1871

The Meadowvale Band was organized in 1875 by the Brampton Bandmaster. The first bandmaster was Joseph Trimble, second, Bert Mason. The musical group's talents were utilized at every major event and they were appreciated by the music lovers of the Village. They always serenaded the Village residents on New Year's Eve.

In June, 1877, the Band played at the Britannia School picnic held on the Gardner Farm. The music of this group of young musicians was enjoyed around the area as they played at parties and weddings or whenever the opportunity arose.

By 1890, they held their band practises in the 20 year old building built by Charles "Holly" Gooderham as a schoolhouse for his children and it became called the Band Hall.

On June 22, 1891, Thomas Graham held a grand garden party at his home, the former Gooderham mansion, under the auspices of the Meadowvale Brass Band, lead by Professor F. O. Smith. No expense was spared to make this an elegant event and talent came from Toronto and Brampton to entertain.

Over the years, more interest was shown in the Band so that by the early 1900s, Charles W. Switzer was instrumental in its activities.

THE BAND MEMBERS BECAME NOTICED FOR TALENT IN entertaining and their repertoire contained many of Enrico Caruso's songs. Some of the band members at this time were Erland Copeland, Sinclair Laidlaw, Archibald and George Gooderham, and William Lambe. Archibald, who had been a member since its inception, left in 1901 to reside in Manitoba, where he died in 1904.

The group lasted until 1911 when Thomas Fletcher was the bandmaster. The Old Band Hall was torn down in 1920 and the wood was used for a band stand that can be seen in many of the photos of the Silverthorn Mill

NEWS ITEM

Meadowvale was "the deserted village" on the 24th. The Band and football team, accompanied by a retinue of our citizens, took the morning train for Cheltenham, where Meadowvale met the Cheltenham football team. The game ended 3 to 0 for Meadowvale. The Meadowvale Band excelled in their playing throughout the day. At 7 o'clock, the visitors again boarded the train. The Band got off at Brampton to assist Prof. Frank Brown at his concert.

Saturday evening the Band paraded the streets and gave the intelligent and well pleased audience a few choice selections.

Streetsville Review, Wednesday, June 2, 1892

The Credit Valley Railway-1879



◀ Meadowvale
Train Station
(Mississauga Heritage
Foundation)

THE CREDIT VALLEY RAILWAY (CVR) CAME into existence in 1871 when the City of Toronto was allotted a \$350,000 grant to construct a railway. The provincial government presented a charter to the Credit Valley Railway on February 15th to construct a Railway from Toronto to St. Thomas.

George Laidlaw, who had been the moving force behind the charter, became the first president. Farmers were paid \$70 an acre (hectare) for land purchased for the right-of-way.

Work on the rail line commenced on March 13, 1873, with surveying, which was supervised by C.J. Wheelock. The railroad employees blazoned a path and laid the glinting tracks for the wood burning trains to travel upon. The first train passed through Toronto Township on December 6, 1878, but the official opening of the line was held in Milton, Ontario, on September 19, 1879, with the honours being carried

out by the Governor General of Canada, John Douglas Sutherland Campbell, the Marquis of Lorne (1878-1883), who was the son-in-law of Queen Victoria, as he was married to Princess Louise.

At the Streetsville junction, where a major train station was located, a line went to St. Thomas and one to Orangeville, 167 miles (66.8 ha) of track that linked Toronto far afield. The Orangeville rail line came along the west side of Meadowvale, but a station was not built until 1900 to accommodate the residents of the Village.

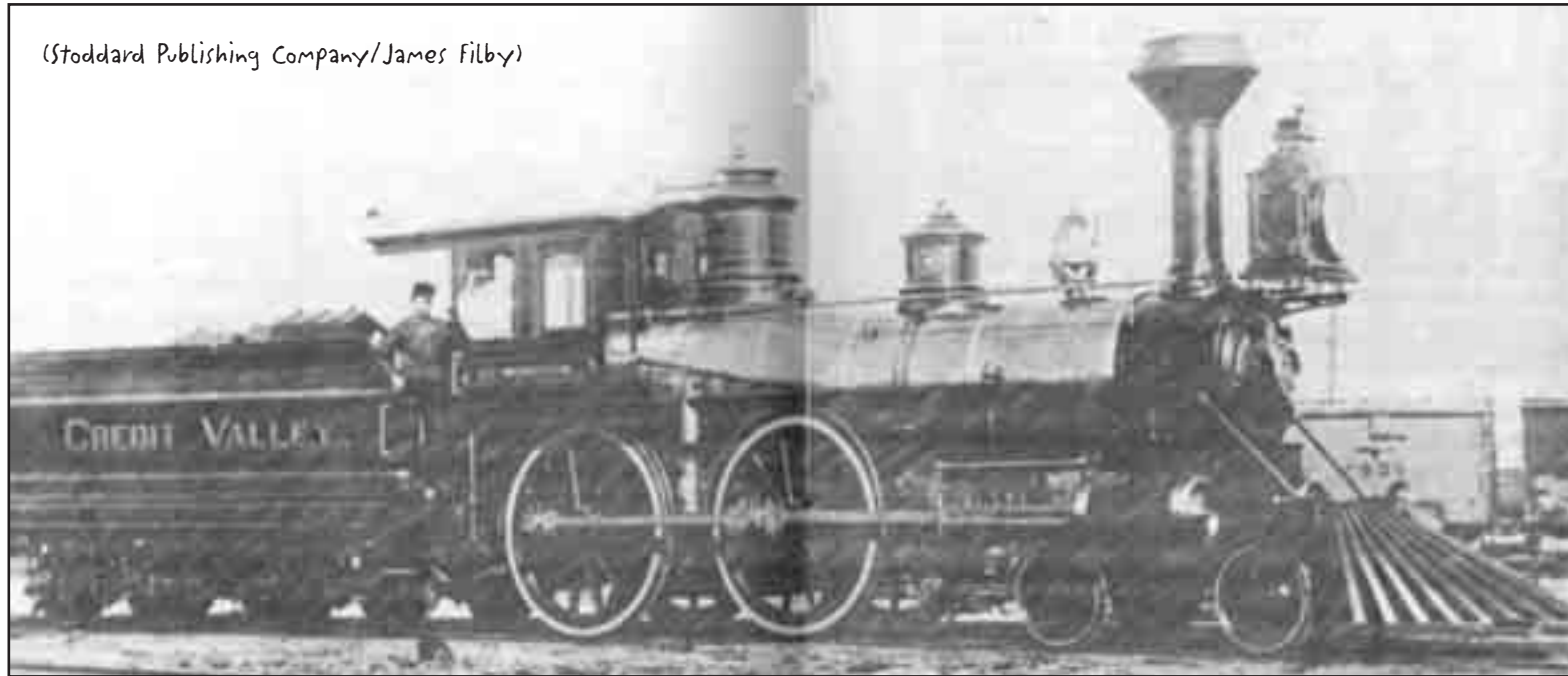
The farmers were now able to ship their produce and milk by train. Stores could have supplies shipped in from Toronto wholesalers, which made for more variety for their customers. The Gooderhams Grist Mill got more business with wheat being sent in by train and flour, barreled and loaded onto wagons, returned to the train depot to be transported to distant points of Ontario.

The CVR was taken over by the Canadian Pacific Railway (CPR) on November 20, 1883 (official on January 4, 1884). By this time, the

train went as far as Owen Sound and there were two passenger trains in the morning and two in the evening. This continued into the turn of the century, then as cars and trucks came more in use, the service was dropped to two trains a day, then every other day.

Some of the station agents between 1900 to 1934 were Dan McCoughrin, Charles Cuthbert, Norman Hiscox and Harry Newman. It was reported in the *Brampton Conservator* on September 15, 1921, that the T.A. Lytle Pickle Company of Toronto stored cucumbers in 27 large wooden vats across from the station while they were fermenting. For the years, 1918-1924, Mr. D. L. McClure of Brampton was in charge of filling the vats, which were full of cucumbers put down in brine, and adding water until they were ready to be shipped into Toronto.

On April 14, 1917, the Toronto-Guelph Radial Line was officially opened. It had taken three years for the tracks to be laid along the proposed route by Mann and Mackenzie, which ran west of the





▲ George Laidlaw
(Mississauga Heritage Foundation)



▲ Charles Silverthorn
(Silverthorn Collection)



▲ Radial Line Shelter (Gay Peppin)



▲ Radial Bridge (Region of Peel Archives)



▲ Radial Car (Region of Peel Archives)

Village where an abutment had been built across the Credit River. A small shelter was constructed and Meadowvale was Stop 47. The Radial picked up local students and transported them to the Islington Continuation School on Canning Avenue and Etobicoke High School on Montgomery Avenue. A ticket for one month cost \$4. The Radial was discontinued in 1931, due to the number of accidents where 70 people had been killed, including Francis Silverthorn's cousin, Etobicoke Reeve Charles Silverthorn, on August 25, 1917. The Meadowvale shelter was moved to be displayed at the Halton County Radial Railway Museum. The Ontario Hydro bought the Guelph Radial Line, which had gone into receivership, and the tracks were tore up in 1935.

In 1956, the train service at Meadowvale was discontinued.

The Women's Institute looked into the matter and found that six stations had to be available on the line, so Meadowvale was reinstated as a flag stop. By 1960, a caretaker was being paid \$25 a month for part time service and only \$100 a year was coming in.

On July 16, 1962, the Toronto Township council concurred with the CPR's request to discontinue service at the Meadowvale Station. The station was then used for the Provimi Feed Company until it was torn down in the summer of 1976. The lumber was purchased by John Landon, a new resident, and utilized in the building of a workshop and garage on his property east of the Credit River. Steven Moran from Streetsville helped tear down the station. During this process, he discovered several telegrams dating from before 1900 shoved under the top of a wall.

NEWS ITEM

Chug along the Credit just for Old Times Sake

Colourful fall vistas, Indian summer like weather and the nostalgic romance of a steam powered train were more than enough compensation for any technical difficulties encountered on the Credit Valley Conservation Authority's Sunday train excursion to Orangeville.

Although the steam engine and train fanatics were out in full force with their expensive cameras and sensitive sound recording equipment, most of the 425 paying passengers were just out for a pleasant ride up the Credit Valley.



▲ The 1057 Train

(James Filby)

Old CPR 1057 did her best in negotiating the long grades around Cataract and the Forks of the Credit just like she worked the old Credit Line from the 1930s til 1959. Those days are gone forever, but a glimpse of the Golden Age of Railroading was given the 1057s passengers as she chugged her way north between the Caledon Hills.

Enormously successful, the Conservation Authority would be well advised to make the autumn colour steam tour of the Credit Valley a regular event.

The Mississauga Times
Sid Rodaway, October 9, 1974

The Threshing Machine - 1879

Taken verbatim from the Meadowvale Women's Institute Scrapbook No. 3
Author Unknown

THE STEAM POWERED THRESHING

machine was first brought on the farming scene in 1879 - a traction steam engine appeared in 1900. A threshing machine outfit consisted of the engine, separator, water tank and straw cutting box. Until 1930, they were a familiar sight on the roads of Peel County. Usually a horse and buggy followed behind the procession to take the threshmen home at night.

When threshing was done in the field the separator was wheeled into the grain field, where the engineer backed the engine around expertly to the power distance. There were teams with loads waiting and, as one pulled up to the table, the belt was slipped on, and with a slapping noise the engine went into action with extra effort, and the separator jiggled and jangled into action with a great rush of small belts and pulleys, as well as the clattering of sieves and canvas. The fire-box belched fire and with a toot of the whistle the threshing started. Soon there was a rustling sound as the straw was propelled through the blower and the golden grain started slithering out of the spout into a waiting bag.

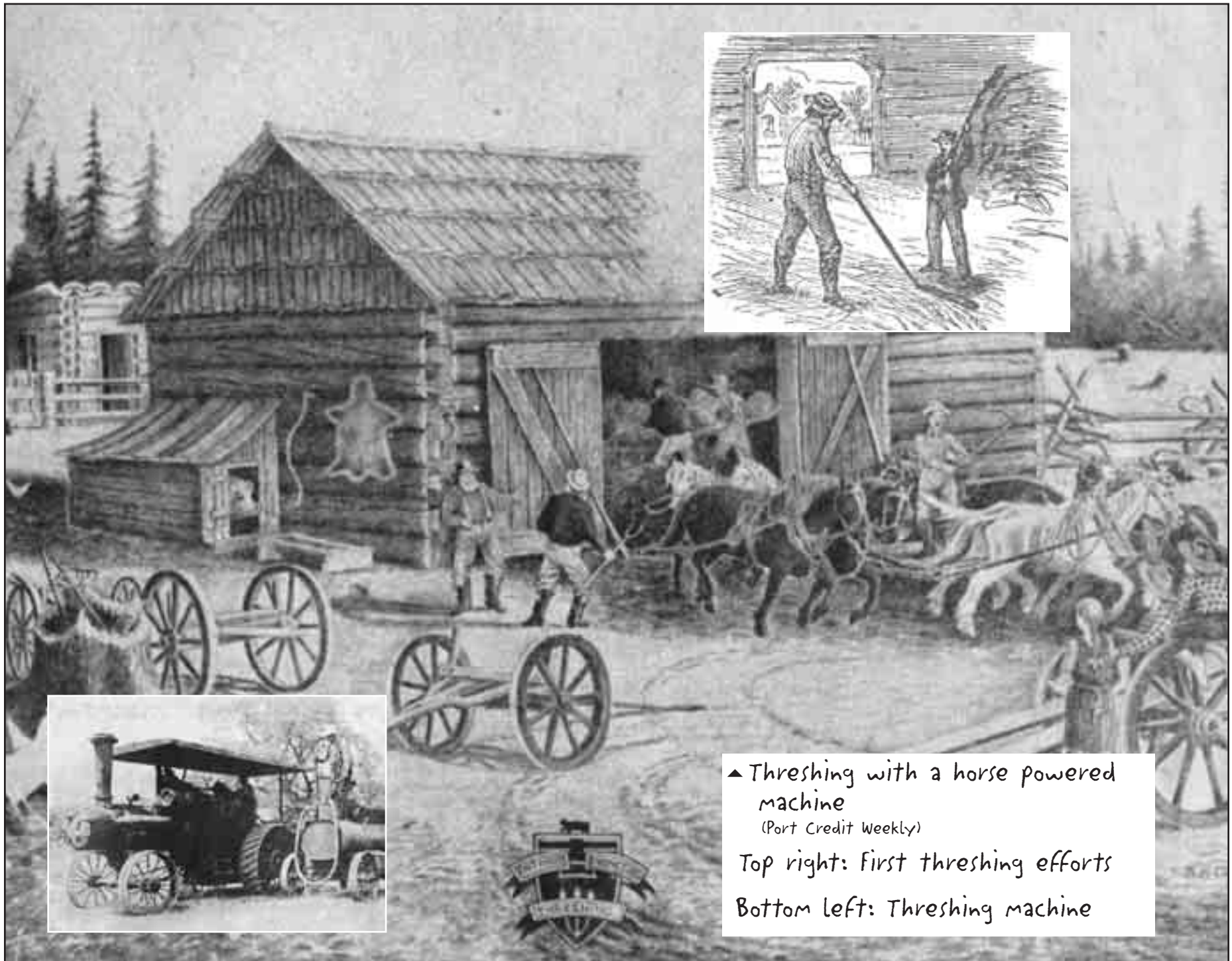


▲ Threshing in Toronto Township
(Region of Peel Archives)

The tankman, who looked after the big tank that hauled water for the engine, filled the boiler and two small tanks, which he put beside the engine. He also ran the portable saw that ran on a belt from a small pulley, cutting up the pile of old fence rails and poles.

Meals for the threshers were something very special. For several days before the threshing, the farm wife and usually some of her neighbours, were busy preparing food. And what meals they put up. Great roast of meat, potatoes, gravy, several kinds of vegetables, pickles and relishes, tea biscuits and always two or three kinds of pies and the men nearly always had a piece of each kind.

(Author's note: A groundhog threshing machine was first marketed in 1830 that could thresh 300 bushels of grain a day. Before that a farmer would spread the wheat on the floor of the barn and flail it to loosen the kernels. This procedure lasted until someone decided to secure his cattle to a post and have them walk in a circle on layers of wheat and when the kernels fell to the floor, the farmer raked them into bags.)



The Sibbalds - 1882

Francis (b.1841, d.1905) and Catherine Sibbald (1844-1931) arrived in Meadowvale in 1882. Francis had purchased Jonadab Hardy's steam powered saw mill from Thomas O'Shaughnessy on July 25th for \$2,000. He operated it for two years, then he sold it to Albert Lambe and took over Mathew Laidlaw's store for two years. On January 23, 1884, he and Catherine bought one of the Francis Silverthorn's millworkers' cottages on Pond Street from George Loughheed for \$860 plus Lot 9, Con. 2, WHS, which he had bought on November 28, 1878. In this deal, Francis also became the owner of Laidlaw's Commercial Hotel located on Main Street (Derry Road West). He leased it to Ephraim Hopkins and then sold it to John Callaghan on May 1, 1886, for \$3,380.

Sibbald is an ancient surname in Scotland and dates back to 1246 when it was spelled "Sybould." Francis (Frank) was the fourth child in a family of ten born to Thomas Jr.(1803-1887) and Mary McClelland (1813-1889), who had married in 1830. Thomas Jr., who was born in Innerleithen, Peebleshire, Scotland, came to Britannia in 1824 with his parents Thomas Sr.(1774-1858) and Christeen Matheson (1784-1870), who had 11 children.



▲ Millworkers House, 1904
(Harry Spiers)



◀ Catherine Sibbald
(Region of Peel Archives)

THEY BOUGHT LOT 1, CON 3, WHS, ON JULY 23, 1825, THE former 100 acre (40 ha) grant of Timothy Street. It was still in the family in 1909 when it was sold to William John Coulter for \$5,500. Thomas Sr. was a carpenter and cabinet maker. They attended Streetsville's St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, where they are both buried. Thomas and Mary received a grant of 100 acres (40 ha) SE-1/2 of Lot 2, Con. 2, WHS, from the Crown on April 23, 1863, and they worked the farm for nearly 30 years and retired to Streetsville. They are buried in the Britannia Church Cemetery.

Catherine was the daughter of Joseph and Elizabeth Reeve Gardner from Britannia. Joseph's parents had been the first settlers there in 1821. Frank and Catherine were married on March 17, 1869, and moved to Fergus where Harry was born. They returned to Britannia and Catherine bought Lot 2, SE-1/2, Con. 3, WHS, 50 acres (20 ha) for \$2,334 on March 28, 1873, where they resided until they moved to Meadowvale Village. They had Robert, Mae, Maude, Emily, Florence, Clara, Joseph and William. On November 3, 1886, Catherine bought Lots 12 thru 20 in the village from Fred Gardner and sold Lot 12 in 1905 to George Russell and the rest to Stephen Cook on October 1, 1906.

Frank Sibbald had a wagon shop in a foundry he had bought from a Mr. Irwin, who moved to Shelbourne, and it

was reported in 1891 that he was turning out first class rigs. In the summer of 1892, Frank's washing machine establishment, managed by Mrs. Bremmar and Mr. Tarnis, was running full blast. He was instrumental in building a wooden bridge across the Credit River. It was washed away in 1893 in a spring flood and another bridge was erected in its place that lasted until Hurricane Hazel in 1954 when an iron one was put up, which is still there. Frank also kept a colony of bees for honey and he moved several colonies to various farms as far south as Cooksville. Frank died on September 10, 1905, at age 64. Catherine became the first president of the Meadowvale's Women's Institute when it was formed in 1910. She passed away in 1931 and was buried in the Britannia Cemetery with Frank and his parents.



▲ Sibbald Gravestone
(Kathleen A. Hicks)



▲ Harry, Mae, Maude, Robert, Frank, Florence, Will, Clara, Emilie, Catherine and Joseph
(Region of Peel Archives)

MEMORIES

"Our paternal grandmother was a welcome visitor on occasions, from Ontario. She was a tiny lady, always in black, though grandpa still lived. Her dresses had boned bodices, long sleeves and high boned collars, and frilly, silk, black petticoats that tied around her little waist. She wore cute bonnets, wired and beribboned, black of course, with maybe a touch of purple, and tied under her chin. Her first request when settled was for mending, and mother, always busy with other duties, could always oblige, and brought out garments sadly in need of patches. Grandma would set a sad iron to heat and turn out the neatest job ever. Language was a fetish with Grandma Sibbald and no grammatical error was let slip by without correction. If Dad would tell the boys to 'go do' something, she would say, 'Now Rob, don't push but pull, say, Come on, not go.' She did a neat trick of swallowing an egg that intrigued us. She would break it into a cup, then tilt her head, tip the egg into her mouth and declare the egg went down unbroken."

Dora Head of Saskatchewan, 1967
Daughter of Robert Sibbald

The Reeves - 1883

Sigsworth Simpson Reeve (b.1856, d.1943), grandson of John Simpson, came to Meadowvale in 1883 when he purchased 100 acres (40 ha) of Lots 11 and 12, Con. 3, WHS, from Charles Holly Gooderham for \$5,250.

His family originated in Braintree, Essex County, England. His great grandparents, Jonah (1746-1807) and Elizabeth (1754-1826), who were married March 18, 1773, had 13 children. Their son, William Beckwith (1789-1868) was the first Reeve to venture to Upper Canada (Ontario), Canada, in 1821. He bought property in Derry West, Lot 8, Con. 1, WHS, August 24, 1821, 100 acres (40 ha) from William Hill for £45 (\$113). His brother, Thomas, joined him 13 years later. William was married to Diana Gates (1792-1867) and they had five children, William (1813-1887), Alfred (1814-1827), Elizabeth (1815-1906), Frederick (1817-1824), and John (1819-1879).

William's son, John, married Hanna Louise Simpson (1832-1927) in 1854 and Sigsworth, the second child of ten, was born in 1856 in Burnhamthorpe, one of Toronto Township's small villages. They lived on property that John was farming for his father, who had acquired the north half of Lot 6, Con. 2, NDS, in 1846 from James Tracey. He purchased the farm for \$625 on May 28, 1862. When Sig was ten, John sold the farm and moved his family to Churchville, where Sig attended the S.S.#14 Union School.



▲ Reeve House
(Harry Spiers)

Sigsworth S. Reeve ▶
(The Crawford Collection)

Before moving onto the property in Meadowvale in 1883, which was situated on Derry Road, west of the Credit River bridge, Sigsworth built a two storey frame house. Once settled, he farmed the land and was classed as a farmer and dairyman. He bred Holstein cattle and hogs and was quite involved in provincial exhibitions around the province. He won many prizes, especially for his Holstein cattle. He married Sara McClure (1859-1938) in 1890 and they had three children, Frederick (1891-1964), Thomas Warren (1893-1972) and Ester (1897-1977).

Sig was very community minded and many events for the village were held on his property. He was a trustee of the Meadowvale Methodist Church. Around 1910, he built a two storey house.

When he passed away in 1943, he was buried with other family members in the Churchville cemetery. His son, Thomas, resided in the Reeve house until 1959 when he sold his 104 acre (41.6 ha) farm, for the Meadowvale Botanical Garden. The garden never materialized and in 1973 the property was sold to the Credit Valley Conservation Authority (CVC) for its new headquarters and conservation area. The second Reeve house, located at 1265 Old Derry Road, is owned by the CVC and is used by a community service group.

The Charlton Family - 1885

WHEN JOSEPH GARDNER JR. DIED IN December, 1885, at age 68, he bequeathed his farm to his son, Robert, who sold it for \$7,300 to his sister, Sophia (b.1852, d.1939) on November 3rd.



▲ Robert and Sophia Charlton
(Brampton Conservator)

Sophia had married Robert Golden Charlton (1850-1941) on April 2, 1879. He was the son of John (1807-1893) and Mary Bull (1817-1903)

Charlton, the fourth

son of six children. Britannia circuit pastor, Reverend G. Gough, performed the nuptials in the bride's home. The newlyweds lived in London, Ontario, for two years, then Port Elgin for five before coming to Meadowvale. They had six children, John, Robert, Clara, Cora, Jessie and Sarah.

They moved into Joseph's house and took over the 100 acre (40 ha) Gardner farm, Lot 8, Con. 4, WHS, that was located between Third and Fourth Line West (now Creditview and Mississauga Roads). The property had originally belonged to grantee Mathew Laidlaw, who had received the acreage on November 9, 1844. Joseph had bought it at auction on April 1, 1879, for \$6,450, following Mathew's death.



▲ The Robert Golden Charlton farm
(Region of Peel Archives)

It consisted of mixed farming with a market garden, apple orchard and a dairy. The dairy was quite productive and they sold cream to the Streetsville Creamery. The lane leading to the farmhouse was lined with maple trees. The original frame house burned down in 1896 and was replaced by a substantial two storey brick house. They farmed for 43 years and then moved to Streetsville for nine years and then to Clarkson in 1938 to reside with daughter, Sarah, Mrs. Harry Gerhart. They had 14 grandchildren.

Their son, Robert (1881-1969), who was married to Mary Ellen Arnott and had six children, and sister, Clara, stayed on the property. Clara had graduated as a nurse in Plainsfield, New Jersey, in 1919 and went overseas with the American Red Cross following W.W.I. In 1937, the Charltons celebrated their 58th wedding anniversary in style and were even written up in the *Streetsville Review* in April, 1937. The family lived on the farm until October, 1947, when they sold to Joe Milton for \$8,000 and moved to Chinguacousy Township.

The entrance to the Charlton/Milton farm was Argentia and Creditview Roads, where a subdivision sprang up around it called Meadowvale South.

The Caldwells - 1898

John and Mary Caldwell moved to Meadowvale in 1898. They had lived in Malton where they had moved in 1873 with their two year old son, John. They had eight more children there, Minnie, Charles, Bill, Alex, Dave, Vinie, Albert and Nelson.

They took up residence in the one and a half storey frame house John had purchased on the west side of Second Line West. John worked at the saw and grist mill for Henry Brown. In March and April of 1901, diphtheria was rampant in the village and Doctor Marshall Sutton, the Health Inspector, visited regularly. The Caldwell's son, Albert, died in March at age ten. Sigsworth Reeve's children were all sick with the disease as well and the school was closed because of the epidemic. Sig had bought property from Charles Gooderham on April 20, 1883. His house at 1265 Old Derry Road is still there and is owned by the Credit Valley Conservation.

John died in 1916. Their son, Charlie, lived in Meadowvale for the rest of his life. He was a carpenter and decorator, who was well thought of. Vic Ives, who was born in the village in 1922, says, "He was a sweet old guy who had a very tragic life.



▲ The Caldwell House, 1986



▲ The Caldwell House

(Photos courtesy of Rena Bishop)



▲ The Caldwell House restoration in 1987.



▲ Bishop House, 2003
(Kathleen A. Hicks)

HE LOST HIS WIFE, DAISY BROOKS, WHOM HE HAD married in 1906, in 1913 and he was left with three children to raise." Charlie died in 1954.

The Caldwell House at 7020 Second Line West has been owned by Irish born Catherine Ann (Rena) Bishop since 1986. She purchased it from Gary and Gayle Fohr for \$115,000 and has completely restored it and still resides there.