

Lot 5, Concession 4.

In 1836 David Hastings and his wife Jean Hastings emigrated to Canada from Kirkcudbrightshire, Scotland. They sailed on a small sailing vessel from their Native Land to the far away Land of Promise and Freedom - Canada.

They encountered severe storms on the Atlantic Ocean and were driven back one hundred and fifty miles in one night's storm and had almost given up hope of ever seeing land again. After eight weeks of sailing and storms they arrived in New York.

They continued their journey, and were towed down the canal with horses to Rochester then to Lake Ontario and finally arrived in Hamilton. The journey from Hamilton to Guelph was made by Ox Cart - arriving in June 1836.

Near Guelph the ox wagon was rocking and lurching over logs and stumps. Mrs. Hastings, afraid that the wagon would upset, jumped from the wagon with her baby in her arms into slush and water and mud, losing one of her shoes. She had to come into Guelph with only one shoe.

First they settled in Puslinch Township then moved to Eramosa for a short time. A few years later they moved to Nichol Township, purchased Lot 5, Concession 4, then mostly wilderness. They cleared the land and built a house and barn. There were seven of a family: John, Thomas, David, James, Sarah, Margaret and William. John, Thomas and David went to Michigan, U.S.A.  
Sarah married Alexander <sup>W</sup>Comrie.  
Margaret married James <sup>W</sup>Comrie.  
James settled in Guelph.  
William married Jean Beattie, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Beattie, 8th Concession.  
- David, Margaret, Jean (Mrs. Geo. Elgie), George, Edith.  
George married Mary Cooper  
- Doris and George  
Edith married W.R. Beattie  
- Sim, Mable, Archie, Maisie  
Jean married George Elgie  
- William, Leonard, Fred, Edith.

The pioneers, Mr. and Mrs. Hastings are buried in the cemetery on the 8th Concession, Nichol.

David Hastings. Sr. homesteaded lot 5 Con. 4, later D. M. Broadfoot. He died Dec. 25th. 1872 aged 86 and is buried on the 8th. con. according to the will, the farm was left to his son, James who went to Guelph. J. Bain owned the farm before D. M. Broadfoot.

The house pictured here is on centre of lot 6, between the 5th & 6th. conession. It belonged to his son William, not sure when he bought it , but it was before 1877.

Family of William Hastings and his wife Jean Beattie:

1. David - killed by threshing machine, which was on the Cooper's hill.
2. Margaret - born 1857 - died Dec. 6, 1875 aged 18 yrs. 6 months.
3. Jean - married George Elgie

M M



Erected  
1866