

EARLY TEETERVILLE—THE MILLS AND FARM

EXCERPT FROM *TEETERVILLE WOMEN'S INSTITUTE'S TWEEDSMUIR HISTORY*

- 1796 Province of Ontario divided into Counties.
- 1797 Windham Township surveyed by William Hambley.
- 1823 Jacob Tice received 400 acres of Windham Township land from the Crown
- 1830 This 400 acres was sold to Joseph Vivian who built the first wooden dam on Big Creek, to form the pond to float logs down the stream.
- 1855 George Teeter purchased land from Joseph Vivian and moved with his wife Matilda, 4 sons and 1 daughter. He erected a building north of the pond, to be used as a grain shed, but made liveable for the family.
- 1859 George Teeter had the land surveyed and laid out the Village of Teeterville on Lots 13 & 14 on Concession 5, on the banks of Big Creek.
- 1860 Across from his farm George Teeter built a grist mill, saw mill and two flumes, one for each mill. He also enlarged and rebuilt the dam.
- 1861 Many buildings were built, including a fine home for the Teeter family, a church and many businesses were in operation by this time.
- 1869 Teeterville flourished. George Teeter died at the age of 59, but his sons carried on. New businesses opened up. The Village made astonishing progress. Many families moved in and built family dwellings. The mills employed 25 men. Businesses increased to 32 retail, with 3 hotels and saloons, 2 churches, 3 blacksmiths, 2 doctors, 2 harness shops, 2 general stores, butcher, bakery and others.
- 1870 George Teeter's son, William, took over the saw mill, and his son Henry took over the grist mill. Henry suffered financial difficulties and went to Waterford and engaged in the hotel and saloon business.
- 1886 The Teeter mills and farm were sold to Henry McKnight who ran the business for 18 years.
- 1904 The property was then sold to Chas. Edgeworth and sons Ross & Jim.
- 1912 The saw mill was destroyed by fire and rebuilt on Concession 4.
- 1917 The Edgeworths operated the grist mill and then sold to N.J.H. Green
- 1930 Mr. Green sold the mill to Mr. Spiers and this was when the mill property was separated from the farm. Previous to 1930, the mill property and farm had been one property, all one deed. In 1930, the farm was sold to Emmett Ramsey.
- 1931 Mr. Spiers sold to Gordon Bailey, who, in 1933, sold the mill back to Ross Edgeworth.
- 1937 The dam was destroyed by a spring flood. To save the mill, a ditch was blasted across the road.
- 1940 Ross Edgeworth sold the grist mill to Maurice Elliott.
- 1941 Maurice Elliott sold the grist mill back to Ross Edgeworth who died in 1944.
- 1944 The mill was then sold to P.J. MacMillan who demolished the building and sold the land to Big Creek Conservation Authority.

TEETERVILLE MILLS

