



THE JAMES MORRISON FAMILY ON THE DUNANY ROAD

James Morrison (1870-1940), of Shrewsbury, son of William Morrison and Elizabeth Parker, bought the Evans farm after he had married Elizabeth MacVicar of Dunany. They lived there until 1925. Don Sutherland remembers going to watch the Morrison family during the haying season.

They had five children Ethel Elizabeth (1909- 1962) married James Hay of Lachute around 1934 Janet (1912 -) m. Gordon Hay, a cousin of James, in 1937; Bessie (1913-) m. James McConnachie of Montreal; Stanley (1917-1988); and Gertrude (1917-1957) m. Herbert Carlton August 1941. The children were students at the Dunany School and attended St. Paul's Church. Since the Morrisons lived such a distance from the School, they always boarded the teacher and she drove the horse and buggy and the Morrison children to school each day. Jim Morrison built a lean-to stable onto the woodshed for the horse. Marion MacVicar Connelly remembers, "Actually, we had two horses that spent their days at Dunany School, since Hector and Theodore Boyd, who lived on the Grace Park Road, also drove to school every day".

It was Jim Morrison who provided much of the background information on the Morrison family for the Parker Family History. He was one of the first workers on the Dunany Golf Club in addition to maintaining his farm. Faced with the fact that his children had reached High School 'age, he sold the farm to James Parkes, moved into Lachute, and joined the staff at Ayres Ltd.

James Morrison was appointed Peoples' Warden of St. Paul's Church in 1913 and he carried out these duties with real dedication until 1925 when the family left Dunany. On several occasions he also served as a Delegate to Synod. He was responsible for the building of the porch and belfry. He also built the old Richardson-Wiele house, tom down by the Marshalls when they built their new home.

All four of James and Lizzie's daughters became teachers, a tribute to this family's determination to receive an education, even to the extent of uprooting the family. Janet taught at the Dunany School in 1929-30 and in 1933-4. While she was teaching in Dunany, she lived with her cousins, the MacVicars. She and Marion have always been fast friends.

The road into the farm can still be seen as one descends the long hill towards Lachute. The farmhouse was down in the valley behind the Parkes house. For a time, Mr. Parkes had his caretaker residing there, but eventually it was tom down. Janet Hay remarks, sadly, that they can barely find the site because of the overgrowth, and the scarring of gravel pits.