



Luman and Fern Surine at their Centennial Farm.

CENTENNIAL FARMS

Pennock Farm

The Centennial Farm located at the Three Bridge Corner known as the Pennock Farm is now owned by the fourth generation, Wayne A. Pennock. This farm was homesteaded from the U. S. Government by William Marshall Glendy. The date of the U. S. Patent was January 5, 1839, as issued to Mr. Glendy. This consisted of 160 acres in the S W $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 12-2-7 in Maple Grove Township, Barry County. This farm is located two miles south of Nashville on present M-66.

On November 25, 1853, the farm was purchased by Thomas Dillon, who owned it until his death. My Great Great Grandfather, Henry Feighner, purchased it from the heirs of Thomas Dillon on February 24, 1862. Henry Feighner lived in a small building north of the present line fence of the homestead that has been moved a number of times and is now used as a granery. This building was built sometime before 1862. The original section of the present white house was built in 1881. The east wing one story high added on in 1902 and the upstairs in 1912. On December 31, 1888, Flavious Feighner purchased the farm and sold it to my grandfather, Curtis W. Pennock, March 19, 1890.

On March 17, 1891, my father was born in this house. In the early 1900's a large dairy barn was built and in 1914 a modern set of steel stanchions and mangers were installed for 32 cows. On October 5, 1918, this large barn burned to the ground from an undetermined origin. A new barn was built during the following winter which must have been quite an ordeal for it is understood that 1918-19 was quite a winter. The stanchion work was salvaged and put back into use for 20 cows.

The first barn next to the house, or better known as the horse barn, was built in 1906. This barn had spaces for six horses, but while I was a boy we kept only four, getting rid

of the last horses in 1941, making space for hog pens and chicken coops. My father, Ralph C. Pennock, was married to Gertrude S. Hoffman on June 14, 1914.

Henry Feighner owned a total of 300 acres. My grandfather, Curtis Pennock, only owned the eighty where the homestead is located. He purchased the 40 acres west of the Three Bridges. In 1912, Curtis Pennock purchased the 90 acres S E of Three Bridges.

The brick house on this property was built in 1881. There was also a large barn on the property which was destroyed by fire, June 14, 1927. This building being replaced by moving the old horse shed from the former Wilcox Church yard in sections and made into a tool shed that next year. Curtis Pennock died January 11, 1933, and Alice Pennock, December 6, 1940. My father purchased the farm in 1941 from the estate.

On January 24, 1948, I was married to Marian Cooley of Hastings. Our children are: Rodney, Brian, Loraine, and Elaine.

In 1957, we purchased the farm from my father and have added several buildings, a milking parlor in 1957, one silo in 1961 and a second one in 1968, a large tool shed in 1967. Through all these years a dairy herd has been the major enterprise on the farm. In the depression years, 1930-1940, truck crops played an important part of the farm crop program. Another interesting part of the farm is the Sugar Bush on the back end of the eighty, it having been tapped each and every year since about the 1880's. In 1968 a new oil-burning evaporator was installed.

A great highlight in 1936 was the construction of the Consumers Electric line.

Wayne Pennock

Maple Grove Farm

This centennial farm, which is located on Butler Road, one mile east of M-66, has been in the Mayo family for over 117 years. It originally consisted of eighty acres and was purchased by John Mayo in 1851. In 1882 one acre was taken out of the southeast corner of the farm and a new schoolhouse was erected on that spot which was thereafter known as the Mayo school.

John Mayo was born in Berkshire, England, on October 23, 1828, and died January 4, 1879, at the farm. His wife was the former Jane Mulvaney and to this union were born three sons—Harry, Robert and Fred. Harry later married Elizabeth Mason and settled on a farm across the road. Robert never married and lived his entire life on the farm where he was born. Fred, the youngest son, married Ina Bowes in 1892 and to this union were born a daughter, Edna, and a son, Shirley. Fred J. Mayo was quite active in politics and for many years served as township supervisor, as well as county highway commissioner and township treasurer. On November 9, 1942, Mr. and Mrs. Mayo celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary on the farm. He passed away in 1948 in the same house where he was born on April 10, 1869. Shirley passed away in 1949 and Mrs. Mayo in 1959.

Today, the chain is still unbroken as Edna Mayo and her husband, Leo Herrick, live on the same farm and are looking forward to celebrating their fiftieth wedding anniversary on June 21st, of this year, 1969 . . .



The home of Mr. & Mrs. George Brumm, winter of 1890 and Mr. & Mrs. Bruce Brumm, spring 1964.



Feighner Farm

The Feighner Farm in Barry County on Thornapple Lake Road owned by Hugh and Violet Feighner was first purchased from the government by Simeon Griffin of Tioga, New York on April 6, 1837.

George and Barbara Feighner came from Ohio to Michigan and purchased the farm from Archilius Green on August 16, 1853. Since that time it has been in the Feighner family, going to George's son, Peter Feighner, and to his son, Emmett Feighner and then to his son, Hugh Feighner.

Brumm Farm

The Bruce Brumm Centennial Farm, located at 1640 South Price Road, northwest of Nashville, was originally purchased from the U.S. Government in April, 1837, by John and Sarah Ingersoll. On February 17, 1868, George Brumm, grandfather of the present owner, purchased the farm from Daniel Staley and wife, 40 acres lying directly south of the present homesite. The 40 acres incorporating the present home was purchased in 1870. In 1890 a log cabin was replaced by the present brick structure.

Roy and Coy, sons of George, purchased the farm in 1903. In 1911 Coy sold his share to Roy and Nellie, parents of the present owner. Additional acreage was acquired in 1955, making it a 152 acre farm at the present time.

Three generations, Roy, Bruce, and his sons, Douglas and Jerry were raised on the farm.

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Maple Valley Implement

Garlinger Farm

Theobald Garlinger came to the United States from Germany in the 1830's or early 40's. Settling first in Ohio, Seneca County near Bloomville.

Mr. Garlinger moved his family to Michigan, buying 80 acres in Castleton Township, Barry County, one mile North and 1½ miles West of Nashville on March 2, 1859, buying the farm from James Wheeler.

In November, 1902, the farm was taken over by a son,

Tobal, also known as Tobe or Theobald, Jr. He owned the farm until his death in 1933. Shortly after his death the farm was sold to Ellis Garlinger, great grandson of Theobald, Sr.

Ellis Garlinger took possession May 1, 1935 and still lives on the farm. On March 2, 1969, the farm has been in the Garlinger family 110 years.

Mead Farm

NASHVILLE—When Thomas Blaisdel came to Michigan and purchased a farm in Castleton Township more than 100 years ago, he probably gave little thought to the fact that the farm would remain in the same family over such a long period.

The farm, now owned and occupied by his great-great-grandson, Kenneth F. Meade, has another distinction—it was the first farm in the township which was appropriately marked with a "Centennial" sign.

Unusual, too, is the fact that the house, built in 1860 looks exactly as it did when it was built, except that the porch was screened several years ago. Inside, the house has been partially modernized to keep pace with present day trends.

Thomas Blaisdel, born in Genoa, Cayuga County, New York, on April 12, 1815, learned the trade of miller. In 1837 he came to Michigan where he was employed for three years at Plymouth. He purchased the property in 1839 from Thomas Lockshead. He then returned East where he was married to Miss Alice Hall. A few years later, in 1846, the couple came to Castleton Township and occupied the farm. Later they added more land until at one time they owned an entire section.

Mrs. Blaisdel drew up the plans for her new home, but she died in 1860 just before the house was completed.

The Blaisdels had a daughter, Hannah, who, with her husband Samuel Robinson, owned the farm from 1885 until 1901. For many years Mrs. Robinson ran the farm while her husband worked on the railroad.

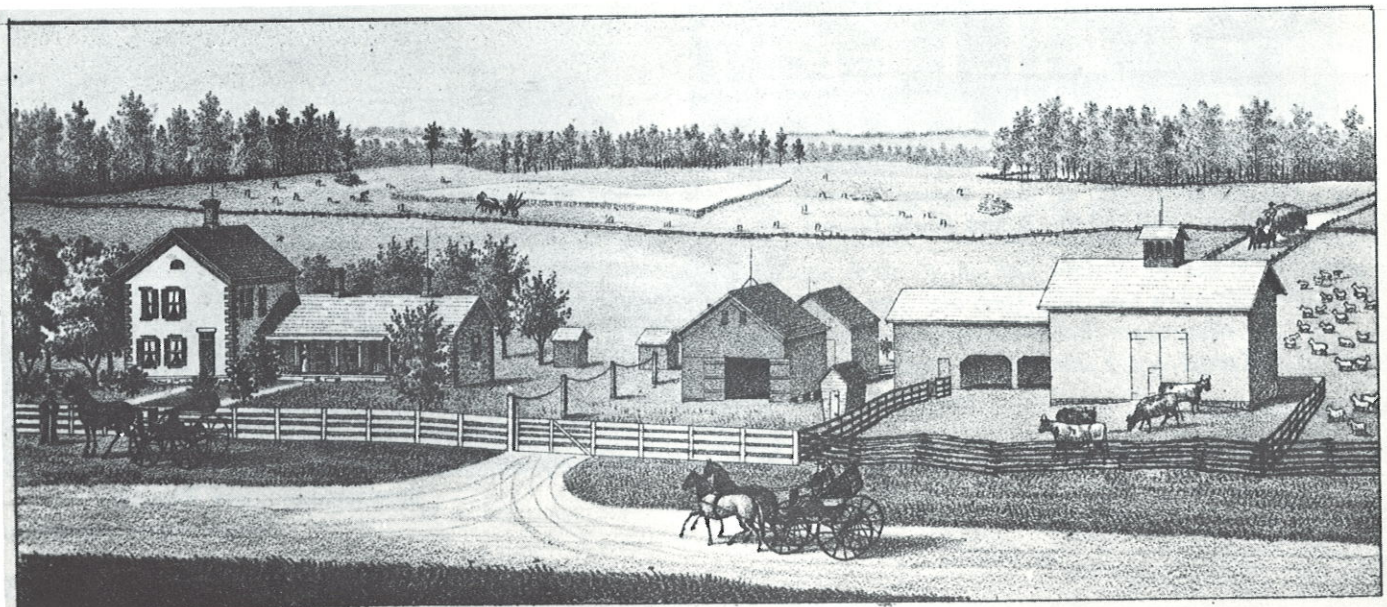
The next occupants were the Robinson's daughter, Jessie, and her husband Arthur Mead. The Meads first lived in another house just south of the present house. This burned in June, 1912, and they purchased the Robinson farm and Mrs. Robinson, then a widow, continued to live with them until 1916, when she moved into Nashville. Mrs. Robinson died in 1936 at the age of 93.

The Mead children, Kenneth and his sister, the late Miss Mable Mead, were born on this farm. Mrs. Arthur Mead died in 1928 and her husband on October 25, 1958.

Miss Mead became owner of the property in 1958 and held it until her death in 1959. At that time the homestead passed on to Kenneth A. Meade of Franklin, Michigan.

In May of 1964, Kenneth F. and Betty J. (Hosmer) Meade became the owners and continue to operate the now 120 acres, along with a son Michael, who remains at home.

The house, still in excellent condition, has a stone wall two feet thick. The sandstone corners came from near Albion and were brought to the farm where Mr. Blaisdel would haul wheat to Albion and Jackson, and then bring back a load of stone. The smaller stones in the portion on the north end of the house are all approximately the same size, and the manner in which they were laid give this part of the house a most distinguished look.



RESIDENCE OF THOMAS BLASDELL, CASTLETON, MICH.