

WITZEL

Evidently the Witzel family living in Hesse, Germany, was influenced by the advertisements about the Canada Company lands which induced them to migrate to Canada in 1847. It seems, however, that they were attracted to the settlement known as the German Block (the central part of the Township of Wilmot) and did not actually settle on Canada Company lands -- Blocks A and B of Wilmot Township.

In 1856, Jacob Durst sold the front 100 acres of Lot 9, South Bleams Road to John Witzel. In the 1861 census the Witzels were living in a 1-storey frame house. In 1883, John sold this property to Henry Witzel, and in 1885, Henry's executors sold it to Christian Witzel. In 1897, Christian also purchased the south 100 acres of the lot. In 1914, Christian sold the north 100 acres to William Witzel and in 1915, the south 100 acres to Ferdinand Hofstetter.

Heywood found a record of a purchase of one acre of Lot 10, North Bleams Road by John Witzel Sr. from John Green in 1886. In 1908, John Witzel sold this acre to John Jr., with John Jr. selling it a few months later to Albert Kennel.

Witzel story researched by Eric K. Heywood

Note: Since this family was from Germany, many of the names in the following family list will reflect the German form of the names.

Johannes/John Witzel, son of Andrew Witzel

b. 1820, Rambach, Kassel, Hesse, Germany
d. 1 Nov 1917, bu. Wilmot Centre Cemetery
m. in Germany

Dorothea Rebecca Schlarbaum, dau. of Henrich Schlarbaum

and Dorothea Elizabeth Werner
b. 23 Jun 1824, Wellingerode, Kassel
d. 5 Aug 1897, bu. Wilmot Centre Cemetery

Children:

I. Adam Witzel, b. 23 May 1848, Wilmot Township

d. at age 1 y. 4 m., probably buried at Wilmot Centre

II. Heinrich/Henry Witzel, b. 9 Sept 1849, Wilmot

d. 17 May 1885, bu. Wilmot Centre Cemetery
m. 14 Nov 1871, Waterloo County

Margaretha Wilhelm, dau. of Jacob and Magdalena Wilhelm

b. 31 Mar 1852, New Hamburg
d. 14 Nov 1871, Wilmot Centre Cemetery

Resided on Witzel homestead near Shingletown, Wilmot Township

Six Children: Magdalena Louise/Adeline, Henry, Margaret, Annie, William, Simeon

III. Maria Witzel, b. 1 May 1851, Wilmot

d. 1933, bu. Exeter Cemetery
m. 22 Aug 1870

John Lippert, son of Frederick and Maria Lippert

b. 1849
d. 1928, bu. Exeter Cemetery

- Purchased a farm south of Dashwood in 1878
 Five Children: Rebecca, Katherine, John, Elizabeth, David
)
- IV. Louisa Witzel, b. 5 Jul 1853, Wilmot
 d. 9 Feb 1940, bu. Greenwood Cemetery, Milverton
 m. 24 Dec 1872, Wilmot
 Peter Wilhelm, b. 1849
 d. 22 Mar 1888, bu. in church cemetery, Milverton
 (body later moved to Greenwood Cemetery)
 Residing at Milverton, Mornington Township by 1881
 Four Children: Dorothy, Margaret, Ezra, Moses
 (only Dorothy was married and she had no children)
- V. Dorothea Fredrica Witzel, b. 24 Aug 1855, Wilmot
 (reg. & known as Rebecca) d. 14 Feb 1905, bu. Protestant Cemetery, Walkerton
 m. 1 Feb 1876, Berlin (Kitchener)
 Frederick Lippert, son of Frederick and Maria Lippert
 b. 1851, near Baden
 d. 14 Jan 1930, bu. Protestant Cemetery, Walkerton
 Resided at Walkerton
 One Son: Frederick William
- VI. Fredrich Wilhelm/William Witzel, b. 29 Mar 1857, Wilmot
 (known as Bill) d. 5 Mar 1935, bu. Crediton Cemetery
 m. 11 May 1880, Stephen Twp.
 Maria/Mary Anna Finkbeiner, b. 2 May 1860, Stephen Twp., Huron Co.
 near Crediton
 d. 3 May 1927, bu. Crediton Cemetery
 Resided at Lot 12, Conc. 13, Stephen Township
 Eight Children: Matilda Elizabeth, Anna Barbara, Ezra, William, Ella,
 Thalma, Edna, Irene
- VII. Christian Heimrich Witzel, b. 13 May 1859, Wilmot
 d. 17 Aug 1926, bu. Wilmot Centre Cemetery
 m. 6 Dec 1881
 Elizabeth Lippert, b. 5 Sept 1859
 d. 24 Dec 1908, Wilmot Centre Cemetery
 Resided on homestead farm, selling it to Ferdinand Hofstetter in 1914
 Nine Children: John L., Elizabeth/Lizzie, William/Bill, Herman, Annie,
 Louise, Edmund m. Selma Iutzi (see page 3 for family),
 Henry, Fredrich Gordon
- VIII. An unnamed son, b. 7 Jul 1861, Wilmot
 d. 5 Mar/May 1862?, probably bu. Wilmot Centre
- IX. John Samuel Witzel, b. 30 Oct 1862, Wilmot
 d. 8 Mar 1892, bu. Zurich Bronson Line Cemetery,
 north of Dashwood
 m. 5 Dec 1882, Berlin (Kitchener)
 Elizabeth Siebert, b. ca.1864, probably Waterloo County
 d. 1954, Toronto, bu. Zurich Bronson Line Cemetery
 Resided at Dashwood, ON
 Five Children: Samuel, Clara, John Milton, Sybilla, Laura/Letta
- X. Elizabeth Witzel, b. 28 Nov 1865, Wilmot
 d. 23 Jan 1941, Lutheran Cemetery, Phillipsburg
 m. 25 Dec 1888, Phillipsburg

Peter Berg, son of Henry Berg
 b. 10 Feb 1861, Wilmot
 d. 26 Jan 1926, bu. Lutheran Cemetery, Phillipsburg
 Resided on Lot 18, South Erbs Road, south of Phillipsburg
 Five Children: Fredrich, Alexander, William, Conrad, Louisa

XI. An unnamed son, b. & d. 6 Jan 1868, Wilmot, probably bu. at Wilmot Centre

THE FAMILY OF EDMUND ALBERT AND SELMA CATHERINE (IUTZI) WITZEL

Edmund Albert Witzel, son of Christian Heimrich Witzel and Elizabeth Lippert
 b. 23 Nov 1896, Wilmot Township
 d. 29 Oct 1963, bu. East Zorra Mennonite Cemetery, 16th
 m. 7 Jan 1925, East Zorra

Selma Catherine Iutzi, dau. of George Iutzi and Barbara Boshart
 b. 26 Feb 1899, East Zorra
 d. 2 Mar. 1995, bu. East Zorra Mennonite Cemetery, 16th

Edmund was working for David Boshart, living just east of Phillipsburg. His Aunt Elizabeth, married to Peter Berg was living just south of Phillipsburg. David Boshart's sister Barbara (Mrs. George Iutzi) was a widow, living in East Zorra, about a mile west of Punkey Doodles Corner. David arranged for Edmund to go and work for his sister, who needed a good hired man.

World War I was in progress, and Edmund was drafted into the army. The neighbours petitioned that he was needed on the Iutzi farm, and he was granted a discharge. Edmund and John Tiemens were young men of non-Amish families who were contemplating marriage to Amish women; so they joined a baptismal class, along with William Bender and others at the East Zorra Amish Mennonite Church.

In 1925 Edmund and Selma were married by Bishop Daniel S. Jutzi in the East Zorra church. They remained with Selma's widowed mother on the East Zorra farm, comprised of part of Lot 36 (on which the buildings were located) and part of Lot 35, in the 18th Concession. The buildings were and are on the Townline. Edmund and Selma purchased the farm from the George Jutzi/Iutzi estate in 1928. In 1959 Edmund and Selma sold the farm to son Maurice, married to Minerva Lebold and moved to Tavistock. Selma resided at Nithview Home in New Hamburg at the time of her death.

Children of Edmund and Selma:

1. Melvin John Witzel

b. 14 Nov 1925 EZorra d. m. 14 Jun 1950 Cassel Ruby Zehr b. 6 Nov 1929 Blandford d. 28 Jul 2005 Stratford dau. of Enos Zehr and Nancy Wagler	}	Richard Melvin Witzel (1952-) m. Mary Lou Roth Ronald Enos Witzel (1954-) m. Carolyn Faye Roth Janet Kay Witzel (1957-) m. Robert G. Kyewski Randy Edmund Witzel (1961-) m. Nancy Marrienne Dieterding Bruce David Witzel (1965-) m. Dianne Elizabeth Hall
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Melvin and Ruby farmed in Blandford Township, R.1, Bright, ON
 Ruby is buried in the East Zorra Mennonite Cemetery

2. Maurice Christian Witzel

b. 15 Sep 1928 EZorra d. 24 Jun 2005 Tavistock m. 4 Mar 1950 EZorra	}	Judith Kay Witzel (1950-) m. Douglas James Brenneman
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Minerva Mae Lebold b. 31 Mar 1929 EZorra d. 26 Oct 1979 Kitchener dau. of Christian Lebold and Catherine Bender 2m. 25 Nov 1980 EZorra Velma Yantzi b. 31 Dec 1931 EZorra d. dau. of Jacob Yantzi and Mary Iutzi	}	Gerald M. Witzel (1951-) m. Carol D. Gingerich Donna Mae Witzel (1954-) m. Dwight Edward Zehr James Chr. Witzel (1956-) m. Donna Mae Lichti Larry Edmund Witzel (1958-) m. Marianne Bisch Connie E. Witzel (1961-) m. Clifford E. Kemp Murray Eugene Witzel (1962-) Roger Keith Witzel (1964-)
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Maurice and Minerva farmed on the homestead. In 1969, Maurice was ordained to the ministry for the maple Grove Conservative Mennonite congregation. this congregation renovated the former 17th Line school, using it as their meetinghouse. When Maurice retired, from farming they moved to Sebastopol, leaving the farm to son Larry and his wife Marianne. Maurice was a resident at the Maples Home for Seniors at the time of his death. Maurice and Minerva are buried in the East Zorra Mennonite Cemetery, 16th Line. Velma continues to reside at Sebastopol

3. Beatrice Elizabeth Witzel

b. 5 Oct 1938 EZorra d. m. 23 Sep 1961 Tavistock Ronald Samuel Schultz b. 20 Jun 1936 Wellesley d. son of Samuel N. Schultz and Beatrice Schultz	}	Yvonne Dianne Schultz (1966-) Wanda Patricia Schultz (1969-) m. James Lloyd Poole
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Beatrice and Ronald reside at Millbank, where Ronald operates a milk trucking business.

Lorraine Roth
 Tavistock, Ontario
 July, 2010

(first pages are missing; so no date remains).

John Witzel is written in English letters on the inside front cover.

The Bible was last in the possession of John O. Jantzi, Baden, before being returned to the Witzel family.

The following list in German script appears between the testaments:

Wilmot, the 21st February 1853

My first son Adam was born the 23rd May 1848
died age 1 year 4 months

The second son Henry was born the 9th September 1849

The third, a girl, was born the 1st of March (or May) 1851

The fourth, a girl, was born the 5th July 1853

The fifth, a girl, was born the 24th August 1855

The sixth, a son, was born the 29th March 1857

The seventh, a son, was born the 13th March (or May) 1859

The eighth, a son, was born the 7th July 1861
died 5 Ma__ (runs off page)

The ninth, a son, was born the 30th October 1862

The tenth, a girl, was born the 28th November 1865

The eleventh, a son, was born and died the 6th January 1868.

Notes and translation by Lorraine Roth
Waterloo, April, 1988

This list compares with the Witzel family list in the possession of the family. The Bible was left with Selma Witzel in May, 1988. Melvin Witzel has it in 2009

Witzel Farm Land Transactions:

Lot 36, Concession XVIII, East Zorra Township, Oxford County

Patent -- 1842 -- Crown to James Ward

B & Sale 1842 -- James Ward to John Schrag

Will -- 1861 -- John Schrag -- executors Daniel Schrag (brother)
Michael Schwartzentruber (brother-in-law)

1870 -- road allowance was added to acreage

B & Sale 1879 -- Executors of John Schrag to Joseph Vance, W 1/2
1879 " " " " " C.H. Zimmerman, E 1/2

B & Sale 1900 -- Joseph Vance to Samuel M. Jutzi 33 acres

B & Sale 1904 -- Samuel M. Jutzi to George Jutzi "

Grant 1928 -- George Jutzi estate to Edmund Witzel 33 acres

Grant 1959 -- Edmund Witzel to Maurice Witzel

Lot 35, Concession XVIII

In 1853 Joseph Vance also purchased the W 1/2 (100 acres) of Lot 35

B & Sale 1900 -- Joseph Vance to Samuel M. Jutzi N 1/2 of W 1/2 (50 ac.)

B & Sale 1904 -- Samuel M. Jutzi to George Jutzi 83 acres
(50 acres 33 ac. of Lot 36)

B & Sale 1908 -- Joseph B. Jantzi & wife to George Jutzi 20 ac. of E 1/2

Grant 1928 -- George Jutzi estate to Edmund Witzel N 1/2 of W 1/2 (50 ac.)
20 ac. (of E 1/2)

Grant 1952 -- Delton Zehr to Maurice Witzel SW 1/4

Grant 1959 -- Edmund Witzel to Maurice Witzel N 1/2 of W 1/2
56 rds sq. of NW corner

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