# THE URE FAMILY HISTORY



In recognition of more than 150 years of farming in this province, the Government of Ontario honours the

# **Ure Family**

for its contributions to Ontario's heritage, economy, culture and social fabric.

We offer members of the Ure family best wishes for continued success in the future.

July 1, 2017

Kathleen Wynne

Kathleen Wynne
Premier of Ontario
Première ministre de l'Ontario

Jeff Leal
Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs
Ministre de l'Agriculture, de l'Alimentation
et des Affaires rurales

ONTARIO

# The Ure Family Commemorative Biographical Record

(Written in the Amherstburg Archives in the early 1900's; Revised by Dana Ure in 1997)

It all began back in 1807 in Edinburgh, Scotland. David Ure was born-son of William Ure. David remained in Scotland until the year 1840, when he moved to Canada and settled in Amherstburg, Ontario. There he lived some years as a workman in Dougall's nursery. His work in his native land had been that of weaving, but in his new home he found conditions changed, and other avenues of activity open to him, so that he never resumed it.

In 1845, David married Jean Orr, also from Scotland. Jean was born in 1820 at Kilmarnock. In 1851, the two moved from Amherstburg to Windsor, where for two years David found work in a nursery.

In 1853, David purchased the present farm located on Lot 17, Concession 8, in Sandwich South. The land was wild, but well located, and his energy and industry soon enabled him to clear it and get it under cultivation. Here David Ure lived a useful, active life. He passed away in 1870 at the age of 63, being survived by his widow.

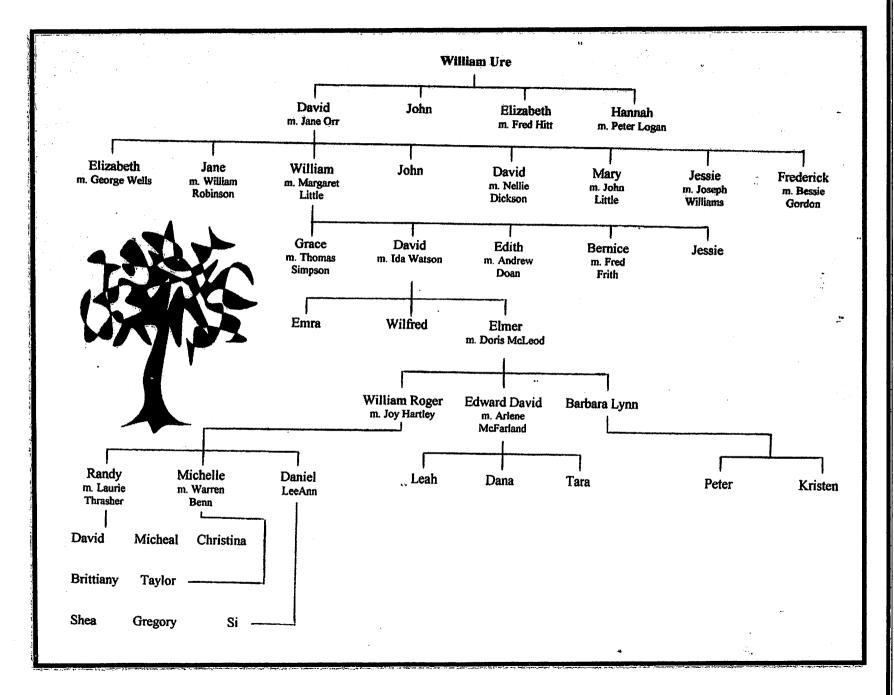
David Ure and his wife reared a family of seven children, Elizabeth (1846), Jane (1848), William (1850), David (1854), Mary (1857), Jessie (1860), and Frederick (1862).

William Ure attended the local schools, and remained at home until his marriage in 1876, to Margaret Little, daughter of George and Eliza Little. The Littles came from Ireland as early as 1830, and

settled at Windsor, where Margaret was born in August of 1848. After marriage, William and Margaret settled on fifty acres of the old homestead and to this William has added by purchase seventy-five acres more, now owning one of the best farms in the township. Mr. Ure takes a deep interest in his home and surroundings, and has erected most comfortable and attractive buildings of all kinds, possessing a property which he justly values highly. He is a man of practical ideas, and he employs methods which make every part of his domain bring returns.

William and Margaret have a family of five children, namely: Miss Grace, born in 1878, a highly educated young lady, was a student at Detroit Business College; David, born in 1880 and is his father's right hand on the farm; Edith, born in 1883, married Andrew Doane of Detroit; Bernice, born in 1887, is a bright student at Windsor Collegiate Institute, where she is preparing for a profession of teaching, and Jessie, born in 1889, is still a pupil in the local public schools.

Religiously, William and Margaret are active members of the Methodist Church. The present handsome edifice was erected on land donated by Mr. Ure, and he is a member of the board of trustees. Politically William has always been identified with the Reform party. In 1895 he was elected councillor of Sandwich South, and held the position with the greatest efficiency for two years. For the past twenty-two years he has served as secretary and treasurer of the school board, and he has taken an active part in all the religious and educational movements and legislation in this locality ever since he attained his majority. In 1904 he was appointed township collector. His attitude on the temperance question may be inferred when it is stated that for thirty-five years he has been a member of the Good Templars organization, is a charter member, and has served frequently in official positions.



# Elmer Ure Essex County Agricultural Hall of Fame 1996

Past, present and future were all very important time frames in the life of Elmer Ure. Because of this, his family, the community and the agricultural industry all benefitted.

The home farm, on Baseline Road in Sandwich South Township dates back to 1853. Elmer, came along in 1910 and became the 4th generation to farm that land. In 1920 his father Dave began shipping milk to Windsor dairies. This continued for 49 years.

In the early 40's, Elmer became a Director with the Essex County Milk Producers' Association. He served on the Board for 20 years including the position of Vice Chairman. During this time he helped negotiate Essex County milk prices with dairies as well as the introduction of quotas. The Dairy Herd Improvement Association had Elmer as one of its original members. He realized the value to dairy farmers of weighing milk daily and testing milk. The Ure farm continued until the dairy herd was dispersed in 1969. In 1945 Elmer canvassed the Sandwich South dairy farmers to join and help form the Essex County Cattle Breeders' Association. He was one of the 5 founding Directors to organize the E.C.C.B.A. for the express purpose of improving the type and quality of dairy breeds in Essex County. Their goals were certainly achieved, and they had a significant impact on local dairy breeding. For 12 years Elmer served as President until amalgamation with Western Ontario Breeders. He was active on the W.O.B.I. Board and received recognition for 24 years of valued service. His breed of choice was the Holstein. He was a member of Holstein Canada and a Director with the Essex County Club in the 1950's.

After selling the milking herd he and his son went into the swine farrow to finish operation which is still active today. As in the dairy industry, Elmer was instrumental in promoting the adaption and use of

artificial insemination in the swine industry. Though initially short lived, that concept did prove both popular and effective at a later time.

In the larger community, Elmer served as Sunday school teacher and superintendent, Pastoral Charge Treasurer and Steward for Bethel United Church. He was active as a School Board Trustee for 12 years. Over 14 years on Sandwich South Township Council saw the amalgamation of Roseland to Windsor, a new Fire Department, O.P.P. Station, township garage, enlarged township hall facility as well as Subsequent to the widening and black-topping of roads. amalgamation, consulting and by-laws were carried out to zone the townships into rural agricultural, residential and light industry areas. Elmer, as the first Chairman of the new Planning Board Committee used his common sense, insight, and organizational skills to better his township. Elmer was always dedicated to new ideas and innovations that would further the standard of living to those involved in farming and also to those in his community. In 1984 he was awarded the Bicentennial Certificate of Merit from the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food. He has always endeavoured to be a good steward of the land and believes in a strict crop rotation policy. He is pleased to see the fifth generation taking over the farm and feel his efforts have been worth while.

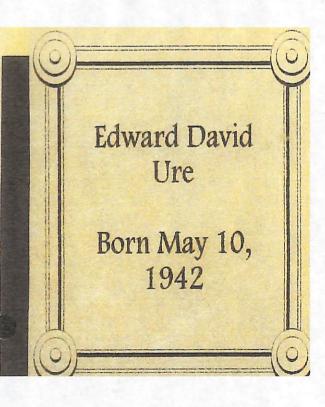




# Elmer and Doris Ure

Elmer and Doris met in 1930 at a party for the church young people. After a roaring game of 'spin the bottle', the two fell in love. For their first date, they took in a show at Detroit's Fox Theatre. They were married on October 10th, 1935 in front of the fireplace at the preacher's home in Maidstone.

Doris Ure 1911 - 1980





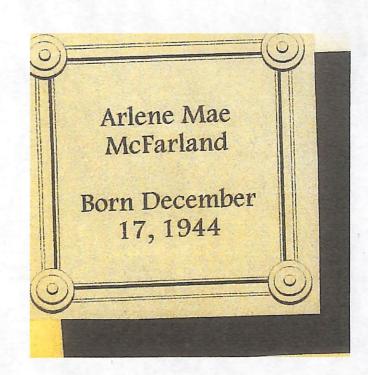


# Donnelly and Mabel McFarland

Donnelly and Mabel were both born and raised in the prairies, in Saskatchewan. The two met when Donnelly went to work on Mabel's family farm. After Don finished school, they moved to Hamilton and were wed on July 5, 1941.

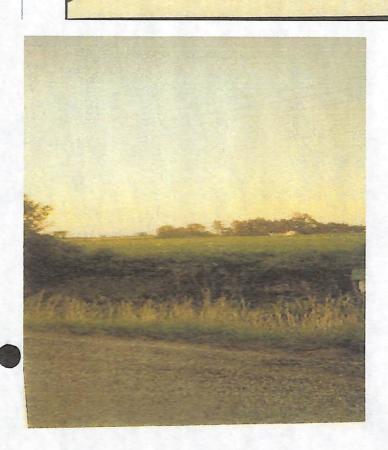
Mabel McFarland 1919 - 1982 Don McFarland 1919 - 1991





Edward Ure is the fifth generation to farm the land at Lot 17, Concession 8 in Sandwich South Township. Edward was born to Elmer and Doris in Windsor in 1942. Following high-school, Ted worked for the Ford Motor Company for a number of years, and then went off to see the world. After travelling for two years, he returned home in 1969 to help out on the farm. Up until this point, the Ure Farm was a cattle farm. Edward decided to disperse the cattle herd and try his hand at a swine farrow to finish operation. This operation continued until 1996 and the Ure Farm boasted one of the finest hog herds in the county. In 1996 Edward discontinued the farrow to finish strategy to join into a venture with other hog farmers. Ure Farms is now one farm in a three farm series that raises pigs in a genetically refined environment.

Edward Ure has always been a presence in his community as he is a faithful member of the Bethel Maidstone United Church. He serves on several committees both in the church and in the farm community.







Photographs: (This page, Clockwise from top) A misty spring morning on the farm; Edward preparing to put a load of straw in the barn; A summer sunset over the bush; Transferring hogs from one market truck to another.

Photographs: (Opposite page, Clockwise from top) The summer moon rising; A wagon of straw beside the silos; Edward and Elmer moving hogs. (note all photographs taken in the mid 1990's)



# The Farm

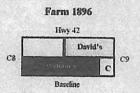
In 1843, in the Province of Upper Canada; Queen Victoria of Great Britain granted 100 acres of land to James Mills - -a British Soldier. This land was identified as the east part of lot 17, Concession 8; located in the Township of Sandwick in the County



located in the Township of Sandwich, in the County of Essex, in the Western District.

In 1853, David Ure purchased the land and began what is now Ure Farms. David divided the land between his two sons; the south portion to his son William and the north to his son David. David Ure raised a herd of pure bred jersey cows which he often showed in the Windsor Agricultural Fair. (The fairgrounds were located on what is now known

as Jackson Park.) In 1896 William Ure added an additional 50 acres of land to his farm. This purchase was mortgaged for \$2,100 at 5% interest for 5 years. At one point, William donated the southeast side of his lot to the church.



In 1940, William's son Elmer officially took over the farm. By this time the farm had been shipping milk to Windsor dairies for 20 years. By 1940 Elmer had a herd of about 17 holstein cattle, and was shipping 8 to 10; eight gallon cans of milk a day. At one time Elmer owned a herd of 70 cattle, of which roughly36 were being milked. Elmer was extremely active in the cattle breeding industry. In 1996, he was inducted into the Essex County Agricultural Hall of Fame in recognition of his devotion to both farming and to his community.

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# The Homestead

nome on the Ure farm was originally built in 1876 by William and aret Ure. Since then, five generations of the Ure family have lived e house. Through the years the homestead has undergone many ges; one would hardly recognize the home today from the day in h it was built. If walls could only talk ......



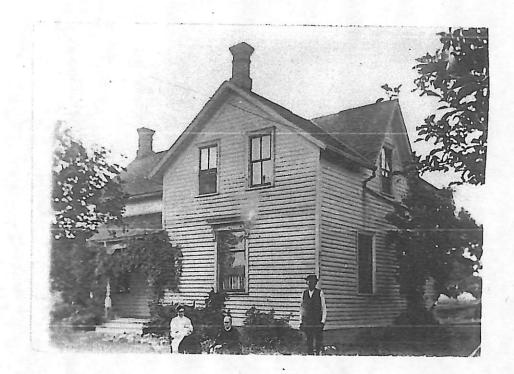


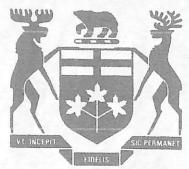


Photographs: (Clockwise from top) (1) Margaret Ure at the Southwest corner of the house in 1919; (2) William and Margaret in front of the South side of the home in 1911. William is standing and Margaret is seated on the grass. The woman in the chair is not known; (3) A picture of the home in the late 1800's - Back Row: Wilbert Little, Edith Ure, Bessie Wells, Bernice Ure, Margaret Ure, William Ure. Seated: David Ure, Jessie Ure.









Province of Ontario

Up

Elmer Ure

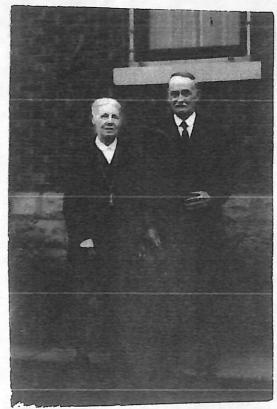
As the Member of Parliament for Essex-Kent, I would like to congratulate you on your selection to the Essex County Agricultural Hall of Pame.

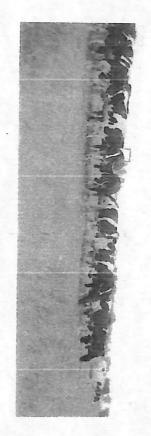
You can be proud of your dedication to Agriculture and to your community.

Pat Hoy, MPP

Essex-Kent











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# Century Family Farm Award presented to

Elmer Ure and Family

In recognition of your historical contribution and dedication to a century of family life in Sandwich South Township.

Celebrating One Hundred Years

# ELMER URE

(1910 - 2024)

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## THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF WINDSOR

July 15, 2005

Mr. Edward Ure and Mrs. Arlene Ure 5680 Baseline Rd. Windsor, Ontario NOR 1K0

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Ure,

Thank you so much for taking the time to talk to me about your family history. You have a beautiful home and I am recommending that it should be added to the Windsor Heritage Properties Inventory (WHPI). I believe I discussed this with you when we met. It will be up to the Heritage Planner as to whether or not she will recommend the same to the Windsor Heritage Committee – who will ultimately decide whether or not it will be added to the WHPI.

I greatly appreciate how helpful you were in providing me with all of that wonderful information. I have enclosed in this envelope the picture you lent me of the original home, an aerial photograph of your home (taken in 2004 - I believe), and a building analysis form. This form is just a rough draft and may be altered by my supervisor, but I wanted you to have an idea of what they entail.

Thank you again, and if you have any questions at all please do not hesitate to call Nancy Morand, the Heritage Planner, or myself.

Enranchy Vernhart

Mandy Vernhout

Heritage Committee Office Assistant

Tel. (519) 253-2300 Ext. 6712

E-mail: avernhout@city.windsor.on.ca

-or-

Nancy Morand Heritage Planner c/o 2450 McDougall Street

Windsor, Ontario N8X 3N6

PHONE: 519-253-2300 x 6931

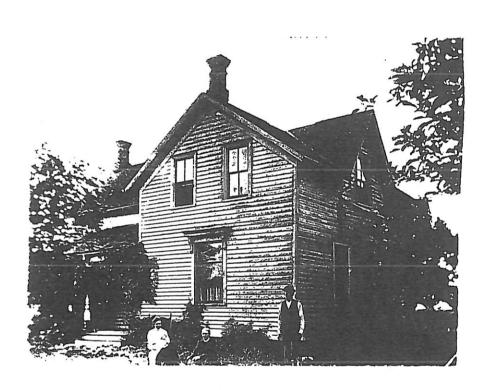
FAX: 519-255-7990

EMAIL: nmorand@city.windsor.on.ca

OFFICE OF THE CITY PLANNER

350 City Hall Square West, P.O. Box 1607, Windsor, Ontario N9A 6S1

Phone: (519) 255-6281 Fax: (519) 255-6680 Email: planningdept@city.windsor.on.ca



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# WINDSOR HERITAGE PROPERTIES

# **BUILDING ANALYSIS FORM**

Name of Site: The William Ure House

Address: 5680 Baseline

Zoning:

Legal Description: CON 8 S PT LOT 17 RP 12R9649 PART 3 95.00AC



Current Owner: EDWARD URE

Address: 5680 BASELINE WINDSOR, ON, NOR 1K0

Telephone: (519) 735-6726

Fax:

E-mail:

Architect(s) & Date(s): WILLIAM URE, 1875

Builder(s) & Date(s): WILLIAM URE, 1875

Building Type (residential, commercial, etc.)
RESIDENTIAL, FARM

ARCHIECTURAL INFORMATION - Style, Materials, Details	
	,
2 storey gable roofed farmhouse with wrap-around shed roof porch. Wrap-around shed roof porch with molded wooded	
balustrade, and ornate wood columns both made of cedar. There is no basement. One of the barns was built in 1910, has	
been refurbished. Windows facing the road are newly installed, and all original windows have been replaced. Ornate screen	een
door upon entry to the kitchen.	

### **HISTORICAL INFORMATION - Persons, Events**

**INTEGRITY - Site, Alterations:** 

ADCHITECTIDAL INCODMATION Style Meterials Details

The Ure family is one of the founding families in the area. David Ure came to Amherstburg in 1840 from Edinburgh, Scotland. He purchased the present farm in 1853; originally there was a log home on the north side of the lot. His son William Ure, born in March 8, 1850, built the existing house. William Ure attended the local schools and was very active in the community. He was a member of the Reform Party, and was elected councilor of Sandwich South in 1895; he was secretary and treasurer of the school board for 22 years; he was appointed township collector in 1904; he was also an active member of the Methodist Church. He donated some of his property for the construction of a church (still on the corner of Baseline Rd. and 9th Concession although not the original building). Born in 1910 Elmer Ure, the 4th generation of the Ure family to live on the property, was also very active in the local community. Elmer became a Director with the Essex County Milk Producers' Association; he was one of the original members of the Dairy Herd Improvement Association; he was one of the five founding Directors of the Essex county Cattle Breeders' Association and served as President for 12 years. Elmer also served as a Sunday school teacher and superintendent for Bethel United Church; he was a School Board Trustee for 12 years, and in 1984 he was awarded the Bicentennial Certificate of Merit from the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food. He was mostly a dairy farmer until 1969 when he dispersed his herd, and at this time he and his son Edward – now the current owner – began to raise swine. Edward lives in the home with his wife Arlene, and continues to farm the land.

House has been renovated extensively. New siding, porch extension, new windows, roof, addition on the back of house. House is very well kept, and has the charm of an old fashioned farmstead.								
Initiated by: Owner   Architectural	B.A.F. PREPARED BY:							
Other × Committee	Date:							
Remarks: Citation □ Date	Commendation   Date:							
W.H.C. Recommendation/Date	Council Decision/Date							
Publication of Notice	By-law No.							



In recognition of more than 150 years of farming in this province, the Government of Ontario honours the

# **Ure Family**

for its contributions to Ontario's heritage, economy, culture and social fabric.

We offer members of the Ure family best wishes for continued success in the future.

July 1, 2017

Kathlin Myne

Kathleen Wynne
Premier of Ontario
Première ministre de l'Ontario

Jeff Leal
Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs
Ministre de l'Agriculture, de l'Alimentation
et des Affaires rurales

