



AIRLIE

Airlie was located on the extreme easterly side of the township, at the corner of county road 21 and the Mulmur/Tosorontio townline. It was on a branch of the north division of the Grand Trunk railway line. It was once known as "Bonny Town". The post office opened on July 1st, 1869 with Postmaster George B. Lee.

Pioneers who cleared land in the early days were Kidd, Morris, Dickey, Bradley, Pangman, Jones and Hare. All seemed to be of Irish stock.

According to a letter from Mark Little of Toronto in 1977 his great grandfather immigrated to Banda (Avening) area in the 1830's. He was a mill manager for Mr. J.B. Smith. His father was born in a log cabin on the 7th line of Mulmur. At one time he owned a mill at Terra Nova and Lisle. Mark was born in Lisle where they also owned a general store.

In the 70's and 80's, several sawmills were in operation: Parkhill Mill, on the west side of the creek and Henry's Mill, on the east side. J. B. Smith also had a mill as did Mr. Zimmerman. Soon after there was a hotel, 2 stores, 2 blacksmiths and 12 houses. In 1890 the population was approximately 100 and the Postmaster was Richard Bradley. There was mail every day.

The blacksmiths were James E. Lennox and A. Parsons, Canadian Express Agent was John Woodruff, hotel keepers were Henry Cherry and Louis Ward

Elijah Kidd was a prominent citizen of Airlie having been elected 3 times as Deputy Reeve of his native township and served one year in 1916 as Reeve.