

## HALL'S CORNERS

The corners referred to were at the junction of the four townships, Mulmur, Mono, Amaranth and Melancthon.

The original parcel of 200 acres on lot 32 in Mono/Amaranth was obtained by William "English" Hall, under an United Empire Loyalist grant. William had emigrated to Canada in 1830 from his native land of England.

Mr. Hall erected a log building for himself and provided enough space for passing travellers. This advantageous spot was located on the original Toronto-Sydenham Road.

William became renown for his story telling, good humour and the provider of excellent lodgings. He quickly expanded and acquired more than 3,000 acres, thus becoming a property owner of all four corners in the four townships. (The current position of Highway # 89 leaves a small portion of Mulmur Township on the south side of the highway.) A brick home was built for his wife and 9 children. The Hall tavern became known as the Coaching Inn when a barn was built to house the horses of the stage coach on their journey from Toronto to Owen Sound. The stone foundation is still visible as is the well, now covered over.

William Hall died in 1883. The property was purchased later by Dr. & Mrs. W. Goodman. The barn and implement shed were still standing. Much care and love has been put into the repairs and restoration. A photo of the house enabled the Goodmans to reproduce much of the gingerbread trim and original details. The shed has been converted into a workshop for the space and tools of Dr. Goodman's hobby of woodworking.

The vast acres are now devoted to the growing of many special species of trees. The current name of the property, Vanaheim, is derived from Nordic mythology, meaning four winds. Given Dr. Goodman's parents' emigration to Canada from Iceland in 1890 and the strong winds Dufferin County is noted for, a very appropriate name.