

SACRED HEART CHURCH, OAKWOOD, NORTH DAKOTA
Parish Centennial History - 1981

Part I

Page

8 - Founding of the Parish

19 - Church Trustees

Part II

20 - Age of Progression

21 - Doctors, Post Office, Town

23 - Early Settlers

Part III

39 - Second Era Generation

48 - The School Era

Part IV

57 - Vocations to Religious Life

61 - Pastors

62 - Parish Surviving

70 - Present Day Generation

Compliments of Dick Bernard

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Son of Henry Bernard and Esther Busch

Grandson of Josephine Collette (p. 27) and Henry Bernard

Great Grandson of Octave Collette and Clotilde Blondeau (p. 27)



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Individually and together, we can!

The Age of Progression

The following list is the result of information received from the old settlers of the community who have given us the full benefit of their reminiscences but cannot certify to its perfect accuracy as no record of this kind has been kept by any one of them. The list includes the names of all Catholic settlers from far and near who attended the religious services in the Sacred Heart chapel of the Park River mission during the first twenty years of the existence of the settlement.

- 1878 Joseph Charpentier, John Brunelle, William Brunelle, Joseph Brunelle, Thomas Barnabe, Octave Collette, Philippe Collette, Ovide Collette, Jean Baptiste Trudeau, Pierre Lachapelle, Theodore Huard, Benoni Brunelle, Ferdinand LaRoche, Antoine Girard, Honore Savard, George Barnabe, Albert Barnabe, Theodules Collette, Joseph Deschenes.
- 1879 Edouard LaBerge, Dosithee LaBerge, Joseph LaBerge, Jean Baptiste LaBerge, Etienne Lessard, Philias Lessard, Louis Lessard, Joseph Lessard, John Sullivan, Sr., John Sullivan, Jr., Mark Sullivan, Urbain Boutin, Alfred Boutin, John Boutin, Francois Boutin, Arcadius Collette, Stanislas Lachapelle, Moise Vary, Domina Vary, Philias Vary, Moise Labonte, Joseph Collette, Alfred Collette, Cyrille Patenaude, Emile French, Victor French, Leon Surprenant, Joseph Parent, Joseph Pellant, Raymond Pellant, Thomas Poole, Joseph Poole, Francois Desautels, D. Desautels, Guillaume Boivin, Marjorique Goulet, John Donelly, Bernard Donelly, Jean Baptiste Bourcier, Henry McLernan, Michel Charponneau.
- 1880 Stanislas LaRoche, Pierre Lacoste, Achille Garant, Emile Garant, Benoni Bolduc, Joseph Campbell, Arsene Campbell, Oswald Campbell, Leonce Couture, Alphonse Sabourin, Alfred Parent, Ernest Soucy, Pierre Fortier, Alexis LaMarre, Alfred Sevigny, Bernard Faille, Pierre Faille, Francois Xavier Demers, Dieudonne Demers, Cornelius Daley, James Bradford, Louis Bradford, John Bolduc, Basile Bellegrade, James Daley.
- 1881 Dr. A. Loranger, Charles French, Antoine Filteau, Alfred Filteau, Patrick Conlon, Thomas Conlon, Thomas Walsh, Joseph J. Huard, Calixte Laframboise, Theodore Carriere, Joseph Demers, Eugene Baillargeon, Henri Sevigny, Cyrille Dumontet, John Lacey, John McCullum, George Myers, Regis Boucher, George Cochrane, J. MacDonald, John Kelly, John Murphy, P. J. Murphy, Alexis Gagner, John Smith.
- 1882 Eustache French, Cyprien French, Joseph French, Andre French, Alcide French, Wilfred Campbell, Moise Giroux, Michael Burke, Joseph Samson, Honore LeBlanc, Jules LeBlanc, David LeBlanc, Michael Keegan, Richard Verreau, Auguste Huard, Oliver Pilon.
- 1883 Hermas Chales, Narcisse Duquette, Oliver Allard, Francois Samson, J. Desrosiers, Michael Hickey, Levy Gagnon.
- 1884 Auguste Corriveau, William Collette, Hugh Kelly, Gabriel Raymond, Emile Guerin, Thomas Kyes, Benjamin Bouvet.
- 1885 John Altendorf, Xavier Chouinard, Remi Gelinas, Nicholas Welter, John Kennedy.
- 1886 Dr. P. U. LaBerge, Emmanuel Lefebvre, Severe LaMarre, Francois LaMarre, Wilfred LaMarre, Antoine Chales, Moise Boutiller, John Krier, Joseph Moreau, D. Cahil, Pacific Perras, Remi Lacourse, Owen Duffy, Raymond Bouvet, Auguste Normand.
- 1887 Alexandre Kerouack, John Schumann, Patrick Hollenger, Jeremie Gelinas, Jerome Rousseau, Joseph Maurice, Jacob Wentz, Thomas McKenzie, Abraham Pilon, Julien Pelletier, Andrew Harrington, John Poole, Basille Yelle, Louis Grandbois, Alderic Dumontet.
- 1888 Alexandre Pageotte, Joseph Pageotte, Alphonse Pageotte, Louis Pageotte, Joseph Gourde, Sr., Joseph Gourde, Jr., Domicile Gourde, Alphonse Gourde, Georges Samson, Thomas Samson, Theotime Gagnon, Idola Vary, Georges Goulet, Emile Ethier, Charles Bessette, Joseph Bernard, Eugene Rheume.
- 1889 Georges Delisle, Amabel Hebert, Philip Jacob, Mederic Lefebvre.
- 1890 Louis Lacoste, Simon Trudeau, Narcisse LeBlanc, Joseph Montpetit.
- 1891 J. C. Deschenes, Joseph Bouchard, Louis Bilodeau.
- 1892 Patrick Gallagher, Farigal Gallagher, Alfred LeClerc, Benoni Garant, Wilfred Laframboise.
- 1893 George Lamontagne, Simon Belanger, Louis Trost, H. Brosius, Hubert Hebert, M. Martin, Louis Lecompte, Carolus Bastien, Gustave Bastien, Honore Bastien, Peter Brosius, Nelson LeBlanc, Alfred Champagne, Victor Dumontet.
- 1896 William Durand, Stephen Kiley, Joseph McAuliffe, John Dolan.
- 1897 Edouard Lafreniere.



The Doctors

In the early days the Oakwood community had the great privilege of possessing men of medical knowledge. Dr. Hamilton, who for a time resided at Acton on the Red River, answered the sick calls of the early settlers of the Oakwood community. In 1881, Dr. A. Loranger, originally from the Province of Quebec, Canada, made his residence at Oakwood until the winter of 1883. Dr. P. U. La Berge from Ste-Martine, Province of Quebec, is the second doctor who made his residence in Oakwood and he stayed from 1886 to 1891. In 1900, Dr. Barrette made his residence in Cashel, a village situated within the limits of Sacred Heart Parish four miles north of Oakwood. In 1901, Dr. S. Dulude came to stay in Oakwood. He was born at St. Urbain, Canada, and studied at Ste. Therese College near Monreal. Dr. Galland is the last medical man who lived in Oakwood, during the year 1904. From that time to this day, sick calls from the Oakwood community have been answered by the Grafton doctors.



Dr. R. Loranger



Dr. P. U. La Berge



Dr. S. Dulude



The Post Office

Since it was the center of activity for a wide area, on November 4, 1895, a post office was established in Oakwood, with Alex Gagner as postmaster. The post office was discontinued April 30, 1924, in favor of a star route service from Grafton.



After the erection of the second church building, this first chapel was turned into a store in 1906, it was



destroyed by fire April 10, 1926. The post office was located inside the store.



Old picture of Oakwood Meat Market and big barn and Mrs. Chale's house, now Mrs. Marie Pilon's. The barn was used as a livery stable for horses while the parishioners attended church.



Mr. and Mrs. Alex Gagner (Obeline Collette) and family. Mr. Gagner was the first postmaster.



Mr. Moise Labonte
Former business partner of Wm. Brunelle, said to have been the first store keeper of Oakwood.



Former Oakwood Meat Market being remodeled by the Albert Gourdes in 1949.



Albert Gourde's home which was formerly the Oakwood Meat Market. It belonged to Charles Baillargeon to begin with. It was purchased by Stanley Bessette and moved to a site across the road, south and west of its original site. It was enlarged and remodeled by the Albert Gourdes. (1980)



Grading part of the Oakwood road. The grading was done by neighbors — Eugene Rheume, Joe Gourde, and Joe E. Lessard. Others are not identified. Taken in the late 1920's.

The Early Settlers

Every one of the early settlers of the Oakwood Catholic Community deserves a special mention in this book. All of them contributed their share to the foundation and development of the community. A detailed study of each of these pioneers would surely be of interest to the present and future generations. However, this isn't possible in this booklet.

One pioneer more than all the others does deserve special mention here. He was the first resident settler and donated the property for Sacred Heart Church and the St. Aloysius Academy. That man was Joseph Charpentier, who had come with his family in April 1878. His remains lie in the Sacred Heart Cemetery. Upon his grave can be seen a memorial with a marble plate bearing this inscription "IN MEMORY OF JOSEPH CHARPENTIER BORN MAY 1, 1838 DIED AUGUST 20, 1926. DONATED SACRED HEART CHURCH PROPERTY MARCH 30, 1881. R.I.P."



Charles Baillargeon family, standing, Bernadette Sevigney, Lydia, Anoise, Mae; front row, Charles Baillargeon with Alice on lap, Rose Sevigny, Charlotte, Mrs. Florence Baillargeon and Marie.



Peter and Maryann (Ensch) Brosius Family: left to right, Harry, Peter (father), John, Mrs. William (Barbara) Shultz, Mrs. Victor (Theresa) French, Maryann (mother), and seated in front is Mrs. William (Minnie) DeSautel.



Nick Brosius Family: left to right are Katie (Mrs. Albert Rocksvold), Mary (Mrs. Ed Kinney), Barbara (Mrs. Reese Lowe), Paul, Theresa (Mrs. Joe Bisek), Lena (Mrs. Al Skiff) seated on father's knee, and Nick (father). Mrs. Brosius was deceased.



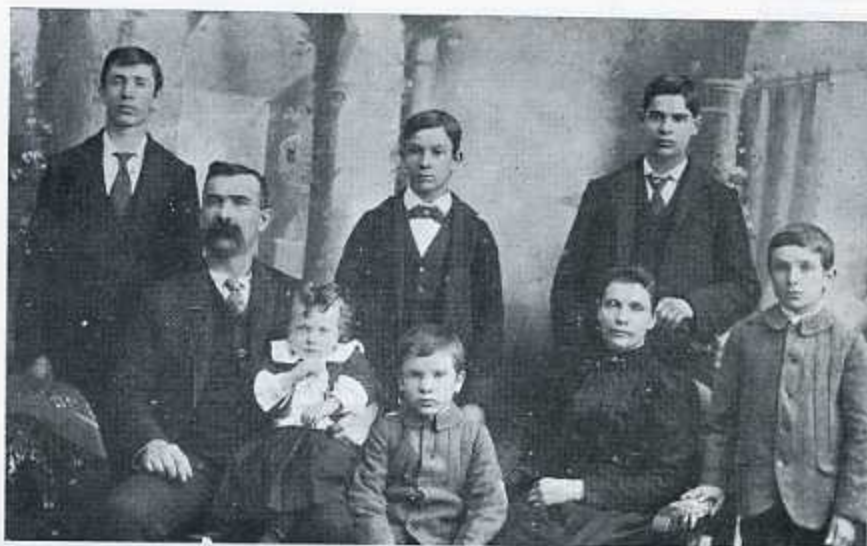
Joseph and Alphonsine (Harel) Campbell Children: left to right, Roch, Mrs. Homer (Clarinda) French, Mrs. Arthur (Louisa) Collette, Wilbrod, and seated is Arsen, and Oswald, Sr. (Taken in 1970).



Mr. and Mrs. Benonie Brunelle (M. Bilodeau) and family.



Mr. and Mrs. John Brunella (Julia Montreil), in whose home the first school was held in June, July and August, 1880. Photo taken at Belcourt, N. Dak., May 2, 1929, on their golden wedding anniversary.



Mr. William Brunelle and his first wife (Marie Bolduc) and family.



Mr. Joseph Brunelle and his first wife (Mathilda Trudeau).



Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Campbell (Alphonsine Harel) and family.



Mr. Antoine Filteau



Mr. and Mrs. Hermas Chales (Odile Lessard) and family.



Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Collette (Celina Deschenes) and family.



Mr. and Mrs. Edouard LaBerge (Josephite Surprenant) and one of their children.



Arcadius Collette Family: back row, left to right, Alvida, Alexander, Albert, Pamela, Joseph; front row, left to right, Mrs. Arcadius (Zoe Pamerlsau) Collette, Wilfred, Bernadette, Delphine (young girl seated), Blanche, and Arcadius Collette.



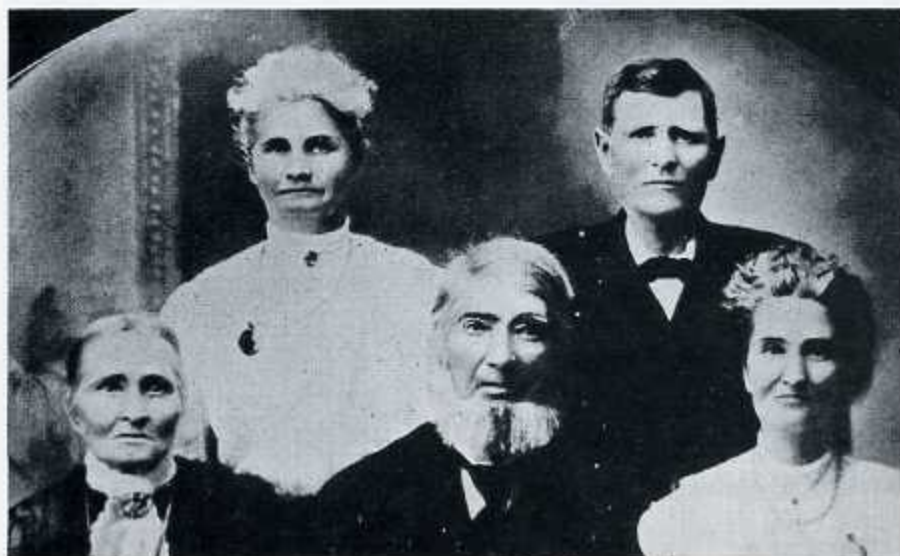
Mr. and Mrs. Arcadius Collette (Zoe Promerleau) and a grandchild.



Denis Collette Family: seated, left to right, Philip, Denis, William, and Father Barrette, pastor at Oakwood; standing, Ovide, Arcadius, Octave, Alfred, Theodules and Joseph.



Mr. and Mrs. Ovide Collette (Oveline LaBerge) and family.



Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Conlon and Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Conlon and Mr. P. Conlon's daughter.



Alma Collette, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ovide Collette, whose family is pictured above.



Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Collette (Dezilda Huard) wedding picture in 1889.



Mr. and Mrs. Theodules Collette (Augustine Duquette) and their daughter.



Octave Collette, son of Denis Collette, married Clothide (Blonide): left to right, standing, Alere, Mrs. Wentz (Elsie) Arcidas, Mrs. Henry (Josephine) Bernard; Paul and Alcide seated with Octave and Clothide (parents) in front. Came in 1878.



William Collette, son of Denis Collette and Mathilde (Vermette) Collette, and Naomi Patnaude, daughter of Cyril and Celina (Trudeau) Patnaude: left to right, top row, Homer, Napoleon, Mrs. Amay (Delphine) Pilon, Almond, Elzear; bottom, Mrs. Dan (Anna) Plaisance, Mrs. Collette, James, Mrs. Victor (Angeline) Lessard, Mr. Collette and Bertha. Mr. and Mrs. Collette, Homer, Elzear, and Bertha are all deceased.



William Durand came to this territory in 1896. Pictured are William and Eugenie (Gourde) Durand, (who was a sister of Joseph and Domicile Gourde) and children - Albert, Joe, Ovila or Oliver, Josephine (Mrs. Oscar Pilon), Amanda (Mrs. Albert Demers), and Wilfred.



Joseph C. and Annie (Sabourin) DesChenes - Joseph Charles DesChenes was born in Canada, lived around Dayton, Minn., and came to Grafton in 1891. Joseph worked at Reyleck's as a clerk then he opened his own store in Cashel, N. Dak. In 1897 Joseph married Mary Anne Sabourin, daughter of Alphonse and Bridget (Madden) Sabourin. He was postmaster at Cashel for 35 years, as well as township clerk and served as trustee of the Sacred Heart Church of Oakwood for many years. They had eleven children - Rose, Herbert, Charles (Taft), (Evelyn) Mrs. Ira Sweeney, Omer Joseph (Joe), Philip Wilmer (Pickles), (Helena) Mrs. Jerome Votava, (Agnes) Mrs. Lloyd Syrup, and (Mary) Mrs. Ralph Hatlelid. Lucille and Frances both died in infancy. Only four are living - Joe, Pickles, Helena and Mary.



Victor Campbell, son of Joseph Campbell and Alphonsine (Harel) Campbell, married Philomena (Minnie) Collette, daughter of Alfred Collette and Celina (DesChenes) Campbell. They had three children - Mrs. Frederick (Clarabell) Demers, Harold, (deceased), and Mrs. Lawrence (Odell) McCarthy, (deceased).



Daniel Demers, son of Exevier Demers, and Marcelline (Surprenant) Demers, married Albina Primeau, daughter of Louis Primeau and Salome (Gagne) Primeau, Oct. 12, 1892. They had fourteen children, eight of whom are still living at this writing, all in the Grafton area. Pictured left to right, top row, Edmond, Wilfred (deceased), Simeon, Edward, Albert, Ovila and Frederick, both deceased, Dan and Victor (deceased); seated, Mrs. Demers, who died Apr. 9, 1973, Mrs. Edward (Emma) Sevigny, Mrs. Wilfred (Arbella) Durand, Mrs. Simeon (Clara) Sevigny, Mrs. Alfred E. (Alvina) Lessard (deceased), Mrs. Elzear (Aurore) Collette (deceased) in 1938, and Mr. Daniel Demers, who died Dec. 21, 1969.



Alcide French, son of Eustache and Philomene (LaLonde) French, and Delima, daughter of George Sampson and Emelie (Goulet) Sampson: left to right, top row, Damas, Irene Demers, Raymond (deceased), Albert, Henry, Marie Hedwidge, Sweet, George; front, Angeline Lafreniere, Philomene Sand, Mrs. French (Delima Sampson), Theresa Brown, Alcide, Amanda Remillard, Emelia Trenblay. Both Mr. and Mrs. French are deceased.



Charles Z. and Louisa French Family: seated far left, Homer French, Bernadette French, and standing, Mrs. Silvio (Maria) Collette, and Oscar, far right, all are deceased.



Andrew French, son of an early pioneer Eustache French and Philomene (LaLonde) French, and Aurore, daughter of Dosithee and Delima (Lessard) LaBerge. They lived on the farm now occupied by the Oliver Pilon family. They had four daughters and eight sons; pictured left to right, standing, Edward (deceased) Leonard, Renee, Richard, Lorenzo, Arthur, Armand, Frederick (deceased); seated, Mrs. (Aurore) French (deceased), Mrs. Joe (Marie Ann) Pilon, Mrs. Elvert (Virginia) Owing, Mrs. James (Beatrice) Patterson (deceased), Mrs. Ovila (Irene) Demers and Andrew French (deceased).



Eustache French was one of the early pioneers of this area having come here in the late 1880's. Eustache married Philomene LaLonde. They had ten children: standing from left to right, Joseph, Mrs. Alcidas (Clara) Collette, Andrew, Alcide and Cyprien; seated, Amada, Mrs. Henry (Liontine) Sampson or Samson, Mrs. Joseph (Louise) Rheume, Mrs. Domicile (Irene) Gourde, and Osias. These are all deceased and buried in the Sacred Heart Cemetery.



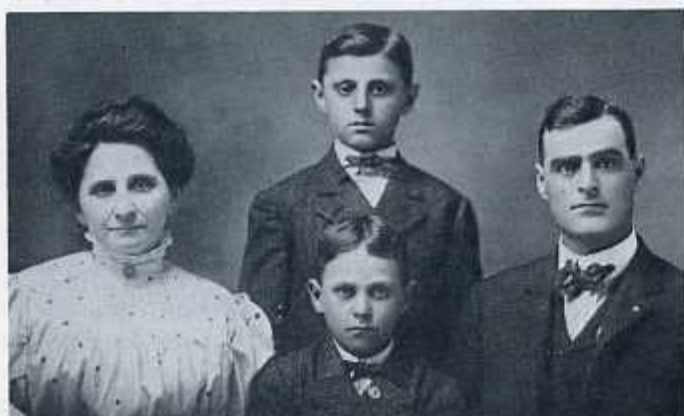
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Z. French. Charles, son of Caliste French and Narcisse (LaLonde) French, married Louisa Pilon, daughter of Oliver Pilon and Elizabeth (Fouteau) Pilon.



In center, Mrs. Emil French (Delima Donnie); top left, daughter, Mrs. Joe (Alphonsine French) Brosseau; lower left, Mary Brosseau; upper right, daughter, Mrs. Henry (Emma French) Savard; and lower right, Ethel Savard (Mrs. Fred A. Maid) who is still living in Chicago and is 89 years old.



Homer French, son of Charles Z. and Louisa (Pilon) French, married Clarinda Campbell, daughter of Joseph and Alphonsine (Harel) Campbell, on Nov. 26, 1912. They were the first couple to be married in the presnet church by Father J. H. Forbes. They were attended by Louisa (Campbell) Mrs. Arthur Collette, Mr. Oscar French, his brother. Mrs. French is the only one living at this time, Homer passed away in September, 1967.



Gustave Bastien Family. Pictured are Gustave and Elizabeth (Pilon) Bastien with their sons, Wilfrid, seated, and Omer. Elizabeth was a sister of Oliver Pilon and Mrs. Charles (Louisa) French.



Picture taken between 1900 and 1903: standing, left, is Father J. A. Lalande and Charles Z. French; sitting is Charles' brother, Eustache French. The Frenches are early settlers.



Emil French, son of Calixte or Caliste French and Narcisse (LaLonde) French, married Delima (Donnie) French. They came to this territory in 1879. They had five children - Mrs. Joe (Alphonsine) Brosseau, Mrs. Henry (Emma) Savard, Victor French, Delina French, who died at 18, and Joseph Nelson French who died at 39.



Victor French, son of Emil and Delima (Donnie) French, and Theresa (Brosius) French, daughter of Peter and Maryann (Ensch) Brosius. All are deceased.



Caliste or Calixte French was born in Canada and married Narcisse LaLonde there. They had nine children, Eustache, Emil, Mrs. Henry (Celina) LeBlanc, Charles Z., Mrs. Theodore (Olivine) Carriere, Mrs. Angeline (or Maggie) (Oldham) Callier, Damas, Joseph and Mrs. Oliver (Agnes) Pilon. His wife died in Canada and he came to this territory with his daughter, Agnes, in 1881. He passed away at the age of 96 and is buried in the Sacred Heart Cemetery.



Mr. and Mrs. Farigal (Mary Feeley) Gallagher. They had four children - Thomas, Farigal, Hugh and Margaret. Farigal was one of the lay directors when our church was built.



Mr. and Mrs. Leon Surprenant (Elmire Sevigny).



Patrick Gallagher Family, early parishioners of Oakwood: front row, left to right, B. Anne, Mrs. Albert Samson (Katherine), Patrick, Mrs. Patrick Gallagher (Mary Sullivan), Mrs. Charles Coffey (Margaret) and Sister Mary Patrick (Theresa); back row, Mark, Bernard, John P., Farigal and James.



Mr. and Mrs. Arthur (Rose Parent) Gourde. Arthur, son of Joseph and Philamen (Pageotte) Gourde, Sr., and Rose, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Alfred (Brunelle) Parent. Children are left to right, Robert, Irene and Lawrence. (Top) are left, Wilfred, and right, David.



Mr. and Mrs. Joe (Alphonsina Campbell) Gourde, Jr., Family: back row, left to right, Louis, Mrs. Gourde, Victor, Albert; front, Jeffrey, Mrs. Frank Byzewski (Marie), Mrs. Henry Bolek (Agnes) and Mr. Gourde (insert).



Mr. and Mrs. Emile Garant (Marie Anne Lulcie Moreau) and family.



Mrs. Pierre Garant



Domicile Gourde, son of Joseph, Sr., and Philomene (Pageotte) Gourde, married Irene French, daughter of Eustache and Philomene (LaLonde) French. They had ten children with only one still living in this area, Mrs. Dan (Theresa) Demers. Pictured left to right, front row, Mrs. Napoleon (Amanda) Lessard (deceased), Mrs. Demers, Mrs. George (Esther) Thompson, Alphonse, Father Leo (Thomas), and Mr. Gourde, these last three are deceased; back row, Richard, Jan (deceased), Andrew, Leon (deceased) and Albert. Mrs. Gourde was deceased when this picture was taken. (She died in 1930.)



Domicile and Irene (French) Gourde.



John and Katherine Krier



Mr. and Mrs. Joseph (Philomene Pageotte) Gourde, Sr., Family: top row, Mrs. Narcisse (Elmire) Goulet, Mrs. Wm. (Eugenie) Durand, Mrs. Emilian (Leontine) Champagne, Alphonse Gourde, Mrs. Joseph (Dezilda) Bernard, Joseph Gourde, Jr.; bottom row, Joseph Gourde, Sr., Arthur, Mrs. Eugene (Delvina) Rheaume, Manda (died young), and Philomene (Pageotte) Gourde.



Mr. and Mrs. Edouard Lafreniere
(Bridget Sabourin) and family.



Mr. and Mrs. Jean Bte. LaBerge (Jane Logan) and family.



Mr. and Mrs. Joseph LaBerge (Georgiana Boutiller) and family.



Mr. and Mrs. Jean Bte. Trudeau
(Josephine Labonte) and family.



Mr. and Mrs. Ferdinard LaRoche (Marguerite Brunelle) and family.



Louis Lessard, son of Etienne Lessard and Sophronie (Collette) Lessard, married Exilia Primeau. Children pictured are Rosanna, Malvina, Emma, Louisa, Marie, Joseph, Albert, Alphonse, Arthur, Homer, Wilbrod and Moses.



A four generation picture, left to right, Louis LaCoste, Roseanne (LaCoste) Garant, Pierre LaCoste, and Desanges or Dee (Garant) Johnson, daughter of Roseanne.



Family of Mrs. Severe (Sara) LaMarre: standing, left to right, Jim, Roy, Pete, Lorenzo, Wilbur, and Al; seated, Mrs. Neil (Clara) Foley, Mrs. Edmond (Bertha) LaBerge, Mrs. O. R. (Marie) LaBerge, and Mrs. A. E. (Ernestine) Carlson. Mrs. LaMarre and her husband came to this country in 1886 with seven children, and bought the land where Edmond Campbell now resides. Mr. Emmanuel LeFebvre, a hired hand, came with them. All the LaMarres are now deceased with Bertha LaBerge passing away Feb. 28, 1981.



Mrs. Celanire (Parent) LaCoste, wife of Pierre LaCoste and her sister to the left, Mrs. Leonce (Marie Parent) Couture, who once lived around the Cashel area, and attended Sacred Heart Church of Oakwood.



Mrs. Severe (Sara Anne) (Faille) LaMarre and her granddaughter, Jackie LaBerge, daughter of O. R. LaBerge and Marie (LaMarre) LaBerge.



Mr. and Mrs. Dosithee LaBerge (Delima Lessard). First couple married in Sacred Heart Church Chapel in 1881. (Renee French's grandparents).



Emmanuel LeFebvre Family



Alfred LeClerc who came to Oakwood from St. Anne Des Plaine, Province of Quebec, married in 1901 to Marie Louise Trudeau, daughter of Narcise Trudeau and Denise Brisson of Oakwood. Four children were born - Alfred died at 12-years-old; Lawrence of Fargo; Alex died in 1964; and Marie (Mrs. Henry Deprost), Grafton. Alfred's wife, Marie, died in 1907.



Alfred LeClerc married his second wife, Amanda Paquette at St. Eustache, Province of Quebec, in 1909. They had five children. Two are living - Elizabeth (Mrs. Steve Silewski), Grafton and Edward, who farms east of Oakwood. Amanda passed away in 1941 and Alfred in 1949.



Mr. Philias Lessard and his first wife (Zelia Pageotte) and three of their children.



Henry LeBlanc married Celina French, daughter of Calixte French. He died in June, 1917. Pictured, left to right, David, Alphonse, Joe, Arthur, and Nels and Mr. LeBlanc in front.



Etienne and Sophronie (Collette) Lessard Family: back row, left to right, Joseph Lessard, married Bertha Campbell; Odile Lessard, married Hermas Chale; Edward Lessard, married Rosanna LaCoste; Louis Lessard, married Exilia Primeau; Delima Lessard, married Dosithee LaBerge; Alfred Lessard, single; second row, Philias Lessard, married Zelia Pagote; Etienne, father; Mathilde Lessard, married Bernard Pellant; *Sophronie (Collette) Lessard, mother; Zelire Lessard, married Frank Huard; sitting in front, Marie Lessard, married Dan Suprenant; and Elima Lessard, married Moses Brunelle.

*George married Rachel Pilon



Philias Lessard Children: back row, left to right, Edmond, Josephine, Leocadia, and Clara; front row, Maria, Lawrence and Loretta, twins Napoleon and Eugenie, and Sidulie.



Mr. Alfred Parent and his second wife (Eleonore Brunelle) and family. First parties married in "Park River" Mission March 27, 1881.



Alexandre Pageotte married Rose Delima (Morell) Pagote in Quebec, Canada, and came to this Oakwood area as early settlers. They are pictured with their children, left to right, top row, Alphonse, Joseph or Joe, Florida (Mrs. Charles Baillargeon), Eugenie (Mrs. Arthur Corriveau), Cleopha (Mrs. George Lamontagne), Exilia (Mrs. Philias Lessard); seated, Delima (Mrs. Louis Billodeau), Louis, Mr. Pagote and Mrs. Pagote.



Eugene Rheame, born in Canada, was the son of Antoine Rheame and Genevieve (Croteau) Rheame. Eugene married Delvina Gourde, daughter of Joseph Gourde, Sr., and Philamene (Pageotte) Gourde, Sr. They had nineteen children, four died in infancy. Pictured from left to right, top row, Urban, Josephine (Sister Delvina), John, Albert, Ernest, Joseph, Clara



Joseph Pageotte was one of eight children of Alexandre Pageotte and Rose Delima (Morell). He was an early settler of the area, married Lucy Fortier Nov. 13, 1893. They had four children - Mrs. Roch (Lydia) Campbell, Josephine, who died at eight years, Edmond, and Mrs. Les (Marie) Remington. The only ones living now are Ed. and Marie. Joseph and his wife, Lucy, are both buried in Salem, Ore.



Alzor Augustin Normand, the youngest child of Augustin and Catherine (LeBourdois) Normand was born in 1890 and lived in St. Andrews Township. In 1921 he married Eva Burke, daughter of Anton Gryor Borkowski (Burke) who was born in Danzig, Germany in 1867. Anton changed his last name to Burke after coming to North Dakota as it was easier to pronounce and spell. Her mother was Anna (Rostine) Burke. They had eleven children and all are living. Pictured from left to right, bottom row, Dee, Mrs. Normand (Eva), Mrs. William (Ione) Kirby, and Allen; back row, Mrs. James (Inez) Kamrowski, Donald, Mrs. Gordon (Lilia) McLean, Mrs. H. Joseph (Lois) Breniser, Mrs. Jack (Thea) Dolan, Charles, Kenneth, Raymond and Alzor (father-insert). Alzor died in 1956, Eva resides at St. Anne's Guest Home in Grand Forks, N. Dak.

(Mrs. Edmond Collette) and Napoleon; front row, Lucy (Mrs. Stanley LaBerge), Mrs. Rheame, standing center, Eva (Sister Bernice), Mrs. Rheame, Mary, Amanda (Sister Eugene), next to Mr. Rheame is Edward, Bernice and center seated is Richard. All of these are deceased at this writing except Sister Eugene.



John, (J. C.) Rasmussen and Josephine (DesChenes) Rasmussen and their family taken on their wedding anniversary. They lived in Sacred Heart Parish for many years and later moved to Drayton, both are deceased.



Joseph Sabourin, the second son and the eighth child of Alphonsus Sabourin and Bridget (Madden) Sabourin. Joseph was born Jan. 13, 1883, in Walsh County, Martin Township. When his parents came here they had six daughters, James was born in 1881. Joseph attended school in Oakwood and the college known as Mary College. He then went back to Canada during his college years where his father also had gone to college and there he met and married Alma Major, daughter of Napoleon and Mary Louise (Sabourin) Jan. 23, 1906 (no relation). They came back to North Dakota and settled on his father's farm. They had four children — Lucien, who died in infancy, Jeanette (Mrs. Damas French of Escondido, Calif., Orell (deceased), and Renee, of Grafton.



Joseph Rheaume, son of Eugene Rheaume and Delvina (Gourde) Rheaume, and Louise, daughter of Eustache French and Philomene (LaLonde) French. They had four children — Mrs. Pierre (Emelda) LeBlanc, Mrs. Farent (Lydia) Patnaude, Mrs. Art (Leona) Pearson, and Andrew.



John Schumann and his wife, Mary Ann (Lenz), were both born in Luxemburg and first settled in Wisconsin before coming here. Pictured, left to right, Katherine (Trost) Evens, Mary Schumann who resides at the Lutheran Sunset Home, Mrs. Matt (Josephine Trost) Brandenburger, the mother of these two girls. Mrs. Ludwig (Katherine) Trost died when these girls were very young and they were brought up by the Schumanns, their grandparents. Mr. Schumann is holding a great-grandson, Raymond Brandenburger, in the center is John Schumann and right of him is Mrs. Schumann (Mary Ann Lenz).



Mr. and Mrs. Mark Sullivan (Euphemia Keegan).



Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Samson (Mary Ann LaBerge) and family: left to right, daughters are Mrs. Harold (Bertha) Campbell (deceased, Mrs. Bernard (Alma) Gallagher, Mrs. Edmond (Amanda) Demars and Mrs. Ernest (Mary) Lefevre. The sons are Wilbrod, David (deceased), Thomas (deceased) and Albert.



George Samson Family — early settlers of the Oakwood Community: front row, left to right, Mrs. Nelson Leblanc (Marie), George, Emelie (Goulet) and Mrs. Alcide French (Delina); back row, Henry, Stanley, Nazare, Peter, Joseph and Thomas.



Mr. and Mrs. Toussaint Trudeau (Octavie Mothee) and family.



Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Sevigny (Eudoxie Laberge) and family.



Couple pictured at left are Cyprian French and wife, Ida; center couple, Wilfred Parent and wife, Aurore; and couple at right, Joe Parent and wife, Josephine.



Mr. and Mrs. Alphonse Sabourin (Bridget Madden) with three of their children, James, Annie and Joseph.