

Proud History OF THE CRANSTON LAND

unveiled at a dedication ceremony on September 6th, 2000.

Archibald Cranston was 20 years old when he traveled from Ontario to Calgary in 1901. Upon completing the trip, he had only \$20 in his pocket. Cranston managed to apply for Homestead Entry a year later and took up residence on the land that bears his name today.

The first home built on the Cranston property measured 14 feet by 16 feet. Archibald later added a 12 foot by 16 foot addition and the entire building was valued at \$300.

Initially, Archibald had to supplement his farming income by working as a general labourer, and he even spent some of his winters working at the Priddis sawmill. But, by 1905, he had acquired 15 head of cattle, 4 horses and a pig and he was granted the deed to his land.

Florence Mildred McConnel became the second wife of Archibald Cranston in 1910. (His first wife died during childbirth shortly after they were married.) Florence and Archibald purchased an adjacent 142-acre parcel of land in 1914 and erected a 464 sq.ft. two-storey home to accommodate their growing family.

With the help of their five boys - Frederick Clayton, James Orrin, Robert Joshua,

Lloyd George and Clarence Evert - and three girls - Mary Elizabeth, Agnes Margaret and Florence Millie – the Cranstons prospered and they gradually increased the acreage of their property through additional land purchases.

In 1958, Frederick Clayton Cranston inherited the Cranston property. He continued to farm the land with his wife Margaret until 1976, when the property was sold. The land continued to be farmed until Carma began developing the community of Cranston in 1999.

Carma is honoured to share the name of its new community with the family that lived and worked this land for 75 years. These early pioneers have left an enduring legacy for Cranston residents to enjoy today.



Standing Left to Right - Fred Cranston, Robert Cranston, Clarence Cranston Seated Left to Right - Orrin Cranston, Mary (Cranston) White, Mildred Cranston, Agnes (Cranston) Rouse, Florence (Cranston) Skinner, Archie Cranston, Lloyd Cranston



