

ALFRED JOHN BARRON CAMERON

By J. W. Pierce, O.L.S., and Miss Jessie Cameron

Alfred John Barron Cameron and his twin brother, Albert Alexander Ross (now residing in Detroit, Michigan) were born in Peterborough, Ontario, on February 8, 1864. They were the first boys of a family of six children, born to Charles Cameron



and Sophie Barron, the latter of Lossiemouth, Scotland, who were married at Kingston, Ontario on February 22, 1859, and shortly afterwards came to Peterborough, where Mr. Cameron conducted a grocery and provision business for many years prior to his death on February 25, 1904.

Alfred J. Cameron, received his early education in the Public Schools and Collegiate Institute of Peterborough, after which he graduated from the School of Practical Science, University of Toronto. He apprenticed with Thomas R. Hewson, P.L.S., then in practice in Peterborough and obtained the Commission of Provincial Land Surveyor on April 19, 1889.

Mr. Cameron then continued the survey practice of Thomas R. Hewson in Peterborough, which contained the records of many of the land surveyors who had formerly practised in that district, including those of John Huston, John Reid, and the two Clementi brothers, Theodore and Mutius. Up until the date of his death in Peterborough, on January 12, 1912, he carried on a very extensive, varied, and successful practice through that district during the period of its greatest commercial expansion. This included farm surveys, original town lot subdivisions both in the City of Peterborough and in nearly all of the adjoining centres, timber limit surveys,

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and surveys of Indian Reserves for the Department of Indian Affairs. He acted as engineer for many of the nearby townships and villages, where he superintended the construction of drains, sidewalks and other improvements. He engaged in railway location as far away as the Pacific Coast, besides making numerous surveys of rights of way through his own county. With the opening up of the Clay belt in Northern Ontario, he surveyed several townships for the Government of Ontario in the District of Nipissing, while he also made the following Municipal Surveys under the instruction of the Minister of Crown Lands:

1. The definition of the road allowance between Concessions 3 and 4, north from Lot 12, Township of Douro. Confirmed on July 3, 1903.

2. The definition of the road allowance along the west bank of Otonabee River in the City of Peterborough. Confirmed February 21, 1911.

Due to the completeness of the records of earlier surveys available to Mr. Cameron and to his unusual professional ability, very few if any of his survey decisions were ever successfully contested in Court.

On November 2, 1895, Mr. Cameron married Jane Ann Ross, who died on July, 1930. His family consisted of eight children of whom all are now living, with the exception of the eldest who died in infancy. Miss Jessie Cameron, who assisted with this biography, is a daughter.