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Scarth-Matthew S. 1865-1958-

Born at "Binscarth House" Finstown

Orkney Scotland. He arrived in Canada in 1884 and by 1886 found his way to western Canada where his headquarters was the Binscarth Colony Farm. The farm was a project undertaken by the Scottish, Ontario and Manitoba Land Company, with the object of encouraging new settlers to locate in the area.

Matthews father Robert who established the Orkney Binscarth had some financial interest in the Land Company thus the Colony Farm was given the name Binscarth and when the railway came in 1886 the townsite was named Binscarth.

The name Binscarth dates back as far as Viking days and translated means "The farm in the cleft of the hills" Bin is the Norse word for farm and Scarth or Scar , the cliff in the hill

Matthew filed for homestead land S.W. quarter of Sect. 6 Twp. 19 Range 27 west of the 1st Mer. in April 1888. The original Receipt for the filing fee of \$10.00 was issued by the Sub-Land office in Birtle.

Wilhelmina Stewart came from her home in England as a governess for a family near Elkhorn, she and Matthew were married in 1897.

Because of Matthews interest in agriculture and farm organization, he was among the first in the district to promote and purchase shares in the Young Grain Growers Co. (later U.G.G.) He was one of the first directors of the Binscarth Agriculture Society along with James Fletcher, Louis Johnson and Freeman Rice.

There were four children born to Matthew and Wilhelmina Scarth; Robert

born in 1898 William 1901 Ena 1906 and Cecil 1907. Robert and William all attended Balmerino School until they reached Grade 7 ,then along with the girls all attended Binscarth School. Robert remembers there were nearly 150 students and the principal was Mr. Plewes ,also Miss. Leifer and Miss. Fraser.

Matthew Scarth was a member of the Presbyterian Church and his wife Wilhelmenia a member of the Anglican Church, in Binscarth. They would drive to church together then each go to their own church.

At the age of 54 Wilhelmenia Scarth passed away (1927) Matthew Scarth lived without her for 31 years, when he passed away at the age of 92 (1958) Matthew lived those years on the farm and in the house in the town of Binscarth on Jemima St. His daughter Cecil cared for him until her marriage to John Odland, then he lived with the members of his family, where his grandchildren learned to know him and loved him dearly.

The Scarth Family are: Robert and Jessie who also lived a short time in the house on Jemima St. had six children Flora born in Binscarth Robert, Shirley, Kay, Barrie, Margaret.

Bill and Lorna, three children Celcia Allan Robert.

Ena and Evans three children David, Muriel, Vivian

Cecil and John two children John and Mary.