

## NELSON REDDICK

Thomas Nelson was born on the family farm in Marlborough township, Carleton county, Ontario, on February 20, 1874 and baptised in the Wesleyan Methodist church. The Kemptville Weekly Advance of August 19, 1897 listed a number of persons who were en route to Manitoba; one name was that of "N. Reddick", likely Nelson Reddick. The Pierces Corners Orange Lodge membership list for 1900 notes that Nelson's address of "Arizona" was struck out and "unknown" was inserted. In 1901 it was again "unknown". No addresses were given in 1902, 1903 and 1904 but in 1905 he was listed at Rouleau, Saskatchewan. In 1906 he was said to have been in North Gower (the postal address for the farm in Marlborough) and he last appeared on the list in 1908 with his address noted as "Roleau".

Nelson was in the Rouleau area as early as John and Robert but he seems to have not entered onto land there. That is, his name seems to be on the 1901-1908 map (i.e. those who were in the area in that period but not necessarily for all of those years) on NW 16, 15, 22, W2 but there is no official record of any occupancy. Still, when he applied for entry for the SW 16, 12, 20, W3 on November 11, 1909, he gave his address as Rouleau so it may be that he lived and worked with John and/or Robert between 1901 and 1909 rather than taking land himself. On June 6, 1907 the Rouleau paper reported that he had returned from a trip to North Gower. As well, Laura (Reddick) Graham has said that the four Reddick brothers (John, Robert, Nelson and Joseph) had homesteaded a single section, 160 acres each. In fact they may have all been there but it seems that only John and Robert went through the formalities.

Eventually Nelson applied for entry onto the block referred to above and on December 2, 1912 he applied for the patent stating that he was 31 years old, a farmer, living at Carmichael; that he obtained a homestead entry on November 18, 1899, had built his house on May 1, 1910 and had lived there continuously since; that he was single; that he had stock on the farm each year and, as to farm activities:

	<u>Acres Broken</u>	<u>Acres Cropped</u>
1910	50	--
1911	15	50
1912	15	65

On the farm there was a 14 foot by 16 foot frame house, a 16 foot by 18 foot frame stable, a 12 foot by 16 foot frame granary, a 20 foot well and 20 acres fenced. On April 23, 1913 the patent issued to him.

There is also a note on Nelson's application for the patent to SW 16, 12, 20, W3 that he had abandoned SW 18, 11, 20, W3 but there is no other information about this. Laura Graham has identified Nelson in a photo of a group of three men. She says that it was taken on a trip to the Peace River district while they were looking into the prospects for taking land there. In the mid-twenties she cooked for Nelson for a year (a few months in the summer, more likely) so she would have been able to identify him.

Laura believes that Nelson died about 1925-26 and was buried at Tompkins or Gull Lake.  
Her grandson, Brian, says that it was at Gull lake.