Justus Nelson—Town of Sweden, NY

Justus Nelson (1784-1836) and his wife, **Mary Odell** (1793-1872) came here in 1833 from the Highlands in Putnam County about a half day's journey from New York City along the Hudson River. The trip was made by river from Cold Springs to Albany and by the Erie Canal to Brockport. They brought their twelve children with them, the oldest being eighteen years of age. They also brought along the flint-lock musket used by Justus' grandfather in the French and Indian War, which is still a proud possession of the Nelson family.

The Nelsons settled on a farm about four miles south of Brockport, having purchased it from **James Stickney**, who acquired it from **Nathaniel Poole**, the earliest recorded settler in the Town of Sweden.

Several of the children died; one traveled to the west and settled in Oregon. One of their sons, **Charles Wesley Nelson** (1823-1886) remained on the homestead. He married **Abbie Dewey** (1843-1868) and their son was **Charles Dewey Nelson** (1867-1930) who married **Clara Louis Way** (1868-1948) – (see Samuel Way account). Their children were **Harold Wesley Nelson** (1890-1957) and **Guy Chappell Nelson**.

Harold Nelson married **Ada Clark** from an old Clarkson family and had five children of whom two died in infancy. The surviving three were: **Clark Dewey Nelson** (married **Elizabeth J. Elliott** of Brockport) whose children, **William**, **Clark R.**, **Kenneth R.** and **Jane** all live in Rochester; **Kenneth**, who died in Okinawa during World War II, and **Jean E. Nelson** (married **Kenneth W. Moore** of Brockport) whose children are **Kenneth**, **Harold**, **Randall** and **David**.

Guy C. Nelson married **Bertha Clark**. Their two children are **Clara Louise** (married **Anthony Sanders** of Rochester), whose sons are **Glenn** and **Nelson Sanders**; **Eleanor** (married **Charles Knapp** of Brockport), whose children are **Sharon** and **Charles N. Knapp**. **Guy Nelson** retired from the old farm a few years ago and now resides with his wife in a small home at 146 Erie Street, Brockport.

[Town of Sweden Sesqui-centennial booklet; 1964; p.81, 82]

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