

8/23/2017

TOURING SULLIVAN COUNTY'S MUSEUM . . . while dusting

The Sullivan County Century Farm awards entries, to be awarded in Oct. at the Sullivan County Conservation District dinner, has just added one more. This farm applied and was awarded in the 1960s but this re-entry is fuller in detail about the farm's history. It is the Day Farm of Elkland Township and submitted by Dixie Gross, daughter of Marvin and Jule Day Driscoll.

Dixie writes: "William Kay was born in Youkshire England in 1801 and immigrated to U.S. in 1849. He was a miner in the Barclay mines in Bradford County. His son, Albert, born in England, farmed and lumbered until his fathers death, when he was a raftsman and later a steersman and pilot transporting (floating) logs down the Loyalsock Creek to the Susquehanna River. He made 34 trips a year, returning by foot.

"Albert and his wife Susie King Kay had no children so they adopted Susie's niece, my grandmother, Anna Osler Kay Day. Anna married neighbor, Arley Day. My mother, Jule Day Driscoll, bought the farm in 1983.

"Over the years the farm has been a dairy farm, a chicken farm, and more recently rented to a sheep farmer for pasture. Bill Hart farmed the fields until I became involved in CREP. Over 2,000 trees were planted and fields seeded with natural grasses. My family and I maintain trees to fulfill requirements of programs.

"We recently had all plumbing and electrical wiring replaced. The original wiring went back to 1923 (Relelco light plant installed).

"Anna's adoptive father, Albert, had a stroke in 1918. He had just bought a new car and couldn't drive it so Anna learned to drive – one of the first women in the area to drive a car."

The history of any family, and in this case the land they settled on, is worthwhile to those inheriting many lifetimes of background. This has been just one such story.

For more information such as this or just to see the museum, you can contact us by phoning 570-946-5020 or emailing museum@scpahistory.com and please like us on Facebook.