

# LEWIS BRADLEY

*Lewis Turner Bradley* and his twin, *William Brown Bradley*, were born in Savannah, Georgia in 1771 the sons of *Richard* and *Sarah Turner Bradley*. When the Revolutionary War broke out, Richard Bradley was enlisted in the British Army Commissary but died prior to 1783 as records indicate that Sarah remarried *Lieutenant John Jenkins* and moved with her children to Saint John's, New Brunswick.



When Jenkins died in 1804 he provided for Lewis in his will by stating that his step-son could live on the farm as long as he remained “industrious” and “unmarried”. But if Lewis should marry, he would be provided with £20. The year 1808 saw two key actions in Lewis’s life--he married *Elizabeth Merigold*, and moved with her family and other Loyalists to Upper Canada.

Lewis and Elizabeth first lived in Niagara and then successfully petitioned for and received land in 1810 located in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Concession, south of Dundas Street in the Township of Toronto. The lot was adjacent to his wife’s father, *Thomas Merigold’s* property. This area became know as *Merigold’s Point*.

Elizabeth had been 19 at the time of her marriage and Lewis 37. All seven of their children survived into adulthood. Lewis died suddenly on April 1<sup>st</sup>, 1843 and was buried at Springcreek Cemetery. He left no will and Elizabeth was left with five children still living at home; the youngest son, *Richard*, was only 12 years old. The Bradleys moved to Trafalgar Township until 1848 when Elizabeth remarried. Their original homestead at Merigold’s Point is now the Bradley Museum although it has been moved from it’s original lakeshore site.

Little is known of Lewis’s personality. He was described as “*a respectable inhabitant of this Toronto Township*” and as a “*steady and consistent member of the Wesleyan Methodist Church, and his house a welcome home for her ministers.... a very affectionate and kind attentive husband...always cheerful and lively....and highly esteemed by all who has the pleasure of his acquaintance...*”

\*All information compiled from The Families of Merigold’s Point, by Dorothy L. Martin, Mississauga Heritage Foundation, 1984.