

Tilley's Farm

By 1870 Robert Tilley had obtained rights to a plot of land near Sandy Cove which became known as "Tilley's farm". The **Tilley Collection** contains a note book dated 1870 which lists the names of about one hundred people who worked part time on the farm. Most were women who were paid in barter from the Tilley store. (The Robert Tilley Collection, PANL, P7/A/67). The farm eventually became the property of Robert's son Arthur. Arthur's son Ernest wrote: (Ernest Tilley, Newfoundland Quarterly, 1956, PANL).

...Grandmother's farm was about a mile from home. Grandmother and Aunt Nell spent most of their spare time there, and I too thought it was wonderful there on a summer's day and so, as soon as I could make it, and this was not the first time, I went with them...

...Father had a farm; to get to it you crossed Sandy Cove by a carriage road behind a big pile of stones- beach rocks. Outside the ocean rolled in on a wonderful sandy shore, but more of that later. Today Tom is taking me with him to the farm where he is mowing grass to make hay. We rode in a dray, a wagon of only two wheels, but very convenient on those rough roads. When we got to the farm mother and several other women were there having what I called a wonderful picnic. They were raking over the hay field, making hay...

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Information Provided by Mr. Doug Cole