

Early Records of the Preserved Harris Farm in Mentor

Early history of the Preserved Harris Farm on a homesite now known as 8900 Johnnycake Ridge Road in Mentor Ohio has been of interest to Harris Family historians over the years. Efforts were unsuccessful in finding the records of purchases made by Preserved after arriving in 1831. Randy Harris, current President of the Harris Family Organization used the latest AI enhanced search tools and found the 75 acres parcel was purchased by Preserved Harris on 7 October 1831 for \$425. The recorded deed shows the seller Timothy Chittenden was from Salisbury, Connecticut. The Chittenden's had acquired this land around 1800 as compensation in the grand Connecticut State program known as the Firelands. The 75 acre location was identified as Tract 2 - Lot 3 in the Ohio Tax Records, 1800-1887, beginning in 1832.

Preserved and wife Nancy brought his parents Nathan and Rhoda from New York in 1831 and cared for them at their home. In fact, Joseph Smith attended the funeral for Nathan in 1835 and preached a sermon at their Mentor home Rhoda passed away 14 years later.



The Harris house as it would have appeared in the 1830s was located on the highest ground of the 75 acre farm and set back from the Chiocotte Road.