In the late 1800s, Charles Jarman immigrated to Cheboygan from England, where he met Cynthia Carter. They married on April 12, 1892. On November 1, 1895, they purchased 80 acres in Monroe Township and set up their homestead. Charles and Cynthia began their new lives in a primitive log cabin that was already on the land, but when their family began to grow, Charles built a newer, nicer home, where they raised four sons.

Their eldest son, Vernon, and two of his brothers moved to Washington State as young men and worked in the lumber industry. However, when Vernon’s leg and foot were crushed in a sawmill accident, he returned to the family farm to recover. He stayed on to help his father work the farm and married Helena Wash in 1932.

Together, Charles and Vernon raised and milked cattle, and as time went on, their farm became known as “Douglas Lake Dairy.” Vernon and Helena were deeded the farm in 1940 and, soon after, arranged to drag an old schoolhouse by horse and sledge across the fields, converting the building into a new home where they raised 12 children.

Vernon and Helena deeded the farm to their second son, William, in 1958. William began raising beef cattle on the farm and built a sugar shack on the property to process and sell maple syrup. The farm was then deeded to William’s third son and his wife, Kim, in 2014. Together, they have increased maple syrup production and continue to raise cattle on the land.