

Rev. Ezekiel Gooderhan

It is not known if Ezekiel took any part in the milling business - he may have if for only a short time. However he did settle on a farm at Wexford, Ontario, which is now part of the Borough of Scarborough. A few years after arrival in Canada, Ezekiel and his wife, Harriet became members of York Mills Baptist Church, and Ezekiel served as Deacon for some years. In 1849, when the pastor, Rev. James Mitchell died, Ezekiel took his place and served as pastor. Due to the urgent appeals of ministers and members who knew him, he consented to be ordained when he was nearing his 60th year. The ordination took place in Bond St. Baptist Church, Toronto. He served the York Mills Baptist Church as pastor for 15 years, resigning at last because of ill health. Many spoke with great tenderness of his worth and work. He died on Dec. 28, 1870, at his residence, Mill St., Toronto, and on Dec. 31 was buried in York Mills Baptist Cemetery. A son, Walter who died at the age of 21, and his wife, Harriet, are also buried there. When the York Mills Church held its 100th Anniversary in 1929 there were still descendants of Ezekiel and Harriet Gooderhan attending this church. Since then the church and parsonage have been torn down to make way for housing, but the Cemetery on York Mills Rd. is still there and being cared for by the Union of Baptist Churches.