

FIG(1) 132 First Street, circ 1920. Currently 902 Indian River Ave



FIG (2) 902 Indian River Ave, Titusville, 2014

INTRODUCTION

My thanks go to the following:-

Susan Dobson

Mary Schuster nee Pritchard

Paul Marion

Titusville Historic Museum

Titusville Historic Preservation Board

The Internet

Susan Dobson's husband is the great grandson of R.T. Dobson, Wm. Dobson's brother.

Mary Schuster started her married life in the house next door to 902 Indian River Ave.

Mary knew most of the people listed in 1926 City Census on First St. Nos 100 to 153.

Paul Marion provided the 1926 City Census and guided me on how to find stuff in the City's archives.

Early House Owners History

The earliest record I can find regarding Thomas George Knight is on a deed of sale to Wm B. Dobson. The sale was for the House located at 132 First Street, Titusville, later renamed, sometime prior to WWII, as 902 Indian River Ave. Titusville.

I can find no record of Thomas ever living in this house.

I do find a record of Thomas living the other side of the street at 121 First Street as shown in Titusville City Census 1926, which is attached, later renamed 821 Indian River Ave. Titusville.

Thomas was born 29 Jul 1848 in New York City, see attached Obituary, In earlier days Thomas visited the Titusville area for hunting and fishing, he made a permanent home in Titusville in 1910, probably at 121 First Street. while living there he could possibly have built the house at 132 First Street. which is located a few yards from his house at 121 First Street.

Thomas was a widower his wife, Julia Francis Bazely, died 1892.

Thomas was a Captain, however, I can find no hint that he belonged to any military. My ex-neighbor who will be 100yrs young this coming Oct always knew Thomas George Knight as Captain.

Thomas died at his home, 121 First Street, on 15 Jul 1934.

Wm B. Dobson bought the property at 132 First Street for \$3000 in 1920. He lived there until his death in 1923. His brother, Russell Tomlinson Dobson and his wife inherited the property.

R.T. Dobson lived in Michigan and during the period 1923 to 1925 he and his friends visited the house for hunting and fishing.

In 1925 R.T. rented the house to Mrs Belra E. Charpia for 2 years for \$10 and "other valuable considerations". In 1927 R.T. rented the house to Mr & Mrs I.B. Charpia for \$100 and "other valuable considerations".

R.T. Dobson sold the property for \$1100 in 1934 to Mr & Mrs L.S. Howell.

R.T. Dobson died in 1938.

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Owner Arrival & departure	<div> <div> <div>b. NY 1847</div> <div>G. T. Knight</div> </div> <div> <div> <div>b. KY 1854</div> <div>Wm B. Dobson</div> </div> <div> <div>R. T. Dobson</div> </div> </div> </div>	<div>Death of G. T. Knight</div> <div>Death of R. T. Dobson</div>
Owners	<div> <div>G. T. Knight</div> <div>Wm B. Dobson</div> <div>R. T. Dobson</div> </div>	<div>Death of Wm B. Dobson</div> <div>Titusville City Census</div>
Renter Occupants	<div> <div>Mrs B. E. Charpia</div> <div>Mr & Mrs I. B. Charpia</div> </div>	
Unknown Occupants	<div></div>	
		<div>G. T. Knight arrives in Titusville</div> <div>Wm B. Dobson arrives in Titusville</div>

Proposed Historic Name

Considering the Following:-

Thomas Knight was the original owner of the property for approx 5 years, no evidence was found that he lived in the house on the property.

William B. Dobson was the second property owner and he lived in the house for 3 years until his death in 1923. The property was inherited by Williams brother, Russell Tomlinson Dobson. The property remained in the possession of the Dobson family for a total of 14 years

William B. Dobson was a respected citizen of Titusville, some of his attributes follow:-

- William was Editor of Indian River Star News Paper and President of Titusville Rotary Club.
- He was Editor Titusville Star Advocate and a member of Florida Press Association.
- Born 12 may 1854 in Marysville Kentucky.
- Arrived in Florida 1914 where he was Publisher of the Cocoa Star news paper.
- He purchased the East Coast Advocate newspaper.
- He combined East Coast Advocate and Cocoa Star into the Star Advocate newspaper.
- He organized the Civic League.
- He was a member of the Elks and Knights of Pythias.
- Died 9 Sep 1923 10:00 at his Titusville home, 132 1st. Street. of cerebral hemorrhage.
- Surviving relative, Russell Tomlinson Dobson, brother. of Ann Arbor Mich.
- Funeral held at Koons Parlor Titusville.
- R.T. Dobson transport William's remains to Ann Arbor for internment.

The proposed historic name for the house at 902 Indian River Ave. is:-

"THE DOBSON HOUSE"

Dobson is a very old anglo saxon name whose descendants produced several families. Unrelated Dobsons settled in Virginia 1638, 1643 & 1670. 60% of the world wide Dobsons live in the USA .



Wm B. Dobson



Wm B. Dobson. 1902



Inez Perry, Wm's wife



W. B. DOBSON,
Editor The Alpena Evening Echo and The Alpena Patriot.

Wm B. Dobson. 1902

WARRANTY DEED

Thomas G. Knight
TO
Wm. B. Dobson

Filed for record the 10th day of August A. D. 1920

J. F. Mitchell Clerk Circuit Court.

THIS INDENTURE, Made this 3rd day of August, A. D. 1920, BETWEEN Thomas G. Knight, a widower of Titusville, of the County of Brevard, and State of Florida, part of the first part, and Wm. B. Dobson, of Titusville, of the County of Brevard, and State of Florida, part of the second part,

WITNESSETH, That the said part of the first part, for and in consideration of the sum of Three Thousand Dollars, to him in hand paid,

the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, has granted, bargained, sold and transferred, and by these presents does grant, bargain, sell and transfer unto the said part of the second part and his heirs and assigns forever, all that certain parcel of land lying and being in the County of Brevard, and State of Florida, more particularly described as follows:

Commence on the West line of First Street, at a stone monument set at the NE Corner of the South 100 feet of Lot No Thirteen (13) of Wilbur's subdivision of the Northeast 20 acres of the Delapine Grant, in Section Three (3) Township Twenty-two (22) South Range Thirty-five (35) East. - From said Commencing point run North on the West line of said First Street, a distance of Fifty (50) feet. Thence run West a distance of One hundred and eight and five tenths (108.5) feet. Thence run South a distance of Fifty (50) feet. Thence run East a distance of One hundred and eight and five tenths (108.5) feet to the point of Commencement. Being a part of said Lot No 13 of Wilbur's subdivision of the NE 20 acres of Delapine Grant, in Sec 3 Twp 22 S. R. 35 East.

TOGETHER with all the tenements, hereditaments and appurtenances, with every privilege, right, title, interest and estate, dower and right of dower, reversion, remainder and easement, thereto belonging or in anywise appertaining: TO HAVE AND TO HOLD the same in fee simple forever.

And the said part of the first part do so covenant with the said part of the second part that he is lawfully seized of the said premises, that they are free from all incumbrances and that he has good right and lawful authority to sell the same; and the said part of the first part do hereby fully warrant the title to said land, and will defend the same against the lawful claims of all persons whomsoever.

D.

TRACTORS

910 Roberson John*
911 Vacant

St Johns

s w cor Harris Cass*

Booker

Dixie Highway

s w cor Hudson J J jr restf

s w cor Triangle full sta

Old Dixie Highway

ws 1 Vacant

ws 2 Vacant

DUMMITT—From South n to
Broad, 1 w of DeSoto

Orange

ws 1 Griggs Cary

Broad

521 Poppell Sidney

ws Hall C A

ws Peacock M L

Main

9 Miller Amanda Mrs

10 McConnell Sally Mrs

Tropic

109 Marley Chas

110 Hunt C R

112 Shoup H R

116 Park I L

120 Boyd L C

121 Trail E T

1926
Tusculum
City
Directory

FIRST—From Brady s to city
limits 1 e of Washington av

2 Brady L A

Brady L P

3 Trotter E J

11 Porter R K Rev

12 Hall P J

16 Ward J W Dr

South

100 Nolle E R

101 Randall Chas

Robbins M E

105 Scobie F B

106 Wilson H G

107 Wilson Harry

109 Vacant

110 Dodson I M

121 Knight T G

128 Stevens H J Dr

130 Cushman Jas Jr

132 Charpia I B (~~Barkley~~)

135 Brockett G G

136 Wilson J W

142 Peppers G S Dr

143 Stewart Oscar

144 Grimes T T

148 Shelbourne Alice Mrs

Lafferty R R

149 Ford H C

153 Lunning L B

ref(6)





Thomas George Knight, Passed away Sunday; Is

One of Oldest Citizens

Made His Home Here in 1910; Was Nearly

Eighty Seven Years Old

Leaves 3 Children

Funeral Wednesday and Interment at

La Grange Cemetery

Thomas George Knight one of Titusville's Oldest and most esteemed citizens, passed away at his home on First Street Sunday night at 9:00 o'clock. Death came as **the** climax of a gradual decline in health over a period of more than a year, but not until the last few days was Captain Knight seriously ill. His span of life covered many more than the allotted three score years and ten; at the time of his death he was 86 years 11 months and 15 days old.

In early years the deceased came to this section often, hunting and fishing, and in 1910 he made Titusville his permanent home. He was born in New York City July 29 1847.

In former years, when the Captain was in the prime of life, he took a very active part in community affairs, devoting both his name and money, towards the betterment and the upbuilding of the city in which he chose to make his home.

In passing the deceased leaves three daughters, seven grandchildren, one sister, and a number of nieces and nephews.

All three daughters are now residing in Titusville. They are: Mrs. R.V.C. Smith, Mrs. G.V.Cooper and Mrs. F.H.Huston

Among the grandchildren are James and Gorge Cooper, James N. Huston, Mrs. J.D.Cushman and Thomas Knight Smith, all of Titusville. Mrs. Bryant D.Hiers of Ocala and Miss Eleanor Smith of Miami.

The one sister who survives is Mrs. Robert Randolph.

Funeral Wednesday

Funeral services will be held tomorrow afternoon at three thirty o'clock at St. Gabriel's Episcopal Church, and interment is to be at La Grange cemetery.

Published on the East Coast Advocate on Tuesday July 17 1934.

LE IS A FRIENDLY TOWN WITH THE BEST OF DRINK
FURNISHED BY A WATER PLANT OWNED BY THE CITY OF TITUSVILLE

Star Advocate

Titusville, Indian River, Florida, Friday, September 14, 1923

Editor Wm. B. Dobson Passed To His Reward Sunday Night

End Came Peacefully At Ten O'Clock. Remains Were Taken To Ann Arbor,
Michigan, Accompanied By His Brother R. T. Dobson. Funeral Ser-
vices Were Held At Koon's Undertaking Parlors

"He sees when their footsteps falter,
When their hearts grow weak and faint.
He marks when their strength is failing.
Though there be no word of complaint.
He bids them rest for a season,
For the pathway has grown too steep,
And folded away in green pastures
He giveth his loved ones sleep."

Wm. B. Dobson, born in Mayaville, Ky., May 12, 1854, died September 9, 1923, at 10 o'clock p.m., at his home in Titusville, after a two weeks' illness of cerebral hemorrhage.

Progressive, alert, fair-minded, and a man who could stand by his own convictions—45 years experience had taught him the value of impartiality on the part of a newspaper man. He made some enemies as is always true of men whose lives are devoted to the public interest—he made friends; who were steadfast and true.

Mr. Dobson began his newspaper career as a protégé of Congressman Frank Hurd, of the Toledo, Ohio, district, at Oak Harbor, Ohio, in 1878.

In 1880, with his brother, he went to Bowling Green, Ohio, where they published the Wood County Democrat, and later to Defiance, Ohio, Springfield, Ohio, Toledo, Ohio, and Akron, Ohio, in which latter place he was postmaster by appointment of President Cleveland.

He then went to Alpena, Mich., where he established and published the Alpena Daily Echo.

In 1914, on account of poor health he came to Florida. He was publisher of the Cocoa Star for several years, and then came to Titusville, where he purchased the East Coast Advocate, which he consolidated with the Star, and the Star Advocate came

into existence, March 12, 1920, being the first issue to be published under this title.

During his three and a half years as editor and manager of the Star Advocate he has worked ceaselessly and untiring in behalf of the progress and up-building of this community especially, and the entire county as a whole. Some of the achievements which the paper has had a part in carrying forward are—organization of the Civic League which has been merged into the Titusville Chamber of Commerce; the organization and promotion of the Titusville Rotary Club of which he was its president at the time of his death; newspaper support in the campaign for better roads—instrumental in carrying forward the fight for the bridge across the Indian River and the road to Titusville Beach which is about to be realized; the building up of the educational interests; and carrying on the fight to make Titusville the tourist center that it is some day bound to be.

His chief hobby of late has probably been the Titusville Rotary Club and the welfare of the Boy Scout organization in which he was deeply interested.

Besides being president of the Titusville Rotary Club Editor Dobson was a member of the Order of Elks, Knights of Pythias, and Pythian Sisters.

Mr. Dobson's only surviving relative is his brother, Russell T. Dobson, of Ann Arbor, Mich., who was with him at the time of his death.

Simple funeral services were held Monday, at Koon's funeral parlor, in charge of the Rotary Club and Knights of Pythias, Rev. T. A. Conway, officiating minister. Tuesday morning Mr. R. T. Dobson left with the remains, for Ann Arbor, Mich., where interment will be made with the family who have gone before.

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