

William sailed with his wife and eight children from Liverpool, England, May 26, 1819, in the ship, Evergreen, Capt. Rathburn, for New York. They traveled to Albany, New York and arrived at York, Upper Canada (now Toronto), August 12, 1819. Apparently he lost no time in applying for a grant of land and he may have been shown special consideration, for his "Ticket of Location" reads "Pursuant to an Especial Order In Council of 25th August 1819" and he was assigned 200 acres, an unusual grant, in Albion Township, then in the "Home District" (now Peel County), Lot 23, Con. 9. The order was signed by the Lt. Governor Oct. 20, 1819. But it was too late to establish his family there that year, partly because of difficulty in finding his grant before winter set in. So the family wintered at Aurora and went into their new log cabin in April 1820. On performance of settlement duties and payment of fees of 5 pounds, 5 shillings, 5 pence, the final grant was made Jan. 17, 1828. His son, William, acquired a grant of 100 acres on Lot 22, Con 9. William Roadhouse was 45 years old, in the prime of life, when he came to Canada, where he was to spend another 38 years as a pioneer in the new land. Although information about him is fragmentary, it reveals him as a man of strong character, firm and uncompromising in his convictions, but tolerant of human frailties. His family life was exemplary and his religious faith was deep. As a young man he had been converted to Methodism and he was a member of the Wesleyan Church for 62 years. He died Nov. 11, 1857, at the age of 83, at the home of his son, William.

Elizabeth Crissey, who married William Roadhouse Jan. 30, 1795, was born July 27, 1774 at Hemingbrough, Yorkshire. The glimpses that we have of her indicate that she was a woman of beautiful character. A memorial to her at the time of death says, "In her Church relations, she was consistent; in the community, active and useful; her deportment was Godly and exemplary and by a well-ordered life she adorned her profession; as a wife, she was kind and affectionate; as a mother, indulgent, yet firm; as a grandmother, pleasant cheerful, ardently attached to her numerous descendents". At the age of 12, Elizabeth Crissey heard the Rev. John Wesley and she retained a distinct recollection of his preaching. She joined the Methodist Church at the age of 21. In the early years in Canada her neighbours were few; in fact it is said that she did not see another white woman, outside her family, during the first two years in Albion Township. During the last 20 years of her life she was blind. A great granddaughter, who was her eyes and hands during part of that time, has left a tender picture of her and the happy life in the family home. She died Dec. 11, 1864, at the age of 90, at the home of her son William, having spend 45 years in Canada. At the time of her death, in 1864, Elilzabeth Crissey Roadhouse had, still living, 7 children, 60 grandchildren, 170 great grandchildren and 2 great, great grandchildren, a total of 239 living descendants.