

## Where is Utopia?

Utopia is a hamlet situated on the sixth concession of Essa Township, 16 (9.6) kilometres west of Barrie and 6.9 (6.4) kilometres east of Borden-Angus. Driving west on Highway 90, you may notice a sign indicating "Utopia – 1.6 kilometres south".

The Utopia is said to have been chosen by Mr. Eugene Smith, the great-grandfather of the present Mr. Eugene Smith of Utopia.<sup>1</sup> The name was given in honour of Sir Thomas Moore<sup>2</sup>, the author of the book Utopia.

Utopia describes an island-country in which everything was shared and there was no want. It was a society of happiness; an ideal community. Possibly by naming this small settlement after Moore's social ideal, Mr. Smith was in some way reflecting his own wishes for his community.