

CANADA CORNERS

Today's Village of Lily Lake originated as "Canada Corners" at the intersection of what is now Illinois Route 47 and Empire Road/Indian Creek Trail, and Hanson Road in western Campton Township. The first settler of the area was William Kendall, an Englishman, who arrived in 1836. It is believed that he settled on Empire Road. That same year, Eliphalet Read arrived from New Brunswick, Canada with his sister Elizabeth (Read) Outhouse, her husband James Outhouse and their two children.

James Outhouse settled in the area around Lily Lake on Wooley Road and eventually had seven children. The original house was dismantled and replaced with a new brick Prairie Square style home in 1922 that still stands today. As of 1837, they were "cultivating the banks of Lily Lake." Eliphalet's parents, Joshua and Priscilla Read arrived in 1838. They had 12 children in Virgil Township. The great, great granddaughter of James Outhouse, Mary Campbell and her husband Dave still farm the property on Wooley Road today.