

EARLY
HOTELS
and
TAVERNS
of SCUGOG

The story of Reach Township and Port
Perry's earliest hotels and taverns
and the fight against alcohol.

BY J. PETER HVIDSTEN

HOTELS & TAVERNS OF SCUGOG

Researched and Published by J. Peter Hvidsten

January 2023

PLEASE NOTE

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopy, recording, or any information storage and retrieval system, without permission in writing from the publisher.

To contact publisher: 905-985-3089 Cell: 905-449-6690
email: jpeterhvidsten@gmail.com

EARLY
HOTELS
and
TAVERNS
of SCUGOG



J. Peter Hvidsten

By J. Peter Hvidsten

Table Of Contents

| | |
|------------------------------------|----|
| PORT PERRY HOTELS | 9 |
| Port Perry House | 10 |
| St. Charles Hotel | 13 |
| Sebert House Hotel | 16 |
| Queen's Hotel | 21 |
| Dominion Hotel | 22 |
| Miller's Hotel | 23 |
| Mansion House Hotel | 25 |
| Royal Canadian Hotel..... | 26 |
| Walker House Hotel | 28 |
| Brunswick House Hotel | 31 |
| Railroad House Hotel | 33 |
| REACH TOWNSHIP HOTELS | 37 |
| PRINCE ALBERT: | |
| Hurd's Hotel | 39 |
| Prince Albert Hotel | 40 |
| Anglo-American Hotel | 41 |
| Victoria Hotel | 44 |
| Boynton's Hotel | 46 |
| MANCHESTER: | |
| Union Hotel | 50 |
| Revere House | 53 |
| BORELIA: | |
| Commercial Hotel | 58 |
| Borelia Hotel | 62 |
| UTICA: | |
| Dafoe House Hotel | 64 |
| EPSOM: | |
| Central House Hotel | 68 |
| SEAGRAVE: | |
| Nonquon House Hotel | 72 |
| Coryell House | 73 |
| Ocean House | 73 |
| GREENBANK: | |
| Cottage Hotel | 76 |
| SAINTFIELD: | |
| Centre Hotel | 79 |

Introduction

From the earliest days of the settlement of Reach Township, the need for accommodation, food and beverage was a necessity for those travelling between different parts of the township, and the larger centres in the southern reaches of Ontario County.

Small hotels and taverns began to be spring-up throughout the district, with one of the first hotels at Crandell's Corners in operation during the 1840s. When Thomas Gorley took it over in June 1851, he identified the hotel as the "Old Stand of Mr. Hunter" at Crandell's Corners. Mr. Gorley renamed his new business as the Commercial Hotel.

There are also suggestions that William Boynton may have operated a hotel in the early 1840s. Although no actual evidence has been uncovered, the fact that he arrived in the area in the late 1830s and that he operated a hotel in the village of Prince Albert later, suggests that it is possible he was the host of a small tavern-style hotel at an earlier period.

Researching the history of the hotels, the property owners, and the hotel operators (proprietors) has been one of my most confusing and difficult undertakings. Lack of documentation often leads to dead-ends when trying to chronicle the string of property owners and business owners.

Not unlike today, business proprietors changed frequently, while the properties on which the hotels were located were owned for years by the same party. Often the change of hotel keepers made it difficult to know if the hotel was owned by the new business proprietor, or he was simply a new tenant.

Adding to the confusion – in addition to the changes of tenants and owners – the "hotel" or "house" and they were sometimes called, often changed to the name of the new tenant or owner.

Examples of this are the "Sebert House" later known as the "Oriental Hotel" and "Bandel's Hotel". The "Walker House" destroyed in the 1884 fire was originally known as "Winter's Inn". It was renamed the "Royal Canadian" and later "Foy's Hotel", under the ownership of Henry Foy.

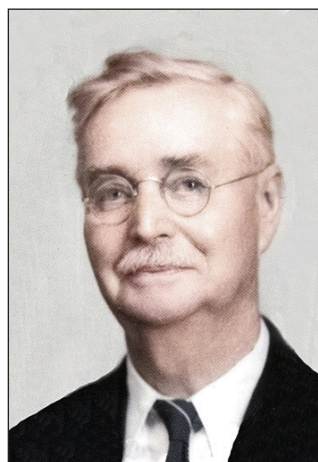
Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information in this document, but due to gaps in the history of the hotels, on occasion we have taken the liberty to "assume" some facts, which may at a later date be found incorrect.

J.Peter Hvidsten

HOTELS AND WHISKEY

Excerpt from
ON THE SHORES OF SCUGOG

By Samuel Farmer - 1913



SAMUEL FARMER

WHISKEY used to be sold for twenty-five per gallon and all who profess to know say that it was purer and better liquor than you can get to-day for ten times the money. That was the retail price. Wholesale it was 10C, and the commission man sold it to the hotelkeeper for 15C per gallon. It was used on any and all occasions, and was nearly as free as water.

If you drove in from a distance to do some shopping and felt dry, all you had to do was to walk to the back of the store, and there you would find a pail of whiskey and a tin cup with which you could help yourself.

Logging bees, barn raising, threshing, huskings, dances and all other social functions of the day were considered incomplete without whiskey. Indeed at times the whiskey was considered so essential that the main object of the function (a barn raising for instance) would be neglected if the whiskey were absent. The prohibitionist ploughed a lone furrow in those days.

No duty was imposed on imported whiskey; but there was a fine of \$500 together with imprisonment for making it without a license. In spite of this heavy penalty illicit stills were not uncommon, for the Scotch people declared that they couldn't abide the Canadian made stuff.

Of course there was a certain amount of secrecy about the manufacture of the liquor; but had you been able to have travelled the winding course of the Nonquon as it twisted its way through swamp and bush, you would likely have found some evidences of secret stills, as the following story would indicate:

A number of years ago when Mr. Yarnold was surveying some of the bush along the Centre Road, a man told him he had seen an alligator in the swamp. "You should catch it and send it to the museum," said Mr. Yarnold with a smile, "they would pay you well for a Canadian born alligator."

During his survey a secret still was found, with its small furnace, troughs and other appliances. Later the man with the alligator story was met again, and Mr. Yarnold said to him, "I found the little brick stable in which you kept that alligator, and the trough from which you fed him."

Three men were seldom or ever known to make whiskey on the sly, for it was found that three men could not keep a secret still long. Two

men were enough. The enforcement of the liquor law was not easy. Sheriffs were scarce. Long before one could arrive on the scene, news of his coming preceded him. Naturally the men who made the whiskey had more friends than the sheriff.

But whiskey has fallen on evil days. It now has to struggle for its existence. People don't take it as kindly as formerly. Within 60 years past there were 24 places where you could buy liquor in the Township of Reach, and most of them were in operation 30 years ago; to-day there are but three.

Here is the list:

Harrison Haight's hotel which stood on the site of the new post office.

Elmore Crandell's hotel which was originally built on the present site of the Bank of Commerce. When the railroad came it was moved opposite the station and called the Railroad Hotel. It was torn down a year or two ago and Dowson's livery stands on the site.

Daniel Ireland put up an hotel where Carnegie's (Jester's) new house is going up. It was burned down fifteen or twenty years ago.

James Thompson ran an hotel on the Sebert House corner. It was burnt down at the time of the big fire, and then replaced by the present building.

St. Charles Hotel was put up about thirty-eight years ago, and was run by a man named McQuade.

There were three hotels at Borelia, **Jewett's** being the oldest. Then there was one run by **Reuben Crandell**, and another run by **Christopher Shehey**.

Three hotels supplied the Prince Albert people with liquid refreshment, and they were run by these three men - Messrs. McCorquodale, Boynton

and Scott.

Another **Boynton** kept hotel between Prince Albert and Raglan.

Manchester was as well supplied, and Messrs. **Tennyson** and **Zwickey** ran two of the hotels and the third was called the Plank House. We did not learn the man's name who ran it.

Opposite Beare's mill there was another hotel to save the traveller from becoming dry before he reached Utica, where **Dafoe** kept house.

Another hotel was kept at Epsom, and one at Saintfield.

There used to be an hotel at Greenbank where the Methodist church stands, but the Sons of Temperance put it out of business.

Solomon Orser ran an hotel between Rose's Settlement and Seagrave.

Two hotels flourished at Seagrave run by Messrs. **Coryell** and **Dewart**.

Out on the sky line at the top of the ridges stood **C.C. Covey's** hotel, and a little south of Manchester was **Payne's** hotel.

It is estimated that there were twenty-five hotels on the road between Manilla and Oshawa, not including the latter place.



HOTELS AND TEMPERANCE

By J. PETER HVIDSTEN

ALCOHOLIC beverages were an important part in the success of early hotels and taverns, which provided not only overnight lodging for travellers, but a place of gathering for many local community events and social events.

In Port Perry and Reach Township local municipal councils were responsible for issuing hotel liquor licenses, and this duty often became contentious with members of the council often having differing opinions about the sale of alcohol in their villages.

Hotel operators were required to make annual applications for a license to serve liquor and wine from their establishments and it was at this time councillors debated the merits of issuing a license for the coming year.

At one meeting of Port Perry council in February 1875 a petition to limit licenses and hotels was brought forward by George Currie, one of the town's leading citizens. He expressed his thoughts about the evils of liquor, which he said had ruined so many men, caused suffering to their wives, deprived their children of food, and often brought misery to the town.

Mr. Currie advocated for a reduction in the number of hotel liquor licenses, and also was critical of local drug stores which sold liquor with a license. He argued the drug stores have no right to sell liquor and that it should be stopped.

Councillor Jones agreed with Mr. Currie and relayed that he had observed "Bar rooms of hotels lit up and parties walking into the bar at hours that no bar should be open".

After a lengthy discussion, and numerous motions of change to the by-law, council set hotel liquor license fees at \$110 and shop licenses at \$100. Of the seven applications from hotel owners, and four shop keepers, only five hotels and two shops were approved for a liquor licenses for the coming year.

The Temperance movement had early beginnings in Reach Township. On July 14, 1859 a Temperance Demonstration was held in Port Perry with more than 1,000 people gathered to listen to speeches endorsing the necessity of returning men to Parliament to stem the tide of intemperance, and to enact stringent liquor laws prohibiting liquor sales.

Temperance groups began to spring up all over the township with demonstrations being held in Borelia, Manchester, Scugog Island and Greenbank. In February 1863 a meeting was held in Prince Albert at which a Division of the Sons of Temperance was formed. As the movement grew, more and more people attended meetings in halls and fields throughout the district.

At Port Perry in February 1876, as council was about to begin its meeting, the door of the Town Hall flew open and in marched an estimated hundred women from the village. The ladies placed in the hands of the Reeve a petition signed by 457 of the ladies and ratepayers of the village demanding the council not grant any shop liquor licenses for the present year and to reduce the number of hotel licenses to four.

Four months later, was billed as the "Grandest Temperance Demonstration" ever held in the County of Ontario, more than 2,000 people gathered in a grove in Manchester. The demonstration was held under the auspices of the Manchester, Myrtle, Utica, Greenbank, Port Perry, Uxbridge, Zephyr and Leaskdale divisions of Sons of Temperance. A procession nearly a mile long, lead by the Uxbridge brass band marched to the grove, and following the demonstration the day was ended with a concert in the Manchester Town hall, which was filled to overflowing, many

having to stand outside.

Despite the efforts of the Temperance movements, liquor continued to flow, not only in the hotels and taverns, but even out in the open. During the winter of 1880, at the annual trotting races on Lake Scugog, some enterprising liquor dealers began selling liquor during the ice races. A Toronto newspaper reported "They did a racing business while it lasted, but the day of retribution came and some half dozen of them were invited to a reception at the office of the magistrate."

Hotel operators often ran afoul of the liquor laws, with charges for violations of the law being issued. In January 1887, a raid was made on Port Perry hotels resulting in charges for violations of the Scott Act. On another occasion the following year Magistrate John Nott secured ten conviction for violation of the liquor license act which states that "no hotelkeeper shall supply liquor to boys under the age of 21 years, or even allow such boys to loiter in their houses."

The consequences of the Temperance movement and the Scott Act often made it difficult for hotels to survive, as their bars provided the necessary income to remain profitable. One of the first casualties of the Scott Act took place in November 1888, when Thomas Dancaster, was assessed three charges for violation of the Act, which resulted in the permanent closing of his bar.

At Seagrave in 1897 more than two-thirds of the people of Seagrave signed a petition to prevent the host of the Ocean House being issued a liquor permit. Fortunately for the hotel's owner, council authorized a permit despite the petition, but at the same time turned down application by Utica and Saintfield hotelkeepers.

The need for hotels in every small community, and at points along the roadsides between hamlets and villages declined towards the end of the 1800s and many of the small tavern style hotels closed.

The temperance movement was an international social and political campaign of the 19th and early 20th centuries. It was based on the belief that drinking was responsible for many of society's ills. It called for moderation or total abstinence from alcohol. This led to the legal prohibition of alcohol in many parts of Canada.

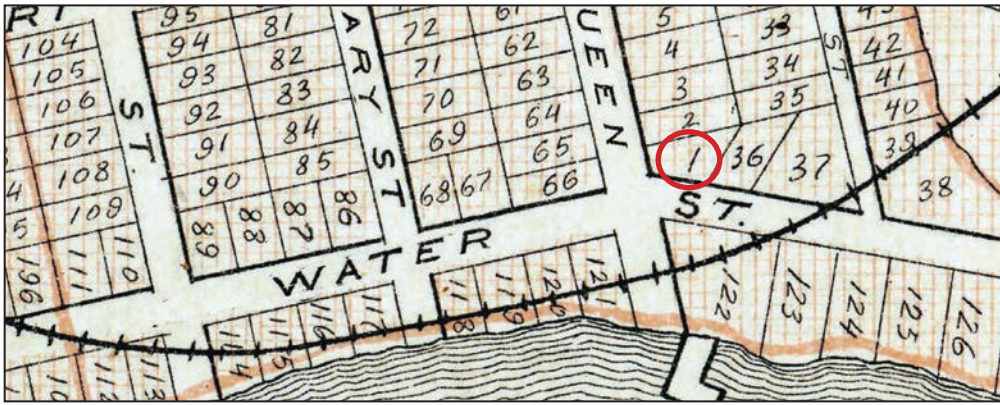
The Canada Temperance Act (Scott Act) of 1878 gave local governments the "local option" to ban the sale of alcohol. In 1915 and 1916, all provinces, except Quebec, prohibited the sale of alcohol as a patriotic measure during the First World War. Most provincial laws were repealed in the 1920s in favour of allowing governments to control alcohol sales.

Temperance societies were later criticized for distorting economic activity, and for encouraging drinking and organized crime.

Source: The Canadian Encyclopedia



PORT PERRY HOTELS



Port Perry House

Lot 1 - 145 Queen Street - Port Perry

JAMES V. THOMPSON, was a pioneer in the hotel business, as an owner and operator of hotels in Port Perry and Brock Township.

James father, Peter operated a small tavern called the **Northern Hotel** in Uxbridge for a number of years, and it was here that James got his introduction to the hotel/tavern business.

His home having been in Brock Twp. when he decided about 1864 to strike out on his own, he moved to Sunderland to become the hotelkeeper of the **Brock House** which he operated until about 1868 when he relocated to Port Perry.

Here he purchased lot #1, a choice property on

PORT PERRY HOUSE,
PORT PERRY, ONTARIO.

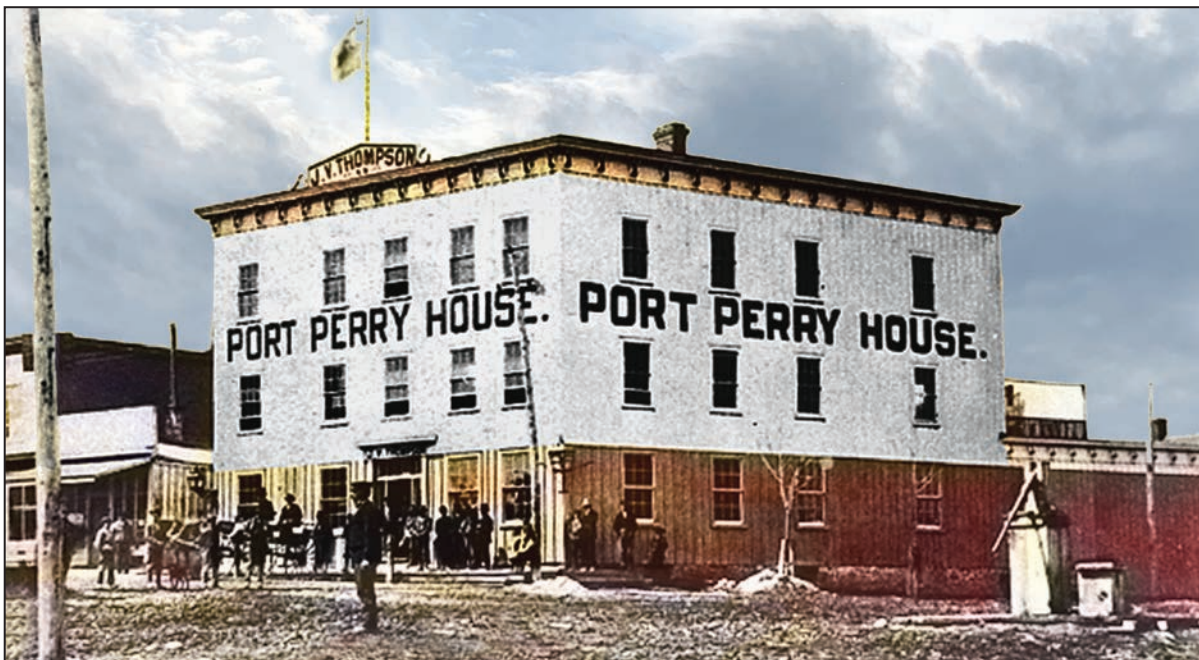
JAMES THOMPSON, - - Proprietor.

Being about to open the above Hotel in Port Perry, I shall be happy to see
my friends and the public at all times.

**My Bar and Table will always be supplied with
the best in the market.**

EVERY ATTENTION PAID TO GUESTS.

1869



James V. Thompson's Port Perry House hotel as it looked, circa 1878, just a few years before fire destroyed it in 1883.

the northwest corner of Queen and Water St., and erected a large three-story frame hotel. The hotel was opened in 1869 under the name **Port Perry House**.

Thompson was 51 years old when he advertised his hotel for sale in 1874, but he appear to have been unsuccessful. The **Port Perry House** served the town well for many years under his management but he decided retire due to health concerns. Once again he advertised his **Thompson House** for rent, and in November 1879 he leased his hotel to John Ruddy, of Brock Twp., and moved his family to Greenbank.

A decade after being opened the **Port Perry House** underwent a major renovation which including a re-configuration of the hotels rooms and facilities, and a



JOHN RUDDY

A First-Class
HOTEL
 TO RENT.

THE Undersigned offers to lease his Hotel, known as the
'THOMPSON HOUSE',
 PORT-PERRY.

There are few more eligible stands in the Province for a lucrative hotel business.

The Hotel and Premises are in perfect order. A suitable party can't fail in doing a highly profitable business.

The condition of the proprietor's health as well as that of Mrs. Thompson render it advisable to retire from the business.

Full particulars may be known by applying to the proprietor on the premises.

J. V. THOMPSON.
 Port Perry, Oct. 20, 1879.

PORT PERRY HOUSE - PORT PERRY

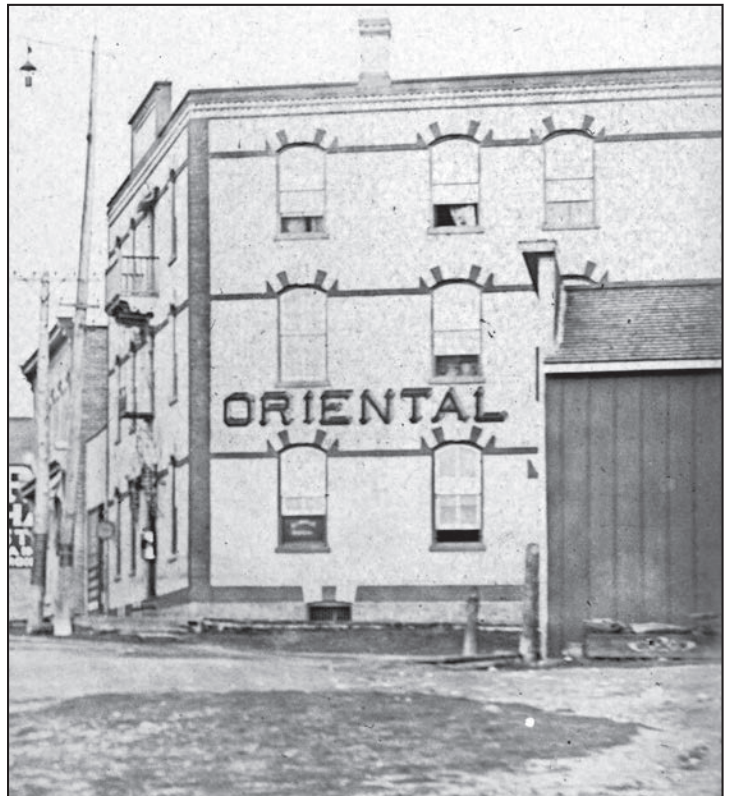
JAS. V. THOMPSON, PROPRIETOR.

The above House is now most comfortably furnished, and Guests are cared for in the Home Style. Good Liquors and Cigars. Also first-class stabling and good ostlers. Additions have been made which make this the Largest and Best House in this section of the country. Fare \$1 per day.



This digitized illustration of the Port Perry House depicts the fire of 1883 which destroyed the hotel and other buildings on Queen St.

Photoshop illustration



James Thompson's former Port Perry House hotel was renamed the Oriental Hotel, when rebuilt following the disastrous fire of July 1884.

large addition was for the comfort of its guests.

Five years later, in November 1883, while Mr. Ruddy was still the hotel keeper, the **Port Perry House** was destroyed by a fire which had started near the rear of the hotel. The loss to James Thompson, who owned the hotel building was in excess of \$10,000, and was only covered with minimal insurance.

The 1883 fire not only destroyed the hotel, but a number of other adjacent buildings along the north side of Queen St., causing more than \$130,000 worth damage to property in the centre of the town.



JAMES BROOKS

Following the fire Thompson returned to Port Perry, to supervise the erection of his new hotel. Work got underway immediately on rebuilding of the hotel using the original foundation was used keeping the size of the building the same as his first hotel.

When completed in October 1884 the attractive three storey brick hotel featured a large, airy dining room, large hallways, office and bar room, and a well-furnished parlour upstairs, and 25 guest rooms on the two upper floors. It's believed it was at this time it was re-named the **Oriental Hotel**. No record has been located as to the origin of the name **Oriental Hotel**.

Thompson hired James M. Brooks in 1885 to conduct the business of the **Oriental**. Mr. Brooks was a veteran hotel keeper having operated a hotel in Oshawa earlier. After arriving in Port Perry he made every effort to improve the building even reverting the name of the hotel back to the **Oriental Hotel**.

Five years after taking over the operation of the hotel, Mr. Brooks decided to retire from the business and move to Peterborough where he purchased another hotel. He held a massive two-day auction sale following his announcement in an attempt to selling the entire contents of the **Oriental Hotel**.

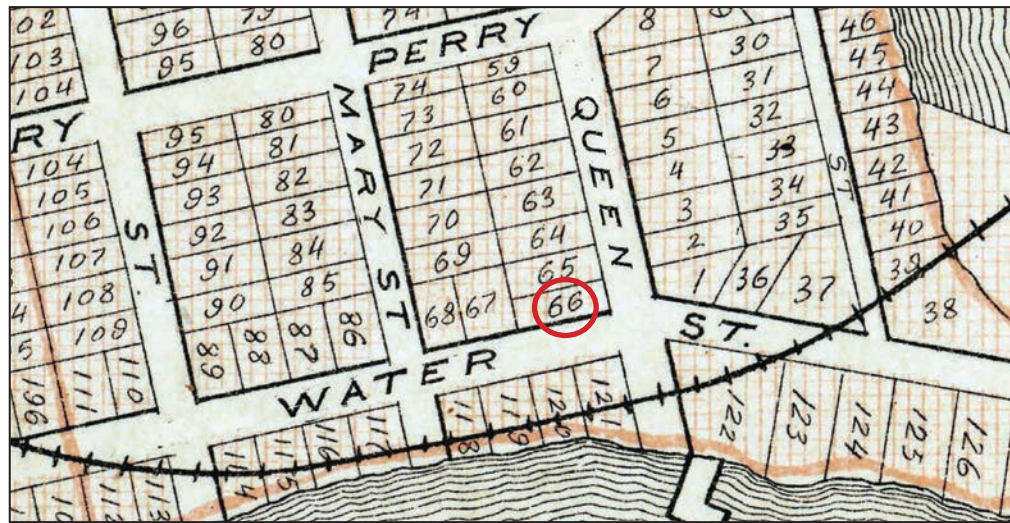
Before James Brooks left Port Perry in April 1900, he held a massive sale of all the furnishings of the **Oriental Hotel**. Following the sale, he moved to Peterborough where he bought the **Palace House Hotel**.



The Oriental Hotel is seen in the picture, circa 1895, at the corner of Queen and Water St., beside the Curts & Henderson feed store.

PORT PERRY HOUSE.
The undersigned having leased for a term of years this comfortable, pleasantly located Hotel will endeavor by strict attention to the convenience and comfort of guests to make the Port Perry House a desirable place of entertainment for the general public. Choice supplies for the table and bar.
The stable and yard carefully attended to.
JOHN RUDDY.
Port Perry, Dec. 9, 1879.

ORIENTAL HOTEL,
PORT PERRY, ONT.
J. M. BROOKS, PROPR.
This Hotel has been thoroughly refitted and refurnished in first-class style with all the necessary requirements of the present day. Commercial Travellers, Wheelmen, Tourists and the General Public are cordially invited. With special care and attention to business I hope to merit a generous share of the patronage of a discerning public. First-class Sample Rooms. Commercial and other baggage carted to and from the G.T.R. depot free of charge.



St. Charles Hotel

Lot 68 - 144 Queen Street - Port Perry

The St. Charles Hotel building is the only remaining hotel from the 1800s still present in the town.



St. Charles Hotel, Port Perry, circa 1899, with Sample Rooms on the main floor.
Colourized rendition of original picture.

FROM AS EARLY AS 1867 a hotel was located on the southeast corner of Queen and Water St., Port Perry.

Henry Charles moved to Port Perry about 1867 and purchased the wood frame hotel, grocery and liquor business at the busy intersection near the lakefront. In July 1884, his building, along with the entire commercial area was destroyed fire. Undeterred, he immediately constructed a magnificent new hotel at the corner.

Henry chose **St. Charles Hotel** as the name for his new three-storey structure of yellow brick with red brick accents over the windows and along the cornices. It's unique mansard roof was clad with cedar shingles with paint accents. There were 30 rooms for guess, a spacious dining room, bar and meeting rooms.

After the hotel was completed the hotel was leased to Thomas H. Dancaster, and Mr. Charles re-established his grocery and liquor business in one of two storefronts at the front of the building.

The **St. Charles** became one of the town's most popular hotels, not only for the travelling public, but for holding testimonial dinners, auction sales,

banquets, and community celebrations. In 1892 the hotel's stable and sheds, south of the hotel were expanded to accommodate guests arriving at the hotel by horse and buggy.

Next to lease the **St. Charles Hotel** was Louis Sebert, during the early 1890s. Mr. Sebert was the hotelkeeper there until at least May 1894, at which time fire caught hold of the western store in the hotel building. Quick work by the local fire company made quick work of the flame, but that section was completely gutted.

The **St. Charles** underwent a number of owners of the following years. Henry Charles, who had owned the hotel since was built in 1885, sold the property in July 1903 to J.R. Marshall. Mr. Marshall had leased the hotel for the three years prior to purchasing the hotel.

Allan Proctor owned the hotel for a time before selling it in May 1905 to Niles Searls. It changed hands again in 1911 when Frank W. Dunham, an hotelkeeper from Toronto bought the business. Mr. Dunham sold the business to George A. Cole in June 1912 and Samuel Mosure assumed ownership about 1913.

Albert E. Rogerson became the next owner of the **St. Charles Hotel** in March 1919. After purchasing the hotel he completely remodelled the building. In November 1920 the ambitious young man purchased the **Sebert House** on the opposite side of Queen St.

Two years later (1922), he closed the bar and poolroom of the **St. Charles** and converted the ground floor into two stores. Harold Archer moved his hardware business into one of the units. The following year James McKee



The St. Charles Hotel, circa 1910.



opened a footwear store in the other.

In March 1923, Mr. Rogerson sold the **Sebert House** hotel to Mr. Weir of Peterborough, but continued to own the **St. Charles Hotel** property until about 1945. Exactly when it ceased operating as a hotel can not be confirmed.

In the ensuing years, the hotel was converted into apartments, and the two stores, fronting on Queen St. have been the locations of a variety of business. The east unit was renovated and converted into a movie theatre, which opened in August 1946 under the name *Lakeview Theatre*. After the theatre closed in the 1960s, Gord Lewis leased the space and opened Port Perry Auto Supply in 1968.

In 1968, Guy Latrielle and his father-in-law Morley Bruce purchased the old **St. Charles Hotel**.

They undertook a major exterior renovation of the near century old building and open *Scugog Realty* in the east side of the hotel. This later became *Re/Max Scugog* and the business still operates from the corner unit. Another renovation of the hotel building was undertaken in 1994.

In the former hotel's westerly storefront, Richard Drew set up shop in 1975, from where he operated *Richard's Beauty Studio* for a number of years. In 1980, *Ingredients Unlimited*, a bulk food store opened in the space formerly leased by *Richard's Beauty Studio*.

In 1992, *Peace of Earth*, now known as P.O.E., a home decor store opened in the west side of the old hotel. The store is owned by Gareth Grainger and still operated from this location until today.



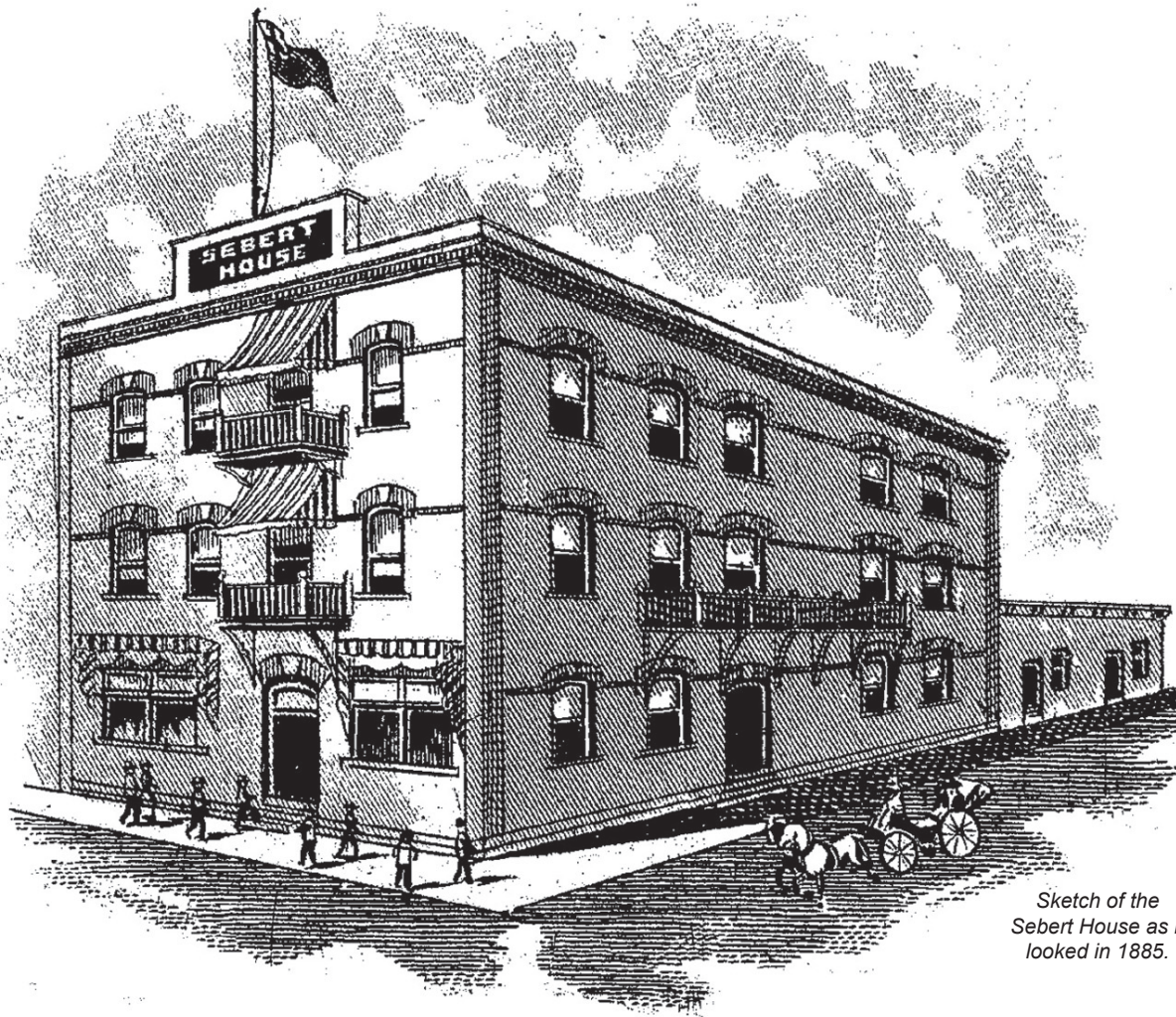
St. Charles Hotel, Port Perry, circa 1899, with Sample Rooms on the main floor.



St. Charles Hotel, Port Perry, circa 1899, with Sample Rooms on the main floor.

Sebert House Hotel

Lot 1 - 145 Queen Street - Port Perry



Sketch of the
Sebert House as it
looked in 1885.

The Sebert House and the Oriental Hotel
are both the same building - renamed by different
proprietors of the large hotel during their ownership.

AFTER THE **PORT PERRY HOUSE** was destroyed by fire in July 1884, then owner James Thompson constructed a new attractive three storey brick hotel on the same lot located at the intersection of Queen and Water Street.

The hotel featured a large, airy dining room, large hallways, office and bar room, and a well-furnished parlour upstairs, and 25 bedrooms on the two upper floors.

Not long after it was completed Thompson sold the hotel to Louis Sebert who renamed it the **Sebert House** hotel. Sebert was manager at the **St. Charles Hotel** across the street, so he hired James M. Brooks as manager for the hotel, and during his time there it became known as the **Oriental Hotel**.

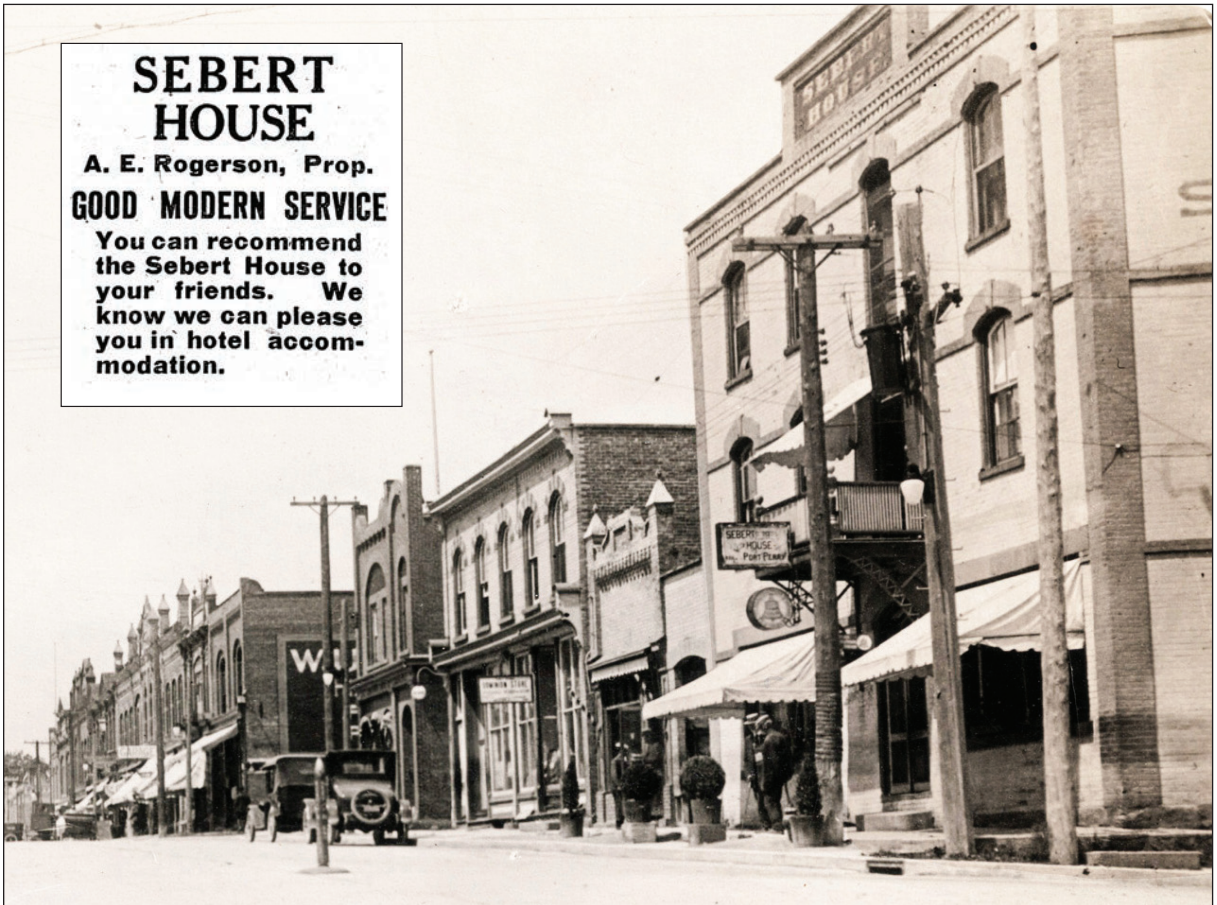
Five years later, Brooks held a two-day auction sale for the contents of the **Oriental Hotel** before he moved to Peterborough. He sold off all the furnishing of the bedrooms, parlour, kitchen, dining room and bar.

SEBERT HOUSE

A. E. Rogerson, Prop.

GOOD MODERN SERVICE

You can recommend
the Sebert House to
your friends. We
know we can please
you in hotel accom-
modation.



This 1915 picture of Queen St., Port Perry shows the Sebert Hotel at the corner of Water Street.

THE SEBERT HOUSE

In returning thanks to the general public and the farming community in particular for their generous and kind patronage since I embarked in the hotel business, I beg to announce that I now have more commodious and far superior facilities for entertaining the public than I ever possessed in the past; having lately taken possession of the Oriental Hotel which will in future be known as the SEBERT HOUSE, and have spared neither skilled labor nor expense in order to remodel and fit it up in a manner second to none in the province. Having introduced the most modern water works system, every room will at all times be fully supplied with hot and cold water. The comfort of guests will be the first consideration and no expense or labor will be spared in order to meet their requirements and win their approbation, so that their good opinion of the "Sebert House" may be heralded throughout the entire Dominion and the traveling public thus made acquainted with the fact that Port Perry possesses hotel accommodation inferior to none elsewhere to be found, and my charges, as in the past, will continue to be noted for moderation. In order to provide ample yard, stable and shed accommodation for all, especially on market days I have purchased the lot to the north of my already spacious premises and have had erected thereon large and comfortable sheds, and my patrons will find at their service an attentive and obliging hostler. I have every confidence that my enterprise will be fully appreciated by a generous public and that all will gladly avail themselves of the superior accommodations I have provided.

L. SEBERT

After Brooks left the *Oriental Hotel*, Louis Sebert took over as proprietor himself but before re-opening under the name *Sebert House*, he completely refurbished and refurnished all of the bedrooms, and public areas of the popular hotel. The ceilings were covered with decorative metal panels, and the floors covered with costly carpets.

Lighting in the hotel was upgraded to electricity, and patrons were kept comfortable in cold weather with a new hot water heating system. The most impressive improvement he made to the bedrooms was the installation of hot and cold running water in every room. He also installed water closets (bathrooms) with a toilet on each of the three floors.

When he completed the cost upgrades, the hotel's interior was said to be as modern and attractive as anywhere in the province.

Recognizing the need for good stabling for his customers, Sebert purchased an abutting lot, just north of the rear of the hotel along Water St. Here he built extensive stables and sheds for horses, carriages, buggies and carts and hired a full-time hostler to attend to every need of the hotel's guests.

The entire community was shocked when Louis

Sebert died on. He was only 45 years old when he died in September 1902. His respect was evident in the community as all places of business were closed on the day of his funeral. In his short life, Louis Sebert has made a name for the Sebert House and as its proprietor he was widely known and had the confidence of his guests.

Following his death, the estate of Louis Sebert was offered for sale. In November 1902 Louis Bandel became the next owner of the **Sebert House**, purchasing the property and hotel the Sebert family estate.

Mr. Bandel came to Port Perry with no experience as a hotel keeper having spent the previous 15 years as a barber in Whitby, but he quickly gained respect as a successful landlord, and became very popular with his patrons. Over the term of his ownership, the hotel was often referred to as **Bandel's Hotel**

A few years later, James Thompson re-purchased the building and entered into a partnership with James McKee. This was short lived as the two men dissolved their partnership in 1911 and McKee took over full ownership of the **Sebert House**.

Over the next decade the hotel changed hands numerous times, with Albert E. Rogerson acquiring the **Sebert House** in 1920. Some of the interim owners included; H.A. Sydie, Fred H. Carr, and Joseph Stone before Rogerson.

Albert Rogerson came from Toronto, where he acquired considerable wealth before arriving in Port Perry in March 1919. He purchased

Re-Opens

Mr. Jos Stone has purchased the furnishings of the Sebert House, and has rented the building. He intends to open for business on Thursday, July 20. The house will be clean and comfortable, and the meals will be of a character that will ensure satisfaction. Rates \$2.00 per day. You can safely recommend the Sebert House to your friends now that it is under the management of Mr Jos Stone

Port Perry, July 9, 1916



Bicycle enthusiasts line up along the east side of the Sebert House in this 1912 photograph. This is the same year that the hotel's proprietor, James McKee raised the daily rates for a room from \$1.50 to \$2.00 per day.



The Sebert House can be seen in this 1948 picture partly hidden by Port Perry's grain elevator at the lakefront.

and completely remodelled the **St. Charles Hotel**, including removing the bar and poolroom, and converting the ground floor of the hotel into two stores,

In early 1920 he purchased the Milner farm, located between Pettit's Point and Seven Mile Island, with plans to open summer resort.

He continued his buying spree later that year purchasing the **Sebert House** and operated it until 1923.

Rogerson was not the last person to operated the **Sebert House** as a hotel, but he remained in Port Perry for the remainder of his life, passing away in January 1945.

R.J. Weir was the proprietor of the Sebert House in 1934, but for how long is not known.

Over the next 40 years the hotel's two upper floors were rented as apartments, and the ground floor was leased to a number of small businesses. Some of the last to occupy the retail space in the building included Bill Carnegie's Real Estate, Jessie Hope's Smoke Shop, Bruce Kellett's Variety store and Durham T.V. Service.

The historic **Sebert House** was finally purchased by the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce in 1980. It was torn down and a new single story red brick building was built on the site, which still occupies the site to this day.



Front view of the Sebert House hotel, circa 1945.



The Sebert House hotel, Queen and Water St., circa 1976.



Sebert House under demolition in January 1980



THE SEBERT HOUSE
 Port Perry, Ontario
 TELEPHONE No. 14
OUR SPECIALTY
Steak and Chicken Dinners—\$1.00
 EVERY SUNDAY—12.30 to 2.00 p.m. 5.30 to 7.00 p.m.
WE NEVER CLOSE



Regular Meals served throughout the week.
 Breakfast 7.30 to 9 a.m. Dinner 12.00 to 1.30 p.m.
 Supper 6.00 to 7.30 p.m.
 Dinner Parties and Banquets on arrangement.

Sebert House ad, April 17, 1947

HOTELS vs TEMPERANCE

Hotel keepers and prohibition

Whitby Chronicle: May 4, 1888

The mantle of righteousness has fallen from our hotel keepers. For two long years, amid a thousand temptations these keepers of public houses were incorruptible, and the Scott Act they swore by (or rather at); but nary a drop of anything intoxicating could any thirsty applicant get.

It was thus successfully demonstrated that hotels could be maintained profitably upon a temperance basis, and this was the boast of our town far and wide.

Now, however, that things have gone from under the watchful eye of the Hon. Ben., there is a shrinkage in prohibition principles, and the keepers of the public bars have fallen away. The record is broken, and it will take many an offering of \$50 and cost to mend the breach.

The County Attorney spent Friday last here trying to brace up the shattered principles of the fallen, abso- lution being granted for all past shortcoming on pay- ment of fines and costs.

THE GREAT DECEIVER

WATER & ALCOHOL

ALIKE IN APPEARANCE
DIFFERENT IN EFFECT

| <u>WATER</u> | <u>ALCOHOL</u> |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Necessary to Life | Unnecessary to Life |
| Benefits the Body | Injures the body |
| Softens Food | Hardens Food |
| Quenches Thirst | Creates Thirst |
| Makes Seeds Grow | Kills the Seed |
| Cools the Skin | Inflames the Skin |
| A Constituent of all Food | Not Found in Food |
| Has No Taste | Has a Burning Taste |
| Puts a Fire Out | Makes a Fire Burn More Freely |

Published by the National American Temperance Society Temperance Lesson No. 18

Residents try to save hotel keeper from jail sentence

Toronto Globe: January 3, 1889

Inspector Ferguson returned from Port Perry tonight.

A number of leading citizens there met this afternoon to try and save one of their hotelkeepers, for whom a warrant is out, from going to the gaol (jail) for two months for infringement of the Scott Act.

The inspector held out no hopes that the law would not take its course, and left them depondent.

Mile long procession leads to Reach temperance demonstration

Toronto Globe: June 23, 1876

The Grand Union Temperance demonstra- tion of the County of Ontario was held in Mr. Stubbs' beautiful grove in Manchester on June 21, under the auspices of the Manchester, Myrtle, Utica, Greenbank, Port Perry, Uxbridge, Zephyr and Leaskdale divisions of Sons of Temperance, and Victoria Corners, Saintfield and Prince Albert Lodges of I.O.G.T. which arrived on the grounds in full regalia.

The procession was nearly a mile long, and was headed by the Uxbridge brass band. Mr. Archelaus D. Weeks, of Uxbridge, occupied the chair. Stirring addresses were delivered by Mrs. Youmans, Mr. St. John, and Revs. Lobb, Gillson, Douglas, Dowling and Pattison.

This was the grandest temperance demon- stration ever held in this county, nearly 2,000 being present. The whole concluded with a con- cert in the Manchester Town hall, which was filled to overflowing, many having to stand outside.

Queen's Hotel

Lots 17 - 279 Queen Street - Port Perry

ORIGINALLY OWNED BY Robert Perry, this property known as Lot 17 near the intersection of Queen St. and Simcoe St. was purchased in 1861 by James Goode, who built a workshop and residence on the property.

A few years later Mr. Goode's leased his establishment to Daniel Ireland who opened a "**Bowling Saloon**" according to an 1869 Ontario County Directory. Ireland purchased the property and building in 1871, renovated the building and opened **Ireland's Hotel**.

About 1873, James Dewart leased the hotel from Ireland. He refreshed the hotel and opened under the name **Queen's Hotel**, advertising he was just a few rods west of the post office on Queen St. But Dewart's stay was short in Port Perry, moving to Williamsburg (Blackstock) to opened the **Commercial Hotel** two years later.

Daniel Ireland returned and took charge of his property in December 1875 He completely renovated the hotel, changing completely changed the configuration of the main floor. The bar was moved to the second floor and it was reported that the hotel provided a "genuine city style, cleanliness and comfort being observed through all the house. It is now one of the most comfortable hotels in the county."

Ireland retained the **Queen's Hotel** name, and it became a popular spot for important gatherings, and in 1884, one of the town's esteemed pioneer physicians, Dr. John E. Ware was honoured at a banquet at the hotel before he moved from the village.

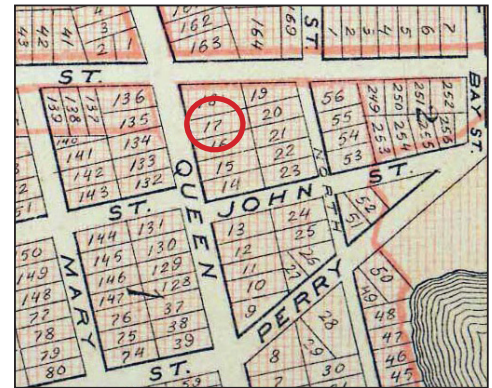
In December 1883, fire erupted three blocks east of the Queen's Hotel. Among the buildings destroyed along north side of Queen St. was the **Port Perry House** hotel at the corner of Queen and Water Streets. The hotel had been operated by John Ruddy, who offered to purchase the site and rebuild a hotel, but could not come to an agreement with the property owner.

Unable negotiate an agreement, Ruddy leased and renovated the aging **Queen's Hotel** and operated for about four years, before leaving the community.

The final owner **Queen's Hotel** was Robert Hodgson, who had purchased the property a few years earlier. He operated the business until December 15, 1890 when the **Queen's Hotel** and five wood-clad buildings along the western stretch of Queen St. were destroyed by fire.

Although the building contents were partially insured, Mr. Hodgson realized a loss of \$2,500, and the hotel was never rebuilt.

This lot is currently (2022) the location of the Jester's Court, a popular Port Perry restaurant.



QUEEN'S HOTEL,
PORT PERRY.
JAMES DEWART, - PROPRIETOR.

The Subscriber having leased this excellent Hotel and fitted it up with a view to the comfort of guests and the accommodation of the general public, will be glad to welcome old friends and new to take part in the hospitality of the Queen's.

The Table carefully supplied, Choice Liquors and Cigars in the Bar, the Yard and Stables punctually attended to.

The Queen's is conveniently situated a few rods west of the Post Office.

JAMES DEWART.
Port Perry, Nov. 11, 1873.

QUEEN'S HOTEL,
PORT PERRY,
D. IRELAND, Proprietor.

The Queen's as now arranged is unsurpassed for comfort and convenience. The Bar has been moved to the second story, and nothing likely to contribute to the comfort and convenience of guests has been left undone.

The Table and Bar supplied with the choice of the Market.

The Stables carefully attended to.

D. IRELAND, Proprietor.
Port Perry, December 9, 1875

QUEEN'S HOTEL
PORT PERRY.

THE undersigned having purchased the Queen's Hotel, Port Perry, has had it thoroughly renovated and refitted and is now prepared to receive guests, and the traveling public will find THE QUEEN'S a comfortable place to call. The table will be supplied with the best the market affords Good stabling and an attentive hostler.

ROBT. HODGSON.
Port Perry, Oct. 12, 1887.

Dominion Hotel

Location near the Railway - Port Perry

ANOTHER OF THE earlier hotels along Port Perry's waterfront and rail line was the **Dominion Hotel**, located at the corner of Water and Mary St., beside the **Railroad House** hotel.

It is speculated the **Dominion Hotel** was adjacent to the **Railroad House** hotel on the same property.

Exactly when the three-story frame structure was built has not been determined. The building featured covered verandahs on the two first floors, while the top floor had three windows overlooking Lake Scugog.

Owners of the lot before Jessie Ireland purchased it in 1874 included Elijah Foster, and Jonas Smith, and Hector Cameron, but it's not known who built the impressive structure. Jessie Ireland does not appear to have operated the hotel.

The first reference to the hotel came in April 1874 when D. B. Denison advertised his was proprietor of **Denison's Dominion Hotel** located at the Railway Station. He announced he was "Now fairly into the arena of business and supply large additional accommodation for borders and traveling public."

Prior to arriving in Port Perry, Daniel B. Dennison had worked an inn keeper at the Centre Hotel, Whitby in 1861, he became proprietor of the **Union Hotel**, Manchester in 1866, and the **Victoria Hotel** in Oakwood in 1868.

His stay at the **Dominion Hotel** was about three years before moving on to become proprietor of the **Nonquon House** at Seagrave in 1878.

After Dennison left Port Perry in 1878, no further mention of the **Dominion Hotel** has been found, despite extensive research and it is not known if the hotel ceased to exist, or was destroyed.

It appears Daniel B. Dennison continued to work as a hotelkeeper until his death on March 12, 1884 in Port Perry. He was 68 years old at the time of his death.

Note: Daniel Dennison's name was often spelled "Denison" as well as "Dennison".

DENISON'S DOMINION HOTEL,

At the Railway Station,
P O R T P E R R Y .

Every attention given to the accommodation and comfort of guests. The table and bar supplied with the best the Market affords. Choice Liquors and the best brands of Cigars. Excellent stable and shed accommodation, and attentive ostlers.

D. B. DENISON, Proprietor.

Port Perry, April 30, 1874

Further Hotel Accommodation.

The "Dominion Hotel," Port Perry, by D B Denison, is now fairly into the arena of business and supplying large additional accommodation for borders and the traveling public. This house is got up with an eye to public convenience and comfort both in its location and arrangement. Being situated at the Port Perry station of the railway it is particularly convenient for parties coming or going by cars or steam boat, while every accommodation is provided for the traveling public. The stables and sheds are all new and well arranged.

Port Perry, April 23, 1874

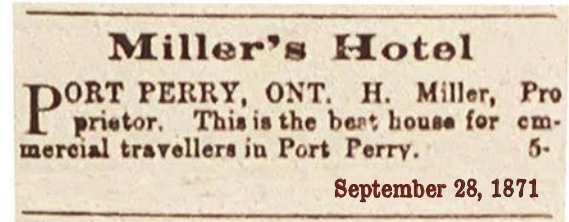
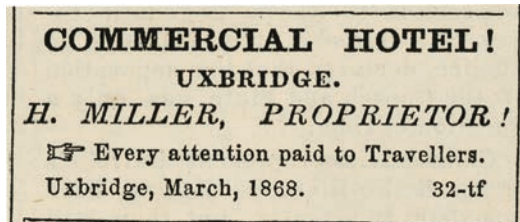


No positive identification has been made, but it is possible that the building to the left of this picture is Dennison's Dominion Hotel. Beside it to the right is the hotel known as the Railroad House.

Miller's Hotel

Location unknown but most likely Queen Street - Port Perry

Miller's Hotel, like so many other Port Perry hotels underwent many name changes as the hotel changed hands



HENRY MILLER WAS just a young 18 year old man when he began learning the hotel business, working for his father at the **Commercial Hotel** in Uxbridge. Wanting to strike out on his own, in 1870 he made his way to Port Perry where he became proprietor of **Miller's Hotel**.

It's not clear if Mr. Miller purchased an existing hotel, or established a new one, and the exact location of the hotel on Queen St. has yet been determined.

Although the hotel was advertised in newspapers as **H. Miller, proprietor**, to date no evidence has been found to verify he actually served as the host or hotelkeeper of the business.

A newspaper report in July 1872 suggests that Neil Sinclair, an experienced hotelkeeper from Borelia, had leased **Miller's Hotel** two years earlier. Mr. Sinclair operated the **Commercial Hotel**, in Borelia for more than a decade in the late 1850s to the early 1870s.



NEIL SINCLAIR

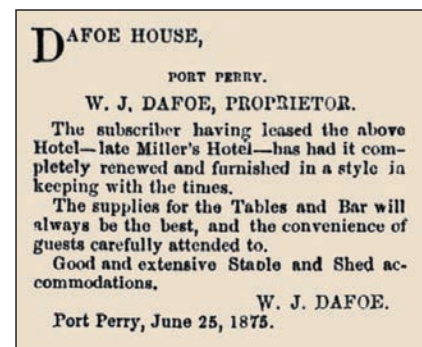
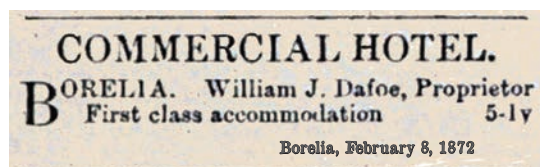
The two men found themselves in court in July 1872, arguing over a provision in Miller's lease which provided Sinclair a reduction in the rent from \$450 to \$350 yearly if the Port Whitby to Port Perry railway was not in operation by January 1872. The outcome of this case is not known.

Three years later, on March 17, 1875, Henry Miller offered to sell by public auction the contents of **Miller's Hotel**. He listed among the chattels, bar room fixtures, beds and bedding, melodeon, furnishings, as well as buggies and harness.

A later article was published noting the sale of the late **Miller's House**, the property of Neil Sinclair took place but had not been successful. The highest offer for the establishment was \$6,000, far less than the \$8,000 that would have been considered a good deal. This appears to have been the last time the hotel was referred to as **Miller's House** or **Millar's Hotel**.

Following the unsuccessful auction sale, William J. Dafoe leased the former **Miller's Hotel** in June 1875. Dafoe renovated his new establishment from top to bottom with new furnishing and renamed it the **Dafoe House**.

Less than two months after taking over the hotel, on August 31, 1875, William was found dead in his room on the second floor of the hotel. A report in the local newspaper disclosed that Mr. Sinclair had only been in his room for a few minutes when a guest found him stretched out on the floor with a shot through the head. The



verdict of an inquest reported that in a fit of temporary insanity, he had died by his own hand.

A public auction sale of the contents of **Dafoe House**, was held in February 1876 at the hotel. A large advertisement prior to the sale provided a good description of the hotel which identifies it as being a two-storey structure. On the main floor was a dining room furnished with three large tables and 24 chairs; a commercial room; sitting room with couches, tables and spittoons; bar room, kitchen, and cellar.

The upper floor provided a nicely furnished sitting room, and 20 bedrooms most with carpet and rugs. Many of the rooms were outfitted with beds featuring spring mattress, a spittoon, toilet set and towels.

In March 1876, a month after the sale, the hotel was leased to Charles Holt. With the change of manager, the name of the popular hotel was also changed and it became known as **Holt House** with Holt's son 26 year-old son Peter assuming the job of hotelkeeper. But within a month, the name reverted to the better known name of **Dafoe House**.

The Holt's only operated the hotel for three years before Peter moved to Blackstock to take over the **Commercial Hotel** in that village. He operated that hotel, which became known as **Holt's Hotel** until at least 1903.

Holt's leaving was the last record of **Miller's Hotel** in the Port Perry newspapers. There is speculation that the name of the hotel may have been changed – but most certainly, if it had been in the commercial sector it would have been destroyed in either the 1883, or 1884 fire which razed the entire town.

No Sale.

The Auction sale of the late Miller House, Port Perry the property of the late Neil Sinclair, took place on Saturday last but did not at all prove successful, the highest offer we understand was somewhere in the neighborhood of \$6,000—little more than $\frac{1}{3}$ the money which had been offered for it a short time ago. The whole thing seems to have been badly bungled scarcely any one appears to have known anything about the sale and of course they could not be expected to attend—The managers of this must have blundered most shockingly either through carelessness or stupidity.—Here was a hotel wrought up to one of the best paying businesses in the country having a steady, profitable run enough to recommend any house and cause it to sell at a high figure, so that \$8,000 was considered too cheap. But all these advantages are thrown to the winds, the house is allowed to be closed and remain closed and the custom driven to other houses and still the slabs are kept up until the rush of business had found new channels; then an attempt is made to sell, but from some cause another the parties who had the

Port Perry, May 13, 1875

GREAT AUCTION SALE

The undersigned has been instructed by
MR. H. MILLER,
To Sell by Public Auction, at his Hotel,
Port Perry, on

THURSDAY, APRIL 1ST, 1875,
The whole of the Contents of Miller's Hotel,
consisting of

Bar-Room Fixtures, Beer Pumps, Liquors, Ale, Cigars, Refrigerator, Beds, Bedding, Bedsteads, Melodeon, Bureaus, Tables, Chairs, Lounges, Pictures, Carpets, Crockery, Glassware, Knives, Forks, Stoves, Parlor, Cooking, and Coal, &c., &c.

Also, splendid driving Horses, Cows, Pigs, Buggies, (top and open,) Cutters, (new and second-hand), Harness, double and single, &c., &c.

Terms of Sale.—All sums of \$15, and under, cash; over that amount credit will be given until the 1st of November next, by purchasers furnishing approved joint notes. Interest charged from day of sale if not paid when due.

The proprietor's Lease having expired there will be no reserve whatever, everything will be sold to the highest bidder.

J. L. WATKIS, Auctioneer,
Port Perry, March 17, 1875. 12-2w

**HOLT HOUSE, PORT PERRY,
(LATE DAFOE HOUSE.)**

The Subscriber having leased this comfortable and convenient Hotel, will spare neither labor nor expense in providing for the comfort and convenience of guests. The Tables will always be supplied with the best to be had in the market. Only choice Liquors and Cigars at the Bar. Any quantity of first-class Stable and Shed accommodation properly attended to by careful Ostlers.

CHAS. HOLT.

Port Perry, March 8, 1876

**CATALOGUE
OF THE
CONTENTS
OF THE
DAFOE HOUSE,
PORT PERRY,
To be Sold by Public
AUCTION!
ON SATURDAY, FEB. 19, 1876.**

SITTING ROOM—Up Stairs.
1 Hair Cloth Tree, 6 Hair Cloth Chairs
1 Hair Cloth Rocker, 1 Walnut Centre
Table, 1 Mirror, 2 Blinds and Curtains, 5
Pictures, 2 Spitoons, Carpet, Rug.
BEDROOM No. 1.
Bedstead, Stand, Spring Mattress, Seagrass
Mattress, 2 Cotton Sheets, Spread, 2
Pillows and Slips, 2 Chairs, 2 Towels, Toilet
Set, Decanter, Comb and Brush, Mirror, 1
Blind Paper, Carpet, Rug.
BEDROOM No. 2.
Bedstead, Spring Mattress, Seagrass Mat-
tress, 2 Pillows, 2 Quilts, 2 Cotton Sheets,
Washstand, Mirror, Toilet Set, Chair, Wm
Blind, Carpet.
HALL No. 3—UPPER FLOOR.
Broom, Rag Carpet 16 yds, 2 Mats, 3 Rugs,
Stand, Striped Carpet, Glass, 12 Bedroom
Lamps, Matting in East and West Hall,
Window Blinds.
BEDROOM No. 4.
2 Bedsteads, 2 Straw Ticks, 2 Pillows, 2
Sheets, Quilt, Blanket.
BEDROOM No. 5.
Bedstead, Spring Mattress, Mixed Mattress,
2 Cotton Sheets, 1 Woolen Blanket, 2 Quilts,
Spread, 2 Pillows and Cases, Bureau, 2
Stands, Spitoon, Toilet Set, Decanter, 2
Towels, 2 Case Chairs, 2 Rugs, Mat Carpet,
Carpet on floor, Paper Blinds and Curtains.
BEDROOM No. 6.
Bedstead, Spring Mattress, Seagrass Mat-
tress, 2 Cotton Sheets, 4 Quilts, 1 Cotton
Spread, Stand, Toilet Set, 2 Towels, Chair,
Mirror, Mat, Carpet, Window Blinds and
Curtains.
BEDROOM No. 7.
Bedstead, Spring Mattress, Seagrass Mat-
tress, 2 Cotton Sheets, 2 Cotton Sheets, 3
Quilts, 1 Patch Work Quilt, Stand, Table,
Mirror, Toilet Set, Decanter, Brush and Comb
Large Rug, 2 Chairs, 1 paper Blind, Table
Cover.
BEDROOM No. 10.
Bedstead, Straw Tick, 2 Cotton Sheets, 3
Good Quilts, Stand, Toilet Set, Brush and
Comb, Chair, Carpet, Towel.
BEDROOM No. 11.
Bedstead, Straw Tick, 2 Quilts, 2 Cotton
Sheets, Stand, Toilet Set, Towel, Brush and
Comb, Mirror, Window Blinds, Chair, Rug,
Carpet.
BEDROOM No. 12.
Bedstead, Spring Mattress, Seagrass Mat-
tress, 2 Cotton Sheets, 1 Woolen Blanket,
Quilt, Spread, Stand, Toilet Set, Brush and
Comb, 2 Chairs, new Rug, Carpet, Mirror,
Window Blind.
BEDROOM No. 13.
Bedstead, Straw Tick, 2 Cotton Sheets, 1
Woolen Sheet, 2 good Quilts, 1 Stand, Toilet
Set, 2 Chairs, Rug, Mirror.
BEDROOM No. 15.
Bedstead, Mattress.
BEDROOM No. 16.
Bedstead, Straw Tick, 2 Pillows and Slips,
2 Cotton Sheets, 3 Quilts, Stand, Toilet Set,
Brush, Chair.
BEDROOM No. 17.
Bedstead, Spring Mattress, Seagrass Mat-
tress, 2 Cotton Sheets, 1 Woolen Sheet, 2
Quilts, 2 Pillows and Slips, 2 Chairs, Stand,
Fancy Stand, Towels, Decanter, Toilet Glass,
Window Blind, 15 yds Carpet, Good Rug,
Brush and Comb.
BEDROOM No. 18.
Bedstead, Spring Mattress, Seagrass Mat-
tress, 2 Cotton Sheets, 2 Quilts, 1 Spread,
2 Pillows, 2 Slips, 1 Blind, 1 Toilet Glass,
1 Kn. Stand, Brush and Comb, Toilet Set,
Decanter, 1 Towel, 2 Spitoons, Window
Curtains, Rug, Carpet, Chair.
BEDROOM No. 19.
Bedstead, Mix Mattress, Spring Mattress,
2 Cotton Sheets, 1 Heavy Quilt, 1 Counter-
pane, 2 Pillows, 1 Pillow Slip, 1 Blanket,
Toilet Set, 2 Towels, 1 Chair, 1 Toilet
Glass, Bureau, 1 Carpet, 1 Rug, Window
Blinds.
HALL—Down Stairs.
Hall Lamp, Hat Rack, Matting.
SITTING ROOM—Down Stairs.
3 Couches, Table and Cloth, 1 Bell, 2
Chairs, 3 Spitoons, 1 Mirror, 2 Pictures, 1
Chandelier, 2 Blinds and Bolsters.
COMMERCIAL ROOMS.
Stand, Bell, 2 Spitoons, 2 Chairs, Lounges,
Lamp, 2 Pictures, 4 Chairs, 2 Window Blinds.
DINING ROOM.
3 Tables, 24 Chairs, 1 Sideboard, 1 Chan-
dellier (4 Lamps), 3 Pictures, 5 Sets Credit
Stands, 26 Goblets, 48 Salt Cellars, 4 Glass
Sets, 2 large Preserve Diabes, 2 small Pre-
serve Diabes, 24 small Preserve Diabes, 4
Butter Coolers, 12 Glass Egg cups, 2 large
Soup Tureens, 6 Covered Vegetable Diabes,
1 Bell, 12 small Vegetable Diabes, 48 Break-
fast Plates, 48 Dinner Plates, 24 Teacups and
Saucers, 24 Coffee cups and Saucers, 24 Din-
ner Knives, 12 Silver Tea Knives, 6 Bone-handle
Knives, 26 Silver Plated Forks, 4 Pew-
ter Forks, 1 Butter Knife, 24 Teaspoons, 31
Desert Spoons, 24 Common Knives, 1
Fork, 15 German Plated Forks, 48 Tea
Napkins, 8 Table Cloths, 2 Glass Ice-
Diabes, 12 Pie Plates, 48 Tea Plates, 4
Eastern Pitchers, 6 small Platters, Glass
Chairs.

KITCHEN.
Meat Safe, Baker's Table, Long Table, 6 Chairs,
a number of Tins, 1 new Cooking Stove, 1
Stove, 1 Clothes Horse, 3 Wash Tubs, 2
Meat Tubs.
CELLAR.
28 Crock Preservees, 40 Glass Jars of
Preservees.
BAR-ROOM.
6 Chair, 1 Water Tank, Wash Tub,
Sprinkler, 2 Pictures, Clock, Mirror, Long
Mirror, 12 Glass Tumblers, 12 Bar Kettles,
2 Silver Glasses, 6 Yarns, 2 Fancy Jugs,
Bottles, 4 Fancy Flat Bottles, 3 Tureens,
2 Beer Pumps, 1 Chandelier, 1 Wash
Tank, 3 Window Blinds, Stovepipes.
STABLE AND YARD.
Wheelbarrow, Lantern, Hay and Straw
Gallon and Half-bushel Measures, Spade,
2 Pails, 2 Pigs.

TERMS—CASH.
A. BONGARD,
JOHN NOTT,
JACOB DAFOE,
Administrators.
J. L. WATKIS, Auctioneer.
Port Perry, Feb. 9, 1876.

Mansion House Hotel

Lots 61, 62 - Queen Street - Port Perry

JOSEPH BIGELOW, Port Perry's first Reeve, wrote in a memoir in 1909 – "The first hotel was built in 1848 by Harrison Haight, on the south side of Queen St., on property at present owned by Mrs. Sinclair". The property referred to were lots 61, 62 – the current site of the Port Perry Post Office.

It's believed that **Haight's Hotel** later became known as the **Mansion House**, based on information available, although difficult to confirm.

The next documented owner of the hotel was **Neil Sinclair**, who before taking over the **Mansion House**, operated the **Commercial Hotel** in Borelia. Mr. Sinclair was only 28 years old when he purchased the **Mansion House** in 1861, and he hired Benjamin McQuay to be the hotelkeeper.

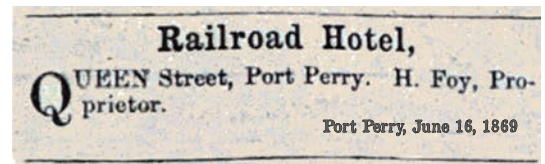
Neil Sinclair died suddenly in April 1875 the result of a severe accidental injury. Neil was taking ice into his ice-house when a large block of ice fell across his body, causing a severe injury, resulting in his death four weeks later. He was only 45 years old.

While fully unclear, it appears as if **Joseph Watters** operated the hotel for some time after Mr. Sinclair passed away. Under his management, the hotel had a reputation as a favourite for suppers and celebrations and in 1881, during a celebration of the "Old England Lodge", it was said that the **Mansion House** had a fine reputation for catering and comfort.

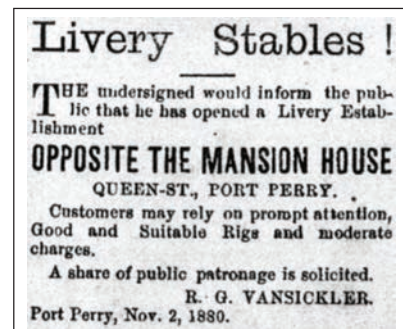
A complimentary dinner was provided for Mr. Watters in May 1882, who was leaving town. He was introduced as the obliging host of the **Mansion House**. Mr. Watters was praised for the way he conducted the hotel and attention given to guests during his stay in Port Perry.

Thomas Doncaster was the next to manage the **Mansion House** hotel, but his stay was brief, as less than a year later Benjamin McQuay hired Doncaster to manage his Oriental Hotel.

In July 1884, a fire which originated in the stables at the rear of the **Mansion House**, destroyed the hotel, and swept through the town destroying the entire business section. Loss for Mrs. Sinclair was \$8,500 of which only \$2,500 covered with insurance.

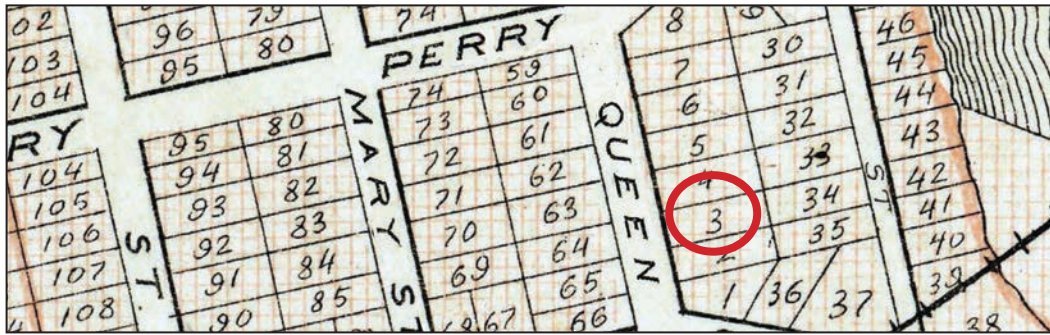


It's believed that the balcony in front of the building in this picture taken circa 1880, is the Mansion House hotel. It comes from a picture of Queen St. during the winter. The hotel was on the south side of the street until destroyed by fire in July 1884.



Royal Canadian Hotel

Lots 3 - Queen Street - Port Perry



The Royal Canadian Hotel and the Walker House Hotel are essentially the same hotel, with the name changed by its new owner.

MANY YEARS BEFORE becoming known as the **Walker House**, the hotel on this Queen St. Property was known by two other names. As early as 1854 the property was identified as **Winter's Inn**, and land records show the property was owned by Robert Perry.

Exactly when the simple wood building structure was built and began to serve as a hotel is not known, but it is speculated that Matthew Winters leased the building from Mr. Perry and served as its first hotel-tavern keeper.

Samuel Farmer wrote in his book *"On The Shores of Scugog"* that Elmore Crandell operated a hotel on this site, and when the railroad came to the village in 1873, the hotel was moved opposite station and it became named the Railroad Hotel.

In December 1860, the property and hotel was purchased by John C. Kirsten and it was while under his ownership it became known as the **Royal Canadian Hotel**.

Mr. Kirsten leased the **Royal Canadian** to Joseph Shaw who operated it under the name **Royal Canadian Hotel**. After assuming the proprietorship of the hotel, Mr. Shaw announced that he had a well supplied bar with wines, liquors and cigars.

While Shaw was still operating the hotel, Mr. Kirsten constructed a large 22'x80' building beside the hotel. On its completion in 1866, he announced the opening of the House Of All Nations and offered it to rent for political meetings, concerts and shows.

Sadly, Joseph Shaw died in September 1868, when he was only 28 years old. His wife Elizabeth continued to **Royal Canadian Hotel** for a short time.

In April 1869, John Kirsten advertised in a Toronto newspaper that the unexpired lease of Mr. Shaw, of the **Royal Canadian Hotel**, would be sold by public auction. The ad



House of all Nations.
 PORT PERRY, C. W.
 JOHN KIRSTEN - - - PROPRIETOR.
 Fishing or shooting parties for Lake Scugog will find at this house good boats, guns, and tackle.
 A new and commodious Hall has lately been built in connection with this House, 22 x 80 feet, called Port Perry Hall, and is open for Political Meetings, Balls, Concerts, or Shows.
 The Bar is well supplied with choice Wines, Liquors and Cigars.
 Good Stabling and Attentive Ostlers.
 Port Perry, August 8, 1866. 1-tf

described the hotel as being at the terminus of the Whitby and Port Perry Railroad with a rental fee of \$225 per annum.

The hotel was described as having a good style, sheds, yard and garden attached, as well as a large public hall 100'x30'. It also included all the household and bar furniture.

Henry Foy seemed like an unlikely man to take over **Royal Canadian Hotel**, but he became the new hotelkeeper in June 1869. Mr. Foy was a veteran businessman who operated a successful retail store selling boots and shoes before acquiring the hotel, which became known as **Foy's Hotel** during his time as its host.

He immediately fitted up the hotel in a style he felt was in keeping with the rapidly prosperity of Port Perry, including updating the dining and bar facilities.

While there is no description as to the external appearance of the hotel, it is believed to have had an expansive balcony facing Queen St. This is determined by a newspaper article in 1872 which describes the local Brass Band playing music from the balcony of **Foy's Hotel** (formerly **Royal Canadian**).

In October 1873 a newspaper article noted – “We are pleased to notice that Mr. Kirsten’s splendid new hotel is being pushed with vigor - “Mine Host”, Foy will find vastly increased convenience and comfort when he moves into this large and commodious house.”

August 6, 1874 - Mr. Ross has commenced erection of a handsome large brick block west of the **Royal Hotel**.

December 1874 - Mr. Thomas Walker has become proprietor of the **Royal Hotel**, Port Perry, formerly owned by D. Ireland. He has fitted it up in a style which would do credit to any town or city. (Lot 66)?



This picture shows what is believed to be the original **Royal Canadian Hotel**, circa 1870, to the right of Bigelow's **Royal Arcade**. The property owner Mr. Kirsten constructed a new brick building on this site during 1873. It later became known as the **Walker House**.

Royal Canadian Hotel,
 PORT PERRY, C. W.
 J. J. SHAW - - - PROPRIETOR.
 Fishing or shooting parties for Lake Scugog will find at this house good boats, guns, and tackle.
 A new and commodious Hall has lately been built in connection with this House, 22 x 80 feet, called Port Perry Hall, and is open for Political Meetings, Balls, Concerts, or Shows.
 The Bar has been refitted, and is well supplied with choice Wines, Liquors and Cigars.
Good Stabling and Attentive Ostlers.
 Port Perry, August. 8, 1866. 1-tf

Royal Canadian Hotel,
 PORT PERRY.
 THE Subscriber having leased to above Hotel, has fitted up in a style in keeping with the rapidly increasing business and prosperity of the Village and neighborhood, and with direct reference to the comfort and convenience of the public.
 Strict attention paid to the Table and the Bar. Comfortable Stables and attentive Hostlers.
 Neither labor nor expense will be spared in making the **Royal Canadian Hotel** worthy of public patronage.
 HENRY FOY.
 Port Perry, June 16, 1869.

GRAND
SHOOTING MATCH !
 A Grand Pigeon Shooting Match
 WILL COME OFF AT
FOY'S HOTEL !
 PORT PERRY,
 ON WEDNESDAY, 26TH NOV.
 A large number of Pigeons have been secured for the sport.
 For particulars see posters.
 H. FOY.
 Port Perry, Nov. 19, 1873. 46

A Happy New Year to All !
 I DESIRE to thank my numerous friends for the kind patronage bestowed upon me in the past, and the ladies in particular. For laying Carpets smooth, Upholstering Sofas good, and Hanging Curtains.
Go to J. C. Kirsten.
 I have had forty-three years experience in Carriage Trimming, Loudons, Broughams, Phaetons, Hacks, Buggies, of all kinds, and Railway Cars. In fact, I am not afraid to handle anything from a Stage-coach to the Buggy with one wheel. Go on the street, when his neighbor you meet, ask who leveled it so.
 J. C. KIRSTEN.
 Port Perry, Jan. 7, 1880.

Walker House Hotel

Lots 3 - Queen Street - Port Perry

DAN IRELAND PURCHASED the hotel from John Kirsten in 1874 and in December that year Thomas Walker became the new proprietor of what had become known as the **Royal Hotel**.

Upon his arrival it was proclaimed he came with a "splendid reputation for activity, careful attention to business, and for every quality requisite in a thorough going, successful host.

Walker's hotel featured a spacious dining room which could accommodate more than 100 guests; several stylish sitting rooms, and 50 comfortable bedrooms.

As in the past, with the change of a hotelkeeper came the inevitable change of name. Almost immediately the Royal Hotel became known as the **Walker House**, and it was said that under Mr. Walker's management it became one of the best kept hotels in the county.

The hotel was once described as having a handsome dining hall, with a magnificent appearance, and the hotel could not be surpassed by any hotel from the best cities.

Thomas Walker only operated the hotel for two years before relinquishing his lease. No further information regarding where Mr. Walker moved can be located.

William B. McGaw purchased the lease for the **Walker House** on April 15, 1876 and became the new proprietor. Under the management of Mr. Walker the hotel had achieved an excellent and admired reputation, which convinced Mr. McGaw to continue to operate under the respected **Walker House** name.

During his time as host of the hotel, Mr. McGaw further increased its reputation as a quality hotel and it became hailed as one of the best kept hotels in the province.

Just over three years after purchasing the hotel in 1876, Mr. McGaw decided to change occupations. He purchased the Port Perry grocery, provision and liquor business from Isaac Davis. In addition to operating the local food business, in 1881 he became the proprietor of the Central House hotel in Oshawa for a couple of years.

Mr. McGaw's change in occupation may have been brought about by Daniel Ireland's decision to sell the properties (Lot 3, 4) in June 1878. Ireland advertised the property held a first

THE WALKER HOUSE
PORT PERRY
W. B. McGAW, - PROPRIETOR

With extensive, First class Accommodations, a full staff of active and obliging assistants, the Choice of the market for the Table and Bar, and charges moderate, the travelling public and the public in general will find in the Walker House all the convenience and comfort which a hotel can furnish.

W. B. McGAW
Port Perry, September 5th, 1878

THE WALKER HOUSE
PORT PERRY

THE Subscriber having leased the above hotel, it will be his endeavor to conduct it in every particular so as to merit the approbation and patronage of the public.

THE WALKER HOUSE

whether for extent or quality of accommodations is equalled by few Hotels in the Province and surpassed by none out of the best cities.

Commercial Travelers, the Traveling Public, Farmers and others doing business in the Village and the general public will find in

THE WALKER HOUSE

all that can be required in the matter of accommodation and moderation in charges.

The Charges are No Higher at the Walker House than at any other Hotel in Town.

The House is fitted up throughout in

FIRST CLASS STYLE.

The Tables and Bar supplied with the choice of the market and the utmost attention paid to the convenience and comfort of

ALL GUESTS.

- An abundance of comfortable Stable and Shed accommodation, and attentive hostlers.

W. B. McGAW.
Port Perry, April 20, 1876.

CENTRAL HOUSE,
OSHAWA, ONT.,
W. B. McGAW, - Proprietor.

First-class accommodation. Best Wines, Liquors and Cigars. Good stabling and attentive hostlers. ly-17

Oshawa, May 1881

THE WALKER HOUSE,
PORT PERRY,
IS COMPLETE in all its Departments

W. HASLAM.
Dec. 15, 1880.



The Walker House hotel signage can be seen in the background of this picture taken circa 1880 from the railway station, located on Port Perry waterfront. The Walker House was destroyed by fire in 1883.

THE WALKER HOUSE.

[PORT PERRY.]

The undersigned in resuming occupation of his property—The Walker House—desires to express his grateful acknowledgment of the very liberal patronage bestowed on the Walker House during his former occupancy, and having now resumed possession every effort will be put forth to make the Walker House all that can be desired by Commercial Travelers, the traveling, public and parties doing business in town.

W. B. MCGAW

Port Perry, Dec. 13, 1882.

1

class hotel built of wood and brick, three storeys high, known as the Walker House.

The *Walker House* was next leased to Lindsay businessman William Haslem in November 1879. It's not known if Haslem was successful as the hotelkeeper, but three years after acquiring the lease for the *Walker House*, in December 1882, William McGaw decided to return to the hotel business and he resumed possession of the Walker House.

The *Walker House*, with much of the north side of Queen St. was destroyed by fire in November 1883. Estimated loss amounted to \$12,000, of which only \$3,500. was covered by insurance.

Although discouraged by his loss from the fire, he envisioned rebuilding on a more magnificent scale. He immediately ordered the removal of bricks and rubbish left behind by the fire. Four months after the fire he contractor to begin construction of a new building which would have 40 feet of frontage on Queen St.

In addition he had erected a large building to provide temporary accommodation for the public, and large impressive stables and sheds at the rear of the site.

Tragedy descended on the village a second time in July 1884. A massive and destructive fire levelled the entire business community, including the new Walker House which was by now under construction. This second loss was just too much for McGaw and ultimately convinced him to remove from Port Perry. In August 1884 he relocated to Bowmanville where he took possession of the Alma House hotel.

The Walker House was never rebuilt or reopened.

THERE WILL BE SOLD
ON SATURDAY, JUNE 1st, 1878,

At one o'clock in the afternoon at the

WALKER HOUSE,

IN THE

Village of Port Perry,

By virtue of Powers of Sale contained in certain Mortgages which will be produced at the Sale, the following properties :

Parcel I.

Under mortgage from DANIEL IRELAND, lots three and four on the North side of Queen Street in the said village of Port Perry, containing half an acre, more or less, as laid out on a plan of village lots on part of lot nineteen in the sixth concession of the Township of Reach; made by L. Stoughton Dennis, P.L.S. Save and except the parcels of land sold off said village lot four to Aaron Ross, and Christiana Diesfeld, and the right of way therein mentioned. The following improvements are said to be on the premises: A first class Hotel built of wood and brick, three storeys high, known as the Walker House, with all necessary buildings attached.

LIQUOR vs the LAW

Trotting races on Scugog a success

North Ontario Observer: January 22, 1880

A regular trotting tournament took place on the ice at Port Perry, on Wednesday and Thursday of last week.

On the sidelines, some five or six spontaneous liquor dealers had started the wholesale liquor business on the ice during the races, and did a racing business while it lasted. But the day of retribution came and some half dozen of them were invited to a reception at the office of the magistrate.

Four of them faced the music and contributed \$25 each to the general fund for selling liquor with a license. Others are wanted.

Scott Act charges closes St. Charles Hotel bar

Whitby Chronicle: November, 1888

Three charges for violation of the Scott Act were laid against the St. Charles Hotel, resulting in the permanent closing of the bar. The proprietor has decided to run a first class Temperance House from this out.

The merchants turned out in body last Friday evening and presented the proprietor, Mr. Thomas H. Dancaster, with a complimentary oyster supper to show their esteem for him and their approval of this thorough temperance move.

Liquor inspectors raid hotels

Toronto Globe: January 8, 1887

A raid was made on Port Perry hotels on Friday night last by four County constables. A quantity of intoxicating liquor was found at Ruddy's and Dancaster's hotels. The bartender at Dancaster's hotel obstructed the officers in the performance of their duties, and will likely suffer the penalty of the laws in consequence, a warrant being issued for his arrest.

Two days later charges against the hotel keepers for violation of the Scott Act were dismissed because the search-warrant and summonses were dated the same day.

Magistrate case against selling liquor to Indians

Uxbridge Journal: January 10, 1889

Messrs. M.G. Robson, Caleb Crandell and McDermott have been holding Magistrate's court for several days lately investigating charges referred against several persons for supplying, liquor to Indians.

Neil Sinclair's trial extended over two or three days. Judgment will be given on Saturday. The evidence is all against him.

The three Indians swore that on 22nd December they were in Cameron's shoe shop, and while there they each gave, Sinclair 25c to get a bottle of whiskey, which he did. Cameron and Sinclair assisted in drinking it.

The Indians then gave 60c more to Sinclair and he got another bottle. While the latter was being got, George Young, the itinerant hatter, came in and had a drink.

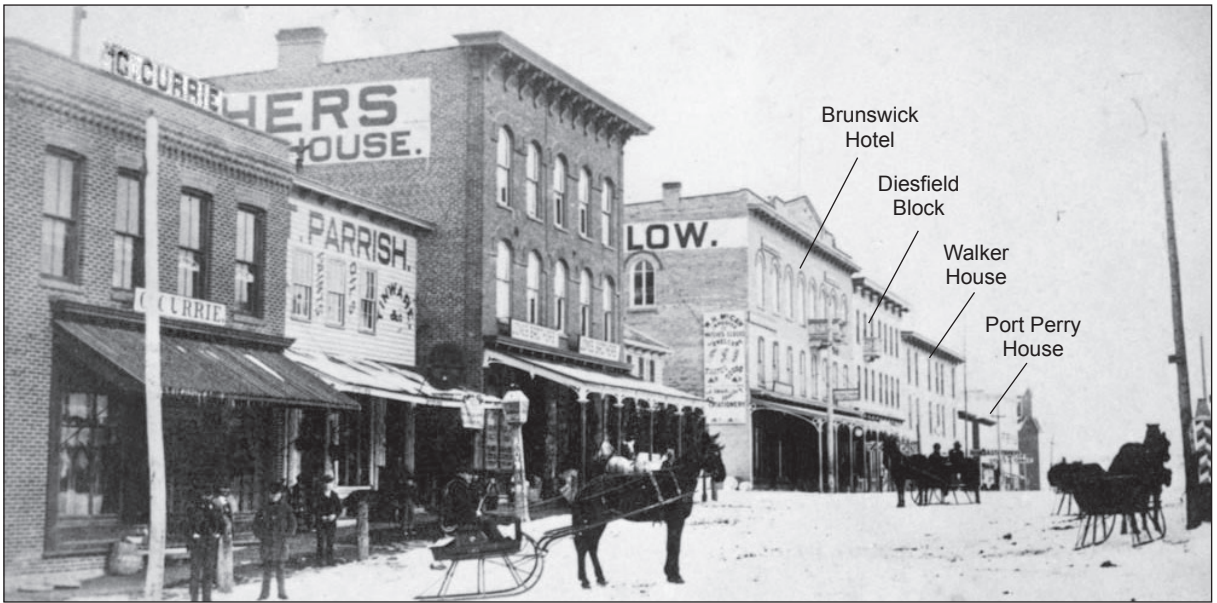
Liquor license convictions

Toronto Globe: December 18, 1888

License Inspector Ferguson of South Ontario has been making things lively here for the last two weeks.

He laid twelve informations before Magistrate John Nott in Port Perry and secured ten conviction for violation of the liquor license act of 1897, which provides that no hotelkeeper shall supply liquor to boys under the age of 21 years, or even allow such boys to loiter in their houses.

The authorities are determined that the law shall be observed in this particular. Magistrate Nott imposed the smallest fine for the first offence, but warned them all.



North side of Queen Street, Port Perry about 1878, five years before a fire leveled many of the buildings on the street. The photo shows the locations of the Brunswick House, Walker House and Port Perry House hotels destroyed by fire in 1883.

Brunswick House Hotel

Lots 3 - Queen Street - Port Perry



Joseph Bigelow's "Arcade" building, owned by Jonathan Blong in November 1883, was the location of the Brunswick Hotel.

JOSEPH BIGELOW erected a huge three storey department store on this block in 1868 which he named the "**Royal Arcade.**"

Bigelow sold his Queen Street building to Jonathan Blong in 1878. Blong rented sections of the building to a number of people who operated a variety of businesses, later opening the **Brunswick Hotel** in a portion of the building.



This sketch of Joseph Bigelow's "Royal Arcade" building was often used in his advertising in 1880. After being sold to Jonathan Blong, he opened the Brunswick Hotel in a section of the Arcade building.

The opening of the **Brunswick Hotel**, Port Perry took place in February 1883 and was hailed one of the finest, best appointed and attractive hotels in the Province.

A newspaper article professed, *"The venture speaks well for the liberality, enterprise and good taste of the active proprietor Jonathan Blong, who has spared neither labor nor expense in furnishing the public extensive additional hotel accommodations of the very first order."*

The hotel continued to get accolades from the public and became used extensively for large gathering. It was not uncommon for the Blongs to receive gracious thanks for excellent dinners in the hotel's *"large, handsome dining hall."*

But all this came to an end ten months after opening, when on November 26th fire swept along the north side of Queen St., devouring a number of prominent businesses. Had it not been for existence of an alley between the Brunswick House and McCaw's jewellery store, the entire north side of the street could have been swept away.

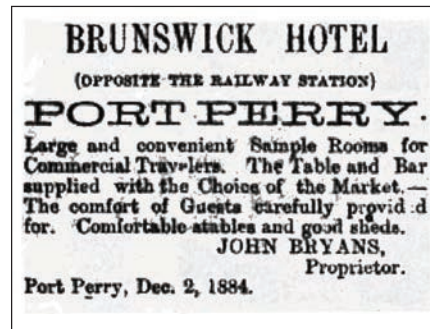
The morning after the fire, the **Brunswick Hotel**, located in the former **Royal Arcade** building was a heap of ruins. Undeterred Mr. Blong ordered the removal of the ruins and began construction of a new building. The new brick building to replace his former structure would incorporate five stores, but no mention of replacing the hotel can be found.

Not one to procrastinate, Mr. Blong rented and renovated up Thomas Graham's building on Lot #66, Water St, opposite the railway station, to provide comfortable accommodation and hotel services for the public. This temporary hotel took on the name of the **Brunswick Hotel**, but was also referred to as **Blong's Hotel**.

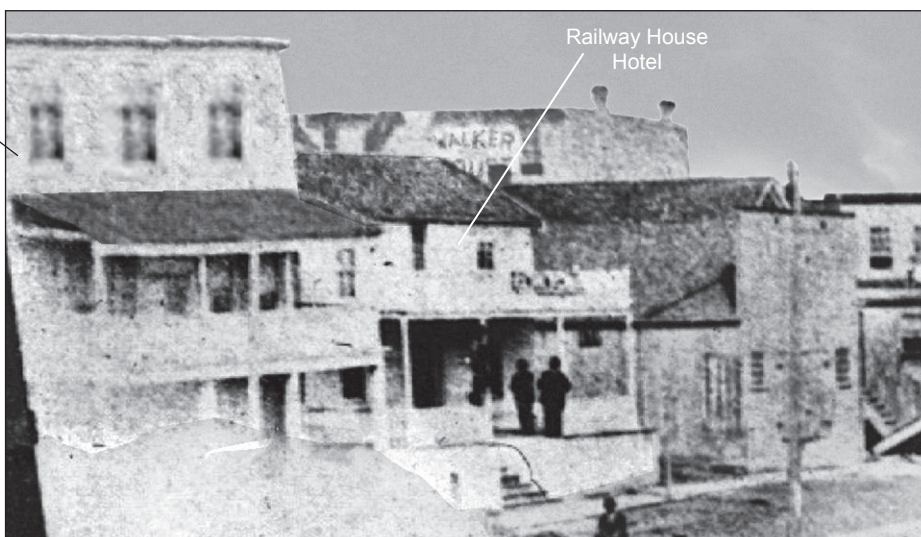
A second fire seven months later swept through Port Perry's downtown on July 4, 1884, destroying more than 50 business, including the **Brunswick Hotel** which was in the process of being rebuilt after the 1883 fire. This fire spelled the doom for the Brunswick Hotel. The loss to Mr. Blong was \$30,000, with only \$10,000 covered by insurance.

William J. Foy who had been hired as the host of the temporary **Brunswick Hotel**, on Water St., resigned in December 1884. Mr. Foy was praised for keeping a fine house and was much respected by the travelling public and the local residents.

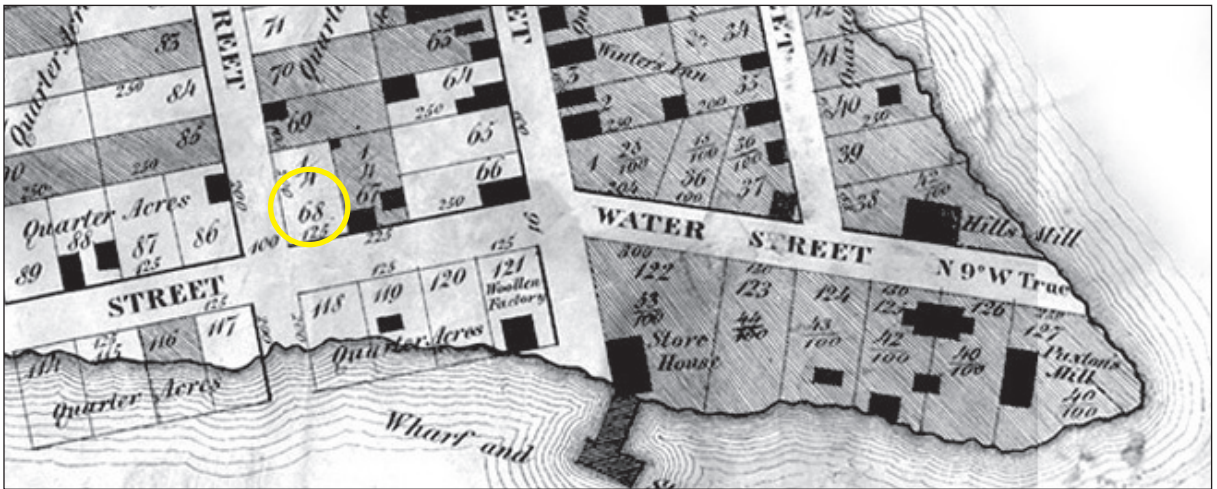
John Bryans was next to take possession of the **Brunswick House**. Mr. Byans operated a general store in Williamsburg (Blackstock) before coming to Port Perry to lease the hotel. There are no further records mentioning the Brunswick Hotel after he took over the hotel in Dec. 1884. Mr. Blong's new block of five stores opened in November 1884, but there is no mention of him having re-established the hotel.



Blong's temporary hotel ?



Jonathan Blong rented and renovated Thomas Graham's building on Water St., to open a temporary hotel, after his Brunswick Hotel was destroyed in November 1883 fire. The building seen above, left, is believed to have been that hotel. If correct, it was located adjacent to the Railway House hotel which are both on Water St., across from the railway station.



Railroad House Hotel

Lots 67, 68 - Water Street - Port Perry

PORT PERRY'S Railroad House hotel is steeped in mystery and confusion - primarily caused by lack of detailed information about the hotel. Exactly when the building that housed the hotel was built, and by whom remains a mystery yet to be discovered.

The earliest known record identifying the **Railroad House** hotel in Port Perry, is found south of the village, in a Whitby newspaper dated February 25, 1858. At this time a Mr. R. Farmer was listed as the proprietor, and he announced the hotel provide: "good accommodation for travellers and good stabling." He managed the hotel until at least September 1860.

There is no explanation as to why a hotel in Port Perry would have been named **Railroad House** in 1858 since it was another 14 years before the first train arrived in the town.-

RAILROAD HOTEL,
PORT PERRY.

R. FARMER, PROPRIETOR. THIS House possesses good accommodation for Travellers. Good Stabling and attentive Ostlers.

Whitby, February 25, 1858



The Railroad House hotel, Water St., Port Perry when under the ownership of James Dewart, circa 1880.

Another Port Perry hotel which adds confusion, was known as the **Steamboat Hotel**. The proprietors of this hotel were Mason & Phillips in March 1857. Six months later the hotel was under the care of L.G. Munro.

The next owner of the **Steamboat Hotel** appears to have been Edward Ray, who had been proprietor of the **National Hotel** in Whitby prior to taking over the **Steamboat Hotel** about August 1861.

The name of this hotel infers it may have been located along Water St., close to the wharfs on Lake Scugog, where the steamboats docked. This is pure speculation, but if that were the case it would have been in the same vicinity as the **Railroad House** hotel.

To add yet another possibility, the **Steamboat Hotel** may have been renamed the **Railroad House** at a later date, although no evidence has been found to confirm this ever did happen.



NEIL SINCLAIR

Between 1858 and 1866 when Neil Sinclair became the proprietor of the Railroad House, no further mention of either hotel has been located.

Mr. Sinclair became the proprietor of the **Railroad House** in August 1866, but it is unclear if he owned, or leased the property. It is also unclear if the hotel of its location, although Sinclair's advertisement in a February 1868 offered the property on Queen Street for sale, stating: "A store and tavern situated on the south side of Queen St., Port Perry, known as the **Railroad House Hotel**."

This fact is confirmed in a second notice in a June 1869 proclaiming the **Railroad Hotel** was located on Queen St. and operated by Henry Foy.

The above information throws confusion into later advertising which describes the **Railway House** as being located on Water Street, opposite the railway station.



Railroad House Hotel - Water Street

The **Railroad House** hotel was identified numerous times during the 1860s, but it was a hotel named **Denison's Dominion Hotel** which was the first to establish it as being located on Water St.

Daniel B. Denison was the proprietor of this hotel in October 1876 and it was situated at the railway station, Port Perry and was offering a good choice of liquors and cigars, as

PORT PERRY STEAMBOAT HOTEL

MASON & PHILLIPS, PROPRIETORS, beg to state that they have fitted up the above well-known first-class Hotel, in a new and suitable manner. Visitors and the travelling community will find it in every respect a comfortable home. Good Stabling and an attentive Ostler. 4-6m

Whitby March 12, 1857

STEAM BOAT HOTEL.

PORT PERRY.

EDWARD RAY, PROPRIETOR. Good Accommodations. 28

THE RAILROAD HOUSE!

PORT PERRY.

N. SINCLAIR, - - - PROPRIETOR.

THE Subscriber begs to state that having re-furnished the above establishment, the travelling public will find it to be a most comfortable home.

Good Stabling, attentive Ostlers, and the best of accommodation are always at the service of our customers.

The Bar is kept constantly supplied with Liquors of the choicest brands.

Parties wishing to enjoy a day or two of Fishing or hunting on Lake Scugog can always be accommodated with good boats and Fishing Tackle.

N. SINCLAIR.

Port Perry, August 8, 1866. 1-1f.

Property for Sale.

A STORE AND TAVERN

situated on the south side Queen street, in

Port Perry,

known as the Railroad Hotel, with half an acre of land; and Lots Nos. 71 and 72 on the north side of Mary Street.

Terms made known on application to

NEIL SINCLAIR.

Proprietor.

Port Perry, Feb. 4, 1868. 26-3m.

DENISON'S DOMINION HOTEL,

At the Railway Station,
PORT PERRY.

Every attention given to the accommodation and comfort of guests. The table and bar supplied with the best the Market affords. Choice Liquors and the best brands of Cigars. Excellent stable and shed accommodation, and attentive ostlers.

D. B. DENISON, Proprietor.

Port Perry, April 23, 1874

well as excellent stable and shed accommodations.

A picture of the hotel taken during the later part of the century shows a quaint two-storey, frame structure, about 40' wide featuring a verandah on each floor overlooking Lake Scugog and the town's busy industrial shoreline. At the northern edge of his property there was an expansive driving and implement sheds facing the street.

The **Railroad House** changed hands in July 1878, with the new proprietor of the business being Charles Holt, and experienced hotelkeeper who had a few years earlier been at **Dafoe's Hotel** on Queen St. During ownership by Mr. Holt the hotel to was referred to as the "**Railway House**"; not the "**Railroad House**" as it was known earlier.

RAILWAY HOUSE,
(Opposite the Railway Station,)
PORT PERRY.

This House has been thoroughly overhauled, fitted up and arranged with a view to the accommodation and comfort of guests. Meals and Refreshments on the arrival of trains. First-class stable and shed accommodation.

C. HOLT, Proprietor.

Port Perry, August 20, 1878

James Dewart, an experienced hotel keeper having years earlier operated a tavern near Seagrave, and later the *Queen's Hotel* in Port Perry, and the *Commercial Hotel* in Blackstock, leased the hotel in March 1879. The signage on the hotel during his proprietorship once again identified the building as the "**Railroad House**".

RAILROAD HOUSE,
(Opposite the Railway Station,)
PORT PERRY.

HAVING leased and fitted up the Railroad House every attention will be given to the comfort and convenience of Guests. Choice supplies for table and Bar. Comfortable stables and a careful Hostler. Refreshments on the arrival of the trains.

JAMES DEWART.
Port Perry. May 1st, 1879. 48-

The owner of the property and hotel by this time was George Medd. He advertised the **Railroad House** for sale in January 1882, noting it as being situated on Water Street across from the railway station. "This is a rare chance for securing one of the best located hotels in the county," he said.

No record can be found if he in fact was able to sell the **Railroad House**, and Mr. Dewart may have continued as the hotelkeeper there. Miraculously two years after listing the hotel for sale, it escaped the great fire of July 1884, which consumed the entire business section of Port Perry.

After the fire, modern new hotels began to be constructed on Queen St. during the rebuild of the town. With the large new facilities available, the aging **Railroad House** became less popular as destination for travellers.

Frank Lindsay arrived in Port Perry about 1885, and few

HOTEL IN PORT PERRY
FOR SALE.

THE Subscriber offers for Sale the Hotel known as the

Railroad House !

Port Perry, decidedly the best located Hotel in town Situated on Water Street at the Station of the Whitby, Port Perry and Lindsay Railway, the spot for commanding a large and profitable business.

This is a rare chance for securing one of the best located Hotel in the County.

For particulars, apply to the undersigned at Manchester, Reach.

GEO. MEDD.
Manchester, Jan. 19, 1882.

Mortgage Sale of Hotel Property
IN PORT PERRY.

UNDER and by virtue of two certain Mortgages, which will be produced at the time of sale, there will be offered for sale by Public Auction on the premises, on FRIDAY, THE 26TH DAY OF OCTOBER, 1894, at Two o'clock p.m., the valuable Hotel Property situate in the Village of Port Perry, described as follows: That certain parcel or tract of land in the said Village, composed of Lot Number Sixty-Eight, on the west side of Water street, and north side of Mary street, as shown on a Plan of part of said Village made by J. Stoughton Dennis, and filed in the Registry Office of the County of Ontario. Upon the said lands are erected the Frame Hotel known as the Railway House and suitable Stabling, Sheds, &c.

TERMS OF SALE.—Ten per cent. of the purchase money payable at the time of sale and the balance within thirty days thereafter. Further particulars may be had by enquiry of JOHN ADAMS, ESQ., Port Perry, or of the undersigned Solicitor.

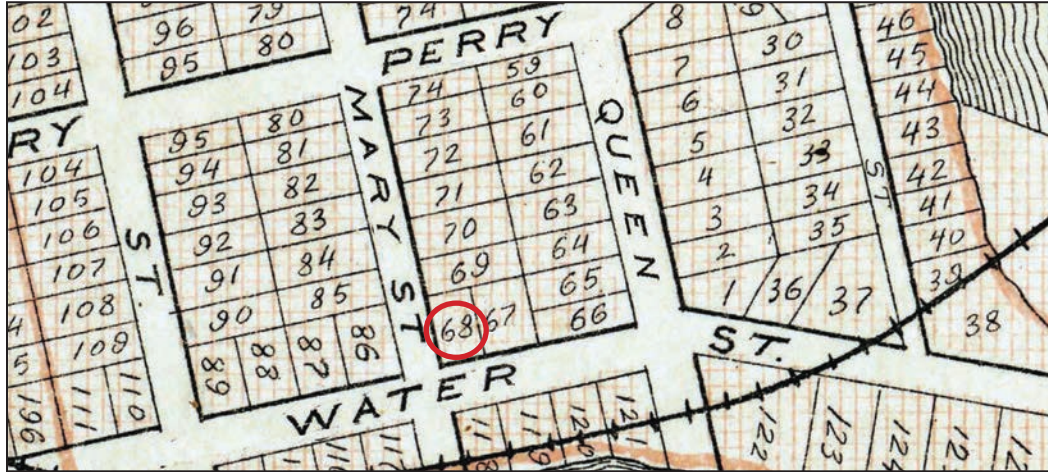
HUBERT L. EBBELS,
Vendor's Solicitor.

W. M. WILLCOX, Auctioneer.

Port Perry, October 1894

years after arriving he married Junetta Dewart, believed to have been the daughter of James Dewart. When James Dewart passed away in August 1888, Frank and Junetta became the next owners of the hotel.

Frank Lindsay operated the hotel for only five years before he too passed away, in February 1893. Following Mr. Lindsay's death, his wife disposed of the hotel by way of a mortgage sale, in October 1894, receiving \$2,430 for the property



The Railroad House hotel, was located on Lot 68, Water Street, Port Perry.
The lot had a front of 125 feet and depth of 200 feet.

The mortgage sale described the hotel property as being on Lot #68, on the west side of Water St. and north side of Mary St. with a Frame Hotel known as the **Railway House** and suitable stabling, sheds, etc.

It appears as if the next purchasers of the hotel property were Daniel and Margaret Whitney who operated it for only three years before Daniel unexpectedly died April 1897 when he was only 47 years old.

By this time, the aging hotel had fallen below the luxurious standards of the new hotels, and with lack of clientèle, it fell into disrepair. Despite its condition, the **Railroad House** hotel building remained in place until April 1911 when Arthur Dowson purchased the building and pulled it down.

Today, an attractive new commercial/residential building sits on the site of the old Railroad House hotel.

“Fair Ones” march on council with 457 signature petition

North Ontario Observer - February 26, 1876

Reeve Joshua Wright called the council to order and proceedings were commenced. While this was going on the door flew open and in marched, two by two, some hundred or so of the “fair ones” of the village; escorted and marshalled by many of the male inhabitants. The ladies occupied the centre of the hall, the gentlemen, the right and left wings.

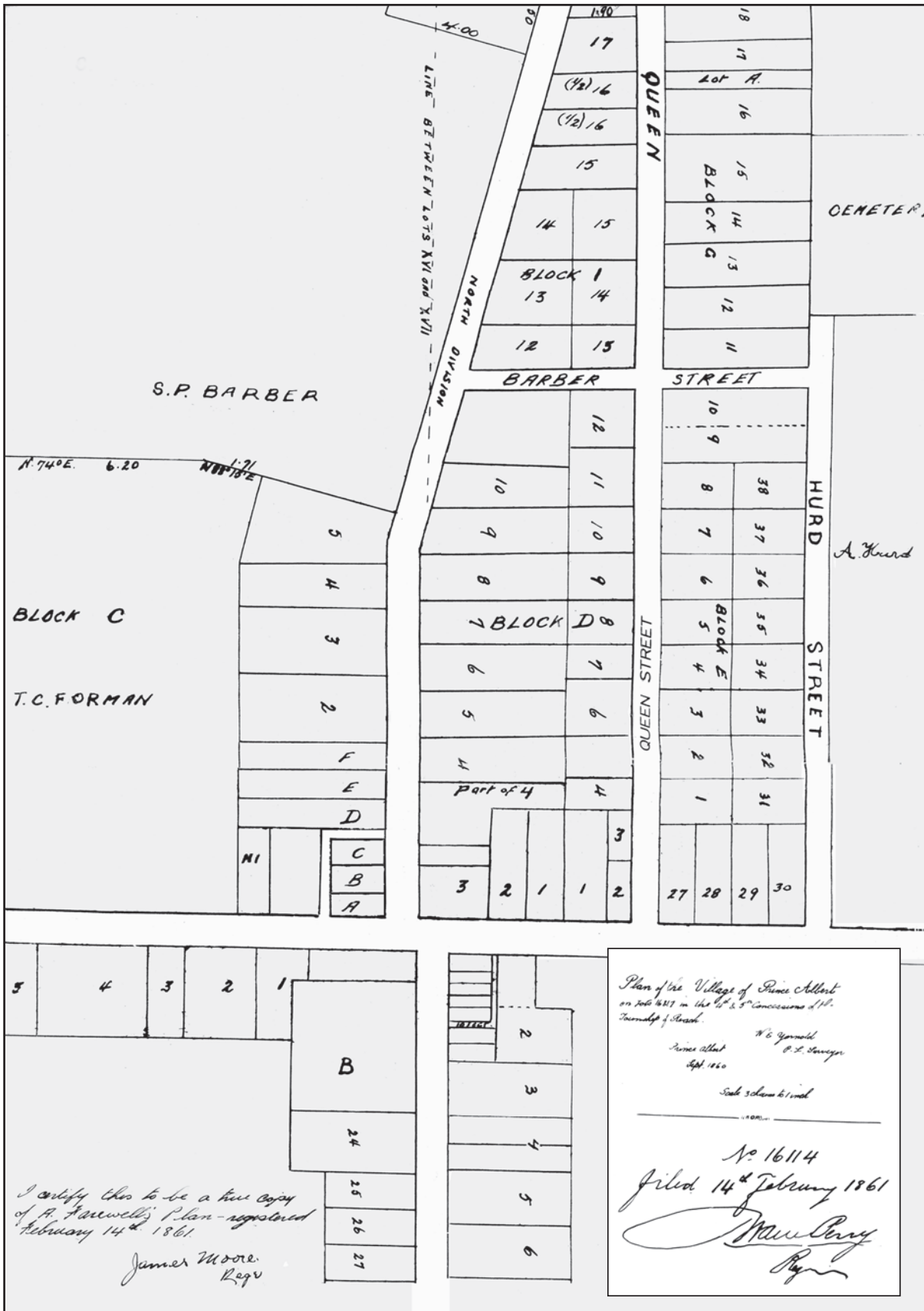
A document was placed in the hands of the Reeve which appeared to put him on his mettle. This was a request that Mrs. Shipman might be heard on behalf of the ladies of the village. Leave being granted.

Mrs. Shipman stepped forward and in a few introductory remarks which we could not hear distinctly, place in the hands of the council a petition signed by 457 of the ladies and ratepayers of the village praying the council not to grant any shop liquor licenses for the present year and to reduce the number of hotel licenses to four.



REACH TOWNSHIP HOTELS

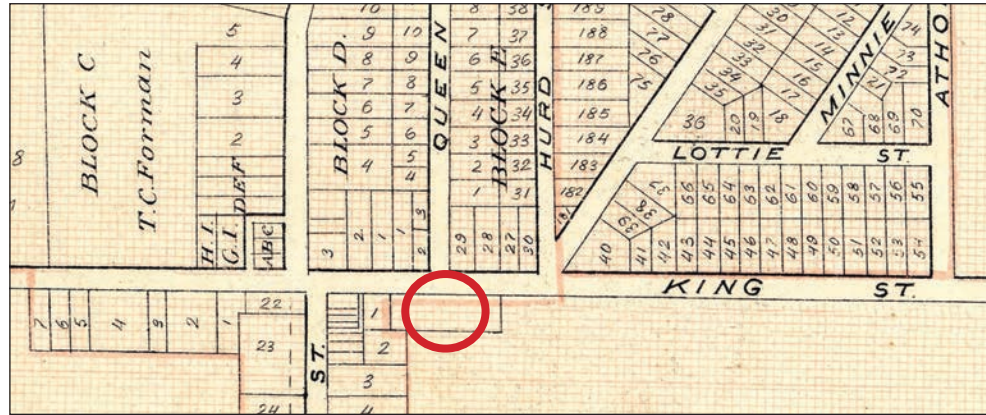
1861 Map of Prince Albert



Hurd's House & Hotel

King Street - Prince Albert

PRINCE ALBERT



Abner Hurd's home and hotel was located in the area circled on King Street, Prince Albert.

ABNER HURD'S RESIDENCE is one of the oldest buildings remaining in Prince Albert, and it is believed it served as not only a home for his family, but also a resting spot for weary travellers.

Hurd constructed this handsome building as his home and hotel circa 1845, retaining the land he owned to the east of the building.

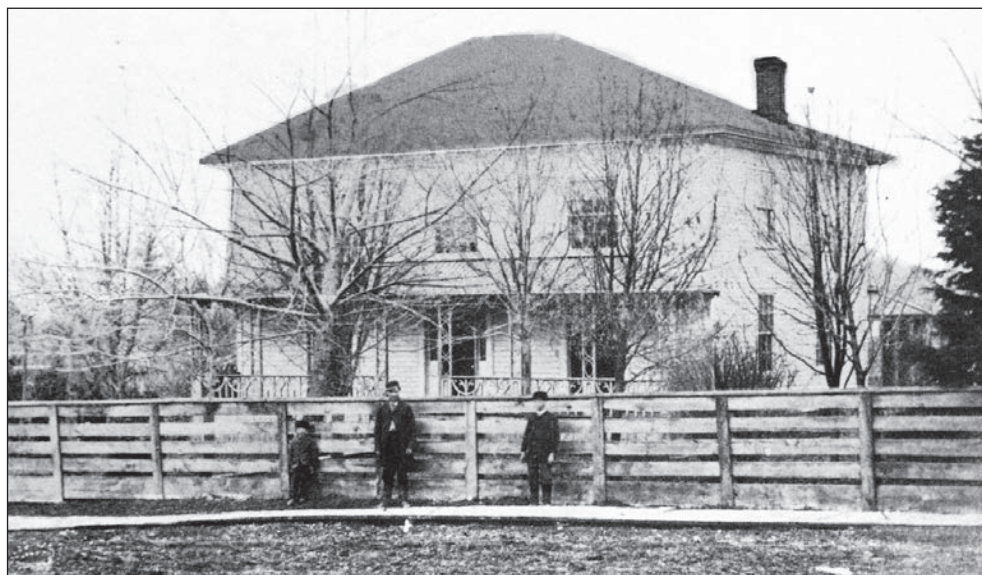
The Hurd home had two full-height storeys and a curved-roofed verandah across the entire front of the building. The verandah was supported by decorative trellises and had fancy gingerbread

style railings on either side of the entrance. At the time, this frame building was the largest and most substantial in the community.

No evidence has been found that it was called **Hurd's Hotel**, although most small hotel/taverns took on the name of the proprietor at this time.

Later in life Abner Hurd signed the property over to his son Prosper Hurd, who sold the house to James Holden in 1865.

James Holden was a man of many talents and ambitions. His most notable accomplishment was the founding of the community's first newspaper,



Abner Hurd's residence on the south side of King Street, Prince Albert, circa 1800.

The *Ontario Observer* in Prince Albert in 1857.

He owned this hotel for less than three years, selling it to Hugh and Sarah Carmichael in March 1868. Holden then moved to Whitby where he became involved in local politics and the promotion of the Port Whitby and Port Perry Railway, later becoming its managing director.

The Carmichaels sold the **Hurd's Hotel** to George Robson in 1873. Robson had considerable previous experience in hotels in Whitby. He only stayed in Prince Albert for two years, selling the hotel to Eugene R. Eddy.

It appears that sometime during Eddy's 24-year ownership, the building ceased to be used as a hotel. Eddy sold the building in 1899 to George and Charlotte Patterson. The Pattersons lived here for almost thirty years selling it in December 1928 to Edward and Eva Williams.

The property was sold by the Williams' estate to William Taylor in November 1943 and the estate of William Taylor sold it to its present owner, -Suzanne Doupe in June 1991.

During her ownership of the property, the home has been extensively restored and refurbished, returning the stately building to its dominant appearance in the village.



Abner Hurd's home/hotel as it looked in the late 1800s.

Files from Paul Arculus

Prince Albert Hotel

Prince Albert

THE **PRINCE ALBERT HOTEL** would have been among the earliest hotels in the village of Prince Albert, but little information has been found to describe the hotel, its location or its owner. Some of the earliest hotel/taverns were often established in residential homes, and it is most likely the **Prince Albert Hotel** fell into that category.

The only information found with regards to the **Prince Albert Hotel** comes in Prince Albert's *Ontario Observer* newspaper, on May 26, 1858. A small advertisement in that issue announces that H.P. Harrington had leased the hotel and furnished it in the most modern styles.

The fact that Harrington had leased the hotel suggests that the establishment he leased was being used as a hotel prior to that date. No further information about Mr. Harrington, or the **Prince Albert Hotel** has been found, and the last known advertisement was published in January 1859.

NOTE: *While the identity and location of the Prince Albert Hotel cannot be verified – as one of the earlier hotels in the village, it leads to the possibility this hotel was originally known as either William Boynton's Hotel or Abner Hurd's Hotel.*

Prince Albert Hotel,
H. P. HARRINGTON would inform the travelling community that he has leased the above Hotel, and has furnished it in the most modern style, and hopes by strict attention to business to share a part of public patronage.
Prince Albert, May 26, 1858. 25.

Anglo-American Hotel

Lot 3, Block D - King Street - Prince Albert

THE **ANGLO-AMERICAN HOTEL** served the travelling public and residents of Prince Albert for about 40 years. Although unconfirmed, it's speculated that this hotel might have first been known as the Prince Albert Hotel, which records show was located on the corner of Simcoe and King Street during the 1850s.

The **Anglo-American Hotel** was located also located on that corner, specifically on Lot 3, Block D, on the northeast corner of Simcoe and King Street, Prince Albert.

The first reference to the **Anglo-American Hotel** comes from an advertisement in the *Ontario Observer* newspaper on March 9, 1859. James Calhoun, of Uxbridge, advertised he had entered upon the proprietorship of the hotel.

It appears Mr. Calhoun only operated the hotel for two years before selling to John Moggridge on February 28, 1861 for \$2,750. Prior to moving to Reach Township to purchase the **Anglo-American Hotel**, Mr. Moggridge worked in a saloon in London, Ontario.

The hotel is described as having 10 bedrooms, a large dining room, sitting room, bar, kitchen, parlor and attached to the hotel, a large stable.

The **Anglo-American Hotel** averted disaster in May 1863 when a fire broke out in the hotel, believed to have been started by firecrackers. Due to quick action by local residents the building was saved from being destroyed.

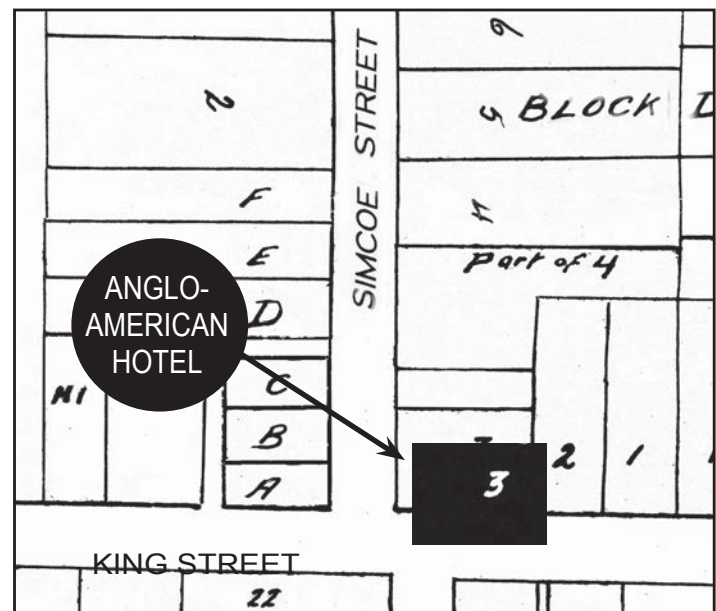
By 1871 Janet Moggridge was listed as an inn keeper, apparently having taken over ownership of the **Anglo-American**. Two years later, in August 1873, Mrs. Moggridge offered the Anglo-American Hotel 'For Sale' or 'To Rent' and at the same time she advertised the entire contents of the hotel going up for auction.

After disposing of all the chattels, she rented the hotel to William Badgerow in November 1873. Mr. Badgerow then renovated and refurnished the commodious hotel building and opened to the public.

Eight months later, in July 1874, Ezra Bates succeeded Mr. Badgerow as propri-

ANGLO-AMERICAN PROPRIETORS

- Anglo-American - James Calhoun, 1859-1861
- Anglo-American - John Moggridge, 1861-1875
- Anglo-American - William Badgerow, 1873-1875
- Anglo-American - Henry Park, 1875-1890
- Anglo-American - George Houck, 1876-1890



The Anglo-American Hotel was located on Lot 3, as seen on this plan of the four corners of the village, where the present general store is located.

ANGLO-AMERICAN HOTEL!
PRINCE ALBERT.

JAMES CALHOUN
LATE OF UXBRIDGE,

BEGBS to intimate to the Public, that he has recently entered upon the proprietorship of the above Hotel; and, as no expense will be spared to render satisfaction, he trusts that a liberal share of the patronage of the travelling community will be extended to him.

Prince Albert, March 9, 1859. 13-1f

etor of the Anglo-American hotel. His tenancy lasted less than a year, when in May 1875, Mrs. Moggridge sold the Anglo-American to William Henry Park, a successful Prince Albert businessman. He was owner of the Ontario Cabinet and Chair Factory which built all types of furniture, cabinets and coffins. As a service to his customers, he also had a hearse which he hired out.

In May 1879, four years after purchasing the **Anglo-American**, Henry Park undertook an extensive renovation and refitting of the facility. He then re-opened and operated it successfully until August 1890.

Shortly after midnight on Sunday, August 3, 1890 the alarm bell rang out and residents of the village awoke to find the **Anglo-American Hotel** was engulfed in fire.

By the time the people got organized the flames had full possession of the kitchen and were rapidly spreading over the main building, and had also progressed to the point there was no hope of saving the property.

For two hours the fire spread rapidly consuming everything in its course, including the large Anglo-American hotel, its barns, stables, driving sheds, and a lot of extensive and substantial buildings.

ANGLO-AMERICAN HOTEL,
 PRINCE ALBERT, ONT.
 BY EZRA BATES.
 The comfort of guests carefully attended to. The Table and Bar well supplied.
 Choice Liquors and the best brands of Cigars.
 Good Stabling and attentive Ostlers.
 EZRA BATES,
 Anglo-American Hotel, } Proprietor.
 July 15, 1874. }

ANGLO-AMERICAN HOTEL,
 PRINCE ALBERT, C.W.
 JOHN MOGGRIDGE, - - - PROPRIETOR.
 Best Accommodation for Travellers.
 CHOICE WINES, LIQUORS & CIGARS.
 GOOD STABLING
 AND
 ATTENTIVE OSTLERS.

Prince Albert, 1866

ANGLO-AMERICAN HOTEL,
 PRINCE ALBERT, ONT.
 WM. BADGEROW, PROPRIETOR.
 The above commodious hotel has been newly renovated and furnished throughout, and has ample accommodation for the reception of guests. It supplies a most convenient point for Commercial travelers.
 Comfortable and roomy stabling and attentive ostlers.
 Prince Albert, 1873



FOR SALE OR TO RENT
The Anglo-American Hotel
PRINCE ALBERT.

THE Subscriber is giving up business and offers to Sell or Rent her Hotel, the Anglo-American. The Hotel is well arranged and in good condition with an abundance of accommodation, extensive and comfortable Sheds, Stables, &c. Convenient to the Hotel there is a capital Fruit and Vegetable Garden.

This is an excellent opening for a comfortable country business.

The Anglo-American has been long and favorably known throughout this whole section of country.

For particulars apply to the subscriber on premises.

MRS. MOGGRIDGE.
 Prince Albert, Aug. 1873.

ANGLO-AMERICAN HOTEL,
 PRINCE ALBERT.
 W. H. PARK, - - - PROPRIETOR.
 Having purchased the above pleasantly situated Hotel, I have thoroughly repaired and renovated the entire premises even to the Sheds. The Hotel has been furnished in First-Class Style and Stocked with the best Liquors and Cigars!
 Strict attention paid to the comfort of guests.
 The table and bar well supplied.
W. H. PARK.
 Prince Albert, June 12, 1875.

EXTENSIVE AUCTION SALE!

Of the Contents of the

ANGLO-AMERICAN HOTEL!!

PRINCE ALBERT,

ON

Wednesday, 15th October, 1873.

THE Proprietor of the above Hotel being about to retire from the business, has determined to dispose of the following, viz:

DINING ROOM

2 dozen dining Chairs, nearly new, 2 long dining Tables and oil cloth Covers, 1 fall leaf Table, 1 Side Table and oil cloth cover, 1 Refrigerator, 1 Hardwood Side-Board, 3 Cruet Stands, 1 Cupboard, with glass doors, 1 Tea Tray, 1 Clock, A quantity of Shelf Glass and Pictures.

SITTING ROOM

$\frac{1}{2}$ dozen common Chairs, 1 Stove, Zinc and Pipes, 5 large Pictures, 1 Lounge, 1 fall leaf Table and oil cloth cover, 5 small Pictures, 2 Maps, 1 Sewing Machine "Osborne."

BAR

1 dozen bar Chairs, 1 Stove, with North's heater, pipes and zinc, 1 hot water apparatus, with 2 beer heaters, 11 Pictures, 1 Tumbler Strainer, 1 Desk, 1 large case of stuffed Birds, 1 Coat-of-Arms, in oil painting, 1 Clock, Half Pint Pewter Mugs, 1 set large Vases, a lot of Decanters, Wine Glasses, Whiskey Glasses, and Beer Glasses, 1 hanging Lamp, 1 soft water Tank, 1 door Screen, 1 carriage for whiskey Barrel, 2 Spittoons, A quantity of stone Jars.

KITCHEN

1 cook Stove and Utensils, 1 Kitchen Table, 1 large Cupboard, 1 meat Safe, 1 small Table, 1 bread Tray, 1 Sink, $\frac{1}{2}$ dozen kitchen Chairs, 8 flat irons and 2 iron stands, a lot of tins and other kitchen apparatus, 3 wash Tubs, 2 wash Boards, 1 Wringer, Clothes Baskets.

PARLOR

1 large centre Table and Spread, 1 Walnut Whatnot, 1 Damask covered Lounge, 1 seven octave Piano, by Grovesten, New York, 1 music Stool, 1 music Stand, $\frac{1}{2}$ dozen cane seated Chairs, 1 large cane seated Rocking-Chair, 1 Book case and Cupboard, 1 Kid-minister Carpet, 5 large Pictures, 3 small Pictures, 1 large Mirror.

Ads from the Ontario Observer in October 1873 show the contents up for auction at the Anglo-American Hotel.

JOHN MOGGRIDGE

Hotel Keeper

John Moggridge had some hotel/tavern experience before purchasing the Anglo-American hotel, having worked in a saloon on Market Square in London, Ontario.

John Moggridge was born in England and after coming to Canada married Jane Irvine in Nova Scotia about 1831.

Mr. Moggridge and his wife Jane moved to Prince Albert and purchased the large **Anglo-American Hotel** in February 1861. A son, Robert George was born in 1864 and they had two daughters Mary Jane and Elizabeth.

Ten years after purchasing the **Anglo-American**, Janet Moggridge appears to have taken over as inkeeper. She listed the hotel for sale or rent in 1873 and finally sold it in 1875 to local businessman William H. Park.

John Moggridge died in 1880 and was interred at Pine Grove Cemetery.

WILLIAM H. PARK Furniture & Cabinets

William Henry Park was born in Ontario in 1831 and came to Reach Township about 1850 settling in Prince Albert, just south of Port Perry.

He married to Eliza Kendall on September 20, 1852 in Reach Township. During their life they raised five children - William, George, Augustus, Elizabeth, James at their home on Concession 5, Lot 17 in Prince Albert

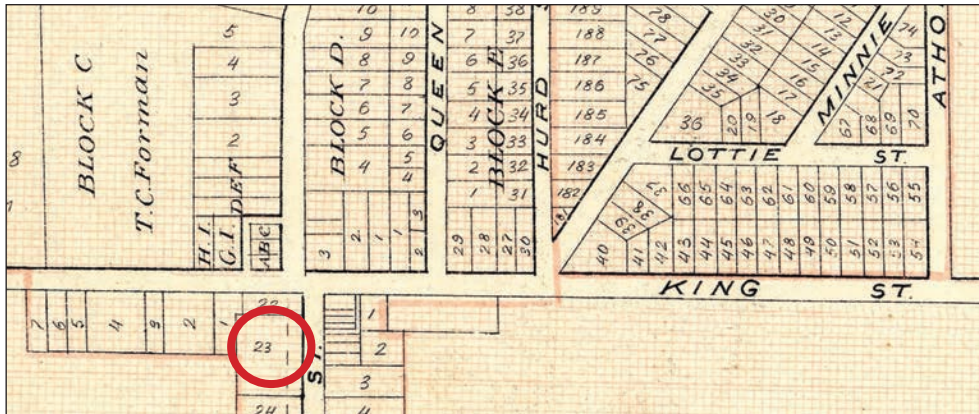
William Park was an accomplished craftsman, who operated the **Ontario Cabinet & Chair Factory**, in Prince Albert during the late 1850s. He custom built all types of furniture, cabinets and coffins.

He moved his shop to Port Perry in January 1873, after the railway came to town. Two years later, in May 1875, it appears he closed his factory and purchased the **Anglo-American Hotel** in Prince Albert. He renovated the building and re-opened, operating it successfully until August 1890 when the hotel was destroyed by fire.

Following the fire, William and Eliza moved to Mariposa. The following spring, in April 1891 William Park announced the opening of the **"Commercial Hotel"** in Manilla.

Victoria Hotel

Lot 23 - King Street - Prince Albert



Boynton's 'Victoria Hotel' was located south of King Street near the four corners of the village, on lot 23.

ONE OF PRINCE ALBERT'S most popular hotels was the **Victoria Hotel**. This hotel was located on the Lot 23 near the south-west corner of Simcoe and King Street.

The lot was part of a large property owned by William Boynton, Sr. who settled in there in 1839.

Boynton owned about 200 acres of land in Concession 4. The land stretched west and south corner of King and Simcoe Street in the centre of the village.

After William Boynton, Sr. settled in Reach Township, he built a home, which also served as a tavern on his property and for a time the fledgling village became known as **Boynton's Corners**. It was later renamed Prince Albert.

It's believed that William Boynton Jr., took over his father's business and his small hotel about 1857. Due to the Boynton family status in the village, the hotel was often referred to as **Boynton's Hotel**.

During his ownership the hotel was rebranded, becoming the **Victoria Hotel**, no doubt in honour of Queen Victoria.

As the most popular hotel in the village at this time, the hotel was also became the post office, with the mail stages from Oshawa, Lindsay, Port Perry and Whitby picking up and dropping of mail.

William Boynton Jr. sold his **Victoria Hotel** to William Scott in July 1861, and Boynton then moved to Lindsay where he purchased Jewett's Hotel, which he renamed *Boynton's Hotel*.

Mr. Scott operated the **Victoria Hotel**, which was often referred to as **Scott's Hotel**, successfully, and dur-



Ontario Observer, June 23, 1859

ing his ownership the hotel served as the "general stage office" and the hotel was a popular venue for large gatherings, meetings and celebrations held in the village.

Scott left the community in 1875 but continued to own the Victoria Hotel. Of the two hotels in the village, **Scott's "Victorial" Hotel** was reported to have been the more popular, doing a thriving business, not only in liquors, but also in hotel trade.

After moving to Hamilton in 1875, William Scott leased his hotel to John Cook who operated it until about 1875, when the hotel ceased operation.

On October 6, 1879 and advertisement in the local newspaper listed the house, formerly known as the **Victoria Hotel**, one acre of land, barn and stable in Prince Albert, for sale or to rent.

Residents petition for hotels to be closed

A FEW YEARS BEFORE William Scott retired from the hotel business, it became evident that hotels in small communities were losing their appeal with the public.

Accusations of selling liquor illegally came to head in February 1875 when the licensing of taverns and shop came up for review.

At a meeting of council a lively conversation took place about the licensing of the two local hotels - the **Victoria Hotel** and the **Anglo-Saxon**.

Councillors discussed how to evaluate fees, with differing opinions on how to set the price based on the volume of sales and size of facilities.

Reach Twp. Reeve Joshua Ewers said he could not see the justice in charging one man more than the other because his place was in better condition than his neighbour.

Councillor Holman noted *"When Mr. (Wm.) Scott was in Prince Albert, though his house was a miserable thing, and the location not nearly as good as that of the Anglo-American, yet Mr. Scott's hotel was first class while the other was second class"*.

He went on to say that since Mr. Scott left the village and leased his hotel, he didn't consider either hotel first class and he would go for wiping out both places by not issuing either a license.

Holman presented a petition by more than 75

Prince Albert residents stating that for the past three years, since businesses began moving to Port Perry, the village had been rapidly declining and there was not enough business in the village to warrant two hotels. The petition asked council in the interest of public morals to suppress one of the hotels.

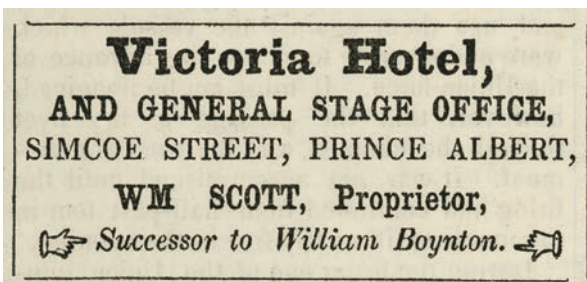
When License Inspector, Mr. W.C. Heard presented his report to council he stated that he had inspected the premises of both hotels and found them fully up to the requirements of the law. Contrary to the petitioners, he recommended that tavern licenses be granted to Ezra A. Bates of the **Anglo-American** and John Cook, of the **Victoria Hotel**.

Despite the report of the license inspector, longtime resident of Prince Albert, Thomas Forman, speaking on behalf of the petitioners, stated that if both hotels were closed up it would be a blessing. *"The village would be a great gainer by it and it would be in the interest of morality generally if both houses were closed,"* he said.

He spoke of his concern for the village youth and the tendency of both hotels to *"ruin our best young men"*. He also felt that both houses were a disgrace to the community.

Reeve Ewers, recognized Mr. Forman's comments, but reminded those opposed to the hotels that council must not overlook the large investment the owners had in the hotels, and if their licenses were taken away the property would be almost worthless. He reminded them that both houses had been favourably reported on by the license inspector and he was in favour of granting licenses for both.

This one meeting of council appears to have set the direction for the future of Prince Albert's hotels, and three years later, the former **Victoria Hotel** was listed for sale by the owner, reducing the number of hotels in the village to one, which was destroyed by fire in 1890.



Ontario Observer, September 1861

Boynton's Hotel

Lot 16, Conc. 4 - Reach Township
(Old Simcoe Rd., south of the Village of Prince Albert)



WILLIAM BOYNTON originally settled and built his first home on the southwest side of the Brock Road (now Old Simcoe Rd.) about 1939. It was here, at what became known as Boynton's Corners, he opened a hotel later known as the Victoria Hotel.

About 1842 he left his corner lot, purchasing a large 100 acre parcel of land about two miles south of the village of Prince Albert. Here he built a large, attractive home and began farming.

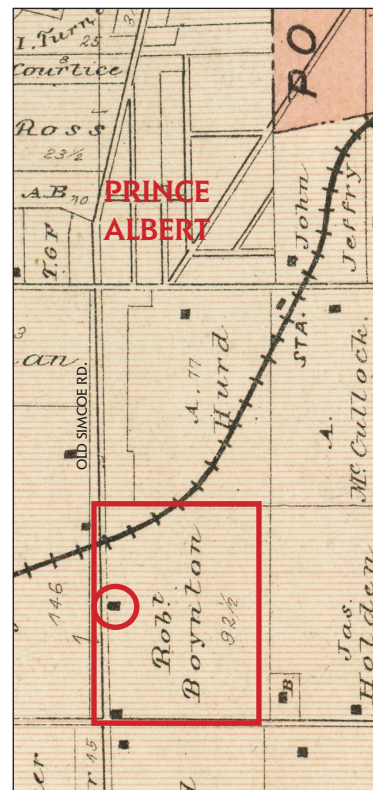
Exactly when the two-storey home (above) was constructed is difficult to determine, but it is identified on the 1877 map of Reach Township (right). Built on a stone foundation, it was a large wood frame structure, ideal for a large family.

There is some evidence that in addition to the Boynton home, there was also a hotel/tavern on the property. One clue is found in Samuel Farmer's book *On The Shores of Scugog*, in which he writes; "Another Boynton kept a hotel between Prince Albert and Raglan."

A second reference is found in the booklet *History of Ontario County* written by J. E. Farewell. Mr. Farewell writes that sometime after settling in Prince Albert, William Boynton moved south of the village and built a tavern on his property.

Speculation is that Mr. Boynton operated a hotel from his home until at least 1861 when he transferred ownership of the property to his son Robert and his family.

Robert and his wife Margaret raised nine children in the family home, the last child born less than a year before he died in March 1881, leaving her with nine children to raise.



This section of an 1877 map of Reach Township, shows the Boynton property, outlined in red, just south of Prince Albert.

Prince Albert Hotel Keepers

William J. Boynton Hotel Proprietor

William James Boynton was born on May 8, 1821 at Stillington, West Yorkshire, England to parents William and Frances Boynton. He received his early education in England and when he was a young man immigrated to Canada with his family, settling in Reach Township about 1839.

William J. Boynton Jr. married Mary Ann Mark on July 14, 1844 at Prince Albert in Reach Township. They had 12 children during their life together.

He was about 36 years old when he took over operation of his father's "Boynton Hotel" in 1857 and is believed to have renamed it the Victoria Hotel, presumably after Queen Victoria.

Mr. Boynton, Jr., served as inn keeper of the hotel only for a couple of years before selling it in July 1861 to William Scott.

William and his family moved to Lindsay, Ontario and in December 1864 he took over Jewett's Hotel on William Street. He operated it as Boynton's Hotel until his death.

William J. Boynton was 51 years old when he passed away on November 21, 1872 at Lindsay, Ontario. He was buried at Pine Grove Cemetery, Prince Albert.

His wife, Mary Ann died on November 30, 1894 at Saginaw, Michigan, USA.



Boynton's 'Victoria Hotel' was located south of King Street near the four corners of the village, on lot 23.

William Scott Hotel Keeper

William Scott was born in Ireland about 1829. In 1858 he was living in Whitby and was operating Scott's Saloon on Dundas St. The saloon later became known as Scott's Hotel.

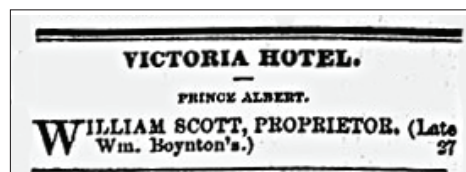
In September 1861 Wm. Scott purchased the Victoria Hotel in Prince Albert from Wm. Boynton, and he operated it successfully until about 1878.

The hotel was located on Simcoe Street in the village and during the years he owned the hotel it became known locally as Scott's Hotel.

Of the two hotels in Prince Albert, Scott's was said to be the most popular, doing a thriving business, not only in liquors, but also in hotel trade, providing farmers who came to town frequently a place to stay all night.

While living in Prince Albert he was married to Anne Scott. William's wife was born in the East Indies and they had six children during their life together.

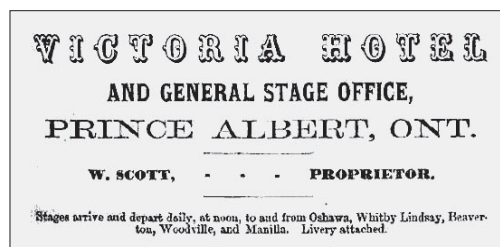
After leaving Prince Albert, during the late-1870s, he moved to Hamilton, Ontario where he continued his career as a hotel keeper.



Ontario Observer, September 1861



Ontario Directory ad, 1866



Ontario Directory ad, 1869

Hotel widow charged with serving liquor

North Ontario Observer, August 24, 1876

On Saturday last week a liquor case was held at Port Perry, lodged against the lady who keeps the temperance house at Borelia who was alleged to have a stock of liquors on the premises and that she did sell liquors without having a license.

The Case: Here is a respectable widow lady in a strange place without either relation or many acquaintances. She was doing a good business in a thriving locality in another county, but was induced to come to Port Perry and open a hotel where she would do a splendid business.

She purchased the Commercial Hotel, Borelia, but had it only a few months when the new liquor license law came in force and license was refused to her house. What could the lone widow do? Her all was invested in the house and she could not remove, and her premises were good for nothing but a house of public entertainment.

So, she went into keeping a temperance house and kept a quiet respectable place, no fault being found with her until the above trumped up case which certainly is not credit to the parties concerned. Here is a man, pretending to be a public officer, laying a snare for a lone, unprotected, unsuspecting widow. He gave a young man twenty-five cents with a view to getting the lady to violate the law and have her fined.

The widow pled "not guilty" and a trial ensued. No evidence could possibly have secured a conviction for their was no violation of the law proved.

LIQUOR vs TEMPERANCE

Ontario Temperance demonstration

Ontario Observer: July 6, 1859

The Ontario Union Division, No. 342, Sons of Temperance, intend holding a Public Demonstration on Thursday, July 14th, in the Grove adjoining the village of Borelia and Port Perry. A procession will form at the Division Room, Port Perry and march through Borelia, thence back through Port Perry, headed by a brass band, to the Grove north of the brick school house, where a sumptuous Tea will be provided for the occasion.

After which the Chair will be taken, and a number of speeches will be delivered. The Committee will spare no pains in securing the best speakers of the day, and will make every preparation to entertain the visitors on the occasion who may oblige by their attendance.

Note: The following week it was announced: "Upwards of 1,000 persons were present." They endorsed the opinion that it was necessary to elect temperance men to Parliament, to stem the increasing intemperance, by enacting a stringent Prohibitory Liquor Law.

Prince Albert man brewing non-intoxicating wine

Whitby Chronicle: May 18, 1888

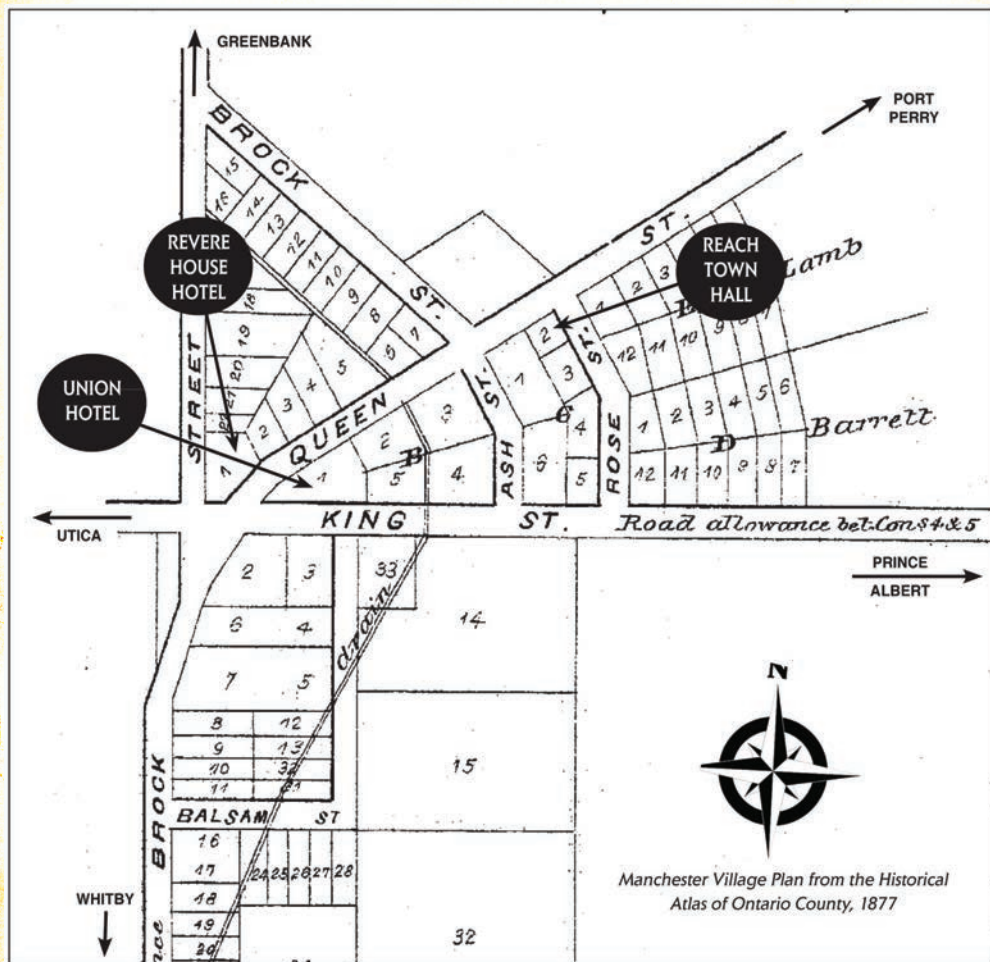
P.M. Horne and the County Solicitor were here on Monday investigating the case of one Cruse, of Prince Albert, who makes wine and sells it. Of course the evidence showed the wine was not fermented nor intoxicating, that it is a temperance sin, and it seems that a good many like a nip of it.

This fondness for non-intoxicants appears to have spread from our Temperance houses in Port Perry to Prince Albert, and is an outcome of the blessed Scott Act. It will, of course, occasion doubts as to the truthfulness of the evidence when it becomes known that the imbibers in the wine have the reputation of occasionally taking something for electric; but I am bound to maintain, on behalf of Port Perry that this unfermented wine drinking is merely a spreading of the temperance sentiment pervading Port Perry.

The temperance people should at once heave to and get up a banquet for the Hon. Cruse. There is nothing like a frank and open acknowledgement of merit.

MANCHESTER

Maps from Historical Atlas for Ontario County, 1877



Manchester

HOTELS & TAVERNS

HOTELS WERE very important assets to many small villages throughout Ontario during the developing years of the early 1800s. Travel was slow and difficult on crude, narrow roads in the province, so hotels and taverns were established in almost all small communities, and at various locations along the busier routes.

Manchester, located in the Township of Reach was 15 miles north-east of Whitby. Manchester was one of these villages. Situated in the Township of Reach, 15 miles north-east of Whitby, it was first settled by Mr. Abel W. Ewers in 1847.

The history of hotels and taverns in all of Reach Township's small hamlets is difficult to document, as there is little information written about the establishments. But, based on the information available through newspaper files, *Ancestry.com* and the Ontario Registry Office, it appears as if the first hotel/tavern to open near Manchester was known as the **Union Hotel**.

This small structure, originally operated as a tavern in the 1840s, was located about three miles south of Manchester on the Plank Road (now Hwy. 12) in the first concession of Reach Twp. Its original owner, Robert Hunter sold the tavern to Christopher C. Covey in May 1850 and he renamed it the **Union Hotel**.

Note: An article in the September 25, 1852 issue of the *Whitby Chronicle* shows C. C. Covey, as the proprietor of **Hunter's Tavern**. It's believed this was the name of the tavern when owned and operated by Robert Hunter.

REVERE HOUSE
Lot 1,
Block 'A'

UNION HOTEL
Lot 1,
Block 'B'



THIS 1877 plan for the Village of Manchester shows where the two hotels were located.

UNION HOTEL.

THE Subscriber, having taken the Tavern formerly kept by ROBERT HUNTER, on the Plank Road, first Concession of Reach; hopes from strict attention to business, to merit a share of Public patronage.

C. C. COVEY.
Reach, May 5, 1850.

Union Hotel was originally owned by Robert Hunter and known as Hunter's Tavern.

Union Hotel

Lot 1, Block 'B' – Manchester, Ontario

THE FIRST HOTEL to open within the Village of Manchester, using the **Union Hotel** name, took place about 1860 when Francis Rusnall arrived in Reach Township. He renovated an existing building at the corner of Brock and Queen St., Manchester and opened the **Union Hotel**. It appears that Mr. Rusnall was the owner of the hotel but there is no evidence to suggest he ever took part in the operation of the **Union Hotel**. His son-in-law, Charles McClue assumed the position of inn keeper at the hotel about 1861.

Records leads to the opinion that Mr. McClue (McClewe) sold the **Union Hotel** after the death of his father-in-law Francis Rusnall, who died at his home in Utica in July 1871.

The **Union Hotel** had at least six different hotelkeepers during its first 20 years, although the property appears to have only changed hands a couple of times.

The next person to operated the hotel was Daniel B. Dennison in 1865. About three years later he moved to Oakwood to operate the **Victoria Hotel**, and the following year Henry Thompson had become the **Union Hotel's** newest owner. Mr. Thompson sold his business to John Tennyson in 1871.

Mr. Tennyson was a son-in-law for John P. Plank, an pioneer Uxbridge hotel operated. Plank's son Bartholomew was the inn keeper of the **Revere House** in Manchester about the same time Tennyson took over the **Union Hotel**.

About three years after becoming proprietor of the **Union Hotel**, in 1874, Mr. Tennyson sold the business to James Heard.

Two years later, in March 1876, Mr. Heard listed his three-year lease of the hotel, and furnishing for sale. It's not known when it was sold, or if the **Union Hotel** ceased to operate.

UNION HOTEL PROPRIETORS

Union Hotel - Francis M. Rusnall, 1860
 Union Hotel - Charles McClue, 1861
 Union Hotel - Daniel B. Dennison, 1865
 Union Hotel - Henry Thompson, 1869, 1870
 Union Hotel - John Tennyson, 1871
 Union Hotel - James Heard, 1876

Union Hotel, Manchester

THE Subscriber begs to announce to his friends and the public generally that his House is furnished in a most thorough and comfortable manner. Guests will find every convenience at the above establishment. — Wines, Liguors, and Cigars of the best brand always kept on hand. Good stabling and Hostlers in attendance

JOHN TENNYSON, Proprietor

Manchester, April 13, 1871

44-ly

UNION HOTEL.

—

MANCHESTER, REACH. (late F. RUSNALL'S.)

THIS hotel is centrally situated and possesses every accommodation. It has been newly fitted up and renovated.

Best wines, liquors, and cigars.

CHAS. McCLEWE,
Proprietor,

Whitby, September 5, 1861

UNION HOTEL,

MANCHESTER, REACH. [LATE F. RUSNALL'S.]

THIS Hotel is centrally situated, and possesses every accommodation. It has been newly fitted up and renovated.

Best Wines, Liquors, and Cigars.

CHAS. McCLUE, Proprietor.

Whitby, July 1863

THE OLD STAND FOR EVER!!

—

UNION HOTEL, MANCHESTER.

—

THE undersigned begs to acquaint the public that no expense has been spared in fitting up the Hotel lately occupied by Francis Rusnell; he trusts, therefore to receive a liberal share of the patronage of the travelling community. The best brands of wines, liquors and cigars. Roomy and convenient sheds, good stabling, and an attentive Ostler,—Hugh Moore. N.B. Meals at all hours.

CHARLES McCLUE,
Proprietor.

Manchester, Aug. 3. 1861. 34

FOR SALE !

The Lease, Furniture and Good-Will

OF THE

UNION HOTEL,

In the Flourishing

Village of Manchester !

—

The Subscriber offers for Sale his Lease (having three years to run) Furniture and good-will of the Union Hotel in the Village of Manchester, one of the best business centres in this part of the country.

Terms easy.

For particulars apply to the proprietor on the premises.

JAMES HEARD.

Union Hotel,
Manchester, March 1, 1876. }

Union Hotel Keepers



Francis Rusnell Union Hotel

Francis Rusnell (Rusnall) was born in 1795 in Quebec. As a young man he married Harriet Odell in Kingston, Ont., on Nov. 15, 1814. They raised nine children during their life together.

Prior to settling in Reach, Mr. Rusnell was a resident of Whitchurch Township.

About 1860 he and his wife arrived in Reach Township settling near Utica where he farmed the land. He purchased a property and Manchester and opened the Union Hotel, with his son-in-law Charles McClue becoming the hotelkeeper. There is no evidence that Mr. Rusnell had any involvement with the hotel.

Francis lived in Reach Twp. for the remainder of his life. July 1871. He was 76 when he died on July 26, 1871, and was buried in the Utica Cemetery.

Daniel B. Dennison Union Hotel Inn keeper

Daniel Brown Dennison was born, in 1815, and raised in Vermont, USA. He was 22 years old when he married Mary Bundy in his hometown of Burke in November 1837. They had five children before she died as a young mother in 1848.

Daniel was working as a farmer at his home in Vermont when he was remarried to Lucy C. Kibby on April 8, 1849. Daniel and Lucy emigrated to Canada and in 1861 they settled in Whitby where he was an inn keeper.

About 1865 they moved to Port Perry and he became the proprietor of the **Union Hotel** in Manchester. He was the inn keeper at the **Union Hotel**, until March 1868 he relocated to Oakwood to operate the *Victoria Hotel*. He worked as a hotelkeeper until 1881.

Daniel B. Dennison died in Port Perry on March 12, 1884. He was 68 years of age.

Charles McClue Union Hotel Inn keeper

Charles McClue was born on June 11, 1835, in Wigtown, Wigtownshire, Scotland, the son of Ms. Janet and Alexander. He emigrated to the USA in 1854 with his family and then to Canada in 1857.

He was 22 years old when he married Arena Rusnall, 21, on February 18, 1858, in Prince Albert, Ontario. She died in January 1865 and was buried in Kendal Cemetery, Utica. He then married Agnes Powson in 1865 and they had six children together.

Charles McClue took over as inn keeper at the **Union Hotel** in Manchester in 1861 and is believed to have sold it after the death of his father-in-law, Francis Rusnell.

Charles and his wife moved into Port Perry until about 1876, then moved to Artemesia, Ontario, and later to western Canada.

He died on January 12, 1921, in Manitoba, at the age of 85.

John Tennyson Union Hotel Proprietor

John Tennyson was born at Yorkshire, England in 1818 and came to Canada as a young man, settling in Ontario North. He married Charlotte Plank, 17, in Uxbridge, Ontario on May 14, 1844 and they had 13 children during their marriage.

John and Charlotte settled in Reach Township following their marriage and he worked as a farmer. John advertised that he was the new proprietor of the Union Hotel, Manchester in 1871. It is speculated his becoming a hotelkeeper may have been encouraged by his father-in-law, Uxbridge pioneer John P. Plank, who built the first inn and tavern in that town about 1828.

How long he remained the proprietor of the Union Hotel is unknown.

John Tennyson died at his home in Reach Township on November 24, 1896.

Revere House

Lot 1, Block 'A' – Manchester, Ontario

MANCHESTER'S SECOND hotel, and eventually it's most popular was the **Revere House**, which was located on the northeast corner of Brock and Queen Street (today Hwy. #12 & Hwy. 7A).

Records show that the property was purchased by William Parkin in March 1862 from Abel Ewers. Here he established the **Revere House** hotel, opening it in January 1863. He only owned the land for about two years, selling it in April 1864 to Clement Dawes.

Mr. Parkin then moved to Beaverton where in January 1865 he leased a hotel, which he once again named the **Revere House**.

Later that year Mr. Dawes took out a \$600 mortgage with Joseph Bigelow, to build the

REVERE HOUSE PROPRIETORS

Revere House - William Parkin - 1863
Revere House - Clement Dawes, 1865-1867
Revere House - B. Plank 1867-1873
Revere House - A. Tennyson - 1873
Revere House - George Houck, 1876-1880
Revere House - Thomas Bennett, 1880-1884
Revere House - M.S. Tooley - 1896-1899
(also known as Tooley's Hotel)

Revere House hotel. Mr. Dawes operated the hotel until March 1866 when he sold the property to Bartholomew Plank, of Uxbridge.

Mr. Plank served as inn keeper at the **Revere House** until about 1873 before moving to Uxbridge to build a large new brick hotel he called **Plank's Hotel**.

Although now entrenched in Uxbridge, Mr. Plank remained the owner of the **Revere House** in Manchester.

He leased the building first to J. Tennyson but this tenant did not last long. Less than a year later, Mr. A. Tennyson had become then new proprietor of the hotel.

The **Revere House** changed hands again in October 1875, this time being leased to George Houck. The new hotelkeepers undertook a complete renovation of the interior and exterior of the hotel, as well as repairs to the stables and sheds.

When Mr. Houck retired in February 1880, the business changed hands again with Mr. Thomas Bennett becoming the new host.

During its years in operation in Manchester the **Revere House** became the favoured location of many important meetings regarding township activities, including nominations meetings, dinners for prominent citizens and railway information meetings.

Mr. Bennett operated the **Revere House** for almost four years before selling it to Peter Holt in 1886. Holt was an experienced hotelkeeper in both Port Perry and Blackstock before taking over the **Revere House** in Manchester.

Records seem to suggest that Mr. Holt only operated the **Revere House** for a short time before

REVERE HOUSE, MANCHESTER.
THE subscriber has opened his new Hotel in Manchester—decide-ly the most commodious and best fitted up house in North Ontario—where he hopes to see his old friends, who have hitherto patronized him. Every attention will be paid to gquests. Careful and obliging ostlers always in attendance. Best liquors and cigars constantly on hand.
WM. PARKIN, Proprietor.
Manchester, January 1873

REVERE HOUSE
MANCHESTER,
C. DAWES, - - PROPRIETOR.
GENERAL STAGE OFFICE.
GOOD STABLING ATTACHED TO THE HOTEL.

"REVERE HOUSE," MANCHESTER!
B. PLANK,.....PROPRIETOR.
HAVING purchased the above hotel, and has furnished the Bar with the choicest liquors and cigars. Every attention paid to guests.—Stages to and from Whitby call daily. Careful ostlers always in attendance. Manchester, 1866 8

leasing it out to William Heard, who operated for a number of years.

Once again the proprietor of the **Revere House** changed in October 1896 when it was taken over by Michael Tooley. Tooley had only operated the hotel for three years before it was destroyed in a late night fire in May 1899.

The newspaper reported that "the hotel at Manchester, with sheds and adjacent blacksmith shop was burned down. The fire occurred about one o'clock and the occupants had barely time to escape, let alone saving the contents."

An investigation was held into the fire of **Tooley's Hotel** in September 1899 with the result being the insurance company paying Mr. Tooley for his loss in the fire.

REVERE HOUSE, MANCHESTER.
THE subscriber has opened his new Hotel in Manchester—decidedly the most commodious and best fitted up house in North Ontario—where he hopes to see his old friends, who have hitherto patronized him. Every attention will be paid to guests. Careful and obliging ostlers always in attendance. Best liquors and cigars constantly on hand.
WM. PARKIN, Proprietor.

Manchester, February, 1873



The Revere House, Uxbridge, was purchased by Mr. Thomas Bennett of Manchester in February 1887. Mr. Bennett operated the Revere House in Manchester for about four years before moving to Uxbridge. In October 1890 Mr. Bennett purchased the Mansion House hotel on Brock Street.

REVERE HOUSE, MANCHESTER.
A. TENNYSON, Proprietor.
 The Revere House is decidedly one of the best and most comfortable country Hotels in the Province and is situated in a most convenient position for the traveling public.—Stages to and from Uxbridge, Utica and Epson, call here daily.
 The Subscriber, since becoming proprietor, has had the premises thoroughly repaired and will spare neither labor nor expense in making the Revere House a comfortable transient home for travelers, and for the refreshment of guests.
 The table and bar supplied with the best the market supplies.
 Good stables and attentive ostlers.
A. TENNYSON, Proprietor.
 Manchester, Aug. 5, 1874.

REVERE HOUSE,
 MANCHESTER,
J. TENNYSON, - PROPRIETOR,
 Having purchased the above Hotel, has furnished the Bar with the choicest liquors and cigars. Every attention paid to guests. Stages to and from Uxbridge call daily.—Careful Ostlers always in attendance.

Manchester, October 30, 1873

REVERE HOUSE,
 MANCHESTER.
 By **GEO. HOUCK.**
 Having leased the above excellent Hotel it will be my endeavor to conduct it in every particular so as to merit the approbation and patronage of the public.
 Manchester, Oct. 6, 1875.

Revere House Keepers



Clement Dawes

Revere House Inn keeper

Clement (Clem) Dawes had a long history in the hotel and tavern business, which started in about 1859 when he a young man.

Born in England in 1831, he emigrated to Canada with his family and married Margaret Armstrong in 1854. His wife died in 1872 and he remarried a year later to Euphemia Caroline Mill in Whitby. He had five children with his first wife and seven with his second wife.

While living in Whitby he began his career as a hotelkeeper in June 1859, purchasing the **Globe Hotel** in Brooklin. Five years later, he took over the Ontario Hotel in Whitby. The following year, 1865, he purchased **Revere House** in Manchester. Whether he was operating all three at the same time is hard to determine.

He moved to Port Perry sometime in the early 1880s. Clement Dawes was only 54 years old when he died on February 8, 1886 in Port Perry.

Bartholomew Plank

Revere House Inn keeper

Bartholomew Plank and his twin brother Alonzo were born in 1820 in Manheim, New York, USA. He emigrated to Canada with his parents in the mid-1820s and the family settled in Uxbridge, Ontario.

It was here he married Angelina Widdified and they raised three sons and four daughters. After the death of Angelina, he married her sister Euphemia on September 22, 1877.

Mr. Plank moved to Reach Township about 1867 and purchased the Revere House hotel in Manchester. He operated the hotel until about 1873 when he moved to Uxbridge and built a large brick hotel at the corner of Brock and Main Street, which he called Plank's Hotel.

Bartholomew Plank passed away in September 1891, at the age of 72 years.

Michael S. Tooley

Revere House Inn keeper

Michael S. Tooley was at least the seventh owner of the Revere House in Manchester, purchasing it in May 1896.

Michale Tooley was born in Ireland in 1864 and came to Canada as a young man, settling in Whitby. He married Lizzie Kehoh in Oshawa in June 1889.

Tooley was only 31 years old when he purchased the Revere House. He was reported to have come to Manchester, well recommended, and that patrons of the hotel would find everything up-to-date.

A year after taking over as inn keeper, he decorated the sitting room with life size portraits of all the businessmen in Manchester. The hotel became known locally as Tooley's Hotel as it gained in popularity.

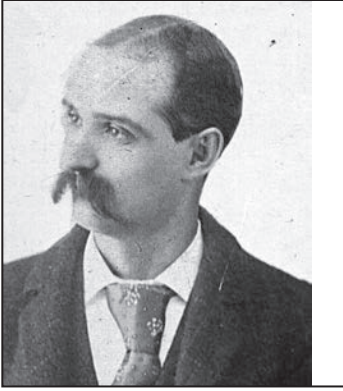
But Mr. Tooley, like many of the tavern own-

ers, ran into problems about a year later, being fined \$20 for selling liquor after the 10 o'clock deadline for selling spirits.

In May 1899 the Revere House and all its out building were destroyed by fire. A newspaper reported, "Local option has come into Reach with a vengeance. Tuesday night, the second day after the expiration of the license year, the hotel (Revere House) at Manchester, with sheds and an adjacent blacksmith shop, was burned down. The fire occurred about one o'clock and we hear the occupants had barely time to escape, let alone saving the contents".

An investigation was held into the fire at which 12 witnesses were examined. In the end, the insurance company carrying the risk paid Mr. Tooley the full amount.

Following the fire the Tooley's moved to Peterborough where he contineudn his career as a hotelkeeper.



THOMAS BENNETT

Thomas Bennett

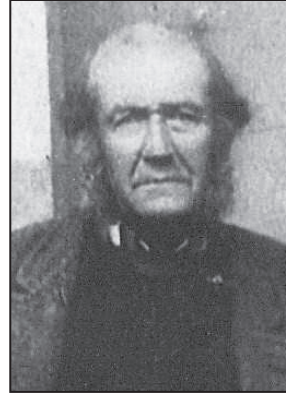
Revere House Inn keeper

Thomas Bennett was born about 1847 in Ontario and was living in Uxbridge in 1881 with his wife Mary and three children.

He purchased the Revere House, Manchester about 1880 and operated it until 1886.

In February 1887 he relocated to Uxbridge to purchase a hotel by the same name – the Revere House of Uxbridge.

In October 1890 he took over ownership of the larger Mansion House hotel on Brock Street in Uxbridge.



GEORGE L. HOUCK

George Lewis Houck

Revere House Inn keeper

George was born in Port Perry on January 31, 1852 and married Frances Boyle, of Toronto, when he was 24 years old. They raised a family of six children.

Not much is known about George L. Houck aside from his being an inn keeper of the Revere House, Manchester for a number of years.

He took over the Revere House in 1875 and operated the hotel until 1880 when he retired and moved to Muskoka.

He was 75 when he passed away on December 27, 1927 at his home in Sundridge, Ontario.

William Parkin

Revere House, Manchester

William Parkin was born in Upper Canada and before coming to Reach Twp., was a hotelkeeper in York (Toronto), Ontario.

He was 39 years old in 1862 when he became the hotelkeeper at **Parkin's Hotel** in Port Perry, but less than a year later, in January 1863, he moved to Manchester where he opened a new hotel, he called the Revere House.

In announcing the opening of his hotel, he hailed it as being the *"most commodious and best fitted-up house in North Ontario"*.

Wm. Parkin remained in Manchester for only a year before moving to Beaverton and leasing the Revere House in that village in July 1864. It's not known how long he remained as the hotelkeeper in that village, but he was there until at least August 1867.

BORELIA

Maps from Historical Altas for Ontario County, 1877



Circled areas show a small portion of the 200 acres of land purchased by Reuben Crandel in 1832. It was this area which became known as Crandell's Corners before being renamed "Borelia".

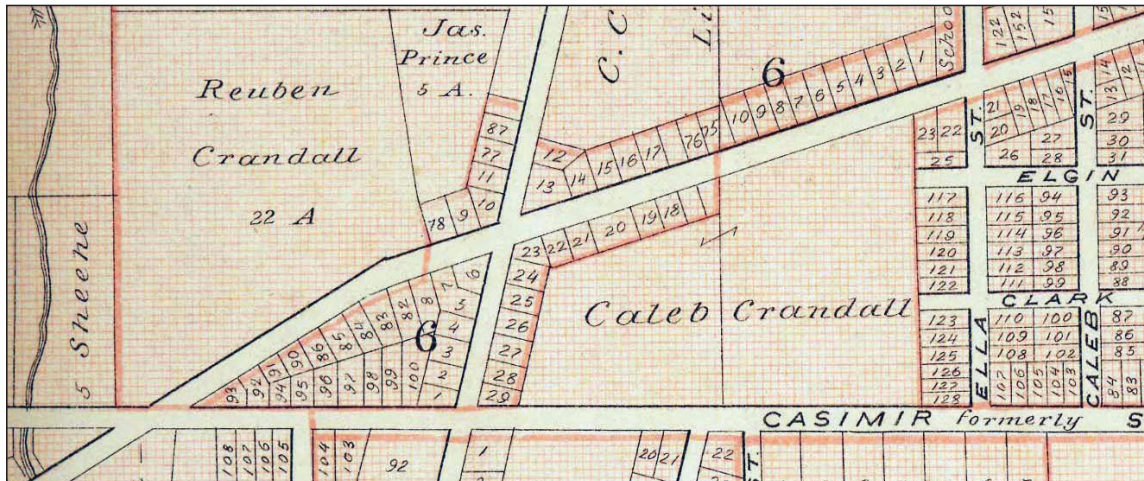
Commercial Hotel

Lots 23 - Queen Street - Borelia

BORELIA, ONTARIO

Borelia was a small settlement of less than two hundred people, but this vibrant community had three hotels in the 1850s.

The first hotel to operate from this new settlement appears to have been operated out of the home of Reuben Crandell after he purchased 200 acres in 1832. Here he built his first home near the corner of what was then Simcoe Street and Windsor (Whitby) Rd. The first mention of a hotel comes in an article which says he operated a hotel/tavern from his house as early as 1845.



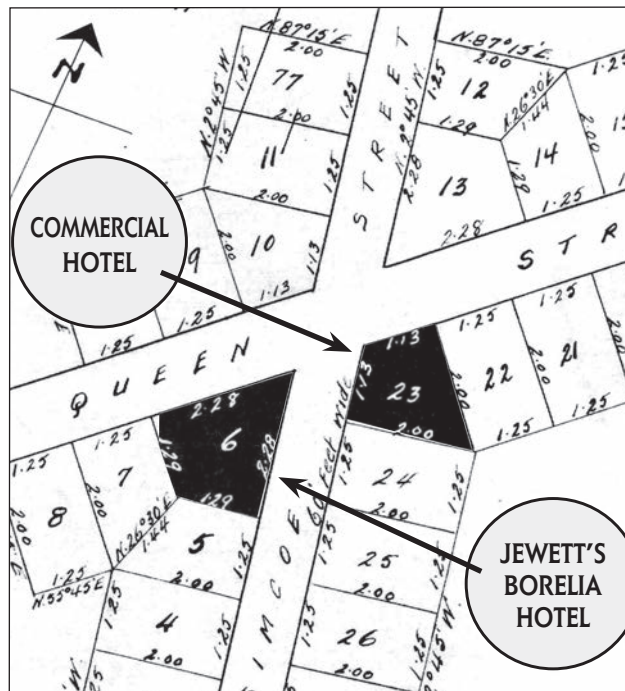
This 1977 map shows the area which made up Borelia.

THE EARLIEST tangible evidence of a hotel in Borelia comes in a copy of a Whitby newspaper in 1851. Thomas Gorey advertises he had taken over operation of the **Commercial Hotel** in the Village of Borelia in June that year. In his notice he proclaims his “thanks for the liberal support he has received since he commences in the old Stand (formerly kept by Mr. Robert Hunter) at Crandle’s Corners.”

By the year 1857, records show there were three hotels in the village, being operated by James Jewett, Neil Sinclair and Francis Smith, although there are no records of Smith’s hotel.

The **Commercial Hotel** was operated from Lot 6 on the southeast corner of Simcoe and Queen Street. This was opposite **Jewett’s Hotel**. It’s believed the **Commercial Hotel** and was operated by Neil Sinclair at this time. Sinclair moved into downtown Port Perry in August 1866, opening a the **Railroad Hotel** in the centre of the downtown (post office site).

The next proprietor of the **Commercial**



Section of a Plan for the Village of Borelia, by John Shier, P.L.S. 1849, shows locations of two of Borelia’s popular hotels.

Hotel appears to have been Angus McKinnon, listed as the hotelkeeper in 1866.

Three years later, in 1869, Andrew J. Harrington is listed as the owner of the **Commercial Hotel**, on the southeast corner of Queen and Simcoe Street. Another change took place in 1871 with William J. Dafoe becoming the new proprietor of this hotel. Dafoe operated the hotel until August 1875 when he died from a gunshot wound.

George Sheehey purchased the **Commercial Hotel** from the Dafoe family and operated it until it was destroyed by fire on August 31, 1880.

Sheehey's "Commercial" Hotel came to an end when a mysterious fire destroyed the hotel while under renovation.

The local newspaper reported, "About midnight of the 31st inst, fire was discovered in that large hotel on the corner a Queen and Simcoe Streets. The flames had the mastery and they kept their hold till the pile was reduced to ashes. The origin of the fire is a mystery. The property was owned by Mr. Sheehey and had been lately undergoing a thorough overhaul."

**COMMERCIAL HOTEL,
VILLAGE OF BORELIA.**

THE SUBSCRIBER returns thanks for the liberal support he has received since he commenced in the old Stand, (formerly kept by Mr. HUNTER) at CRANDLE'S CORNERS, and hopes by strict attention to business to be favored with a continuance of the patronage hitherto conferred.

The Bar is furnished with the best Liquors, and the Table supplied with the choicest eatables that can be procured.

GOOD STABLING,
and a steady Hostler in attendance.

Every accommodation to make Travellers comfortable. STAGE daily to and from Port Whitby
by THOMAS GOREY.
P. S.—Carriage in attendance on the Boat,
Borelia, June, 6th 1851. 8 3 m.

Advertisement published in the Whitby Reporter, June 28, 1851.

Commercial Hotel Keepers

Christopher Sheehy

Hotel Inn Keeper 1875-1880

The Sheehy family, reported to have been owners of the Commercial Hotel in Borelia during the late 1870s, presents a historical mystery.

The first report of a "Sheehey" living in the area of Borelia is in an 1869 Reach Township directory which lists George Sheehy being a farmer living on Concession 6, Lot 16, Reach Township. The identified property is located at the western edge of Port Perry on the west side of a creek, which runs under the sixth concession.

George Sheehy shows up once again in an 1871 directory, listed as a grocer. This is the last we hear of George so it is unlikely he had anything to do with the Commercial Hotel.

Alternatively, Christopher Sheehy, who does not appear to be related, is listed in the Township of Reach Census of 1861 as a "teamster".

Christopher was born in 1817 in Clare, Ireland and he emigrated to Canada with his family who settled in Mariposa, Victoria County, Ontario.

On August 2, 1842 he married Mary Hardgrove in Lindsay, Ontario. Here he work on a farm until

about 1871, before moving to Reach Township.

In 1876 his residence was identified as Simcoe Street, Port Perry. This site could be the Commercial Hotel which was located at the Simcoe and Queen Street intersection.

Although never listed as an "Inn Keeper", there is speculation it was Christopher who purchased the Commercial Hotel from William J. Dafoe in 1875. The property was located on the southeast corner of Queen and Simcoe Streets and later became known as Sheehy's Hotel.

The old hotel had deteriorated to a point that within five years it was unfit to be inhabited. Mr. Sheehy had started a major renovations of the building when it caught fire during the night of August 31, 1880. The hotel was completely destroyed and it was reported Sheehy had no insurance.

This is the last record of Christopher Sheehy until his death at Port Perry on April 25, 1898 when he was 80 years old.

Commercial Hotel Owners



Neil Sinclair

Hotel Inn Keeper 1857-1866

Neil Sinclair came to Canada about 1833, when he was only three years old, emigrating with his parents from their home in Scotland. A few years after settling in Toronto, the family moved to Reach Township.

He was only 22 years old when he married Elizabeth McMullen in Reach Township on March 4, 1852. The couple had a large family of six children – Mary C., Margaret, Andrew, James K., Neil S., Hugh J.

About the same time, Neil Sinclair took over the Commercial Hotel in Borelia and operated it until 1866. The Commercial Hotel was operated from a corner lot on the southeast side of Simcoe and Queen Street.

In August 1866 he announced he had refurnished the Railroad House hotel in Port Perry. The hotel was located the south side of Queen

Street, in the centre of the village.

During his 25 years in the community he proved himself to be honourable in his dealing and had a large circle of friends.

Neil was taking ice into his ice-house when he encountered an serious accident. A large block of ice fell across his body, causing a severe injury. Neil Sinclair died four weeks later, on April 8, 1875. He was only 45 years old.

A funeral was held at the family residence in Port Perry, followed by a procession of family and friends to Pine Grove Cemetery, Prince Albert.

After his death the hotel was rented to tenants, but the family held onto the property until after the death of Elizabeth in 1912. It was then it was sold to the federal government for a site for a new post office.

William J. Dafoe

Hotel Inn Keeper 1871-1875

William Jarvis Dafoe was owner of the Commercial Hotel in Borelia for about 14 years before his death.

William was born in the Township of Markham on August 26, 1842, one of seven children for Jacob and Anne Dafoe. Jacob Dafoe senior was an Inn Keeper in Markham.

William was 24 years old when he married Randella Worden in Michigan, USA on April 21, 1866. They had two children; William and Madeline Ruth.

The Dafoe family moved to Reach Township about 1861 and took over ownership of the Commercial Hotel in Borelia. In June 1875, the ambitious young man leased a hotel in Port Perry and renovated it from top to bottom. This became known as Dafoe's Hotel.

Unfortunately two months later, on August 31, 1875, at the age of 33 he died in Port Perry.

His death certificate listed his cause of death as a pistol shot in the right temple. A report in the local newspaper reported that he had gone up to his room in the hotel and had only been there for a few minutes when he was found stretched on the floor by a woman occupying a nearby room.

Dr. Jones, the coroner, held an inquest and the verdict of the jury was, "that in a fit of temporary insanity, the deceased died by his own hand". Despite the verdict, there were some in the community convinced his death was accidental.

The Dafoe family sold the Commercial Hotel not long after his death. By March 1876, the owner of the Dafoe's hotel in Port Perry leased the building to Charles Holt, but continued to operated as the Dafoe House.

*Note: William Dafoe's father, Jacob, was an inn keeper in Markham; and his brother, Jacob operated a hotel in Utica, Ontario for 38 years.

Andrew J. Harrington

Hotel Owner 1863-1871

Andrew Jackson Harrington was born March 16, 1828 in Shelby, a small town near Medina, New York. Andrew, known as "AJ", was 22 when he married Ruth R. Stewart Kenyon on March 12, 1851.



Andrew J. Harrington

He married Martha Jane Blodgett in Somerset, New York, on September 26, 1852. They had five children together.

In 1857, when Andrew was 29, he and Martha made a decision that would change their life. With their two young daughters, they left their home in New York State to "seek fortune" in a new country, the province of Upper Canada.

They settled in Lindsay where he worked as an inn keeper. In 1861 after a fire swept through Lindsay destroying four hotels and many other buildings, the Harrington family moved down the Scugog river to Port Perry. They eventually made their home in Borelia where there were two hotels, the Borelia Hotel and the Commercial Hotel.

Andrew became proprietor of the Commercial Hotel when he bought two lots of land from Reuben Crandall for \$3,000 in June 1863. He owned the hotel for about 10 years before selling to William J. Dafoe.

In 1870 he purchased a home east of the hotel, on Queen Street where they lived for the remainder of their time in Port Perry.

During his final years in Borelia and Port Perry he held a number of jobs and positions. He was appointed "Fishery Overseer" for the Dominion government; served as a bailiff and in 1874, and also as chief constable and license inspector for Port Perry. In 1884 he served as collector of taxes at a salary of \$50 per year.

Mr. Harrington and his family lived in the town they'd called home for more than 40 years until about 1904 when they moved to Toronto to be closer to family.

Andrew J. Harrington was 82 years old when he died on December 29, 1910 in Toronto and was buried at Mount Pleasant Cemetery.

Village of Port Perry Bylaw 300

A bylaw to limit the number of Tavern and Shop licenses and to fix the amount of duty to be paid for Tavern and shop licenses.

Dated February 22, 1889

The number of Tavern Licenses to be issued within this village for the License year beginning on the first day of May next, and for any future License year during the continuance of this bylaw shall be not more than four. The number of Shop Licenses for the sale of liquor to be issued within this village for the license year beginning the first day of May next, and for any future license year during the continuance of this bylaw shall be not more than two.

There shall be imposed and paid for each Tavern License issued for use within this Municipality a license duty of two hundred dollars (\$200) for all purposes under the Liquor License Act.

There shall be imposed and paid for each Shop License for the sale of liquor issued for use within this Municipality a license duty of two hundred dollars (\$200) for all purposes under the Liquor License Act.

Borelia Hotel

BORELIA, ONTARIO

BASED ON THE LIMITED information available, with regards to hotels operating in Borelia, it would be safe to suggest that James Jewett's **Borelia Hotel** was by far the most popular and well respected of this small hamlet's establishments.

The **Borelia Hotel** was established about 1857, when James Jewett, a shoemaker by trade, moved to the village and established his hotel on the southwest corner of the village. From the time he opened the hotel it became the central place for important political and educational meetings.

At the south end Jewett had shoe and harness shop from which he operated a four horse stage. It was said some very attractive offers were made to secure passengers, as there was a rival stage service and competition was keen. His hotel also served as a post office with Jewett postmaster for the village.

The only description known of the hotel was provided in 1864 when it was described as being located at the intersection of the easterly limit of the *Windsor Road and Scugog Road, with the Westerly limit of *Simcoe Street, Borelia, and known as Lot #6.

Building include a good store, hotel and first class frame tavern, known as **Jewett's Hotel**, with superior stables and out buildings, in Borelia.

The hotel was also known locally as **Jewett's Hotel**, and he operated it until the late 1870s, after which Mr. Jewett became a constable for the village of Port Perry.

There are no records to show what happened to the hotel after he left, but by that time, Borelia, which was part of the village of Port Perry, was declining in importance.

* Windsor Road and Scugog Road are now Hwy. 12 and Hwy. 7A.

* Simcoe Steet is now Old Simcoe Road.

BORELIA HOTEL.

JAMES JEWETT, Proprietor.

THE BAR SUPPLIED WITH

THE BEST WINES, LIQUORS AND CIGARS.

☞ The Daily Line of Stages from Lindsay, Beaverton and Manilla to Oshawa and Whitby, and returning, call each way.

CAREFUL OSTLERS ALWAYS IN ATTENDANCE. 1869

C. James Jewett

Hotel Keeper

Charles James Jewett was born on September 30, 1830 in Pickering, Ontario. When he was a young man he became a shoemaker, while still living at his Pickering home.

James was married to Mary Ann Washington at Markham, Ontario in 1853 and they had two children Jannie and Frank.

James Jewett and his family moved to Reach Township in 1854, purchased a property and opened Jewett's Hotel in the village of Borelia. He also continued with his shoe making business. He is believed to have operated the hotel until the late 1870s before selling the business. While owner of Jewett's Hotel, he also served as post master for the village for a number of years.

During ownership by James Jewett this Borelia hotel became one of the most popular meeting

spots in the community, hosting many important political and civic meetings. He also served as the local postmaster for a time.

James had a keen interest in education and in 1868 he became a trustee of the Port Perry Grammar and Common School serving for many years. He also served as trustee of High Schools for Port Perry from 1872 to 1879.

He was appointed to a committee to arrange celebrations for Dominion Day in 1869. He also served as a constable for Port Perry during the 1880s, and as Auditor for many years.

James Jewett passed away on June 14, 1899 at 69 years of age. His wife Mary Ann died in Barrie, Ontario on February 8, 1916 in her 83rd year. They were both interred at Pine Grove Cemetery, Prince Albert.

UTICA

Maps from Historical Atlases for Ontario County, 1877

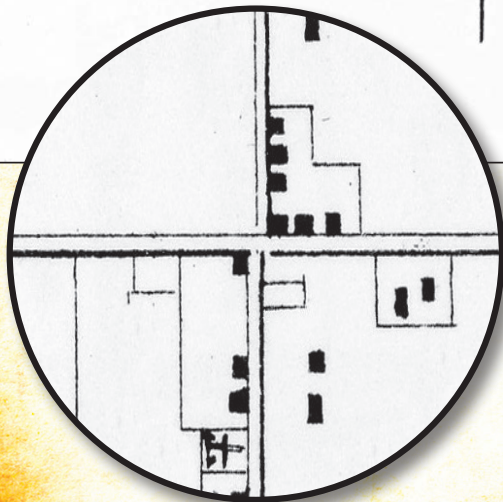
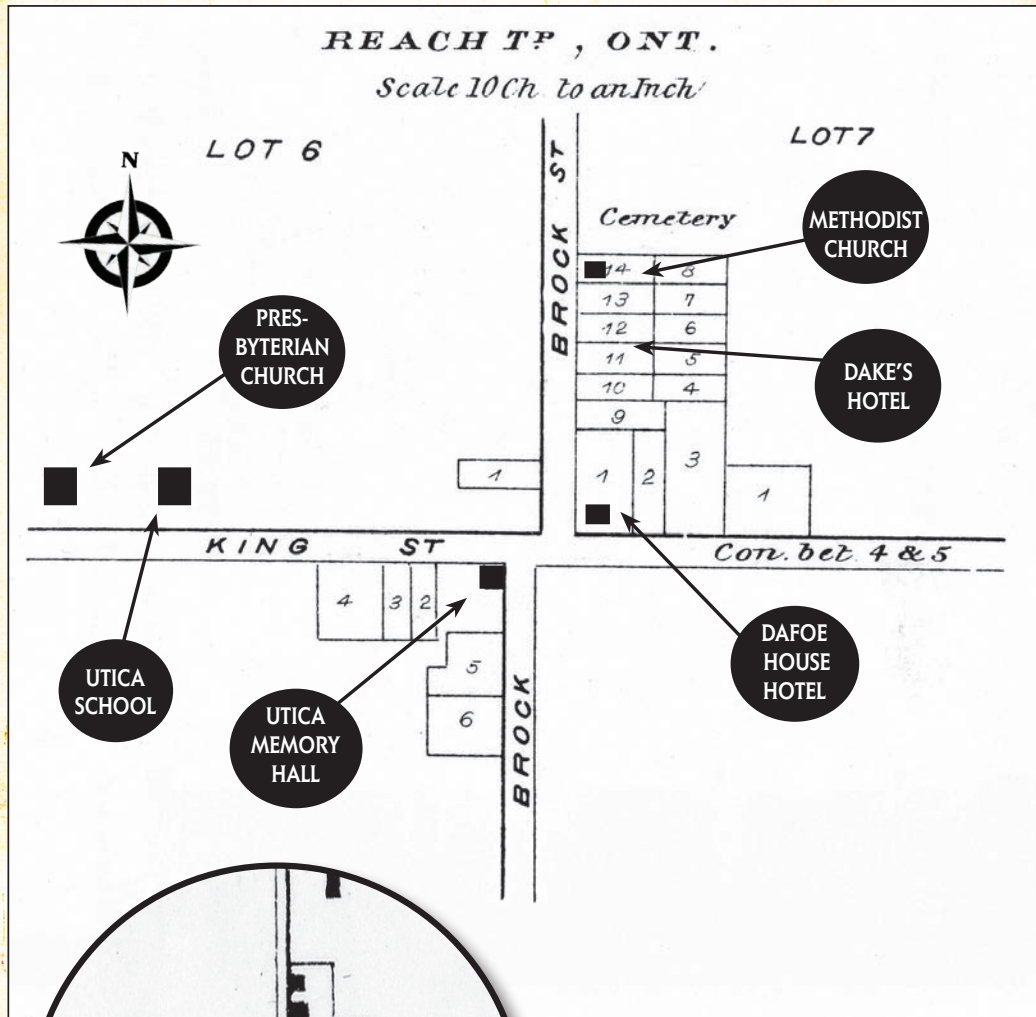


Diagram circled, left, outlining the central area of the Village of Utica, shows the location of churches, school and homes in the village in 1877.

Utica's Dafoe House



The earliest known photograph of the Dafoe House, Utica's hotel and general store, circa 1900.

THE DAFOE HOUSE was a busy and popular place throughout the mid to late 1800s, catering to the travelling public as well as providing a gathering place for residents of the village of Utica to gather for special occasions, political meetings and celebrations.

The **Utica Hotel** is believed to have been built about 1855, possibly by Joseph Claughton, who was listed as a hotel keeper in the village as early as 1857. The hotel, located centrally in the village on a corner property, was owned by John S. Sproul, a Cannington businessman as early as 1862.

Jacob Dafoe was 24 years old in 1864 when he and his wife Jane arrived in Reach Twp. Before settling in Utica, he had worked as a farm labourer, in Markham. Jacob married Jane Berry in Stouffville when he was 22 years old, and the couple moved to Reach, where he accepted a job at the local hotel.

Two years later, Jacob was given an opportunity to purchase the business and become the hotelkeeper. He accepted the offer and renamed the hotel the **Dafoe House**. After managing the hotel for a year, John Sproul sold the hotel and property to the young man for £500, the equivalent of about \$766.

Jacob and Jane operated the hotel for the next six years and in that time established the hotel as one of the best in the township. Surprisingly, in August 1873, at the age of 35 years, Jacob decided to retire from the hotel business and advertised his hotel, store and com-

DAFOE HOUSE
UTICA

GOOD accommodations. Careful attention to the requirements of travelers and guests. The bar supplied with the best wines, liquors and cigars Good stabling.

J. DAFOE, Proprietor.

June, 1871.



This section of an 1860 map of Reach Township shows the location of the Dafoe House hotel.

comfortable dwelling for sale.

He described the hotel as being a profitable business, comfortable and commodious, and country store adjoining the hotel was well established and included the hamlet's post office. The sale also included all of the property's outbuildings, driving sheds, stables and barns. A few years earlier there had been two small hotels near the village, but Jacob proclaimed at the time of the sale that there was no other stores or hotels in the village.

The Dafoes were unsuccessful in selling his property, so he and his wife settled into the community and continued to operate the hotel, store and post office. Their general store was packed with products for the residents of the surrounding area. Some of the many products they carried included dry goods, groceries, dairy products, boots, shoes, clothes, materials and hardware.

The Ontario Observer reported in 1880 - "Jacob Dafoe, postmaster and general merchant is doing a comfortable and thriving business. In no way cramped for funds, he is enabled to offer his customers such bargains as cannot be surpassed for quality and prices. The Dafoe House continues to be run on the reliable principle of the first class country hotel and is a credit to the village of Utica."

About 1883 the Dafoes leased their **Utica Hotel** to Uxbridge resident William Flewell, who took over as the hotelkeeper for the hotel for an unknown length of time. Jacob and Jane Dafoe continued to operate the general store in the same building.

Despite their popularity in the community, the Dafoes attempted to retire again in September 1884, offering for sale by auction their property, including **Dafoe Hotel**, general store and residence. Once again they were unsuccessful, and four years later Jacob gave notice to creditors of an assignment of his stock and book debts.

After the assignment it appears as if Jacob took on a number of jobs. He became a cattle breeder, auctioneer and pound keeper for the village of Utica. Jane Dafoe continued to operate the general store.

Finally, after providing services to the community for 45 years, the Dafoes' property was sold. They left their longtime home in Utica shortly after selling and moved to Toronto to join family members.

The *Observer* newspaper, on learning of the sale reported, "*When the lumber trade was booming this pleasant hotel kept by Mr. Dafoe did a thriving trade. It was known far and wide as a good place to stop and Dafoe and Utica seemed inseparable.*"

In October 1909 ownership of the property and buildings was transferred from the Dafoes to James E. Buck. The Buck family took over the **Utica Hotel** and general store and operated it successfully for a decade.

It's believed it was during Mr. Buck's ownership that the hotel was closed and that section of the building was converted into living quarters.

**HOTEL, STORE,
and Dwelling
For Sale!**

**A Capital Chance for entering upon a
Comfortable and Profitable Country
Business.**

THE Subscriber having made up his mind to retire from business, offers for sale his Hotel, Store, a comfortable Dwelling House and an acre of Land in the

**VILLAGE OF UTICA!
TOWNSHIP OF REACH.**

The hotel is comfortable and commodious, in good order and does a regular and profitable business. There is a good supply of outbuildings such as Driving Sheds, Stables, Barns, &c.

The Store adjoins the Hotel, is well established, and is doing a paying business as a general country store. The Post Office is connected with the store. There is no other store or hotel in the village.

The Dwelling House is convenient to the store and is in good order.

There is a thrifty young orchard of capital fruit on the premises and abundance of good water.

N. B. The stock may be purchased with the store on advantageous terms. The stock consists of Dry Goods, Groceries, Hardware &c., such as are found in a good general country store.

For parties wishing a comfortable paying country business there could scarcely be a better opening or more profitable investment.

The location is one of the most healthful and pleasant in the Province.

For particulars apply to the subscriber on the premises—if by letter prepaid, to Utica P. O.
JACOB DAFOE.

NOTICE.
All parties indebted to the Subscriber by Note or Book Account are required to settle the same on or before the first day of November next.

JACOB DAFOE.

Utica, August 13, 1873. 35



Tavern License issued to William Flewell, who was the hotel keeper for Dafoe's "Utica Hotel" during 1884-85.

Utica Hotel Owners

UTICA, ONTARIO

JOSEPH CLAUGHTON

Hotel keeper

Joseph Claughton arrived in the Utica area of Reach Township about 1850 with his wife Eunice and their children. He was married to Eunice Sutcliffe in England in 1829.

It is believed they arrived in Canada 1845, and settled on lot 7, concession 5, Reach Township and began farming the land. Farming was Joseph's career but he did take up another job for a few years.

During his life in Reach, Joseph Claughton took an active part in the local political scene, and held the position of Superintendent of the Utica Sabbath School.

In 1857 Joseph an Ontario Directory listed him Mr. Claughton as a hotel keeper. It is unlikely that this hotel was the hotel later taken over by Jacob Dafoe in the centre of the village.

About 1862 Mr. Claughton either sold or leased the hotel to Hiram Dake.

HIRAM E. DAKE

Inn keeper

Little is known about Hiram E. Dake and his family, except that he was the operator of a hotel in Utica for a number of years during the 1860s.

Hiram, Edward Dake was born in 1827 in Greenfield, New York, USA. His parents were Thomas and Sarah Dake. He married Hannah Jane Right of Whitby, Ontario, on August 11, 1846. During their life together they raised 11 children.

By 1851 the couple were living in Waterloo County, where Hiram worked on a farm. They moved to Reach Township about 1858 and in December 1862 he purchased a hotel on the Brock Road, and became inn keeper of "Dake's Hotel". The Ontario County Directories identify Hiram Dake as a hotel keeper in both 1869 and 1871.

During the late 1870s he moved to Lampton, Ontario. After returning to the USA, Hiram Dake died in Michigan on January 16, 1900, at 73 years of age.

JACOB DAFOE

General Store & Inn keeper

Jacob Dafoe was one of Reach Townships longest serving and most respected inn keepers, owning and operating a hotel for almost four decades.

Born near Markham in about 1838, Jacob grew up and was educated in that community. On Christmas day, in 1860, when he was 22 years old, he married Jane Berry in Witchurch Township. He was active in farming for a number of years before he and his family moved to Reach Township in 1866.

Not long after arriving in Utica, Jacob took over the local hotel, which later became known as Dafoe House. In addition to his inn keeper duties, he also operated the general store and served as post master from 1868-1887.

Jacob's wife, Jane, shared the duties working in the general store, and after Jacob retired as postmaster, she took over as Utica's postmaster for the next 19 years, from 1887-1906.

Records show Mr. Dafoe tried to sell his hotel, store and dwelling in 1873, but it appears he was unsuccessful, remaining there for much of their lives, although it is speculated he leased the hotel for a number of years.

Jacob Dafoe and his wife left their home at Utica after living in the community for almost 40 years, moving to Toronto in 1905.

He died after a lingering illness, on July 8, 1916 and was interred at Utica. He was survived by his wife and six children.

WILLIAM FLEWELL

Inn keeper

Born in Ontario County, March 12, 1840. William married Martha Emery, of Scotland, on November 21, 1861 in Uxbridge. They had six children.

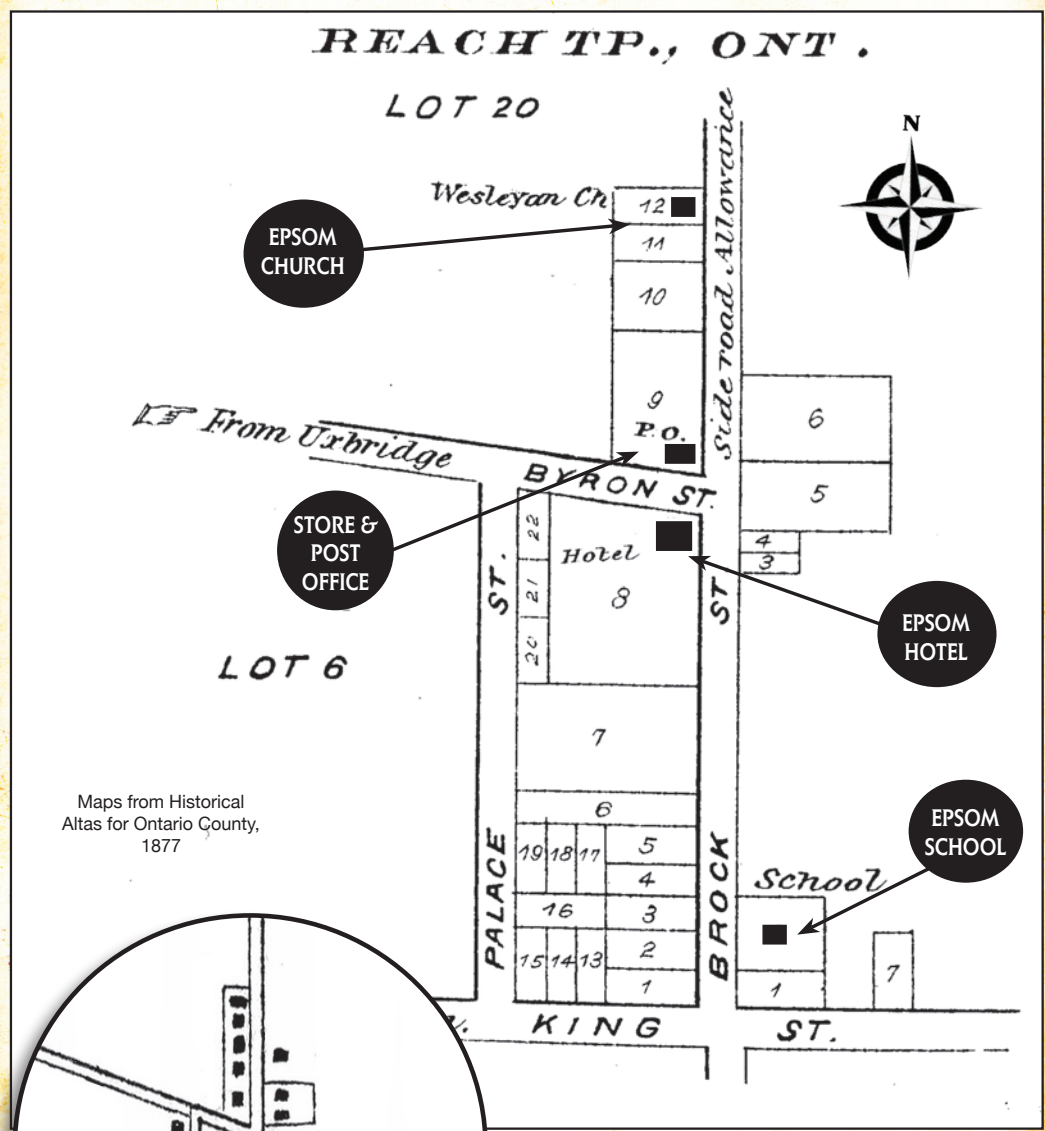
William spent most of his life as a farmer in Uxbridge Township, but while living there, tried his hand at operating a hotel. Records show he was a hotelkeeper in Utica in 1885, possibly having leased Dafoe's hotel.

The Flewell family moved to York County about 1890 and William Flewell, 72, died on June 18, 1911, at his home in Witchurch

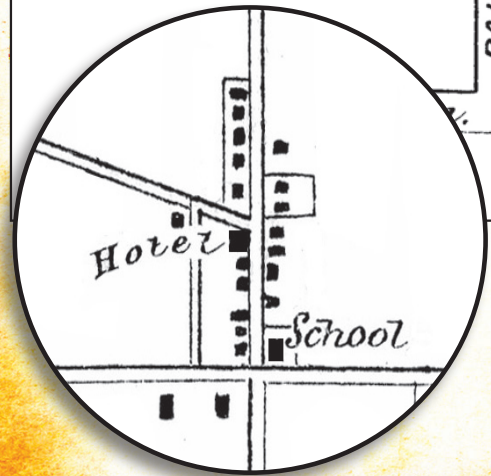
Note: The information on these pages is based on the best details available at the time of writing, and could change in future.

EPSOM

Map from Historical Atlas for Ontario County, 1877



Maps from Historical Atlas for Ontario County, 1877



Inset, left, of the Village of Epsom, shows the locations of the school, hotel and large number of homes in the village in 1877.

Central House Hotel

Part of Lot 6, Con. 7, Lot #8, Epsom, Ontario.

Epsom, Ontario



This building, located on the southwest corner of Marsh Hill Rd., and Byron Street, Epsom is believed to have been the "Centre Hotel" during the 1860s-1900s. It was later renovated and became a residence and is in use to this day.

THE HISTORY of hotels and taverns for Epsom is not entirely clear, due to lack of official records and substantial documentation prior to 1858, but it appears there was at least one hotel operating by the late 1840s.

Hotels throughout Reach Township were generally located about one mile apart and were built to provide accommodation and food for travellers, and also a meeting place for villagers to enjoy an alcoholic beverage and seek entertainment.

Not unlike the general store, Epsom's hotel and taverns were also a meeting place for the community, providing space for meetings, social and special events.

Listings in the *Ontario County Directory* show there were two hotels in this small hamlet in the year 1858. Hotelkeepers in the village at that time were Thomas English and Philip Houck.

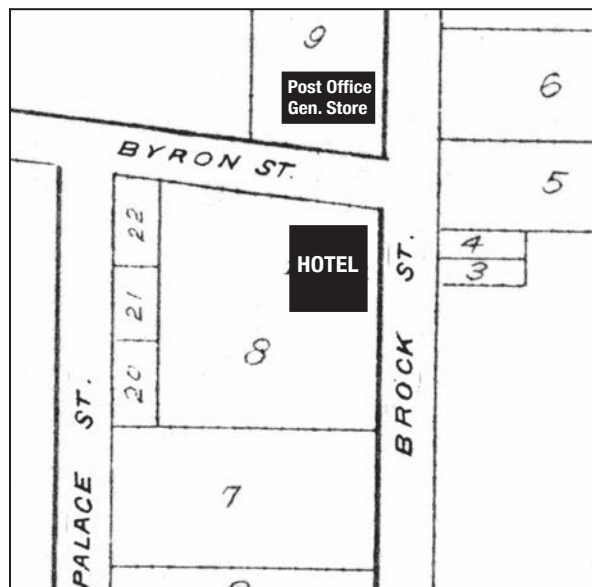
The location of Mr. English's hotel has yet to be determined but he was the tavern keeper there until April 2, 1862, when he leased his tavern to John Hamilton. No further record of this hotel has been found.

Epsom's best known hotel, Philp Houck's **Centre Hotel** was located in Lot 8, on the southwest side of Brock Street and Byron Street in the

centre of the village.

The hotel was described as being a large frame building with accommodation on the second floor and an adjoining wing on the west side. There was also a large stable on the lot for animals and their carriages.

Mr. Houck purchased the hotel property from



Map of Epsom showing the locations of the Post Office and General Store, and the Centre Hotel, sometimes referred to as the Central House hotel.

William Hamilton about 1857, but it is not known if Mr. Hamilton actually operated a hotel on the property before that date.

Sometime before 1864 the hotel was purchased by William Bolton, who became the new hotelkeeper, but he also continued to work at his shop as a blacksmith.

Two years later Mr. Bolton leased the hotel to Archibald Sinclair, but retained ownership of the property. In 1870, six years after purchasing the **Central House**, William Bolton offered the property and hotel for sale.

It appears that Henry Bentley was the next owner, purchasing the hotel about August 1870. About one year later, in February 1872, John Hockridge assumed ownership of the Centre Hotel.

The hotel changed hands once again in 1877 when Mr. Hockridge sold the property to George B. Reynolds. Reynolds sold it to John Bray in June 1886.

There were a few other operators of the property before being purchased by John Whitney in 1892. The last mention of the hotel was in January 1901 when the **Whitney Hotel** estate was offered for sale, or to rent, by Norman Stuart. The property was described as being two acres with first class buildings and orchard.

As is apparent, with most small hotels of this era, ownership changed often, as well as tenants. Some of the other men who took up inn keeping at the Centre Hotel included: H.C. Lynde in 1869; John Benteley 1871; Luther H. Hurd, 1882, Alonzo Rose, 1895.

It's possible there were other owners or operators of the **Central House** who are unknown, or listed in other reports about the history of Epsom.

Stretton's **Union Hotel** was not located in Epsom, but was found on Conc. 9, in Reach Twp., west of the village near the Reach / Uxbridge town line.

The hotel was operated by Robert Stretton for about 17 years before the hotel and outbuildings were destroyed by fire on July 22, 1879.

Centre Hotel,
HENRY BENTELEY, Proprietor, Good
 rooms for Travelling agents. The best
 of everything, both at the Table and Bar.
 August 10, 1870. v2-2-1y

Centre Hotel, Epsom.

THE undersigned has purchased the Centre. Although a short time out of the harness he is determined to cater as well for the public who may favor him with a call, as any in the County. Every attention paid to the guests; and the stable will receive the care of an hostler.

JOHN HOCKRIDGE.
 Uxbridge, April 20, 1871. 45-tf

HOTEL & PREMISES

FOR SALE.

THAT old established and well known Hotel, the
CENTRAL HOUSE, EPSOM

Splendid roomy stabling, and driving shed, together with one or tow acres of land attached, as may be desired, and a fine young bearing Orchard. There are two wells with good pumps and excellent water.

The whole will be sold at a bargain and is one of the best chances in the Dominion for an active business man.

Will be exchanged for farm property.

For terms, &c., apply (is by letter, pre-paid) to,

WILLIAM BOLTON
 Epsom, May 1870

TO THE TRAVELLING PUBLIC.

THE subscriber, having Leased the Premises lately occupied by T. English, in the Village of Epsom, and having fitted them up in good style is now prepared to accommodate all those who give him a call. He intends keeping nothing but

The Best of Liquors and Cigars!

And his Table will be furnished with all the delicacies of the season. An attentive Ostler always on hand; therefore, those who favor him with a call may rely upon being comfortably accommodated and well attended to.

JOHN HAMILTON,
 Proprietor.
 Epsom, April 2, 1862. 10-tf

UNION HOTEL,
 [LATE KING WILLIAM]
ON THE EPSOM ROAD, REACH.

R. STRETTON, Proprietor.

**N.B.—Good accommodation for both man and
 beast.**

Whitby, Feb. 4, 1862. 4-ly

Central House Owners

JOHN HOCKRIDGE

Inn keeper

Born in 1834 in Upper Canada, he became an inn keeper in Epsom about 1861 and continued in this profession until sometime in the mid-1870s.

John Hockridge was married to Mary Mountjoy of Reach Township as a young man and they had two children before she died in May 1872.

About two years later, in July 1874, he married Wilhemina Graham Elder, 25, of Mara Township.

There is no further mention locally of Mr. Hockridge, but records show he and his wife were living in Pronton, Grey County during the 1880s and 1890s where he had returned to farming. He was 76 when he passed away on May 12, 1909 in Grey County, Ontario.

THOMAS ENGLISH

Inn keeper

Thomas English was born in Durham, England in 1826. His parents were Mary Ann (Turner) and William English. Thomas immigrated to Canada with family in early 1840s settling in Durham Township, Upper Canada.

He was married in Ontario in 1845 when he was 19 years old. Elizabeth Jane (Nicols). The couple had five children during their marriage

Thomas and his wife moved to Epsom about 1847. Here he opened a tavern, at a location yet to be determined, in the fledgling settlement. Here he served as its tavern/hotel keeper until April 1862, when he leased the hotel to John Hamilton.

Nine years later, in April 1871, Thomas English sold property to John Hockridge. It wasn't long after Mr. English sold the tavern that he and his family moved to Markham, Ontario.

LUTHER HURD

Inn keeper

Luther H. Hurd was the grandson of son of Abnur Hurd, the man who first settled in Prince Albert in 1824. Luther was born in Reach Township in April 1847, a son for Prosper A. and Priscilla Hurd.

He was about 28 years old when he married Annie M. Oke in April 1877.

As a young man in his 20s, Luther was a waiter, presumably at one of the local hotels, but by 1881 he had become the owner of the Epsom hotel. A year later, in November 1882, he leased the Dafoe House in Utica from Jacob Dafoe.

After only a year and a half, Luther moved to Port Perry and leased a hotel located on Perry St. immediately south of the Market building. He refurbished the hotel, and opened in February 1884. He renamed his new venture, Hurd's Hotel.

Luther H. Hurd died on October 18, 1896 at York (Toronto) Ontario.

PHILIP HOUCK

Inn keeper

Born about 1809 in Lower Canada, Philip Houck was living in Reach Township as early as 1846. He was listed as owning a 1.5 acre property at Lot 6 or 7 in Concession 7, in 1851.

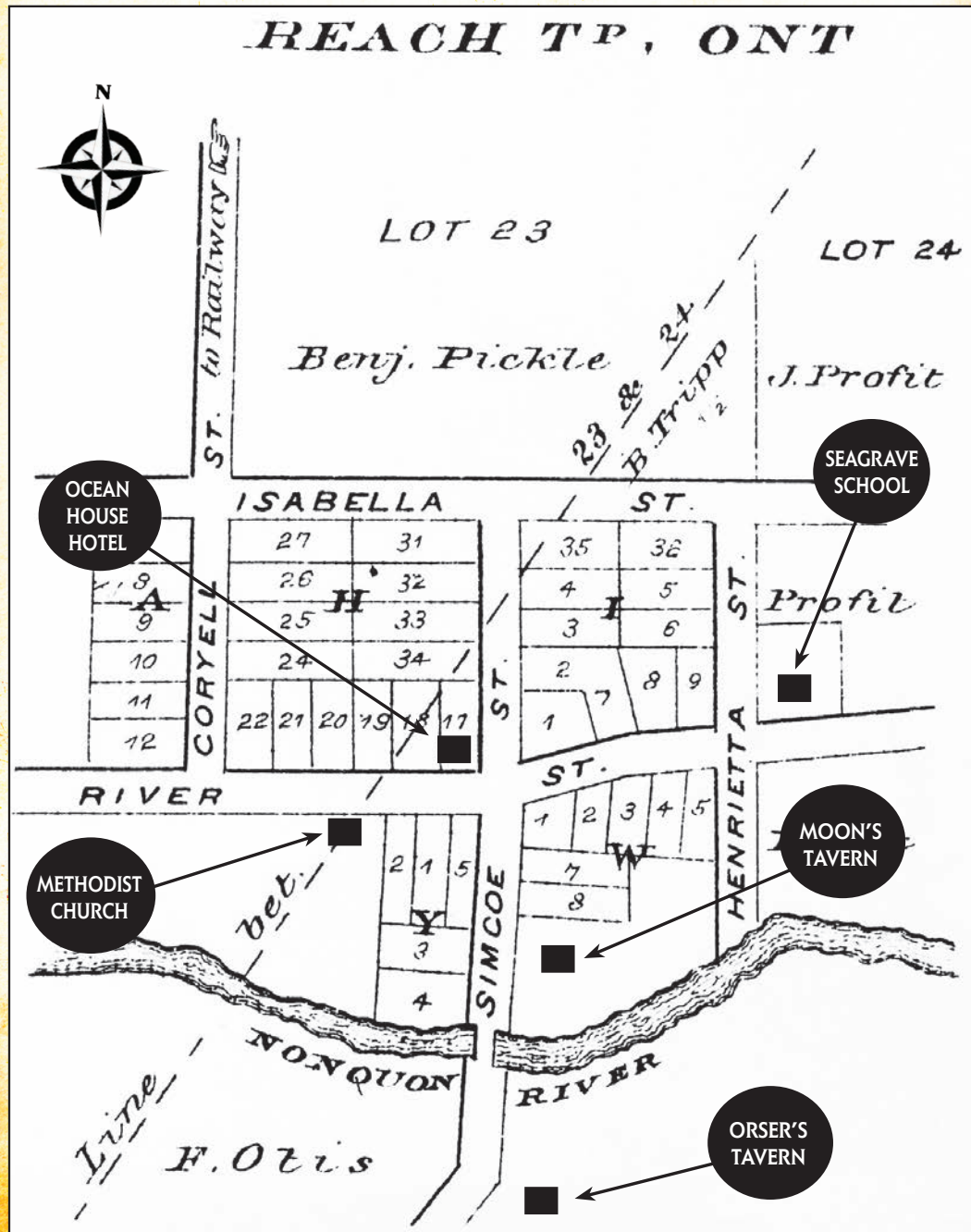
He was married to Mary Cole of Upper Canada and they had four children by 1861.

He became owner of a tavern, which became known as the "Centre Hotel" about 1857 and operated it until the mid-1860s.

There is no record of Mr. Houck after he sold the hotel to William Bolton.

SEAGRAVE

Map from Historical Atlas for Ontario County, 1877





Ocean House hotel in the centre of Seagrave, about 1890.

Seagrave Taverns & Hotels

SOLOMON ORSER, the first settler in the village of Seagrave, also became the settlement's first inn keeper, constructing a small tavern near his home in the early 1830s. Although there are no records, it may have been known as **Orser's Tavern**.

A few years later, James Moon arrived in the small settlement and he is reported to have opened a tavern on the south side on Simcoe Street, just south of the Nonquon River. It is unclear if he ever operated it since he was reported to have been a farmer during his time in Reach.

In the early 1860s the tavern was operated by a J.C. Wesley and was known as the **Half-Way House**. L.D. Brown became the next tavernkeeper in April 1864 and it's believed it was he, who renamed it the **Nonquon House**. He died in 1872 after moving to Darlington, Ontario.

The **Nonquon House** continued to serve the residents of Seagrave for many years, with a

Mr. Dennison being the owner during the 1870s. In May 1878 there was a report Mr. Dennison was renovating his hotel.

One year later, William S. Latimor, a 25 year old man from Cartwright, advertised he has purchased the **Nonquon Hotel**. It is not known how long Mr. Latimor owned the hotel, but this is the last we hear of the **Nonquon House**.

Not long after James Moon opened his tavern, a Mr. Black arrived in Seagrave, settling on the north side of the Nonquon River. Here he opened another small tavern.

At some point in the 1860s the property was sold to James Dewart, who operated the hotel and tavern until March 1873 when it was destroyed by fire. Mr. Dewart was on his way home when he noticed the house was ablaze. Efforts to save some of the chattels was unsuccessful, although he was able to save part of the barn.

Charles and Elizabeth Coryell moved to Seagrave and opened a new hotel in the village

THE NONQUON HOUSE.
 (LATE WESLEY'S HALF-WAY HOUSE)
SIMCOE STREET
L. D. BROWN - - Proprietor.

THIS Hotel is situated about mid-way between Manila and Prince Albert, and has been thoroughly re-furnished and renovated for the reception of the travelling public. A large fire place in the Bar-room.

Warm stabling and extensive sheds. A careful Hostler always in attendance.

Whitby, May 4, 1864

THE NONQUON HOTEL

The undersigned having purchased the above Hotel has had it thoroughly overhauled in every department in and around the premises fitting it in every way to secure the comfort of guests.

The supplies for the table and bar will always be the best the market can supply. No effort will be spared in making this large and pleasantly located Hotel an agreeable resting place for the travelling public.

W. S. LATIMOR

Seagrave, May 1, 1879

in 1850. He named it the **Coryell House**. Charles died in 1872 and Elizabeth sold their property moved back to her home in Whitby. Coryell St. and Henrietta St. are named after the family.

The **Coryell House** hotel was taken over by W.S. Latimor, and operated it for eight years before it was destroyed by fire during the morning in April 1880. The fire took hold of the large hotel and in short time had destroyed the hotel and its out-buildings.

The following year, 1881, a new hotel which was named the **Ocean House** was built by James Broad on the north side of River St. This hotel, which is now a residence, still remains today.

Mr. Broad, operated the **Ocean House** from its opening until selling it to Robert Brown in May 1896. Mr. Brown had experience as a bartender at the *St. Charles Hotel* in Port Perry before purchasing the **Ocean House**. In an attempt to attract patrons, Mr. Brown advertised he would provide rabbit and fox hounds, and duck boats to hotel guests staying at the hotel, for hunting purposes.

A year later hotel owner Robert Brown was faced with having to close his bar as over two-thirds of the residents of Seagrave signed a petition against him. Fortunately for Mr. Brown the petition was not successful, but a year later, in May 1898 his liquor license was cut-off.

Hotel Tavern Owners

Solomon Orser

Orser's Tavern

Solomon Orser was born in Kingston Ontario in 1805 and arrived in Reach Township about 1829, along with his brother Jeremiah.

Solomon married Sarah Hadley of Port Perry (Scugog Village) on September 5, 1831. The young couple settled at Seagrave, where he farmed and they raised eight children.

Sometime in the mid-1840s, Solomon opened a small tavern just south of the Nonquon, which became known as Orser's Tavern.

An 1851 census shows Solomon owning 100 acres of land on Conc. 8, Lot 19, along with his brother Jeremiah who owned 75 acres.

His wife Sarah died on July 14, 1890.

Solomon died in 1895 when he was 90 years old at Saranac, Michigan, USA.

James Moon

Nonquon House

When James Moon was born on January 18, 1819, in England. His parents were James and Sarah Moon.

The Moon family emigrated to Canada about 1833 and it is believed he opened a tavern, which became known as the Nonquon House, beside the Nonquon River near Seagrave.

By 1861 Mr. Moon owned 150 acre parcel of land in Reach Township, on lot 13, concession 10, which he farmed for most of his life.

He married Catherine A Marks on January 18, 1849, in Ontario. They had seven children in 17 years.

He died on October 3, 1898, in Reach Twp., Ontario, having lived a long life of 79 years. Buried at Pine Grove Cemetery.

Charles Coryell

Coryell House

When Charles and Elizabeth Coryell moved to Reach Township in 1850, the opened a hotel and called their new venture the "Coryell House.

Charles Emerson Coryell was born on April 12, 1816, in New York, USA. His parents, Sarah (Emerson) and Abraham Coryell immigrated to Canada about 1830 and settled into farming.

When Charles was 20 years old, he married Elizabeth Farewell on February 29, 1836 and during their marriage they raised 11 children.

After opening the Coryell House in Seagrave, he served the community as hotelkeeper for more than 20 years, until his unexpected death on May 5, 1872 in Whitby.

His wife, Elizabeth, sold the hotel and moved back to Whitby following his death.

James Broad

Ocean House

James Broad was born in Cornwall, England in 1829. In 1853, when he was 24 years old James married Roxanna M. Phillips and they had two sons before immigrating to Canada during the mid-1860s.

By 1871 James and Roxanna settled into Reach Township where he worked as a clerk, possibly in a Seagrave hotel. Roxanna died in 1877.

James either built, or purchased the hotel about 1881 and worked as the inn keeper there until April 1896 when he sold the Ocean House to Robert Brown.

Not long after selling the hotel he moved to Parry Sound to live with his daughter and son-in-law. James Broad died at Parry Sound in May 1904, and was interred at Pine Grove Cemetery, Prince Albert.

Seagrave petitions to close hotel bar

Uxbridge Journal: April 7, 1897

Over two-thirds of the people of Seagrave have signed a petition, and in all probability Mr. Robt. Brown, host of the Ocean House, will be forced to close his bar. Mr. Edward Newton of Seagrave and Mr. Jacob DeFoe of Utica are endeavoring to get licenses, but petitions have been circulated against them.

Note: Two weeks later, the Ocean House in Seagrave was successful in holding the right to sell "fire water" despite the large petition against it. Utica and Saintfield were turned down.



Scott Act cases vs hotel keepers

Whitby Chronicle: January 13, 1888

Police magistrate Horne heard two cases against hotel owners in Port Perry and Prince Albert last week.

Mr. Hodgson keeps the Queen's hotel at Port Perry. In this case Mr. W.C. McCrae swore he went into Hodgson's hotel on November 8th, to the bar and played the ruse of trying to sell some cigars. He got an order for 500 and treated Hodgson, another man and himself. McCrae said he and Hodgson took whiskey, but did not know what the other man took. He could not identify any except for Mr. Hodgson.

Hodgson, Marnon and Blakely swore Mr. McCrae took a cigar. Hodson also swore that he had not kept any intoxicating liquor for sale, Blakely corroborating. Case reserved for argument.

The second case, against Mr. William Parkes, who keeps a hotel in Prince Albert. Mr. McCrae swore he was there on November 29th and had dinner. He asked for and obtained a glass of whiskey when going into dinner. He stayed there until four o'clock in the afternoon and saw other persons come in and get drinks.

Mr. Parkes swore McCrae was there that day and said he had been told by Port Perry fellows to call. Squelch and Coomb were there at the time. McCrae wanted dinner and Parks went to dinner together. McCrae got a cigar when he came out and paid 5 cents.

McCrae tried to sell book flask in presence of Squelch and Coomb. Parkes said he had not kept intoxicating liquors for sale. Coomb's story did not quite corroborate Parks' but did regarding the sale of Whiskey. Case reserved for argument.

Man dies in St. Charles hotel bed from practical joke

Toronto Empire: November 28, 1889

Mr. A.J.D. Mingeaud, of Bowmanville, kept a room at the St. Charles hotel, lately Ben. McQuay's, on the corner of main street coming from the station. He was of French descent and 31 years old. The body is that of a large and handsome man, whose features are striking.

A week ago to-day Mrs. Mingeaud went to Bowmanville to visit her aunt. While away Mr. Mingeaud, a man who was sadly addicted to drinking, became intoxicated and was made the victim of vicious practical joking.

When he could no longer drink himself, it is alleged, the liquor was poured down his throat, and at last, while in a drunken stupor, lugged upstairs and put to bed with another man. Then the contents of the water pitchers in the rooms were poured over them and the window left open on a bitterly cold night.

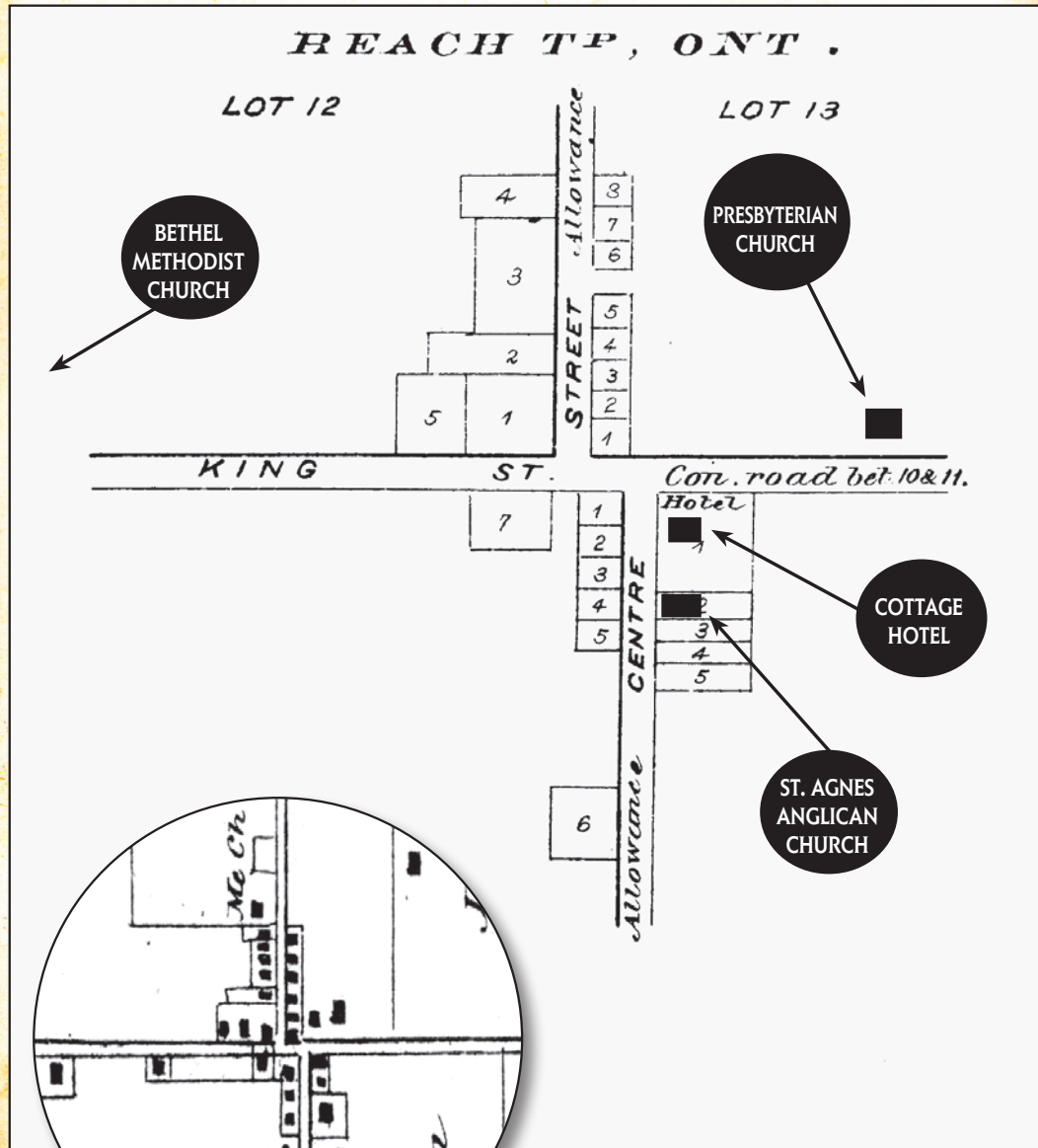
Next morning Mr. Mingeaud, in a state of collapse, was found by his wife on her return. A doctor was called in but too late to avail anything, and the wretched victim of his own weakness and of those who thought it "fun" to play upon it, died on Tuesday.

The jury returned this verdict: The deceased came to his death on Tuesday, the 19th of November, 1889, at the St. Charles Hotel; that from evidence they find that the deceased was addicted to the habitual use of intoxicating liquors and had contracted alcoholic pneumonia. That he drank to excess in company with others and that after so drinking he was carried to bed and water thrown on him by on Frank Quick.

He lay during the night in his wet clothing upon his bed with the bedroom window raised, and in the opinion of the jurors, this exposure accelerated his death, and the jury are of the opinion that censure should be laid on the male employees of the hotel and others who participated in the carousal.

GREENBANK

Maps from Historical Atlases for Ontario County, 1877



The inset, left, of the village of Greenbank, shows the locations of buildings and homes in the village in 1877.

The Cottage Hotel

GREENBANK, ONTARIO

THE GREENBANK HOTEL, which became known later as the **Cottage Hotel**, was originally located on the site of the present United Church, on the southeast corner of Hwy. #12 and Cragg Road.

Exactly when it was opened is not known, but by February 1866 Robert A. Murta announced he had taken over the Cottage Hotel and completely fitted and furnished it throughout.

William Butson was the next owner of the hotel, purchasing it from Mr. Murta during 1867. Under his ownership it became known locally as **Butson's Hall**, and also referred to as **Butson's Tavern**. It's believe it was in fact the Cottage Hotel as there are no records of another hotel in the village at this time.

Mr. Butson is believed to have operated the hotel He continued to own the hotel, leasing it for about four years before selling it.

The only other owner registered in the 1870s was a Mr. R. McCrae who was the proprietor in 1874. There are no records as to how long Mr.

McCrae operated the Cottage Hotel.

During early 1880's the hotel was purchased by James V. Thompson, a veteran hotel owner from Port Perry. Mr. Thompson moved his family to the village and renovated the hotel before reopening it in May that year. But four years later the hotel changed hands, after Mr. Thompson moved back to Port Perry, where he constructed a large new hotel at the corner of Queen and Water Street.

The **Cottage Hotel** was taken over by Mr. J. Reeser in May 1884. There is little further information regarding the Cottage Hotel, although in 1892 Chester Vanlennan operated a hotel, and in 1895 Ezra Still was a hotelkeeper. It is unknown if this was the **Cottage Hotel** or an unknown hotel.

Whether the hotel was closed or destroyed by fire, is unknown, but in 1896, the congregation of the United Church built a large new brick church on the site of the former hotel.

COTTAGE HOTEL, GREENBANK.

THE subscriber wishes to inform the traveling public that he has taken the above hotel, which he has fitted and furnished throughout, and where the best accommodation, with careful attention, can always be found.— Good stabling, enclosed yards, and attentive Ostlers.

R. A. MURTA,
Proprietor.

Greenbank, Feb'y 13, 1866.

6-ly

COTTAGE HOTEL,

GREENBANK

R. McRAE, PROPRIETOR.

The above hotel has undergone a thorough renovation, and has been fitted up with a view to the comfort and convenience of the traveling public. Strict attention paid to the table and the bar. Comfortable stables and an attentive ostler.

Greenbank, March 25, 1874.

GREENBANK.

THE undersigned would inform the public that he has rented for a term of years the premises formerly known as the

Cottage Hotel,

Greenbank, and having thoroughly renovated the same he is now prepared to receive guests.

GOOD OPENING.

There is a splendid opening in Greenbank for an enterprising man to open the Furniture and Undertaking Business. A first class Shoemaker would find Greenbank a good opening for his business. The village is situated on the Center Road, about 7 miles from Port Perry and about the same distance from Uxbridge village, and 9 miles from Sunderland. It is in the centre of a Splendid Agricultural district

J. V. THOMPSON.

Greenbank, May 3rd, 1880.

Hotel Tavern Owners

GREENBANK, ONTARIO

Robert A. Murta

Cottage House Hotelkeeper

Robert Augusta Murta was born in 1835 in Ontario. He married Mary Ann Doble on October 11, 1861.

The Murtra's lived in Reach Township following their marriage and they raised four children. Robert purchased the Cottage Hotel in Greenbank in February 1866 and operated it until about 1867 when the business was sold to William Butson.

Robert Murta died at the very young age of 37 years, on May 3, 1872. He was buried at St. James Anglican Cemetery, in Brock Township.

William Butson

Cottage House Hotelkeeper

William Butson appears to have been a farmer and laborer, turned inn keeper of the Cottage Hotel, for a short time in Greenbank.

Born in Cornwall, England in 1823, he emigrated to Canada, residing around Brooklin, in Whitby Township in the late 1840s, working as a farm laborer. He married Susan Adams of Whitby on May 30, 1850 and they had five children.

The Butsons moved to the Greenbank area of Reach Township during the late 1860s and by 1868 he was operating "Butson's Hall" in the village.

Although there are no definitive information, it's believed Wm. Butson purchased the Cottage Hotel from Robert Murta before his death and under his ownership it became known as Butson's Hall or Butson's Tavern.

The Butsons returned to Brooklin by 1876, and then moved to Muskoka, Parry Sound about 1880. The family remained here until his death in March 1900.

J. V. Thompson

Hotel Owner and Inn keeper

James V. Thompson, was a pioneer in the hotel business, as a builder, owner and operator of hotels in Port Perry and Greenbank, in Reach Township during the 1870s and 1880s.

Born in Scotland on November 14, 1823. The family immigrated to Canada about 1832.

James was 40 years old when he married Mary Ann Matthews on August 23, 1864 and moved to Reach Township about 1869.

In 1869 he purchased a property on the northwest side of Queen and Water Street, and it was here he built a three story frame hotel which he called the Port Perry House. This hotel was burned to the ground in 1883.

In addition to his hotel ventures in Port Perry, James Thompson and his family moved to Greenbank, where he rented and renovated the Cottage Hotel, opening it in May 1880.

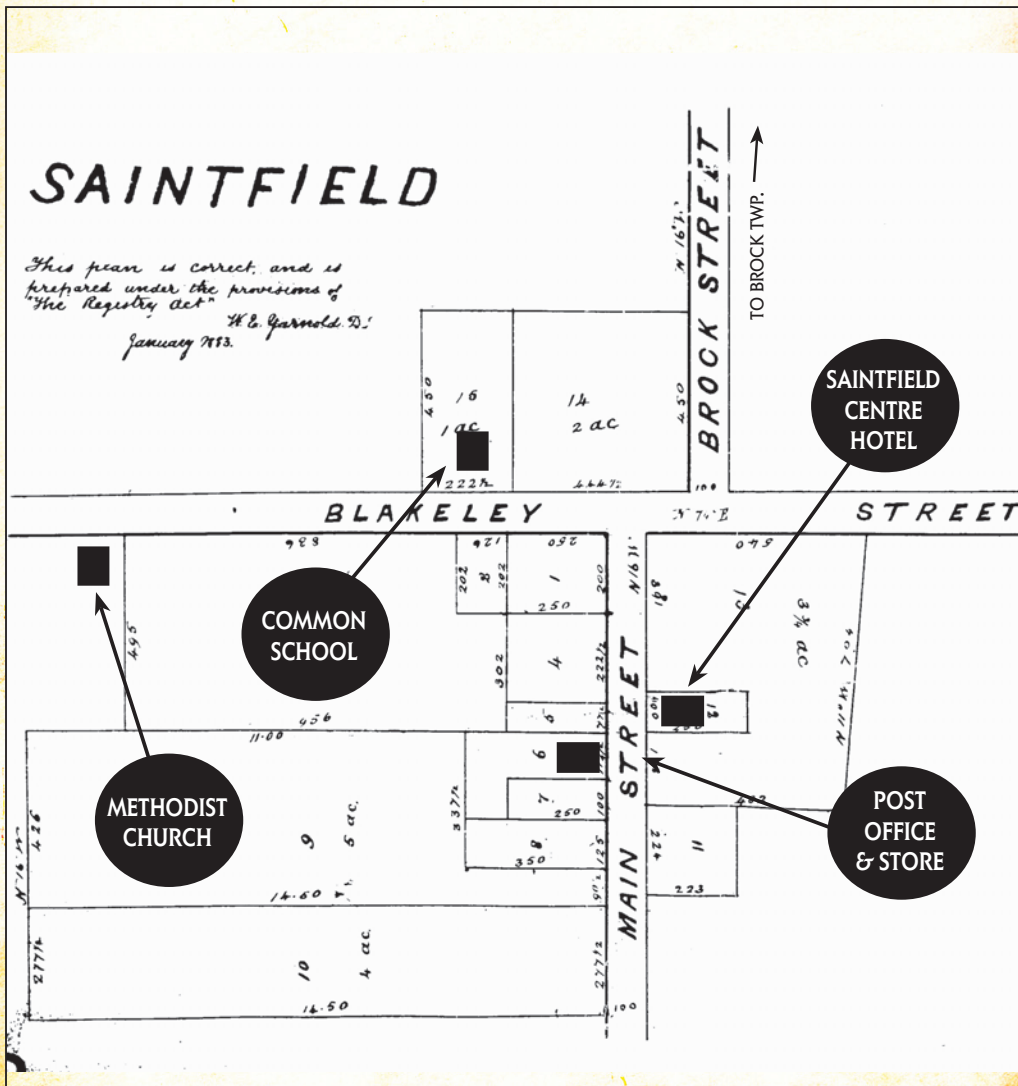
Four years later James returned to Port Perry and opened the magnificent new Thompson House hotel. The new building was a three-story, red brick structure with 25 bedrooms on the two upper floors. His hotel was the first building in town opened for business following the fire of July 1884.

A few months after opening his new hotel, he sold it to Louis Sebert, who renamed it the Sebert House.

SAINTFIELD

Plan of the Village of Saintfield, 1888

REACH TP., ONT.



This Plan of the Village of Saintfield, 1888, identifies locations of school, church, hotel and post office. Street labeled "Blakeley Street" is the 14th Concession. Main Street, was also known as Centre Road. Today it is now as Hwy. #12.

Saintfield Centre Hotel

ASWITH MOST village hotels, the Saintfield "Centre Hotel" played an important part in the development of this small community.

The Centre Hotel was is believed to have been opened by Donald Campbell on the northeast corner of Centre Road (Simcoe St.) and Concession 13, Township of Reach.

The size of the hotel is unknown, but like many village hotels, it was probably not too large, but with a few rooms for travellers, a parlour, bar room and kitchen.

When introducing the Saintfield Hotel in July 1864 Donald Campbell said it was commodious, well furnished and provided all conveniences and comfort for the traveling public and local residents.

Others who became hotelkeepers of the Centre Hotel, were Alexander Cameron (Jan. 1870 -1871); James Cameron (Feb. 1871- 1873) and J. Jennings from about May 1873 - July 1874. Land Registry records show the property was later owned by Charles Stark, who in 1882 leased to the premises to Edward Newton.

Less than a year later an auctioneer advertised there would be a Mortgage Sale of the hotel on Saturday, June 2, 1883, at Saintfield. The advertisement described the hotel as being a frame structure, two stories high, with 10 rooms, a



Illustration of a small village hotel from the 1860s. This is not the Centre Hotel in Saintfield.

cellar, shed and stable – one of the best country Tavern Stands in the County of Ontario.

Mr. Newton purchased the Centre Hotel, Saintfield and undertook a major renovation, which when completed would make the Hotel one of the most convenient, comfortable and best appointed hotels to be found in this section of the country. In time the hotel became known as Newton's Hotel.

It is believed Mr. Newton operated the hotel until about 1903. No other information was located about the hotel.

Donald Campbell

Farmer, Tavern Owner

Donald Campbell is believed to have been the first hotel/tavern owner in the village of Saintfield. He would have been 24 years of age when he announced the opening on July 27, 1864, noting that his house was new, commodious and well furnished.

Donald Campbell was born October 1, 1840 in Eldon, Victoria County, as son for Archibald and Sarah Campbell. As a young man he farmed the land he acquired in Eldon Township.

When he was 20 years old he married Christiana McArthur on May 12, 1860. Three years later, in 1863 he purchased 60 acres in Reach Township, just west of Saintfield. Disheartened with the hardships of farming, Donald purchased a tavern in Saintfield and became a hotelkeeper from 1864. He called his tavern, the Saintfield Hotel.

By 1869 he had grown tired of the tavern so he sold and moved to Brock Township where he and his family purchased another farm.

Donald Campbell died on October 7, 1906 and was buried at Pine Grove Cemetery, Prince Albert.

Saintfield Hotel.

THIS house being new, commodious, and well furnished throughout, the public favoring him with their custom may depend on finding every convenience necessary to their comfort attended to. Good Stabling, and attentive Ostlers always in attendance.

D. CAMPBELL, Proprietor.

July 27, 1864.

Centre Hotel,
SAINTFIELD,
ALEX. CAMERON, Proprietor.

Jan. 12, 1870.

Centre Hotel,
SAINTFIELD,
J. JENNINGS, Proprietor.

March 1873

EARLY
HOTELS
and
TAVERNS
of SCUGOG

BY J. PETER HVIDSTEN