

# The Rise & Fall of **PRINCE ALBERT** Borelia & Manchester

Utica • Espom • Seagrave • Greenbank • Saintfield



Prince Albert of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha

The first white settlers in Reach Township were Reuben Crandell (1821), Abner Hurd and Daniel Dayton (1824).

The settlement we know today as Prince Albert was initially recorded on maps as 'Reach' or 'Dayton's Corners', Daniel having built his original house to the east of the four corners of the village.

When the young Queen Victoria married her first cousin Prince Albert in 1840, the community celebrated its loyalty by renaming the village "Prince Albert" in his honour.

#### **BOOM TOWNS**

Researched and Published by J. Peter Hvidsten

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## The Rise & Fall of PRINCE ALBERT Borelia & Manchester

Utica • Espom • Seagrave • Greenbank • Saintfield

The decline of Prince Albert, Borelia and Manchester as three of Ontario County's major commercial centres during the 1850s & 1860s.

/ By J. Peter Hvidsten

### Introduction

This project started out as an modest record to highlight the vibrant and important village of Prince Albert, from the time of its first settlers until the arrival of the railway to Port Perry in 1872. As is not unusual in writing about history, the vast amount of information uncovered morphed it into a larger document, which includes the major small communities in Reach Township.

In the past, a great deal has been written about the development of Reach Township and Port Perry, but very little has been written about the early settlements that dot the landscape in the township. This book attempts to bring together the "bits 'n pieces" of history scattered throughout many other publications and additional information from more recent research.

Each of these communities; Prince Albert, Borelia, Manchester, Utica, Epsom, Seagrave, Greenbank and Saintfield, has its own unique and noteworthy history. This history is brought to light here, documenting the early settlers, community advancements, personalities, religious and business progress throughout the 1800s.

We start with Prince Albert – Reach Township's most dynamic and important settlement, from its early beginning about 1845 to its decline in the late 1870s.

Whether you are a long-time resident, or newcomer to Scugog Township, a drive through the peaceful village of Prince Albert, on the southern border of Port Perry, does little to suggest this bedroom community, was once an thriving commercial centre.

Years before Port Perry became one of the main commercial hubs of Ontario County, Prince Albert was a bustling community with dozens of businesses.

The village began its growth into an important industrial, commercial and farming centre in the mid-1800s, when the young hamlet grew to more than 200 inhabitants. By the late 1850s Prince Albert had become, by trade volume, the second largest grain handling centre in Canada.

In its heyday, throughout the 1860s, the village boasted three hotels, a tannery, school, many stores, three churches and seven grain merchants. Its importance was due to the enterprise of the grain merchants who bought, stored and sold grain from their village establishments.

The first Post Office was opened in the village in 1851, and the first newspaper, the Ontario Observer, began publication in Prince Albert in December 1857. In its first issue, the publisher promised to keep its readers informed of the prices of grain and agricultural produce in Toronto and other markets.

Abner Hurd was one of the first settlers in the area, and when his wife Anna died in 1831, the family buried her on their own property in Lot 17 in the 5th Concession, now 'Section A' of the Pine Grove Cemetery. He then made this piece of his considerable property available for burials for others in the community. By 1860 over 50 burials had taken place on his property.

The importance of this bustling, important grain centre began to lose its significance after the railway arrived in Port Perry in 1872.

Next comes Borelia. Now almost unknown by name, it also was a bustling community for a number of years before Scugog Village (now Port Perry) began to grow. Located on the crest of the hill, at the Queen Street and Old Simcoe Rd. intersection, Borelia at one time boasted two hotels, a school, church and large number of commercial and industrial enterprises.

Borelia was a thriving small village for more than 25 years, but as happened to Prince Albert, when the railway arrived in Port Perry in June 1871, the decline of Borelia began rapidly. Borelia ceased to exist as a hamlet in January 1872, when Port Perry was incorporated by Ontario County.

Manchester developed similarly to Prince Albert, becoming an equally important grain centre during the 1850s and 1860s. It had a busy commercial sector which included the Reach Township Town Hall, churches, school, grain elevators and a variety of commercial stores.

Again, with the arrival of the railway in Port Perry in 1872, the community began to diminish in importance. With Port Perry now the main terminus, Manchester businesses closed and relocated to its busy neighbour, three miles to the east, nestled on the shore of Lake Scugog.

Reach Township's smaller communities, west and north of Port Perry were also busy and valuable settlements in the township. Each with its own important history. Although not commercially as important, these primarily farming communities all provided an important centre

for their residents and provided them with their day-to-day necessities.

Most of the villages, which ranged in size from 80 to 200 settlers, provided a general store, post office, churches, hotels, blacksmiths and other businesses of convenience. In addition they provided stage service to nearby communities. Even the smallest of the villages provided an energetic and important centre for area residents to gather.

Work began on documenting the history of these villages a few years ago. Endless hours were spent scanning microfilmed copies of the local newspaper, the *Ontario Observer*, researching history books, the Scugog Museum archives and accessing important information by way of Ancestry.com.

It was difficult to determine, during extensive research, the exact locations of the local businesses, since many of the property owners did not operated businesses, but rented their premises to local merchants. Only when a property owner operated his own business can we identify with certainty, the name of the business in that block. Despite that, we were fortunate to be able to identify the location of many of the villages hotels, churches and general stores.

As with all research, it is highly likely there may be details in this book that conflict with the memories or documentation of others. Historical documents are often referred to as "living history", due to new information coming to light, often after publication. The work before you is based on the information available at the time of printing. We have done everything possible to ensure its accuracy, but would be happy to hear from anyone with details, which they may be incorrect.

### Acknowledgements & Sources

It goes without saying, writing a historical document is not the work of one person. The writer is dependent on many sources to pull together all of the pertinent information to complete a project such as this book.

First and foremost to thank is my good friend, and historical colleague, Paul Arculus for sharing his vast knowledge of Scugog Township history. Without his exceptional support and generosity in sharing documents, maps and illustrations and archival material, this document would be far less complete.

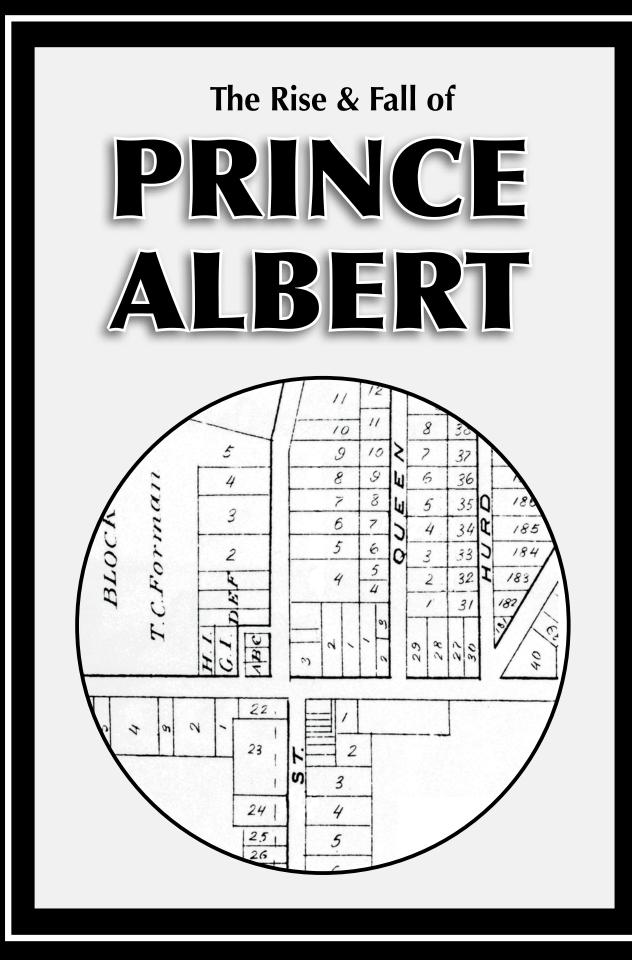
Paul's friendship, encouragement and constructive criticism is always appreciated, as is the coffee he delivers to provide the energy to keep going forward. Thank you Paul for your friendship and willingness to share your knowledge with our amazing community.

More sources and thanks:

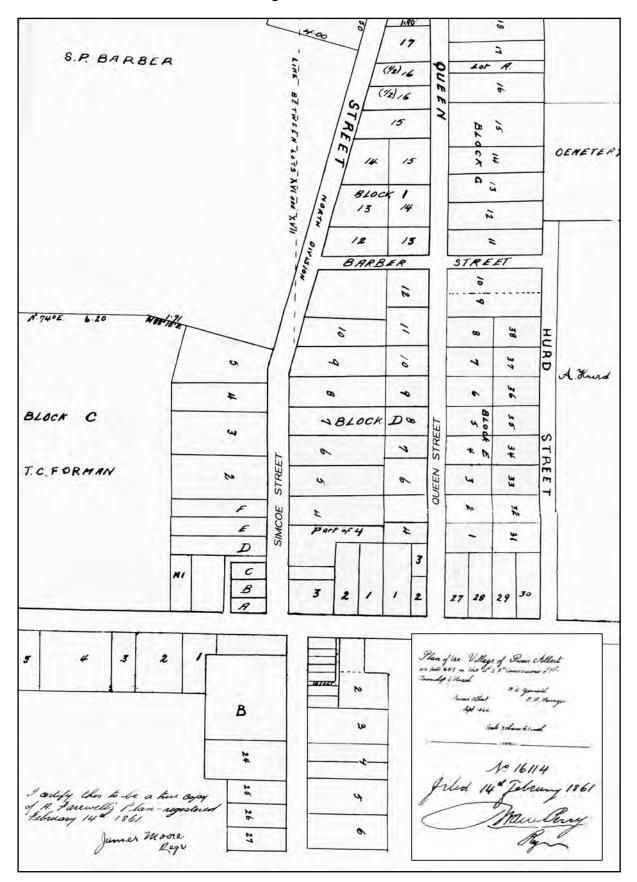
- Scugog Museum and Archives for access to valuable local history archives.
- Michael Fowler for his help in acquiring Village Plans from the 1860s.
- George Timms for maps and information about the village of Saintfield.
- Samuel Farmer's important history book, "On The Shores of Scugog".
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- The Ontario County Atlas of 1877 source for many village maps from that era.
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- Whitby Newspaper Collection
- Toronto Public Library
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### 1861 Map of Prince Albert



### The Rise of Prince Albert

From Sketches of Scugog by Paul Arculus

The first known published account recognizing the village of Prince Albert came in the "Canadian Gazetteer" published in Toronto in 1846. It was written by an Englishman, William H. Smith who had spent many months travelling throughout Upper Canada (now Ontario), gathering material for his book. At the time of his visit to this area in 1845, Prince Albert was the only settlement of any significance in Reach Township. He described it as follows:

"A village in the township of Reach, situated a little east of the centre of the township, about fourteen miles north from Oshawa. The Post Office of the township of Reach is kept here; post every Thursday. Population about 200. There is in the village, a Methodist Church, five stores, two taverns, two asheries, one blacksmith, one waggon maker, two shoemakers, two tailors."

As a result of the success of his Gazetteer, Smith compiled information for a revised and more detailed work. In 1851 a huge volume was printed and in 1852, it was reprinted as a two volume work. The 1852 work describes Prince Albert in these words:

"Prince Albert, which contains about 300 inhabitants, appears to be a busy little place, being at a sufficient distance from Oshawa and Whitby to enable it to command a tolerable trade of its own. It is pleasantly situated, and will probably in time become a thriving little town. It has been settled about eight years and contains two tanneries and three asheries, and a Post Office. There is no church at present in the village but one is building by the Methodists."

#### **PRINCE ALBERT**

When the young Queen Victoria married her German cousin, Albert, in 1840, many communities celebrated by holding banquets and elaborate celebrations. The people at Dayton's Corners celebrated by renaming their settlement Prince Albert in honour of the queen's consort.

Also that year, the Post Office, the first in Reach, was opened in Prince Albert. James Leach, another store owner, was the first postmaster. This post office became the distribution centre for all mail for the settlements to the north in Reach, Brock Township and Victoria county. The mailman, William Thomas, brought the mail on horseback once a week from Oshawa to Prince Albert. He travelled up Simcoe street and then Old Simcoe Road.

Today, Prince Albert is a large residential community on the south side of Port Perry. Its main intersection being at the junction of Old Simcoe Road and the 5th concession of Scugog. The once booming commercial village has become a "ghost town" in the sense that there are few businesses in the village. Its entire reason for existence has completely changed over the past century and a half.

A hundred and forty years ago Prince Albert was the second largest grain buying centre in Canada! It was the first major settlement in Reach and, for several years it was the commercial centre not just of Reach, but the surrounding townships as well! There were mills, hotels, blacksmiths and manufacturers of various kinds. Most of the area's churches had their start in Prince Albert, and the first newspaper in the area was published here.

#### **OLD SIMCOE ROAD**

When Reuben Crandell he made his way north into Reach in 1821, he followed an established but narrow Indian footpath. This path, for the most of its distance, followed Simcoe Street to near Columbus, veered slightly west and up to the Ridges. From there, it followed what is now Old Simcoe Road to Prince Albert. When he had reached roughly that point, he made his way west along the 5th concession almost to where Manchester is now located. Here, Crandell established the first homestead in Reach Township.

The Mississaugas had occupied this region for many years but they lived off the fish, wildlife and rice in the region. They were not farmers and had not cleared any land. It was still entirely virgin forest. Once Reuben and his family had begun to clear some land and build a cabin, word of their efforts would have reached the front and other pioneers would then feel confident about moving into the region.

#### **NEIGHBOURS**

In 1824, Abner Hurd brought his family to create a homestead at the point where Crandell had turned west, on concession 5, lot 17. He took possession of the east side of the intersection. That same year another family, the Daytons settled just west of the Hurds. The Hurds and the Daytons began the community of Dayton's Corners. On some early maps of the region the little community was simply called Reach, since it was the first and only community in the township for several years.

#### **MORE SETTLERS**

The Hurds and the Daytons were joined by several families in the late 1820s, including William Boynton who opened a tavern just south of the intersection on the west side of Old Simcoe road.

By 1829, there were enough settlers to justify the opening of a school just west of the settlement on the north side of the road just east of Cawker's Creek. Later a school was built right in the settlement just east of the four corners on the north side of the road.

The beginnings of Prince Albert's rise as a commercial centre can probably be credited to Prosper Hurd, Abner's son. He opened a general store here in 1833 to supply the local residents with their needs.

#### **GROWTH OF COMMERCE**

When the early settlers hacked their way into the forests of Reach, their first task was to provide a shelter for their families. Their next task was to clear land on which to grow food for their own consumption. But, as more land was cleared, and more crops were produced, the early settlers had some left over for sale. They would then seek out places to sell their produce. There was a ready market for grain, particularly barley and wheat. This grain was sold in the larger communities and abroad.

James and Andrew Laing of Oshawa had a highly profitable general store in Oshawa. As their business grew, they began to look for further opportunities to expand. They decided to venture into the buying and selling of grain. Realizing that Prince Albert would be a good place to set up a grain buying business, thus providing the farmers in the area and to the north with a convenient place to sell their grain, they asked one of their employees, Thomas C. Forman to operate a store for them in Prince Albert.

Thomas C. Forman agreed and a large barn was built in Prince Albert to store the grain. His store and barn were on the north side of the 5th Concession just west of Old Simcoe road. Forman married Laing's daughter. When his father-in-law died, Forman took over full control of the business in Prince Albert.

Another major grain buyer in Prince Albert was George Currie. In Oshawa, the Gibbs brothers had become prosperous grain merchants and store owners. George Currie was one of their partners. Currie opened a store immediately west of Forman in 1844, in partnership with Aaron Ross. Currie became the principal grain merchant in the community for many years.

The fact that Prince Albert became the second largest grain handling centre in Canada was due to the large numbers of people who ventured into the grain buying business. Other grain centres had elevators able to handle large volumes of grain. No grain elevators were ever built in Prince Albert. Here the buyers stored their purchases in barns and all the grain was handled by shovels.

In addition to Thos. C. Forman, George Currie and Aaron Ross, other businessmen ventured into the grain buying business. They included Abner Hurd's son Prosper, J.H. Brown, Joshua Wright, Robert Perry a son of Peter Perry, J.B. Warren, and A. Farewell.

The seasonal nature of grain buying meant that the buyers had to have other sources of income for the remainder of the year. In the case of T.C. Forman and George Currie, they each ran general stores. Prosper Hurd was a carpenter, Aaron Ross ran a shoe shop, Brown was a painter and Wright was a tanner. At a later date, Currie and Ross joined to operate one store.

Once Prince Albert had become a centre for farmers to bring their grain to sell, other services and businesses sprang up. In addition to the grain buyers, the Canada Directory of 1857 lists the following businesses in Prince Albert; 7 shoemakers, 6 carpenters, 5 carriage or wagonmakers, 4 blacksmiths, 4 saddlers or harnessmakers, 4 tailors, 3 painters, 2 hotel keepers, 3 general stores, 2 tanners, 2 millwrights, 2 chemists, 2 bakers, a grocer, a surveyor, a tinsmith, a mason, a watchmaker, a plasterer, a butcher, a dentist and a cabinetmaker.

Not mentioned in the directory was the fact that Prince Albert even boasted of a brass band which entertained its residents at church gatherings and social affairs. Prince Albert could even boast of its own zealous Temperance Society.

In 1850, Abner Hurd petitioned the government of the day to have the seat of Ontario County

established at Prince Albert. Needless to say, the larger settlement at Whitby was declared the county seat in 1852.

Prince Albert was such an important and thriving community that James Holden moved to the community to begin publishing a weekly newspaper. In spite of a severe economic recession, the first issue of the Ontario Observer appeared on December 12, 1857. In this first edition, in recognition of the commercial significance of the community, Holden made the promise that;

"The state of the Toronto and New York Markets will be transmitted to us by telegraph up to the hour of going to press..."

On January 27, 1859, The Ontario Observer reported;

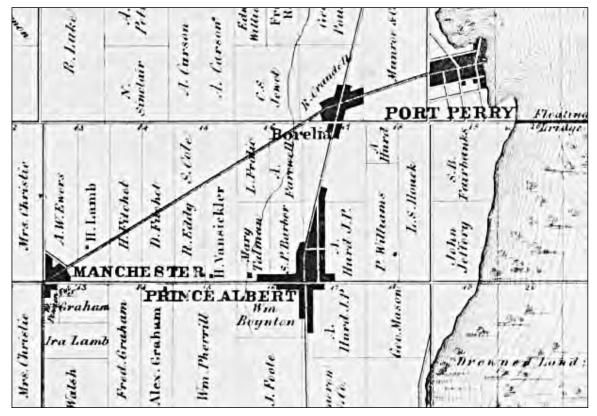
"Prince Albert has been unusually enlivened by the arrival of an astonishing number of teams bringing in an immense quantity of wheat. We now have no less than six extensive buyers of wheat..."

There were also several less extensive buyers. It was at this time, 1859 that Prince Albert assumed its role as the second largest grain handling centre in Canada!

In the period from 1851 to 1861, the number of acres of wheat in Reach Township alone doubled from just under 5,000 acres to 10,000 acres, while the bushels of wheat almost tripled from 77,000 to just under 200,000 bushels per acre.

In September, 1858, The North Ontario Agricultural Society held its first exhibition at Prince Albert. These fairs became so popular that by 1866, Port Perry and Manchester offered cash bonuses in order to have the fair in their community. Port Perry won that year and thus held its first County fair. This was the first time that it has not been held in Prince Albert.

In 1873, when the Ontario Observer moved to Port Perry it changed its name to The North Ontario Observer. It is interesting to note that the owner of the paper – considered Port Perry to be in the northern part of Ontario!



1860 Tremaine Map of Prince Albert, Manchester, Borelia and Port Perry

### The Decline of Prince Albert

#### Arrival of the railway to Port Perry

When businessmen from Whitby and Port Perry began to talk of a railway to link the two communities, the citizens of Prince Albert opposed the plans, realizing that their community would become a mere stop on the line.

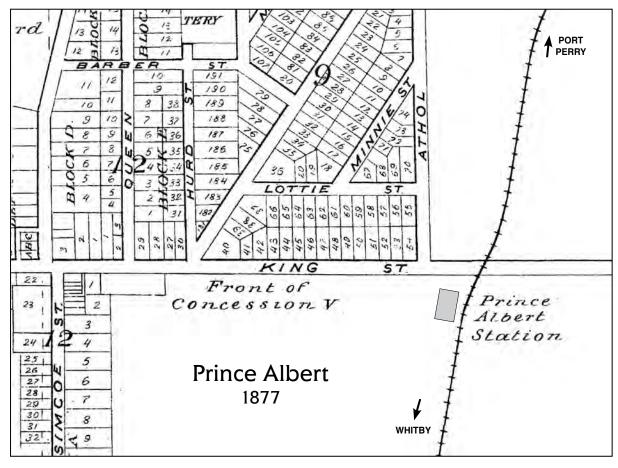
However, shortly after Prince Arthur turned the first sod for the construction of the line in Whitby in 1869, the businessmen of Prince Albert faced the fact that greater profits were to be made in Port Perry, the northern terminal of the railroad. Relocating a store or office from Prince Albert to a new location in Port Perry, a mile away, was not an overwhelming challenge.

Even before the first train rolled into Port Perry, George White, the carriage maker, pulled up stakes and moved to Port Perry, building a new carriage factory. But the arrival of the first train in Port Perry in 1871 was what triggered the mass exodus of businesses from Prince Albert. Stores, factories, hotels, tradesmen and professionals, all moved to Port Perry.

George Currie was Prince Albert's first major grain buyer. In September 1872 he moved to Port Perry. He then began to build the grain elevator that still stands at the Port Perry waterfront. The building of this structure was a stark and convincing symbol of the changing times, as it served to underline the transference of the grain market, once the basis of Prince Albert's economic strength, to Port Perry.

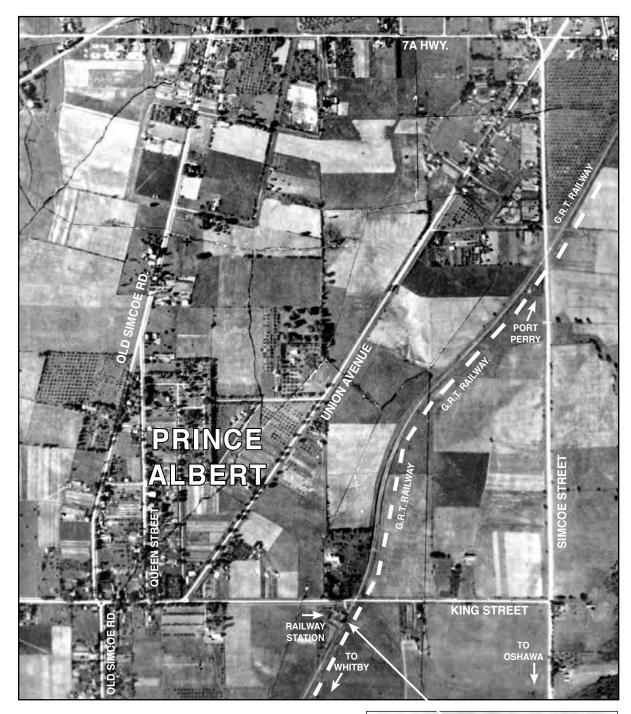
Over a five-year period beginning in 1868, the population of the community of Prince Albert was reduced to less than half of its pre-railroad size.

Among the last to leave was the newspaper, the Ontario Observer. Ironically, the owner of the Ontario Observer had always approached the possibility of a railroad with cynicism and, *Continued on page 8* 



This 1877 street plan of the village of Prince Albert shows the route of the Port Whitby/Port Perry railway line as it bypassed about half a mile east of the four corners of the village.

### Aerial photo of Prince Albert, 1928



This aerial picture, taken in 1928, shows the route of the G.T.R. Railway and the location of the Prince Albert Station, east of the village centre, along side of King Street.

Although a picture of the Prince Albert station has never been located, it is believed the building would have looked similar to the Seagrave railway station, as seen to the right.





The arrival of the railway to the lakefront in Port Perry in 1871 was a fatal blow for Prince Albert, as all commerce moved out of the village.

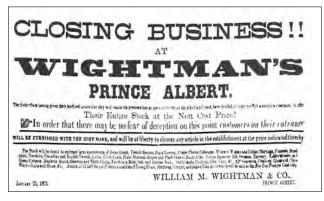
#### Decline - from page 6

sometimes sarcasm. He publicly announced his move from Prince Albert in August 1873, acknowledging the dramatic and complete shift of economic power. He changed the name of the newspaper to the *North Ontario Observer* and stated the reason for the move to Port Perry:

"This is rendered necessary from the altered condition of our village, owing to the concentration of the greater part of the business of the township in Port Perry; and a newspaper above all things, in order to be profitable to its proprietors and convenient to its patrons must have its headquarters as near as possible to the business centre of the locality in which it is published."

In December, 1873, James Emaney, announced that he was moving, and a month later Thos. C. Forman, the last remaining grain merchant in Prince Albert, closed his business in order to relocate in Port Perry.

The departure of these enterprises brought Prince Albert's business and commercial life to a close, leaving it to evolve as a quiet, residential community. Prince Albert, once one of the most important centres of



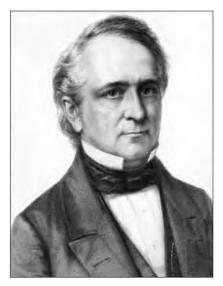
William Wightman announced in January 1873 he was moving his business out of Prince Albert. business and commerce in the region, was left with only a general store with a post office and a blacksmith.

Today Prince Albert is primarily a bedroom community. A general store, the United (Methodist) Church, a community hall and the Pine Grove Cemetery are the only remaining focal points of a village that was once one of the most prosperous and thriving small villages in the north of Ontario County.



# **Pioneer Physicians**

of Prince Albert and Reach Township



**Dr. Jonathan Foot** 

### Dr. Jonathan Foot

Dr. Jonathan Foot was fortunately a man of iron frame and great endurance, and he spared neither himself nor his horse when the welfare of his patients required it. He was the first medical practitioner to venture into the wilds north of Whitby and Oshawa to tend to the medical needs in Prince Albert and Reach Township. Rich and poor alike were promptly attended to with sympathetic kindness.

This early pioneer doctor was born on October 31, 1804, in Vermont, USA, the son of Dr. Solomon Foot and his wife Betsey (Crossett). He was the oldest of four children in the family.

Following the example of his father, Jonathan took an interest in medicine and graduated from the Vermont Medical College in Castleton, Vermont in 1829.

A few months later he made his way to Buffalo, and then to Upper Canada to the town of "Little York", which was later renamed, Toronto.

With him he brought letters of introduction to Dr. Burnside and others. He contacted the medical authorities in Upper Canada, who advised him that a doctor was needed east of York, in Whitby

Township, but he needed to be re-licensed for Upper Canada.

On September 30, 1830 he was examined by Drs. Widmer, Powell and Delhi. He passed his certification to practice medicine in Upper Canada on November 9, 1830. He took up residence in Brooklin, Whitby Township

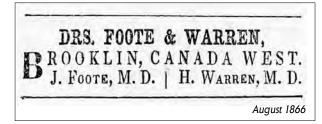
Jonathan Foot was 30 years old when he married Robina Dow on February 1835. She was the daughter of William Dow, of Whitby. They had six children, two sons and four daughters.

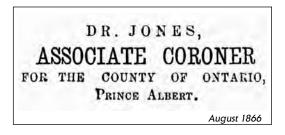
In the early years of his practice, his territory extended from Scarborough to Port Hope and north to Prince Albert, in Reach Township. He traveled on horseback, visiting Prince Albert once a week. Later he stayed for two or three days each week. When Dr. John E. Ware arrived in Prince Albert in 1854, this enabled Dr. Foot to remain full-time in Whitby.

In his path of duty, with "unsullied honor" he trod through his long life, and died leaving an untarnished reputation. He was a member of the Presbyterian church and had and "unfaltering trust in God."

Dr. Jonathan Foot, Scugog's first doctor, died in Brooklin on January 2, 1885, in his 81st year, and was accorded a stately funeral. The pall-bearers were Judge Zacheus Burnham, Sheriff Thomas Paxton, Elder Smith, Samuel Beall, James Thompson and George McGillivray.

He was accorded a stately funeral and was buried in Union Cemetery, Oshawa, Ontario. His wife, Robina (Dow) died on September 2, 1884, in Brooklin, Ontario, at the age of 70, and was buried in Oshawa, Ontario.





### Dr. John Edward Ware

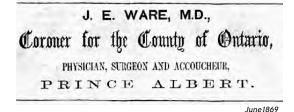
John Edward Ware was born in England in April 1818, and immigrated to the USA in 1840 when he was only 22 years old.

By 1851, as a young physician, he came to Canada and was practicing medicine in Whitby. Three years later, in 1854, he left Whitby and set up a practice in his home office, in Prince Albert.

A physician, surgeon and accoucheur, he cared for the people of Prince Albert the next 30 years. He also had a brief partnership with Dr. Francis H. Brathwaite in office and residence across from Port Perry's town hall, on Queen Street.

On November 6, 1884 he was given a farewell dinner before he moved to Pickering leaving Prince Albert without a resident physician.

He later returned to New York city, USA, where he lived until his death on December 30, 1900. He was 82 years of age when he passed away.



### Dr. Niven Agnew

One of the early physicians of Reach Township was Dr. Niven Agnew, who had an medical office and residence in Boynton Hotel, in Prince Albert.

Niven Agnew was born on May 6, 1828, in Edinburgh, Scotland. He married Jane Sommerville Ross on January 14, 1863 and they had seven children in ten years.

Niven's wife Jane, 34, died in Toronto as a young mother on April 19, 1875, following a miscarriage. Two years later he married Jennie E. McEwen on July 19, 1877, in York (Toronto), Ontario.

Dr. Agnew and his wife moved to Winnipeg in 1879, following his lawyer son John, who became a prominent politician in the western province.

Dr. Niven Agnew spent the rest of his life in Manitoba, passing away on March 1, 1905, in Winnipeg, having lived a long life of 76 years.

N. AGNEW, M. D.,

**PHYSICIAN, SURGEON, AND AC**coucheur, Medical Adviser of the Scottish Provincial Life Assurance Company, PRINCE ALBERT.

May 1859

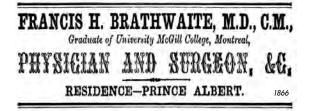
### Dr. Francis H. Brathwaite

Francis Horne Brathwaite was born in Middlesex, England about 1840 and immigrated as a young man to Canada, settling in Reach Township as early as 1855.

In 1865, he took over the practice of Dr. N. Agnew of Prince Albert. About 1871 he joined the exodus of business moving from Prince Albert to Port Perry due to the arrival of train service to the village. He moved into an attractive brick house and set up his new office, at the corner of Queen Street and Lilla Streets, across from the town hall.

Dr. Frank, as he became known, married Anna Warren about 1869, and the couple had two children, Augustus and William.

Dr. Brathwaite became severely ill about 1873 and suspended his service to the people of Prince Albert and Port Perry for a time. On the urging

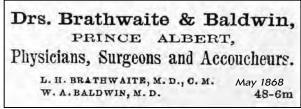


of more than 200 residents of the townships, he agreed to return to Port Perry as soon as his health and strength permitted. Dr. Brathwaite did return to work for a short time, but at only 38 years of age, died in Port Perry on July 15, 1879.

Dr. Braithwaite was reported to have been found dead in his surgery room at 9 o'clock in the morning. He had apparently laid down on his lounge for a rest, and died in his sleep.

A notice of his death, in the North Ontario Observer newspaper reported:

"Deceased had been in the habit of taking advantage of the soothing influences of chlordane, to cool down a somewhat excitable, over wrought brain. His having taken it when alone with on one to attend to him, was doubtless the cause of the fatal effects."



### Dr. George W. Jones



Dr. George W. Jones

Dr. George Jones was born in Orono, County of Durham, Ontario on February 11, 1839 being one of ten children of Methodist Episcopal minister, Rev. George and Laura Jones.

He received a common and grammar school education and in 1854 began the study of medicine, afterward attending Victoria College in Toronto and the University of Buffalo Medical College. He graduated in the fall of 1857 with his M.D.

Dr. George W. Jones commenced his medical career in Prince Albert in early 1859 and entered into a partnership with his younger brother, Richard, when he graduated from medical school. About 1861 he married Almira C., at Reach Twp. In October 1866 the young doctor was appointed Associate Corner for the County of Ontario. In 1868, the brothers opened an office above

Allison's Drug Store, and also opened a Medical Hall on Queen Street.

When he was 29 years of age, Dr. George Jones, became embroiled in controversy, when his application for a divorce from his wife Almira C. Jones for adultery was refused. He moved to Michigan, then returned a few years later, taking with him young Anna Paxton to be his bride. A malicious scandal followed, with Dr. Jones being accused of kidnapping young Miss Paxton, all of which disputed as mere fabrications by both Dr. Jones and his wife.

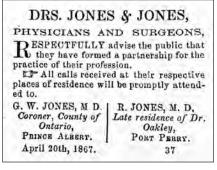
George Jones and Anna were married on December 22, 1871, at Port Huron, Michigan and immediately moved to Imlay City. Dr. Jones was the first physician to settle in Imlay City, Michigan, arriving there on December 23, 1870.

He immediately became active in the community, becoming the first president of the newly charted Imlay City, served as postmaster for 12 years, was a member of the School Board, and spent 24 years on the Imlay City Fair Association, seven years as president.

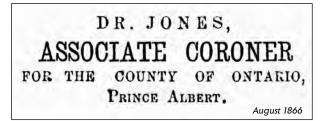
Dr. Jones was in active practice until near the end of his life and in the full possession

of his mental powers. He was honoured with a complimentary dinner to mark his whole life as a medical professional in Michigan. At this time he was the oldest physician in active practice in the state.

He passed away at Imlay City on Saturday, September 29, 1928 at the age of 89 years. He was held in high esteem and had been prominently identified with the business of Imlay City for 60 years at the time of his death. His wife, Anna, predeceased him on February 13, 1914.



Drs. Jones & Jones advertisement, April 1867.





Home of Dr. Richard Jones, Queen Street, Port Perry about 1877.

# Places of Worship

The pioneer churches in Reach Township, including Prince Albert were simple structures, usually built of wood or logs.

Records show the first churches were raised in the far rural areas of the township in 1848. They were a Primitive Methodist on the 11th concession and a Presbyterian on the 12th concession. Also in 1848, a Presbyterian church was raised at Utica.

Prince Albert's first church was erected in 1851 – the Wesleyan Methodist Chapel. It had long been needed in the village, the Wesleyan Methodists in being numerous, having had the benefits of preaching since 1830.

In 1852, the Wesleyan Methodist chapel was built in Utica, and four years later, the Wesleyan's opened their first church in Epsom.

In 1857 two more chapels were raised, the first an Episcopal Methodist near Borelia, on October 18, 1857; and the United Presbyterian Free Church at the north end of Prince Albert. The Presbyterian Free Church was a wood structure constructed at a cost of about \$2000.

A Bible Christian Church was opened in 1862 in the same section of the village.

By 1865 the village of Prince Albert boasted to having a large, brick Wesleyan Methodist church; a Bible Christian Church, and the Presbyterian Church.

Up to this time, the Anglicans did not have a building of their own, but they held services every alternate Sabbath morning in the Presbyterian Free Church.



The "Primitive Methodist Church" at Manchester is a good example of churches from the 1800s.

### **BIBLE CHRISTIAN CHURCH**

#### **PRINCE ALBERT**

There is little information about the Bible Christian Church of Prince Albert, although records from the Ontario County Directory of 1869 published the church was built of wood in 1862.

The church was located on the east side of Simcoe Street, at the north end of the village, across from the Presbyterian Chruch.

The legal description of where it was constructed was Lot #17, in the 5th concession, Lot 25, Block H.

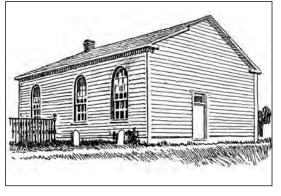
Years later the church underwent a thorough renovation and re-opened for services in August 1875.

Tragedy struck the Bible Christian parsonage in the village in March 16, 1880 when the house was discovered to be on fire, but despite the prompt efforts of the community, it was reduced to a few smoking embers in short time.

The church and the stables, located directly beside the parsonage, were both saved. (fire story page 34)

The Bible Christian congregation, and the Methodist Episcopals united their congregations with the Methodists of Canada, who began services in a new church consummated the first day of June, 1885.

Six months later, in December 1885, the property was sold to James Baird, editor of the North Ontario Observer newspaper.



This sketch of a church from the mid-1800s provides an example of an early wood structure churches.

### PRINCE ALBERT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

A new church in Prince Albert, belonging to the United Presbyterians, was opened for public worship on December 8, 1857.

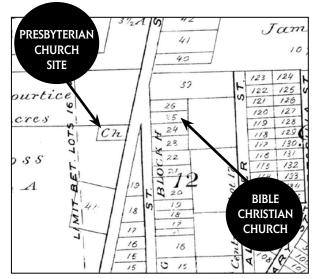
The church, located on Simcoe Street, was of frame construction, with Gothic styled doors and windows and an octagonal tower 25 feet height. The interior walls were about 18 feet high and the commodious building had comfortable seating for up to 300 people.

It had a handsome exterior appearance, which was highlighted with white paint. Cost for the Presbyterian Church, which was located on the northern side of the village, was estimated at \$2,000.

During the first service sermons were preached by Rev. A. Kennedy of Dunbarton and the Rev. R. Monteith, the pastor of the Prince Albert congregation. A second service was held the evening of

December 9, 1857.

The church plan was provided by Silas J. Haight and the work of construction supervised by Mr.



### The Presbyterian Free Church was located on the west side of Simcoe Street, (Old Simcoe Rd.), near the intersection with Jeffrey Street.

PRESBYTERIAN FREE CHURCH Legal Description: Lot 16 & 17 in the 5th Concession Lot #43; west of Simcoe Street

BIBLE CHRISTIAN CHURCH Legal Description: Lot #17 in the 5th Concession Lot #25; east of Simcoe Street

### 1861 sketch of the Prince Albert Presbyterian Church.

White, who were both residents of Port Perry.

The Prince Albert Presbyterian Church

eyesore and was torn down and cleared from

provided a place of worship for the village

until April 1893. The church became an

its foundation by Mungo Weir.

PRESEVTERIAN CHURCH, PRINCE ALBERT.

We beg to inform our readers at a distance, that the new church here, belonging to the United Presbyterians, was opened for public worship on Sabbath, the 8th of last month. Sermons were preach. ed by the Rev. A. Kennedy, of Dunbarton, and the Rev. R. Monteith, the pastor of the congregation. The collections amounted to over \$59. A public meeting was also held on the evening of Mon. day the 9th, when address s were delivered by the above mentioned, and by the Rev. J. King, of Columbus, and the Rev. T. Sharp, of Utica. The church is a frame one, painted white, and is seated for upwards of 300. The doors and win-The walls are about dows are gothic. eighteen feet high; and from the roof in the front part, there arises an octagonal tower, measuring 25 feet. Altogether, this new church is a very excellent one, comfortably seated inside, and presenting a handsome appearance outside. The plan was given by Mr. Haight, and the work was superintended by Mr. White, both of Port Perry.

December 12, 1857

### WESLEYAN METHODIST CHURCH

A Wesleyan Methodist Church had long been needed in Prince Albert before the village parishioners constructed the first church in the village about 1845. Prior to this, Methodists had been meeting for services in the common school-house since about 1830.

William H. Smith, publisher of the 1851 Canada Gazetteer, described the village as having a population of about 300 people. He wrote –

"It appears to be a busy little place, being at a sufficient distance from Oshawa and Whitby to enable it to command a tolerable trade of its own.

It is pleasantly situated, and will probably in time become a thriving little town. It has been settled about eight years, and contains two tanneries and three asheries, and a Post Office. There is no Church at present in the village, but one is now being built by the Methodists."

By 1857 the Methodist Church was in need of repairs and enlargement and the work was undertaken during the summer months adding a vestry to the church, over which was located a spacious gallery appropriate for the use of the choir.

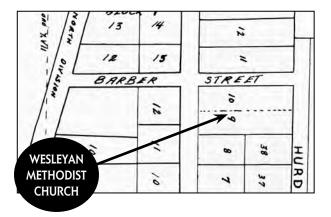
The renovated Prince Albert Wesleyan Methodist Church was officially re-opened for divine worship on December 20th, 1857, with Rev. Mr. Spencer preaching in the morning and Rev. W. Stephenson during the evening service.

Eight years later the Prince Albert Wesleyan Methodist Church was destroyed by fire in 1865.

Undeterred they constructed a large, new 40'x55' brick building ,at the corner of Queen and Barber Street, at a cost of about \$3,000. The church opened for services in September 30, 1866.

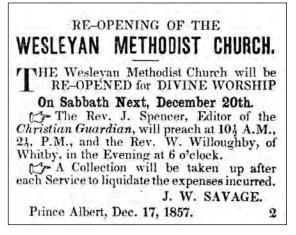
In 1885, a number of denominations, including the Wesleyan Methodists, joined together to form the Methodist Church of Canada. Not quite 50 years later, the Methodist Church became part of the United Church of Canada.

The Prince Albert United Church celebrated its 150th year in 2017.





Prince Albert Wesleyan Methodist Church.

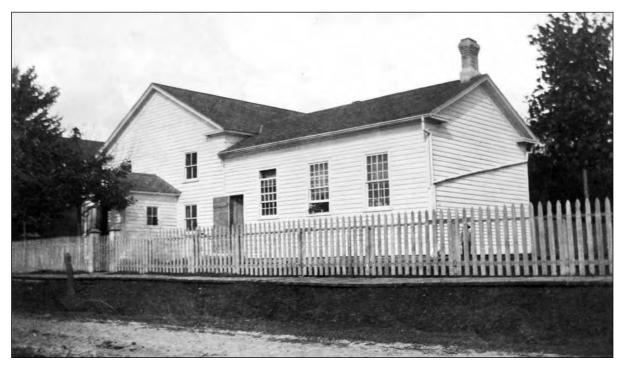


The renovated Wesleyan Methodist Church, opened in 1857, was located on the same property as the present Prince Albert United Church, on the southeast corner of Jeffrey & Barber Street.

#### RE-OPENING OF THE WESLEYAN CHURCH, PRINCE ALBERT.

This Church, which has recently been undergoing repairs and enlargement, was re opened on Sunday last for Divine worship, when sermons were preached in the morning and afternoon by the Rev. Mr. Spencer, and in the evening by the Rev. W. Stephenson. Each service was well attended, and collections were taken up to defray expenses attendant upon the alterations. There is now a vestry attached to the church, over which is a spacious gallery, the front part being appropriated to the use of the choir. The gallery at the other extremity will now be used for the congregation. December 2, 1857

# First Schools



School in Prince Albert, circa 1875. The portion of the building to the left is now used as a community hall.

In 1828, the Crandells, Hurds, and Daytons, the earliest settlers of Reach Township, got together and built the first school for their young children. It was of log construction and built on a knoll just west of Prince Albert village.

The school opened in the summer of 1829 and William Ashton, a Derbyshire man, was said to have been the first to teach in the school. A Scottsman named John James Alexander Cameron Cull is believed to have been the first permanent teacher in the township's new school.

A second school was built in the township on the front of the 4th concession about 1835.

About 1841 a third school was built at Cedar



Reach Township, Seagrave School, late 1800s.

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Creek, a few miles south of Prince Albert. Until this school was opened, only two schools had provided education classes for the entire township, including Prince Albert, the Scotch Settlement (Utica).

In 1844 a school was built on the 2nd concession, and 1845 three more schools were constructed. By the year 1848 there were thirteen schools in Reach Township.

As early as the 1850s the Wesleyan Methodists operated a Sabath School (Sunday School) at its church in Prince Albert.

# First Nation Burial Site

On a small rise of land, just north of the four corners of Prince Albert, is a small piece of vacant land believed to be an Indian burial site.

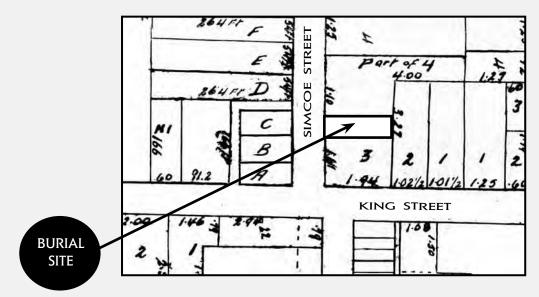
On the east side of Old Simcoe Road, immediately north of the intersection with King Street, there is an empty lot. This lot, the second north of the corner, is actually a First Nation Burial Ground. In early maps of this region the subject property is to be found designated as an "Indian Burial Ground." In later maps, it is labeled as "Graveyard" or merely left vacant.

The peoples of the First Nations are known to have inhabited this area of what is now Ontario for at least 10,000 years. At the time of the arrival of the first Europeans this area was inhabited by the Iroquois. In the 1660s and 1670s the Iroquois occupied a large area of the lands draining into the North Shore of Lake Ontario. After becoming involved in the European's conflicts, the Iroquois were largely driven out of this region during the later part of the 1600s.

Early in the 1700s the Mississaugas migrated into the Lake Scugog basin and the adjoining lands. The Mississaugas, a tribe of the Ojibway had moved here from the Mississauga River and Blind River region of Georgian Bay. There are several references to Mississaugas on the Lake Scugog shore in the early 1800s by travelling missionaries, including Peter Jones, a highly regarded Methodist missionary who was the grandson of a Mississauga chief.

Their language and culture was completely different from the Iroquois. They were quiet people who tended to travel in family groups and live off the wildlife and natural vegetation of the land. Leslie Frost referred to them as " a virile, unspoiled, nomadic people."

In 1804 John Stegman made a quick survey of Lake Scugog because of a murder which had taken place on Washburn Island. On his map he indicates an existing path from Lake Ontario to Lake Scugog. Over the winter of 1809/1810 Major Samuel Wilmot conducted a detailed map of the Township. On that map he marked that path on his map as "Indian Foot Path." This path passes



The above illustration is a section of map of Prince Albert in 1861. It shows the main intersection at Simcoe and King Streets, and just north of the intersection, the piece of land identifed as an Indian burial ground on earlier survey maps.

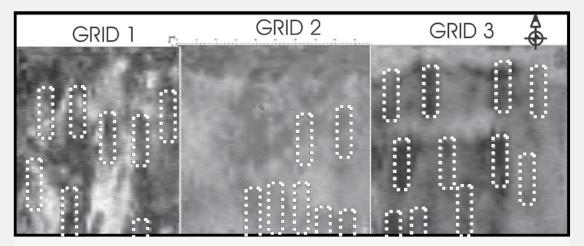
less than 100 metres from the Prince Albert burial ground and in his survey notes of the Fifth Concession of Reach, he makes reference to this "Indian Burial Ground."

As the Europeans moved into this part of Ontario, treaties were signed, some controversially, to enable the land within the township to be granted out under patents.

On July 31, 1811 a patent was granted to Henry Learman for 200 acres in Lot 17 in the 5th Concession, the land containing the burial ground. On February 3, 1832 this 200 acre property was bought by Abner Hurd who settled here. At this time the burial ground property was approximately one acre on the south western portion of the 200 acres.

The Mississaugas of Scugog acquired property on Scugog Island in 1840 and established a cemetery there. Reuben Crandell and his wife Catherine made their way to just east of present day Manchester in 1823 to become the first European settlers. By 1830 a handful of settlers, including members of the Dayton and Hurd families had established homes in what is now Prince Albert. The first known death of a European settler occurred in 1828 when Reuben Dayton died. His burial site is not known, although the records tell us that he was buried "across the road from Mr. Ross' store." This was most likely the present day Pine Grove cemetery.

The second known burial took place in 1831 when Anna Hurd died. She is buried at the south end of present day Pine Grove Cemetery in Prince Albert. There may have been unrecorded deaths during the cholera epidemic of 1832-1833.



Ground penatrating radar revealed a large number of burial sites when it was studied in 2007. The sites are outlined in white dots, to make them more easy to see.

In 2007 The Lake Scugog Historical Society, with financial support from the Baagwating Association and the Mississaugas of Scugog, organized a study of the burial ground. York North Archeological Services of Peterborough were hired to conduct a Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) survey. The survey has determined that there are at least 29 burials on the property. There are no known records of these burials and they appear to predate the arrival of the first Europeans in the area.

For many years the property was used by neighbours as a storage area for firewood and other miscellaneous materials. Later the Municipality had all the materials removed and the property has been maintained by the Municipality of Scugog.

# Hotels, Taverns & Inns

### Abner Hurd's Home & Hotel

The two pictures featured on this page are of one of the oldest buildings remaining in Prince Albert. A building which one time served as one of the hamlet's first hotels.

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

Hurd's 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.

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, 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 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 then sold by the Williams' estate to William Taylor in November 1943 and the estate of William Taylor sold it to its present owner, psychologist, 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.

Files from Paul Arculus



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



## **Prince Albert Hotel**

Determining which hotel was the first to open in the village of Prince Albert is difficult, as records do not go back far enough to be certain – but research leads towards the seldom mentioned and little known, Prince Albert Hotel. The Prince Albert Hotel was providing accommodation at the corner of Simcoe and King Street during the 1850s, if not earlier.

The first mention of the hotel comes from the *Ontario Observer* on May 26, 1858 in an advertisement announcing that H.P. Harrington had leased the hotel and furnished it in the most modern styles. No further information about Mr. Harrington, or the Prince Albert Hotel has been found.

Based on information available, the Prince Albert Hotel was originally owned by Wm. Boynton, and was most often referred to as Boynton's Hotel.

#### Prince Albert Hotel,

P. HARRINGTON would inform the travelling community that he has leased the above Hotel, and has furninsed 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.

### **Anglo-American Hotel**

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 mention of 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.

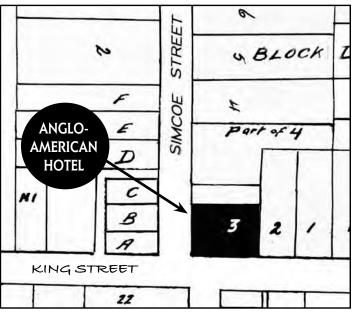
By 1871 Janet Moggridge was listed as an innkeeper, apparently having

ANGLO-AMERICAN HOTEL! PRINCE ALBERT.

> JAMES CALHOUN LATE OF UXBRIDGE,

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

Prince Athert, March 9, 1859. -tf



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.

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.

Less than two years later, May 1875, Mrs. Moggridge sold the Anglo-American to William



Prince Albert, 1866



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. 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 (see Fires on page 30).

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.

### A NGLO-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 at-

Prince Albert, 1873

#### A NGLO-AMERICAN HOTEL,

tentive ostlers.

#### PRINCE ALBERT.

W. H. PARK, - - - PROPRIETOR.

Having purchased the above pleasantly situated Hotel, 1 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 dctermined 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 Bide 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

dozen common Chaips, 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, I 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 Lan.p, 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 Trav. 1 Sink, 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, ½ dozen cane seated Chairs, 1 large cane seated Bocking-Chair, 1 Book case and Cupboard, 1 Kidminister 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 1950 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 and 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 buildidng 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



There is no picture of Boynton's "Victoria Hotel", as there are very few pictures of Prince Albert taken during its boom years, but this sketch of a small Ontario-style tavern/hotel from the same era, provides and idea of what Boynton's Hotel may have looked like.

One of Prince Albert's most popular hotels was the Victoria Hotel. This hotel was located on the Lot 23 at the interesection of Simcoe and King Street. It 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 stetched 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 Boynton's Prince Albert Hotel about 1857. Due to the Boynton family status in the village, the hotel was often referred to as Boynton's Hotel.

William Jr. sold the Prince Albert Hotel to William Scott in July 1861 and Scott renamed it the Victoria Hotel, no doubt after Queen Victory. Wm. Boynton



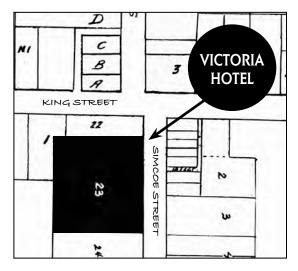
Ontario Observer, June 23, 1859

then moved to Lindsay where he purchased a hotel which he called Boynton's Hotel.

Mr. Scott operated it successfully until 1878. During his ownership it was often referred to as Scott's Hotel. The Victoria Hotel served as the "general stage office" and the hotel was a popular venue for large gatherings, meetings and celebrations held in the village.

Of the two hotels in the village, Scott's was reported to have been the more popular, doing a thriving business, not only in liquors, but also in hotel trade.

Wm. Scott disposed of the property in September 1878 and there is no further mention of the hotel.



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

### 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.

### LATE JEWETTS.)

WM. BOYNTON begs to inform the inlabitants of the County of Victoria and surrounding Counties, that he has opened the Hotel on William Street, lately occupied by Jewett, and as he has had it fitted and furnished in first style, visitors will find every convenience Wines, Liquors and Cigars of the best quality.

An attentive ostler always in attendance. Lindsay, Dec. 16, 1864. 22

Mr. Boynton, Jr., served as inkeeper of the hotel only for a couple of years before selling it in July1861 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.

### 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 childen 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

### Victoria Hotel,

AND GENERAL STAGE OFFICE, SIMCOE STREET, PRINCE ALBERT,

WM SCOTT, Proprietor, Successor to William Boynton.

Ontario Observer, September 1861

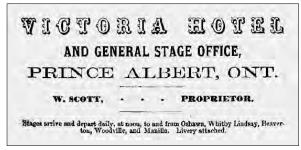
229-tf

VICTORIA HOTEL! PRINCE ALBERT.

W. SCOTT, - - - - Proprietor.

Best attention to Travellers and Good Stabling.

Ontario Directory ad, 1866



Ontario Directory ad, 1869

# Reach Hotels & Taverns

### Small village hotels scattered throughout the township.

Prince Albert, like most small Ontario hamlets and villages in the early to mid-1800s had a number of hotels/taverns. These establishements provided a valuable service for tired and weary travellers throughout the counties to rest, eat and enjoy a beverage while travelling. They were also a meeting place for local residents.

Prince Albert's two main hotels were the Anglo-American Hotel and the Victoria Hotel. Earlier hotels included Boynton's Hotel,



The Railroadhouse hotel, on Water Street circa 1857.

#### 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.

127 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-tf.



Ontario Observer, 1866

The structures of these hotels varied, but most were wood construction of either one or two storeys in height. There were few photographs for this era in these small communities, but sketches and pictures of buildings in similar size communities give us an idea of what these hotels could have looked like.

In his book *On The Shores of Scugog*, written by Samuel Farmer in 1913 he said "within 60 years past, there were 24 places where you could buy liquor in the Township of Reach."

Mr. Farmer was referring to the boom times of Prince Albert and area during the 1850s and 1860s. Following are some of the hotels he listed in his book.

He writes that three hotels supplied the Prince Albert people with liquid refreshment, and they were run by a number of people including Messrs. McCorquodale, Boynton and Scott. The hotels were Boynton's Hotel, Victoria (Scott's) Hotel; The Anglo-American Hotel.

There were three tavern/hotels at Borelia, Jewett's being the oldest, Sinclair's Hotel and a tavern run by Reuben Crandell from his home.

Manchester was as well supplied, with three hotels -Revere House, operated by Wm. Parkin, C. Dawes and later B. Plank. Charles McClue's Union Hotel, and the Plank House, which was originally called Revere House.

Opposite Beare's Mill, just west of Manchester, there was another hotel to save the traveller from becoming dry before he reached Dafoe's Hotel (1869) in Utica.

Hamilton's Hotel was kept at Epsom, and Cameron's "Centre Hotel" at Saintfield (1878).

At Greenbank where the Methodist (United) Church stands today, was the location of R.A. Murta's "Cottage Hotel" (1867).

Two hotels flourished for some years at Seagrave. In 1858 there was Nonquon Hotel operated by C.E. Coryell, and later by W.S. Lattimor (1879); The Nonquon House operated was

THE	OLD	STAND	FOR	EVER!!
UN	ION H	IOTEL, M.	ANCHI	ESTER.
p in fitt Franc ceive travel wines	ublic th ing up is Rusno a libera ling con , liquors at sheds stler,—]	rsigned beg at no expen- the Hotel J ell; he trus l share of the munity. T and cigars. , good stabli Hugh Moore CHARLI	se has b lately oc ts, ther e patron The best Room ing, and e. N.B ES McC	een spared coupied by efore to re- nage of the t brands of y and con- d an atten- Meals at
Ma	nchester	, Aug. 3. 18	61.	34



The Ocean House hotel, Seagrave, Ontario.

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 confort of gueets.

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

Seagrave, May 1, 1879

also operated by Joseph Hadley in 1858.

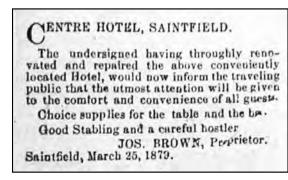
Charles E. Coryell was listed as an innkeeper in 1861 & 1871, probably of the Ocean House in Seagrave. The street in front of the former Ocean House hotel is named Coryell Street.

At the top of the "Ridges" stood Covey's Hotel, and a little south of Manchester was Payne's Hotel.

In Saintfield, at the north end of the township, Joseph Brown was the operator of the Central Hotel.

At one time there were 24 tavern/hotels in the Township of Reach. They are difficult to track as the names of the hotels were changed often, due to change of ownership, making it seem like there were many more.

Exact locations of the hotels in many cases are difficult to determine, although some of the buildings that housed taverns still stand today.



COTTAGE HOTEL, GREENBANK.

THE Subscriber is desirous of informing the public that he has purchased the above premises, which he has renovated throughout. First class Liquors and Cigars, and the best accommodation with careful attention can always be found. Good stabling, enclosed yards, and attentive Ostlers.

R. A. MURTA, Greenbank, June 12, 1867. 44-1y

### DAFOE HOUSE

OOD 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.

#### Ontario Observer, 1869

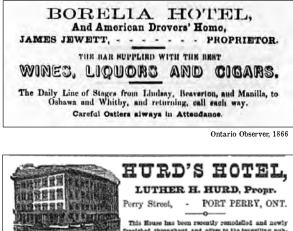
#### Centre Hotel, SAINTFIELD, JAS. CAMERON, Proprietor.

Port Perry Standard, 1879

#### "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. 8

Ontario Observer, 1869



This House has been recently remolalied and newly furnished throughout, and offers to the travelling pubito all the advantages of a quiet and comfortable home. TERMS REASONABLE.

ONE BLOCK FROM DEPOT.

Port Perry Standard, 1884

# **Memory of Prince Albert**

This following account of life in Prince Albert during its developing years, written by Rice Eugene Eddy, about 1900.

**Eugene Rice Eddy** was born about 1854 at Prince Albert, Ontario, one of two sons of Rice Honeywell and Mindwell (Unger) Eddy who came to the village about 1840. During the 1850s, Eugene's father was the operator of a general store in Prince Albert.

When he was a young man in his 20s, Eugene was a teacher, but for how long is unknown. He is also believed to have owned and operated a hotel for many years in the village, but once again, which hotel has not been determined.

Eugene moved to Pickering, Ontario sometime in the 1890s and by 1901 was living in Whitby. He died when he was 50 years old on February 5, 1905 in Denver, Colorado. His body was returned to Prince Albert and he was buried at Pine Grove Cemetery.

Following his memory of Prince Albert when he was a young lad.

Friends and fellow citizens - "lend me your ears".

This is ye lode folk entertainment, and I have the honour to be the oldest inhabitant of Prince Albert and not one of you envy me.

My parents R.H. Eddy and wife, (Mindwell Unger), came to the village in 1840 they were Canadian born.

It was mostly woods when they settled here but a thriving village soon replaced the bush. The house Wm. Martian resided in was the old Eddy homestead.

Simcoe Street, running north and south, was the business section and was thickly populated with about 400 to 500 inhabitants.

One of my earliest remembrances was of a boy walking the streets ringing a hand bell and shouting "Auction sale at Enoch Davis store". I would have liked to be that boy.

G. C. Forman bought the Davis block. He and his sons kept a general store for years then it was removed to Port Perry in sections

G. C. Forman was also Major of a company of volunteers who wore red coats and drilled in a shed built for that purpose, when the men were wanted out a bugler would stand on the corner and blow - la -la -la -la - la.

Then the shed and grounds were used for fairs and menageries with circus, little pourer, big and little elephants, gorgeous gilded chariots etc. parading all kinds of animals. So tall they cut the telegraph wire. They had jungle animals in cages. The shed afterwards was know as the Victoria skating rink.

Traveling was by stage coach from Oshawa and Uxbridge. Sometimes four horses when coming from the south. The driver would crack his whip - blow a horn and dash up to "Scotts Hotel" in great style. That hotel occupied the space between Mr. Rainers store and the brick house south.

There were three churches - a tower hall several lawyers - two doctors, one jeweller, two drug stores, three general stores, two harness shops - shoe store where shoes and high boots were made to order - two drug stores - three tailor shops - one cabinet shop (the family lived upstairs with an outside stairway) - a bakery - tin shop, also sold stoves and a ware - two blacksmith shops, over one a bell which rung four times daily, twice on Sunday and toiled for funerals. Then a thriving granary which employed quite a few men and smelled badly.

We have a copy of the Ontario Observer printed at Prince Albert by Mr. Parsons and Robinson. Mr. Parsons is still alive and lives in Port Perry, which was then just a wharf and saw mill. The railway coming to Port Perry killed Prince Albert as a business centre,

The same old school house - main body - with belfry and bell that would work- that school children were taught by an assistant in a gallery reached by a stairway.

The Post Office has been moved six times."



Fire was a threat that hung over the heads of all of the early settlers in Ontario. Prince Albert, like so many other communities had its share of destructive fires throughout the late 1800s. Following are newspaper reports of some of these fires.

### **DESTRUCTIVE FIRE**

The Village of Prince Albert experienced another heavy loss by fire on the evening of the 14th inst. About half-past eleven on Friday night, Mr. George White's Carriage Factory was observed to be on fire.

This must have been the commencement of it, as parties were constantly passing the building up to that time. The moment the fire was observed the bell was rung, and in very short time the building was surrounded by lots of men anxious to save the property, but all were entirely powerless to do so, there being not water within reach.

The consequence was that there were no means to doing anything except saving the loose property and protecting the houses on the opposite side of the street by means of snow.

This was gone into with a will and a large quantity of loose property saved, and doubtless some of the opposite buildings; but as far as the burning buildings were concerned it was most provoking to stand and look at them burning without being able to put forth a hand to save them in the entire absence of water, and not having the advantage of hook and ladder. The result was the Carriage Factory was entirely consumed, with an excellent large house two stories high, the property of Mr. James Sanders and a large unoccupied house the property of Mr. Courtice, with a dwelling house attached belonging to the same party.

The loss of real estate must be about \$2000, with the loss on loose property cannot be under \$900, of this only \$800 covered by insurance - \$400 on the Carriage Factory and \$400 on Mr. White's stock.

Mr. Sanders loses about \$1,300, no insurance; while Mr. Beatty, Mr. White's carriage building loses considerably in stock. The origin of the fire is a complete mystery.

Had their been a strong wind from the north or west the consequences to the village would have been more disastrous. Some more efficient means of fighting fires will have to be introduced into these villages.

> North Ontario Observer February 1868

### SCHOOL HOUSE BURNED

We feel exceeding sorry to have to record the destruction by fire of the excellent and comparatively new School House of School Section No. 4, (east settlement), Reach.

About midnight on Tuesday last, Mr. Wm. Coates whose residence is convenient to the school house, saw a light issuing from the roof and at once hurried to the spot and running into the school house had barely times to save the clock and some maps.

They had but lately got a capital supply of new maps. In fact, the section deserves much credit for their generous efforts in sustaining not only a good school but a comfortable, well furnished house.

The house has been only a few years built at a cost of \$500; the loss however, must be considerably

more than that. There is an insurance of \$300 on the whole.

The section is very small and the cost of the house and furniture will be a heavy burden on the few ratepayers on whom the weight of the section rests.

The Educational Department fought by all means to make up the loss to a section which has just lately gut through paying for the house which has just been destroyed

The loss of the winter school will be severely felt by the pupils.

December 2, 1873 North Ontario Observer

### **BOYNTON'S BARN DESTROYED BY FIRE**

The useful but unwelcome sound of the fire-bell again rang throughout our village on the evening of the 13th, and on turning out it was found that the barn of Mr. R. Boynton, half-a-mile south of the village, was already enveloped in flames. The fire busting forth in every direction and licking up everything which came within its reach.

All hands went to work with a will and notwithstanding the proximity of the two barns – being only a few feet apart – one of them was saved, but not without the utmost exertion of many willing hands.

In fact, it seemed at one time to be a hopeless task, but the will was there an the fire was beaten back and building saved. Had the second barn burned, the dwelling house would have stood a poor chance of being saved.

The threshing machine had been at work all day threshing barley in the barn which was saved, and they had just turned the machine into the other barn with the intention of threshing the produce of 26 acres of wheat on the following day, but the greedy flame threshed it for them, but consumed it all and did not even spare the machine, the south barn and all it contained was licked up by the devourer.

The loss will range from \$1,500 to \$2,000 covered by insurance to the extent of \$1,250. So far as we know, Messrs. Coates & Lamb, owners of the machine, had no insurance. Theirs was a capital machine.

That the fire was the work of an incendiary cannot be doubted for a moment – not a devilish one we admit, but one nearly as guilty, a foolish and reckless one who could not deny himself, even for a short time, the pleasing doors of the abominable weed tobacco.

Our friends from the neighboring village on this as on all other occasions when assistance is required were present in large numbers and aided with all their might in fighting the fire.

> North Ontario Observer September 1870

### **ANOTHER BIG FIRE IN PRINCE ALBERT**

On Tuesday the 1st of April about 11 o'clock at night the inhabitants of the peaceful, happy village of Prince Albert were startled by the trice unwelcome Fire! Fire! Fire!

Those who had not yet returned to rest were on the street in an instant and those who had retired were speedily summoned to do battle against the devouring monster but the timely and well sustained clatter of the fire bell.



Fire started at Willocox "Union" store.

This at once indicated the course of action to be pursued and presently a lot of willing hands assumed the responsibility of saving these buildings and succeeded in doing so.

The scene of conflagration was not long left in doubt. The fire doubtless originated in the upper storey of the Willcox's Drug, Grocery and Liquor Store, but it was not long confounded to that, it soon burst forth in all its fury illuminating the heavens and giving a crimson hue to the snow for a large space around.

There was a strong south-east wind blowing at the time, in the first place carrying the flame right towards the Victorian Hotel and Mr. Currie's empty store.

As the fire progressed northward it threatened the Anglo-American Hotel, Rolph's Harness Shop and other buildings. The devouring fed was by this time at the height of his strength shooting his thousand forked tongue far up into the heavens and kissing the buildings all around.

But strong hands and willing hearts aided by the wetness of the night met the devourer at every point and confined him to the block in which he first began, and his maddening fury speedily consumed that on which he fed and soon rendered him powerless for further devastation.

At this stage the well known sound of the Port Perry Fire Brigade was heard approaching, and though under the circumstances they could not make themselves felt in saving the property – the monster having been shorn of its strength ere they arrived – still their presence was highly acceptable and their generous effort most thankfully received.

The generous and persevering effort put forth by many from surrounding villages and neighbourhood as well as by

the people of Prince Albert is worthy of the highest praise; and the village tender their sincere thanked to the Fire Brigade and all other outsiders who manifested their sympathy at this time in so tangible a manner. It is comforting to know that no bodily injury was received.

At eleven o'clock the fire was first discovered in the upper part of Willcox's store, a little larger than the light from a lamp, but within a very few minutes it burst forth with great fury spreading south to Mr. Wright's Boot and Shoe Establishment and north to Mr. Wightman's extensive Dry Goods, Grocery and Clothing establishments; and within three hours from its first discovery it had laid in ashes that splendid block on the northeast corner of Simcoe and King Streets, extending along Simcoe St., 100 feet and King St., 100 feet.

The following stores were totally consumed: Mr. Wright's extensive boot and shoe establishment; Mr. Willcox's drug, grocery and liquor store; Mr. Wightman's extensive general dry goods, clothing, grocery and establishments; and the Masonic Hall.

Mr. Wright's loss on the building is \$1,200, covered by an insurance of \$1,000.

Mr. F. Graham, owner of the building in which Mr. Willcox kept store, loses \$700 and no insurance. Mr. Willcox loss on stock amounts to \$3,000 of which \$2,000 is covered by insurance.

A. Hurd, Esq., the proprietor of the Wightman buildings and the Masonic Hall buildings sustains a loss of \$2,000 and now insurance. Mr. Wightman's loss in stock is \$8,000 on which there is an

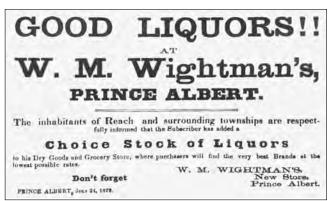
### LAZIER'S FACTORY DESTROYED BY FIRE

We regret exceedingly to have to record another conflagration which took place at Mr. James Lazier's Factory, about a couple of miles north of Prince Albert, on Monday night last.

A little after ten o'clock the unwelcome sound of Fire! Fire! rang through this and the neighboring villages. Large numbers of willing hands at once turn out, and making for the light; soon found that Mr. Lazier's wood kiln, containing about \$600 worth of wood suitable for making Grain Candles and other agricultural implements, best stuff for carriages, etc., was on fire all of which – we regret to state – was concerned.

Insurance offices won't touch such risks, so the entire loss falls upon the proprietor. The Port Perry Fire Company lost no time in reaching the scene.

North Ontario Observer September 1870



William Wightman's store was destroyed in the fire.

insurance of \$7,000.

The Prince Albert Masonic Lodge 183 loses \$400 and no insurance.

The destruction of Mr. Wright's establishment, though not the most costly, is by far the greatest calamity to the village. That gentleman through his interring energy and enterprise has done much towards the up-building, of this village by the number of hand he constantly keeps employed and the correspondingly large amount of expenditure of money which these hands create.

Besides, his boot and shoe establishment, from it well merited and now thoroughly established reputation for first class material and workmanship, is regarded with much favour throughout a large section of country and its removal from this would be regarded, by large numbers of his customers, as a misfortune.

We heartily sympathise with all who have sustained injury by this unfortunate event, especially with our highly esteemed and worthy townsman, Abner Hurd, Esq., who is by far the heaviest loser by this calamity.

> North Ontario Observer April 1, 1873

### NOTICE!

The destruction of my Boot and Shoe Establishment with the Stock, in the late fire in Prince Albert, necessitates an immediate squaring up of my accounts. All parties whose accounts are now over due are hereby notified that an immediate settlement is expected of all accounts which are now past due.

### NOTE LOST!

Lost in the village of Prince Albert, on Tuesday, April 1, 1873, a note of hand for Twenty-Six Dollars (\$25) with interest, made by John Dresser, in favor of Joshua Wright. All parties are hereby forbidden to negotiate said Note as payment has been stopped. J. WRIGHT.

Joshua Wright announces destruction of his business.

Beaver Meadow Steam Tarmery, Prince Albert, April 3, 1873.

### FIRE, FIRE, FIRE!

About 12:30 on Sunday last the discordant clatter of the Prince Albert fire bell announced the presence in our midst of the fire fiend who appears to have a preference for Prince Albert above any other village and shows that preference in the most decided manner by clearing off one or two of our best buildings annually.

On this occasion it was the residence of Mr. W.H. Hayes which was consumed. This was a good house immediately south of the Victoria Hotel. The fire first developed itself from under the shingles not the roof of the kitchen.

There was a strong south wester blowing at the time and it is almost miraculous that the fire was confounded to one building seeing that it was surrounded by wooden buildings in close proximity all round; but there were an abundance of willing hands and lots of pails and platy of water which was used to good purpose.

It were impossible for men to do more or direct their energies to better purpose than was done on this occasion. By unflooring and removing the south shed of the Victoria Hotel the fire was prevented from spreading further in that direction, but how the stables at the back of the burning building - there being only a passage between them and the house - were saved is almost unaccountable and proves how well and skillfully the fire was fought.

Had the fire taken the stables the greater part of the village must have gone. The had fire engines supplied by Elija Cash and Mr. Hilborn were of the greatest service and did much towards confounding the fire to

the one building.

On this as on all similar occasions there are many exhibitions of genuine pluck and true heroism. Amongst the daring ones Mr. Cash held on honourable position he not only supplied two powerful hand pumps whose valuable serves helped save a large portion of the village from being laid in ashes.

With only a single board placed between him and the blazing building he stood about three feet from the flames and keep his useful little engine playing on the most exposed part of the stable which could not otherwise have been saved. And had the stable been burned a large portion of the village must of necessity have gone.

While mentioning the heroes we must not overlook the heroines, many of the ladies were no less active than the men they wrought the pumps and did their part nobly. As well as the active and daring their was the ludicrous and trifling, there were many who appeared to lose all self control and would have been better in their bed.

Men would clamor to the tops of houses and when they got there they could not stir for fear of falling and they would get straddle on the ridge and sit there like mummies only in the way of those who could do some good.

Some did capital serve on the tops of houses but these were parties who went up to work not to see and be seen.

> North Ontario Observer September 16, 1875

### CHRISTIAN BIBLE PARSONAGE LOST TO FIRE

The Village of Prince Albert, one of the most pleasant and healthful locations in the province, seldom meets with anything to disturb the even tenor of her way, but we are sorry to state that the disturbing element of fire declared itself there on the 16th inst.

About 11 o'clock a.m. the Bible Christian Parsonage was discovered to be on fire and not withstanding the most prompt, active and persistent exertions, the devourer held on to his pray till that fine, comfortable residence was redacted to a few smoking embers.

All hands – the ladies were no way behind – wrought like heroes and the value of their efforts may be appreciated when it is known that the church and the stables were both safe and neither of them is twenty yards from the parsonage. There was no engine at the fire but the activity of the defenders and the timely snow storm which prevailed just then succeeded in confining the fire to the parsonage.

The loss will amount to \$900 of which Rev. R. Allin, the worthy pastor of the church, loses about \$200 on his effects – no insurance.

The cause of this as of most other fires was a defective chimney.

Our Bible Christian friends are by no means behind in intelligence, enterprise or liberality and doubtless ere long another comfortable residence for their excellent Pastor and his amiable family will occupy the spot which is now a heap of blackened cinders.

> North Ontario Observer March 18, 1880

### ANGLO-AMERICAN HOTEL DESTROYED BY FIRE

Shortly after midnight on Sunday, August 3, 1890 our attentive and watchful village bell sounded an alarm of fire which was then quietly at work in the kitchen of the old Anglo-American Hotel.

When the people got around it was found that the flames had full possession of the kitchen and were rapidly spreading over the main building, and had also so far progressed that there could be no hope of saving the property.

The devourer went on licking up everything consumable in its course. For two hours the flames held unrestricted away and made a magnificent display until they had consumed that large hotel, its barns, stables, driving sheds, and a lot of extensive and substantial buildings.

Joseph Coombs residence north of the hotel, was burned down at the same time. Had it not been for the timely rain which wet the roofs of the neighbouring buildings one-half of the village would have been consumed. The lighted embers were flying through the air in all directions and thrown on the roofs of the houses, but the wet shingles saved the buildings.

The property destroyed could not be replaced for two thousand dollars. A large portion of the hotel furniture was consumed and there was only five hundred dollars insurance on it. Mr. Coomb lost everything and had no insurance. The cause of the fine is a mystery, but the effects of it are obvious to all, it has left an abominable gap in the centre of the village.

We feel for those who have suffered loss by the fire. We can't say how much William H. Park may lose, we tried to find out what amount of insurance there was on the buildings, but got snubbed for our pains.

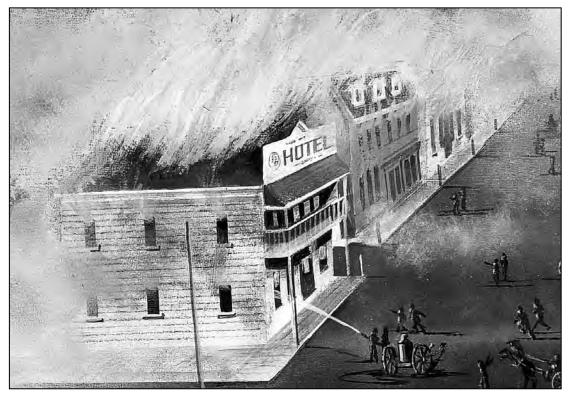
We were not particularly anxious to know the amount of insurance but the public have a right to know all the particulars of such fires. As near as we could press out reluctant information, there is somewhere in the neighborhood of a thousand dollars insurance on Mr. Park's buildings and furniture.

Active and willing hands saved some of Mr. Park's furniture but poor Mr. Coomb lost all and had no insurance.

The following week, the North Ontario Observer reported:

"Since our last issue we have ascertained that the insurance on the Anglo-American Hotel, contents, barn, sheds etc., is as follows: On main building, \$500; barn and shed, \$200; contents of hotel, \$300; and on Melodeon (accordion) \$100. Making total insurance in all \$1,100."

North Ontario Observer August 7, 1890



An artist's rendering of the great fire of Port Perry, 1884, which destroyed the entire business section of the village.

# First Newspaper

### The Ontario Observer

The first newspaper to be published in the area was started on December 12, 1857 by Mr. James Holden. The paper was published every Thursday morning from Prince Albert., C.W.

At some point during the year 1858, the Ontario Observer changed hands and began to be published by M.G. Robson. Mr. Robson was the proprietor of Robson & Co. which also operated the Prince Albert House, a hotel located at the corner of Simcoe and King St. in Prince Albert.

In a notice in the December 2, 1858 issue Mr. Robson announced he had secured the services of Mr. Alfred Sylvester, a "literary gentleman," to assume management of the Observer's editorial department.

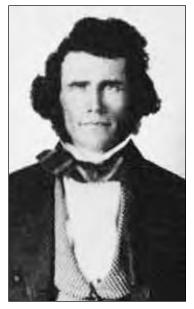
Just a few months later, on May 24, 1859, Mr. James Holden and Mr. Edward Oliver entered into a co-partnership for the purpose of publishing the Ontario Observer. They began publishing the paper from Prince Albert with the first edition on Thursday, June 23, 1859.

Sometime during the next year and a half (due to missing copies the exact date is unknown), Mr. Oliver left the newspaper and publication of The Observer was continued by James Holden. Edward J. Mundy, who would later start his own newspaper in Port Perry, was editor of the Observer for a time during 1860. The last record available shows Mr. Holden as publisher is May 28, 1863.

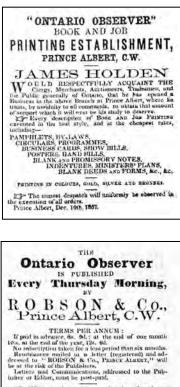
A further change in ownership occurred sometime prior to February 2, 1865 when the Ontario Observer began to be published by Mr. Henry Parsons and William Robinson from the Victoria Block in Prince Albert. On Monday, June 25, 1866, Mr. William Robinson died in Prince



First issue of the Ontario Observer, December 12, 1857



James Holden



EP When people see a man advertise, they know at he is a fusiness man, and his advertising proclai by he is not only willing, but anxious to do busine

Advertise ! Advertise !.... RATES OF ADVERTISING.

Each allequent metrion 4.0 Yana is to produce the section - - - 0 7 Yana is to produce the section - - - 0 7 Cache subsequent instrum - - 0 10 For each line allows toin - - - 0 4 Sterybuilsequent instring - - 0 4 T Advertised \* Advertisements when displayed are charged ag to the space they occupy.

Albert at the age of 23 years, 11 months and five days of age.

A report following his death says that Mr. Robinson's first connection with the *Ontario Observer* dated back to 1857 when he commenced to learn the art of printing at the *Observer* office. Except for a few months in the United States, he continued in the office as compositor until the retirement of James Holden. He then purchased an interest in the *Observer* and assumed the duties of Editor until his untimely death.



JAMES BAIRD

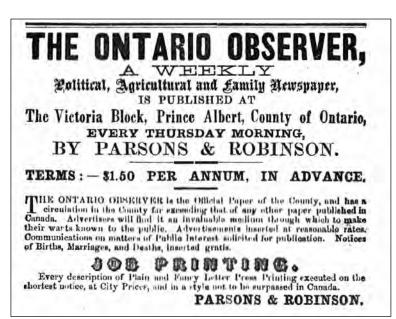


HENRY PARSONS

On August 30, 1866, Mr. James Baird became the new Editor of the *Ontario Observer* and became partners with Henry Parsons. This partnership continued for the next 18 years.

On August 28, 1873, the Ontario Observer, and Parsons made the announcement that the paper would be moving to Port Perry to continue publishing. The announcement stated "Due to shift of the greater part of business, the newspaper must move as near as possible to the business centre of the locality in which it is published." Their new offices were located in the Warriner Block immediately west of the Post Office in Port Perry.

At this time, the Ontario Observer's name was changed to the North Ontario Observer, the newspaper now being published a couple of miles north of its original location in Prince Alert. And, in the first edition of the North Ontario Observer published on September 11, 1873 from its' new Port Perry location, the owners ran an apology for missing one issue of the paper, stating "the work of moving and printing was more than they could accomplish in one week".



On August 28, 1873, the *Ontario Observer*, under the ownership of Baird

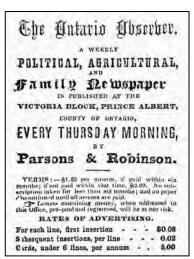


"ONTARIO OBSERVER"

BOOK AND JOB

PRINTINGESTABLISHMENT

The Untario Ubserber.



Ontario Directory ad 1866

## **Pioneer Newspaper Publishers**



**Henry Parsons** 

### Henry Parsons

#### **Ontario Observer Publisher**

Henry Parsons was born in Lincoln, England in 1838 and came to Canada in 1850 with his parents, who took up residence in Stouffville.

In February 1853 he was apprenticed as a printer to the *Whitby Reporter*, and after finishing his apprenticeship, he moved to New York State. A year later he returned to Canada and in 1858 settled in Prince Albert and joined William Holden on the staff of the *Ontario Observer*, established a year earlier.

Mr. Parsons became identified with the Observer newspaper for over 50 years. He purchased the paper and published it in partnership with James Baird until 1884 when the partnership was dissolved.

In 1873 when Prince Albert began to wane and Port Perry to grow, the

newspaper was moved and re-named the "North Ontario Observer." After taking over sole ownership of the paper in 1884, he carried it on until 1920 when he stopped publishing, but continued in the printing business under the name of the Observer Printing Office, assisted by his grandson, Victor Stouffer. Henry Parsons took a keen interest in municipal affairs, at one time serving a couple of terms in the council.

In 1864 he was married to Francis Ruby (Palmer), of Prince Albert, who predeceased him by some 20 years. He was survived by one daughter, Mrs. Andrew Stouffer and one grandson Victor P. Stouffer.

Henry Parsons passed away in his 94th year at his home in Port Perry on Thursday, September 29th, 1932. Interment at Pine Grove Cemetery.

### James C. Baird

#### **Ontario Observer Editor**

For almost 20 years, James Baird was associated with the Ontario Observer of Prince Albert, the first newspaper to begin publishing in the area.

James Baird was born January 9, 1824 in Glasgow, Scotland, one of four children for Janet (Ewin) and John Baird. He arrived in Reach Township in the late 1850s and quickly got involved in the community.

By 1861 he had been elected to the position of Superintendent of Schools for Reach.

It was about this same time he met Mary Ann (Graham) whom he married on October 13, 1863. She was the daughter of Thomas and Jane (Crawford) Graham of Oshawa, Ontario.

In August 1866 he became editor of the newspaper and partners with its owner, Henry Parsons.

James was an outspoken critic of actions and politics, and an advocate of anything that would benefit the progress of the community. After 18 years as editor, in October 1884, his partnership with Henry Parsons as proprietors and publishers of the *North Ontario Observer* was dissolved, with the business being taken over by Mr. Parsons.

Aside from his publishing career, he became involved in the community, serving as president of the Reach and Scugog School Teachers' Association and superintendent during the 1860s.

James Baird died, the result of a stroke, on January 11, 1898 at 74 years of age. He was buried at Pine Grove Cemetery, Prince Albert, Ontario.



A WREELY

FOLITICAL, AGRICULTURAL

Family Dewspaper;

VICTORIA BLOCK, PRINCE ALBERT

EVERY THURSDAY MORNING

BAIRD & PARSONS,

TERMS :- \$1.50 per annum. If paid within siz mather, if not paid within that time, \$2,00. No subgitton (a legif for less than six monther and no paper meraineed until all arrears are paid.

Intersentaining money, when addressed to bisOffice, pre-paid and registered, will be at warrisk.

RATES OF ADVERTISING.

**James Baird** 

### **James Holden**

#### **Ontario Observer Owner**

James Holden was born in Stouffville, County of York on February 29th, 1828. His first engagement in mercantile pursuits began in 1857, at the age of 29 years, when he moved to Prince Albert. Here he commenced publication of the *Ontario Observer*, the areas first newspaper. The first issue came off the press on Thursday, December 10, 1857. He sold the newspaper to Henry Parsons about 1864.

After seven years in Prince Albert, he moved to Whitby where he immediately identified himself with the interests of the County Town and was largely responsible for the progress of the railway and particularly the extension of the railway line from Port Perry to Lindsay.

In Whitby, Mr. Holden, held almost every municipal position, from councillor to reeve, and mayor of the town by acclamation. His only public defeat was to the Hon. T.N. Gibbs in 1873, the newly appointed Minister of Sir John A. MacDonald's cabinet.

His death at the age of 53 years came as a shock to his many friends and to his colleagues from the Whitby, Port Perry and Lindsay Railway Company of which he was managing director.



James Holden

He passed away at Dominion City, Manitoba, on October 24, 1881. His funeral was the largest ever seen in Whitby for over a quarter century, with between three and four thousand people attending.

He is reported to have been a man of great perseverance, and public enterprise, and although undemonstrative, a warm friend; he never forgot a friend or missed an opportunity to do him a good turn. At the time of his death, Mr. Holden left behind a widow, Orrilla (Fitchett) and large family of nine.

#### NOTICE OF CO-PARTNERSHIP. A RARE CHANCE **NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN**, that the Subscribers have this day (May 24, 1859,) FOR A BUSINESS MAN entered into co-partnership, for the purpose of carrying on the general business of Printing and Publishing; and as Publishers of the "Ontario Observer.' Signed May 24th, 1859. THE Subscriber offers for James Holden, WITNESS, M Edward Oliver. Sale at a low price one of obson. the best business stands in the County of Ontario. The proproperty is situated in the flourishing Vil-"ONTARIO OBSERVER" BOOK AND JOB lage of PRINTING ESTABLISHMENT. PRINCE ALBERT! PRINCE ALBERT, C.W. In the centre of the business part of the place. The Building is large and commo-JAMES HOLDEN W OULD RESPECTFULEY ACQUAINT THE Clergy, Merchants, Auctioneers, Tradesmen, and the Public generally of Ontario, that he has opened a Business in the above Branch at Prime Albert, where ke trusts, by assiduity to all commands, to obtain that amount of support which it will ever be his study to deserve. The Every description of Boox AND Job PHINTING executed in the best style, and at the cheapest rates, including dious, being 25 by 50, 24 feet high, with stone cellar the whole size of the building. The first story is fitted up for a Store, and is one of the best finished shops in the County ; the second flat is well finished and occupied including as a Printing office. The purchaser can PAMPHLETS, BY, LAWS, CIRCULARS, PROGRAMMES, BUSINESS CARDS, SHOW BILLS, POSTERS, HAND RILLS, BLANK AND PROMISSORY NOTES, INDENTURES, MINISTERS' PLANS, BLANK DEEDS AND FORMS, &c., &c., have any reasonable time to pay for the property, by paying 6 per cent. interest. For further particulars apply to the undersigned if by letter post-paid. PRINTING IN COLOURS, GOLD, SILVER AND BRONZES. JAMES HOLDEN. The utmost despatch will uniformly be observed in Prince Albert, May 20, 1863. Prince Albert, Dec. 10th, 1807. 1.26 22-41

# **Pine Grove Cemetery**

### Land sold by Abner Hurd to the village of Prince Albert officially became "Ontario Pine Grove Cemetery Company in 1862.

For almost 200 years, the land mass known as Pine Grove Cemetery, has been the burial place for thousands of Scugog Township's residents. The first burial on the property, described as Lot 17, 5th Concession, was made in 1831 when Anna Hurd was interred in what is now Section A of the Pine Grove Cemetery.

Abner Hurd, one of the area's earliest settlers and owner of this piece of land then made the property available for burials for others in the community, and by 1860 over 50 burials had taken place, but unfortunately not all were recorded.

What we know as Prince Albert today was initially settled by Aaron Hurd in 1824, and they were joined by the Dayton family in 1829. The settlement was initially recorded on maps as Dayton's Corners or simply, Reach. When Queen Victoria married Prince Albert in 1840, the community celebrated its loyalty by renaming the community "Prince Albert" in his honour.

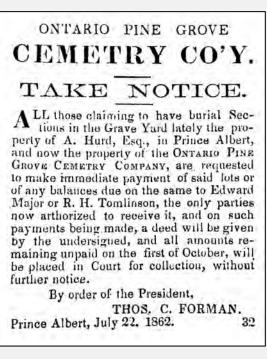
As the community grew, it became evident there was a need for an official cemetery, so in 1862 a committee was formed and the executive members selected were; President Thomas Forman, Secretary R.H. Tomlinson and Treasurer Mark Currie.

They created a company with members required to purchase shares at \$5.00 each. Twenty-five people bought shares but 17 of those bought five shares each. The \$535 raised enabled them to buy, from Hurd, an eight-acre parcel containing all of the existing burial sites and spend \$300 to have the cemetery fenced.

At their first meeting the board also decided to name it the Ontario Pine Grove Cemetery, but today it is more familiarly known simply as Pine Grove Cemetery. At that inaugural Board meeting in 1862, Francis Smith was selected as the caretaker and grave digger and the cost of a burial plot was set at \$5.00.

Pine Grove Cemetery is a resting place for citizens mainly from the old Reach Township but it is not the only cemetery. There are smaller cemeteries in Utica, Epsom, Greenbank, Blackstock, Nestleton, Seagrave and several on Scugog Island. In addition, there are small plots scattered around the township, but Pine Grove is by far the largest and it was the first documented cemetery for European settlers.

The original cemetery was expanded in 1890 and again in 1915. In 1890 the board purchased four acres additional acres and in 1915 the board purchased another adjoining property for \$800.00. The Vault was built in 1911. At the north-east end of the property is the "Potters' Field" or "Paupers'" section reserved for those who could not afford to buy a plot. In 2008 the



first Columbarium was erected at the northwestern section, just south of the main gate.

Today's thirteen-acre cemetery has gone through many changes but it still remains in a beautiful and evocative setting in all seasons of the year. It is a tribute to those who have gone before and thus provides a fitting setting for us to pay our respects to them.

Researched and written by Paul Arculus



### William Boynton

**Pioneer Settler** 

William Boynton, Sr., was born on October 22, 1796, at Stillington, Yorkshire, England to parents Bartholomew and Catherine Boynton. He married Frances Cass on June 25, 1820 at Stillington and over the next 11 years they had five children - William James, John, Thomas, Edward and Robert. Only one child



1851 map shows Wm. Boynton's property at Prince Albert.

was born in Canada.

William was 40 years old when he and his family immigrated Canada in 1836, first settling in York Region. In 1839 he moved to Reach Township, taking up residence in Prince Albert where he built a tavern on Simcoe Street. The area in which he made his home became known as Boynton's Corners but the village was later named Prince Albert.

William was elected to Reach Township council by a show of hands at the Town Hall in Manchester in 1858. His career was a prosperous one, accumulating considerable property. He was a kind an generous man and highly respected by of a large circle of friends.

William Boynton, 72, died in Prince Albert on June 29, 1868. Following a service at the Prince Albert Presbyterian Church, a procession was formed and marched to the place of interment at Pine Grove Cemetery, Prince Albert. His wife, Frances, was buried beside her husband four years later.

### 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 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 operated the Victoria Hotel in Prince Albert, Ontario from about 1857 until 1860 when it was sold to William Scott. In December 1854 William moved to Lindsay where he took over Jewett's Hotel on William Street and

operated it as Boynton's Hotel until his death.

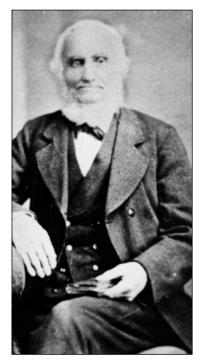
William J. Boynton was 51 years old when he passed away on November 21, 1872 at Lindsay, Ontario. He was buried at Pine Grove Cemetery, Prince Albert.

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



WM. BOYNTON begs to inform the inhabitants of the County of Victoria and surrounding Counties, that he has opened the Hotel on William Street, lately occupied by Jewett, and as he has had it fitted and furnished in first style, visitors will find every convenience Wines, Liquors and Cigars of the best quality.

An attentive ostler always in attendance. Lindsay, Dec. 16, 1864. 229-th



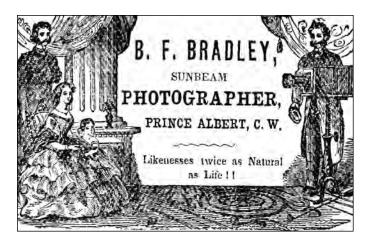
William Boynton, Jr.

### **B.F. Bradley**

#### Artist - Photographer

B.F. Bradley was born about 1831 in the United States. He came to Canada, settling in Reach Township, Canada West by 1861, when he was 30 years of age. In the 1861 Canada census he was listed as an artist.

Here he set up a studio and became a Sunbeam Photographer, but it is unclear how long he stayed in Prince Albert, although he was still working from his studio in 1866. Where he moved after leaving Prince Albert has not been determined.





John Carswell

#### Watch Maker

John Carswell was born in Suffolk, England in February 1790. John married Sarah Piper in London and they had two children, Lydia and Ann. The family emigrated to Canada, settling in Toronto, in 1834 during the massive migration from the British Isles in the 1830s.

In Toronto, Carswell perfected his skills as a watchmaker, working for a number of jewellers and watchmakers. With their young family, the Carswells made their way to Prince Albert, finally settling here in 1847.

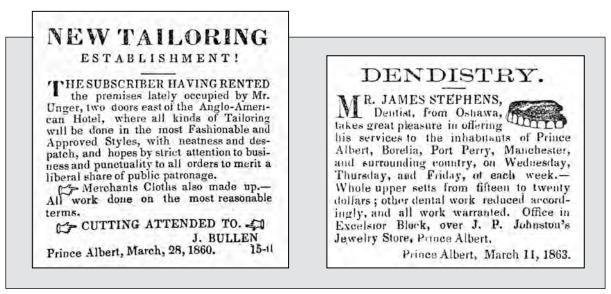
their way to Prince Albert, finally settling here in 1847. Initially the Carswells lived on King Street, but later purchased a lot on Simcoe Street and built a modest home

in 1857. John opened a small business as a watch maker in Prince Albert and worked at his craft until he was in his 80s, before retiring.



Carswell's home at Simcoe & Barber Street.

John Carswell died on November 9, 1880 in Prince Albert and was buried at Pine Grove Cemetery beside his wife, who had died two years earlier.



### Samuel P. Barber

#### Hardware Merchant



Samuel P. Barber

Samuel Patterson Barber was born in January 1819 in Quebec City, Quebec and later moved to Ontario.

When he was 22 years old, he married Ann Gordon, and couple had two children during their marriage. Ann died as a young woman of 36 years.

Samuel remarried in 1856 to Margaret Gordon. Two of their three children were born before they moved to Reach Townhip and purchased a 30 acre property on Concession 5, Lot 16, in the village of Prince Albert.

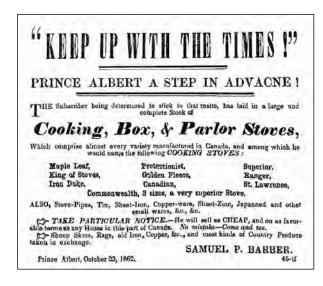
He was honoured with a street being named Barber Street, (see map). During 1861 he opened a business selling stoves, sheet iron, tin and copper in the

village. The same year Samuel also served as a councillor on the Reach Township council. Ten years after opening his hardware business in Prince Albert he left the village, moving first to Caradoc, Ontario and later to Emerson, Manitoba. Samuel returned to Port Perry about 1888, after the

death of his wife, to live with his daughter Sarah and son-in-law. He was 78 years old when he died at Franklin, Manitoba.



1861 map shows land owned by Samuel P. Barber and Barber Street named in his honour.



#### E. CASH'S Pump & Fanning Mill FACTORY ! SIMCOE STREET, PRINCE ALBERT. THE Subscriber respectfully informs the inhabitants of Prince Albert, surrounding villages and country, that he is still carrying on business in the above line **Opposite Jno. Heard's Blacksmith Shop** Where he will be happy to supply the wants of his customers with a superior article on reasonable terms, and feels confident that by leaving your orders with him, you will find the workmanship and material such as cannot fail to give universal satis-faction. Orders and Repairs Promptly Attended to. ALL WORK WARRANTED. Cr References given if required. E. CASH. Prince Albert, Sept. 25, 1860. 41-t

### Elija Cash

#### **Pump Maker**

Elija Cash, was born at Markham, Ontario, Canada West about 1840, the eldest son of David Cash.

At 21 years of age, Elija married Emma at Burchville, on June 1861. He moved to Prince Albert after his marriage, having opened a Pump and Fanning Mill in the village a year earlier.

A number of years later, in 1867 Mr. Cash constructed a new building and opened a Cheese Factory. Two years later, due to an increase in business he moved to a larger store, which provided an excellent stock of groceries and provisions.

Elija and his family moved to Michigan, United States about 1875, where he changed his career, becoming a preacher. He later moved to Los Angeles, California to continue his new career path.

While visiting his father in Prince Albert, Elija Cash died on Wednesday, December 7, 1904. A funeral service was held at the residence of his father followed by buried at Pine Grove Cemetery, Prince Albert, Ontario.

### **Thomas Courtice**

#### Harness Manufacturer

Thomas Courtice was born in 1829 in Buckland Brewer, Devon, England. He married Annie Cory, also of Devon, England, and the immigrated to Canada in 1852. Annie and Thomas had three sons and three daughters, with their first child being born at Prince Albert in 1857.

Mr. Courtice started in the leather and saddlery business in 1854 at Prince Albert, and in 1860 joined forces with John Rolph in the manufacturing of harness products. With the arrival of the railway in Port Perry, Mr. Courtice moved to his new building near the corner of Queen and Perry St. in 1874, to open his new harness shop. Unfortunately, like so many other businesses, the Courtice Block was destroyed in the fire of 1884.

Mr. Courtice's business was a success from the start, catering to needs that were widespread in the community. In 1887, he formed a partnership with Samuel Jeffrey, and they successfully carried on with their business, Courtice and Jeffrey Harness Shop, until his death.

In 1869 he served as treasurer of the Prince Albert Public Hall Joint Stock Co., and while a resident of Port Perry served on the town council. He was also a devoted Christian, who served as the Sabbath School Superintendent and for a time was the local preacher while in Prince Albert.

GOOD NEWS. Courtice & Rolph TAVE just received a quantity of New Goods, comprising Whalebone and Gut Whips [just imported from England.] Horse Nets, Saddles, Bridles, Martingales, and Harness of all desbriptions, all of which

will be sold at the lowest renunerating pro-

Please call and examine for your-

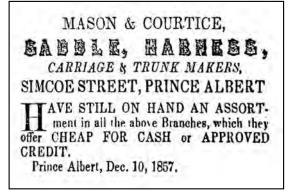
selves. Prince Albert, Aug. 8, 1860.

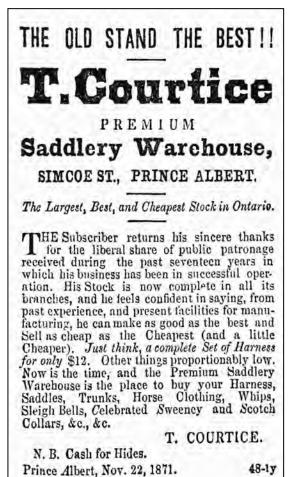
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Thomas Courtice, one of the community's best loved and esteemed residents, passed away in Port Perry on Friday, March 1, 1901, at the age of 71 years. In respect for this pioneer resident, the businesses of Port Perry closed for the afternoon of his funeral as he was laid to rest in Pine Grove Cemetery, Prince Albert. Left to mourn him was his wife, Annie (Cory), 79, who died on February 8, 1913 in Port Perry.





### George Currie

#### **Grain Merchant**

George Currie was born in Scarborough Township on August 21, 1821, the sixth child of John and Hannah (Lockey) Currie, of Scotland. In 1844, at 23-years of age, he moved to Prince Albert from Oshawa to open a grain buying business. At the same time, he and his brother Mark opened a general merchandising business selling drygoods, liquors, wines and children's wear in the village.

Mr. Currie was married to Sarah Ann (Cronk) on December 3, 1845, and they raised a family of six children: John, Catherine, Luther, Sarah, Hannah and George Jr. All children were born in Prince Albert between 1846 and 1862.

Throughout the 1850s, the Curries became one of the principal grain

purchasing businesses in the

area, and it was during this time



George Currie, 1895



Prince Albert, May 7, 1862

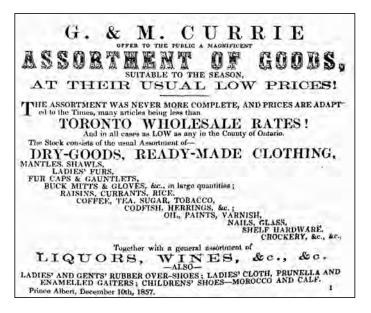
that George tried out his hand a politics. In 1857 he was elected Reeve of Reach Township. He later held the position of Treasurer of the Township for a number of years, before moving to Port Perry.

The Currie brothers dissolved their partnership as General Merchants in September 1861 with George continuing the business. During the 1860s, he formed another partnership with Aaron Ross becoming one of the largest grain companies in the county, as well as respected clothing, hardware and grocery merchants.

During the early 1870s, business began to trickle out of Prince Albert and George Currie, realizing that the tide of business was on the move, purchased a property on the north-east corner of Queen & Perry St. In 1872, he constructed an attractive two-storey brick building into which he moved his new business.

During the summer of 1873 he built an impressive new home at the south-west corner of Oueen and Ella St. This was also the same year that he began construction of his most notable building, the large grain elevator located near the railway station at Port Perry's lakefront.

Mr. Currie tried his hand at provincial politics in July 1876, running as a candidate for North Ontario County, but losing his bid to W.H. Gibbs of Whitby.



George Currie sold his interests in Currie's Elevator to Aaron Ross towards the end of the 1870s, and retired from business. Sometime later, George and Sarah Currie moved to Montana with their youngest son George Jr., where they purchased and lived on a ranch until the death of Mrs. Currie on May 9, 1891. Mr. Currie returned to Toronto as some point to spend the remainder of his life at the home of his daughter and son-inlaw.

The Currie's daughter, Sarah, was married to noted lawyer Norman F. Paterson, who had practiced in Port Perry for about 18 years, as well as held the position of village Clerk.

George Currie was 81 years of age when he passed away in Toronto, on Saturday, October 4, 1902, at the residence of Sarah and Norman F. Paterson.

### **Daniel Dayton**

#### **Early Settler of Prince Albert**

Daniel Dayton was born on February 14, 1769, in New Milford, Connecticut, USA, a son for his parents Caleb and Sarah. He had five brothers and five sisters.

Daniel married Jerusha Thomas in Sandgate, Vermont about 1890 and during their life together they raised eight children.

About 1824, Daniel, Jerusha and their family emigrated to Canada from the United States, and settled in Reach Township. As one of the first settlers in the area, the new settlement became known as Dayton's Corners before the name of the young village was changed to Prince Albert.

When the young Queen Victoria married her German cousin, Albert, in 1840, many communities celebrated by holding banquets and elaborate celebrations. The people at Dayton's Corners celebrated by renaming their settlement Prince Albert in honour of the Queen's consort. Daniel Dayton, who was a carpenter and farmer, built his original house to the east of the village and moved in with his wife Jerusa and his family.

Another early settler, Abner Hurd built to the east of Reuben Crandell's home. The two new homes laid the early foundations of this small pioneer community.

Before the winter of 1828 the Daytons and Hurds had erected a school house for their children. It was made of logs, and stood just west of sparse settlement on the knoll of a hill.

When Daniel's son Reuben died at the front in February 1828, the first burial ground was established in Prince Albert and young Reuben Dayton was interred in the cemetery, located near the corner of Old Simcoe Road and King Street.

Daniel Dayton died in Reach Township, Ontario in 1829 at the age of 60.

### N.H. Davis

#### Store Keeper

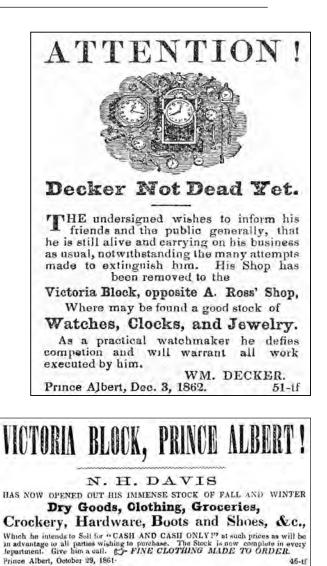
Little is known of N.H. Davis other than he spent a few years in business in Prince Albert.

Davis was born in 1806 in the United States and immigrated to Canada. He was married after arriving in Reach Township. He and his wife Caroline had three children; William, Mary and Frances.

In July 1859 he commenced business in a new store in Prince Albert, selling dry goods, clothing and groceries. Two years later he moved his business to Victoria Block in the bustling village of Prince Albert.

Ten years later he was living in Hamilton with his second wife, Barbara. Here he worked as an insurance agent in his later years.





### Decker/Doll/Diesfeld

#### Jewellers

William Decker, was born in Germany about 1821. He and his wife Christiana Barber (Lutz) immigrated to Canada, eventually setting up a jewelry store in Borelia About 1850.

They relocated their store Prince Albert in June 1862, setting up shop next to Charles Hiscock's bakery. He described himself as a practical watch maker and jeweller who repaired any style of watch, clock or jewellery.

Mr. Decker died at the young age of 43 years, on May 9, 1868. He had advertised himself as William Decker, and in his obituary he is given that name. Mysteriously however, his tombstone in the Prince Albert cemetery is not marked William Decker, but William Doll.

Within a few weeks of William Decker's death, his widow advertised that she was continuing to operate the jewelry shop as "Mrs. Doll, formerly Decker".

The widow Christiana Decker/Doll remarried in September 30, 1869, to John Diesfeld who had been born in Germany in 1833. He arrived in Prince Albert in 1867. After the marriage, the Prince Albert Jewelry store became known by the Diesfeld name.

The Diesfelds joined in the migration from Prince Albert in January 1875 when John Diesfeld, Watchmaker, announces his removal from Prince Albert to take up new premises.

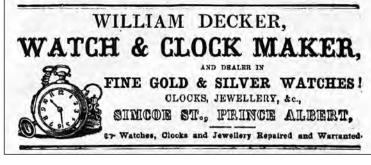


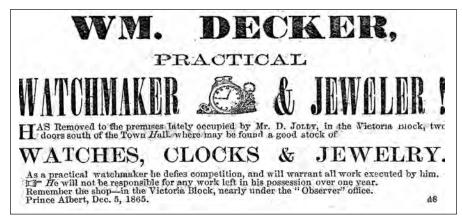
EMPORIUM LARGE and fire Stock opened out for the HOLIDAYS. Gold and Silver Watches, Gold and Silver Guards, Oroide and Goldine Chains, Gem and Signet Rings, Scart Pins and Lockets Gold Bronches and Ear Rings, Black Brooches and EarRings, O.h. Fellows' Bud Masons' Pins Prince of Wales Tubacco Pouches, Albums, Cigar Cases, Children's Tea Sets, Briar Pipes, Cigar-holders, Meenshaum Pipes, &c., &c. Clocks of all kinds, All the above constitute as fine a Stock as ever was brought into a country place. and will be sold really cheaper than ever

**Prince Albert Jewelry** 

before. Particular inducements to Cash customers for the Holidays. Come along and make a regular RAID on these fine Christmas and New Year's Presents.

Don't forget the place. JOHN DIESFELL, Practical Watch Maker, PRINCE ALBERT,







### **James Emaney**

#### Carriage Manufacturer, Blacksmith

James Emaney was born in Polstead, Suffolk, England on June 29, 1829, a son for William and Sarah Emaney. He lived there until the outbreak of the Crimean War, when he went to the front and took part in the battle.

He came to Canada in 1857, settling in Oshawa, where he practiced his trade as a carriage maker and blacksmith for a couple of years.

He moved to Prince Albert in 1859 where he went into partnership with Mr. White in the Ontario Carriage Factory. He later took over the entire business and successfully operated in the village until 1872, when he moved to Perry Street, in Port Perry. Here he built a large carriage factory and carried on a flourishing business for more than 10 years.

In 1881, at the age of about 49 years, he sold his workshops, residence and entire premises, and moved to Toronto, where he went into partnership with his son-in-law under the name of Emaney and Mallett operating the Nipissing House hotel at 172 King St.

MESSRS. EMANY & WHITE DESPECTFULLY ACQUAINT THE INhabitants of Prince Albert and vicinity, tha they are prepared to execute all kinds of SMITH'S WORK on easy terms. N. B.—Horse-Shoeing on improved principles.

Prince Albert, Dec. 10, 1857.

East for almost 10 years.

He left Toronto about 1890, moving to Whitby where he became owner of the Royal Hotel, located at 171 Brock St., North. Five years later he sold the Royal Hotel and moved to Toronto where he resided with his son-in-law and daughter. He also spent some time with the Malletts at the Prospect House, Cedardale, Oshawa.

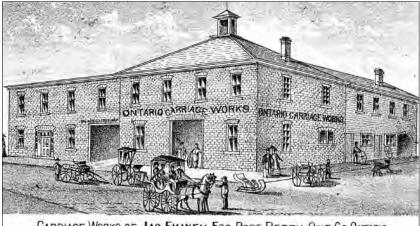
While a resident of the community, Mr. Emaney became a charter member of the Prince Albert Public Hall Joint Stock Company, serving in a variety of offices. He was one of the organizers of the lodges at Uxbridge and Brooklin and Master of Port Perry Lodge. He was a devoted member of the Brethren of the Prince Albert Lodge of A.F. and A.M., a member of the Church of England, and a conservative.

James Emaney died from kidney trouble at the age of 76 years, on Monday, July 2, 1906 and was buried at Pine Grove Cemetery, Prince Albert.

#### EMANEY & WHITE,

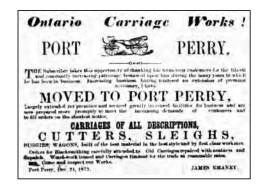
Carriage, Wagon, and Agricultural Implement Makers. MILLWRIGHTS AND GENERAL BLACKSMITHS, PRINCE ALBERT, C. W.

N B.---Horses Shod on Improved Principles-Prince Albert, June 23, 1850. 28-3a



CARRIAGE WORKS OF JAS. EMANEY ESQ. PORT PERRY, ONT. CO. ONTARIO.





### **Thomas C. Forman**

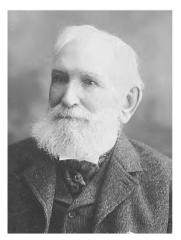
#### Grain and Drygoods

The entire community was shocked to hear the sudden death of Major Thomas Chalmers Forman, on January 4, 1904. Mr. Forman was 76 years of age when he collapsed on the Queen Street, near the Town Hall, while rushing to the scene of a fire in the centre of town. He was the oldest mercantile businessman in the county.

Mr. Forman was born in Aberdeenshire, Scotland in 1827 and immigrated to Canada as a teenager. Forman found a job in Oshawa working for one of that community's pioneers, James Laing.

Impressed by the young Scotsman's work ethic, Laing sent Forman to open and operate the first grain merchant's store in Prince Albert in 1845. So successful he was that for many years, in the 1850s and 1860s, he had one of the largest grain buyers at Prince Albert.

It is believed Thomas Forman married his employer's daughter, Margaret Laing a few years after moving to Prince Albert and they had one son, Thomas



**Thomas C. Forman** 

A., born from this marriage. He married a second time to Eleanor W. (Taylor) Forman about 1859 and the couple had four children, Maggie E., James L., Elsie and William.

In November 1860 he sold his entire stock in trade and business in Prince Albert. He advertising the business as one of the largest country businesses in Upper Canada. Also for sale was his sawmill near the village of Utica. In January 1866 Captain T.C. Forman volunteered to go to the front to fight the Fenians when they crossed the Niagara River into Fort Erie.

T.C Forman sold his merchandise and sold his store in Prince Albert in 1874 and moved his business to Port Perry where he opened one of the largest dry goods, grocery and hardware stores in the town. He continued to live in Prince Albert until 1885 when he built a large brick home in Port Perry at the corner of Queen and Caleb Street.

He always took a leading part in anything likely to enhance the interests of the community and served as Reeve of the Township of Reach in 1859. Known locally as Major T.C. Forman, he was a man of considerable military renown and proudly wore the badge of Sovereign, acknowledging the valuable services he rendered for his adopted and beloved country.

He was the father of Presbyterianism in Prince Albert, and for more than 50 years was superintendent of the Sunday School.





A splendid lot of

#### Furs, Boots, Shoes, Ready-made Clothing, - - Cheap !

(2) Parties will remember the above prices are for Cash only. Those having ac-counts now open will be supplied with Goods on credit to the first of Janasry, siter which the Books will positively be closed, noises where parties have paid up in full and definite arrangements have been made. Those having accounts, &c., now past due minat re-member hey have already had due noise to pay up, and unless suttled at once, they will find them in the Sheriff's and Bailiffs' hands for Collection forthwith, as on account of heavy losses suetained line year on wheat and flour, it is impossible to grant longer in-dulgence. With many thanks to those who have heretofore kindly favoured me with their patronage, and trasting still to receive a continuance of the same liberal support. Prince Albert, Dec. 5, 1861. T. C. FORMAN.

### Abner Hurd

#### **Pioneer Settler**

Abner Hurd was 34 years old when he immigrated to Canada, arriving in the Township of Reach early in 1824, becoming the second setter in the area. He took possession of a 200 acre parcel on the east side of Simcoe Street where he built himself a residence.

Hurd was followed a few months later by Reuben Dayton. The Hurds and the Daytons were followed by several families, including William Boynton south of Hurd. He immediately set about devising means for improving the condition of the, then, thinly scatted population, and even the poor Indians did not escape his attention, nor did he consider them beneath his notice.

By 1830, the community around the intersection of Simcoe Street and the 5th Concession had become known as Dayton's Corners. The first buildings in the community were simple log cabins, built, in most cases as temporary structures until more adequate homes could be built.

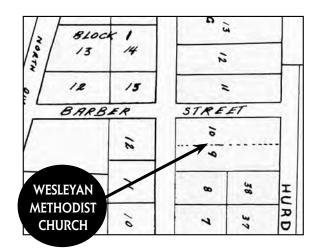
As the community grew, Boynton and Hurd recognized the need for hotels. Upon arrival, Hurd had built a log cabin west of the four corners. He later built this handsome building as his home and as a hotel, retaining his eastern acreage, selling his cabin and acreage in the western section of the community to T. C. Forman. Boynton built his hotel and residence on the west side of Simcoe Street, near the corner of Kings Street.

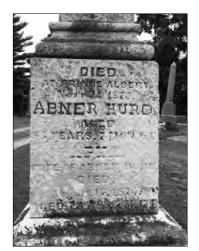
Abner Hurd stood nobly forward for over half a century as a leader and guide of the people in this section of the country, identifying himself with and taking a leading position in every movement which had for its object the encouragement of virtue and the improvement of the condition of his fellow men.

Mr. Hurd was held in a high degree of respect and esteem, and served many valuable services for the best interest of the village. He filled almost every position of honour and trust in the gift of the people, and never

gave them cause to regret their choice. He was honourable and upright, a loving husband and indulgent partner, a good citizen and faithful friend. He was for many years the head of the only Sunday School in Prince Albert. In public life, he held the office of magistrate for many years, and proved himself a terror to evil doers and protector to those that did well.

Abner Hurd passed away at Prince Albert on Monday, November 24, 1874, aged 84 years. Large numbers turned out to pay their last tribute at the funeral service was held at the Wesleyan Methodist Church, Prince Albert.





Abner Hurd's gravestone, Pine Grove Cemetery, Prince Albert, Ontario



Abner Hurd's home/hotel as it looked in the summer of 2002.

### Prosper A. Hurd

#### Attorney At Law

Prosper Armstrong Hurd was one of Prince Albert's important business professionals during the developing years in the village.

Born in Vermont, USA about 1922, Prosper immigrated to Canada with his parents and settled in York (Toronto) about 1848. It was here he met Priscilla Harnden whom he married and the couple had three children; Luther, Josephine and Ralph.

For a time during the early 1850s Prosper Hurd was in a partnership with A. Farewell in Prince Albert. This partnership was disolved in May 1850, with Mr. Hurd continuing with their store and ashery business.

He was also a parnter with Joshua Wright for a short time operating under the name Hurd & Wright. This was disolved in June 1852 with Mr. Wright taking over the business.

While living in Prince Albert, about 1857, he set up office to work as an "advocate". In his capacity as an advocate, he worked diligently to have the Registry Office for the County of Ontario located in North Ontario, within the boundary of the villages of Prince Albert, Port Perry, Borelia and Manchester. He was unfortunately unsuccessful.

He later became a lawyer and served in this capacity

#### P. A. HURD,

BARRISTER, Attorney at Law, Solicitor in Chancery, Notary Public, Conveyancer, &c, Prince Albert. Office in the "Victoria Block," two doors south of N. H. Davis' Dry Goods Store, and over T. C. Forman's Furniture Warerooms, adjoining he Observer office. Prince Albert, April 1862

### John Billings

#### Attorney at Law

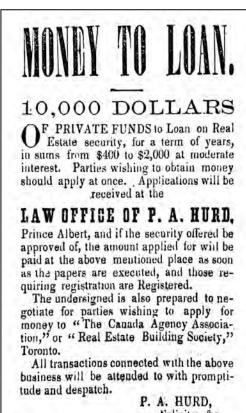
John Billings was born in Ontario about 1827. It's unknown when he arrived in Prince Albert, but he set up his business as a lawyer, chancery and conveying officer in the village about 1857.

Billings was 31 years old when he married to Joanna Proudfoot in Whitby on October 2, 1860.

While a resident of the village he became a member of the Prince Albert Infantry Company and in 1867 was listed as Captain Billings.

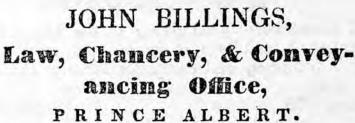
By 1881, Mr. Billings had moved to Port Perry and was living there with his wife and three children. for many years. In May 1876 he asked Reach Township council for a \$15,000 grant to assist the construction of an extension, of the Port Whitby & Port Perry Railway.

After serving the community for about 18 years Prosper Armstrong Hurd returned to the USA, settling in Forest Park, Illinois. He passed away in Chicago, Illinois in 1904 when he was 73 years old.



Solicitor, &c. Solicitor, &c. 49-tf

Prince Albert, Nov. 19, 1862. 49



Ontario Directory, 1857.

#### JOHN BILLINGS,

BARRISTER, Attorney at Law, Solicitor in Chancery, Notary Public, Conveyancer, &c., Prince Albert. Office two doors west of T. C. Forman's Store.

Prince Albert, April 1862

### Henry Graham

#### Shoemaker

Henry Graham was about 30 years old when he moved to Reach Township and opened his shoemakers shop in Prince Albert in 1857.

Before arriving in Prince Albert Henry was married Sarah Ann Barker, 21, in Scarboro on December 19, 1851 and they lived in East Gwillimbury, Ontario until moving to Reach.

Henry was loyal to his country and fought in the Fenian raids of 1868.

He became one of the leading businessmen in the village until the early 1870s and had a reputation for being industrious and honourable and kind. The "Graham" trademark was synonymous with perfection in all his products.

Henry Graham was in his 86th year when he died on March 11, 1912 in Port Perry.

### John M. Heard

**Horse Shoeing** 

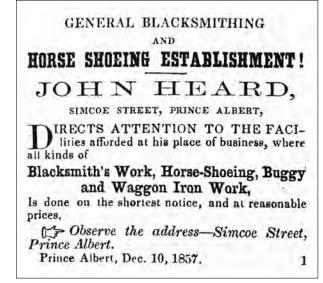
John Heard was born in England about 1833 and travelled to Canada.

When he arrived in Prince Albert about 1858 he opened a blacksmith shop on Simcoe Street, where he provided services including horse shoeing and wagon iron work.

In 1871, he moved his business to Port Perry when business started to trickle out of the Prince Albert.but he continued to live just west of the vilalge.

John was married to Jane Kilpatrick on November 29, 1866 in Whitby and they had three children before she passed away about 1871.

In 1878, after 30 years in business, Mr. Heard was honoured by the residents of Prince Albert and Port Perry at a public gathering.



#### Henry Graham

BEGS LEAVE TO INFORM HIS CUStomers that he has decided, for the future, to SELL BOOTS and SHOES

### For Ready Money only!

This system he considers, in these hard times, will effect a saving of at least 20 PER CENT!

The plan of giving one year's credit, and Customers taking another year at the end of the first, is too hard a road for a Tradesman to travel.

H, G. wishes it also to be understood that he is anxious to pay his own just debts; to accomplish which, it will be necessary for him to collect creiy shilling due to him. He therefore takes this opportunity of notifying that all OUTSTANDING DEBTS will be sued for in the NEXT COURT, if not settled before that time. The next Court will be held

On Wednesday, 30th December. Prince Albert, Dec. 10, 1857.

3



### **Charles Hiscocks**

#### **Businessman**

Charles Hiscocks was born in Illesford, Somerset, England about 1817 and came to Canada with his wife Lydia and two children. The Hiscocks family arrived in Reach Township during the 1860s and Charles operated bakeries in both Prince Albert and Manchester.

Charles Hiscocks was an agreeable and exemplary townsman, honest, honourable and upright in his business transactions, a consistent and faithful Christian and a devoted member of the C.M. Church.

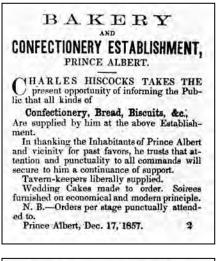
During his long residence and business career in Prince Albert. About 1872 he moved into Port Perry and four years later into a new store. Here established a reputation to which but few attain. He was not anxious to reap riches, but through industry, frugality and enterprise, was rewarded satisfactorily.

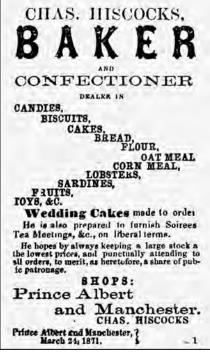
He was a kind and faithful friend, and affectionate and watchful father and the loving and beloved husband of Lydia (Spender).

Charles Hiscocks was 61 years old when he passed away at Prince Albert on Tuesday, January 27, 1880, aged 61 years, leaving his wife, Lydia, and six children.



Charles Hiscock's Baker and Confectioner at Manchester.





### James Jewett

#### Hotel Keeper

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

He 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 about 1857 and opened Jewett's Hotel in the village of Borelia, and continued with his shoe making. He operated the hotel until about 1868.

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 June 1869, He also served as a constable in the village of Port Perry during the 1880s.

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.

### Hugh H. McCaw

#### Tinsmith, Postmaster

Hugh Henry McCaw was born in Ireland in 1818 and immigrated to Canada with his parents Sarah (Thompson) and Price McCaw, settling in Quebec until 1855, when he moved to Reach Township.

He and his wife Elizabeth "Betsey" McKelvey, raised a family four sons and six daughters - Albert E., William Hugh, Margaret, Emma, Ellen, Andrew, Hugh H. Jr., Elizabeth, Annie and Mary Agnes.

In 1860 he began his business career as a tinsmith in Prince Albert. While a resident of that village he took a prominent and active part in every movement. Educational matters had his active support, both Public and Sunday School were indebted to him for his well direct efforts.

In 1866 when Prince Albert postmaster G. Robson resigned, Hugh McCaw was appointed his successor, filling the position until 1873 when he was honoured at a dinner before moving to Port Perry. Albert E. McCaw took over the tinsmith business of his father.

His son William H. McCaw became a jeweller and married Emma Bigelow, daughter of Joseph Bigleow.

Hugh was a worthy and esteemed townsman, was favourably remembered throughout the county for his good qualities.

Mr. Hugh H. McCaw was 74 years old when he passed away on July 24, 1892 at the LaGrange, Illinois home of his son-in-law N.E. Briggs. His wife, Elizabeth died on July 8, 1910, at 89 years of age.

### William H. Park

#### Furniture & Cabinets

William Henry Park was born in Ontario in 1831 and came to Reach Township about 1950 settling in Prince Albert, just of Port Perry.

He was married to Eliza Kendall on September 20, 1852 in Reach and 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 opened the Ontario Cabinet and Chair Factory, opposite Scott's Hotel, in Prince Albert and began constructing all types of furniture, cabinets and coffins. As a service to his customers, he also had a hearse which he hired out. It's not entire clear when he first opened his business, but it appears he operated from his Prince Albert shop until January 1873 when he moved to a new location in Port Perry opposite the post office.

Two years later, in May 1875, Mr. Park purchased the Anglo-American Hotel in Prince Albert, renovated 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, where William continued as a hotelkeeper for a number of years.

### Ontario County for Ever. H. H. McCA OULD RESPECTFULLY INFORM his old customers and the public in general that he has opened a Shop one door East of Calhoun's Hotel, Prince Albert, where he will keep constantly, or manufac-

ture to order all articles of

#### Tin, Sheet Iron, and Copper Ware, Stove Pipes, and Stove Furniture, &c.

Particular attention paid to Eave Trough-ing and jobbing generally.

1 Old Copper, Rags, Sheep Skins, and all kinds of Produce taken in exchange.

#### -ALSO-

General Agent for H. A. Massey of Newcastle, Manufacturer of all kinds of Agricultural Implements, consisting in part of Threshing Machines, Mowing and Reaping Machines, and a great variety of Piows and Cultivators.

H. H. McCaw would call particular attention at this time to Massey's Combined Reaper and Mower; and intending purchasers can see a specimen by giving him a call.

COME ONE, COME ALL! Prince Albert, July 4, 1860. 29-t





James MacBrien, Sr.

### James McBrien, Sr.

#### **School Inspector**

James McBrien was born in the County of Farnanagh, Enniskillen, Ireland in the year 1832. Unfortunately his father, James Sr., died, so his mother Margaret Eaton left their homeland with her family of six small children destined to Canada. After a three month passage in an old-time sailing vessel they arrived, purchasing and settling on a farm in East Whitby, near Myrtle, Ontario.

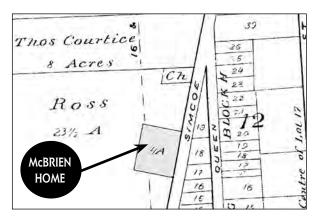
After graduating at the Normal School, Mr. McBrien was engaged for 15 years in public school work. His excellent work in this line was rewarded by his being appointed Inspector of Public Schools in Ontario County in 1872, which position he held for nearly 40 years.

About the same time he was appointed inspector, he purchased a home from Aaron Ross on the west side of today's Old Simcoe Road, in Prince Albert.

James and his wife Julia had nine children, all of whom attended Port Perry High School.

Mr. MacBrien passed away on Sunday, September 26, 1909, at 77 years of age. He left a wife, Julia Frances, three sons and six daughter. His wife Julia lived in the house until her death in 1938.

Mr. McBrien is said to have "lived respected and died regretted" by the entire community. A large number of townsfolk turned out to pay their last respects at his funeral on Tuesday 28th inst. at Pine Grove Cemetery, Prince Albert.



The McBrien home was located on Simcoe Street, north of King Street, Prince Albert. He purchased a 4 acre parcel of land from Aaron Ross and tore down the original small house. He then constructed the above home on the property about 1872. His family lived there for more than 65 years



James H. McBrien, Jr.



The McBrien home at Prince Albert.

### James H. McBrien, Jr.

#### Knighted by King George

Sir James McBrien was the son of of the late inspector James McBrien and his wife Julia and was born in the family home (above) in Prince Albert in 1878.

He received his public and High School education in Port Perry. After working locally for a year he joined the Northwest Mounted Police.

In 1906 he returned home to Prince Albert to marry Nellie Louise Ross, daughter of Aaron and Lucinda Ross, former owners of the house in which the was born. Unfortunately Nellie died in 1921 and McBrien later married Emily Harbridge of New York.

In 1931 he accepted a Government appointment to take over as Commissioner of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. In recognition of his efforts in organizing and modernizing the R.C.M.P., King George V made him a Knight Commander of the Order of the Bath, in 1935.

Sir James McBrien's death came on March 5, 1938 and the funeral service at St. Paul's Church, Toronto, was one of the largest the city had witnessed many years, Mourners came from far and wide, from military, political and private life. To further honour McBrien, a mountain was named after him in Canada's North West Territories; Mount Sir James McBrien.

### **Aaron Ross**

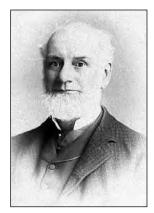
#### Grain & Seed Merchant

Aaron Ross was born in London England on July 31, 1828 and came to Canada when he was 14 years old, settling near Whitby. After a few years he moved to Brooklin to learn shoemaking, and upon completion moved to Prince Albert and worked at his trade for about a year.

Shortly after arriving in Prince Albert he married Lucinda (Fitchett) and started his own business manufacturing boots and shoes.

In 1865, Aaron Ross and George Currie formed a partnership and carried on the dry goods business for five years. In 1870 he moved to Port Perry. His shrewd business tact showed that the town would be the business centre for the future.

Aaron Ross was identified for more than 30 years with the purchase of grain and seeds from farmers of Reach and Scugog Townships, operating warehouses at Seagrave and elevators at Port Perry and Manchester, after establishing his grain



**Aaron Ross** 

business in Prince Albert during the 1860s in partnership with George Currie. About 1876, he purchased George Currie's grain elevator in Port Perry, and operated it as the Ross Elevator for a number of years, before his son William joined him.

His strong points were he business ability and indomitable will all through life from his first start in business in Prince Albert up to the date of his death - it was a series of success from first to last, so much so that the deceased during his business life was a provisional director of the Dominion Band and always took an interest in that prosperous institution.

He was at one time a director of the old Midland Railway, before being taken over by the G.T.R., and was also a prominent member of the Toronto Board of Trade.

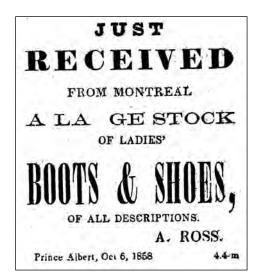
His force was his business tack and ability. He was as public spirited a man as was to be seen in his support of institutions of religion and educational character; at one time he was vice president of Whitby Ontario Ladies' College and was often chosen by his church to

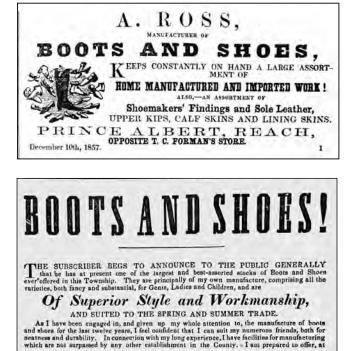
represent that body in conference.

Aaron Ross died in Port Perry on Saturday, July 11, 1896 at 68 years of age. Left to mourn his loss is his family, consisting of his wife Lucinda, sons Messrs. Robert, William, James, Fred, Charles and John, and daughters Mrs. Hossack and Sarah.

The large funeral on Monday was a tribute of respect and esteem in which the deceased and the family are held in the town and vicinity. Services were held in the Methodist Church.

After the solemn services at the church the large funeral cortege wended its way to the Pine Grove Necropolis for interment.





WHOLESALE AND RETAIL, At less prices than those of equal quality can be procured in the County. I have, ulso, A LARGE STOCK OF LEATHER

Of every kind, kept constantly on hand. I hope you will give me an opportonity to show you my stock, feeling assured that I can me cour wants, both as to quality and price.

AARON ROSS.

Prince Albert, March 9, 1959.

### Matthew G. Robson

#### Businessman

Matthew George Robson was a native of Markham born about 1836. He was the son of William Robson, a pioneer of much power and influence in the days of the early settlement of that now wealthily and prosperous township. His mother was Jane Holden Robson.

Mr. Robson came in the 1850s of Prince Albert and was appointed Postmaster, which position he retained during the larger portion of the time of the prosperity of that village. He also carried on an extensive money loaning business, was public spirited and enterprising and took a leading part in all that proved beneficial for the best interest of Prince Albert.

Beginning in 1857, operating under the name Robson & Co. he opened a dry goods store called Prince Albert House and also managed the Prince Albert Hotel, both at the corner of King and Simcoe Street, Prince Albert. This venture began with James Holden as a partner. Mr. Holden was the owner of the Ontario Observer newspaper, but it seems that fro a short time in 1858, Mr. Robson became publisher of the Ontario Observer.

Matthew was married to Sarah Jane McCaw on September 12, 1859 at York, Ontario. They had three sons, William, Frank, Clarence and one daughter Elizabeth.

Having been highly successful in business, he purchased the magnificent Perry Castle in the town of Whitby, where he reside for a number of years, later



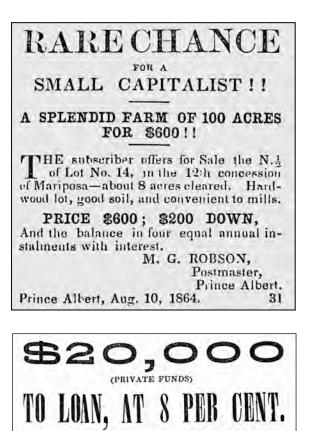
being a resident of Port Perry and afterward moving to Toronto.

While living in Prince Albert he was appointed Justice of the Peace of which office he exercised for a number of years.

Matthew W. Robson was in his 83rd year when he passed away at his residence at 314 Pacific Avenue, Toronto on Monday, January 30, 1911.



Perry Castle, Whitby, Ontario.



M. G. ROBSON,

POSTMASTER, PRINCE ALBERT.

-211

Prince Albert, Oct. 25, 1864.

### **Archibald Sinclair**

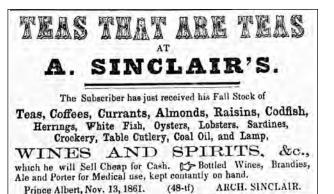
#### **Groceries & Spirits**

Archibald Sinclair was about 40 years old when he arrived in Reach Township, settling in Prince Albert and opening a store about 1861.

Archibald was born in Islay, Scotland in 1820 and lived in Prince Albert with his wife Mary for about 10 years. They had five children during their life together.

His store, known as The Union, provided teas, coffees, seafoods, crockery and sold bottled wines, brandies, and ales "for medical use". He served as a

director of the Prince Albert Public Hall Joint Stock Company.



Mr. Sinclair and his wife moved to Cannington during the 1870s and he passed away on August 31, 1880.

#### CARRIAGE AND CUTTER MANUFACTORY! **Prince Albert.**

#### JAMES SANDERS

E MBRACES THIS OPPORTUNITY TO thank his numerous Patrons for the liberal support he has received during the 15 years he has conducted the above Business, and to solicit a continuance of their favours.

Having secured the assistance of Messrs. EMANY & WHITE, in the SMITH'S DE-PARTMENT, he is now prepared to offer for Sale a variety of

Cutters, Sleighs, Buggies, Waggons, &c.

In order to meet the hard times, and to open the eyes of the Public, he is determined to sell the above articles at prices cheaper than have hitherto been offered.

With regard to elegance and comfort, the Public will find the articles sold at the above Establishment SUPERIOR TO ANY manufactured in this part of the country

Prince Albert, Dec. 10, 1857.

#### R. SIMS,

#### House and Carriage Painter,

GLAZIER, GRAINER, AND PAPER HANGER,

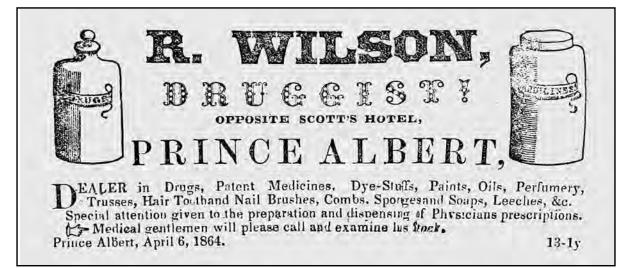
#### PRINCE ALBERT, C.W.

Z Paints, Oils, Paper Hangings, Putty, Glass, &c., furnished if required. I Prince Albert, December 10, 1857.

#### E. S. DECKER LICENSED AUCTIONEER !! LL ORDERS MADE TO ME, IN A person, or left at the Observer office, Prince Albert, will receive prompt attention. Bills made out and attended to free of charge. Blank Notes arranged for decimal currency furnished at very chep rates.

15-H

E. S. DECKER. Prince Albert, March 28, 1860.



### R.H. Tomlinson

#### **Drug Store Operator**

Richard Herbert Tomlinson as born on September 25, 1835 in Canada West and when he was about 20 arrived in Prince Albert. He became a member of the community as a druggist, purchasing the business of his brother William.

In 1858 he attended a railroad meeting where he was elected secretary for a proposed railway line between Manverse Station, through Prince Albert and Uxbridge to the Northern Railway.

By December 1871 businesses began to trickle out of Prince Albert and take up locations in Port Perry due to the arrival of the railway in Port Perry and he was among the businesses who moved. He and his family moved to Toronto east, Ontario in 1871.



**Richard Tomlinson** 

R.H. Tomlinson was married to Julia Ann (Young) about 1874 and they had one son, George H. Tomlinson and one daughter Alice. P. Tomlinson. She died in 1917 in Toronto. R. H. Tomlinson was 71 years old when he died in Sault St. Marie in 1906 and was buried at Saint James Cemetery, Toronto.

	VER OIL,
JUST RECEIVED-	FRESH.
	R. H. TOMLINSON.
December 10, 1857.	1

### William Wilcox

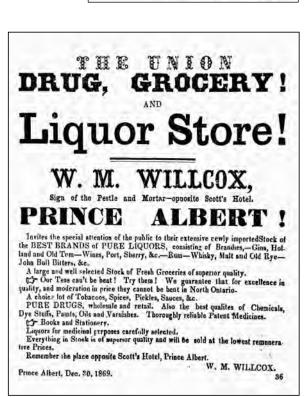
#### **General Store Operator**

William M. Wilcox lived about 30 years in Reach Township, first in Prince Albert and later in Port Perry. He and was elected deputy-reeve of Reach Township in 1890 and 1895 and also as a councillor in Port Perry.

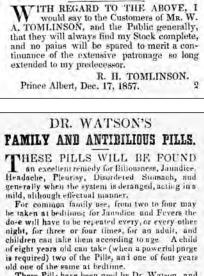
William opened "The Union" drug, grocery and liquor store during the mid-1860s and operated it successfully until April 1873 when a fire broke out in the entire block of stores on the north-east corner of Simcoe and King Street. Consumed by the fire were Wright's Boot and Shoe store, Willcox Drug and Grocery store, Wightman's extensive general goods store and the Masonic Temple.

In April 1872, Wilcox purchased a home on Cochrane Street where he lived for about a year. After deciding to move his business to Port Perry in October 1873, Mr. Wilcox began construction of a new residence at the corner of Queen and Bigelow Streets.

After moving to Port Perry, he worked as an auctioneer until his death. William M. Wilcox was 61 years old when he passed away in Port Perry on September 24, 1896.



Could be spelled "Willcox" or "Wilcox".



CARD.

THE SUBSCRIBER WOULD ANNOUNCE to his Customers and the Public generally, that he has disposed of his STOCK and IN-TEREST in the DRUG BUSINESS, in PRINCE ALBERT, to his Brother, Mr. R. H.

TOMLINSON, who will conduct the business

Prince Albert, Dec. 17, 1857.

W. A. TOMLINSON.

in future.

These Pills have been used by Dr. Watson, and other physicians in England, for a number of years, and have given universal satisfaction. Sold, wholesale and retail, by

d, wholesale and retail, by R. H. TOMLINSON, DRUGGIST, PRINCE ALBERT.

Prince Albert, Dec. 17, 1857.





#### **Drug Store Operator**

William Tomlinson was born November 11, 1833 in Ontario, Canada.

He was married to Phoebe M. Canniff in 1856 at Hastings, Ontario and moved to Prince Albert and by 1857 he was operating a business under the name, W.A. Tomlinson Druggist and Apothecary. Here he sold pure wines and liquors for medicinal purposes and filled physicians prescriptions.

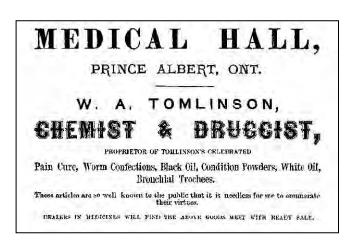
In 1861 he was listed in the Canada census as being a dentist.

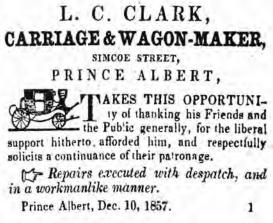
He and his wife Phoebe had five children; Ida, Albert., Emma, George and Estella. Wm. Tomlinson opened his drug store on King Street, two buildings east of the popular Anglo-American Hotel in Prince Albert.

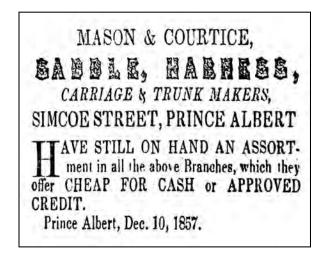
William took a great interest in his community and in 1863 was part of a committee designated to convince the County of Ontario to put the Registry Office for North Ontario in Prince Albert.

He was still listed as a resident of Prince Albert as late as 1876.

William A. Tomlinson was 47 years old when he moved to Lapeer, Michigan, in the United States and in 1880 with his wife Pheobe Tomlinson. He died May 6, 1901 in Michigan and was interred Pinecrest Cemetery, Michigan, USA.







### Joshua Wright

#### Merchant, Politician

Joshua Wright, who was born in Ireland in 1825, was one of the areas most active and influential political leaders a period for more than 30 years, being elected councillor and reeve in both the township of Reach and in Port Perry and also serving as Warden of Ontario County.

Joshua began his business career in Prince Albert as a successful maker of boots and shoes gradually expanding and establishing his own tannery on property to the west of his home. He expanded his operation to Manchester in the mid 1860s. He was the first in the village to install a steam powered engine into his tannery business.

With the shift in trade, he moved his Boot and Shoe Store to Port Perry and in 1877 purchased and outfitted the Sexton Mill property for a large new tannery. In September 1880 he leased the Port Perry Grain Elevator and ventured into grain buying. When his lease on the building ran out, Mr. Wright proceeded to build a new grain elevator on his property near the

Joshua Wright

railway station, finally selling out in 1883 to D.C. Downey.

In 1891, Mr. Wright returned to the grain business, taking over his building, which had been closed down and refitted it for an elevator and grain facility. Less than a year the entire building and stock was destroyed by fire.

Mr. Wright started his municipal career as a councillor in 1859 when he was elected as a councillor for Reach Township. In 1866 he was elected Reeve of Reach, a position he filled for three terms, and was honoured in 1869 by being elected Warden of Ontario County.

Between 1877 and 1893 he was elected as Reeve of Port Perry on seven occasions. During his years as Reeve of Port Perry, Mr. Wright served as a commissioner of the Scugog Bridge and through his efforts convinced his colleagues at the County of Ontario to complete the bridge as a permanent roadway.

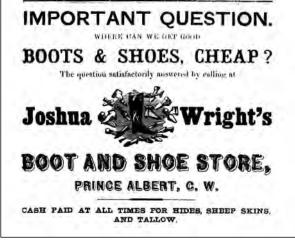


Joshua Wright's home on King Street, Prince Albert.

He retired from municipal politics at the end of his term in 1893. In 1871, Mr. Wright tried his hand at provincial politics, running as a candidate for North Ontario Riding, but was defeated by Charles Paxton.

On the home front, he served in the Reach Volunteer Infantry Company as a Captain during the 1860s and was a director of the Prince Albert Public Hall Joint Stock Company.

Joshua Wright was married to Mary Ann (Richardson) and they had two sons and seven daughters. She died in November 1897 and a funeral was held at their beautiful Prince Albert residence, followed by interment at Pine Grove Cemetery. Joshua was 63 years old when he passed three months later, on February 2, 1898. He was buried beside his wife at Pine Grove Cemetery.



Lea	ther !	Le	ather	II
D deal	J. W H TO ANNO in LEATHE prepared to su	UNCE ER, (an	TO ALL d who does	not?)
sary articl	e upon the SE ST TERMS,	IORTE	ST NOTICI	E and
	BEAVER-M PRINCE	ALBI	ERT.	
About i ply of KII on hand,	500 SIDES of P, CALF and	UPPE	R, and a good LEATHER	d sup- , now
	lighest price Albert, Dec. 10	-		

Prince Albert 1869

### George U. White

#### Wagon Maker

George Uriah White was one of a number of young men who entered into the trade of blacksmith and wagon maker during the developing years of Prince Albert.

Born in England, George came to Prince Albert during the 1850s. He married and had seven children with his wife Mary.

About 1858 be became a partner with James Emaney, opening Emaney & White millwrights and general blacksmiths.

By 1866, Emaney & White disbanded and in November that year George opened a new carriage factory on Simcoe Street in the village. Just over a year later, in February 1868 his new facility was consumed by a destructive fire.

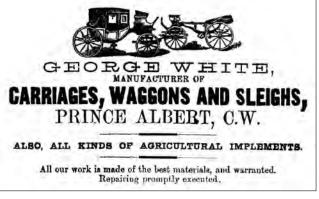
Following the fire, Mr. White moved to Port Perry, opening the Port Perry Carriage Factory. In September 1872, he again experienced tragedy when his new factory burned to the ground, causing a loss of \$6,000.

### EMANEY & WHITE,

Carriage, Wagon, and Agricultural Implement Makers. MILLWRIGHTS AND GENERAL BLACKSMITHS,

PRINCE ALBERT, C. W.

N B.---Horses Shod on Improved Principles. Prince Albert, June 23, 1859. 28-3m



Prince Albert 1861

### William E. Yarnold

#### Land Surveyor

William Edward Yarnold was born in Kent, England about 1831 and when a young man came to Canada with his father. He was educated at the Simcoe County Grammar School and after completing his education was articled as a student to the firm of Rankin & Robinson, Provincial Land Surveyors of Toronto.

In 1854 he obtained his diploma as a Provincial Land Surveyor and began the practice of his profession in Prince Albert, for almost 30 years, before moving to Port Perry in 1882, where he spent the remainder of his life.

He occupied the position of County Surveyor for a number of years, and acted as engineer for about 10 township municipalities. He was entrusted with considerable surveying work by the railways. He became so predominate in his profession that his word was readily accepted as being equal to his bond. His services were in demand in all parts of the Province and his popularity as a professional man was ever on the increase.

Of his more important local projects, Mr. Yarnold was awarded the contract for constructing 600 feet of permanent roadway at the east end of the Scugog Bridge. In 1882, he was hired to prepare a survey map for the embankment across a section of the Scugog which would later become the Cartwright causeway.

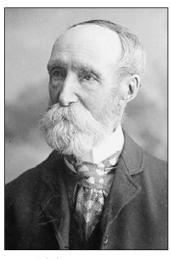
Mr. Yarnold and his wife were greatly beloved citizens. He was a character of rare excellence and was described as being short of statue, slightly built, with pale, calm and highly intellectual countenance, and mild and investigating eyes.

The Yarnold's home was located at the corner of Queen and Cochrane St., one of the beautiful spots in town. He named Ella St. after his daughter.

The death of Mr. Yarnold in December 16, 1916, came after falling sick with pneumonia. He was 85 years old at the time of his death and was mourned

by his wife Sophronie Celia Yarnold and daughter Ella Maud and the residents of the town he had resided in for more than 60 years.

Celia S. (Haight) Yarnold died at Port Perry on Thursday, February 27, 1919 in her 91st year. She was buried beside her husband in Pine Grove Cemetery, Prince Albert, Ontario.



William E. Yarnold

## The Prince Albert Infantry

In April 1863 the Reach/Prince Albert Volunteer Infantry Company was formed at a meeting held at McClue's Hotel, Manchester.



Capt. Thomas C. Forman

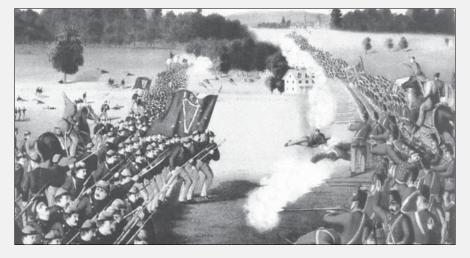
The Irish Republican Brotherhood began in Ireland in 1858 with the purpose of separating Ireland from Britain. The movement quickly grew in the British colonies and became known as the Fenians, named after legendary ancient Irish warriors. They gained a huge following in the United States.

With the outbreak of the Civil War in the United States in 1861, there was an immediate concern that the US might expand the war and take control of the British territories in Canada. With memories of past conflicts such as the American Revolutionary War and the War of 1812, a wave of patriotism spread across the Canadian provinces. John A. Macdonald who was the attorney general of Canada West, created a Ministry of Militia Affairs.

As early as 1857, a Volunteer militia was established in Prince Albert. This was the 5th Battalion of Ontario County and was under the leadership of Lieutenant-Colonel P.A. Hurd.

In 1863, as Volunteer enthusiasm rose to new heights, the county militia was reorganized again and the Volunteer Militia Company of Infantry of Prince Albert was established with Captain T.C Forman, Lieutenant John Billings and Ensign





The charge of the Fenians (left) under Colonel John O'Neill at the Battle of Ridgeway, near Niagara, Canada West, on June 2, 1866. (Picture courtesy the library and archives Canada).

Richard Herbert Tomlinson.

At the end of the American Civil War, the Fenians in the U.S. were joined by many unemployed former soldiers looking for a cause. In March 1866, news spread of a pending attack on Canada. On May 30 a large Fenian force gathered at Buffalo in preparation for such an attack. They crossed the border, capturing Fort Erie on June 1 and advanced to Ridgeway.

Along with other local militia groups, the Prince Albert Company was alerted and dispatched to Oshawa. Captain T.C. Forman reported back to the Ontario Observer, "...after leaving Prince Albert, we made good time to Raglan where we stopped a few minutes and then proceeded to Oshawa. We repaired to our billets and partook of excellent dinners. We were treated with kindness by the people of Oshawa."

In Oshawa they were joined by the Rifle Companies from

Oshawa, Whitby, Brooklin and Columbus, and infantry companies from Whitby and Uxbridge.

The following day, they boarded trains to Toronto. The Uxbridge and Prince Albert Companies remained in Toronto while the others went on to the battle front in the Niagara peninsula.

At 11:00 in the evening of June 3, the Prince Albert Company was sent to the Great Western railway station to receive the wounded and dead from the battlefield and later to guard the captured Fenian prisoners at Toronto's Don Jail.

Meanwhile in Prince Albert a committee was organized "to look after the wants and needs of the families of our Volunteers who have gone to the front.... They will use every means in their power to mitigate the loss sustained by the families of our noble volunteers who have so manfully clutched their weapons and gone forward in our country's need to the defence of our families, our homes and our affairs....Parties wishing to forward any article to our Volunteers may leave it in the hands of G. Currie, ... who will see to its being forwarded in a proper manner."



1866 Fenian medal

After two weeks in Toronto the boys of the Prince Albert Infantry Co. returned home to receive the accolades of the local citizens. They were celebrated at a supper in the Prince Albert Town Hall with more than 200 present. Later each participant received a medal from the government.

After their return, grain merchant, and militia Captain T.C. Forman put a tender out to built a large shed on his property specifically for the volunteers to practice their military drills. The drill shed ended up being 112'x70' with 14 ft. posts, a little larger than originally planned. This was the first drill shed in Ontario County.

In September 1866, the Militia was again reorganized and the 34th Ontario Battalion of Infantry came into being with 450 men organized in nine companies under the command of Lieutenant-colonel Silas B. Fairbanks of Oshawa. Captain T.C. Forman was appointed as the Paymaster. The Number 5 Company of Prince Albert was commanded by Captain John Billings.

In early September, The Prince Albert Company marched to Whitby where they joined the rest of the Battalion and sailed by steamer to Port Dalhousie and marched to Thorold to take part in the first annual 12-day training camp. Later, due to budget restrictions, this became a semi-annual event in Whitby.

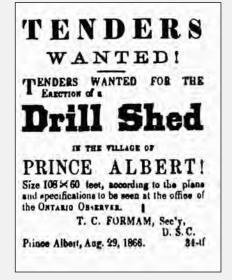
In 1872 the Number 5 Company of Prince Albert became a victim of the Railway. Following the lead of the various businesses, the Prince Albert #5 Company was officially moved to Port Perry.

In 1878, the 12-day training camp took place in Port Perry. Seven years later, the Port Perry Company was moved to Uxbridge, bringing an end to a 22-year old military tradition in Reach Township that had begun in Prince Albert.

By Paul Arculus



This "Drill Shed" from near Ottawa, would be similar to the one built in Prince Albert.





Listings for the Township of Reach and Prince Albert extract from copies of Gazetteer & Directories of the Home District and County of Ontario from 1837 until 1884.

#### **REACH TOWNSHIP DIRECTORY 1837**

From the City of Toronto and the Home District

#### COMMERCIAL DIRECTORY & REGISTER

	Con.	No.	Con.	No.	Con.	No.
Allen James	9	12	Hoover, Daniel 10	8	Shaw, Hosea 6	6
Asliden John	9	5	Houghton, Stephen 6	17	Shaw, Herod 6	6
Atwell William	9	11	Huntington, Wm. 1	2	Sheldon, Henry 2	2
Barrett Samuel J.	. 5	0	Hurd, Philander 5	17	Sherman, Horace 1	10
Bates John C.	4	18	Huributt, Wm. 1	11	Sickell, Wm. 1	17
Bell William	3	17	Jenson, John 10	10	Silver, James 2	13
Black Charles	14	24	Johnson, Wm 2	16	Silver, Daniel Sr. 2	13
Box Aaron	4	10	John, David D 3	16	Silver, Daniel. Jr. 1	10
Brown Alexander	· 1	5	Latin, Nathan 1	17	Stillwell, John	
Brown John	1	4	Luke, William 2	17	Steven, Chas 5	10
Buck Hiram	3	17	Mark, Nicholas 8	20	Stoken, Robert 1	11
Christie Donald	4	12	Martin, Ebenezer 1	13	Stoutenburgh, Luke 8	2
Christie Peter	5	11	Merrick, George 14	5	Swinson, Geo. 1	4
Clark William	6	16	Mitchell, David 1	3	Swinson, John 1	5
Clark William L.	1	11	Moon, James 10	2	Swinson, Chas. 4	4
Collar John	6		Morrow, John 7	8	Swinson, Joseph 1	3
Conklin Abraham	1 I		McDermid, Arch'd 5	11	Thirston, Frederick 2	17
Craddock Isaac	11	11	McFarlane, John 14	20	Thomas, Wm. 2	15
Crandell Reuben	6	17	McKerchen, John 4	12	Thomas, H.G. 2	15
Daton Gideon	5	14	McKilravy, Alex 14	22	Thulby, Thos. 8	2
Daton Alonzo F.	1	18	Osser, John 8	18	Tripp, Charles 1	16
Damon Thomas	3	16	Osser, Jeremiah 8	19	Tripp, John 1	16
Daton Daniel	4	16	Osser, Solomon 8	19	Tripp, Lydia 2	17
Dillon Peter	4	75	Page, Catherine 7	7	Vicker, John 10	10
Dobble Mary	14	3	Page, Nathan 2	16	Wait, Benjamin 4	14
Doxsee Arch.	2	6	Page, Silas		Walker, Henry 2	10
Dunham Moses	1	13	Perkins, John		Warner, John 12	23
Dwyer Robert, ju	n 4	13	Phelan, Wm. 1	1	Wells, Robert 9	11
Ensign John G.	7	7	Pickell, Thomas 7	23	White, David 6	17
Gilderoy Wm.	1	12	Pickell, Jake 8	24	Wilkinson, George 4	10
Gordon, Samuel	3	15	Plues, John 3	12	Willby, Abel 3	9
Graham, Thos.	3	14	Savage, H.N. 4	16	Williams, James 5	14
Hadley, Wm.	7	18	Scobell, Stephen 7	23	Williams, Hannah 6	19
Hawley, Wm.	1	8	Scryer, Orange 6	22	Wood, Stephen 8	7

POPULATION - Males above 16 - 144; Males under 16 - 144;

Females above 16 - 110; Females under 16 - 131.

Total Population: 529.

# Reach Township 1846/47

### Brown's Toronto City & Home District Directory 1846-1847

States and the states of the s				12. 40	ALC: LOWERS			
	Lot	Con.		Lot	Con.		Lot	Con.
Adams Charles	11	9	Cowars Nicholas	19	5	Graham Alexander	14	4
Adkisson Jeremiah	5	8	Cragg Isaac	11	11	Graham Andrew	14	3
Ager Charles	3	1	Cragg Timothy	11	11	Graham Thomas	14	3
Agnew John	8	5	Craig David	14	11	Giunani Thomas		Ū
Allen James	9	12	Crandall Stephen E.	17	6	TI II - Calmanda		
Allen Robert	9	12	Crandall Reuben	23	13	Hadley Sylvester	16	5
Ashton John	7	13	Crawford William	9	13	Hadley William	18	7
Asling Edward	13	4	Crooks Aaron	15		Hall James	20	2
Asing Daward	10		Crosier William	3	2 5	Hall Jesse	11	1
			Crothers Thomas	2		Hamilton James	23	1
Baden Thomas	7	8	Crown George	12	1 2	Harmley John	22	<b>2</b> 8
Barber Samuel	16	5	Curry George	17	4	Hartgrave George Hawkins William	7	2
Barret Samuel	<b>9</b>	š	Curton William	1	1	Hawley Edmund	23 16	5
Bassingwaite Edward		11				Hawley William	- 10	1
Bassingwaite Jonathan		11	Danberry Peter	17	5	Hazleton Curtis	2	8
Beard Robert	16	13	Daton Gideon	18	1	Herrington John	17	1
Beard Samuel	17	14	Daton Sabrina	18	1	Hilman Jacob	7	5
Benson Robert	12	3	Daton Thomas	22	6	Hiright Harrison	17	4
Bice Hamilton	13	18	Davis Norris	23	12	Holtby John	11	3
Bire Samuel	5	5	Deger William	6	7	Holtby William	11	3
Blake John	16	5	Denike William	17	5	Horn George	9	11
Box Aaron	10	4	Devitt George	11	3	Houck Charles S.	15	3
Boynton William	16	4	Dilling Peter	17	5	Houck Nicholas	16	14
Boys Thomas	12	4	Dobel John	3	14	Houck Philip	16	14
Breathour Michael	$\tilde{2}$	1Â	Dobel Mary	3	14	Houck Strite	18	5
Brown Abraham	16	6	Dobel Robert	10	14	Hubert Wm	11	1
Brown Alexander	5	1	Dobson Robert	9	9	Hurd Abner	17	4
Bryant William	7	ī	Dobson Robert jun'r	9	9	Hurd Philander	17	5
Buchanan Edward	21	ĩ	Drinkwell Joseph	9 1	5	Hurd Prosser	17	5
Buck Hiram	16	2	Duer Nicholas	1	12			
Bunker Ebenezer	14	14						
Burley Henry	6	2	Edy Rice	17	4	Ironsides Robert	-3	1
	•		Elliott John	17	7	Irvin Robert	~4	13
Course Labor			Ensign John Y	7	ż			
Crown John	4	1	Ensign Van Rensaeler	5	5			
Curnham Jacob	23	6	Ewan William	3	1	Jackson John	20	2
Campbell Archibald	17	5	Liwan windh		1	Jackson Wm		11
Cancing Peter	17	4				Janson John	10	10
Carr Elijah	13	1	Farmer Russell	18	7	Johnson Alexander	13	2
Carr Julius	13	1	Fitchett Dennis	14	5	Johnson James	12	10
Case Nathan	3 5	8 5	Fitchett Isaac	16	2	Verder Coores	~	
Cently James	9		Fitchett John	14	5	Kender George Kester Arnold	7	5 6
Chapman Kendle		2	Fitchett Joseph	14	5	Kiptrick Thomas	17	2
Chard James	17	4	Fitchett Peter	12	5	RIPHICK THOMAS	127	2
Chippingdale Thomas	11	9 5	Fralic Isaac	16	5	Lambkins Leonard	12	4
Christie John	$\frac{6}{12}$		Fralic Solomon	16	5	Lampman John	24	2
Christie Mary		5 5	Frink William	5	2	Lewis Wm	5	2
Christie Peter	$\frac{11}{24}$	14				Lora John	41	ĩ
Clack Charles Coats John	24	14				Lora John		•
Coals John		2 7	Gibson John	4	7	McCaskill Wm	18	1
Cocklin Timothy Colster Thomas	9 8	8	Gilroy James	14	1	McConnell Alexander	- 10	៍ទិ
		5	Gilroy John	14	1	McConnell James	37	5
Conkling Joseph	16 1	13	Gilroy Robert	14	1	McConnell Wm	44	•4
Conway Daniel Corfield Thomas	17	13	Gilroy William	13	1	McCräcken James	10	2
Corkins Charles		14	Gimson Thomas	9	11	McDermot Archibald	11	5
Contains Charles,	14	14	Gould Henry	19	5			

	Lot	Con.		Lot	Con.		Lot
McFarlane John	20	14	Ray Alexander	11	1	Thomson Hibera	11
McKay Angus	8	3	Ray James	11	2	Thomson John	11
McKeith Duncan	9	13	Ray John	11	2	Thomson Joseph	23
McLauren James	11	10	Reader Joseph	22	5	Thomson Scarth	17
McLean Patrick	11	7	Roberts Lewis	16	3	Towns Thomas	4
McLeod Angus	15	14	Rodden Philip	17	1	Trip Charles	17
McMullen Duncan	15	4	Rodman Isaac	22	7	Trip John	16.
McMullen James	22	14				Trip Nathan	17
McTaggart Cyrene	18	4	Sanderson James	17	5		
Magill Archibald	15	12	Sargent Allen	17	5	Truax John	14
Maher Patrick	15	12	Scovell Oliver	24	7	Turner John	15
Maloy Garret	13	3	Scovell Stephen	23	7	Turner Selor	13
Marks Nicholas	20	8	Shaw Herod	6	6	Tyler John	9
			Shaw Hosea	6	4	Tyler Peter	13
Marks John	23	11	Shaw John	18	ī	Tyler William	16
Marsh Henry	16	3	Shaw Thomas	23	n		
Martin Ebenezer	21	1	Shell Michael	~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~	7	VanSickler Henry	15
Mason Richard	17	7	Sickler James	17	i	VanSickler Adam	15
Masters Daniel	17	1	Sickler William	17	i	Vernon Gideon	10
Matheson Isaac	4	5	Sie Samuel P.	17		Vernon John	13
Merrick George	2	13	Sikes John	4	5	Vernon Paten	7
Michaelray Alexander		14	Sillars Richard	5	10	Vernon Silas	15
Moherker John	6	4	Silver Daniel	10	10	Ving William	22
Monro John	22	11	Silver George	13	2	Vinson Stephen	20
Monro Robert	12	5	Silver James	13	2	v moon stephen	20
Monro William	22	11	Silver Jeremiah	13		Waggoner John	
Moon James	32	10	Smith George	13	1	Walker Henry	8 13
More Henry	11	1	Smith John	7	6	Walker John	
Morrow John	8	7		12			21
			Sparling Peter			Walls Thomas	5
Newberry John	24	1	Spring Albright	.7		Ward John	8
Newman Abel	22	9	Star James	17	5	Ward William	5
Newman Charles	22	9	Staten Robert	20		Warren James	8 1
Newman Jacob	22	9	Stephens Charles	10	-	Warren John	8 1
Nicholas Andrew	17	4	Stephens John	6	1	Warren John B	17
Nicholas Daniel	- 8	4	Stevenson Henry	16	3	Warren William	8 1
Nicholas Ery	12	3	Steward Daniel	-24		Watson Joseph	5
Nicholas William	4	9	Still Thial	15		Watson Joseph	9 1
Nott William	16	5	Stillwell Reuben	9	8	Watson Thomas	4
Note withali	10	0	St. John George	1	14	Webster Timothy	4
Orser Andrew	18	4	Stone Charles	8	1	Weese George	14 1
			Stone William	8	1	Weir John	19
Orser Jeremiah Orser Solomon	19 19	8 8	Stone William	9	1	Wells James	4
Orser Solomon	19	8	Stonehouse John	23		Wells Jessamine	10
Destron William		~	Stoutenburgh Hiram	6		Wells Robert	11
Pactson William	10	9	Stoutenburgh James	2		Wells Simeon	11
Page James	12	4	Stoutenburgh John	ő		White David	17
Page Silas	-32	4	Stoutenburgh Peter	7	4	White William	18
Patterson George	16	13	Sugden Paul	8		Whitlaw Alexander	9
Patterson Peter	23	2		_		Wiles George	5
Pawson William	9	8	Swinson Charles	10		Wilkinson George	10
Phelan William	1	1	Swinson George	4		Wilkinson Niel	23 1
Phenix John	13	11	Swinson John	4	1	Williams Andrew	18
Philips James	17	3	an 1		-	Williams Hannah	19
Pickle Jacob	22	6	Temple Henry	10		Wood Samuel	8 1
Plum Samuel	9	3	Tenike Abraham	6		Wood Stephen	8 1
Prince Nehemiah	10	1	Tennison John	17		Wright Wait	23 1
			Thirston Frederick	17		Wright William	7
Quigley Patrick	9	7	Thomas Reuben	18		The second second	•

# Reach Township 1850/51

#### Rowsell's City of Toronto & County of York Directory 1850 - 1851

THE

Adams Charles Adams Thomas Agnew John Allen Robert Anderson Peter Ashton Edward Ashton John Asling Edward Asling John Asling Plany Atkin Robert Atkinson Abraham Atkinson Jeremiah Atkinson William Bagshaw Aaron Bagshaw Joshua Baird Robert Baker Michael Barber Julius C. Barber Samuel Barber William Bargard Jacob Barret Samuel Bartlett William Bates Thomas Beard Samuel Beaty Mary Bennet Robert Benson Helderbrand **Bentley George** Bentley James Bethis Darius Bewell Henry Bier John Black Charles Bluman Thomas Boadway Alexander Boden Thomas Bolster William Bowels Robert Bower Nicholas Bower Nicholas, jr. Box Aaron Boynton Thomas Boynton William Bozee Thomas Bray Richard Breathour Michael Brinn Edward Brown Abraham Brown Adam Brown Elijah Brown George Brown George

Brown George Brown John Brown William Brown William Bryant William Bryant William, jr. Buchanan Edward

Sec. 11	1	아버님이 가슴을 모두 것을 가 해석할	1.5.5.5	20. 00	a state of the second stat	200	い。清
Lot	Con.		Lot	Con.		Lot	Con.
11	9	Bunker Hiram	13		Daniel David	13	5
8	9	Burley Johiel	6	2	Davis John	19	6
8	5	Burnett James	13		Davy Richard	12	1
9	12	Burnham Jacob	23	6	Day Albert	21	2
9 7	6	Burrows Samuel	2		Dayton Daniel	17	$\tilde{4}$
3	6	Burthen William	1		Dayton Gideon	18	î
7	4				Dayton John	17	4
13	13	Cameron Peter	23	11	Delmage James	19	4
13	10	Cameron Allan	13	5	Delmage William	13	2
16	10	Campbell Archibald	13	13	Desseny John	23	$\tilde{2}$
- 4	13	Campbell Archibald	17		Devitt George	Ĩ1	ĩ
12	4	Campbell James	4		Dilling Peter	24	5
5	8	Carr Jason	15		Dobel James	3	14
16	11	Carr John	19		Dobel John	4	14
10		Cassie James	3		Dobel Mary	2	14
10	2	Chard James	17		Dobson Robert	9	9
10	$1\tilde{2}$	Chase John	6		Dobson Robert, jr.	9	9
16	3	Cheaun John	7		Dodd Robert	15	3
17	4	Cherry Christopher	17		Dolby John	15	5
17	6	Chippingdale Thomas	11		Drinkle Joseph	15	11
16	5	Christie Donald & D.	3		Drufin Lawrence		3
3	8	Christie Duncan	Ğ		Duer Nicholas	4	12
7	5	Christie John	6		Duncan Charles	2	12
9	3	Christie John	10		Duncan Charles Dunn William	23	
11	4				Duty Edward		
24	3	Christie Mary Christie Peter	12	5	Duty Edward	20	8
17	4	Christie William	11	5	Eachman Adam		~
17	4			_		-5	7
1	8	Churchill Stephen	5	6	Edgar Silas	.4	4
17	1	Clark Samuel	6	6	Ely Thomas	17	5
		Cloughton David	17	6	English John	5	6
2 5	5	Clyde Thomas	20	1	English Robert	6	6
.7	5	Cobbleworth Edward	10	10	English Thomas	6	6
16	4	Cobbleworth William	10	10	Ensign John G.	7	7
16	11	Coates John	22	2	Ensign Van Rensellaer	5	
5	11	Cocklin Timothy	.9	7	Ewen Abel W.	13	15
24	14	Cockran Robert C.	13	3	Terror II A		
5	10	Conkling John	6	12	Farewell A.	24	
6	4	Conway Daniel	1	13	Farewell & Hurd	17	
777	8	Cook William	18		Farmer Russell	18	
	7	Cook Willis	16	6	Fish Julius	5	2
4		Cooper William		-	Fisher William		
19	5	Cowens W. & Q.	3		Fisher William	16	
19	5	Cozgin William	.9		Fitchett Denis	14	
10	4	Cragg David	14	11	Fitchett James	13	
17	11	Cragg Isaac	12		Fitchett P.	14	
17	4	Cragg Timothy	11	11	Fitchett Robert	13	5
12	4	Crandall Benjamin	18		Flynn Michael	.9	
6	10	Crandall Reuben	19		Foot John	16	
2	14	Crawford Robert	14		Foster John	3	
11	3	Crawford William	9	13	Foster Samuel	1	8
16	6	Cregg John	10		Fralic J. C.	16	5
17	6	Crooks Aaron	15	2	Fralic Solomon	18	5
20	9	Crothers George	3		Fuller & Brother	16	5
3	8	Crothers William	2	1	Could Dia i		_
18	3	Crozier Thomas	3	4	Gamble Robert	22	6
12	2	Crozier William	3	5	Ganton Thomas	6	12
6	2	Croxhall Thomas	2	9	Garnett Isaac	8	8
18	13	Curry George	17	4	Garnett Samuel	8	8
16	5	Curry & Co.	16	1	Garvin Samuel	7	7
7	1	Dolas Isha		~	Gibson John	11	7
7	1	Dake John Dalaish Alassa dar	22	6	Gibson Thomas	23	10
21	1	Dalziel Alexander	4	1	Gilroy James	13	1

### Directory 1850 - 1851

	Lot	Con.		Lot	Con.		Lot	Con.
Gilroy James	13	1	Hurlburt William	11	1	Monro John	8	7
Gilroy James R.	14	ĩ	Huslin John	23	7	Monro John	22	11
Gilroy John	14	ĩ	Huson William	17	6	Monro Orin	6	7
Gilroy Robert	14	1	Hutchinson G. & J.	11	3	Monro Robert Monro William	12 7	5 7
Gilroy Robert	23	1	Ironsides Robert	3	1	Monro William	22	11
Gilson George Godley Semuel F	17	11	Irvin John	1	9	Moon James	$\tilde{22}$	10
Godley Samuel E. Gould Daniel	13 18	11 7	Irvin Robert	13	13	Moon Sarah	23	10
Gould Joseph	16	4	Irvin William	14	14	Moore William	13	5
Graham Andrew	14	3	Tell Tribit			Morrow William Mosier Edward	15 17	$\frac{1}{2}$
Graham F. & A.	14	4	Jacks William Jackson John	7	11	Mosier James	11	3
Graham George	14	3	James Abraham	20 8	$\frac{2}{2}$	Mosier John	11	3
Graham Henry	16	5	James Ebenezer	8	ĩ	Mowby John	24	1
Graham Thomas Graham William	14 17	3 1	Jamieson Abner	13	ĩ	Muir James	9	4
Gregg David	7	13	Jamieson John	15	3	Muir James J.	10	
Gregg John	7	13	Jamieson Thomas	. 9	11	Murphy Andrew Murton John	10 2	3 12
Greig Robert	4	12	Jamieson William Jerow Oliver A.	17	11	Marton John	~	12
Groat Ebenezer	4	1	Jessopp John	19 18	6 2	McArthur Archibald	8	14
Gurd Peter	11	12	Jevery John	17	$\tilde{5}$	McArthur Duncan	6	4
Hadlets Sulmenter	10	~	Johnson Alexander	13	2	McArthur John	6	4
Hadley Sylvester Haight Harrison	19 18	5 7	Johnson James	12	10	McArthur John J.	1	6
Hall James	20	2	Johnson John	9	4	McClintick John McConnell Alexander	14 9	3 3
Hall Jesse	ĩĭ	ĩ	Karr Elizabeth			McConnell James	17	5
Hall John	19	2	Kendall Enoch	11 2	1 9	McConnell William	11	3
Hamly John	22	4	Kendall George	17	5	McCracken James	6	3
Hargrave George	7	8	Kendall George	3	9	McDermot Archibald	11	5
Hargrave Robert Hargrave Thomas	6 6	8 8	Kerr Julius	10	2	McDermot Donald	18	
Harlin Joshua	2	1	Kester Arnold	21	6	McDermot Henry McDonald James	23 11	11 3
Harper Francis	11	8	Keys John Killela Jahr	15	12	McDonald James	13	
Harrison John	17	8	Killaly John King Richard	13 17	13 6	McElravie Alexander	22	
Hart William	3	8	Kirkpatrick George	17	2	McFarlane John	20	
Hastings Richard	22	9	Kirkpatrick Thomas	17	$\tilde{2}$	McKay Angus	8	
Hawkins Mary Hays William	23 22	$\frac{2}{1}$	Knight Thomas	7	2	McKennell James McKenzie William	18	
Hazleton Curtis	2	8	Knox George	3	8	McKinlay James	19	0
Helmky Peter	$\tilde{6}$	11	Lamb John			McLean John	11	10
Henderson Benjamin	1	8	Lamb Thomas	23 23	3 3	McLean J. & C.	18	3
Henry William	17	2	Lambkins John C.	13	5	McLean Lachlin	17	
Herd William Herrington James	17 11	$\frac{4}{12}$	Lang Andrew	16	5	McLennan John	23	
Hess Francis	20	9	Lansing Peter	24	2	McLeod Angus McMullen Archibald	15 16	
Hewitt George	~7	9	Lark John	17	1	McMullen James	22	4
Hicks James	9	5	Latimer Jeremiah Lazier Thomas	19 17	6 6	McNutt Jeremiah	12	2
Highty William	5	2	Lazier William	17	7	McNutt Samuel	12	
Hill Samuel Hilman Jacob	19	6	Lee Joseph	18	11	McQuorynadale Duncar		
Higgins John	7 18	5 3	Leonard Peter	7	6	McTaggart Allan McTaggart Duncan	18 23	
Hodgins Solomon	10	6	Lewis William	5	2	McVoy Parmedue	23	
Hodson Robert	10	8	Lints John Longdale Joseph	22 17	11 4	McVey Solomon	23	
Holenbeck Andrew P.	4	2	Lund R. & C.	19	5			
Holtby John	11	3	Lyle George	10	3	Netherton Samuel	12	
Holtby William Honeywell Ephraim	11 4	3 2				Newman Abel Nichols Abraham	22 8	
Hoon George	<b>9</b>	11	Magann Mark	19	2	Nichols Ery	13	
Hoon James	3	5	Magill Donald Magill John	16 16	2 2	Nichols Wesley	4	6
Hoon Joshua	8	12	Maher Patrick	10	1	Nichols William	4	
Hortop Joseph	4	6	Markham George	10	14	Northcote Richard	17	3
Howland Samuel Houck Charles	.8	1	Marks John	24	12	Nott William	18	5
Houck Lewis	17	5 5	Marks Nicholas	20	8	O'Leary George	12	2
Houck Nicholas	16	4	Marsh Henry Martın Ebenezer	16 21	3 1	O'Leary Jeremiah	11	13
Houck Philip	6	7	Martineau John	7	6	Orser Andrew	17	7
Huckins Stephen	9	1	Masters Daniel	17	1	Orser Jeremiah	19	
Humphrey Joseph	16	5	Matheson Isaac	4	5	Orser Solomon Oxtoby William	19 7	87
Hunter Robert	12	1	Mathews Valentine	15	12	Oxtoby William	1	1
Hurd Abner Hurd Philander	17 17	4 5	Mitchell David Mitchell Samuel	13		Page James	4	6
Hurd Prossor A.	17	5	Monro Hugh	6 8	47	Page Silas	9	
		-		0				

### Directory 1850 - 1851

	Lot	Con.		Lot	Con.		Lot Con.
Passive Richard	7	2	Sparling Peter	12	4	Vernon P.	76
Passmore John	23	ĩ	Spence William	13	2	Vernon Silas	15 2
Patterson Peter	23	2	Spring Albert	7	11	vernon onus	10 2
Pawson William	~9	ĩ	Squires James	18	6	Waggoner Henry	2 5
Paxton J. & G.	19	ĕ	Stephens Charles	ĩõ	ธ์	Waggoner John	$\tilde{7}$ $\tilde{9}$
Payne Charles	13	2	Stephens James	3	ĭ	Walker Edward	96
Peacock John	17	$\tilde{2}$	Stephens William	3	î		13 2
Peat Andrew	8	5	Stephenson William	2	14	Walker Henry	
Perkins John	23	8	Steward Daniel & R.	<b>2</b> ĩ	14	Walker John	
Perkins Robert	19	6	Stewart James	5	7	Ward Francis	8 4
Phenix John	13	12	Still Ahiel	15	i	Ward George	4 5
Philips James A.	10	4	Stillwell Reuben	10	8	Ward Robert	95
Philliper Matilda	17	3	Stillwell William	13	10	Ward William	5 4
Pickle Jacob	22	6	St. John George	10	14	Warner Christopher	17 4
Plum Samuel	~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~	ĕ	Stone William	7	10	Warner James	8 11
Porteous George	2	5	Sionehouse John	23	8	Warner John	8 11
Porteous Samuel	$\tilde{4}$	10	Stoner James	<b>ĩ</b> 3	10	Warner William, jr.	8 11
Pound George	20	8	Story Edward	1	Ĩğ	Watson Joseph	56
Power James	16	13	Stoutenbury John	6	7	Watson Joseph	9 10
Tower James	10	10	Stoutenbury Peter	ğ	3	Watson Richard	98
Quigly Catherine	13	3	Strachan Edward	1	ŝ	Watson Thomas	4 7
Quigly Patrick	13	7	Stubbs Thomas	8	12	Way Daniel S.	4 3
Quigty Fattick	9	· •	Sugden Paul	8	12	Webster John	5 Ď.
Rattersbury William	22	12	Sutton William	16	5	Webster Robert	24 4
Ray John	11	12	Sutton Winnam	10		Webster Timothy	4 6
Rea Gilbert	11	2	Tanner Stephen	16	4	Weir John	18 1
Rea James	11	$\tilde{2}$	Tenike Abraham	6	1	Wells Elias	10 2
Rea Walter		$\tilde{2}$	Tennison John	9	5	Wells James	4 9
Reader Joseph	11 22	5	Thirston L.	16	6	Wells Robert	11 8
Real John	13	10	Thomson Charles	13	-	Wells Simeon	11 1
		10	Thomson Hibera	11	4	Werdon Nelson	7 10
Real William Rellens Michael	13 6	10	Thomson Joseph	23	7	Whalin William	ii
	5		Tolman D.	19	6	Whitlaw Alexander	9 1
Reynolds George	-	14 6	Tolman John	22	9		4 8
Richardson E. O.	17			22	9	Whitney Philip	
Roberts Lewis	16	3	Tolman Nelson	7	12	Wilkinson George	
Robinson David	3	7	Tomlinson William	23	2	Wilkinson Neil	
Robinson Henry	15	3	Town Duncan	23	8	Williams Andrew	19 7
Rodden Philip	17	1	Town John	4	8	Williams Daniel	21 5
Rodman James	24	6	Town Thomas	16	1	Williams Edward	18 5
Roe Martin	17	6	Tripp John	17		Williams Isaac	19 4
Rook William	1	5	Truax Isaac			Williams James	16 5
Root William	17	13	Truax John	14	-	Williams John C.	5 7
Rose Aaron J.	17	6	Tuffin Ambrose	11	12	Williams Peter	19 3
Rose Charles	20	9 5	Tuffin Robert	11 10		Williams Thomas	3 15
Ross Aaron	16	9 7	Tummands John		7	Wilson William	23 6
Ross Thomas	16	'	Turner John	15	3	Winter Cyrus	19 4
Sandan Tanan	10		Turner S.	3	6	Wood Stephen	8 10
Sander James	16	5	Turner S.	13	2	Wright Andrew J.	23 11
Sangus Samuel	9 6	2	Tyler Harris	3	2	Wright Job	23 12
Sanson John		10	Tyler John	.9	5	Wright Joshua	16 5
Sargent Noah	22	6	Tyler J. D.	13	4	Wright William	78
Scott Christopher	11	8 7	Tyler J. D., sr.	13	4	•	
Scovell Stephen	23 6		Tyler Peter	13	4	York Bridget	1 12
Shaw Hosea Shaw James	-	4 2	Tyler Reuben	13	4	0	
	24	2 6					
Shaw Joel Shaw Thomas	6		Uliat John	16	7		
Sheaver Thomas	23 5	11 2		_			
	17		Valentine Joseph	8	1		
Sickels Philip Sikes Jol n	4	1 5	VanAllan L. S.	11	12		
Silver Daniel	10	1	NanSickler Adam	15	5		
Silver Daniel			VanSickler Henry	15	5		
	17	5	VanSickler John	15	5		
Silver Jeremiah Silver John	13	2	VanSickler Robert	15	5		
	11	-	Vaughan —	24	12		
Sinclair David	3	7	Veitch Robert	4	8		
Smith George	9	1	Veitch Thomas	4	8		
Smith Henry	4	5	Vernon Gideon	10	4		
Smith John	7	6	Vernon Edward	13	2		
Smith Richard	13	6	Vernon Harrison	13	3		
Smith Wilson	6	4	Vernon John	13	1		
Snider William	23	12	Vernon Moses	15	3		
Snook John	23	6		10			

# Prince Albert 1851

#### PRINCE ALBERT, C.W.

A village situated in the Township of Reach, Count of York, C.W. – distance from Toronto, 46 miles – usual stage fare, 8s. 9d Population about 200.

Baker, Dr., physician and surgeon Boynton, William, inkeeper Brown, William, blacksmith Campbell, A., blacksmith Corey, Thomas, inkeeper Corson, Mr., schoomaster Currie, George, & Co., general store Daton, John, blacksmith Fuller, S. & Brother, general store Hurd, P.A., general store Hill, Samuel, steam saw mill Holman, James, waggonmaker Jurry, John, waggonmaker Lang, Andrew, & Co., general store McCorquodale, Duncan, innkeeper McMohon, Dr., physician and surgeon Packstone & Co., steam saw mill Saunders, James, waggonmaker Sutton, Rev. W., Episcopal Methodist Tanner, Stephen, tanner Wright, Joshua, tanner

# Prince Albert 1857/58

#### PRINCE ALBERT, C.W.

A village in the Township of Reach and County of Ontario. Distance from Toronto 48 miles, and from Whitby 17 miles, stage fare 75¢. Mail daily. Population about 600.

Archer, John, cooper. Barker, William, saddler. Beason, Samuel, mason. Bible Society, A. Hurd, president; John F. Taylor, Boynton, William, hotelkeeper Brown, J. D., painter. Campbell, Archibald, blacksmith. Carswell, John, watchmaker. Clark, L. C., carriagemaker. Cleverdon, Thomas, plasterer. Currie, George, & Co., general store. Daniel, John, shoemaker. Dayton, Daniel, carpenter. Dell, H.O., advocate. Demorest, Rev. Thomas, Wesleyan church. Eastwood, William, M.D. Eck, Daniel T., tanner. Eck & Manuel, harnessmakers. Eddy, R.E., general store. Foreman, Robert, tailor. Foreman, Thomas C., general store. Canton, Stephen, teacher.

Graham, Henry, shoe shop. Green, Thomas, butcher. Haight, M.H., botanic physician. Heal, John, tailor. Heard, John, blacksmith. Hiscock, Charles, baker and confectioner. Hugh., Rev. J., Bible Christian. Hurd, Abner, postmaster and president Bible Society. Hurd, P., carpenter. Hurd, Prosper A., advocate. Jameson, William, shoemaker, Jurey, John, waggonmaker. Mains, Richard, cabinetmaker. Marr, John, blacksmith. Martin, John, blacksmith. Mason & Curtis, carriage, trunk, harness, saddle maker. McCaw, Hugh H., tinsmith. McCaw, James, shoemaker. McConnel, James, tailor. McCoy, Henry, shoemaker. McCoy, John, innkeeper.

McKinlay, Robert, waggonmaker. McTaggart, Robert, millwright. Monteath, Rev. Robert, United Presbyterian. Moore, Joseph B., carpenter. Park, Henry, carpenter. Price, George, blacksmith. Rae John, dentist. Randall, John, carpenter. Rolph, John, shoemaker. Ross, Aaron, shoe shop. Saunders, James, waggonmaker. Savage, Rev. John W., Weslevan, Scarth, Thomas, shoemaker. Shaw, Fletcher, painter. Sims, Robert, painter. Smith, Andrew, carpenter. Sutton & Tomlinson, druggists. Taylor, John F., secretary of Bible Society. Unyer, Leonard, grocer. Ware, James E., M.D. Wright, Joshua, tanner Yarnold, William C. provincial land surveyor.

# Prince Albert 1866

McDonald, John, millwright.

McGill, Donald, tailor.

#### PRINCE ALBERT:

A large and important village in the Township of Reach and North Riding of the County of Ontario. This village, together with Port Perry, Borelia and Manchester, being from 17 to 20 miles distant from Oshawa and Whitby, are sufficiently remote to command a very tolerable amount of trade of their own.

Prince Albert is pleasantly situated and is already quite a flourishing village. It was settled about the year 1843. The first church erected in the village was that of the Wesleyan Methodists, which was destroyed by fire in 1865. The Society is about building another, having already secured the ground, the building to cost about \$3000, the material of brick, and size 40+55 feet.

There is a Presbyterian Free Church, of frame, which cost about \$2000, and a Bible Christian Church, also built of wood, Rev. Mr. Williams, pastor. The members of the Church of England hold services in the Town Hall, the Rev. John Pentland, B.A., being the pastor. There is also a Common School, built of wood, having an average attendance of 100 pupils. Mr. R. V. Langdon, Principal and Miss M. J. Bates, assistant.

The Town Hall, which is a neat building of frame, painted white, cost with the ground about \$1400; James Baird, Esq., is the president, Thos. Courtice, Esq., vice-president, John H. Brown, Esq., secretary, and Thos. C. Forman, Esq., treasurer.

Prince Albert boasts of an Infantry Company, which was established in 1863. Captain T. C. Forman, Lieutenant John Billings and Ensign George Richardson. The company meet every Saturday night, George White being the instructor.

The Whitby and Georgian Bay Telegraph Company have communication here, Mr. Thomas Courtice, being the operator.

The Councilmen of the Township of Reach hold their meetings here, and consist of the following gentlemen: 1st Ward, Albert Spring, Deputy Reeve of Epsom; 2nd Ward, J. B. Campbell of Ashburn; 3rd Ward, James Graham of Saintfield; 4th Ward, Charles Marsh, Reeve of Borelia; and 5th Ward, Joshua Wright, Prince Albert.

The village contains two good hotels, the Anglo American and the Victoria Hotel, both well conducted. There are several large and well furnished stores, a large tannery by Mr. J. Wright, who also does a large business in the sale of boots and shoes; several carriage and wagon shops, blacksmiths and carpenter shops; a first class jeweller; two saddle and harness shops, one of which, conducted by Mr. Thomas Courtice, is justly celebrated for the excellent work which it turns out; a drug store; a cabinet shop, and several merchant tailoring establishments. There are daily stages to Whitby, Oshawa, and Beaverton. Population, about 550.

Adams, David J. money broker, land and general agent. Simcoe St. ANGLO-AMERICAN HOTEL, J. Moggridge, prop corner of King and Simcoe St. Archer John Askins, Richard BAIN, JAMES & CO. manufacturers of boots and Shoes, Simcoe St.a Barber, S. P. retired, Simcoe St. Bates, George Bates, Miss M. J. teacher, public school BILLINGS, JOHN, barrister, attorney, solicitor in chancery, &c., Simcoe St. Bongard, Jacob & Abram, butchers, King St. Bradley, B. F. photographer, King St. BRATHWAITE, F. II., M. D., physician and surgeon, King St. Brock, William, clerk, Currie & Ross Brown, John H. (late Currie & Brown) retired, Simcoe St. Brown, Peter, blacksmith, John Heard Bullen, Jonathan, tailor, Simcoe St. Cameron, Mrs. dress maker and milliner, Simcoe St. Cameron, Ewen. Campbell, Archibald Canada Permanent Building and Savomgs Society, D. J. Adams agent. CASH, ELIJAH, pump and fanning mill maker, Simcoe St. CLARK, LYMAN C. carriage maker and painter, Simcoe St COCHRANE & MACPHERSON, (S. H. Cochrane & J. A. Macpherson), barristers and attorneys, Simcoe St. COURTICE, THOMAS, saddle & harness maker. COWAN, J. & W. general merchants, Simcoe corner King St. Crandell, Caleb, farmer Crandell, Clark, farmer Currie, George, sawmiller, lot C con. 4, Reach Currie, John Currie, Luther, clerk, Currie & Ross Currie, Mark, (late Currie & Brown) retired, Simcoe St. CURRIE & ROSS, (Geo. Currie & Aaron Ross) general merchants and grain dealers, corner Simcoe and King St. Davis, N. H,. Daniels, Thomas, harness maker Daynes, George DECKER, WILLIAM, watch maker and jeweller,

Simcoe St.

Dillon, Michael. Eddv. R. H. EMANEY, JAMES, blacksmith and waggon maker, Simcoe St. FORMAN, THOMAS C. genenral merchant and grain dealer, Simcoe corner King St. Forman, C. tailor, with Thos. Forman Fraser, Miss, teacher of music, King St. Graham, Henry Heal, John, tailor, Simcoe Heard, John, general blacksmith, Simcoe St. Hickey, Martin Hiscocks, Charles, baker & confectioner, Simcoe St. Hollman, Jas. Home & Colonial In. Co., D. J. Adams Agent HURD, ABNER, J. P., King St. Hurd, Abner, Jr., student Cochrane & Macpherson Jamieson, Wm. Johnson, Thos. Jolly, David, cabinet maker & furniture dealer, Simcoe St. JONES, GEO. W. M.D., physician & surgeon, Simcoe St. Jones, Wm. clerk Currie & Ross Jury, John, carpenter, Simcoe St. Langdon, Rev. John, Bible Christian, Queen St. Langdon, R.V., school teacher public school Little John Liverpool & London, & Globe, M. G. Robson, agent MACPHERSON, JAMES A. barrister & attorney-at-law, Simcoe St. McCAW, A. E., stoves and tin-ware, Simcoe St. McCaw, C. harness maker, Queen St. McCaw & Daynes, boot & shoe makers, Simcoe St. McConnell, James, merchant tailor and general dealer, Simcoe St. McGILL, D., merchant tailor, Simcoe St. McKinley, Robert, waggon maker, Simcoe St. MONTEITH, REV. ROBERT Nevin Agnew ONTARIO OBSERVER, published every Thursday, Parson's & Robinson eds. & pros. Simcoe St. Palmer, William, boarding house, King St. Parkes, H. PARSONS & ROBINSON, edrs. & pros. " Ontario Observer." Patterson, Thos. PENTLAND, REV. J., B.A. Church of England, Simcoe St. Pentland, the Misses, Select School, Simcoe St. Pinch, John Powell, Mrs. dress maker and milliner, Simcoe St.

Powers, Bartlett, blacksmith, Geo White Queen Insurance Co. D. J. Adams agent Raynes, George Reed, John ROBINSON, GEORGE, merchant tailor, T. Forman Robinson, William ROBSON, MATTHEW G. postmaster, money broker and ins. agent, King St. Rolph & Richardson, saddles and harness makers Ross, Aaron Saunders, Daniel, woodworker for L. C. Clark Saunders, James, waggon maker, Simcoe St. SCOTT, WM. prop Victoria hotel Scottish Provincial Insurance Co. D. J. Adams, agent Sinclair, Archibald, groceries and liquors, Simcoe St. Smith, Andrew Smith. Ed. Smith, Francis Snell, Robert Stevenson, Neil, carriage, waggon and sleigh manufacturer. Simcoe St. Stobbs, Rev. Thos. Wes. Meth. STRACHAN, DAVID, manager, J. Bain & Co Taylor, Robert Tewkesbury, Wm.

Thomas, Samuel M. saddler, Queen Tomlinson, Henry, teamster, Simcoe St. Tomlinson, Wm. patent medicines King St. Turner, Isaac VICTORIA HOTEL, William Scott, prop. Simcoe St. Walks Peter Walsh, Richard Ware, J. E. M.D. physician and surgeon, King St. Whitby and Georgian Bay Tele-graph Co., Thos. Courtice, op Simcoe St. WHITE, GEORGE, blacksmith, carriage and waggon maker. Simcoe St. Widden, J., carpenter and builder, Queen St. Wilcox, W. M., bailiff, 3rd division court Williams, Rev. John, Bible Christian, Simcoe St. Wilson, Joseph Wilson, Richard, druggist and apothecary, books & stationery, Simcoe St. Windsor, Noah, carpenter, Simcoe WRIGHT, JOSHUA, boot and shoe manufacturer.

and tanner and currier, Simcoe St. Yarnold, W. E. architect and civil engineer, Simcoe St.

# Prince Albert 1869

#### PRINCE ALBERT:

A village in the township of Reach, about 17 miles north-east from Whitby, was first settled by Mr. A. Hurd, senior, in 1833. The first store was opened by Messers. P. Hurd & Co., in 1833. The Post office was established in 1836, Mr. J. Leach being the first postmaster.

At present it contains one military and two civil organizations, viz: one volunteer Infantry Company, No. 5, Ontario Battalion, Captain John Billings. A Masonic lodge, No. 183, one orange lodge, No. 560.

The churches are the Wesleyan Methodist, built of brick, in 1866, at the cost of about \$3500. The Bible Christian, built of wood, in 1862, at the cost of about \$1000. The united Presbyterian, built of wood, in 1859, at the cost of about \$1500. The English have no building of their own, but they hold service every alternate Sabbath morning in the Presbyterian Church.

The other buildings of note are the Prince Albert Public Hall, built of wood by a joint stock company in 1863, at the cost of about \$1500. A. company drill shed, built of wood in 1866, at the cost of about \$850. It is located on the North Ontario Agricultural Society's ground, which have lately been enclosed at an additional cost of some \$400.

A school house, several general stores, two hotels, and a number of mechanical representatives. There is also located here Tomlinson's patent medicine factory, for the manufacture of his celebrated medicine.

Connected with Whitby, Oshawa, and all places north by daily stage. Post and money order office. Daily mail. Population about 800.

Adam, David J., Insurance agent. BAIRD, JAMES, (Baird & Parsons) Baldwin, W.A., M.D., physician. Balfour, Robert, shoemaker. Banbury, Samuel, farmer. Barber, S. P., farmer. Bates, George, shoemaker. Beatty, Mrs. M., widow. Beatty, Wm., harnessmaker. Beatty, Daniel, wagonmaker. Bell, Mrs. Henry. Billing, John, barrister. Bond, William shoemaker, Bongard, A., butcher. Bongard, Jacob, butcher. BRATHWAITE, F.H., M.D., C.M., Physician. Bullen, J., tailor. Campbell, Mrs. M. Campbell, A., Insurance agent.

Campbell, Mrs. K, widow. Cantlon, Rev. D., Bible Christian. Carswell, John, gentleman. Cash, K, merchant. Courtiee, Thomas, harnessmaker. Cox, James, shoemaker. Crozer, Thomas labourer. CURRIE & ROSS, dealer in dry goods groceries. CURRIE, GEORGE, (Currie & Ross). Currie, Mark, gentleman. Currie, James, printer. Curtis, Asa, gentleman. Dailey, D.V., dentist. Dawson & Co. druggists. Daynes & Snell, shoemakers. Decker, Mrs. Wm., jeweller. Dillon, M., shoemaker. Eddy, Rice, farmer.

Emaney, James, Ontario carriage factory. Figgett, T., labourer, Forman, Thomas C., merchant Graham Henry, shoemaker. Harper, William, gentleman. Haskin, J., gentleman. Haskin, Richard, shoemaker. Heal, John, tailer. Heard, john, blacksmith. Hickey, Martin, farmer. Hiscocks, Charles, baker. Holman, James, farmer. Houck. N., farmer. Houck, S., farmer. Hurd, Abner, senior, gentleman, Hurd, Abner, junior, lawyer. Irwin, Richard, labourer. Johnson, James, gentleman. Jury, John, carpenter.

Kirkpatrick, Thomas, blacksmith. Langden, R.V., teacher. Marrs, Mrs. Marsh, W.H., painter. May, Joseph, welldigger. Moggridge, John, hotelkeeper. McCaw, H.H. tinsmith. McConnell, James, tailor. McGill, Donald, tailor. McKinley, Robert, wagonmaker. ONTARIO OBSERVER, Baird & Parson, every Thursday Palmer, William, labourer. Park, W. H., cabinetmaker. Parrish, William, farmer PARSONS, H., (Baird & Parsons.) Patterson, Thomas, shoemaker. Pearce, James, farmer. Pearce, John, farmer. Reed, Rev. J., Wesleyan Methodist.

Reynolds, William labourer. Robinson, Robert, labourer. Robson, M.G., gentleman. Rolph, John, harnessmaker. Rose J. W., gentleman. ROSS, AARON, (Currie & Ross). Saunders, David, wagonmaker. Saunders, James, wagonmaker. SCOTT, WILLIAM, Victoria hotel, Sharp, J., carpenter Sinclair, Archibald, merchant. Smith, Andrew, carpenter. Smith, Edward, labourer. Smith, J., labourer. Snell, Robert, shoemaker. Stevenson, Neil, wagonmaker. TOMLINSON, W.A., chemist and druggist. Tomlinson, A.M., travelling agent. Tomlinson, Thomas, currier.

Tewksbury, William, carpenter. Thomas, S.M., harnessmaker, Thompson, S., shoemaker. Tucker, Thomas, labourer. Unger, L., gentleman. VanSinkler, Henry, farmer. Walsh, Richard, veterinary surgeon. WARE, J.E., M.D., coroner, physician. White, John, gardener. Widden John, carpenter. Widden, Richard, labourer. Wightmam W.M. & Co., merchants. Wilcox, W.M., bailiff. Wood, Robert, carpenter. Wright, Joshua, shoemaker and tanner. Yarnold, Benjamin, gentleman. Yarnold, Wm. E., surveyor. Youman's, J.R., teacher. Zwickey. J., harnessmaker.

# Prince Albert 1871

#### PRINCE ALBERT:

A beautifully situated and thriving village in the Township of Reach, County of Ontario. Montreal Telegraph Co. has an office here. Distance from Whitby, the county town, and a station of the Grand Trunk Railway, 47 miles. Mail daily. Population about 600.

Adams David J., insurance agent Alderman Rev. Thomas H... **Apostles Church** ANGLO AMERICAN HOTEL, Mrs. Moggridge, proprietress BAIRD JAMES, of Baird & Parsons BAIRD & PARSONS, publishers of the Ontario Observer Baldwin William A., M.D. Banbury Samuel. farmer Bates George, shoemaker Beatie David, carriagemaker Beatie William, saddler Balfour Robert, shoemaker Bell Mrs. Mary, widow Henry Billings John, barrister Bond William, shoemaker Bongard Abraham, butcher Bongard Jacob, butcher Braithwaite Francis H., M.D., Bullen Mrs. Elizabeth, widow Cameron Ewan, clerk Campbell Augustus S. Campbell Mrs. Mary, widow of Archibald Cantlin Rev. David. **Bible Christian** Carswell John Carter William. clerk Cantlin Miss Mary, school teacher Cook Robert, clerk Courtice Thomas, harnessmaker Covey Mrs., widow Crozier William, laborer Currie George, J.P., treasurer Currie Mark Currie George, Daynes George, shoemaker

Dillon Michael, shoemaker Diesfield John, watchmaker Eddy Rice H., constable EMANY JAMES, proprietor Ontario Carriage Works Foreman Charles, tailor Foreman Thomas C., merchant Harrington John, laborer Jayne George, laborer Haywood Misr, dressmaker Hoskin Richard, shoemaker Hiscocks Charles, baker Holman James, councillor Houck Nicholas, farmer Houck Sidney, farmer Heard John, blacksmith Heard Prosper, barrister, office at Port Perry Hurd Abner, Jr., law student Hurd Abner, sen., J.P. Jamieson Rev. George, Presbyterian Johnston James Jones George W., M.D. Jury John, carpenter Langdon Rev. John, **Bible Christian** Luke William Ley Mrs. Jane, wid Marsh William, painter McConnel James, merchant McCaw Hugh H., postmaster, tinsmith McDonald John, millwright McGill Donald, tailor McKinley Robert, waggonmaker Moggridge Mrs. J., proprietress Anglo American hotel

MONTREAL TELEGRAPH CO., John Rolph, operator Marrs Mrs. Sarah, wid John Nichols Gideon ONTARIO CARRIAGE WORKS, Jas Emaney, proprietor ONTARIO OBSERVER, weekly, annual subscription, Baird & Parsons, proprietors & printers Palmer Miss Emma, school teacher Palmer William, boarding house Park William H., cabinetmaker Parrish William, farmer Parsons Henry, of Baird & Parsons Patterson Thomas, shoemaker Pearce James, farmer Powers John, carpenter Reid Rev. Henry, Weslevan Robinson Robert, laborer Robson Matthew G. ROLPH JOHN, operator Montreal Telegraph Co., harnessmaker Ross Aaron Sanders James, waggonmaker Scott William, proprietor Victoria Hotel Sharp Israel carpenter Sinclair Archibald, storekeeper Slater Joseph, school teacher Smith Andrew, carpenter Smith Frank, sexton Stephenson Neil, waggonmaker Taylor Richard, carpenter Tewkesbury Mrs. Mary Thomas Samuel, saddler Thompson Scarth, shoemaker

Tomlinson Thomas, tanner Tomlinson William A., druggist Trenbeth William, tailor Tucker Thomas, laborer Turner Isaac, stone mason Victoria hotel, William Scott, prop. Vyvvan William, tailor Wakeford William, laborer Ware John E., M.D. Walshe Richard, farrier White William, gardener Widden John, carpenter WIGHTMAN WILLIAM., storekeeper Wilcox William, druggist, Division court Wood Robert, carpenter Wright Joshua, shoemaker Yarnold Benjamin Yarnold William E., surveyor

# Prince Albert 1876

#### PRINCE ALBERT:

A village in the Township of Reach about 15 miles north of Whitby. Was first settled by Mr. A. Hurd senior in 1824. The first store was opened by Messrs Hurd & Co., in 1833. The post office was first established in 1836, Mr. Leach being the first postmaster. Mr. John McPherson is the present postmaster. The civil organizations are one Masonic Lodge, No. 183, one Orange Lodge, No. 569. The churches are: one Canada Methodist; one Bible Christian; one United Presbyterian. The other buildings are a Town hall built of wood by a joint stock company in 1863 at a cost of about \$1,500; a Drill Shed built of wood in 1866, at a cost of about \$850, located on the Agricultural Show Ground; a School House, several stores, one Hotel and the usual number of Mechanics. A patent medicine factory is also establish here, Mr. A. Tomlinson being proprietor. The Port Whitby & Port Perry Railway has a station here at which all passenger trains stop. Population about 600.

Badgerow, William Bond, R. Bongard, C Befrin Bullen, Mrs. Bongard, Abraham Beatty, Mary Bullen, M. Bongard, Jacob Bates, George Bell, Mary Baird, James Cook, John Courtice. Charles Courtice, Thomas Cash, D. Carswell. John Campbell, A. Crosure, Thomas Currie, George Cambpell, Mrs. Cleghorn, A. Curtice, B. Dillon M. Dewey, Samuel,

Eddy, R.A. Forman, Thomas C. Foster, Robert Goodfellow, George Graham, Frederick Havs. George Holman, G. Hiscox, Charles Hickie, Martin Hays, W.H. Heard, John Heard, Abner Hanley, G. Jugoe, R. Hurd, Philander Harnden, John Jerry. John Johnston, T.W. Jewett, James Jemison, William Johnston, James Jacobs Mrs Kester, P. Leatch, W.H. Langdon, R.V

Marrs. H. McGill. D. McDonald, James Marsh, Henry McKinley, Rev. Robert McDermid. John Martin, Mrs. McPherson, John McGuire McConnell, James May, Joseph McCaw Magor, E. Patterson, Thomas Philp, Rev. C. Samuel Park, William Parsons. Henry Pringle, Catherine Roach, Thomas Rook, John Roberts, Jeremiah Robson, M.G. Robson, G. L. Ross, Aaron Rogers, James

Runnells, Richard Rolph, John Smith, Francis Steel, George Smith, Andrew Shanard, C. Stephens, E. Saunders, James Turner, Issac Tewksbury, William Taylor, Richard Thompson, S. Thomas, S.M. Tomlinson, W.A. Widdifield, John Walker, John Welsh. Richard Ware, John E., M.D. Wakeford Wright Wyghtman, Mr.M., Yarnold, Benjamin Yarnold, W.E.

# Prince Albert 1884

#### PRINCE ALBERT:

A village on the Whitby branch, Midland Div G.T.R. railway, in Reach Township, Ontario County, 18 miles north of Whitby, the county seat, and 2 miles north of Port Perry, the nearest bank location. Settled in 1820. It contains Presbyterian, Methodist and Bible Christian churches and a public school. It ships grain, live stock and produce. Stages daily to Port Perry, fare 10 cents, Manchester, Utica, Epsom and Uxbridge. Mail daily. Philander Hurd, postmaster. Population, 500.

Balfour, R., boots and shoes. Bell, John, painter. Bongard, A., live stock and butcher. Bruce, George, insurance agent. Crosier, Rev — (Presbyterian). Cruse, John, Carriage and Waggonraker. Heard, John, blacksmith. Hill, Rev Lewis W., (Methodist). Hiscox, Mrs Lydia, grocer and baker. Hugoe, Richard, tailor. Hurd, Philander, contractor. Jury, John, musical instruments and builder. Kenner, Rev. W. (Bible Christian). McDonald, John, millwright. McKuilay, Robert, waggonmaker. Madden, Rev. David B. (Methodist). Park, Wm. H., Hotel. Pearce, T. S., insurance agent. Sharrard, C., Spence W, mason and contractor. Sutleff, John, general store Tukesbury, W., carpenter. Walsh, Richard, veterinary surgeon. Ware, J E., physician. Widden, John, builder. Wright, Joshua, boots, shoes and tanner,

## Patron's Directory of the County of Ontario

from the Historical Atlas of Ontario County 1877

REACH TOWNSHIP.									
	1.137 1.11				5.5				
Adams, John & D. J.	Port Perry			Brokers	Canada	Sec.			
Allan, James	Marshall	12	8	Farmer & Carpenter, Rose Hill Farm		1841			
	Utica		3	Farmer		1855			
	Port Perry				Canada				
Bigelow & Trounce	"				England				
Ballard, Geo Brown, Thos	**			Of Bigelow & Ballard, Leather Mfrs.	Ontario County				
Brown, Thos				Stoves, Tinware & House Furnishing	England	1848			
Bowerman, W. D	**			Prop. Whitby Pt, Perry Woollen Mis	Prince Edw'd, Co. Ont.	1836			
Brown, J. H	64		1.4	General Merchant	England	1848			
Brathwaite, F. H				Doctor of Medicine	···	1855			
Baird, James	14			Editor & Publisher of the Observer					
	Greenbank			Councillor & Farmer, Hillside Farm.	England	1870			
	Manchester	2	11	Farmer	Canada	1846			
	Port Perry		mini	Farmer	Ireland	1869			
	Myrtle		11	Farmer	London, Eng.	1850			
Blyght, Richard	<i>te</i>		10	Farmer	Devonshire, Eng	1857			
Bryant, R. R.	Ashburn		7	Farmer	Ontario County	1850			
Currie, Geo.,	Port Perry	•		Grain and Produce Merchant	Canada				
Jarrigan & Campbell.	n			General Merchants					
		1.	Contract Contract	Manuf'r. Harness, Saddles & Dealer	1.				
Courtice, T	"			in Trunks, Valises & Horse Cloth'g	England	1854			
The states the second	Manahart				ingland	1004			
Christie, John	Manchester			Tp. Clerk, Conveyancer & Issuer of	Scotland	1857			
		12.1	8	Marriage Licenses		1844			
Christian, S. H.	** ····		5	Merchant, Tp. Treas. and P.M	Canada	1832			
	Utica	4		Farmer	Scotland				
	Epsom	6	16	2nd Deputy Reeve	Canada	1847			
	Port Perry	6	2	Butcher	England	1870			
Croxall, T. D	Uxbridge	7	12	Farmer		1844			
Jupples, James	Manchester	2	22	Farmer	Ireland	1862			
Coats, John	Shirley	2	22	Farmer	Ontario County	1844			
loates, Wm	"	1	23	Farmer	York County	1837			
oates, H		3	24	Farmer	44	1837			
Coates, Thos.	Port Perry	3		Farmer	**	1837			
Davis, J. W. & Son	46	1.5.	Same	Cabinet Makers	Canada				
Denison, D. B	44	2	14	Proprietor Dominion Hotel	Vermont	1860			
Doble, Robert.	Victoria Cor's	7	5	Farmer	Ireland	1829			
		4	11	Hotel-keeper, Merchant and P.M	Canada	1865			
	Utica	ĩ	3	Farmer and Councillor	England	1835			
	Manchester	9	4	Farmer.	Ireland	1830			
	Victoria Cor's			Farmer and Stock Breeder	England	1838			
	Epsoin					1856			
	Port Perry			Carriage Maker		1868			
Cobels, H. L		inni		Barrister		1846			
Ewers, A. W	Manchester		my .	Farmer and Reeve	Vermont				
	Epsom		7	Farmer and Stock Breeder	Canada	1843			
English, Wm	Prince Albert	5	9	Tanner	"				
Cpton, F	Manchester			Farmer	England	1856			
forman, T. C	Port Perry			General Merchant	Scotland	1845			
ergu on, John	Saintfield		117.000	Blacksmith and Proprietor Hotel	Canada	1850			
	Shirley			Blacksmith	England	1873			
	Port Perry			P.M., General Insurance Agent and					
and at mention		-	1111	Issuer of Marriage Licenses	1. C				
Foodfellow, G. H	Prince Albert			General Merchant.	England	1871			
	Victoria Cor's.			Farmer	Ireland	1830			
	Manchester	1	10	Farmer	P. Q	1840			
	Myrtle	i	23	Farmer	England	1853			
		i	13	Farmer.		1854			
	Shirley			Farmer	Northumberland Co	1835			
	Manchester	000		Attorney-at-Law	United States				
	Port Perry			Bailiff, Constable, General Coll. Agt.					
larvington, A. J	**	1	COLUMN 1		16	1855			
		seen.		and Fishery Overseer	** anatosear	1000			
Tarper, Henry	44		1000	Agent for Superior Broadcast Drills,	Fraland	1001			
				also Agricultural Implements	England	1831			
Iolt, Chas	**		******	Propr. Dafoe House	" microsomer	1863			
Ham, W. R				Capitalist	Canada	1876			
Iouck, Geo	Manchester			Propr. Hotel	4	1852			
	Saintfield	12	8	Farmer	England	1852			
	Samenene	6	2	Farmer.	°14	1843			
			4	Farmer	Ireland.	1850			
	Utica	1.1.1	17	Farmer	England	1 2 2 2 2			
90 00 000	Epsom	1.	1	Farmer	Canada	1837			
	Prince Albert	4							

NAME.	POST OFFICE.	Con.	Lot-	BUSINESS.	NATIVITY.	Year Settled
		-				in Co.
olman, J	Prince Albert	4	3	Farmer	- 44	1844
orn, Thos.	Utica	3	11	Tanner	AND A PROPERTY AND A	1848
oltby, John, Sr	Manchester Utica	8	4	Tauner		1836
ubertus, G. J.			12	Mill Propr		1857
olliday, L. J. & M. J. eland, Daniel	Port Perry				Ontario County New York State.	1853
win, John		11 11	111 11	Pun p Mnfr., Untario Works	Vork Connty	1869
nes Bros			1	General Merchants		1000
nes, Richard, M.D.		11	9	Physician and Surgeon	a	1868
	Greenbank	8	2	Farmer	**	1844
hason, H. T.	Uxbridge		20		Ireland	1821
	Shirley		8	Farmer	Ontario County	1847
night, James	Utica	Arest		Farmer	England	1851
aing & Meharry	Port Perry	n	16	General Hardware Merchants Carriage Manufacturer	······································	1833
ask, Mrs. A		12	18		Scotland	1854
eask, John		5	13	Farmer	1,	1841
amb, H	Manchester	5	11	Farmer	Canada	1833
nke, W. G	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	5	1	Farmer	**	1852
awton, James		8	21	Farmer		1842
ang, James				Farmer	ACCELLANCE DEPARTMENTS	1856
cKenzie, Charles cGaw, W. B	"		·····	Livery Stable Propr. Walker House	44	1865
undy, E				Propr. Standard	England	1860
organ, J. G				Mnfr. and Dealer in Boots & Shoes	Canada	1876
cCaw, W. H	14			Jewellery, Fancy Goods, Stat'n'y, &c	**	
ackay, Donald	Saintfield			Merchant and Post Master	68	1865
offatt, Joseph	· ······	1	14	Farmer and Stock Breeder	**	1840
owbray, John		96	24	Farmer.	United States	
arsh, Charles	Epsom	6	16	Farmer, "Sunnyside Farm."	Scotland	1850 1836
lunro, Robert	Manchester		11	Farmer		
ledd, John	Utica	7	8	Farmer	England	1851
cConnell, Thes	Port Perry		18	Farmer	Ireland	1842
cClintock, F	Manchester	1.0	14	Farmer	Canada	1856
cDonald, John	Prince Albert	4	1.200	Farmer		
cOlintock, W	Manchester	1	10	Farmer		
landerson, T. & J artin, S. G.			11 20	Farmer		
ott, J. & Son			20	Farmer. Cabinet Makers and Undertakers,		1854
				Dealers in all kinds of Farniture		1842
ntario Bank		him	1.14	A. Mowbray, Manager		12.10
axten, Thos					Canada	
axton, Tate & Co			· · · · ·			
owers, Charles		1.0.00	** **			
arrish, W. T		8		Hardware, Stoves and Tinware Merchant Tailor & Gents' Furnish's.		1868
ound, J. T. & G.	ie	2	20	Farmer and Teacher, "Bay Farm."	Canada	1843
arish, Wm	Prince Albert		17	Farmer	England	1857
oss, A	Port Perry			Genl. Merchant & Produce Dealer	44	
obbins, R. D.			1.000	Sash, Door & Blind Manufactory	Ontario	1.1
ichardson, A	"			Planing Mills, Mnfr. of "Queen of West" Fanning Mills	0	1000
eid. Benjamin	Urica		1.25	Blacksmith	Santland	1870
aines, Francis	Port Perry	6	16	Farmer, "Sunny Ridge Farm."	Canada	1000
obson, M. G,	Prince Albert			Broker	61	1852
obertson, Robert	Utica	4	8	Farmer	Scotland	1856
eal, William			14	Farmer.	England	1842
angster, Thos. H John, George			1	Physician		1000
ommerville, Adam G.		14	9	Farmer		1822 1856
teer, L	Greenbank		11	Farmer and Agent Royce Reaper		
. John, Andrew	Victoria Cor's			General Merchant and P. M	Canada	1872
alter, William	Saintfield		10	Farmer,	50 × 50 × 100 × 100 × 100 × 100	1842
cott, Robert	Ensom	7	9	Farmer	**	1845
pence, William tevenson, Isaac	Titica	5		Contractor and Builder		
mith, John	16	0	5	Farmer		
harrard, C				Retired		1819
quelch, J. W	£6	1		Retired	Kent, England	1834
upper, Chas	Port Perry			Agent Wanzer Sewing Machine	Whitby, Ont	1
omlinson, William			7	Farmer and P.M	Canada	1846
own, Robert	Shirley	3	23	Farmer.	Fi manana area	
ennyson, John Vright, J	Manchester Port Perry	5	9	Farmer		1847
Vard, Joseph	Marsh Hill		11	Farmer		1847
ard, Francis	Epsom		8	Farmer, "Valley Farm."	England	1843
ard, Geo. J			8	Farmer, "Mount Pleasant Farm.".	Canada	10.15
veir, M	Prince Albert	4	16	Farmer		1837
Vard, F	Utica		5	Farmer.		1010
Vielden, Richard	Manchester	4	9	Farmer	England	1857
Veir, Gilbert	Shirley		19	Farmer.	Scotland	1844
Vheeler, E. T	Utica		19	Butcher	Ontaria C	1857
			1 9	Farmer	Calcano County	1851

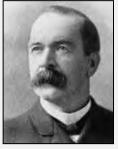
# Scandal in Prince Albert

### Mother and daughter charged with murder of infant

On March 6, 1881, Dr. John E. Ware, the resident physician of Prince Albert, received a message from Mrs. Mindwell "Mini" Eddy, the widow of Rice Honeywell Eddy, asking him to visit her home, also in Prince Albert, but to enter by the back door.

Dr. Ware arrived at eleven o'clock that morning to find Mrs. Eddy's daughter Mary in the final stages of labour. Dr. Ware delivered a healthy baby. The doctor knew that Mary, then 20 years old, was not married and he was unable to obtain any information about the father. From this Dr. Ware realized Mrs. Eddy's request for discreetness and left, again by the back entrance.

The following Monday, the doctor returned to check up on the child and reported that the child was extremely healthy and appropriately clothed. The following Saturday Dr. Ware went to check up yet again on the newborn. Upon arrival at the house he was told that the baby had died that morning. Dr. Ware



John W. Murray Goverment Detective

examined the corpse of the infant and reported that he... "saw no marks of violence upon it, but the child looked quite gaunt."

Dr. Ware summoned the coroner, Dr. Richard Jones in Port Perry, to carry out an inquest. That evening, Dr. Jones called on the two Justices of the Peace, John Nott and Reuben Crandell and three others in order to form a jury. Mrs. Eddy refused to allow the jury to enter her house. After angry exchanges, the jury left and promised to return the next day.

On Monday morning, after much argument and delay, the jury was admitted into the house. The constable explained that they had to see the body of the dead child in order to determine the cause of



Dr. Richard Jones

death. Mrs. Eddy and Mary both said that they had not seen the child's body after the doctor had left on Saturday and knew nothing about the baby's whereabouts.

Dr. Jones then contacted the Provincial Attorney-General. By now the news of the affair had become a front-page item in the Toronto newspapers.

The *Toronto Globe* reported, "On Thursday, the 17th, Government detective John W. Murray travelled to Prince Albert. In company with local constables, he made a diligent search throughout the house, even to digging up the clay in the cellar, but found no trace of the child. Detective Murray then arrested Mrs. Eddy and her daughter on a charge of murder."

Mrs. Eddy and her daughter appeared before John Nott, Justice of the Peace. The murder charges were dropped because of lack of evidence. Nott

stated however that both were guilty of concealing the facts. Justice Nott gave the Eddys a severe lecture and then released them.

Two weeks later a letter to the editor signed by Mr. J. A. McDonald, denied any knowledge of wrong doing but acknowledged that he had been a lodger in the Eddy house for the past year. The contents aroused suspicions that he could have been the father.

Mindwell moved to the USA after the death of her husband in 1877, taking with her daughter with her. Mary Eddy never married but remained at home to care for her mother who died in Philadelphia, USA on March 4, 1895 at the age of 76.

Mary Eddy was working as a dressmaker when she became ill. She was only 47 years old when she died on December 13, 1908. Both Mindwell and Mary were returned to Prince Albert and buried in the family plot.

The fate of the Eddy infant remains a mystery to this day.



The Eddy headstone at Pine Grove Cemetery, Prince Albert, Ontario.

By Paul Arculus

# **Poetical Directory**

The poems reprinted below are the work of A.G. Churchill, who travelled extensively and wrote pamphlets with similar poems for a number of communities across the province. The descriptive poems provide here provide an interesting insight into the businesses, shop owners and products available in the village of Prince Albert in 1858.

#### **PRINCE ALBERT**

Let the Queen and Powers above, Bless the namesake of tier love, In holy bonds select her own, Flesh of her flesh, bone of her bone. Let her that wears Great Britain's Crown, Bless the new and growing Town, Where three nimble stages hail With passengers and daily mail; Two Churches where the Clergy bless, Village Schools and Printing Press, Buildings in Commercial form, And Dwellings for the Village swarm, Shops and Hotels bright way In ornamental paintings gay.

#### WILLIAM BOYNTON, JR.,

Proprietor of the Victoria Hotel. Victoria Hotel, Simcoe Street, Where three daily Stages meet: Well spread Tables, dazzling Bar, Rooms and lodgings fully par, The traveling public's, general train, Call and call, and call again.

#### ANGLO-AMERICAN HOTEL

By James Calhoun corner of King and Simcoe Streets, James Calhoun is tending Bar, Deals Liquors and the good Cigar; His rosy Maids rich Tables spread, His Steward carves and lights to bed; His Ostlers ready at your call, To wait upon you one and all, Every rival guest will find, A boat and hostess very kind.

#### G. & M. CURRIE'S

General Store Read wholesale bill, then please to call.

At Currie's Store you find them all, Dry Goods, Hardware, Crockeries too, Provisions, Groceries, Boot and Shoe; Sell all classes every day, Produce and Cash received in pay. William Norton's salesman there, Gives honest weight & measures fair; Gentlemen and Ladies trim, All delight to trade with him.

#### COURTICE & ROLPH

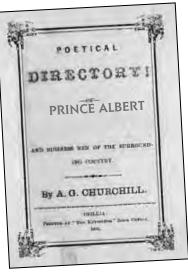
Keep Mounted Harness and the Plain, Hook and Buckle, Strap and Chain, Trunk and Satchel, fancy fine, And all that's in the Harness line, Keep Telegraph, the tidings herald, To waft the news and light the world. Three of their workmen all expert, Signed our Poem in cent. James McWalter will get rich, Makes fine Harness fancy stitch. To draw the Buggies and the chaps, And lots of ladies, too, perhaps. Squire John Loomis, Squire John King,

Make the Harness that will bring The belles and beauties one and all That trip politely at the ball; The lady's fortunate indeed, That joins in hyman's holy creed; Help each young Squire dear Lord to find,

A fair young creature to his mind.

#### N. H. DAVIS' Store

corner of King and Simcoe Streets. Call at N. H. Davis' Store, Save percentage just one score, Keeps Clothing ready-made in skill, And other goods our wholesale bill; Keeps sundry legions, people seek, Has fresh arrivals every week.



#### EMANEY & WHITE, Blacksmith, Simcoe Street

The Blacksmiths King of trades we find, Makes Tools for workmen every kind, Farming all the whole aray, The Cart, the Wagon and "the Sleigh. The firm above will make and mend, And do your Shoeing if you send. In Crimea War they served their tour," Where bullets hum like thunder shower.

#### T. C. FORMAN, Importer

He keeps our Wholesale Bill or more, Domestic, and from Foreign shore, A very rich assortment there, Dry Goods, Groceries and Hardware, Provisions, Crockeries, total mass, Sundry legions, Nails and Glass. Pays Cash for Butter, Pork and Peas, Oats and Barley, Lard and Cheese.

#### THOMAS BROWN

Stove, Tin and Sheet Iron. Cooking, Parlor, Box Stove, lots, Stove Pipes, Tea Kettles and Tea Pots, Good Roof Sheeting, Water Proof, Eve Trough Conductor from the Roof, Boilers, Steamers, Dippers, Pails, Lanterns, Dust Pans, Horns and Scales, Grater, Server, Trunk and Can, Cake Cutter, Measure, Tumbler, Pan. **G.H. FORD,** *Jeweler* Clocks and Watches in refine, Pearl aud Amber Bracelets shine, Gold Beads and Jewels for your dear, In long rich show case will appear, Combs, Penknives, Scissors, Safety Chain.

Breast Pins for all the Lady train. Next to Tomlinson's does keep, Invites the Public and Sells Cheap.

#### PHILANDER HURD, Builder

Contractor, Builder, Architect, Any structure can erect, Cottage, Gothic, Square Roof tall, Veranda, Rake and Cornice all; He can build a city fine, With Timber, Nails and Pannel Pine

#### HOLDEN & OLIVER, Publishers

& Printers of the "Ontario Observer." News and business, wedding cheer, Two-and-fifty times a year; Parlour pastime, and the bower, News sheet grand of talent power, Policy of foreign Kings, Battle fields and valiant things ; The tidings current will arrange, From foreign press and home exchange.

Three young men that help them print Give to the world a gentle hint, In the Typographic Banks, Print Paper, Pamphlet, Cards and Blanks.

*William Robinson* appears In full grown scope of riper years, Press, Ink and Paper, Type and Pen, His tools select, select of men.

#### Henry Kennedy indeed,

Sets type, and prints for men to read, Weddings, business, acts of Court, In Phonography does report. *Henry Parsons* young and fine, Can print the Lady's Valentine, The fair unknown's on fortune's side, That Parsons chooses for a bride.

DAVID JOLLY, Cabinet Maker corner of Simcoe and King Streets. Coffins ordered for the Tomb,' Desks and Bureaus for your room, IStands and Tables for the same, Looking Ginss and Portrait Frame, Bedstead, Chairs, and Sofa seat. Comer of King and Simcoa Street.

#### MASON & CLARK

*Carriage Makers* Make the total carriage rig, Coach and Slunky, Buggy, Gig, Dandy Cutter and the Sleigh, In ornamental paintings gay, For the traveling public all To ride to wedding, church, or ball.

#### JOHN POWERS

Carpenter & Joiner John Powers in honor to the Crown, Will help to build Prince Albert Town, In architect all different ways, To suit yourself and public gaze, Stores and Hotels, dwellings all, Cathedral, Chapel, Church and Hall.

#### M. G. ROBSON

Postmaster, Life, Fire, Marble Agent. Postmaster daily handles mail, Attorney acts in Marble sale, Agent general to insure, Life and buildings all secure. Our little Book of title claim, Sent by the mail to friends in tame; Ye reading millions over sea, He is a man of high degree.

#### AARON ROSS

Boot Store

Boot emporium grand supply, In Ross' Store are hanging high ; Thirteen workmen on the seat, Measure, make, for people' feet. In Boots and Shoes he nothing lacks, Gums, Gaiters, Slippers, Shoe packs.

#### R. H. TOMLINSON'S

Drug Store Where shelves are lined with Crystal Jars,

Like heaven hung with shining stars; There Drugs and Medicines abound, Three mighty kingdoms in compound; Essential Oils and Sweet Perfumes For scenting Balm, Box, and your Rooms,

All kinds for healing clear and pure, Prevent, restore, and also cure.

#### E. WARE, M.D.

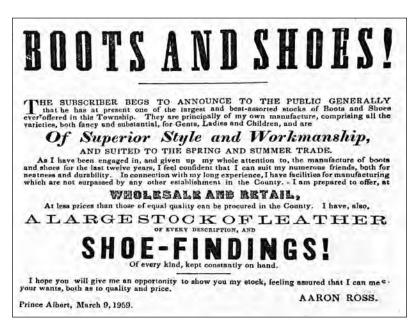
Physician and Surgeon. Read natures laws and total plan, Great depth of medicine and man, In rules of modern authors taught, And scope that ages have forgot; His ride and practice does bespeak, A man that foreign patients seek.

#### JOSHUA WRIGHT

Tanner Joshua Wright a useful man, Buys Hides and Skins of men to Tan, To furnish shops of Boots and Shoe, Saddlery and Harness too; Good while Saddles have a seat.

Good while Childrens' born with feet.

Thanks to Paul Arculus for providing this Poetical Directory.



# Grain Centre of Canada

Prince Albert became the second largest grain handling centre in Canada during the late 1850s and 1860s

More than 160 years ago Prince Albert was the second largest grain buying centre in Canada! It was the first major settlement in Reach and, for several years it was the commercial centre not just of Reach, but the surrounding townships as well!

When our pioneer forefathers hacked their way into the forests of Reach, their first task was to provide a shelter for their families. Their next task was to clear land on which to grow food for their own consumption. But, as more land was cleared, and more crops were produced, the early settlers had some left over for sale. They would then seek out places to sell their produce.

James and Andrew Laing of Oshawa had a highly profitable general store in Oshawa. As their business grew, they began to look for further opportunities to expand. They decided to venture into the buying and selling of grain. Realizing that Prince Albert would be a good place to set up a grain buying business, thus providing the farmers in the area and to the north with a convenient place to sell their grain, they asked one of their employees, Thomas C. Forman to operate a store for them in Prince Albert.

Forman agreed and a large barn was built in Prince Albert to store the grain. His store and barn were on the north side of the 5th Concession just west of Old Simcoe Road. Forman married Laing's daughter. When his father-in-law died, Forman took over full control of the business in Prince Albert. elevators able to handle large volumes of grain. No grain elevators were ever built in Prince Albert. Here the buyers stored their purchases in barns and all the grain was handled by shovels.

In addition to T.C. Forman, George Currie and Aaron Ross, a number of other businessmen ventured into the grain buying business including: Abner Hurd's son Prosper, Joshua Wright and other small operators.

The seasonal nature of grain buying meant that the buyers had to have other sources of income for the remainder of the year. In the case of T.C. Forman and George Currie, they each ran general stores. Prosper Hurd was a carpenter, Aaron Ross ran a shoe shop, and Joshua Wright a shoe and boot manufacturer.

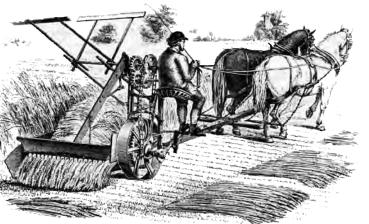
On January 27, 1859, The Ontario Observer reported; "Prince Albert has been unusually enlivened by the arrival of an astonishing number of teams bringing in an immense quantity of wheat. We now have no less than six extensive buyers of wheat."

It was at this time, 1859 that Prince Albert assumed its role as the second largest grain handling centre in Canada! In the period from 1851 to 1861, the number of acres of wheat in Reach Township alone doubled from just under 5,000 acres to 10,000, while the bushels of wheat almost tripled from 77,000 to just under 200,000 bushel.

Prince Albert's dominance ended with the arrival of the railway to Port Perry in 1871.

Another major grain buyer in Prince Albert was George Currie who opened a store immediately west of Forman in 1844, in partnership with Aaron Ross. Currie became the principal grain merchant in the community for many years.

The fact that Prince Albert became the second largest grain handling centre in Canada was due to the large numbers of people who ventured into the grain buying business. Other grain centres had



McCormick Marsh Harvester about 1850.

# Wheat news

Crops were an important part of the economy of Prince Albert during the 1850s and 1860s, and every season there were numerous reports on the volume and quality of the crops reported in the local Ontario Observer.

#### The Crops in North Ontario.

We have taken considerable pains to ascertain, from every farmer we have come in contact with, what position the various coming crops are in, as well as the future prospects of that staple commodity, the wheat crop. It is pretty generally known that the townships of Reach and Brock, and, indeed, we may say, the largest portion of North Ontario, has been a large wheat-growing country for a number of years, and also that the weevil has, in very few instances, been seen. Last year the wheat sustained considerable damage in consequence of rust. We are extremely happy to learn that it is an ascertained fact that the crops in this neighborhood are in splendid condition ; and hopes are confidently entertained that we shall be blessed with an abundant harvest.

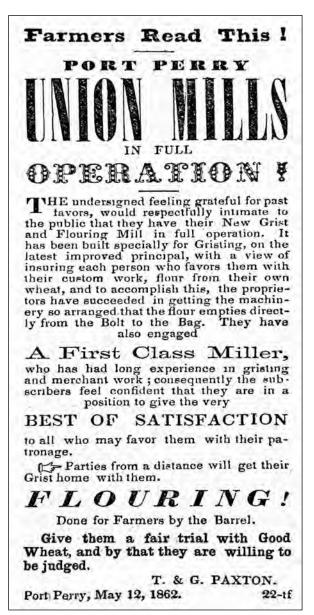
Prince Albert, June 1859

Prince Albert has been unusually enlivened by the arrival of an astonishing number of teams bringing in an immense quantity of wheat. We have now no less than six extensive buyers of wheat, viz :- Messrs G. & M. Currie, T. C. Forman, J. Gilchrist, two buyers who have come from Belleville, and one from Columbus. We intend next week furnishing an estimate of the greater portion of the wheat brought into Prince Albert, Borelia, and Port Perry, and thus afford our readers some idea of the extraordinarily large amount of business done in the village by our enterprising merchants

Prince Albert, June 1858

### THE MARKETS,

	\$ cts.		\$ cts.
Fall Wheat	1 35	a	1 50
Spring Wheat	1 20	a	1 30
Oats	0 50	a	0 60
Peas	0 75	a	0 863
Barley	0 90		
Pork	6 00	a	7 00
Beef	5 50	a	6 00
Green Hides	6 00		
Butter (fresh)	0 18		
Eggs	0 10	a	0 0
Geese	0 50	a	0 75
Turkeys	0 50	a	075
Wool	0 25	a	0 25



Thomas & George Paxton advertise inviting farmers to bring their grain to their Union Mills for processing.





### This small settlement south of Prince Albert is virtually unknown, but has a long history in Reach Township

The mere mention of "Cedar Creek", almost always will be met with a blank stare and the question, "what, or where, is Cedar Creek?"

It's rather difficult to describe Cedar Creek since the settlement was never identified on a map. There has never been a "Welcome to Cedar Creek" sign at its entrance, and to the best of our knowledge, the small hamlet at no time had a post office, general store, church or any kind of commercial activity.

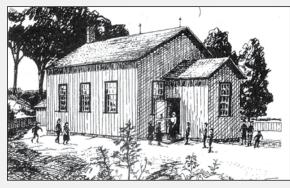
The name Cedar Creek can plausibly be attributed to a small creek which flows through the valley, then north from the settlement through a thick growth of cedars, into the swampy land at the south end of Lake Scugog.

Today, more than 175 years after it was first identified, Cedar Creek still exists, at least in name, if not on a map. Currently the area is home to 20 or more property owners, but it's identity seems to have been lost.

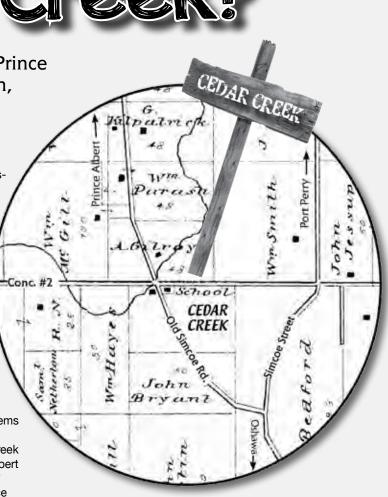
The cluster of homes which make up Cedar Creek can be found about three miles south of Prince Albert on Old Simcoe Road. This road was carved out of the bush in the early 1840s, from Oshawa to Prince Albert.

Anyone travelling north along this route about a half a century ago, would have passed through Cedar Creek on their way to Prince Albert and Port Perry.

Today the road through Cedar Creek is called Old Simcoe Road, beginning where it veers west off of



An example of what small rural schools looked like during the 1800s. The Cedar Creek school was opened in 1841. It had about 30 students attending at the time it closed in 1859.



Simcoe Street, just north of "The Ridges".

Cedar Creek was first identified as a settlement in 1841 when a school house was opened for the children in that sector of Reach Township. The school was located on the south side of the creek, on the east side of "old" Simcoe Street, where the road intersects with the 2nd concession of Reach Township.

Thirty years after the school was opened, in June 1871, a local newspaper, *The Ontario Observer*, published a story about the first anniversary of the Cedar Creek Union Sunday School on the abutting property. More than 100 children participated in the celebration, and the Reach Brass Band performed. Sunday School services would have been held in the school house, as was common practice at that time.

Bob Greenwood grew up in Cedar Creek, and attended the one-room school as a youngster until it was

Above: A circular map showing a section of Reach Township in 1877. The inner red circle identifies the settlement of Cedar Creek, which is located about three miles south of Prince Albert on Old Simcoe Road. closed, about 1859. After its closure, students from Cedar Creek continued their education three miles north of the hamlet, at the Prince Albert Public School.

Although there is very little information about the history of Cedar Creek, it is apparent it was an active small community during the late 1800s.

It came into more prominence inn the early 1950s, when the *Port Perry Star*, began publishing a news column from Cedar Creek, in which a local correspondent wrote about events and activities taking place within the community. The column was a weekly feature in the newspaper written by George Kilpartick until the 1990s.

#### MAY 7th, 1953 **Cedar Creek** Mr. and Mrs. Nieuwland and family have moved into the house recently vacated by Mr. and Mrs. Tony Kudlak. On Saturday, April 25th, the store and home of Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Kemp, was broken into. Nothing is missing but the till and a cash box

scamp, was proken into. Nothing is missing but the till and a cash box were smashed and the drawers were turned out and their clothes were pulled out of the closets. The visitor or visitors were evidently in search of money, but were disappointed.

Several from Cedar Creek attended the 25th wedding anniversary party for Mr. and Mrs. Norman Yeo which was held in Prospect School, on April 25th.

Mr. and Mrs. John Greenwood attended the Union Rod and Gun Club in Oshawa. Mrs. Greenwood won an eight-piece hostess set.

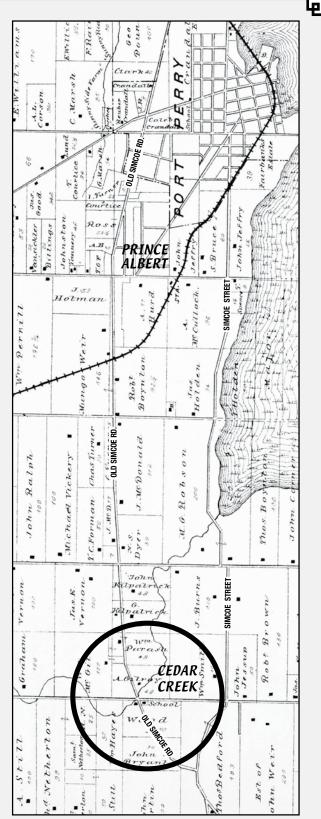
eight<sub>7</sub>piece hostess set. Mr. and Mrs. Alexander McClintock of Montebello, California, U.S.A., who are on an extended motor tour of the United States and Canada, are visiting with Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Blain and family. = Mrs. McClintock is Mrs. Blain's sister.

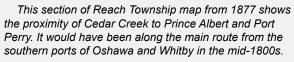


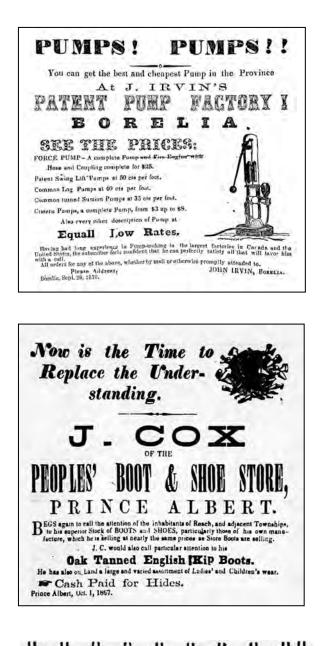
The Cedar Creek store and garage was located at the corner of Simcoe Street and Old Simcoe Road. It was built by Alfred Kemp about 1950, and served the people of this southern section of Reach Township for many years. Later the store and garage were operated by Frank Ouimet and his family.

Pictured above are Carol Ouimet with Dave Wilson about 1959, on the south side of the store.

Photo courtesy Lucy Wilson.



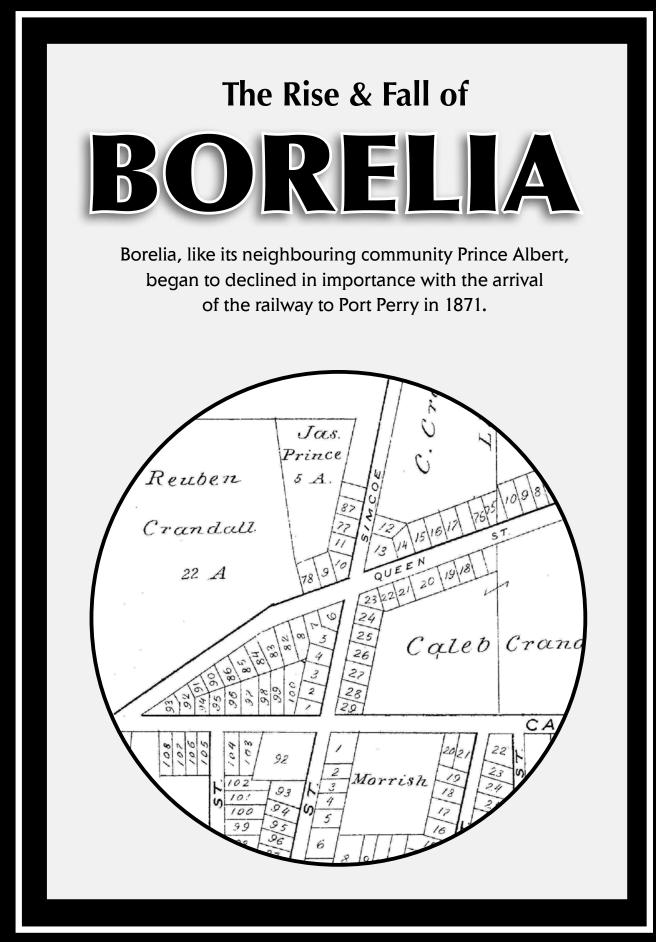


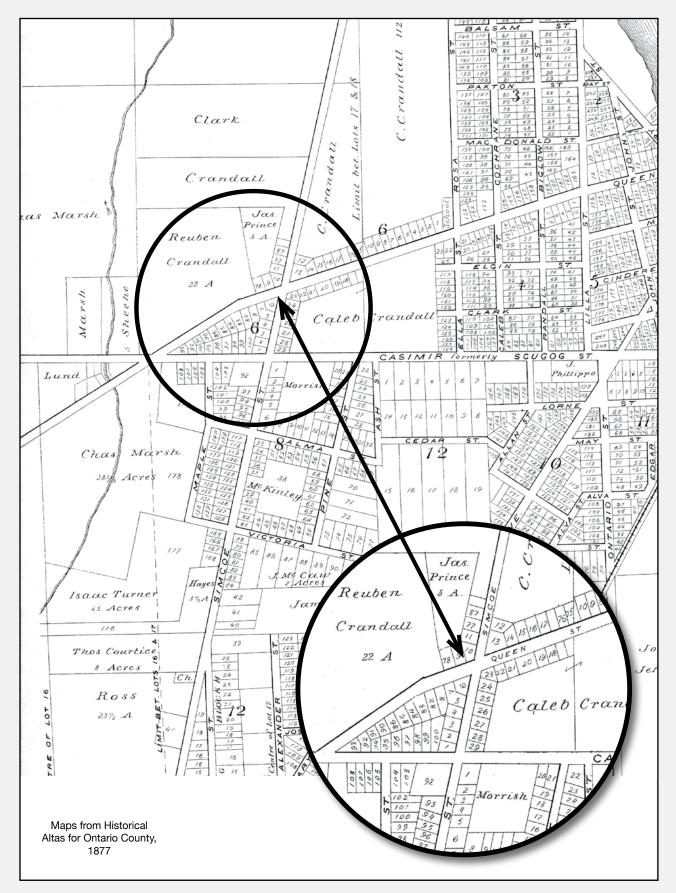






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Circled areas show a small portion of the 200 acres of land purchased by Reuben Crandel in 1832. It was this area which became known as Crandell's Corners before being renamed "Borelia".

# BORELIA

More than 160 years ago, there was a small village located at the top of the hill where Queen Street intersects with Old Simcoe Road. The name of this thriving little settlement was Borelia.

Just how the name "Borelia" was chosen by land owner Reuben Crandell, is a mystery. The only reference to that name comes from an area, "Borelia" Kilcotty, Wexford in Ireland. The Irish town may have no significence to the name Crandell chose, but one thing is certain, Borelia is almost an unknown name today. Even those who live in the former settlement "atop the hill", are unaware of its important past.

In 1832, Reuben Crandell moved his family from Manchester a few kilometers north to a 200 acre parcel of land which today is the corner Queen Street and Old Simcoe Road, (See map on opposite page). Here he built a new homestead west of the intersection near the creek.

Crandell used his new home as a living residence for his family, and it also served as a tavern. This first building formed the basis of a settlement which later became known as Borelia. By 1845 the Crandells had become extremely wealthy by running a hotel in their home as well as building houses and selling building lots to newcomers to Borelia. Their sons had become established in various trades.

An early account of Borelia was published in the book "Canada: Past, Present, and Future" by W. H. Smith published in 1851. Smith compiled stories and maps of all the cities, towns and villages located in Canada West and published his works in a 582 page book.

Following his account of the village:

"About one mile from Prince Albert, on the plank road from Whitby to Scugog, (which here crosses the Simcoe Street about that distance north from Prince Albert,) is the small settlement called Borelia, which contains about one hundred inhabitants; and from thence to Scugog Village (or Port Perry, as it has been recently named) is about half a mile. The village contains about one hundred and fifty inhabitants, and two steam saw mills."

Samuel Farmer, who was the proprietor of the local newspaper, The Port Perry Star, in his book "On The Shores of Scugog" written in 1913, described the village as follows:

"This (Borelia) was a busy little spot. C. S. Jewett kept hotel on the creamery corner in the same building. At the south end was a shoe and harness shop. Jewett used to run a four horse stage; and some very attractive offers were made to secure passengers, as there was a rival stage and competition was keen. There were a few dwellings west of Jewett's hotel, about as many as there are to-day; but the business section ended at the corner.

Across the road lived John Nott, cabinet maker, who turned out good work, and who is still a familiar figure about town. John Nott is very widely known and is remembered by every former resident of Port Perry as he for a number of years was police magistrate. He had a busy time during his term of office, as the Scott Act enforcement gave much room for legal difficulties. Most of his life has been spent at Borelia, where he had both his home and his place of business, although for a time he did have a shop down town in later years.

Elmore Crandell had a cabinet factory at Borelia. Among other furniture manufactured by him were those old fashioned wooden bedsteads that were fastened by ropes to hold up the bedding. On the corner was Sheehey's hotel.

Next to Sheehey's hotel was J. W. Allison's drygoods store, and beside that was a general store run by Wm. Mackie, who also bought grain. Next came J. D. Cottingham's dental parlors. J. A. Murray was associated with Cottingham for about five years. Then there was a storehouse, and beside that were a blacksmith shop and a wood working shop. James Swan ran the blacksmith shop, and Oliver Gerrow the wood working shop. These two men worked together considerably. Beside these shops were some dwellings."

Borelia was a thriving small village for more than 25 years, but as happened to Prince Albert, when the railway arrived in Port Perry in June 1871, the decline of Borelia began rapidly. In January 1872, the Village of Port Perry was formed, which included within its boundaries, the village of Borelia.

# **Borelia Hotels & Taverns**

#### 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.

As is evident in the details following, hotels changed proprietors often, although the properties were held by landowners for years.

### **Commercial Hotel**

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. 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 a corner lot on the southeast side 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 Hotel appears to have been Angus McKinnon, listed as the hotelkeeper in 1866.

VILLAGE OF BORELIA. THE SUBSCRIBER returns thanks for the liberal support he has received since be compended 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.

COMMERCIAL HOTEL,

GOODSTABLING, and a steady Hostler in attendance. Every accommodation to make Travellers comfortable. STAGE daily to and from Port Whitby THOMAS GOREY. V. S.-Carriage in attendance on the Boat. Borelia, June, 6th 1851. 83 m.

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

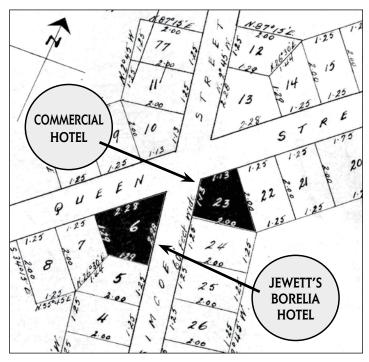
Three years later, in 1869, Andrew J. Harrington is listed as the owner of the Commercial Hotel, on the southeast corner of Queen and Simcoe Street. Another change took place in 1871 with William J. Dafoe becoming the new proprietor of this hotel. Dafoe operated the hotel until August 1875 when he died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

(See full report of fire on page 117)



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.

### **BORELIA HOTEL**

Based on 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

### C. James Jewett Hotel Keeper

Charles James Jewett was born on September 30, 1830 in Pickering,

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. corner of the village. From the time he opened the Borelia Hotel it became the central place for important political and educational meetings.

The hotel became 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.

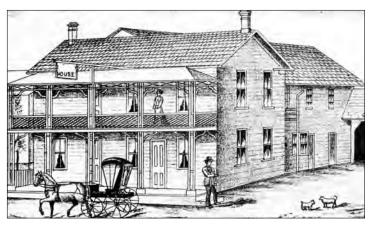


Illustration of a typical small village hotel from the 1850s and 1860s.

### SORE LARA EO TELA. JAMES JEWETT, Proprietor. THE BAK SUPPLIED WITH THE BEST WINES, LIQUOBS AND CIGARS. In Daily Line of Stages from Lindsay, Beaverton and Manilla to Ochawa and Whitby, and roturning, call each way. CAMEFUL OSTLERS ALWAYS IN ATTENDANCE. 1869 BORELIA HOTEL, And American Drovers' Home, JAMES JEWETT, . . . . PROPRIETOR. THE DAR HUPPLIED 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. 1866

#### Description of Borelia Hotel - May 1864

**Location:** Property being on that point of land formed by the intersection of the Easterly limit of the \*Windsor Road and Scugog Road, with the Westerly limit of \*Simcoe Street, and known as Lot #6.

**Buildings:** there are erected upon it, a good store, hotel and first class Frame Tavern, known as Jewett's Hotel, with superior stables and out buildings, in Borelia.

\* Windsor Road and Scugog Road are now Hwy. 12 and Hwy. 7A. \* Simcoe Steet is now Old Simcoe Road.

# **Hotel Inn Keepers**

#### 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 Scagog can always be accommodated with good boats and Fishing Tackle.

N. SINCLAIR. Port Perry, August 8, 1866. 1-tf.



### 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, circa 1880.

## 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.

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 there two young daughters, they left their home in New York State to "seek fortune" in a new country, the province of Upper Canada.

The settled in Lindsay where he worked as an innkeeper. 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. The 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.

### **Christopher Sheehey**

Hotel Inn Keeper 1875-1880

The Sheehey family, reported to have been owners of the Commercial Hotel in Borlia 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 Sheehey 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 Sheehey 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 Sheehey, 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 Sheehey's Hotel.

The old hotel had deteriorated to a point that within five years it was unfit to be inhabited. Mr. Sheehey 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 Sheehey had no insurance.

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

# **Poetical Directory**

The poems reprinted below are the work of A.G. Churchill, who travelled extensively and wrote pamphlets with similar poems for a number of communities across the province. The descriptive poems provide here, written in 1858, provide an interesting insight into the businesses, shop owners and products available in the village of Borelia at that time.

#### BORELIA

Where cars are destined soon to go From Scugog to Ontario, With commerce laden to and fro,

Freight, Passenger and Mail. On a manor of good land, Where Borelia now does stand, A broad lake view it does command,

Grove, forest hill and vale, In eighteen hundred twenty-one, Reuben Crandel there began, The first improvement ever done,

In all the Town of Reach. A shinning village now does rise, In future will immortalize, The brave and daring enterprise,

Of his adventures each. Remote from all commercial sale; Remote from roads, mills and mail, Except there was an Indian trail,

He worked his own high way. With his jumper two ox team, Through wild men and wild extremes, Wild beasts in brutal savage schemes, Kill and devour their prey. The forest to the earth did dash, Boiled and barreled up potash; At Ontario took his cash,

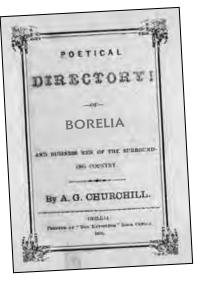
Delivered on the shore. As the ten commandment say, He rested on the seventh day, And every year that passed away,

Hath added to his store. In view of Scugog's sandy beach, The first white birth in Town of Reach, Appeared a son and daughter each,

Bright specimens of skill. Sons of Ishmael in a group, Form circle round him like a troop, In hedious yells gave battle whoop,

Proclaimed a war to kill, Our wrestling Jacob did prevail, And make them pace the Indian trail, In wild retreat o'er hill and dale,

The tawny foe did yield. Fishes in the lake were found, Wild game did in the groves abound, The virgin forest all around,



Has since became a field. Which soon was clothed with summer green,

Land viewers saw the verdant green, Round our hero they convene,

And settle many a mile. Now round him lofty steeples rise, And point in reverence to the skies, Commercial Building with supplies,

And dwelling rank and file. Like some Haven, of the sea, Where there village circles be, He dwells in centre of the three,

Crops, rents and cash in bank. Where is the member, judge or squire, Or man that money does acquire, Hath greater reason to admire, That God we ought to thank?

# Borelia Merchants poetically speaking

#### CLARK CRANDELL

Hunter

Like Nimrod's mighty hunting luck, Takes Crain, Fox, Mudhen, Mink and Duck, Plover, Pigeon, Crew and Owl, Quail, Squirrel, Partridge, Fish and Fowl,, Musk Rat, Otter, Beaver Loon, Deer, Bear Martin, Cat, and Coon.

#### **BENJAMIN CRANDELL,**

Mason

He can Build Masonic Hall, Also Plaster on the Wall, When the Hall is finished fine, He understands the countersign; Builds, Cellars, Houses, Chimneys, all, Stores and Churches, Steeples tall.

#### ELMORE CRANDELL

Cabinet and Chair Factory. Where Plank road crosses Simcoe St. Room after room one hundred feet, A first-class engine there does roar, Turns and Mortice, rip and bore, Cuts screws for work bench, wooden vice,

Grinds Tools, Saws little timber nice. Makes Coffins, Cradles at the call, Cherry Tables, leaf to fall, Centre Table, Desk and Stand, Bureaus, Drawers, with nobs for hand, Settees, Side Board, Sofa wares, Windsor, Cane and Rocking Chairs.

#### CAPT. GEO. CRANDELL

Master of the Woodman. Eat, sleep and drink, and travel too, With Capt. Crandell and his crew; He .akes all classes, rich and poor, And wants his money to be sure, But seldom turns a man away, That has no money for to pay. Ladies, gentleman and tow, Be ready when the trumpets blew. Caleb Crandell's purser there, On the "Woodman" takes the fare; In high attainments all polite, His speech and actions will invite. Their steamboat from Port Perry hails, On the Scugog Lake she sails.

# Borelia Poetical ... continued

#### THOMAS BENSON

Boot and Shoe Store.

Thomas Benson's workmen neat, Make Boots and Shoes to suit your feet;

Gaiters, Slippers every class, For master, mistress, lad and lass; He will mend and also make, Of stock his own, or stock you take.

#### WM. DECKER

Clock and Watch Maker and Jeweler. Watches hang in rich array, Clocks to keep the time of day, Gold and Amber Beads in strings, Safety Chains and shining Rings; Penknives, Scissors, Jewels shine, Will make and mend all in his line.

#### WM. T. FAREWELL

Crockeries, Groceries, Woodware, Mushroom, Catsup, Books are there, Provisions, Dyestuff, Medicine, Stouten Bitters, Bells and Tin. Pays cash for Otter quick as wink, Beaver, Musk Rat, Fox and Mink.

#### MALON HA1GHT

Botanic Doctor.

His Office stands on Simcoe Street, Where patients send and also meet; For Vegetation in extract, And they find it there in fact; Roots, Barks, Herbs in power they find, The Balm for healing all mankind.

#### HILBORN & DEVINNEY'S

Crank

Double action Crank indeed, Gives double power and double speed, Revolving Wheel the acting slide, Hangs on dead centre highest side, Reverse to low extreme is found, Hangs on dead centre total round ; Mill Builders, Owners, buy and thank, Those Model Artists for their Crank.

#### JOEL W. MORRIS

General Store.

Like London Fair his Store is grand, With Groceries and Dry Goods on hand,

Crockery, Hardware, Nails and Glass, Drugs, Medicines of different class; For sample read our wholesale bill, Those are the Goods his Store does fill.

#### JAMES HILBORN'S

Patent Improved Washing Machine Wash Boards are in number two, Hammers, Concave, Tube and Shoe, Square Box three feet from end to end, Width eighteen inches does extend, Five connecting Pitmans match, Five wrists are to one shaft attached, Charts Provincial this Machine, Will wash the nation neat and clean. Machines for sawing will be made, To order, Hilborn drives the trade.

#### JAMES JEWETT'S Hotel

Busy ostler, busy host, Busy steward cares the roast, Busy maids that cook and bring, Busy porters bell does ring, Splendid Tables, Lodgings, Bar, The traveling public happy there.

#### WM. MACKIE'S

General Store

Our wholesale bill no doubt is there, Dry Goods, Groceries and Hardware;, Millineries new and fine Liquors, Medicine and Wine. Pays cash for Wheat, full loads or bags, Oats, Peas and Barley, Wool and Rags.

#### JOHN NOTT'S

Six Bulldings In a row Warehouse, Lathe Shop, House to dwell.

Work Shop Paint Shop, Store to sell, Gardner's patent right Machine, To wash Ontario County clean, Bureaus, Tables, Desks and Stand, Cradles, Coffins on demand, Bedstead, Portrait Frame and Chair, Turning, Painting, all done there.

#### JAMES NOTT Plasterer

James Nott will plaster on the wall, Church and Dwelling, Store and Hall; For the country up and down, Or the people in the Town; Inside wall or over, over cast, Puts it on so it will last.

#### ALBERT PRINCE,

Albert Prince his Shamble fills, With fresh Meat he daily kills Beef and Mutton, Veal and Lamb, Poultry, Bacon, Laid and Ham, Soap and Tallow in array, He sells in market every day.

#### **NEIL SINCLAIR**

Commercial Hotel Full Racks and Mangers, Barn and Shed, Long Dinning Tables richly spread; Splendid Lodgings, shining Bar, All kinds of Liquors and Segar ; Where first class Gentry all step in, Eat, drink and smoke, and call again;

#### JAMES SWAN

Blacksmith.

James Swan the Blacksmith will attend, To custom orders that you send,

He will shoe your horses all, Farmers, Teamsters, if you call; Drags, Plows and Carriage make and mend,

Sleighs and Cutters if you send.

#### LEONARD UNGER

Baker

Leonard Unger's fresh supplies, Of Bread and Crackers, Cakes and Pies,

And all that's in the Baking line, Are of the best of superfine; Come and buy the staff of life, Save oven wood and please your wife.

Thanks to Paul Arculus for providing this Poetical Directory.

# Places of Worship



The above picture is an example of the Gothic style of churches built throughout Reach Township during the mid-1800s, but is not the Udora Methodist Church. The Methodist Church in Udora was constructed about 1868.

### CHURCH DEDICATION.

On Sunday last the new Roman Catholic Church in Borelia was deducated. A sermon was preached in the morning by the Rev. Mr O'Keeffe, of Oshawa. At half-past two o'clock p.m. the Rev. Mr. Lee, of Barrie, delivered a sermon from the following text : 'I am that Bread of Life.'-St. John, vi. 48. Various other services were performed through the day. Bishop Linch, of Toronto, spoke morning and evening. The Rev. Mr. T. D. Lawren, of Duffin's Creek, and the Rev. Mr. Blair, of Brock, were present, and took part in the services. A great number of people were in attendance. We noticed that a large portion of the congregation were Protestants.

The building is 20 by 55—finished up in Gothic style. It cost \$800; and is a very nice little church. Borelia appears to have had a number of places of worship in the mid-1800s. As early as the 1860s there are references in the Ontario County Directory to at least three churches being located in this little village.

An article in the *Ontario Observer* in 1861 (below left) announces that a new Roman Catholic Church in Borelia was dedicated. The Gothic style building is reported to have cost about \$800 and was 20'x55' in size. The cemetery still remains on Hwy. 7A.

While there are no pictures of the Catholic church, it would be safe to assume that it may have looked similar to the Gothic style St. Agnes Church (left) in Greenbank; or the Manchester Primitive Methodist (below), which was built in 1866.

A description of Borelia published in the 1866 Ontario Directory (see page 83), identifies two denominations, but only one church.

"The Episcopal Methodists have built a frame building costing \$1,500, over which the Rev. John Q. Adams is pastor. The Baptist denomination meets in the Mechanic's Institute, the Rev. Mr. King, pastor."

Another Directory, published in 1869, tells of three churches in the village.

"The churches are one Roman Catholic, built of wood in 1859, at the cost of about \$1,000. An Apostolic, built of wood in 1868, at about the same cost; also the Episcopal Methodist, enumerated in the description of Port Perry, is claimed by this place in connection with the latter."

Borelia lost its identity when it was absorbed into the newly incorporated Village of Port Perry in 1871. After that time there is little mention of the churches of Borelia, since it no longer existed as a village.



Manchester Primitive Methodist Church built in 1866.

Ontario Observer, October 17, 1861.

# End of Borelia

Below is By-law No. 216, of the County of Ontario, that outlined the boundaries of the newly incorporated Village of Port Perry on June 9, 1871. It was this by-law that effectively swallowed up the Village of Borelia, absorbing it into the limits of the newly formed Village of Port Perry.

Although it became officially a section of Port Perry after 1871, local residents continued to refer the former hamlet at the 'top of the hill' as Borelia, for many years after.

#### BY-LAWS OF THE COUNTY OF ONTARIO

#### **BY-LAW NO. 216**

#### A BYLAW TO INCORPORATE THE VILLAGE OF PORT PERRY IN THE TOWNSHIP OF REACH

Whereas all the requirements of the municipal law relating to the power and authority of the county councils to pass by-laws to incorporate village have been complied with as far as relates to the incorporating of Port Perry in the Township of Reach.

믹

Therefore the Council of the Corporation of the County of Ontario enacts as follows:—

That the following described lands in the Township of Reach, be, and are hereby declared to be erected into an incorporated village, under the name and title of Port Perry, viz.:

That is to say, commencing at a point where the easterly limit of the Port Whitby and Port Perry Railway intersects the centre line between the east and west halves of Lot No. 18, in the fifth concession of the Township of Reach, thence westerly to a point on the westerly limit of said Lot 18, distant 26 chains from the front of the said 5th concession,

Thence northerly along the western limits to Victoria Street, according to Farewell's plan of part of Lot No. 17 in the 5th concession of Reach, aforesaid, thence westerly along said street to the intersection with Maple Street, thence northerly along said Maple Street to the rear of the said concession, thence westerly along the southern limits of the said concession to the western limit of said Lot 17, in the 5th concession, thence northerly along the western limits of said Lot No. 17 in the 6th

> Passed June 9, 1871 H.J. MACDONELL County Clerk

concession, twenty-six chains,

Thence easterly on a line parallel to the southern boundary, to the eastern boundary of Simcoe Street, to the northern limit of the road allowance in rear of said concession, thence easterly along the northern limit of said road allowance to the water's edge of Lake Scugog,

Thence southerly following the water's edge of Lake Scugog to the front of the said 6th concession, on Lot No. 20, thence southerly along the edge of the said lake to a point 12 chains from the rear of the 5th concession, on a line parallel to the eastern boundary of Lot No. 20,

Thence westerly on a line parallel to the northern limit of said concession, across Lot No. 19, in the said 5th concession, to the eastern limit of the Port Whitby and Port Perry Railway, thence southerly along the eastern limit of the said railway to the place of beginning.

That the meeting of the electors for the election of a Reeve and Councillors for the said village shall he held at the time prescribed by law, at the Fireman's Hall, on Perry Street, in the sold village.

That Harris Burnham, of the said village, shall be, and he is hereby appointed returning officer, to hold said election according to law, in such case inane and provided.

GEORGE WHEELER Warden (L.S.)

# DIRECTORIES

Listings for the Village of Borelia, extract from copies of County of Ontario Directory & Gazetteer from 1857 until 1871.

# Borelia 1869

#### The County of Ontario Directory for 1869 - 1870

#### BORELIA:

A village in the Township of Reach, 17 miles north-east of Whitby. Was first settled by Mr. Reuben Crandell, senior, in 1821, who was also the first settler of the Township, and his second son, Mr. Benjamin Crandell, has the honor of being the first white man born in the township.

The first store was opened by Mr. Samuel Davidson, senior, in 1845. The Post Office was established in about 1863. Mr. J. W. Morris being the first postmaster; but the Office at the present time is conducted by Mr. Jas. Jewett.

The Orange body have a lodge here at present. The church-

Allison, J. W., merchant at Port Perry. Beason, Edward, welldigger. Benson, H. V., carpenter Benson, Thos., shoemaker. Bowman, James, pumpmaker. Bradley, Alexander, laborer. Brown, A. J., gentleman. Blutehey, John, woodsawer. Clutchey, John, carpenter. Clutchey, Joseph, laborer. Coster, John, laborer. Cottingham, J.D. dentist and druggist. Crandell, Reuben, sen., gentleman. Crandell, Reuben, jr., farmer. Crandell, S.E., cabinetmaker. Crandell, Benjamin, dealer in patent rights. Crandell, Caleb, farmer. Crandell, Clark, fur trader. English, G., teamster. • Foote, Isaac, carpenter. Foster, Joel, carpenter.

Garbit, James, turner. Haight, Harrison, gardener HARRINGTON, A.J. Commercial Hotel. Henley, George, baker. Hilborn, James, millwright. Hudson, J., pedler Hurd, Philander, carpenter. Jamieson, Rev. George, Canada Presbyterian. Jamieson, Wm., laborer. Jeffry, John, laborer. JEWETT, JAMES, Borelia Hotel Johnson, Henry, blacksmith. McLean, George, laborer. Kirkpatrick, Mathew, shoemaker. McConnell, James, laborer. Marlin, Benjamin, sawyer. Morris, George, gardener. Murray, J.A., dentist. Neale, Frederick, merchant. Nott, John, cabinetmaker. Nott, William, farmer. McLean, Lewis, laborer. McKinley, Robert, farmer

es are one Roman Catholic, built of wood in 1859, at the cost of about \$1,000. One Apostolic, built of wood in 1868, at about the same cost; also the Episcopal Methodist, enumerated in the description of Port Perry, is claimed by this place in connection with the latter.

The United Grammar and Common School of Borelia and Port Perry, is the institution wherein the youth of both places receive their education. The town also has several stores, two hotels, the usual number of mechanics.

Post Office and Money Order Office, &c., connected with Whitby by Daily Stage. Population about 200.

MAJOR, EDWARD, Official Assignee Palmer, George, painter. Perkins, William, farmer. Post, S., merchant Post, Woodruff, merchant. Roberts, Lewis, cooper. Rose, Daniel, tavelling agent. Sharpe, Peter, carpenter. Sheehey, George, farmer. Smith, George, farmer. Smith, John, sawyer. Smith, John, laborer. Spencer, E.F., clerk. Taylor, J.E., clerk Thomas, Samuel, laborer Walling, George, millwright Warriner, Richard, shoemaker Wills, Henry, merchant Wilson, Thomas, sawyer Letcher, Joseph, millwright Spry, Mrs. J., washer Swan, James, blacksmith Taylor, F.W., clerk

# Borelia 1857

#### The Canada Directory for 1857 - 1858

#### BORELIA, C.W:

A small but flourishing Village in the Township of Reach and the County of Ontario. Distance form Whitby, 17 miles, and from Toronto 46 miles. Daily mail. Populataions about 150.

Benson, Heldibran, grocer Bongard, Conrad, general store Crandal, Benjamin, foundry Crandel, George, foundry Crandel, S.E., cabinetmaker Haight, Harrison, grocer Jerrow, Oliver,waggonmaker

Jewett, Charles J. hotelkeeper and shoemaker Lazier, John, carpenter Marsh, Francis, general store Morris, Ambrose, general store Nott, John, cabinetmaker Ongly, Rev. William, Adventist Richmond, James, carpenter Sinclair, Neil, hotelkeeper Smith Francis, hotelkeeper Williams, Isaac, waggonmaker

# Borelia 1866

#### From the Mitchell & Company's Gazetteer & Directory for Ontario 1866

**BORELIA:** A post village in the Township of Reach, County of Ontario, is situated in the midst of a beautiful farming country, 18 miles from Whitby and one mile from Port Perry, on Lake Scugog.

The village was first settled in 1821 by Reuben Crandell, who still resides in the same location. The Post Office was established in 1862, J. W. Morris, postmaster.

The Episcopal Methodists have built a frame building costing \$1,500, over which the Rev. John Q.

Adams is pastor. The Baptist denomination meets in the Mechanic's Institute, the Rev. Mr. King, pastor.

The village also contains a Common School, Allen Pringle, teacher; an Orange Lodge, three stores, two hotels, of which we would mention the Borelia Hotel, under the excellent management of James Jewett, two grocery stores, two cabinet makers, and the usual supply of mechanics. Daily mail. Population about 600.

ALLISON, JOHN W. general merchant Beason, Samuel, stone mason Benson, Hildebrand V. carpenter and builder Benson, Thomas BORELIA HOTEL, Jas. Jewett, proprietor Clutchey, John, carpenter COMMERCIAL HOTEL, Angus McKinnon, prop Cottingharn, J. D. surgeon dentist Crandell, Benjamin, constable Crandell, Reuben, farmer Crandell, Reuben, Jr. laborer Crandell, S. E. cabinet maker and furniture dealer Gerow, Oliver A. collector of taxes Gimbet, George, teamster Glenn, John, shoemaker Gordon, Henry, farmer Haight, Harrison, gardener

Henly, George, grocer and baker Hillburn James, machinist and millwright Hunter, Grant, farmer Jewett, James prop Borelia Hotel Kelly, Robert, laborer Lazier. James B. cradle and barley fork manufacturer LUND, RICHARD, magistrate and issuer of marriage licenses, commissioner for taking affidavits in court Queen's Bench LUND, ROBERT E. groceries and provisions; also conveyancer McKinnon, Angus, farmer McKinnon, D.H. farmer MACKIE, WILLIAM, general merchant Major, Edward, farmer Marsh, Charles, Reeve of

Reach Township Maybee, John, butcher and grocer Michel, Adam, farmer Moore, Herman, farmer Morris, Joel, farmer Morrish, George, gardener and nurseryman Nott, John, cabinet maker Nott. James. plasterer Pringle, Allen, teacher common school Richmond, James, carpenter Rose, Daniel, auctioneer Rush, Wm., farmer Shaw, Joseph, farmer Staley, Daniel, cooper Swan, James, blacksmith Walling, George, millwright Wilson, Thomas, laborer Wiltsey, Benoni, farmer

# Borelia 1871

#### Lovell's Province of Ontario Directory for 1871

BORELIA: A village in the township of Reach, County of Ontario. Distance from Whitby, a station of the Grand Truck Railway, 18 miles, fare 75 cents; from Oshawa 15 miles, fare 75¢; from Toronto 45 miles. Mail daily. Population about 300.

Ardagh, Arthur, clerk, boards at Borelia hotel Bennet, William, laborer Benson, Hildebran, carpeter Borelia Hotel, James Jewett, proprietor Brae, rev. Patrick, R. catholic Brown, Abram J., laborer Campbell, Miss Jessie, teacher Cawker & Palmer, butchers Commercial Hotel, William J. Dafoe, proprietor Coster, Peter, jun., laborer Coster, Peter, sen., laborer Cottingham, John D. dentist Crandell. Beniamin Crandell, Caleb, farmer Crandell, Clarke, cattle and fur dealer. Crandell, Elmore, cabinetmaker Crandell, Reuben, jun., laborer Dafoe. William J., proprietor Commercial Hotel Foote, Isaac, carpetner Haight, Harrison, gardener Harrington, Andrew, J. deputy bailiff Henly, George, carpenter Hillburn, James, machinist Hudson, William, carpenter Jamieson, rev. George, Presbyterian Jewett, James, postmaster, proprietor Borelia Hotel Johnson, Walter, pedlar Kirkpatrick, Matthew, shoemaker Letcher, Joseph, millwright Lezier, John, carpenter Lund Richard, J.P., farmer McKinley, Robert, farmer McLean, Lewis, machinist

McLean, George, machinist Maior. Edward, official assignee Morrish, George, gardener Neale, Frederick, storekeeper Nott. John cabinetmaker Nott, William, laborer Palmer, George, painter Perkins, William, farmer Post, Isreal, baker Sheehey, George, grocer Smith, George, carpenter Staliff, Mrs. Mary, weaver Swan James, blacksmith Urquhart, D., agricultural implements Walling, George, machinist Warriner, William, shoemaker Wells, Henry, storekeeper Wilson. Thomas. laborer Woodward, Richard, carpenter

٨ 0 From PLAN FOR THE VILLAGE OF BORELIA 1849 Note: • Simcoe Street, as show on plan, is now 'Old Simcoe Road'. • Queen Street, extends past top of this plan, along Hwy. 7A, to Manchester and the on to Whitby as shown. I contify that this is a consect Plan of the Village of Borcha on lob Nos 17 and 18 in the 6th concession of the Township of Reach in the Home District as surveyed by me at the request of M. Reuber Grandell as follows that is to say, lot Nor 1 to 29 both inclusive on the 30d day of April 1845; Nor 30 to 76 both inclusive on the 29th day of July 1847; and Nos 77 and 78 on the 13th day of August 1849 John Thier nor! Land Surveyor august 24th 1849 Och to N. B. the dimensions of the lok are marked on their respective boundaries in chains and links

Plan for the Village of Borelia, laid out on lots No. 17 and 18 in the 6th concession of the Township of Reach by John Shier, P.L.S. 1849.

# **BORELIA:** a slave story

In 1913, Samuel Farmer in his book "On The Shores of Scugog" recounted a story told by John Rolph about a young runaway slave who made his way to Borelia in the mid-1860s.

As the story goes...

"One day a young negro came to George Sheehey's Hotel, in western limits of Borelia, and asked for shelter. He had not been in the locality more than a day or two before telegraphic messages were received by John Rolph, the local telegraph operator, enquiring about a runaway slave. The messages gave a description of the man, and word was sent back that he was in the neighborhood.

Negotiations were opened with Mr. Sheehey by the slave owner, who promised \$300 for the negro's safe delivery on United States territory. So long as the young slave remained in Canada he was safe.

During the time these arrangements were going on Mr. Sheehey treated the negro royally, and one day he proposed that they go for a little trip. Before they started they called at the telegraph office where arrangements were finally made for the owner to meet his slave at the Niagara frontier. While here Sheehey had occasion to leave the office, and the negro was alone with John Rolph.

For some time John had been struggling between a telegraph operator's duty not to divulge telegraphic messages, and a desire to help the young negro out of the danger which threatened him; so when Sheehey was gone Mr. Rolph said: "Don't you cross any water when you go on your trip."

"Oh, Massa! Massa!" cried the negro, "is there anything wrong?"

"I can't tell you anything more," was Rolph's response, "but mind you don't cross any water or you'll be in great trouble."

Sheehey and the negro started on their journey, and in a few days the former was back again thoroughly disgusted with the turn things had taken. When they reached the Niagara frontier the negro had refused to cross, and nothing could induce him to leave Canada. So the \$300 remained in the hands of the former slave owner.

A few weeks later the negro came back to Borelia. He had tramped all the way from Niagara to thank John Rolph for his warning."

It is believed that the young slave written about above, was none other than Samuel Stout, the first black person to settle in Reach Township and the newly formed Village of Port Perry.

There are a few early accounts of escaped slaves making their way into Reach Twp., however, none took up permanent residence here until 1866 when an escaped slave named Samuel Stout arrived and decided to make Port Perry his home. He immediately made his way to one of the local barber shops and asked for employment. He quickly established himself in that trade and gained an excellent reputation.

Samuel had another talent which helped him to gain acceptance in this pioneer community. He was an extremely proficient musician and was apparently able to play well on any kind of wind instrument. He helped to organize the town band and was its first leader. Because of his musicianship, he became known as Professor Stout.

Shortly after his arrival, Harris Burnham, clerk of the division court, gave Stout permission to build a simple dwelling, probably no more than a shack, at the rear of his property.

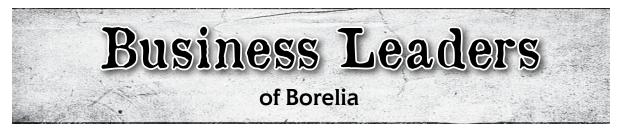
Samuel Stout was a man of just under average height and of a stocky build. He was described as a genial and good humoured man and had a good word for all who met him. People loved him and enjoyed listening to his stories of days gone by.

Stout became a member of the Presbyterian Church. In 1876 he married an English girl, Elizabeth Organ, who was considerably younger than himself, possibly as much as 40 years his junior. Samuel and Elizabeth had five children.

Stout continued to work as a barber until the end of the century. When he died on May 4, 1911, his obituary declared that he was a centenarian and "...for years he has held the honors of being the oldest man in Port Perry and vicinity."

With the death of Samuel Stout, Port Perry's only direct link with the grim story of slavery ended.

From files by Paul Arculus



### John W. Allison

Merchant

One of Borelia's leading businessmen during the developing days of the village was John Wesley Allison

He was born June 9, 1825, at Adolphustown, Lennox County, Canada West, and moved to Reach Township in the late 1850s, settling in Borelia. Here he opened a store selling dry goods and groceries.

On December 16, 1865 he married Mary Sinclair at Prince Albert.

J.W. Allison was very involved in his community. When he was only 35 years old, in 1861, he elected as president of the North Ontario Mechanics' Institute, and the same year was appointed Superintendent of Education for Reach, Scugog and West Whitby.

He was a Lieutenant in the Reach Volunteer Infantry Company, and elected to Reach Council in 1867. He ran unsuccessfully for the office of Reeve in 1868, and was nominated to become the first Reeve of Port Perry, being defeated by Joseph Bigelow.



John W. Allison





### **Reuben Crandell**

#### First to settle in Borelia

Reuben Crandell was born in Saratoga County, New York State, on October 24, 1799 and he moved with his mother and stepfather to Canada.

Reuben married Catherine Moore on November 20, 1819. A year later they set out with their young family and a team of oxen to blaze their way to the recently established township of Reach. Here they settled on 200 acres of land near Manchester.

Over the next 15 years, the ringing of Crandell's axe was a constant sound, as he cleared some 105 acres of his original purchase, before selling to Alexander and Frederick Graham, of Scotland. In 1832, he purchased another 200 acres, at \$1 per acre, north east of his original homestead in an area which became known as Crandell's Corner before being renamed Borelia.

Once again Crandell set to work clearing the land at his new location and built a home for his

growing family. The original home, which was also used as a hotel, was destroyed by fire in 1843. He built another home, on the north side of Queen St., near the 6th concession, and there he lived with his family until his death.

The village which arose around the immediate settlement of Mr. Crandell's land, near the corner of Queen St. and Old Simcoe Road, for many years bore the name of Crandell's Corners, but around 1870 it was changed to Borelia.

Reuben Crandell, Reach Township's first settler, was 77 years old when he died on October 8, 1874. He was buried in Pine Grove Cemetery, Prince Albert, Ontario. His wife, Catherine, 71, died on August 20, 1870.

Reuben and Catherine Crandell had 12 children in total, seven sons and five daughters, all of whom, with the exception of one daughter, survived him.

#### **Reuben and Catherine Crandell's Children**

Children	Born	Name	Born	Name	Born
Stephen Elmore	April 20, 1820	Caleb	July 14, 1830	Clark M	April 28, 1837
Lucy Ann	Nov. 18, 1822	Reuben Jr	July 27, 1832	John "Byron"	Nov. 6, 1839
Benjamin	May 29, 1825	Janet	1833	Ruth	July 13, 1842
George	. March 5, 1828	Elenore	1834	Mary Adelaide	1843

### Reuben Crandell Jr.

#### Farmer, Laborer

Reuben Crandell, Jr. was born on July 27, 1832, in Port Perry, Ontario, a son for Reuben Sr. and his mother, Catherine. He was one of 12 children in the family.

Reuben Jr. married Thurza Rattenbury, of Devon, England, on August 22, 1857, in Port Perry. Reuben and Thurza had nine children during their marriage.

Reuben was engaged at an early period in shipping on Lake Scugog. Assisted by his son George, he built a crude packet called the Firefly; it was propelled by oars and sails." He ran a hotel from the family home at Borelia for a time and was also listed as a farmer and laborer.

Deceased was clever at writing his experiences in verse and entertained his friend with his poems on many occasion.

Reuben Crandell Jr. died in Port Perry on Saturday, October 7, 1922, at 90 years of age. He had been married 65 years when he died.

As a mark of respect for the decease, the town bell was tolled at the time of his funeral. He was buried at Pine Grove Cemetery, Prince Albert, Ontario.

### **Caleb Crandell**

#### Land Owner

Caleb Crandell was the fourth son of the late Reuben and Catherine (Moore) Crandell, the first white settlers in the township or Reach. He was born on July 14, 1830 in Borelia, one of 10 children the Crandell's raised.

In 1873 he built an impressive two-storey yellow brick home at the corner of Hwy. 7A and Old Simcoe Road, in an area of town originally known as Borelia.

At one time he was the most extensive property holder in the town. Throughout the late 1870s he began to sell-off a large number of valuable building lots in Port Perry. The lots were all part of the original 200 acres purchased by his father, including the piece at the corner of Queen and Lilla St. (Simcoe St.), on which the village constructed a Town Hall in 1873.

While a bachelor for most of his life, at the age of 60 years, he married 30 year-old Sarah Jane Moore of Port Perry, on March 4, 1896 at York, (Toronto) Ontario. The couple had no children. They lived in an impressive two-storey house in Borelia.

Caleb Crandell passed away on January 8, 1907 and was interred at Pine Grove Cemetery, Prince Albert with all the honours of the Oddfellows Lodge. He left behind his widow Sarah Jane, who died on May 5, 1937.



George Crandell

## George Crandell

#### Ship Builder

George Crandell was born in Reach Township in 1828, the second son of Reuben and Catherine Crandell, the first white family to settle in the township.

By the time he was 18 years old, he began showing interest in boats, and in 1845 helped his father build the Firefly, a crude packet which was propelled by oars and sails.

This experience whet his appetite for shipping and when he heard of plans to build a large steamship, the Woodman, at Port Perry, he was hired to help in its construction, and later became a member of its crew when it was launched in 1850.

George married Lovina Bower on March 12, 1854 and they had two boys, Franklin and Fremont. After her death in 1885, George was 60 years old when he married 23 year old Henrietta Hopper, on March 14, 1888 and they raised six children, George Arther, Noral, Kenneth, Olga May, Henrietta Crandella and Alice Agnes.

George and his first wife, Lovina, lived on Simcoe Street, in Borelia for a number of years before moving to Lindsay about 1860. Lindsay had become a more strategic centre for shipping than Port Perry, and he went on to become owner of the largest and busiest fleet of ship in the Central Lakes.

He was 75 years old when he died in Lindsay on January 22, 1904.

### William Decker

Watch & Clock Maker

William Decker, was born in Germany about 1821 and at an unknown age immigrated to Canada.

He set up his first jewellery and watch making shop in Borelia in the 1850s. He described himself as a practical watch maker and jeweller who repaired any style of watch, clock or jewellery. In June 1862 he announced he had moved his business to Prince Albert. Here he set up shop next to Charles Hiscock's bakery.

William Decker was 43 when died at the young age of 43 years, on May 9, 1868 and his business was carried on through 1869 by his wife.

Little is know about William Decker and his wife, or when the jewellery business ceased to operated.

#### Wm. DECKER,

WATCH Maker and Jeweller, one door west of Mackie's Store, Borelia.— A large assortment of Watches and Jewelry kept constantly on hand. All repairs warranted. Wm. DECKER, Wm. DECKER, Note: State of the state of the

care will give satisfaction. Every style of Clocks, Watches, and Jewelry, repared in the best manner and warranted. Prince Albert, June 18, 1862. 27



Samuel T. Cawker

#### **Meat Merchant**

Samuel Thomas Cawker was born in Devonshire, England, in 1843, the son of John and Elizabeth Cawker. He came to Canada with his parents when he was just seven years old, and the family settled in Bowmanville, establishing a butcher business.

He opened a butcher shop in Borelia in 1861 and later moved to Port Perry in 1869 and opened the butcher business, becoming one of the town's first businessmen. During the 1880s he operated his meat stall from the Market Building and would close for part of the year to run a beef cart, with first-class meat, door to door in the town.

Following the fire of 1884, Samuel's son's John and Alymer joined him in business, operating successfully until 1918, when S.T. Cawker retired to his home in Borelia, and the business was sold to Ralph Fitchett of Manchester.

Mr. Cawker was married to Mary Hannah Thorndyke, on March 7, 1866, in Bowmanville, from which eight children were born: Lillia J., Samuel John, Bertha Frances, William Weston, Florence Nora, Alymer Bolton, George Oscar and Chas. Henry.

S.T. Cawker, who was a highly respected citizen, passed away at Port Perry on Thursday, December 15, 1938. He had retained his faculties until the day of his death. His wife, Mary passed away on May 25, 1934 at the age of 84 years. She had lived in Port Perry for 64 years.

Samuel T. Cawker

## John W. Davis

#### **Cabinet Maker**

John W. Davis was born about 1822 in New Jersey, USA. He was about 17 years-old when he married Elizabeth Slanton on April 14, 1839 in West Virginia.

The couple immigrated to Canada about 1846, settling in Reach Township. Here they raised a family of three children, Isaac J., Joshua M. and Albert J. Davis.

John W. Davis came to Port Perry in 1846, when there were not more than 12-14 houses in the settlement. In 1847 he went into partnership with John Nott in Borelia, manufacturing furniture. He moved to Port Perry in 1858, setting up shop at the corner of Queen and Perry Street.

John Davis was a valued member of Fidelity Lodge, No. 428 A., and in 1895 received a Past Master's jewel in recognitions of his services to the organization.

John W. Davis was 76 years old when he died, and one of the town's oldest citizens. He passed away during November 1898. He had been in the furniture and undertaking business for more than 50 years.



## **David Urguhart**

#### **Agricultural Agent**

David Urguhart was one of the premier agricultural implement dealers in Reach Township during the 1860s and 1870s, operating the Agricultural Implement Emporium at Borelia before moving to Port Perry in 1873.

David Urguhart was born about 1832 in Ontario He was in his early 30s when he married. His wife Mary and he had five children together.

When he moved his shop from Borelia, he opened his new shop in Port Perry just west of the corner of Queen and Perry Streets.

The Urguhart family moved from Port Perry in the mid-1880s and settled in Oshawa.

### **James Hilborn**

#### Millwright

James Hilborn was born at Newmarket, Ontario, Canada West on May 22, 1814. He was about 27 years old when he married Elizabeth Shanks on April 29, 1841. During their life together they had five children, Mary, Matilda, Allen, Melissa and James.

The Hilborns moved to Reach Township during the 1850s and James opened a business in Borelia manufacturing pumps. In 1859 he advertised he was selling his improved patent washing machine which he claimed was of vast superiority over common washing machines.

Just how long he remained in business as a millwright in Borlelia is difficult to determine, but he was still a resident of the community as late as 1871. His son Allen joined the business and was listed as a pump maker at Port Perry in February 1879 when his mother, Elizabeth, died.

Little else is known about James Hilborn other than he later moved to the United States, about 1880 after the death of his wife.

He was living in Michgan when he died on May 22, 1893 at the age of 79 years. He was buried at Morton Hill Cemetery, Brenton Harbor, Michigan.

## GORDON'S HISTORIC PANORAMA

OF THE YEAR 1859,

Will be Exhibited in the Mechanics' Hall, Borelia, on Saturday, Nov. 24.

DR. M. H. HAIGHT, Botanic Physician, BORELIA, C.W. 1857

#### IMPORTANT SALE OF REAL ESTATE BY AUCTION

rrillE Property of the Subscriber, situate between and connecting the flourishing villages of Prince Albert, and Boralia, in the Township of Reach, in the wealthy and rapidly improving county of Ontario, will be sold by Auction en

FRIDAY, THE 20TH OF APRIL NEXT.

Sale to commence in Borelia, at 10 o'clock.

TERMS .- One-fifth down, and the balance in four equal annual instalments, with interest each year on all remaining unpaid.

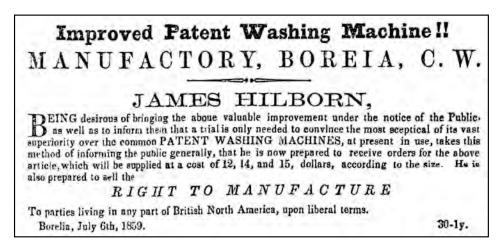
"There is a tide in the affairs of all men, which, if taken at the flood, leads on to fortune."

The tide is up? Come early to the mile. You can have from one quarter of an acre to ten acres-a Lot or a House and Lot.

A. FAREWELL.

298-td Harmony, March 9, 1855.

Weekly Leader, Colonist, Reform Banner, Kingston News, Montreal Herald and Quebea Gazette, to insert till day of sale, and send accounts to Globe office.



## James M. Swan

#### Blacksmith

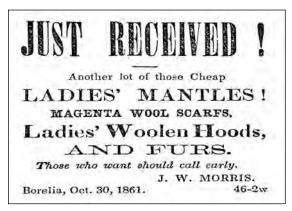
James Morrison Swan was a native of North England, having been born south of the River Tweed at Lyne 1819, of highly respectable and influential parentage. He together with his wife Hannah (Embleton) and two daughters came to Canada in 1851, first settling in Peterborough, where they remained for a short time.

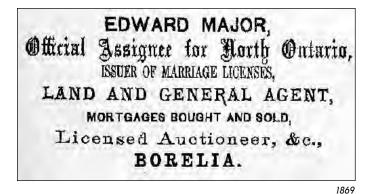
The family moved the Port Perry area about 1860 and Mr. Swan was hired to work in the Crandell Foundry in Borelia. By 1869 he had opened his own blacksmith shop on the north side of Queen Street in Borelia, where he carried on business successfully, and lived for many years.

Being an expert at his business and industrious, he soon gained an enviable reputation and commanded a very large patronage. Being possessed of robust health and grand constitution, he frequently worked both night and day in order to fill orders. At that time, horse-shoe nails had to be made by blacksmiths using them, and their manufacture was a slow process.

Mr. Swan's reputation as a horseshoer was so great that the making of these necessary nails required almost incessant night work. Being frugal he slowly but surely acquired the necessary capital and extended business moving into Port Perry in 1878 and taking in his sons as partners.

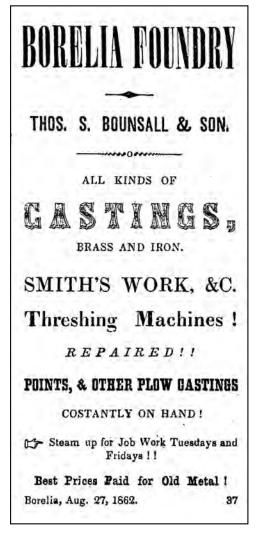
James Swan, 88, passed away on Monday, November 18, 1907 in his 89th year. He leaves behind three sons, John, Nicholas and James, and one daughter, Mary, all of whom reside in town.

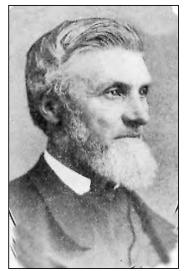






James Swan, Jr., was operating Swan's Carriage Factory when this advertisement was placed in 1890.





John Nott

## John Nott

#### Furniture Manufacturer, Undertaker

John Nott was born at Cornwall, England on July 1, 1825 and came to Canada in 1842. He settled in Prince Albert, but later went to school and learned the trade of cabinet making in Oshawa.

He was married to Jane Lawrence on Christmas day, December 25, 1850 in her hometown of Markham, Ontario. They had seven children during the life together.

In 1848 he started business in the village of Borelia, where he carried on his Cabinet Making and Undertaking business, along with John. W. Davis. His home was located beside his warehouse and shops just west of Simcoe Street. He lived at this location for his entire life.

With the arrival of the railway in Port Perry in 1871, he moved into town and opened his business at the corner of Queen and Perry St. where he continued to ply his trade in the furniture and undertaking business for more than 63 years. He retired from business in August 1910.



John Nott on the front porch of his home on Queen Street.



"Squire" Nott as he was known served as Justice of the Peace during the time of the Scott Act. In his capacity as furniture dealer and undertaker, too he was much in the public eye.

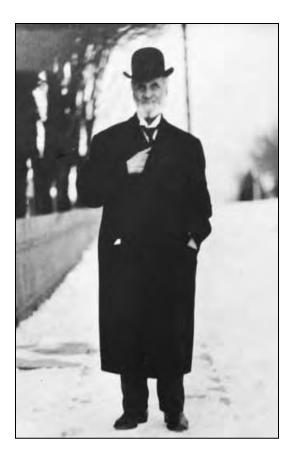
As long as he was able, he loved to attend services of the Methodist church, trampling down twice a day from his home at Borelia. He was as regular as clockwork in his attendance and when finally he failed to appear, his friends knew that he was prevented by illness.

Mr. Nott held many important positions in the County. For years he was a tax collector for Reach Township, then was appointed to the first census for Port Perry. He served on the School Board and on Port Perry Council for many years. In 1875 Mr. Nott was appointed a Justice of the Peace, a position he held for 31 years.

John Also took a keen interest in everything agricultural, and was a member of the Agricultural Society for men years.

Mr. Nott was active and alert until he passed away on March 10, 1917 at the age of 92 years. He was interred at Pine Grove Cemetery, Prince Albert. His wife, Jane Lawrence predeceased him on June 28, 1908.

He was survived by two sons, William and Albert and his daughter, Ida Nott, who had cared for her father since his wife, Jane died in June 1908.





John Nott is pictured, left, standing on the sidewalk in front of his Queen Street home, located in Borelia. The house, is still standing today, although the fancy gingerbread no longer graces this historic old home.





# **MURDER** in Borelia

On Friday November 16, 1855 a murder trial took place in Whitby that put Borelia on the front pages of the newspapers across the province. It featured in the *Toronto Globe* newspaper of November 26, 1855 (the predecessor of the *Globe and Mail*). It was headlined "SINGULAR MURDER TRIAL".

Reuben Crandell and two of his sons, Stephen Elmore and Benjamin lived in their Borelia home, which also served as a tavern, on the north side of Queen Street, three lots immediately east of the present day Beer Store. The three Crandells were accused of murdering Stephen Smith, a pedlar.

There were two factors that made this trial bizarre, (1) there was no corpse, (2) the alleged murder had taken place 14 years earlier.

The case for the Crown was based largely on the allegations of John Buck, a farmer who lived on the third concession Reach Township.

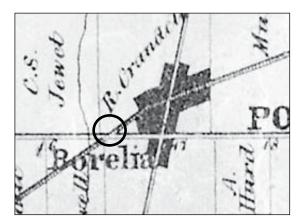
Buck maintained that in October 1841 he had been sitting in a corner of the Crandell's unlit bar room when Reuben, Stephen and Benjamin entered with Smith and stabbed and killed him. Buck claimed that he remained unnoticed as they pushed Smith's body through a trap door in the floor. He said that they later returned to take the corpse to an old building that they then burned.

In the defense of the Crandells several Prince Albert personalities including George Curry and Abner Hurd gave character references for the Crandells.

For the Crown, Mary Dayton wife of Daniel Dayton, Prince Albert pioneer, claimed that she had seen Stephen Crandell wearing Smith's coat and hat shortly after the alleged murder had taken place.

When the Judge asked John Buck asked why this crime has not been reported earlier Buck stated, "I belonged to an association at that time that we were bound together by an oath. Old Mr. Crandell, Stephen and Benjamin were also members and they were present when I was sworn. I was to keep their secrets."





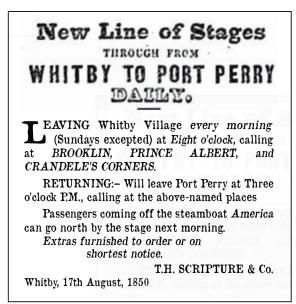
Circled area shows location of Crandell's Tavern.

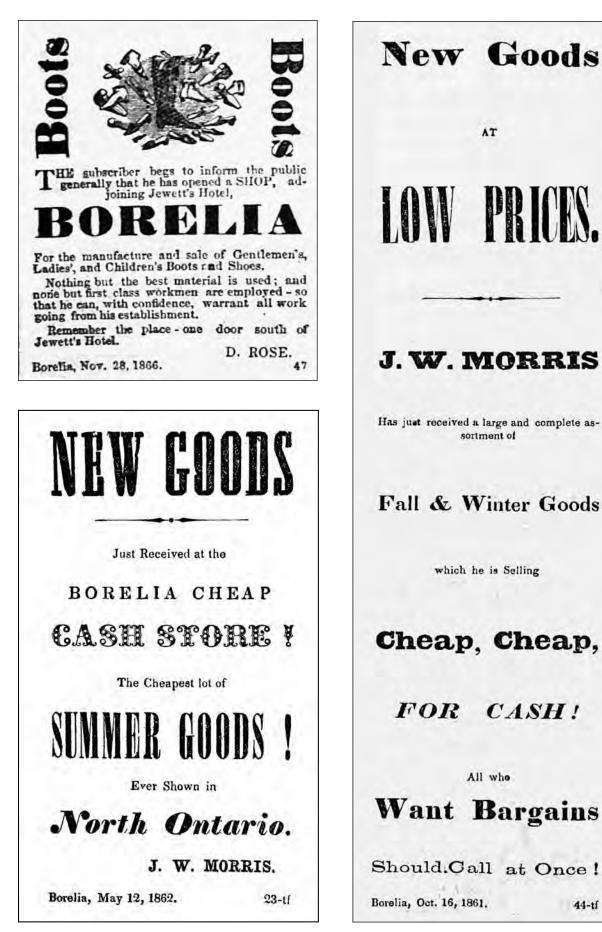
The "association" that Buck referred to was the notorious Markham Gang, a group of thugs and hoodlums that roamed the province in the 1840s, stealing and breaking and entering. The gang members were associated with two murders, but their major crime was an highly organized horse stealing enterprise that stretched from Michigan to Vermont.

In 1845 more than 40 members of the game were rounded up and jailed. Many gang members, including four members of the Crandell family were found guilty. They all served time in Kingston penitentiary for their crimes.

In the case of Steven Smith's alleged murder, since no corpse was found the jury quickly reached a verdict of "not guilty" and the Crandells returned to their homes in Borelia.

Files from Mayhen & Murer by Paul Arculus







In 1867 a newspaper report said that his patent swing pump was rapidly taking over sales from ever other pump in existence. Two years later, in March 1869, James Bowman sold his business to John Irvine. In 1878 Mr. Irvine moved his pump factory into a new building in Port Perry.

## **Isreal Post**

#### Baker, Grocer

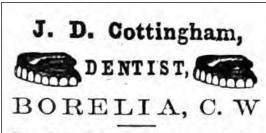
Isreal Post seems to have been one of those men who dabbled in numerous jobs throughout his lifetime.

Isreal and his wife Elizabeth Ann (Orser), and family, settled in Borelia sometime in the 1860s. In February 1868 he opened a business in the village selling groceries, confectionaries and fruits. He continued in this business until at least 1871 when he was listed as a baker in Borelia.

Ten years later, in 1881 the Post family was still living in Reach, although he appears to have left the retail business and taken up farming.

Next the family moved to Wiarton, Ontario where he once again began working as a grocer and confectioner, but by 1891 he had started a new career as a printer/compositor, presumably with the Wiarton Echo newspaper. He continued in this trade until his death in Hepworth, Ontario on July 31, 1920.





By a New Process, Teeth can be Extracted without pain, at his office.

J. D. C. is prepared to execute all operations connected with his profession with neatness and dispatch. Call and examine his specimens.

Single Feeth inserted-parts of sets, or whole sets-Cheap, and warranted.

**UNDERSTAND**—Attention to the Teeth preserves the health. Without teeth in good order it is impossible to masticate food for the body, and consequently there cannot be good health.

If you have decayed teeth, get them filled.

If you have any out get them replaced by new ones. Prices low, and all work warranted.

If the work is not satisfactorily done, the money will be refunded.

Office hours from 8 a. m. to 5 p. m. Borelia, Jan. 15, 1867. 2-1y



## John D. Cottingham

#### **Dental Surgeon**

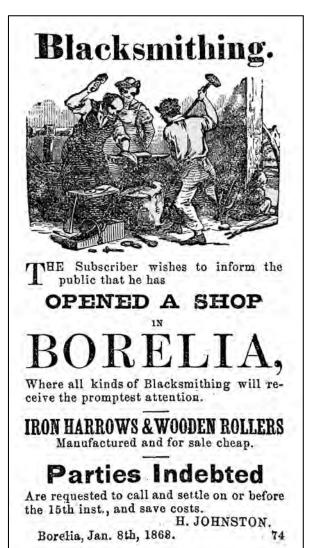
John Daniel Cottingham was born in England about 1829 and emmigrated to Canada about 1850. By 1860 he had graduated as a dentist and was practicing his trade in Toronto.

While living in Toronto he married married a young woman named Jeanette Murray, and over the next ten years they had five children; Joana, Martha, Susan, Rebecca and John.

The family moved to Reach Township during the early 1860s, settling in Borelia. Here he opened a practice as a surgeon dentist and druggist. He practiced dentistry in the community until about 1890 when he retired.

Throughout his career in Borelia and Port Perry, Dr. Cottingham appears not to have got involved with many social or political issues in the community.

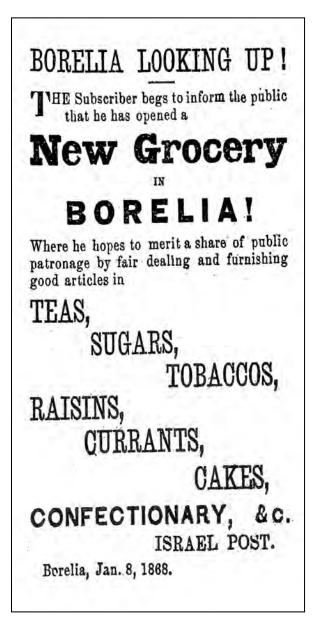
At the time of his death in Port Perry, on December 20, 1889, he had been pre-deceased by his wife Jeanette.



### Money to Let.

THE Subscriber offers for sale a pleasantly situated residence, in the village of Borelia. Attached to it is about three-fourths of an acre of land under a good state of cultivation, with some choice fruit trees. The house is nearly new,  $24 \times 36$ . It has a commanding view of Lake Scugog, Port Perry, Prince Albert, and Borelia. The whole is offered at the extraordinary low figure of \$600. Title indisputable.— For further particulars apply to the subscriber on the premises.

JAMES A. RICHMOND. Borelia, June 15, 1858. 28-3m.



## **Chancery Sale**

IN CHANCERY BETWEEN John Washington, plaintiff and

Benjamin Franklin Newall, Defandant

In pursuance of the Decree and Final Order for Sale made in this case, hearing date respectively the twenty third day of September, A.D 1862, and the sixth day of May, A.D 1854,

there will be sold by

### PUBLIC AUCTION

In one Lot by Geo. Henry Drartnell, Esquire the Master of the Court of Chancery at Whitby, at his Chambers in the

TOWN OF WHITBY

At Twelve o'clock on

Monday, the Sixth day of June next

The following property, via:- All and singular that certain parcel of land, located in the Township of Reach, in the County of Ontario, and Province of Canada, being part of Lot number Seventeen, in the Sixth concession of the said

#### TOWNSHIP OF REACH

Being that point of land formed by the intersection of the Easterly limit of the Windsor and Scugog Road, with the Westerly limit of Simcoe Street, and is known as Lot number Six, as marked on the plan of Village Lots laid out on said lot by John Shier, Esquire, PL.S.

The above lot is well situated in the

### VILLAGE OF BORELIA

And there are erected upon it, a good Store,

### **Frame Tavern**

Known as Jewett's Hotel, with superior Stables and out buildings, at present occupied by Mr. James Jewett.

The purchaser of the above property shall not be entitled to insist upon the production of the title deeds, or to proof of their contents, other than afforded by Registry Office of the County of Ontario, except the Mortgages and Assignments thereof of the plaintiff, which may be inspected a the office of the Vendor's Solicitor.

The above property will be offered for sale at an upset price, or sum of Two Thousand Dollars.

Further particulars and conditions of sale, may be had at the office of theVendor's Solicitor, in the Village of Oshawa.

Dated this 20th day of May, A.D 1864

LYMAN ENGLISH	GEO. H. DARTNELL,
Vender's Solicitor	Master at Whitby.

## Fires Always A Threat

## Chimney fire could have destroyed buildings

What might have been a destructive fire startled the inhabitants of that portion of Port Perry called Borelia on Saturday last.

When the gale was at its fiercest one of the chimney's on the residence of John Nott, Esq., caught fire and burned so fiercely that the flame burst through the brickwork and set fire to the wooden surroundings, and it not been for the active exertions of the neighbors the building certainly would have been destroyed, and had that building been destroyed there was no means of saving the neighboring buildings which must have fallen prey to the flames.

From the direction of the wind Mr. Jewett's fine block of buildings must have all gone. We are glad to learn that the damage done to Mr. Nott's property is not great.

March 23, 1876 North Ontario Observer

## Fire destroys Sheehey's large hotel in Borelia

Late Borelia, now the western suburb of Port Perry, is somewhat notorious of late, not only for the frequency of its conflagrations but for the vast amount of damage done, now it is a private residence, next it is hotel and so on with too much regularity and frequency.

The town fathers at a late session of the council decreed that the smaller of the two fire engines with which the corporation is supplied should be located in the western, suburbs but from present appearances the large one too will have to be located In that quarter at least to the close of the burning season.

About midnight of the 31st inst, fire was discovered in that large hotel on the corner a Queen and Simcoe Streets. The alarm was given and quick as directly the small engine

## **Dangerous bridge**

Newspaper editor Henry Parsons warns his readers of the dangers of the bridge in Borelia, near the \*Sheehey property, saying:

"We find that the north-east corner of the bridge over the old mill creek immediately west of Borelia has not yet got any guard, so that the limbs and lives of the passers, either by day or night, are in peril, while a couple of dollars might make the thing safe.

If Parties having to travel that way don't at once insure against accident they are not doing justice to their families.

The little that would be left of anyone after falling perpendicularly some twenty feet amongst the rocks would be scarcely worth picking up." June 23, 1880

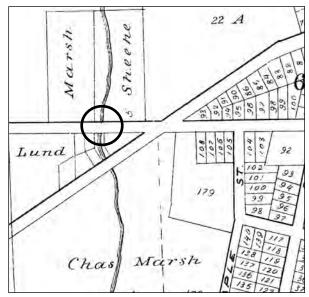
North Ontario Observer

\* There are a number of spellings for Sheehey in different documents, some of them are as follows: Sheehey, Sheehe, Sheehe. was hopping round the blazing walls and in process of time the large engine crept to the spot and watered the flames but all to no purpose. 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<sup>\*</sup> and had been lately undergoing a thorough overhaul. It was uninhabited and we may add uninhabitable, but the renovating hand of the proprietor was making itself visible in the new doors, windows, &c. We are not aware what Mr. Sheehey meant do with the building.

That the fire was the work of incendiary can scarcely be doubted, but the trouble is to find the guilty party, but if they can be found Mr. Sheehey will put them through. We have no ides of the amount of loss and should suppose there was no insurance.

September 2, 1880 Ontario Observer



Circled area shows where bridge work was required.

# **BORELIA:** bits 'n pieces

Much of the history of Borelia is unknown, due to lack of reports about the village, but there were some small articles found in local newspapers about this small hamlet, perched at the top of Queen Street, near the west-end of Port Perry. Following are some brief news items:

**THE VILLAGE** which arose around the immediate settlement of Mr. Crandell's land, near the corner of Queen St. and Old Simcoe Road, for many years bore the name of Crandell's Corners, but around 1870, his family had it changed to Borelia. A name that stuck with the settlement long after it was absorbed by the newly incorporated village of Port Perry.

**THE FIRST** saw mill in the township was built by Squire Heard just west of Borelia, in 1831. It served a most useful purpose to the settlers, but was blown down in the storm of 1852.

**REUBEN CRANDELL** built a few frame houses at Prince Albert and Borelia in 1836

**FIRST SCHOOL** was built between Borelia and Port Perry, in 1847.

**REACH REEVE** George Currie chaired a meeting of Reformers at the Jewett's Hotel, Borelia in December 1857 to pick a candidate to attend the Reform Convention to be held in Brock.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL** - Port Perry and Borelia Union Sunday School held their annual social in the Methodist Episcopal Church, Borelia in November 1868.

MEETING OF REFORMERS .- A meeting convened by public notice was held at Jewett's Hotel, Borelia, on Monday evening, the 30th ult., for the purpose of appointing delegates to a Convention to be held on the 7th inst., to nominate a Can didate to contest the County at the approaching election on Reform principles. Mr. G. Currie, [Reeve of the Township of Reach.] was called to the chair ; Mr T. C. Forman officiating as secretary -The following gentlemen were chosen as delegates : Messrs. A. Hurd, R. Lund, T. Paxton, and A. W. Ewers. The following candidates were also put in nomination, to be brought before the Convention: Messrs. A. Farewell, Oshawa; J. Gould, Esq., M.P.P., Uxbridge; W. Powson, Manchester.

A RAILROAD MEETING was held at Neil Sinclair's Hotel, Borelia, in December 1858 with one of the largest attendances ever. Abner Hurd was elected chairman and Mr. R.H. Tomlinson, secretary. The proposed line would be laid down between the Manvers Station, through Prince Albert and Uxbridge to Marchell's Corner on the Northern Railroad.

A DESTRUCTIVE FIRE at the home of John Nott, Esq., Borelia, was contained before it could spread to Mr. Jewett's fine block of buildings. (March 1876)

A LARGE HOTEL at the corner of Simcoe and Queen St., Borelia, which was undergoing a thorough overhaul, was destroyed by fire in September 1880. Nobody was in the building, owned by Mr. C. Sheehey, at the time of the fire. *(September 2, 1880)* 

**THREE HOTELS** at Borelia – Jewett's being the oldest. Then there was one run by Reuben Crandell from the family home, and Sheehey's Hotel, run by Christopher Sheehey.

**COMMERCIAL HOTEL** was being operated at Borelia by A.J. Harrington in 1869.

**NEIL SINCLAIR** owned and operated Sinclair's Hotel in Borelia as early as 1858 (see notice below).

#### MEETING AT BORELIA.

A numerously attended meeting was held at Sinclair's Hotel, Borelia, ou Saturday evening last, for the purpose of selecting candidates to be nominated to serve in the Township Council for the ensuing year. Mr. J. W. Alison was called to the Chair, Mr. Jos. Bigelow acting as Secretary. Persons were proposed as candidates, whose names appear in our report of the proceedings at the Municipal Election; it is, therefore, unnecessary to recapitulate them here. Votes of thanks to the Chairman, the Secretary, and the Editor of the Ontario Observer closed the proceedings.

December 1857

January 1, 1858

## **Borelia Business District**

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The Ontario Registry Office archies property records for Ontario, but unfortunately, many documents are in unreadable condition, limiting research of properties. This, along with properties being owned by persons other than the business owners, makes it difficult to determine the exact location of many of the Borelia businesses. Below are a few locations of shop owners, that were identified, between 1854 and 1868.

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LOT 5 & 6 LOT 8 LOT 9 & 78 LOT 10 LOT 11 LOT 14 LOT 16	- - - -	JOEL W. WHITE, General Store JAMES SWAN - carriage maker JAMES W. ALLISON, Drug store
LOT 16	-	
LOT 20 LOT 23	-	EDWARD MAJOR - Official Assignee COMMERCIAL HOTEL



## Reach Township Postmasters

#### Prince Albert, Borelia & Manchester

The first post office to open in Reach Township took place in Prince Albert during 1840, with local general store owner, James Leach, becoming the township's first postmaster.

This post office became the distribution centre for all mail going north to the settlements in the townships of Reach, Brock and Victoria County. The first man to deliver mail to Prince Albert was William Thomas, who brought the mail on horseback once a week from Oshawa to Prince Albert.

Reach Township had only one post office until 1851, which received mail twice a week. Throughout 1852 post offices were opened in Port Perry, Manchester, Epsom, and Prince Albert began to receive mail daily. Other men who served as postmaster in Prince Albert are:

Abnur Hurd	1857-1858	Philander Hurd	1877-1887
Matthew G. Robson	1858-1866	Charles Fallis	1887-1905
Hugh McCaw	1866-1875	James G. Holman	1905-1920
Abnur Hurd	1876-1877		

A short distance north of Prince Albert on Simcoe St. (Old Simcoe Rd.) in the settlement of Borelia, there were three postmasters between 1863 and 1871.

The first post offices was established in 1862 with Joel W. Morris postmaster from 1863-1865. Next was A. T. Corson who took over on January 2, 1866 and resigned on September 1, 1868.

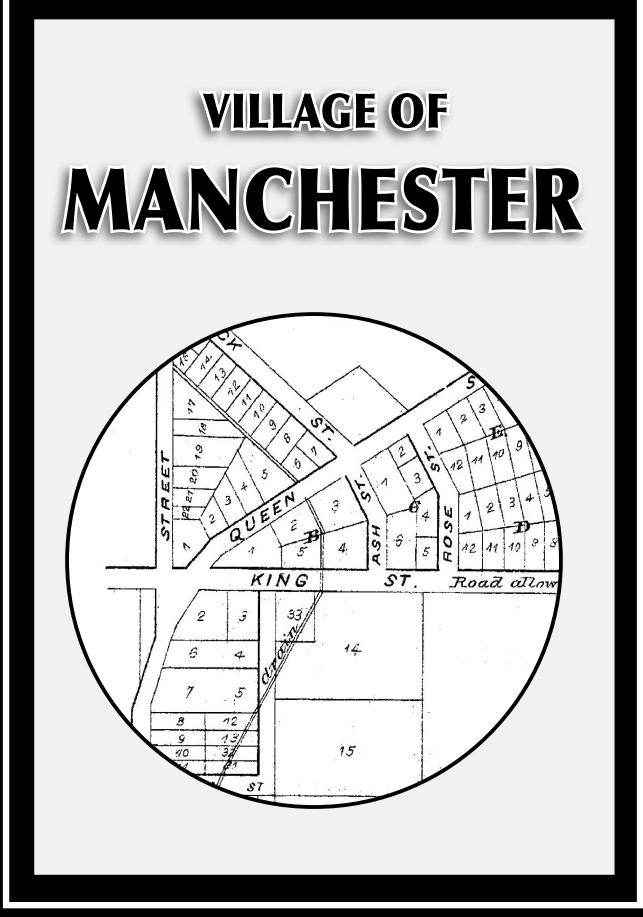
The final postmaster to handle mail for Borelia was James Jewett, who served from July 1, 1868 to December 8, 1871. Following the incorporation of the village of Port Perry in 1871, the post office in Borelia was closed and mail delivery for the village was distributed through the Port Perry post office.

Moving west from Borelia, to Manchester, the first man to serve as postmaster for this small village was William Powsen<sup>\*</sup>, who became postmaster in 1852 and served until 1858. Others who followed Mr. Powsen include the following:

William	Powson,
NOTARY Commissioner of the	PUBLIC, Court of Queen's Bench, Dagurchteman,
ISSUER OF MARR	AGE LICENSIS
MANCHESTER C. W.	ourt House, Village of Township of REACH, 241

Elizabeth Powsen*	1858-1860
James Traux	1860-1863
Abel W. Ewers	1864-1866
Adam Gordon	1866-1871
John Taylor	1872-1875
S.H. Christian	1875-1877
Philip Robicheau	1878-1885
William C. Heard	1886-1891
D.F. Hagerman	1891-1908

\*Note: Name spelled either Powson, or Powsen



# MANCHESTER

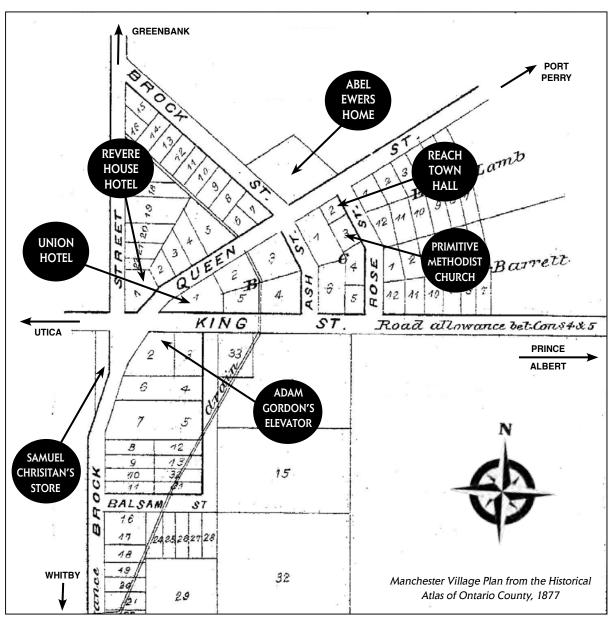
#### Ontario Observer, October 16, 1866

The chief commercial artery of North Ontario is the Centre Road which forms the main channel for the conveyance of the immense productions of a very large extent of good land as ever saw cultivated.

This road passes through country, rapidly improving in everything which goes to constitute a truly prosperous and happy community. While the village of Manchester is the natural reservoir into which those vast quantities of our valuable products principally flow.

And the importance of this position is producing its legitimate fruits on that village. Already there are three first class stores doing an excellent business, two hotels, two carriage factories, several blacksmith's forges, two boot and shoe factories, one or two tailoring establishments, a tinware factory and stove shop, and a grocery, with a Town Hall and a very neat church, lately erected by the Primitive Methodists.

The large amount of business done, and the vast quantities of grain purchased in this village, is quite astonishing. We observe two or three new buildings now in the course of erection there.



## A Brief History of Manchester

The hamlet of Manchester was originally named Fitchett's Corners, named after Dennis Fitchett, but some of the locals referred to it as Ewers Corners after an early settler named Abel Ewers who owned considerable property in the area.

A public meeting was held at Fitchett's Hotel on January 6, 1849. The meeting was chaired by Archibald McDermit, with James Graham as secretary. Robert Munro put forward a motion, seconded by Thomas Boys, that the community known as Ewers Corners should be called Manchester. The motion was passed unanimously.

Prince Albert had established itself as one of the major grain centres in Canada West by 1850. Shortly afterwards Manchester grain merchants began to benefit from the traffic. Originally, grain from Thorah, Rama, Fenelon and Mara was sold to merchants in Uxbridge and Newmarket and other communities to the west. By 1840 Peter Perry had established an excellent harbour at Windsor (now Whitby) and began to draw the trade directly south to his harbour for shipping.

By taking their grain to dealers at Manchester or Prince Albert, farmers eliminated the need to spend another day or more travelling south to Whitby or west to Uxbridge or Newmarket and back.

Grain buyers at Manchester built huge barns in which to store their grain before shipping it south to Whitby or Toronto. The principal grain buyers of Manchester were Adam Gordon, Samuel Christian, Mark Currie, J.H. Brown and Robert Perry.

Fitchetts Hotel and Plank's Hotel quickly became extremely busy. Blacksmiths, wagon and carriage makers, harness makers soon became lucrative businesses helping the community to grow. They were quickly followed by general merchants.

One such merchant was Charles Hiscocks, a baker and confectioner. He built his first bakery and shop

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at Manchester and later, expanded to build a store in Prince Albert. A tailor, Henry Morden opened for business in 1866 and was immediately faced with competition from another tailor, James Squire.

A post office was opened in the Manchester in 1852ß. The following year, 1855, the Town Hall was built and was quickly put into use as the administration centre and courthouse for the whole of Reach Township.

A local school was built in the community in 1860 and, the Manchester Primitive Methodist was built close to the Town Hall in 1866.

Shortly afterwards, this growth and success came to a crashing halt as plans for the railway gained momentum. As the railway construction progressed, merchants from Manchester joined their counterparts from Prince Albert in closing their doors and relocating in Port Perry.

Most of the merchants in Prince Albert and Manchester were involved, either directly or indirectly with grain: buying, storing, selling, and shipping the grain to Whitby and beyond. When the railway promoters began their campaign, they were opposed by most ratepayers of Prince Albert and Manchester who saw the railway as a threat to their livelihood.

In retaliation the planners and promoters of the line did their best to bypass Manchester and Prince Albert. However, the nature of the terrain compelled the builders to construct the line within a mile or so of the two communities.

The directors of the railway resorted to another form of retaliation. After the train had been operating for over a year, no platforms, no sidings or facilities for loading or unloading freight had been built at either Manchester or Prince Albert station. As a result, trains were not stopping between High Point and Port Perry.

It took almost three years before the situation was remedied and by then, Prince Albert and Manchester had ceased to play a major role in the grain and cattle markets.

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## **Dennis Fitchett**

#### **Pioneer Settler of Manchester**

Duncan Dennis Fitchett was born in December 1793 in Huntingdon, Quebec. He was 26 year old when he married Rosetta Barber on January 30, 1820, in Dunham, Quebec.

Dennis, his wife and children left their home in Quebec, travelling to Ontario in 1837. Here he received a land grant for about 200 acres in Reach Township, where he settled and built a home on Lot 14, Concession 5, and began farming the land.

In the late 1840s, as the area began to attract more settlers and businesses, Mr. Fitchett opened a tavern near the corner of Brock and Kings Streets, (Hwy. 12&7A), prompting the settlement to become known as Fitchett's Corner. By 1849 the village officially changed its name to Manchester.

The name "Manchester" appears to have been derived from the Township of Godmanchester, located near the town in which Dennis Fitchett was born. The Quebec township was named after the town of Godmanchester, England.

It appears as if Reach Township officials simply shortened the name "Godmanchester to "Manchester" to identify the growing village in Ontario County.

Although there are few details about Dennis, records show he continued to live on his farm until his death on October 29, 1873. He was interred at Pine Grove Cemetery, Prince Albert.

## Reach Twp. Town Hall



Manchester Town Hall 1979

The Town Hall in Manchester became the meeting place for all of Reach Township during the early years of township development. The property was sold to the municipality by Abel Ewers and in 1854 the town hall was built at a cost of \$1,200. The building served the residents of the community for more than a century before being closed.

An article written by Rev. R. Monteith in 1859 wrote this about the Manchester Town Hall. "It was not designed to be used as a Court House, though courts are regularly held in it now; like all other buildings of the same kind, it was raised for the general business of the township, for holding meetings of the taxpayers, for conducting matters of election, for enabling the Council to deliberate and pass laws, etc."

The town hall was a busy facility and a place frequently filled by the public for discussions topics such as the temperance movement and festivals, the pending Port Whitby to Port Perry Railway, nomination and elections and agricultural meetings.

But as with all buildings, as the years past and about 10 years after being constructed, the corporation was criticized for the lack of care of the hall. The local newspaper reported, "The awkward figure the Town Hall cuts is certainly no credit to the Village of Manchester. It is a disgrace to a wealthy corporation such as Reach Twp. to own such a place, and dignify it by the sounding title of Town Hall." Within weeks, the hall

was given a fresh coat of paint.

The Manchester town hall was used throughout the remainder of the 1800s and until 1973 when the municipalities of Port Perry, Reach, Scugog and Cartwright Township amalgamated, becoming the new community of the Township of Scugog.

The hall was then rented out to a variety of individuals and groups, until becoming the meeting place for the Lions Club of Port Perry. The club operated from this facility until 2001. Three years later the hall was purchased by Richelle VanDyke who renovated and refurbished the 150 year old structure and opened Island Dance Studio in the spacious hall.



Manchester Town Hall 1999

## **Primitive Methodist Church**

The newly constructed Primitive Methodist Church, in the village of Manchester, was formally dedicated to the service of God on October 28, 1866.

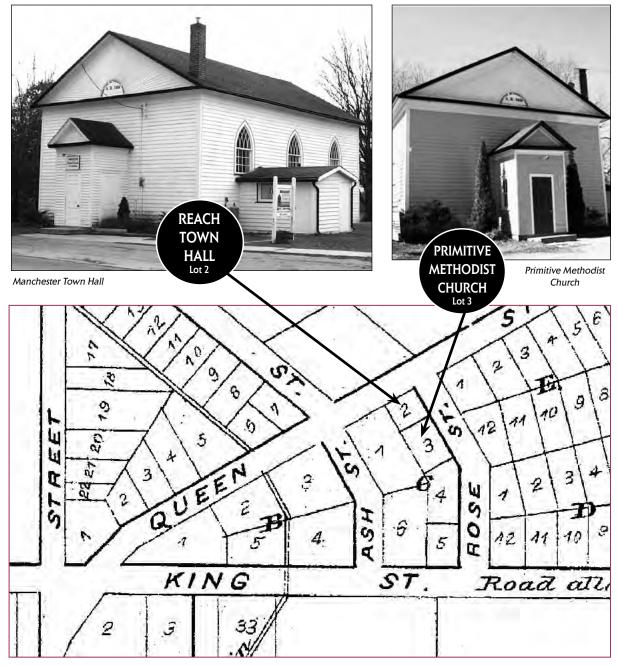
The church, which accommodates about 200 people, is  $34' \times 45'$  in size and cost about \$800 to build. It was reported to have a "neat comfortable chapel."

Unfortunately the poor weather the day of the dedication and the first of three services was not

largely attended. But an afternoon service was much larger than expected and seats had to be placed in the aisles to accommodate those who could not get into the pews.

A third service was held in the evening with another large attendance. Following the services, a tea was held in the adjacent Town Hall.

Three years later, in January 1870, the congregation tendered for the construction of a parsonage west of the village of Manchester.



This plan for the Village of Manchester shows where the Town Hall and Primitive Methodist Church were loacated.



St. Agnes Anglican Church, Greenbank 1868



Methodist Greenbank - 1896



Methodist Church, Seagrave 1907



Breadalbane Church, Utica 1849

# Places of Worship

The first religious services were held in the homes of pioneers. An itinerant preacher would visit the various settlements in the Township and hold services in the homes of settlers.

The first known visiting preachers in Reach Township were the Methodists. There are records of them visiting Dayton's Corners as early as the mid 1820s.

In 1840 Dayton's Corners changed its name to Prince Albert in honour of Queen Victoria's husband, Prince Albert.

Construction of the first church built here was by the Methodists in 1851. The site of this church is not known although it was most probably on the site of the present United Church grounds. The church was dedicated on February 8, 1852.

In 1859, the Methodists celebrated their 30th anniversary of Sabbath School, or Sunday School as it was later called. This would indicate that the Sabbath Schools began in 1829, almost two centuries ago, and would be the oldest institution here in Scugog.

By the early 1840s Dayton's Corners (Prince Albert) was part of the Whitby circuit for the Methodists.

The Methodists had over 200 regular members in attendance by 1860 and they decided to build a much larger church. The congregation bought land in 1865 and work began on the new church.

At this time Prince Albert was the second largest grain handling centre in Canada with hotels at each of the four corners, all kinds of stores and a twice daily stage coach to Oshawa.

The Methodists held a variety of fund raising events and the new brick church was built at a cost of \$3,627. It was opened on Sunday September 30, 1866.

The Methodists were an extremely active group, building their first church in Seagrave in 1875. This was on River Street across the road from the present United Church. The congregation grew and created a demand for a much larger church. In 1907 they built the present church.

Greenbank was a deeply religious community once boasting four churches - Anglican, Methodist, Baptist and Presbyterian. The Anglican Church of St Agnes was built in 1868. It's congregation was unable to support the church, so it was closed in 1920 and its bell tower moved to Port Perry Anglican Church.

The former church building is now the community hall, located just south of the present United Church on Highway 12 in Greenbank.

The Methodists in Greenbank remained strong and

numerous, dedicating the Primitive Methodist Church on January 27, 1867. This was followed by the opening a new imposing red brick church in 1896.

The Presbyterians had an early start in old Reach Township. The first congregation was established in Utica in 1949, spearheaded by John Christie. It wasn't until July 1872 that a Wesleyan Methodist Church was built in the village.

A Presbyterian congregation was established in Prince Albert in 1855 and officially recognized the following year. The Presbyterians built a church there in 1859.

Presbyterians established its first congregation in Epsom as early as 1866, and by 1884 there were three Methodists churches in the village.

A new Greenbank Presbyterian Church held its Dedication Day in November with many hundreds of people assembled.

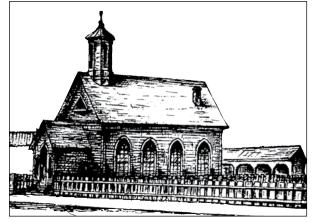
Anglicans in Prince Albert used the Presbyterian Church as their place of worship until they built their own church in Port Perry in 1866. The first service in the Anglican Church of the Ascension in was held on February 16, 1869.

In 1883 a number of denominations including the Wesleyan Methodists, Methodist Episcopal, Primitive Methodists, Bible Christian Methodists and the Canada West New Connexion Church, joined together to form the Methodists Church of Canada. In 1925 the Methodist Church became part of the United Church of Canada.

The migration of Prince Albert merchants to Port Perry with the coming of the railway, was joined by the Presbyterians. They closed their early church and built a new one, the present church, in Port Perry in 1870.

It is pleasant to notice that so many of our early churches are still thriving here in Scugog. These buildings add dignity and grace to our landscape.

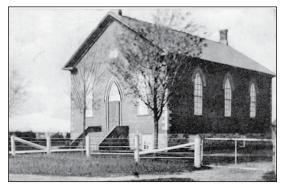
It is hoped that they will continue to do so for years to come, reminding us of the toil, dedication and faith of our pioneering predecessors.



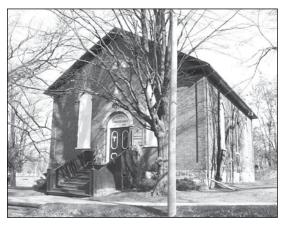
Presbyterian Church, Prince Albert 1861



Primitive Methodist Church, Manchester 1866



Methodist Church, Utica 1872



Methodist Church, Prince Albert 1866



Methodist Church, Epsom 1898



Plan No. H-50023, of the Village of Manchester in the Township of Reach. The plan was drawn by land surveyor W.E. Yarnold and filed at Prince Albert in January 1860.

**Business Leaders** of Borelia



Adam Gordon

Grain and Mercantile Merchant

Adam Gordon was born in Scotland on September 16, 1831 and emigrated to Canada with his parents. In 1856 he married Christina Bogne and they moved to Reach Township in the 1860s. He was an active businessman, largely engaged in the grain trade, as owner of the Manchester Warehouse.

Manchester had become the natural grain centre of North Ontario and the most convenient spot for grain growing farmers in the county to bring their produce.

Unable to fully accommodate the growing need for grain storage, in 1868 he constructed an extensive addition to his already large storage facility, with a 40'x60' addition.

Two years later he again expanded, building a large two-storey building, 34'x48' of Gothic style with 18 foot posts, in the centre of the village Manchester. The structure provided everything necessary for a first class general store which he operated until selling it in 1874.

Adam Gordon

Mr. Gordon also filled many municipal offices, first being elected as Reach Township councillor in 1866, later he served as deputy reeve, and as Reeve of Reach Township in 1871 and 1872.

In 1874 he successfully contested the seat for North Ontario in the general election. The news of the unexpected death of Adam Gordon, while still sitting as a member of the Dominion Parliament, was received with public shock. Mr. Gordon, who was only 45 years of age, passed away at his Port Perry residence on May 27, 1876 after a brief illness.

## MANCHESTER WAREHOUSE.

THE Subscriber requests the attention of L the public to the arrival of a large lot of Ladies' and Gents'

BOOTS & SHOES!

Which having been bought at a considerable reduction from former prices, and now offered

#### AT A GREAT REDUCTION

on former prices. In addition, a large lot of prime

#### BUFFALO ROBES !!!

Ladies Furs, in Muffs, Boas, Victorines, Cuffs of latest styles, also Gent's Caps and Hats in great variety. A fine lot of Ladies' Clouds in new colors and patterns from 2s. cach.

Present price of Butter 9d per lb. Eggs 71 per Doz. Pork \$4.50c. to \$5.25c. per 100 lbs. Wheat, Oats, Peas and Barley wanted in large quantities.

ADAM GORDON. Manchester, Dec. 5, 1867. 17

## PORK WANTED GORDON' MANC HETER.

THE Subscriber desires to purchase any quantity of good Fat Hogs, for which he will pay the highest price.

#### -0200-

Goods Greatly Reduced in Price !

Aberdeen Winceys from 8 cents per yard .---Beautiful Prints ranging from 10 to 15 cents per yard. A splendid line of Factory Cottons, yard wide, at 10 cents per yard. Red Flannels, of beautiful soft finish, from 25 cents per yard.— Also

#### A Special Bargain in Buffalo Robes. Call and see them.

Wheat, Barley, Oats, and Peas, wanted in any quantity.

Also Turkeys, Geese, Chickens, &c., &c. ADAM GORDON.

Manchester, Dec. 6, 1871.

## Samuel H. Christian

#### **Manchester Merchant**

Samuel Hill Christian was born in Ontario about 1844 and lived in Manchester, Ontario. He was married to Kate Currie, daughter of George and Sarah Ann (Cronk) Currie on May 18, 1869 at Prince Albert, Ontario.

Mr. Christian throughout the 1860s and 1870s was a leading community figure, noted for his public spirit. He was a leader in mercantile pursuits, at Manchester, the business centre of the township of Reach at this time.

He was also extensively engaged in the purchase of grain, and his expertise was often called on to judge the



Samuel H. Christian

commodity anywhere it was to be found. His popularity as a buyer made him famous across the county.

It was reported in August 1875 that about 100 men



S.H. Christian's store on the southwest corner of Brock and King Street in Manchester, Ontario.

were busy at the Manchester railway station lending a willing hand in assisting at the raising of Mr. Christian's large new elevator adjacent to the tracks.

His success as a business man and grain buyer was phenomenal up to the time of the great slump in the price of barley during the 1880s.

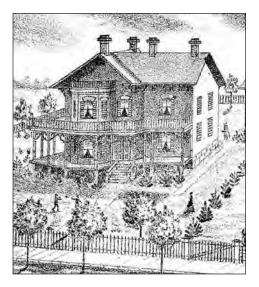
He is said to have been possessed with far more than ordinary ability, and he was public spirited and generous to a fault. His popularity was almost unbounded and any attempts to enter into public life were rewarded with election. He served as Reach Township Reeve in 1886.

Mr. Christian was a loving and devoted husband, and indulgent father and a true friend.



Samuel Hill Christian passed away in Toronto on Friday, October 25, 1907 in his 64th year. His remains were interred at Pine Grove Cemetery. He has one surviving son Arthur Christian, of Whitby.

Mr. Christian's wife Kate, was only 37 years old when she died from convulsions, on January 17, 1884.



Samuel H. Christian purchased this home, in Manchester, from Abel Ewers in 1876.

## Abel W. Ewers

#### Carriage Maker & Farmer

Abel Ewers was born on March 14, 1811, in Vermont, USA, and as a young man came to Canada and located in Whitby, where he carried on the business of carriage builder. In 1847 he and his wife Rhoda moved to Manchester and purchased a 200 acre parcel of land in the centre of the village, and became one of the early permanent settlers of the community in 1844.

Here he opened a new carriage shop and continued his trade for many years. At this time, the community had become a major grain-handling center.

From his first entrance into the township he fully identified himself with every movement, tending to forward the best interests of the community and the



Abel Ewers built this beautiful home in Manchester about 1860.

people. He was elected Reach Township council and after faithful discharge of duty as a councillor for a number of years. He also held the position of Reeve of the corporation in 1855 and 1856 and again from 1875 to 1877.

He was a staunch supporter of construction of the Centre Road, which provided vastly improved travel for the public in the north part of the county. He was a faithful husband, kind father and courteous and obliging neighbour.

Over the years Ewers sold off portions of his property to other pioneer families but retained the one-anda-quarter acre parcel on which he built an impressive yellow brick house sometime in the late 1860s and lived there until 1876 when he sold the home to Samuel H. Christian.

## Joshua Wright

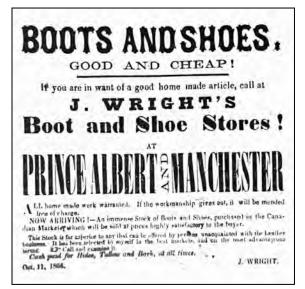
#### Merchant, Politician

Joshua Wright began his business career in Prince Albert as a successful maker of boots, shoes and leather products, gradually expanding and establishing his own tannery on property. He expanded his operation to Manchester in the mid 1860s. He was the first in the village to install a steam powered engine into his tannery business.

With the shift in trade, he moved his Boot and Shoe Store to Port Perry and in 1877 purchased and outfitted the Sexton Mill property for a large new tannery. In September 1880 he leased the Port Perry Grain Elevator and ventured into grain buying. When his lease on the building ran out, Mr. Wright proceeded



Joshua Wright



to build a new grain elevator on his property near the railway station. In 1891 the entire building and stock was destroyed by fire.

Mr. Wright started his municipal career as a councillor in 1859 and in 1866 he was elected Reeve of Reach, a position he filled for three terms, and was honoured in 1869 by being elected Warden of Ontario County.

Between 1877 and 1893 he was elected as Reeve of Port Perry on seven occasions.

On the home front, he served in the Reach Volunteer Infantry Company as a Captain during the 1860s and was a director of the Prince Albert Public Hall Joint Stock Company.

Joshua Wright was married to Mary Ann (Richardson) and they had two sons and seven daughters. Joshua was 63 years old when he passed three months later, on February 2, 1898. He was buried beside his wife, who died a year earlier, at Pine Grove Cemetery.

## William Powsen

#### Postmaster

William Powsen, Manchester, Ontario's first postmaster came to Canada from England in the mid-1840s, settling in Reach Township.

He was born at Westmorland, England on May 21, 1805 and married 17 year old Elizabeth Ann Bradberry on July 13, 1825 at London, England.

After arriving in Canada, the settled at Concession 8, Lot 9 in Reach Township and in 1852 he became the postmaster in Manchester, a position he held until 1858. It is thought he operated a store in the village, where he was postmaster, and also served as conveyancer and commissioner.

The Powsen's lived in Reach Township until the early 1870s before moving from the village.

William Powsen, 72, was a bookkeeper, when he died in March 13, 1877 in Oxford, Ontario.



The Subscriber is prepared to purchase any quantity of Pork, Barley, Wheat, Oats, Peas and Beef Hides, at highest market rates. Cash will be

paid on delivery. The Subscriber is also prepared to purchase Turkeys, Geese, Ducks, and Fowls, for which the highest price will be paid in Goods at cash price.

The Subscriber is constantly receiving fresh additions to his already well assorted Stock - Particular attention is requested to his fine stock of Ladies winter Hats and Boots. Furs, Dress Goods, Frilled and Woolen Collars, - Velveteen Jackets, Winter mantle Cloths, - new lots of Boots. Gentlemen are requested to call and examine his fine Stock of Cloths for Suits and Over-coats which will be made up to order by Mr. Squires, - one of the best Tailors in the county - at short notice and at reasonable rates - a good outfit being warranted. A superior lot of gent's and boy's Ready made Clothing offered at very low prices. 12 lbs. good Raisins for \$1. 10 lbs. of excellent Sugar for \$1, 23 lbs, Rice for \$1, Nails \$3 per 100 lbs. Superior Teas at very low rates.

#### ADAM GORDON.

Manchester, Nov. 25, 1869









John H. Brown

## John H. Brown

**Town Treasurer** 

Born in England in 1938, John Hamilton Brown was just a young lad when he arrived in Canada, in 1848. During the 1860s they resided at Prince Albert, and the ambitious young John later built a new home in Manchester. He married Isabella Louise Currie, daughter of Mark and Agnes Currie, Prince Albert.

While living in Manchester he

partnered with Samuel Christian to operate a general store called Brown & Christian. In addition to his business efforts, he also held the position of treasurer for Reach Township, of which he was appointed in 1873.

With the arrival of the railway in Port Perry, he dissolved his partnership in Manchester with Christian and moved to Port Perry in 1876. Here he formed a partnership with his brotherin-law, William Currie. The two men operated a general store called Brown & Currie near the corner of Queen and Perry St.

Blessed with an abundance of energy, Mr. Brown carried on the business of his store, even after being appointed treasurer of the Village of Port Perry in May 1881. He served in this capacity for 36 years before retiring in February 1917.

He and his wife Isabella live in an beautiful brick home on the southeast corner of Queen and Ella Streets. Mr. Brown died at the home of his son-in-law, in Vancouver B.C., on Monday, March 25, 1918, in his 81st year. He was predeceased by his wife Isabella Louise on April 29, 1895.





THE subscriber having returned to Reach has got himself comfortably located at the thriving Village of

## MANCHESTER

Where he intends carrying on the

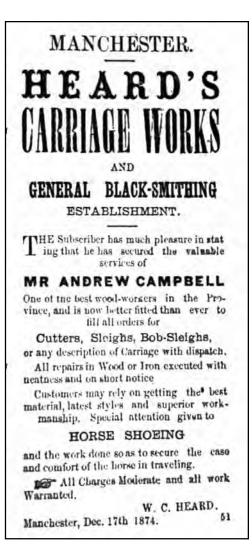
### **Tailoring Business**

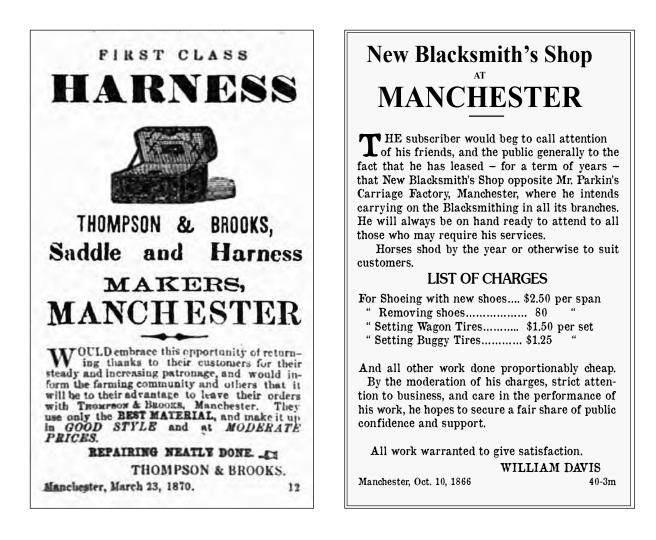
In all its branches. Garments entrusted to his care will be made up in the latest styles; and nothing will be left undone by him - in way of neatness of fit, moderation in charges, and careful attention to orders - to obtain and secure a large share of public patronage.

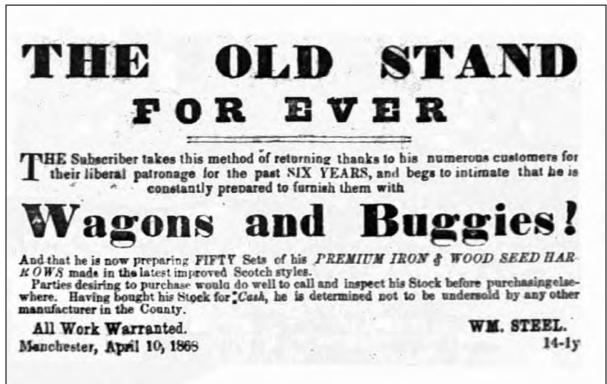
The Latest Styles received promptly and regularly.

JAMES SQUIRE.

Manchester, Oct. 18, 1866







## **Charles Hiscocks**

#### Baker

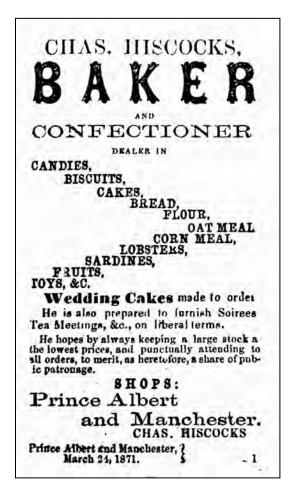
Charles Hiscocks was born in England about 1817 and came to Canada with his wife Lydia and two children. The Hiscocks family arrived in Reach Township during the 1860s and Charles opened a bakery in Manchester and later expanded into Prince Albert.

Charles Hiscocks was an agreeable and exemplary townsman, honest, honourable and upright in his business transactions, a consistent and faithful Christian and a devoted member of the C.M. Church.

About 1872 he moved into Port Perry and four years later into a new store. Here established a reputation to which but few attain. He was not anxious to reap riches, but through industry, frugality and enterprise, was rewarded satisfactorily.

He was a kind and faithful friend, and affectionate and watchful father and the loving and beloved husband of Lydia (Spender).

Charles Hiscocks was 61 years old when he died.





## James Parkin

#### Wagon Manufacturer

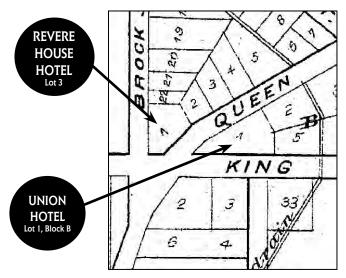
James Parkin was born in Ontario on Mary 16, 1830 and entered the business of wagon making in Scarborough in the 1850s. He was living in Scarborough a few years before moving to Manchester where he operated the Eating House providing accommodations for travelers.

By 1869 had opened a shop in Manchester where he manufactured wagons and carriages. He continued to work as a wagonmaker into the 1890s.

James married Catherine Jane Vansickler in January 1865 and during their life together they raised a family of ten children. He died on April 17, 1906, having lived a long life of 76 years. Catherine, died May 6, 1925.



# Hotels & Taverns



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

Hotels were a very important asset to many small villages thought 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 first hotels were established in the 1850s, and by 1860 there were three hotels in the village. One of these, the Royal Hotel, was being operated by Mrs. Sarah Daniel in 1866, but there is no further mention of this hotel.

The history of hotels and taverns in all

## Report on hotels in Reach Township

The following article was written by Port Perry Star publisher, Samuel Farmer, in 1913.

At this time there were three hotels at Borelia, Jewett's being the oldest. And then there was one run by Reuben Crandell, and another hotel 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 was located 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, about a mile west of Manchester, there was another hotel to save

### 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 Pablic patronage.

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

At the top of the ridges stood C.C. Covey's "Union Hotel" (not the Manchester Union Hotel), and a little south of Manchester, at the 2nd concession, 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.



# The Union Hotel

#### Hotels - from page 131

of Reach Township's small hamlets is difficult to document, as their 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 to operated in Manchester was known as the Union Hotel.

The hotel was opened by Francis Rusnell about 1860, on Lot 1, Block B, in Manchester. Mr. Rusnell operated the Union Hotel until his death in July 1871. It was then taken over by his son-in-law Charles McClue who managed the facility until about 1865.

As with most of the businesses of this era, ownership of the properties did not change as frequently as the tenants. It appears that most "hotelkeepers" only operated their business for

## Francis Rusnell

#### **Union Hotel Founder**

Franics Rusnell arrived in Reach Township about 1860 and purchased a piece of the land at the corner of Brock and Oueen St., Manchester, It was here he built the Union Hotel.

Little is know of Mr. Rusnell's time in Reach. He died on July 26, 1871 at his home in Utica.

## **Charles McClue**

#### **Union Hotel Innkeeper**

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 Rusnell, 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 innkeeper 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.

three or four years before moving on.

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 D.B. Dennison in 1865. Four years later, in 1869, Henry Thompson had become the hotelkeeper.

Mr. Thompson sold his business to John Tennyson in 1871, and Tennyson sold it in 1874 to James Heard. Two years later, in March 1876, Mr. Heard listed the hotel for sale. It's not known when it was sold, or if the Union Hotel ceased to operate.

#### UNION HOTEL OWNERS

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

## 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 atten-tive Ostler,-Hugh Moore. N.B. Meals at all hours.

> CHARLES McCLUE, Proprietor. 34

Manchester, Aug. 3. 1861.

UNION HOTEL, MANCHESTER, REACH. [LATE F. RUSNALL'S.] THIS Hotel is centrally situated, and possesses every accommodiation. It has been newly fitted up and renoval ed. LT Best Wines, Liquors, and Cigars. OH,AS. MCCLUE, Proprietor. 1-1y

Manchester, July 1863



There is not a photograph of Manchester's Union Hotel, but the above picture illustrates what many small hotels looked like during the late 1800s. Use of the name 'Union Hotel' was a popular around southern Ontario during the mid-1800s, with many small village hotels using this name.

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## Daniel B. Dennison

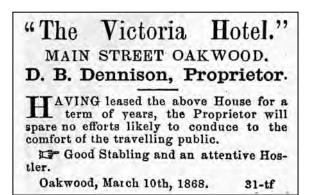
#### Union Hotel Innkeeper

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 were living in Whitby and he was working as an innkeeper.

About 1865 they moved to Port Perry and he become the proprietor of the Union Hotel in Manchester. It's not known how long he was innkeeper at the Union Hotel, although he did lease the "Victoria Hotel" in Oakwood in March 1868. He may have operated both for a time.

Mr. Dennison worked as a hotelkeeper until 1881. Daniel B. Dennison died in Port Perry on March 12, 1884. He was 68 years of age.



#### 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.

### 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 evfery 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

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## The Revere House

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, and in April 1864 he sold it to Clement Dawes and moved to Beaverton where he leased a hotel by the same name in Jan. 1865.

Later that year Dawes took out a \$600 mortgage with Joseph Bigelow, to build the Revere House hotel. Mr. Dawes operated the hotel until March 1866 when he sold the property to Bartholomew Plank, of Uxbridge.

#### **REVERE HOUSE OWNERS**

Revere House - Clement Dawes, 1865-1867 Revere House - B. Plank 1867-1873 Revere House - William Parkin Revere House - Strike Houck, 1876-1880 Revere House - Thomas Bennett, 1880-1884 Revere House - M.S. Tooley - 1896-1899 (also known as Tooley's Hotel) Mr. Plank served as innkeeper at the Revere House until about 1873 before moving to Uxbridge to build a large new brick hotel he called Plank's Hotel.

Mr. Plank remained the owner of the Revere House, leasing it out to William Parkin and Strike Houck before selling the hotel to Thomas Bennet in February 1880.

The Revere House was the 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 until selling it to Peter Holt in 1886. No further information about the Revere House is available until October 1896 when it was being operated by M.S. Tooley. Tooley operated the hotel for three years before being destroyed in a late night fire.

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."

## Bartholomew Plank

Revere House Innkeeper 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.

#### 

H AVING purchased the above hotel, and has furnished the Bar with the choicest liquors and eigars. Every attention paid to guests.— Stages to and from Whitby call daily. Careful ostlers always in attendance. 8

Manchester, 1869

REVERE ROUSE. MANCHESTER, ONT., B. PLANK, . . . . . Proprietor. The Bar is furnished with choice Liquors and Ugars, and the Table will always be supplied with the delicacies of the season. STAGES TO AND FROM WHITBY DAILY. Careful Ostlers always on hand. LIVERY FURNISHED.

Manchester, 1869

## REVERE HOUSE

C. DAWES, - - PROPRIETOR

Hotel, has refurbished the premises throughout, and furnished the Bar with the Choicest Liquors and Cigars.

Every attention paid to guests. Stage to and from Whitby call daily. Careful Ostlers always in attendance. March 1865

## **Clement Dawes**

**Revere House Innkeeper** 

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 about 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.

In addition to his career in hotels, in 1870 the ambitious young man purchased the SS Ogemah, a steamboat that provided excursions on Lake Scugog until 1876, when the ship was destroyed by fire.

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.

## ONTARIO HOTEL !

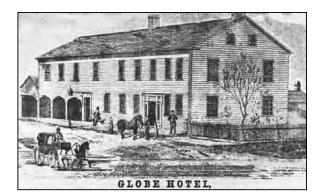
THE Subscriber desires to inform his many friends throughout the country, and the public generally, that he has purchased the premises fately occupied by Mr. Jacob Bryan, in Brock Street, and known as the Ontario Hotel.

The rooms have been newly fitted up and renovated, and the house has undergone a thorough change in order to afford the best possible accommodation to guests and visitors.

The stabling is of the best description, and the proprietor is especially careful to have none but prompt and attentive ostlers about the premises.

The bar will be supplied with the best Liquors, Wines, Cigars, &c. Care will also be taken to keep the sitting rooms reserved for private parties.

Whitby, Feb. 4, 1862. C. DAWES.



#### **GLOBE HOTEL, BROOKLIN**

The undersigned having takes possession of the above well known hotel, which will be conducted as formerly with the strictest propriety and regard for the comfort and convenience of the public.

The proprietor assures his many friends that everything is made ready as formerly to entertain them at the Globe Hotel, and that he will be personally present to give them such a reception as was his wont.

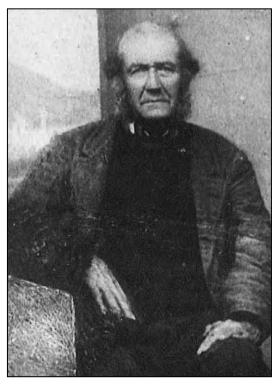
The house has been thoroughly papered, painted and renovated, and is fitted up in every respect in such a manner as to insure satisfaction. The bar and table supplied, as formerly with the best eatables and drinkables. Call and see.

> C. DAWES, Proprietor January 1860



February 2, 1865





LEWIS STRIKE HOUCK

## L. Strike Houck

Revere House Innkeeper

Lewis Strike Houck was born in Quebec during September 1801.

Mr. Houck purchased the Revere House in Manchester in October 1875, but it appears to have been operated by George Houck until February 1880 when Strike Houck sold the hotel to Thomas Bennett.

L.S. Houck lived in Reach and Port Perry, Ontario from 1861 until his death on June 22, 1887. He was 87 when he died and was buried at Oshawa Union Cemetery. His wife, Delaney, died in October 1891 in Port Perry.



THOMAS BENNETT

#### Thomas Bennett Revere House Innkeeper

Thomas Bennett owned the Revere House hotel in Manchester from 1880 to 1884. In February 1887 he moved to Uxbridge to purchase a hotel by the same name, the Revere House of Uxbridge. In January 1871 he took over ownership of the larger Mansion House hotel on Brock Street in Uxbridge.

#### 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.





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.

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 hum. Every attention will be paid to gquests. Careful and obliging ostlers always in attendance. Best liquors and eigars constantly on hand.

Manchester, 1863 WM. PARKIN, Proprietor.



## **M.S.** Tooley

**Revere House Innkeeper** 

M.S. Tooley was at least the seventh owner of the Revere House in Manchester, purchasing it in May 1896. Just after purchasing the hotel, he came down with a fever and it was a week before he was able to begin working at the hotel. .

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 innkeeper, 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 owners, 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.

## **Competition For The Railway**

With Manchester and Prince Albert being two of the largest grain centres in Ontario, and rival buying centres, both communities fought hard to have the soon to be constructed Port Whitby & Port Perry Railway to favour their location.

Farmers from all over north area of Ontario County were bringing their grain to these centres daily. Upon arrival men worked tirelessly unloading the grain wagons and filling the warehouses to capacity. But there was no easy method of getting the grain to Port Whitby and other points south.

The coming of the railway, from Port Whitby to the northern sections of Ontario County was good news.



Adam Gordon and his colleagues from Manchester, fought to get the railway to pass through their village; while Joshua Wright and grain merchants from Prince Albert wanted the railway to pass just west of their community.

In April 1870, the inhabitants of Manchester unsuccessfully petitioned Reach Township officials to have the route of the PW&PP Railway to cross the gravel road north of the fourth concession, and to erect a good station house and freight shed at the crossing.

Had either of these locations been accepted, there would have been endless trouble, because Prince Albert and Manchester were rival grain buying centres, and the railway would have meant business success to the location that secured it, and failure to the other village.

What finally resulted was that neither place secured the advantage. Stations were built south of Manchester and east of Prince Albert – with the terminus of the railway being at the lakefront on Lake Scugog, in Port Perry.

JAMES BAIN, M. D., PHYSICIAN, Surgeon, and Accoucheur. Residence, Manchester.





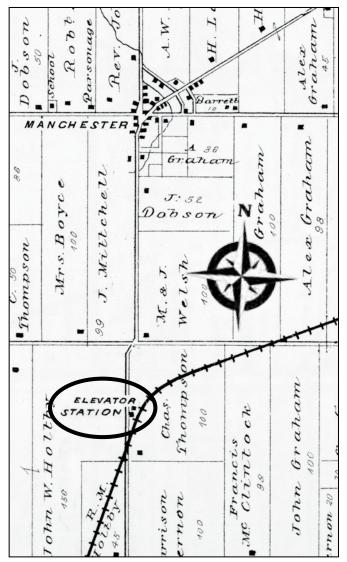
Top: A picture of the Port Whitby & Port Perry railway station, and a large grain storage facility which was located about two miles south of Manchester on the east side of the road.

Manchester businessman, Samuel H. Christian built the large grain warehouse at the Manchester station in 1875.

Right: An 1877 map which shows where they railway crossed the highway, just south of Concession 4, Reach Township.



A view of the side of the Manchester railway station looking north towards the village.



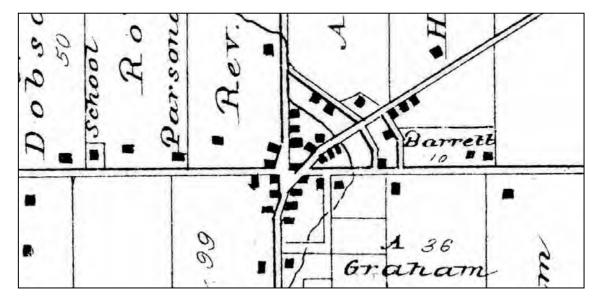
**DIRECTORIES** Listings for the Village of Manchester extracted from copies of the County of Ontario Gazetteer & Home District and County of Ontario Directories from 1866 until 1884.

**MANCHESTER 1866** - A small post village in the Township of Reach and North Riding of the County of Ontario, situated on the Centre Road leading from Whitby to Beaverton, distant from Whitby 15 miles; and from Prince Albert 1 mile; was first settled in the year 1887 by Dennis Phidgett and Peter Taylor. It containes a town hall and one common school with an average attendance of 80 pupils.

The Church of England, Methodist, and Presbyterian denominations hold services alternately in the town hall. The village contains also two stores, three hotels and a good flouring and grist mill in the neighborhood. The Revere House, under the able management of Clement Dawes. Esq., we can fully recommend to the notice of the travelling public. Population 200.

Armstrong, George, farmer Atkinson, John, farmer Atkinson, Thos. waggon maker Cassidy, Thos. farmer CHRISTIE, JOHN, township clerk, conveyancer Currie, Geo. farmer Daniels, Charles, farmer Daniels, David, farmer Daniels, Mrs. Sarah, Royal Hotel Davis, Wm. blacksmith Dawes, Clem., proprietor, Revere House. DeGrassi, George, physician and surgeon Denison, D.B. proprietor of Union Hotel Ewers, Abel W. postmaster Ewers, George, carpenter Ewing, Thos. farmer Fraser, Simon, clerk Fitehett, Robert, farmer Golden, John, stone cutter Gordon, Adam, general merchant Goulding, John, farmer Graham, Henry, boot and shoe maker Hodgson, John, clerk

Jeffrey, Richard, waggonmaker Kibby, John, bartender Revere house Leonard, Peter& Edward farmers Leonard, Jas. farmer Letcher, Joseph, farmer Lyle, Geo. farmer McClintock, Wm. blacksmith Mitchell, Rev. John, priest Morden, H.R. tailor Munro, Robert Murray, John, clerk Orchard, Simon, farmer Paul, Andrew, miller Perkins, James, carriage and wagonmaker Perry, R.C. farmer Powsen, Wm. conveyancer and commissioner Revere House, C. Dawes proprietor. Royal Hotel, Mrs. Sarah Daniel, proprietor Russnel, Francis Steel, W.M. blacksmith See card Taylor, John, school teacher Union Hotel, D.B. Denison proprietor Vidy, Giabriel, inlaid worker for cabinet maker



This map of Manchester, from the Historical Atlas of Ontario County, 1877, shows the extensive number of businesses located around the four corners of the village.

**MANCHESTER 1869** - A village in the township of Reach, 15 miles north-east of Whitby. Was first settled by Mr. Abel W. Ewers in 1847. The first store was opened by Mr. David Mitchell, in 1848. The first Postmaster was Mr. Wm. Powsen, appointed in 1854. It contains one Primitive Methodist church, built of wood, in 1866, at the cost of about \$1,000. One town hall, built of wood in 1854, at the cost of about \$1,200. One school house built of wood in 1860, at the cost of about \$900. Four general stores, two hotels, and the usual number of tradesmen. Connected with Whitby by daily stage. Population about 200.

Atkinson, Ambrose, gentleman. Brown & Christian, merchants. BRYAN, BENJAMIN, tinsmith. BRYAN, WILLIAM, tin shop. Bvam. W. H., wagonmaker. Campbell, R. & J., merchants. CHRISTIE, J., township clerk, conveyancer, Re. Christie, Donald, farmer. Daniels, Chas., laborer. Daniels, John, shoemaker. Daniels, Mrs. Davis, Wm., blacksmith. Devitt, George, teamster. Ewers, Abel W., farmer. Fitchett Mrs. Fraser, Simon, clerk, Fitkin, Thos., harness maker, Fitchett, Dennis, gentleman. GORDON, ADAM, general merchant and postmaster. Jaffrey, Richard, wagonmaker. Jennings. Dennis, teacher. Lamb, Hiram, farmer. Leach, Lewis, shoemaker. Leonard, Peter, laborer. Leonard, James, photographer.

Locke, Henry, farmer. Marr. Cornelius. blacksmith. Masters, Daniel, laborer. Monroe, Robt., farmer. Moore, Hugh, ostler, Orchard, Simon, farmer. Perkins, James, wagonmaker. PLANK, B., proprietor Revere House Plank, John A., gentleman. Powsen, Wm., conveyancer, &c. Smith, W. J., clerk. Squire, James, tailor. Steel, Wm., blacksmith. Stevenson, Wm., teamster. Straiton, Thos. B., merchant. Sutherland, J. N., cleik, Taylor, John, clerk. Thompson, Henry, hotelkeeper. Torrance, Andrew, shoemaker. Torrance, Alexander, tailor. Tvroll Joseph. blacksmith. Uins, Thos. laborer. Wells, John, carpenter. Wright, Joshua, boot and shoe manufacturer.

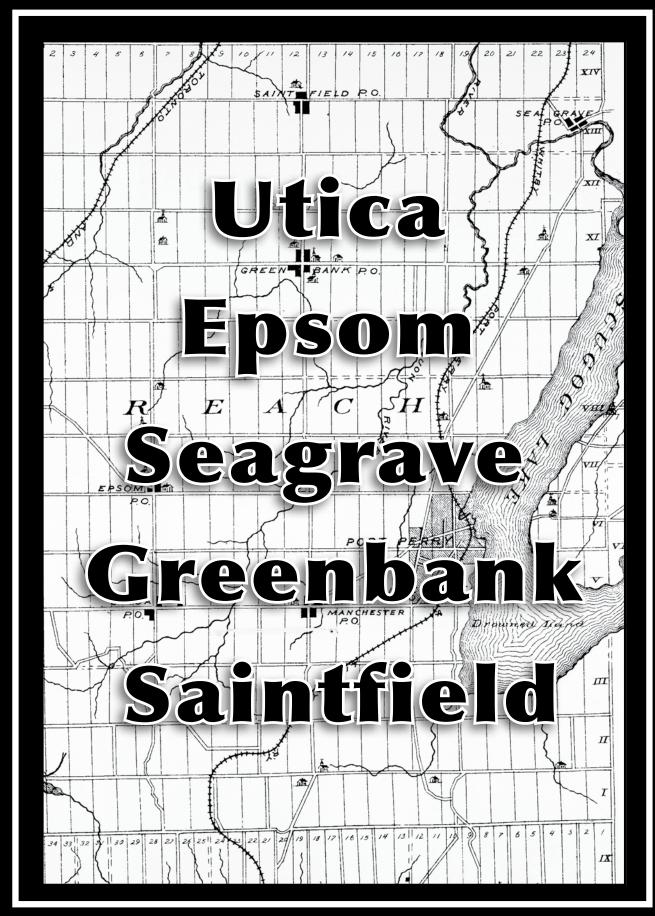
**MANCHESTER 1876** - A village in the Township of Reach, 13 miles northeast of Whitby. Was first settled in 1847 by Abel W. Ewers, Esq. The first post master was Mr. Wm. Powsen who was appointed in 1854. It contains a Primitive Methodist. Church, built of wood in 1866, at the cost of about \$1,000; Town Hall, of wood built in 1854, at a cost of about \$1,200, one School House, built of wood in 1860 at cost of about \$900; four general, stores, two hotels and the usual number of tradesman. The Port Whitby & Port. Perry Railway has a stations here at which all passenger trains stop.Population' about 150.

Arnsbury, William Byam, W.H. Bothby, Benjamin Britton, Edward Britton. Maurice Christie, Jno., town clerk Christian, S.W., merchant Daniels, David Daniels, John Davis, Edward J. Fitchett, Joseph Graham, John Heard, W.G, innkeeper Hill, Walter Houck, Mrs. Hawkins, Francis

Lyle, Henry Lyle, John Lyle, Charles Libear, Benjamin Morison, Thomas Masters, Aaron Masters, Daniel Monroe, Robert Perkins, James Payne, H.W. Reece, David Stone, William Tennyson, John Tennyson, Alonzo Wiles, Robert

**MANCHESTER 1884** - A village on the Mid div GTRailway, in Reach Township, Ontario County, 15 miles north of Whitby, the county seat, and three south of Port Perry, the nearest bank location. It contains a Methodist church and a public school, and ships grain and produce. Stages to Port Perry, Epsom and Uxbridge daily, fares 15, 20 and 50 cents respectively. Population, 300. Mail daily. Telegraph, GNW, S.H. Christian, postmaster.

Bennett Thomas, hotel. Christian, Samuel H., General Store, Produce Dealer, and Railway Agt. Christie, John, conveyancer. Clarke, James, general store and tinware. Dickson, Robert, flour mill. Ewans George, carpenter. Graham, Thomas, broker. GNW Telegraph Co. Heap, Ellis, sewing machines. Heard Wm. C, blacksmith and carriagemaker. Parkin, James, butter and eggs, scrap iron. Reach Cheese Mufg Co, John Christie sec-treas. Reece, David, Cooper. Waggoner, Miss M.A., dressmaker Wakely, John, tailor and clothier. Worden, Wm, carpenter.



## FIRST ROADS INTO REACH TOWNSHIP

## SIMCOE STREET was also known as the NONQUON ROAD:

The original Simcoe Street, circa 1845, began in East Whitby, extending north through Columbus and Raglan, and then angling sightly west on the north side of "The Ridges", and continuing through Prince Albert, and Borelia and continuing north to the Nonquon River east of Seagrave. It was then extended to the northern boundary of Reach Township.

Today's Simcoe Street was not one of the original, circa 1845, roads. It was constructed a number of years later. The later route combines the original Simcoe Street north to the Reach Township boundary, and the newer section beginning on the north side of "The Ridges" to Port Perry.

#### **BROCK ROAD:**

Today is Marsh Hill Road.

This road goes north from Whitby, passing through through Ashburn, Utica and Epsom and continuing north until it disappears north east of Greenbank, at Scugog Line 14. Below Scugog Line 4, this road is known as Ashburn Road.

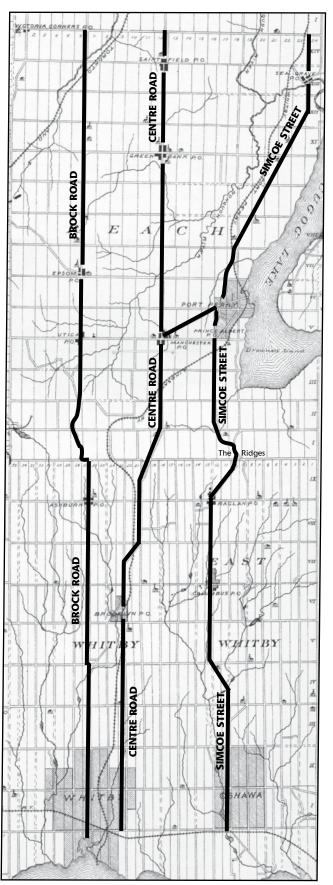
## **CENTRE ROAD** was originally called the **PLANK ROAD**:

Today is known as Highway #12.

This road winds north from Whitby through Brooklin, Myrtle and Manchester, then east to Borelia and Port Perry.

Built about 1848, and referred to as the "plank road", it was built of three inch pine plank, ten feet long, with three stringers made of  $3^{"}x6^{"}$  pine. This road went the entire 19 mile distance from Whitby to Manchester and was a toll road until the arrival of the railway in Port Perry in 1872.

The northern section of Centre Road, from Manchester, Greenbank and Saintfield was built a few years after the original "plank road" was completed.



This map shows the three main roads leading into Reach Township from the southern port of Whitby, circa 1850.



Following in the footsteps of Reuben Crandell, who became the first white person to settle in Reach Township in 1828, were a number of other pioneers.

While Crandell settled near today's Manchester, some travelled to points farther afield in the new township.

The McKerchers arrived in 1831 settling a couple of miles west of Manchester. As the first family to erect a home in the new settlement, it became known as McKercher's Corners (Utica).

Not far behind the McKerchers came the Christie and McDermid and other families, settling in what became known as the "Scotch Settlement".

It wasn't just Utica that was being settled at this time. Between 1828 and 1834, many families made their way north from settlements along the shoreline of Lake Ontario. They settled in the communities of Jockey Hill (Epsom), Greenbank and Fitchett's Corners (Manchester).

Work got underway on building two roads into Reach in the late 1820s. The road from the Lake Ontario waterfront to the settlement at Prince Albert and beyond was named Simcoe Street.

The road from Windsor Harbour (Whitby) to Fitchett's Corners (Manchester) and then east to join Simcoe Street was called the Scugog Road.

These two roads became increasingly significant in the settlement of Reach Township, and the movement of people and goods.

As more families arrived in the vicinity of Utica, there became a need for both churches and schools. About 1848 a church was built by the Presbyterians of the village. It's said that John Christie, wrote to the Marquis of Breadalbane in Scotland, explaining the need for churches in Canada. The Earl sent a subscription of £20 sterling and with this and the contributions of lumber, shingles and timber the church was built in 1849.

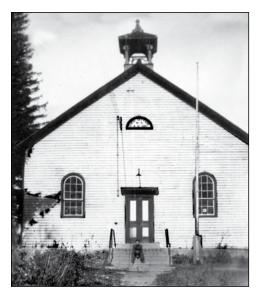
The first schoolhouse to be built was built about 1843. This school was replaced in 1861 with the opening of a new schoolhouse at Utica. The inaugural addresses was by Rev. R. Monteith of Prince Albert, Superintendent James Baird, Esq. The old log schoolhouse was sold by public auction the same day for \$3.50.

Another schoolhouse was built in 1882 just east of the Breadalbane Church (see below).

And in 1871 tenders were let to erect a brick church on Brock Street in Utica for the Wesleyan Methodists. Construction of the church was completed the next spring and it was dedicated the following summer.

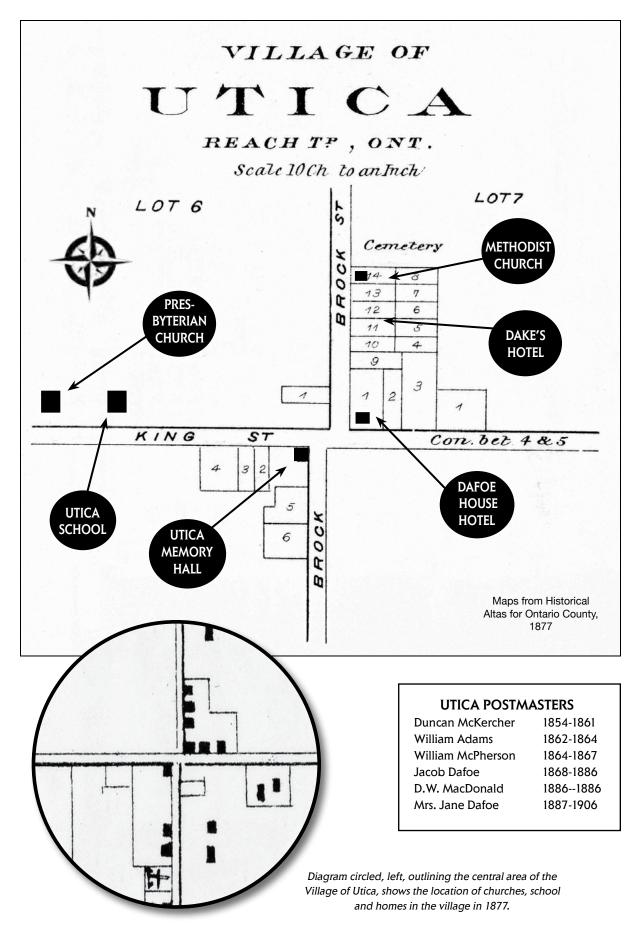
By 1857 there were about 50 residents living in the vibrant village of Utica. In addition to churches and schools, there were a number of commercial enterprises. Joseph Claughton operated a hotel, Duncan McKercher provided dry goods and groceries from his store, and also served as postmaster, there was a grist mill, blacksmith, shoemaker and wagon builder all working in the village.

By 1871 the village had grown both in population and commercial operations. There were 200 residents living and providing a broad range of services. It boasted three churches, a Methodist, Presbyterian and Episcopal churches and a good public school.





Scugog Section No. 5 Schoolhouse at Utica, Ontario., built in 1882.



## **Duncan McKercher**

#### **Pioneer Settler**

While John McKercher holds an important place in the history of Utica, Ontario, there is very little information available about this early pioneer of Reach Township.

Earliest records show he was born in Scotland about 1890 and arrived in Upper Canada in 1831. Here he settled on Con. 4, Lot 6, near Manchester along with a number of other settlers from his home country and it became known as the Scotch Settlement

McKercher later moved to Con. 7, Lot 6 becoming one of the first settlers in the vicinity of Utica. Here

## John Christie, Sr.

**Pioneer Farmer** 

John Christie was born on February 21, 1798 in Perthshire, Scotland. His father was Duncan and his mother Christian.

He married Janet McAlpin and they had one son, John, born in 1835 in Scotland. Janet passed away in 1835 in Scotland.

In 1840 he emigrated to Canada, purchasing a farm of 200 acres at Utica, and there he settled and remained there until his death.

It was through his efforts, that the Utica Presbyterian Church was built, after he wrote to the Marquis of Breadalbane in Scotland of the want of churches in Canada. The Earl sent a subscription of £20 sterling and with this and the contributions of lumber, shingles and timber the church was built in 1849.

He married Elizabeth McDonald on April 18, 1845, in Ontario, Canada. They had seven children. He lived a most exemplary life, honourable and upright in all his dealings. A kind and devoted husband, a loving father and estimable friend. He was one of the noble pioneers to whom the country is so much indebted for all that maker her good and prosperous.

John Christie, Sr., one of Reach Twp. early settlers, and most respected citizens, died on February 24, 188, at his farm at Utica having lived a long life of 83 years. A large gathering from the township joined the funeral cortege from the family residence to the Presbyterian Church, Utica, which was filled for the service.

Following the service he was buried in the cemetery at Utica, Ontario. His wife Elizabeth passed way on August 27, 1872, at the age of 66. They had been married 43 years.

#### WM. SPENCE, CONTRACTOR & BUILDER. BRICK-LAYING, STONE-WORK, PLAS-TERING, &c., in all their departments, executed in the best style.

Having secured the services of a competent party to manage and conduct the farm, I will, in future, devote my whole attention to my business as

CONTRACTOR. Contracts taken in Stone work, Brick work, Plastering, &c., &c. Contracts completed with dispatch, the BEST MATERIAL AND FIRST CLASS WORKMANSHIP. Utics, April 14, 1875. 16 he was the first person to build a home in this new settlement, known as McKercher's Corners.

He was regarded as one of the fathers of progress and prosperity of Reach, who helped convert the forests and wilderness of the area into fruitful fields. In his 50 years in Reach, he had the satisfaction of witnessing the vast progress of the area, which he himself had largely contributed.

John McKercher was 90 years old when died on March 3, 1880. His wife Catherine pre-deceased him and he left behind a family of four sons.



John Christie, Sr.



Breadalbane Presbyterian Church, Utica was built in 1849.

# The Utica Memory Hall



The Utica Memory Hall seen here on the southeast corner of King Street (Hwy. 21) and Brock Street (Marsh Hill Rd.) circa 1910.

Utica's community hall of today pales in comparison to its counterpart, the Utica Memory Hall, which was designed and built by Thomas W. Horn, a former village resident.

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Mr. Horn's family owned the corner village lot in 1894 and they donated the land to the Township of Reach. When the Memory Hall was built in 1899 at a cost of \$1,300, Thomas said it was as a gift to the community in remembrance of his old home and his youthful days in the village. The opening of the Utica Memory Hall took place on Friday, Dec. 1, 1899.

Following is a report of the opening of the hall in December 1899.

"Utica, a small village in this county situated five miles from the town of Port Perry, marked an important, and long to be remembered epoch in its history last week, with the opening of the commodious "Memory Hall", on Friday, Dec. 1, 1899.

Friends from near and far took part in the opening ceremonies, and to show the appreciation which they, in common with the people of the neighborhood, feel for an "old Utica boy", Thomas W. Horn, who in the days of his success in the commercial centre of the province, has remembered with substantial kindness, the home of his youth.

As a Reach boy of the Utica neighborhood, he went forth in early years to make for himself a name and a place. Although a lawyer by profession, his tastes were more of the financier, than of the barrister, and we soon found him devoting his talents in financial, rather than legal lines.

Mr. H.J. Gould, ex-Warden of the county presided as chairman, and the keys of the hall were formally handed over by Mr. Horn to the following board of trustees: Enoch Kendall, Arthur Crosier, Wm. Brooks, D. Horn, John Horn, Wm. Ward, John McKercher.

Also on stage were a number of Mr. Horn's Toronto friends, Rev. Hugh Crosier; Mr. Charles Calder; Mr. Leonard Burnett, M.P, for the riding; Mr. J.W. Siddall, architect; F.H. Herbert, architect; Mr. Peter Christie, ex-Warden; and Mr. W.H. Keller, of the Uxbridge Journal.

In handing over the keys, Mr. Horn said he did so with the wish and expectation that the hall be used for the benefit of the community. He attached the single condition that the churches and school should have the use of it free.

In naming the hall, the Hon. John Dryden suggested that more appropriate than Horn's Hall, or Public Hall, would be the "Memory Hall," and he offered that name for consideration. The audience expressed their approval by a show of hands.

Following the opening, Mr. Horn entertained a few friends at a supper prepared in elaborate style by the host and hostess of the Dafoe House.

DESCRIPTION OF THE MEMORY HALL - The building was a high frame structure of Spanish style with no basement. It was supported inside by iron rods. The hall was 38'x65' and had a seating capacity of 400.

The outside entrance was a type of Spanish veranda with both ends closed in, with a door entering from the outside and one from the inside. The roof of these ends extended higher than the main roof to form two towers, with a small window in each. The roof was made of wood shingles and the siding was clapboard and nside, the ceiling, walls and floor were tongue and grooved lumber.

A raised platform (stage) was located at the west end of the spacious hall, with a dressing room on each side. These rooms were connect to each other by a narrow hallway behind the stage. There were steps from the main hall leading to each of the dressing rooms, and another set of steps was located at south-west corner leading to an outside exit door. There were large windows on the north and south sides.

The hall was lighted by large coal oil lamps suspended from the ceiling and was heated by a large wood-burning stove inside the front entrance. The pipes made a long line from east to west and later a box stove was set near the platform and connected by a T pipe. This was used in very cold weather as insulation was not thought of.

Two pianos donated by Charles Lakey, owner of the Utica store, were put in the hall to be used by the public.

The hall was a central point of activity for all events of the surrounding community. Square dances, anniversaries presentations, bridal showers, suppers, amateur shows, music festivals, election polling station, Utica School Christmas concerts, church meetings, stage plays and other events were held.

The Bluebird Club made up of lady members of the community did a great deal to maintain the running of the hall. They donated the one piano and had a balcony built at the east end and repaired the platform. When hydro became available, they helped to finance the installation. A great deal of credit was given to this club.



Members of the Utica Bluebird Club are seen here in front of the Utica Memory Hall about 1937.

#### **Thomas Walter Horn**

The Horn family arrived in Reach Township during the late 1850s, having settled in Reach Township by 1860. Here they purchased a 150 acre farm west of Utica, on the south side. Later, Thomas Sr. bought 50 acres at the back and this gave him 200 acres.

The Horn's had nine children and lived in a two-room cabin. Later they built a stately home which the neighbours called the "Horn Mansion", which was financed and furnished by their son, Thomas Walter, who had become a lawyer in Toronto.

Thomas Walter Horn was born on February 7, 1867 at Utica. He attended school in the village and Port Perry before continuing his eduction in Toronto, becoming a lawyer when he was 24 years old.

Thomas was 27, when he met Lenora Bell Stewart, 22, who he married on February 22, 1893 in Toronto. Thomas was 66 when he died at his home in Toronto on May 16, 1833.

In life, it was always Thomas Horn's ambition to succeed, but he was always proud to be remembered as a boy of Utica.

He believed that association of people with each other broadened, brightened and improved the mind, and it was his hope that the hall might serve such a purpose.

With files from Hilda Bailey, Tweedsmuir History

#### Fire Destroys Memory Hall

On Saturday afternoon, April 9, 1955 Utica's Memory Hall was destroyed by fire.

The fire is believed to have started by a spark of a nearby grass fire, and within a very short time the entire building was laid to ashes.

Volunteers and fire fighters managed to save a few chairs and the piano from the hall. A large portrait of the late Walter Horn, the man who built Memory Hall and donated it to the community, was not saved.

Frank McGregor and Charles Lakey, proprietors of the general store, across from the hall said the community hall burned right to the ground in less than a half-hour. "Five minutes after the fire started, you couldn't get inside the building. it burned like a match-box", said Mr. McGregor.

The building was insured for \$3,000.



The above illustration is an "artists concept" of what the Dafoe House may have looked like in the 1870s. It is based on old photographs of this historic hotel building, and is meant to provide and approximation of its actual appearance. Drawing by Walter Radda.



## Dafoe House Hotel & General Store

Left: Picture taken in front of the Dafoe House hotel in Utica, circa 1915. It shows members of the James E. Buck family gathered for a reunion of the family. Mr. and Mrs. Buck are the two people seated in the front row, in front of the entrance door to the hotel.

Right: The girls of the Utica Bluebird Club are seen in this picture standing in front of the Utica 'Red & White' store during the summer of 1937. The store was owned by Charles W. Lackey at this time and a number of men can be seen standing around outside the store near the gas bowsers.

The girls posed for this picture before leaving to go camping up north.

This building was owned by Jacob and Mary Dafoe in the 1800s, and was operated as Dafoe House hotel, and grocery store.



# Utica Hotels and Taverns

The early history of taverns or hotels in the vicinity of Utica is difficult to determine, as the first mention of a hotel comes in 1857, when Joseph Claughton was listed as a hotelkeeper. But, since the area was first settled in the early 1830s, and a church and school were constructed in the 1840s, it unlikely there was not a tavern or hotel before records first show one operating

Starting in 1857, Joseph Claughton is shown as the operator of a hotel in Utica. This hotel was located on Lots 11 and 12 on Brock Street, just north of the corner at King Street. There is no mention of the name of this hotel.

Mr. Claughton was followed by Hiram Dake, who became innkeeper of Dake's Hotel in 1862. Records show Mr. Dake sold the property to a Mr. George Smith in 1866. The same year, James Murray became the innkeeper of the "Crown Inn" in Utica. It's unclear if this was Dake's former hotel.

Jacob Dafoe was the next man to set up hotelkeeping in Utica. Arriving in the village in 1866, he either opened, or leased an existing hotel in the village. In addition to the hotel, which he named Dafoe House, he also operated a general store and served as postmaster.

Jacob unsuccessfully offered his house, store and hotel for sale in 1873. He and his wife, Jane, continued to operated the store until about 1895, when the hotel was leased to John Lamb. Mr. Lamb changed the name of the hotel to the "Temperance Hotel".

## JOSEPH CLAUGHTON

#### Innkeeper

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

It's believed they arrived in Canada 1845, and settled on lot 7, concession 6, Reach Township and began farming the land. While farming was Joseph's carrier for most of his life, he did take up another job for a few years in the 1860s.

By 1857 Joseph was listed as an innkeeper at a Utica hotel. But by 1861 it appears as if he had sold the hotel to Hiram Dake.

## HIRAM E. DAKE

Little is known about Hiram E. Dake and his family, except that he was the operator of the 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 located on Lots 11 and 12 on the Brock Road, and became innkeeper of "Dake's Hotel".

Four years later, in March 1866 he sold the property to George Smith and it's not clear if Mr. Smith continued as a hotel operator, or closed the business.

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.



	SHARE OF CHERRY.
HENRY FEGAN,	JOSEPH LETCHER,
District Secretary.	District Master.
Utics, July 8, 1862.	. 33-1w

## JACOB DAFOE

#### **General Store & Innkeeper**

Jacob Dafoe was one of Reach Townships longest serving and most respected innkeepers, 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 innkeeper 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 Innkeeper

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.

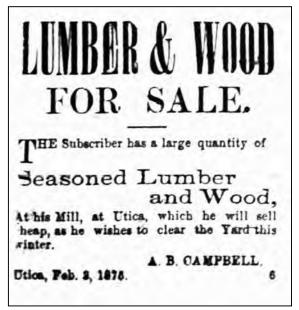
The Flewell family moved to York County about 1890 and William Flewell, 72, died on June 18, 1911, at his home in Witchurch

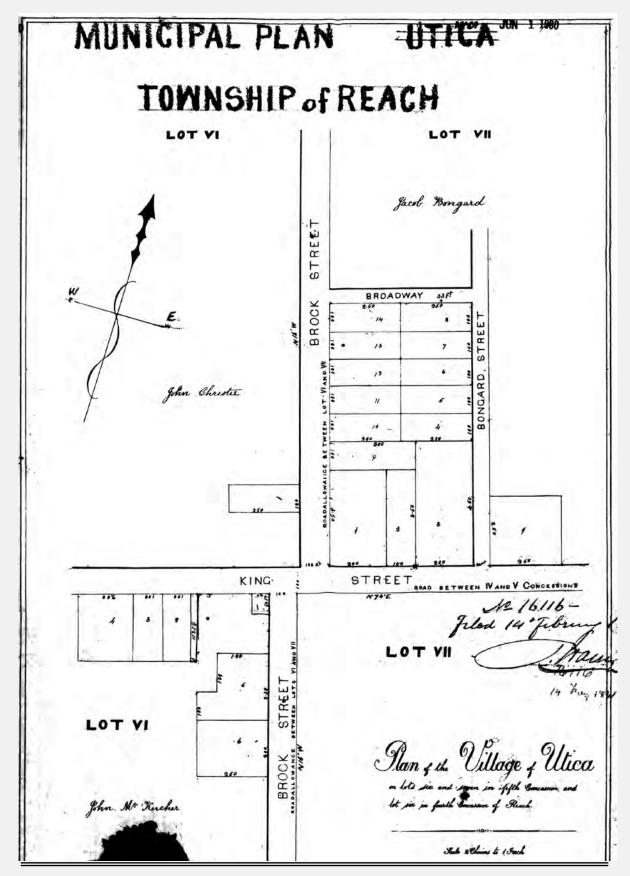


to the requirements of travelers and guests. The bar supplied with the best wines, liquors and cigars Good stabling.

J. DAFOE, Proprietor.

June, 1871.





Plan No. H-50026, of the Village of Utica in the Township of Reach. The plan was drawn by land surveyor W.E. Yarnold and filed at Prince Albert in September 1860.

## Utica Area Business Advertisements

DAFOE HOUSE, PORT PERRY,

The Subscriber having leased this comfort. able and convenient Hotel, will spare neither labor nor expense in providing for the com. fort 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 firstclass Stable and Shed accommodation properly attended to by careful Ostlers.

CHAS. HOLT.

Port Perry, March 8, 1876.

Assistant Teacher Wanted, Assistant Teacher for School Section No 5, Utics, Beach, is wanted. Applicants will please forward their applications stating the class certificate they hold and Salary expected to the undersigned on or before the 24th inst. Services to commence at the opening of the School, 1st Jan., 1876. JACOB DAFOE, Trustee. Utics, Dec. 8, 1875.





# DIRECTORIES

# UTICA 1857 - 1895

UTICA 1857 - A small village in the Township of Reach and County of Ontario. Distance from Whitby 15 miles. Daily mail, Population about 50.

Allan, William, blacksmith Claughton, Joseph, hotelkeeper Hicks, John, grist mill McKercher, Duncan, postmaster and dealer in dry goods, hardware, groceries Murcar, William, shoemaker Saunders, William, waggonmaker Thom, Archibald, teacher Torrance, Alexander, tailor Torrance, Henry, shoemaker

**UTICA 1866** - A small post village situated in the Township of Reach and County of Ontario, containing one common school and two churches. Distance from Whitby 14 miles. Population 100.

Allen William, blacksmith Blackburn, Samuel, mason Crown Inn, James Murray proprietor Fagin, Henry, tailor Hughes, John, harness maker Jennings, Mr., teacher public school Leach, Louis, shoemaker McCann, John F., saddle harnessmaker McDowle, Adam, harness maker McPherson, Mr. P.M. and store keeper Sanders, Wm., waggonmaker.

UTICA 1869 - A village in the Township of Reach, 14 miles from Whitby. Population 185

Allin, William, blacksmith Blackburn, S., mason Brodrick, G., farmer Brodrick, J., laborer Christie, John Jr., farmer Christie, D., farmer Cok, R., laborer Crosier, W., gentleman Crosier, J., gentleman Currie, J., steam saw mill Dafoe, Jacob, merchant Dafoe, Jacob, hotelkeeper Dafoe, Mrs. Dake, H., hotelkeeper Dike, H., laborer Dufty, S., butcher Fagan, H., tailor Gier, D., farmer. Harnden, B., boarding house kpr. Heap, E., engineer Kindle, Mrs., farmer Leach, T., shoemaker Mulligan, J., laorer McKay, Rev. R.D., Presyberian. McKercher, F., farmer McQuade, J., laborer Sanders, William, wagonmaker Smith, M. farmer Stone, W., farmer Sutliff, J. merchant Taylor, J., teacher Richards, J., gentleman Way, D.S., boarding house kpr. Weslick, W., farmer.

**UTICA 1871** - A small village in the Township of Reach, County of Ontario. distance from Whitby, the county town and a station of the Grand Trunk Railway, 14 miles. Fare 75¢; from Toronto 44 miles. Mail daily, Population 200.

Allin, Richard, laborer Allin, William, blacksmith Blackburn, Samuel, mason Broderick, John, farmer Christie, Donald, farmer Christie, John, farmer Cook, Joseph, laborer Cook, Robert, carpenter Cooke, Charles, laborer Croxall, William J., farmer Currie, Joh, saw mill Currie, Luther, culler Dafoe, Jacob, postmaster, store, and hotelkeeper Dafoe, John C., clerk Dafoe, John N. Dake, Hiram, tavernkeeper Dyke, Henry, laborer Hogarth, Thomas, laborer Leach, Temple, shoemaker MacKay, Rev., Robert D., (Presb.) McKercher, Farquhar, farmer Mould, Frederick, gardener Reid, Benjamin, blacksmith Richards, James, filer Sanders, William, waggonmaker Smith, Malcolm, farmer Taylor, James, school teacher Tegan, Henry, tailor Worden, William, carpenter

**UTICA 1884** - A village on the Nonquon River (which supplies power), in Reach Township, Ontario County. 14 miles north of Whitby, the County seat, and 7 miles east of Uxbridge, the most convenient railway point. Nearest bank at Port Perry, 5 miles northwest. It contains Methodist and Presbyterian churches and a public school, and ships grain and produce. Population, 150. Stages to Uxbridge, Epsom, Manchester and Port Perry. Mail daily. Jacob Dafoe, postmaster.

Allan Robert, blacksmith. Cairns George, saw mill. Dafoe Jacob, general store and hotel Dixson Robert, flour and shingle mills. Gillis Robert, flour mill. Howsam Robert, cheese manufacture Kelsey Wm, blacksmith. Leach Temple, boots and shoes. McDormitt Archibald, carpenter. Reid Alexander, carpenter. Reid Benjamin, blacksmith and agr. impts. Sanders Wm. carriage and waggonmaker. Smith John, oatmeal mill. Stephens Alexander, saw mill. Stubbs Joseph, carpenter. **UTICA 1886** - A village in Reach township, Ontario County, 20 miles north of Whitby, the County seat, and 6 northwest of Port Perry, the nearest railway and banking point. Settled in 1833. It contains Methodist, Presbyterian and Episcopal churches and a public school, and ships livestock and produce. Stage to Saintfield and Wick daily, fares 15¢ and 25¢ respectively. Population, 200. Mail daily. Edward Phoenix, postmaster.

Asling, Walter, carpenter Beare, Elija, flour mill Burnett, Leonard, justice of peace Dusty, Samuel, general store, shoemaker Gullly, Thomas, blacksmith Harrington, Robert T. general store, Jack, Hugh, livestock Lee, Joseph, justice of peace Linton, John, harnessmaker Miller, James, carpenter Perkins, David, general store, tailor Ponenix Edward, conveyancer Somerville, Ralph, blacksmith Washington, Rev. W.E., Methodist Watson & Somerville, blacksmiths Whiteford, William, carriagemaker.

**UTICA 1895** - A postoffice on the Nonquon river (which supplies power), in Reach Twp, Ontario County, 14 miles north of Whitby, the County seat, and west of Port Perry on the Mid. div. GTR, the nearest banking spot. It contains Methodist and Presbyterian churches, public school, flour, shingles and saw mills. Stages daily to Uxbridge and Port Perry. Population 140, Mail daily. Mrs. Jane Dafoe, postmaster.

Allan, William, blacksmith Beare, Thomas, flour mill Bentley James, grain thrasher Bond, Wm. carpenter Broderick, George, flour mill Currie, George, saw and shingle mills Christie, John, livestock Claughton, Albert, livestock, Dafoe, Mrs. Jane, general store and post office Gull, Alexander, carpenter Horn, John, carpenter Kendall, Enoch, livestock Lambe, John, Temperance Hotel and deputy postmaster McKercher, R., dairy Orchard, Mrs. carpet weaver Raham, George, blacksmith and carriagemaker Reid, Alexander, carpenter Ward Bros., livestock.

## Utica's Weleyan Methodist Church

In June 1871, sealed tenders were being received to erect a brick church in the village of Utica for the Wesleyan Methodist congregation. The church was to be built along the Brock Road, north of King Street, on Lot 14.

The tender gave specific details of when the church was to be completed and the builder met the deadline. The dedication of the new brick and stone Wesleyan Methodist Church took place as planned, about one



SEALED TENDERS will be received until Wednesday, the 5th day of July bext, for the

#### **Erection of a Brick Church**

IN THE VILLAGE OF UTICA, In the Township of Reach, for the Wesleyan Methodists.

Plans and Specifications ran be seen at the Secretary's office in the Village of Luca. The work to be done in the following manner, viz  $\rightarrow$ the walks to be ball and the root to be pat on by the 10<sup>th</sup> day of November next. The remainder to be completed by the first day of July, 1872.

Tenders for Mason work and Carperter work to be given separately.

The Committee do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

WILLIAM ALLIN, Secretary of Committee, UTICA P. O., ONT. Utica, June 20, 1871. 25 year later, on Sunday, July 7, 1872.

The structure, 50'x32' was constructed beautifully elevated on one of the finest sites in the village. The cost of the new house of worship was \$2,970 and when it opened more than \$1,900 had been raised, leaving only \$1,056 more to be collected.

The crowd attending the dedication was so large that more than half of them could not get into the church. This enabled the congegation to raise an additional \$1,200, and by the following day, the entire cost of the new Wesleyan Methodist Church for the Utica congregation had been collected.





A detailed history of Epsom, like most of the smaller hamlets dotting the rural landscape of Reach Township, is vague, with few detailed records available for research.

Early accounts would suggest that somewhere between 1828 and 1831 a number of families began making their way north, settling in more remote areas of the township.

There are conflicting reports, but it appears most agree that John Ensign was the first to settle at Epsom. He is credited with laying the foundations of this small community, which was initially known as Jockey Hill.

Others who followed John Ensign and settled in the area were Hosea Shaw, John and Thomas English, Timothy and Hughie Munroe and Silas Page.

While most of the settlers cleared their land, built

modest homes and farmed the land, some were attracted to the little village forming at the corner of Brock Street. Exactly when the first business was opened is not known, but by the early 1850s it had become a busy commercial centre with two hotel, three general stores, blacksmiths, carriage makers, and tailors.

By 1852 a post office had been established in the village, with Anson T. Button the first postmaster. Mr. Button also operated one of the general stores.

With the community growing there came the need for schools. Initially there was one frame school and two log schools serving the families of the Epsom/Bethesda area. In 1876 a red brick school, S.S. #11 Reach, was built to provide improved educational facility for the growing community.

## **Epsom's Earliest Settlers**

#### JOHN G. ENSIGN

About 1828, John Ensign settled on the site in Reach Township became known as Jockey Hill. He was joined the following year by Hosea Shaw. This small settlement was later renamed Epsom.

Mr. Ensign settled on Lot 7, Conc. 7, a 200 acre piece of land and immediately began clearing the land for farming.

John Ensign was born in the USA in 1792 and immigrated to Canada when he was about 30 years old. He married Sarah, a young woman from Upper Canada, and they had three children while living near Epsom.

As late as 1877, Ensign was still listed as a farmer on his property, but there is no further record of Epsom's first settler.

Sarah Ensign, was a widow when she died on April 18, 1888, indicating her husband died during the late 1870s or early 1880s.

This painting of a log house, illustrates a typical home for the earliest settlers in Reach Township. This above picture, by Titus Hibbert Ware, illustrates a log cabin in Orillia Twp.

#### HOSEA SHAW

Hosea Shaw is recorded as being the second pioneer to settle in Reach Township, and among the first to settle near Epsom abpit 1829.

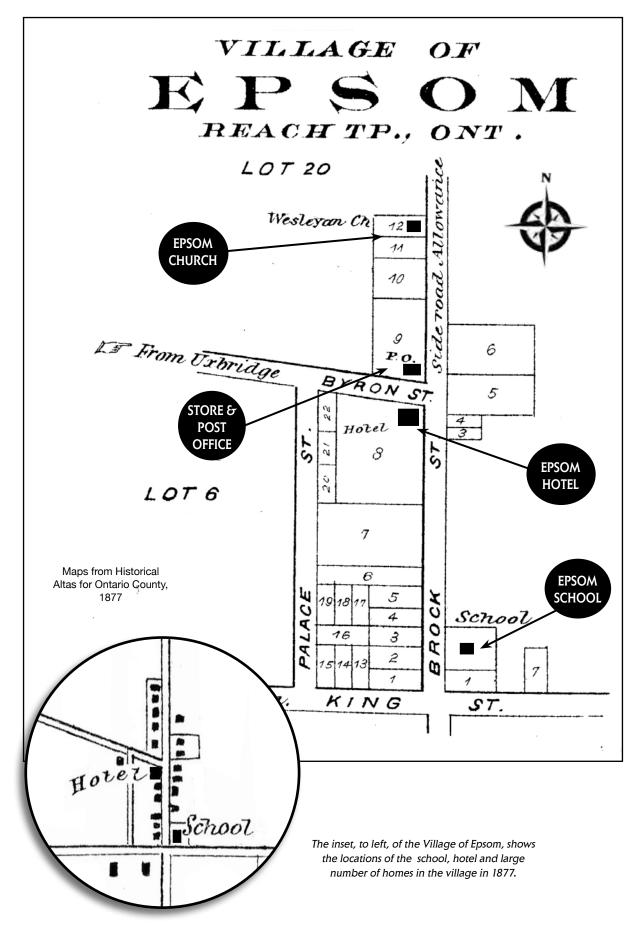
Born in Huntingdon, Quebec, on September 12, 1818, a son for Hosea, Sr., and Mary (Mahala) Shaw, he was educated in Lower Canada before moving to Upper Canada in the early 1830s. Before the end of the decade he had settled on Con. 6, Lot 6, where constructed a crude home and began clearing the land for farming.

He married Elizabeth "Besty" Page of Upper Canada and they had five children while living in Reach Township.

The Shaw family lived and farmed near Epsom until sometime after 1871, but after more than 40 years living in the community, he packed up and moved to the United States.

Hosea Shaw, 77, died at Chandler, Michigan on June 10, 1896. His wife, Elizabeth, 87, died at Chandler on February 25, 1907.





# **Epsom General Store**

Throughout the developing years of Epsom, the local general store was a focal point in the community. It not only provided early settlers with food, hardware and dry goods, but it was also the centre of activity in the village.

Like many small general stores dotted around the township, the Epsom general store was also the location of the post office. Mail was the local residents only contact with news from outside their community, so it was eagerly awaited, being delivered by stagecoach, only once every week or two.

As one of the central buildings in the village, the general store was also often the location for neighbors to gather and visit with their friends, and to hold important meetings to discuss community issues.

The history of the Epsom general stores goes back to the late 1840s, when there were two stores in the village. One of them was owned by Anson Button. A second store, at unknown location in the village, was operated by John McDermid and Gilbert Ferguson.

Anson Button arrived in Canada, from the USA, settling in Reach Township, and opening what may have been the first general store in Epsom, and in 1852 became the first postmaster. He only lived in Epsom for a short time before moving to Uxbridge, where he spent the rest of his life.

After Mr. Button left Epsom, it appears there may have been a number of storekeepers, including Timothy Munro. Mr. Munro also served as postmaster for a short time before it was purchased by Joseph H. Huckins in May 1868.

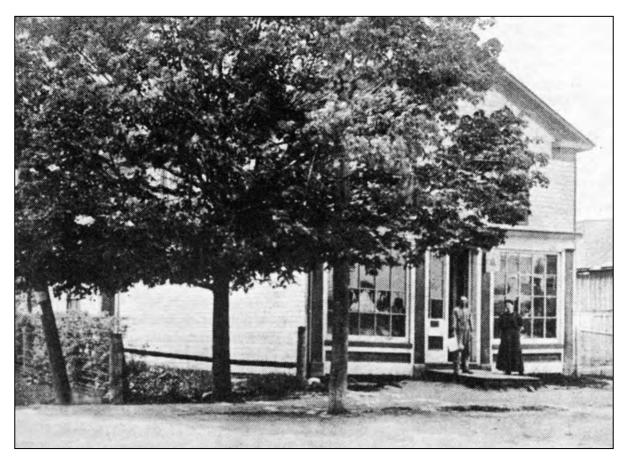
Mr. Huckins became the hamlet's new storekeeper and postmaster for about seven years. When he retired in March 1875, he leased the store to Robert Brown who operated if for a short time before selling to Richard Bray.

About the same time, 1873, there appears to have been another general store with post office in the village of Epsom, (see page 14).

Four years after purchasing Mr. Huckins general store, Richard Bray died unexpectedly, leaving his wife Susan to continue to operating the store. She sold it her daughter Mary Quant and her husband Henry in 1878.

The Quants became the new store keepers and also postmasters for the next 13 years, selling it in 1887 to Chester Asling.

Continued on page 158



The Epsom General Store, circa 1910, with Mrs. Mary Sager and Mr. Wm. Ackney near the front door.

#### JOHN C. PILKEY

As seen by the advertisement below, at the same time land registry records show the Epsom general store and post office being operated by Joseph H. Huckins, another store is listed for sale.

In September 1873, John C. Pilkey advertised his store, his dwelling and outbuildings for sale or lease, with a post office in connection with his store, (see below). During the late 1850s and 1860s there were two general stores in Epsom.

It has not been determined if Mr. Pilkey's store was the same store Mr. Huckins had leased, or another general store in the village.

John Pilkey was a Reach farmer, as listed in both the 1861 and 1871 census of Canada. He was married to Mary Carruther's in Pickering on December 20, 1860, while he was a resident of Reach Township.

During his time living near Epsom, he also served as a councillor in Reach Twp. council for at least two years, 1873 and 1874.

#### From General Store on page 157

The Aslings operated the store until 1935 and were the last family to provide general store services to the community.

The Aslings sold to Catherine Coates, who sold it to Gordon and Jean Jeffrey in November 1949. Mrs. Jeffrey was the granddaughter of Chester Asling. Mrs. Jeffrey lived there for the remainder of her life.



This building, which is now a residence, is believed to have been the former Epsom general store.

## STORE, DWELLING, &C. TO LEASE OR SELL.

## An Excellent Opening

THE Subscraber offers to lease or sell his Store in the Village of

The Store is in good condition is well established and has long commanded a good business has a general country Store. There is a Post Office in connection with the Store. Ad?oining the Store there is a good Storehouse 40x80. There is a comfortable Dwelling House attached and an acre of Garden with an excellent young Orchard.

The location is one of the most healthful and pleasant anywhere to be found.

Parties wishing ty enter on a comfortable paying country business will do well to embrace this opportunity.

TERMS EASY! OF

J. C. PILKEY.

Epsom, Sept. 17, 1873.



THE undersigned have much pleasure in announcing to the inhabitants of Epsom and vicinity that they have leased the premises lately occupied by J. C. Huckins, Esq. and that they have just received and opened out a large and well stock of the latest styles in

#### DRY GOODS!

#### Choice Fresh GROCERIES

Superior BOOTS and SHOES, a fine assortment of HARDWARE, and capital CROCK-ERY. A full assortment of ROOM PAPER. A large supply of the best PATENT MEDICINES.

Our Stock having been purchased principally for case and at the best and cheapest markets we are prepared to sell as cheap as any other House in the county.

Try our fine flavored Young Hyson Tea at 50¢. per lb.; 11 lbs beautiful Sugar for \$1; 21 lbs. Rice for \$1; 10 lbs good Cooking Raisins for \$1; 13 lbs new currants for \$1. All other Goods equally cheap. The highest price paid for Butter, Eggs and other produce.

Our motto - "Small Profits and quick returns," A liberal share of public patronage is respectfully solicited. Cash for Wool

BROWN & BRO.

Epsom, March 31st, 1875

39

## **Espom and Bethesda Schools**



Bethesda SS #10 school, above, located about 1.5 miles north of the Vilage of Epsom.

In the mid-1800s the Epsom/Bethesda area boasted two log schools, one located just off Reach Road, and the other north of Epsom. The first frame school, built in 1845, was also located north of the village.

Before the first schools were built, children were taught at home by their parents, who had often received a formal education in their homeland. The first schools in Reach Township were very primitive, rudely constructed log buildings comprised of a single room heated by a fireplace. Often the desks were little more than long shelves pegged to the wall with wooden benches for seating. There were often no chalkboards, few maps and books and nothing but a hickory stick to maintain order.

Children walked to school, often bare foot in the summer time. All eight grades were taught in this one room school, older students often helping younger students with their lessons. Students had to provide their



A view of the front and entrance of the Bethesda SS #1 school.

own paper, pens, ink and slate boards. Paper was scarce and expensive, so students learned by memorization, or wrote out lessons on their slate boards.

Many schools were kept open all year long, but fewer students attended in the spring, summer and fall, when children were needed at home on the farm.

Village Lot 1, Concession 7 was purchased from Adam Earchman to build School Section #11, in Epsom. The red brick

> school (left) measured 40'x30'x28'. The first teacher of S.S. #11 was Mr. Charles Lockyer who had a third class certificate and was paid \$300.00 a year.

> When the school opened in 1876 the school section extended from the Uxbridge town line to the Centre Road (Hwy #7 & #12) and from the north side of the 6th Concession of Reach to the south side of the 8th Concession.

The school was originally equipped with a globe, box stove, five rows of double seats, an armchair and a few maps.

> with files from Jockey Hill A Brief History of Epsom



Epsom SS #11 at King Street, (Reach Road), and Brock Street (Marsh Hill Rd.)

## Epsom Postmasters and General Store owners

#### ANSON T. BUTTON - 1852-1860



Anson T. Button was born on May 21, 1821 in Connecticut, USA. After immigrating to Canada, he settled in Uxbridge and married Mary Plank of that town.

The couple lived in Uxbridge but Anson opened a general store in Epsom during the early 1850s. He was Epsom's first postmaster, serving for eight years, from 1852-1860.

Anson T. Button

a new business, and then become Reeve of the township in 1871. He died on October 11, 1913,

Anson later returned to Uxbridge to open

in Uxbridge, Ontario, at 92 years of age, and was buried there.

#### GILBERT FERGUSSON - 1861-1867

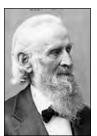
Gilbert Fergusson was born March 8, 1819 in Perth, Scotland and immigrated to Canada about 1857 with his parents, Duncan and Catherine.

In the 1861 census, Mr. Fergusson, 40, was living in Reach Township and married to Jane McDermid, whose father was his partner at the Epsom general store. Gilbert worked as a clerk at the store and served as postmaster from 1861-1867.

Gilbert Fergusson died on March 14, 1903 and was buried at Breadalbane Cemetery, Utica.

#### TIMOTHY MUNRO - 1867-1868

Timothy Munro was a Reach Township farmer who was



postmaster in Epsom for one year in 1867. He also served as justice of the peace for more than 20 years, from about 1866-1887.

Timothy was born in Mallorytown, Ontario in 1784 and was married twice. His first wife Hulda Purdy died when she was only 25 years old. He then Elizabeth Button in 1829. He was father to 11 children.

Timothy Munro

The Munro family moved to Reach Township from Markham in 1861 where he farmed the

land for more than 20 years. After retiring from farming in the 1880s he served as Justice of the Peace until the late 1880s when he moved to Uxbridge. It was here he died on January 17, 1892, having lived a long life of 88 years.

#### JOSEPH H. HUCKINS - 1868-1873

Joseph Born Sept. 24, 1827 at Whitby, Ontario. When he was 25, in 1851, he was listed as a farmer in Whitby Township.

Joseph was 22 years old when he married Mary Jane (McLane) Huckins in Ashburn on October 30, 1849. A resident of Whitby Township, he was working on a farm at the time of his marriage.

By 1861 he was working a clerk in a store in Whitby. Ten years later, in 1871 he and his family moved to Reach Township, where he became a storekeeper in Epsom and also served as postmaster for about five years.

There is no further information on Joseph Huckins until he died on April 9, 1903 in Victoria, British Columbia.

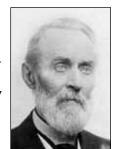
#### **EPSOM POSTMASTERS**

Anson T. Button	1852-1860
Gilbert Fergusson	1861-1867
Timothy Munro	1867-1868
Joseph H. Huckins	1868-1873
Newbry Munroe	1874-1875
Robert B. Browne	1875-1879
Henry Duant	1879-1887
Chester Asling	1887-1913

#### **NEWBURY MUNRO - 1874-1875**

Newbury Button Munro was born on February 25, 1843, in Markham, Ontario, a son for Timothy and Elizabeth Munro.

He was about 17 years old in 1860 when he moved with is parents to a farm in Reach Township, near Epsom. In addition to working on the family farm, like his father Timothy, he served as postmaster for one year in 1874.



Newbury Munro

He married Sarah M. Bartholemew on February 26, 1873, in York, Ontario and at some time during the 1880s he moved to Toronto to take a job as a clerk.

Newbury B. Munro died on January 6, 1929, at the age of 85 in York (Toronto).

#### **CHESTER ASLING - 1887-1913**

Chester Asling was born on January 10, 1859 in Reach Township, a son for his father Walter and Amanda. He attended school at Epsom and high school in Uxbridge.

He was 24 when he married Jane McGregor on July 26, 1883. They had four children during their marriage.

Chester purchased the Epsom store in 1887 and operated it until his death. He also was the postmaster from the time he bought the store until 1913.

Chester Asling died on August 18, 1926, at Epsom, Ontario, at the age of 67.



**Chester Asling** 

# Epsom 'Central House' Hotel

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

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.

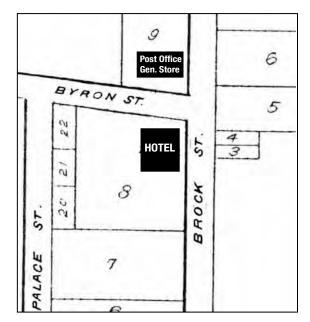
Listings in the Ontario County Directory show there were two hotels in this small hamlet in the year 1858. Hotelkeepers in the village at that time were Thomas English and Philip Houck.

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.



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

Mr. Houck purchased the hotel property from 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 Benteley 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.

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 innkeeping 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 hotel who are unknown, or listed in other reports about the history of Epsom.

TO THE TRAVELLING PUBLIC

THE subscriber, having Leased the Premises ately 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. 10-tf

Epsom, April 2, 1862.

## 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

# Epsom Hotel Tavern Owners

#### THOMAS ENGLISH

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.

#### PHILIP HOUCK

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.

## 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, prepaid) to,

WILLIAM BOLTON Epsom, May 1870

# Epsom Hotel Tavern Owners

#### JOHN HOCKRIDGE

Born in 1834 in Upper Canada, he became an innkeeper 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.

# A Rare Chance for BLACKSMITHS,

The Subacriber offers to Rent, for one or a term of years, that excellent and advantageously situated Black Smith Shop in the

VILLAGE OF EPSOM!

She will also Rent the Tools, consisting of all tools necessary in a first class blacksmithing Establishment. She also offers to sell the entire Stock at a bargain.

It but seldom happens that so excellent an opportunity is offered for entering on a business which may be made highly profitable For particulars apply to the owner on the premises. MRS. SARAH MOTSON

Epsom, April 16, 1873.

#### LUTHER H. HURD

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.

## HURD'S HOTEL Perry St., Port Perry,

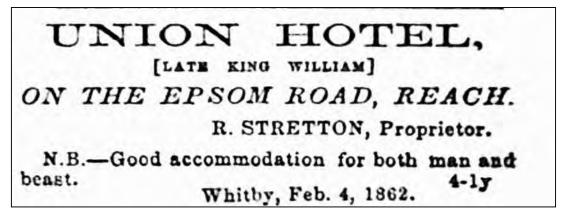
IS all that could be desired in a First-Class Hotel. The convenience and comfort of guests carefully attended to. The tables and bar supplied with the best in the market.

Feb. 27, 1884. L. H. HURD.

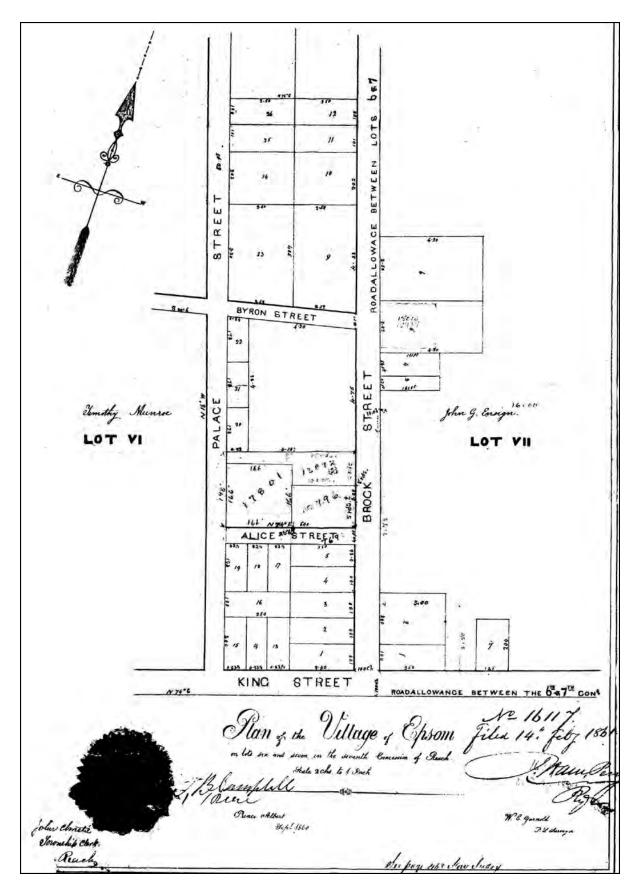
### Centre Hotel, Epsom.

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



18-27



Plan No. H-50027, of the Village of Epsom in the Township of Reach. The plan was drawn by land surveyor W.E. Yarnold and filed at Prince Albert in September 1860.

# DIRECTORIES

Listings for the Village of Epsom extracted from copies of the County of Ontario Gazetteer & Home District and County of Ontario Directories from 1857 until 1895.

**EPSOM 1857** - A small village in the Township of Reach and County of Ontario. Distance from Whitby 17 miles. Daily mail. Population about 150.

Anderson, Peter, carpenter Bolton, William, blacksmith Button, Anson, general store, postmaster Eastick, George, shoemaker English, Thomas, hotelkeeper Fagan, Henry, tailor Houck, Philip, hotelkeeper McDermid & Ferguson, general store Morrison, George, blacksmith Morrison, Lewis, carriage maker Scott, Robert, carpenter Sired, James, carpenter Wand, Robert, general store.

**EPSOM 1866** - A thriving village in the Township of Reach, 16 miles from Whitby, containing a Presbyterian Church and one Common School. Population 150.

Bolton, Wm., hotel proprietor and blacksmith Jennings, H.B., common school teacher Costhale, Wm., carriage, waggon and plow maker Holden, Sinclair John, insurance, land agents, commissioner of deed and conveyancer Hossam, John, flax and hemp manufacturer Lees, Rev. Arch'd, M.A., Presbyterian McDermid & Ferguson, general merchants McKercher, John, carpenter and millwright Mould, Frederick, butcher Morston, John, blacksmith Munro, Timothy, J.P., postmaster Sired, James, carpenter Walker, Archibald, blacksmith Walker, Edward, cabinet maker and furniture Watson, John, weaver Wood, John, carpenter.

EPSOM 1869 - A village in the Township of Reach, 18 Miles from Whitby, Population 100.

Castello, W., wagonmaker English, J. farmer Fulton, J. butcher Hawsame, J., farmer Henderson, J., labourer Huckins, Joseph C., postmaster, merchant Lynde, H.C. hotelkeeper Marston, J., blacksmith Munro, T., J.P., farmer McDowell, T.H., shoemaker Stilwell, J., labourer Walker, A., blacksmith

**EPSOM 1871**- A small village in the township of Reach, county of Ontario. Distance from Whitby, the County town and station of the Grand Trunk Railway, 16 miles, fare \$1; from Toronto 28 miles. Mail daily. Population about 80.

Bentley, John, hotelkeeper Costello, William, waggonmaker Crathers, George, groom Dolby, Thomas, carpenter Earchman, Adam, farmer English, John, farmer Foulton, John, butcher Hockridge, John, veterinary surgeon

**EPSOM 1884** - A village in Reach township, Ontario County, 20 miles north of Whitby, the County seat, and 5 east of Uxbridge, the nearest railway station and bank location, from whence it receives a daily mail by stage. It contains three Methodist churches and a public school, and ships produce. Population, 100.

Henry Quant, postmaster. Beswick Temple, butcher Costello, Wm, carriagemaker Marr, Cornelius, blacksmith. Mirtsin, John, blacksmith. Munro, Timothy, justice of peace. Quant Henry, General Store, Reynolds, George, hotel. Scott, Miss Sarah, music teacher. Terry, Wm., blacksmith Washington, Rev W.C. (Methodist) Huckins, Joseph C., postmaster, storekeeper McDonald, Alexander, farmer McDonell, Thomas H., shoemaker Mortson, Philip, blacksmith Munroe, Timothy, farmer Smith, John, farmer Stillwell, James, laborer Walker, Archibald, blacksmith

**EPSOM 1895** - A post office in Reach Twp., Ontario County, 20 miles north of Whitby, the County seat, and 5 miles east of Uxbridge, the nearest railway and banking point. It contains a Methodist church and public school. Stages daily to Uxbridge. Population 100. Mail daily. Chester Asling, postmaster.

Asling Chester, general store and post office Costello Wm., carriage manufacturer Eachman, F. horse dealer Lewis, Rev. E. Dewart (Methodist) Munro, H., cattle buyer Rose, Alonzo, hotel and livery Scott, Richard, apiarist Terry, Wm., blackstmith and horseshoer Watson, Fred, carpenter and builder Watson, Thomas, carpenter and joiner

## **Espom and Bethesda Churches**



Long before the first church was established in Epsom circuit riders traveled the length and breadth of Ontario County bringing the comfort of religion to those who were entirely cut off from the ministry. These circuit riders traveled on horseback or on foot, held sermons in the homes of early settlers, organized camp meetings and presided over weddings and funerals.

The first church built in the Epsom area came about 1845. It was a log church situated on the corner of the 8th concession and Brock Road, a short distance north of Epsom village.

As the congregation grew, a second church was built in 1887 on the west side of Brock Street (Marsh Hill Rd.), about one concession north of Epsom village. This became the Bethesda church, which was described as; a splendid looking church of double red brick and pine lumber, with the inside complimented by a full basement.

The Wesleyan Methodist Church now the United Church, was built in 1868 on Lot 12, at the north end of the village. The lot was sold by George Hargrave to the Wesleyan Church Trustees in 1868, and a frame wooden church constructed. The church was later elevated, and bricked.

> Prior to the building of a parsonage (right) for the minister in Epsom, the minister would stay with members in the circuit or commuted from his residence in Uxbridge. In November of 1879, a committee was for to find a suitable site for the construction a parsonage. Timothy Monroe provided Lot 21 on Palace Street to build the parsonage.

The Epsom Wesleyan Methodist Church about 1890.



The Bethesda brick church was built about 1887, a little north of the village of Epsom at the 9th concession.



The Epsom Church parsonage on Palace Street.

# SEAGRAVE

## A Brief History

A few miles north of Port Perry, nestled in a picturesque valley beside the Nonquon river, is the community of Seagrave. Just how it got it's name is a mystery, but at least one legend suggests it was originally intended to be called "Seagrove", but somewhere along the line the name was changed.

It is also said that before being named Seagrave, the village was known as Sonya, but in 1861 the post office and the village name was moved a mile north to the present day Sonya.

Long before the village had any identity, Solomon Orser arrived from Kingston, Ontario with two steers and a dog. Mr. Solomon is estimated to have arrived towards the end of 1830, settling on 100 acres of land described as lot 9, concession 8.

The earliest days were by no means easy for him, due to dangers from wild animals and with few visits from pioneers or local natives. But here he settled and began clearing the land for farming. He was also built a small tavern near his home.

More than a year after Solomon Orser arrived, John Mark became a settler. He was followed by Solmon's brother Jeremiah, James Moon and Charles Black and Thomas Shaw. Mr. Moon's homestead was located south of the Nonquon, where he opened the Nonquon House tavern. Mr. Black settled on the north side of the river, opening a tavern on his property.

Charles and Elizabeth Coryell moved to Seagrave and took over one of the hotel in the village 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, but burned to the ground eight years later. The following year, 1881, a new hotel, the Ocean House was built across the road and that building survives today.

In 1873 a post office was reopened with the name Seagrave. Abraham O'Coryell (Coryell) became the first postmaster, serving in that position until 1877.

The first church to serve the congregation of Epsom and surrounding countryside was the Methodist Episcopal church which is believed to have opened in the 1840s.

About 1860 pioneer John Shaw donated a piece of land across the road from his home, south of Seagrave for a new church. It was completed in 1863 and became known as Bethel Church.

The first Methodist Church was built in the village about 1873. A second church was erected in 1893 and the present United Church was opened in 1906.



Ocean House hotel in the centre of the business district, Seagrave, about 1880.

## SEAGRAVE

HOW IT GOT ITS NAME?

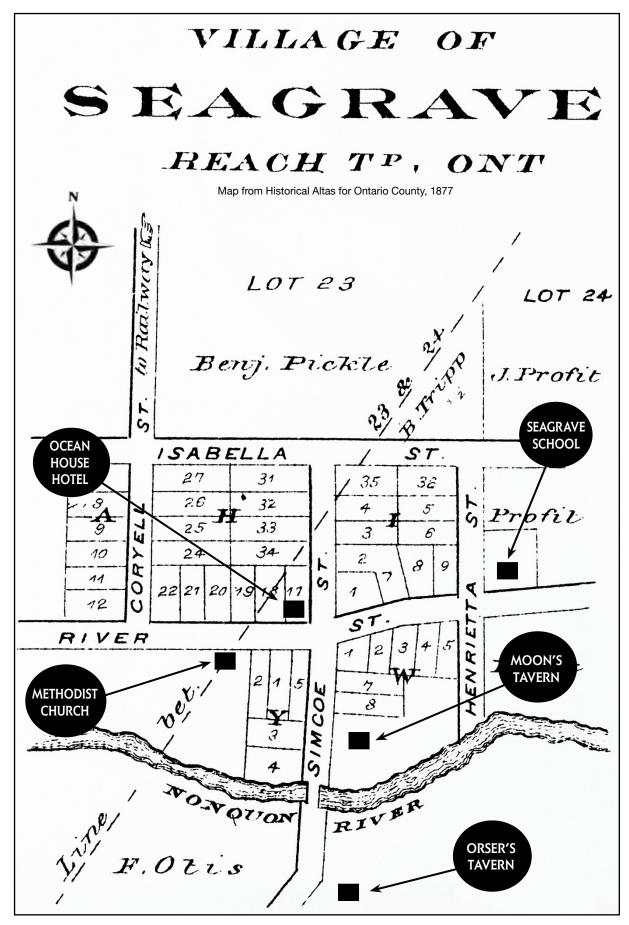
Just how the village of Seagrave was named is a mystery, although prior to 1861 it was known as Sonya.

Research shows 'Seagrave' is usually of English origin and is a locational name is taken from the village of Seagrave in Leicestershire, England.

The name is derived from the old English words 'set', meaning an animal pen or enclosure and 'graf meaning a ditch or grove.

Using this analogy, the early settlers may have litterally used the meaning of the name – thinking of the Seagrave valley as a 'grove or pen' where animals roamed free.

Or it could simply have been named after the town of Seagrave in England.



## **Early Settlers**

## **Thomas and Charlotte Shaw**

Thomas and Charlotte Shaw left their home in York (Toronto) in 1841 and made their way to Reach when it was little more than a wilderness. The adventurous young couple and their two infant sons settled on Lots 23 and 24, Conc. 11, becoming the lone pioneers of this remote section of the township. It was more than three months after their arrival before Catherine was to see the face of a white woman.

Thomas was a man of considerable means and great force of character so he was not easily discouraged. He immediately cleared a small piece of land and erected a modest log cabin making it as comfortable as possible for his family.

Not satisfied with this crude home, it was not long before he constructed a more comfortable frame home. This was the first of two homes he built. The next home, built about 1863, was far more stately and for its time was considered the most comfortable, commodious and valuable farm dwelling in the township.

The new frame home featured a widow's walk on top of the roof, surrounded with small paned windows. From the interior the windows were at eye level, providing a fine view in all directions. Originally these observation decks were used by wives awaiting their husbands' return from the fields or trips to town.

Thorough his sheer energy and perseverance, the wilderness the Shaw's had settled years earlier, was converted into a veritable paradise. No finer lands could be found than the farms possessed by Mr. Shaw, and in his honor the growing community was christened "Shaw's Neighborhood."

By 1846, at his own expense he donated a portion of his land across from their majestic home and erected a log schoolhouse and for many years paid for a teacher. The school

became known locally as Shaw's School, and later became a branch of the Methodist



Bethel Methodist Episcopal Church, circa 1880

Church with Miss Sophia Shaw as a missionary collector.

The Shaws owned the first buggy in the township and were noted far and wide for their generosity and hospitality. Their doors were open to all, irrespective of their color, creed or nationality, and were on all occasions treated royally.

Not content with having provided a school, the Shaws continued to help build the community by providing more land for a cemetery near the school, and in 1863 all the neighbors gathered for a bee to raise the Shaw church.

Thomas Shaw was only 51 years old when he died on December 9, 1863, not long after completing the new home for his family. He was buried in Bethel Cemetery, the cemetery he created years earlier beside the Shaw church.

> Charlotte Shaw died 38 years later, at the residence of her daughter and son-in-law in Port Perry on Saturday, February 16th, 1901 at 80 years of age. She was survived by three daughters.

> > Following the death of Mrs. Shaw, an iron box of 17th century construction, the property of the family, was opened and among the contents was a Crown Deed, dated 1817 conveying large portion of the eastern part of Little York (now

Toronto) to Mr. Shaw's father, and a letter over one hundred years old.



THE STREET

THE ACTER AND AND AND

Sketch of the home of Thomas and Charlotte Shaw circa 1875



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

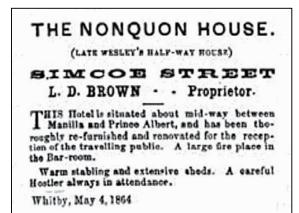
# Seagrave Taverns & Hotels

Solomon Orser, the first settler in the village of Seagrave, also became the settlements first innkeeper, 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 every 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 Mr. 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 served 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 know how long Mr. Latimore 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

#### 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.

Seagrave, May 1, 1879

W. S. LATIMOR

and opened a new hotel in the village in 1850. He named it the Corvell 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 outbuildings.

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 quests 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.

# Hotels and Innkeepers

## 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 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 innkeeper 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 sonin-law. James Broad died at Parry Sound in May 1904, and was interred at Pine Grove Cemetery, Prince Albert.

#### **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 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 Nonguon House, beside the Nonguon 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.

# **Seagrave Postmasters**

Abram Coryell (O'Coryell) became the first postmaster for the village of Seagrave in 1873. Mr. Coryell was the grandson of one of the village's earliest settlers, Abram Coryell, and son of Charles E. Coryell who arrived in the village in 1850 and died in 1872.

After the death of his father, his mother returned to Whitby, but the young Coryell, who was 24 years old, became the first postmaster for Seagrave.

Abram Coryell resigned the position in January 1877, which began a series of short term postmasters.

The first person to take over as postmaster after Abram Coryell was Nathaniel Thorn, who held the position for just over one year, resigning the end of August, 1878.

Richard N. Snooks was the next postmaster, but after less than a year, in May 1879, he passed away. Following Mr. Snooks, to temporarily fill the post was



Abram Coryell

## SEAGRAVE POSTMASTERS

Abram O'Coryell	1873-1877
Nathaniel Thorn	1877-1878
Richard N. Snooks	1879-1879
Timothy Brabazon	1879-1879
John Allin	1880-1886
Robert Thompson	1887-1908

resigning in October 1879. The first man to take on the job full time from his general store was John Allin. He became postmaster in April 1880 and served six years, resigning the end of December 1886.

Timothy Brabazon who served as postmaster until

General store owner Robert Thompson became the longest serving postmaster during the 1800s, assuming the position in 1887 and holding the post for 21 years, before resigning in 1908.



Wagons pull up in front of the Seagrave General Store circa 1885.

A.FAREWELL'S PLAN SONYA TOWNSHIP OF REACH Filia. 3" November 1863. Registration Nº 22200 \_ A Maulen LOT XXIV LOT XXIII STREET \* se ..... 2 ISABELLA STREET - 1 h m 00 ы 35 36 23 ш 100 8 -1 12 5 26 C. CORYE 25 2210104 100 35 6 BLOCK S Ŀΰ 34 C 10 11 ĊD STREET 2/ 20 12 NSTE RIVER N45'35'E ā W-85.W TA Ú. PLAN VILLAGE .. SONYA ON LOTS XXIII S XXIV IN THE XIII CONCESSION Farmell OF REACH Strate Schringto I Such Gentefuel a somet Han H.E. Garmetel P. Sul. Rince albert april 15. 1861 11.6. Jounda

An April 1861 plan of the Village of Sonya, and the location of the Sonya Post Office. When the post office was moved a few miles north about 1873, it took with it the name Sonya. It was then the original Sonya village was renamed Seagrave.

# Churches of Seagrave and Bethel



Bethel Methodist Episcopal Church, circa 1880



Seagrave Methodist (United) Church 1906.

In 1828 the Methodist Episcopal Church in Canada was founded. Five years later in 1833 this church united with the Wesleyan Methodists of England but in 1834 the Methodist Episcopal Church was reconstituted. It was to this branch of Methodism that Bethel and Seagrave Churches belonged until the union of all Methodism in 1884.

Services continued from about 1845 until 1860 when pioneer Thomas Shaw donated a triangular piece of land across from his Simcoe Street home, to be used as the site of a church and cemetery. The congregation responded to his generosity and construction of the new Bethel Methodist Episcopal Church got underway.

Services took place in this church until 1912 when the Bethel membership was transferred to Seagrave Church. The Bethel church was closed and sold in 1928.

The old Bethel cemetery still remains but no burials have taken place in many years. Names prominent in Bethel records are Shaw, Sleep, Moon, Rose and Purdy.

The first church and parsonage in Seagrave were built in 1873 on the Lot 14 Isabella Court, Seagrave. Not long after the parsonage was erected it was destroyed by fire in 1892. The parsonage was rebuilt in 1893 by contractor and builder John Stovin, of Port Perry.

As the population grew, interest became keener for a larger church. Plans were started for the present church in 1906. The first sod was turned by Mr. C.W. Moon with a horse and single plow.

# Seagrave Public School



The Seagrave Public School, circa 1890.

It is believed the first school house for children of settlers in the vicinity of Seagrave was 1845. This information comes from an article written by Rev. Weir reporting the first school for which children was built between the 13th and 14th concession in 1845.

A second school, known as the Nonquon school, was built south about 1.5 miles south of the village in 1848.

The picture, left, taken in the early 1900s, is the Seagrave school, which was located one block east of the general store.

By February 1870, a report on the schools of Reach Township shows a total of 19 schools in operation with a total of 800 students attending classes.

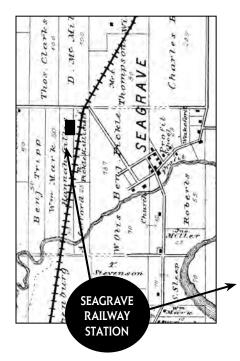


The Seagrave railway station, circa 1900.

## Railway service comes to Seagrave

The Seagrave railway station seen above, was constructed about 1873, after the rail line was extended from Port Perry to Lindsay.

The original Port Whitby and Port Perry Railway (PW&PPR), began at Whitby and passed through the communities of Brooklin, Myrtle, High Point, Manchester, Prince Albert



and terminated at Port Perry. The first train arrived in Port Perry in 1871.

Three years later the company obtained the rights to extend the railway northward to Lindsay through Seagrave, Manilla, and Cresswood. It was then renamed the Whitby, Port Perry and Lindsay Railway. A formal opening, and the first regular train over the new extension line to Lindsay took place on July 30, 1877 to great fanfare.

With the success of the railway accomplished, in March 1877, James Holden, managing director of the line, called for tenders to erect of grain store houses at Seagrave, Oakwood and Little Britain.

While the arrival of the railway, north of Port Perry was greeted favourably, the service wasn't always reliable. On one occasion in October 1877, residents complained to railway officials, reporting a train whistled by 100 passengers at Seagrave and Sonya stations, while they were waiting to be picked up and taken to the Lindsay Central Fair.



## Nonquon Navigation Company

It's unlikely many people have heard about "The Nonquon River Navigation Improvement Company," but this company was actually incorporated in 1854. Following are extracts from the incorporation document:

"Be it Remembered, that on this nineteenth day of June, in the year of Our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty-four, we the undersigned stockholders met at Harmony, in the Township of Whitby, in the County of Ontario, and Province of Canada, and resolved to form ourselves into a company to be entitled "The Nonquon River Navigation Improvement Company," ... for the purpose of constructing a dam six feet high, above high water mark, across the Nonquon River or Creek, in the thirteenth concession of the Township of Reach, and slide in connection therewith, so as to facilitate the transmission of timber down the said river; and we do herby declare that the capital stock of the said company shall be one thousand pounds, to be divided into two hundred shares at the price of five pounds each, ... and we do hereby nominate Abram Farewell, R. Hudson, Job Wilson Fowke, Hugh Bowie, and Charles Farewell, to be the first directors of the said company."

Following is a description of the work to be undertaken:

- Dam, six feet above high water, forty yards long.
  - Total estimated cost of construction £800.

An estimate was made from the best available sources of the quantity of different kinds of timber expected to pass down the river yearly:

- 1000 pieces of pine timber.
- 500 pieces hardwood timber.
- 5000 sawlogs.

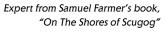
• 5000 cords of wood.

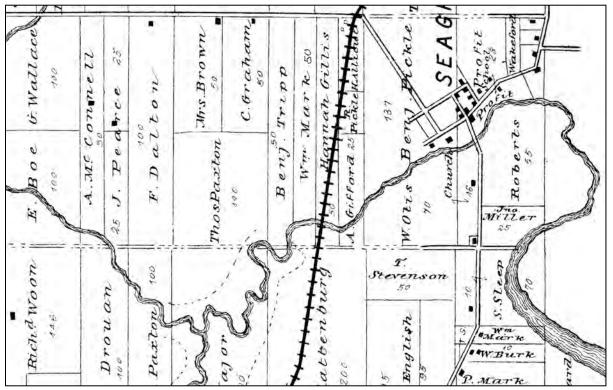
100 cords of hoop stuff.

• 200 cords of shingle bolts.

- 200 cedar passes.
- 600,000 staves.

It appears this company never did more than take out its incorporation papers and receive the sanction of the County Council. These facts were taken from the "Journal of Proceedings of the Municipal Council of the County of Ontario."





The Nonquon River can be seen above winding its way through Seagrave, on its way to Lake Scugog. It's not clear exactly where the proprosed dam was proposed, but probably east of the village closer to the lake.

1882 - DIRECTORIES - 1892

From Gazetteers & Directories for the Province of Ontario.

**SEAGRAVE 1882** - A post village in Ontario County, on the Whitby, Port Perry, Lindsay railway. It has 2 churches. Montreal Dominion and Great Northwestern Telegraph Cos. Lines have an office here. Distance from Port Perry 7 miles, from Toronto 56 miles. Population 100.

Allin, John, general store, brush factory Broad, James, hotel Carr P., & Son (P. and Manly Carr), grain cradle manufacturers Crooks, J.L., agent Whitby, Port Perry and Lindsay Railway and Canadian Express Co. Ferguson, James, boots and shoes

Johnston, Winthrop & Beattie, Arch, agents agricultural implements. Miller, Arthur, grain dealer Pomeroy, rev. W., Episcopal Methodist Starr, Lorne & Carr, Manly, blacksmiths.

**SEAGRAVE 1886** - A country post office on the Mid div GTRy, in Reach township, Ontario County, 25 miles north of Whitby, the County seat, and 7 miles north of Port Perry, the nearest bank location. It contains Methodist and Christian churches and a public school, and ships grain and produce. Population 100. Telegraph GNW Express, Canadian. Mail daily John Allin, postmaster.

Allin, John, general store, brush manufacturer Beatttie, A., agricultural implements Broad, James, hotel Grand Trunk Railway Miller, Arthur, grain dealer Scott, Rev. N.E., methodist Starr, Lawrence, blacksmith Thompson, Robert, general store.

**SEAGRAVE 1892** - A post office on the Mid div. GTR, in Reach Twp., Ontario Cty, 25 miles north of Whitby, the County seat, and 7 miles north of Port Perry, the nearest bank location. It contains Methodist and Christian churches and a public school. Population 100. Telegraph GNW Express Canada Mail daily. Robert Thompson, postmaster.

Broad, James, hotel Can. Express Co., James Crooks, agent Crooks, James, express and railway agent Flannery, Thomas, blacksmith Firse, Edward, shoemaker Grand Trunk Ry., J. Cronks, agent Griffin, Samuel, carpenter Kenney, Rev. George, H. (Methodist) King, David, agricultural impliments Ding, David N., insurance agents Leggott Rev. T.w. (Methodist) McKinley, James, agricultural impliments Miller, Arthure, J.P., grain and produce Miller, John, grain and produce Pickell, Belding, grain and produce Sleep, Alfred, general store Stevenson, Joseph, carriage maker Thompson, Robert, general store and post office Wakeford, Thomas & Sons, coopers.

#### SEAGRAVE 1884-85 - A village on the Mid div

GTRy., in Reach township, Ontario County, 25 miles north of Whitby, the County seat and north of Port perry, the nearest bank location. It contains Methodist and Baptist churches, and public school, and ships grain and produce. Population 100. Telegraph, GNW Express Canadian. Mail daily. John Allen, postmaster

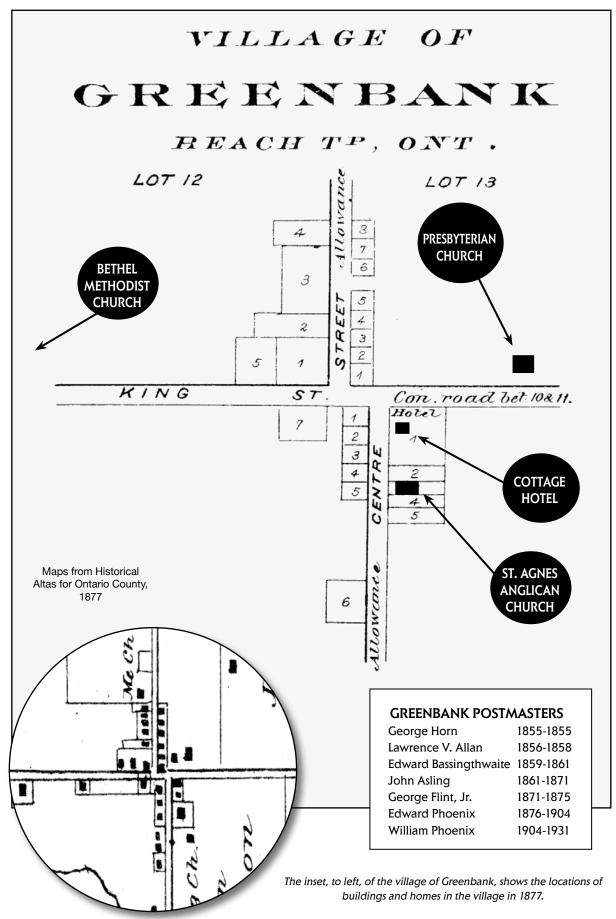
Allin, John, general store and brush factory Broad, James, hotel Crooks J. L, railroad and exp. agent GNW Telegraph Co. Laidlaw, Rev. W.H., (Methodist) Millar, John, grain dealer Millar, Arthur, grain dealer Starr, Laurence, blacksmith Thompson, Robert, general store.

**SEAGRAVE 1888** - A country post office on the Mid div GT Ry, in Reach tp, On-tario Co, 25 miles north of Whitby, the county seat, and 7 north of Port Perry, the nearest bank location. It contains Methodist and Christian churches and a public school. Population, 100. Telegraph, GNW. Express, Canadian. Mail daily. Robert Thompson, postmaster.

Allin John, brush manufacturer Beattie A, agriculture implements. Broad James, hotel. Deckell, B., grain dealer Flannery Thomas, blacksmith. Frise Edward, shoemaker. Miller Arthur, justice of peace. Miller John, grain dealer. Stevenson Joseph, carriage maker. Teckell Belding, grain dealer Trise, Edward, boot and shoe maker Thompson Robert, general store. Wakford Thomas, cooper.

**SEAGRAVE 1895** - A post office on the Mid div GTRy, in Reach Twp., Ontario Cty, 24 miles north of Whitby, the County seat, and 7 miles north of Port Perry, the nearest bank location. It contains Methodist and Christian churches and a public school. Population 100. Telegraph GNW Express Canada. Mail daily. Robert Thompson, postmaster.

Broad, James, hotel Can. Express Co., James Crooks, agent Crooks, James, express and railway agent Flannery, Thomas, blacksmith Firse, Edward, shoemaker Grand Trunk Ry., J. Cronks, agent Griffin, Samuel, carpenter Kenney, Rev. George, H. (Methodist) McKinley, James, agricultural impliments Miller, Arthure, J. P., grain and produce Miller, John, grain and produce Pickell, B, grain and produce Sleep, Alfred, general store Stevenson, Joseph, carriage maker Thompson, Robert, general store and post office Wakeford, Thomas & Sons, coopers.



# GREENBANK

The Township of Reach was named after Colonel Reach and was surveyed by Major Wilmot in 1809. In 1811 the first Crown Grant of 200 acres in the north half of Reach, located east of the Centre Road, was made to Mrs. Eleanor Phoenix of United Empire Loyalists stock.

By 1833 a partial road through the Township opened up, linking Epsom to Uxbridge. It was a somewhat serviceable road, suitable only for ox-carts, but it opened up northern Reach to new settlers.

The same year, a number of settlers took up land about Greenbank. Timothy and Isaac Cragg; Robert and Samuel Baird; George Patterson, Robert Wells, and one Adams were amongst these.

The original village of Greenbank was located at the 12th Concession and Old Brock Road. This is where the Craggs', one of the founding families of Greenbank, settled in 1833. A school, church, and blacksmith shop quickly sprouted in the new village, which was originally named Gimlet Town.

An inn was also opened with Isaac Cragg as

proprietor. Gimlet Town was abandoned in the late 1860s as businesses deserted the area in favour of the newer and popular Centre Road (Highway 12 today) and 11th Concession location. There are no traces of the old road remaining.

The new village was called Smith's Corners after the owner of the local tavern. In 1861 it assumed it's present name of Greenbank, being named after David Cragg's farm in Lancashire, England. The village, at it's peak, had eleven commercial establishments.

Edward Bassingthwaite is the first recorded merchant. He opened his general store, inn and blacksmith shop, circa 1857 and remained the only merchant for several years.

The 1870s were a decade of expansion, with four general merchants, a saddler, tailor, dressmaker, two smiths (one a wheelwright) and two shoemakers opening shops.

However, by the end of WWI all but the Phoenix store, and one other store, had disappeared.

## **Pioneer Settlers of Greenbank**

### **Isaac Cragg**

Isaac Craig was one of the founding fathers of Greenbank.

He was born on May 15, 1808 in Lancaster, Lancashire, England and at the age of 25 emigrated to Canada with his parents, David and Mary and his siblings. They first settled in York (Toronto) before moving to Reach Township settling on Lot 11, Conc. 11.

Isaac married Margaret Wells at Greenbank on August 29, 1836. They had nine children before Margaret became ill and died in 1857. Isaac then married Hannah Smith of Minden on August 29, 1858 and they had six children together.



ISAAC CRAIG

By 1851, Isaac had cleared 46 acres of land, well above the average farmer who cleared 22 acres. He focussed his production on butter, wool and cloth.

Isaac Craig died on February 14, 1874, in Greenbank, Ontario, at the age of 65, and was buried there.

During his life he established the first inn in the town, with himself as innkeeper and farmer.

### **Robert Baird**

Robert Baird was one of the pioneer settlers in the northern districts of Reach Township, arriving in the mid-1830s.

He was born in Ireland in 1811, the only child for his parents, James and Ann Baird, and immigrated to Canada as a young man.

He settled in Reach Township about 1833 near Greenbank where he began his life work as a farmer.

After settling into his new home, he sent for his fiance, Mary McCully who joined him in Canada. They were married July 9, 1839 he married Mary (Margaret) McCully. Robert and Mary raised a family of 10 children over the next 21 years.

He lived his entire life on his farm Lot 16, Con. 13 and died on May 16, 1898, in at his home in Reach Township, having lived a long life of 87 years. Mary died on December 28, 1903 at the age of 84.

## **Pioneer Settlers of Greenbank**

### John Beare

John Len Beare was born on November 14, 1820 at Devon England. While a young man living in England he met his future wife, Harriett F. Abbott, but left there to immigrate to Canada at age 19,

After arriving in Canada, John worked as a tailor in



Markham for a short time before moving northeast into the newly opened Township of Reach In 1843. Here he squatted on 100 acres on the south half of Lot 5 on the 11th Concession, which is now known as 475 Cragg Rd. in Scugog Township.

After building a two-storey

JOHN BEARE frame house and log barn, he sent for his fiance Harriet, back home in England. Next he

purchased his 100 acres of land, plus an additional 200 acres where he grew wheat, hay and peas and raised pigs and cattle.

Harriett and John raised five sons and six daughters and quickly outgrew the original farmhouse, leaving behind a hired hand to run the farm. Mr. Beare would go on to become one of the most successful farmers and largest landholders in the area.

John Len Beare was 92 years old when he died on April 5, 1914, after spending his entire life in Reach Township farming. We was buried at the Bethel Cemetery, Greenbank.

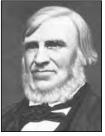
### John Ianson

John lanson was born on January 16, 1807 in Westmoreland, England to James

and Mary lanson. It's believed he arrived in Canada during the early 1830s

John married Margaret Hunter of Scarborough, Ontario in 1835 and they had four children during their marriage.

John lanson was said



JOHN IANSON

to be a hot tempered and aggressive investor and speculator. After the lansons settled in Reach Township in the early 1840s, he accumulated more than 500 acres of land between 1844 and 1851.

It's believed it was Margaret's wealthy family who provided the funds came for John to purchase the lands. Although driven, he later passed all his properties over to his wife and children.

John Ianson was 77 when he died on April 28, 1884, in Scarborough, Ontario and was returned to Greenbank where he was buried at Bethel Cemetery. Margaret died on July 23, 1866 and was buried beside her husband.



View of the village of Greenbank, about 1911.

## Early Greenbank Homesteads

#### **CRAGG HOMESTEAD**

The home of Isaac Cragg, one of the founding fathers of Greenbank. Built on Lot 11, Concession 11, the house was directly west of Old Brock Road and was the foundation of the original village of Gimlet Town.

Isaac opened the first inn in the village, which was very successful early on, as there were few places for travellers to rest along the Brock Road between Epsom and Brock Township.





#### LEE HOMESTEAD

This home, owned by Joseph and Rosina Lee was built about 1865 by their son-in-law, James Miller. It was located on the east side of Centre Rd., between the United Church and Centennial Hall.

The clap-board finished building had a main part with one large room, two small bedrooms, a kitchen downstairs and a low ceiling over two upstairs rooms.

When Joseph retired he build a house just north of the village. Joseph was a local preacher and at the time of his death in 1897 he was credited with being the founder of Methodism in the community.

#### **BEARE HOMESTEAD**

The home of Elijah Beare, son of John Sr. and Harriet Beare. The house was built about 1880. Elijah was born on July 11, 1960. He was 25 when he married Margaret Wallace in February 1880 and they had three children before she died at 32 years of age. He then married Margarets neice Allie McMillan in 1890 and they had three children. Although Beare's Mill was started by his father, it was Elijah who was best known as the real Beare of Beare's Mill, operating it for more than 20 years.





#### IANSON HOMESTEAD

John lanson and Margaret lanson built this attractive house in 1864 after arriving in Greenbank, Reach Township and purchasing their property in the early 1860s. It's believed it was Margaret's wealthy family who provided the funds came for John to purchase the lands.

The white frame house, built about 1875, has eight large rooms and two halls in the west part and seven rooms in the east half and always housed a second family.



This early circa 1910 photo shows the Methodist (United) Church, top left, and the old St. Agnes Anglican Church, far right.

## General Stores & Postmasters

Greenbank's post office officially opened on February 1, 1855, with the hamlet's first postmaster being George Horn. Mr. Ham was the shortest serving postmaster, only handling the mail for nine months before resigning.

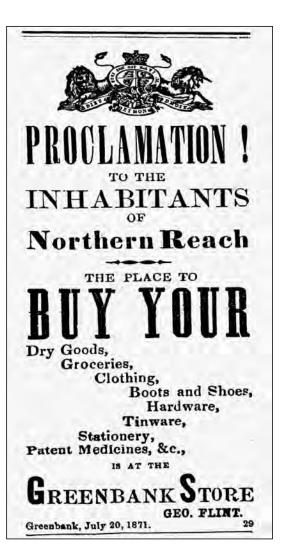
Following his resignation, the next person to accept the position of postmaster was Lawrence V. Allan, who served for about two and a half years before resigning near the end of 1858.

Edward Bassingthwaithe, like the two men before him, only held the job of postmaster for a short time. Mr. Bassingthwaite took over in February 1959 and served two years before resigning in January 1861.

Finally in June 1861 Greenbank acquired postmaster who held the position for a lengthy time. John Asling took over the job in June 1861 and handled the mail for 10 years, resigning the end of March, 1871.

George Flint, Jr., took over from Mr. Asling, and spent the next four years in the position, resigning in the end of 1875.

Edward Phoenix assumed caring for Greenbank's mail in January 1876 and was the postmaster for 24 years, until his death in January 1904. William Phoenix took over at the post office after the death of Edward and served as postmaster until the end of November 1930, a total of 26 years.



## Greenbank's Public School

One of the first community buildings to be erected in a new settlement, after the churches, was the school.

Greenbank's school, SS#12, was the first in the Township of Reach. Isaac Cragg donated land at the southeast corner of his property, adjacent to the old Brock Road and next to Cooperthwaite's blacksmith shop for the school, and the logs to build it, circa 1847.

It was several years before the school was open on a regular basis throughout the year. Isaac was one of the first Trustees and his brother Timothy the Secretary Treasurer. The first school master was James Harlow.

A frame building followed the early log cabin. In 1865, the school was moved to the geographic centre of the school section and the new village of Greenbank, at the intersection of Centre Road and Concession 11.

In 1874 the new frame board and batten school structure was built. In 1909 vestibules were added to to ensure girls and boys entered separately, a common occurance at that time.

The reputation of the Greenbank school was such that students from as far away as Marsh Hill and Saintfield walked over three miles to attend classes.

The consolidated school, the single storey yellow building in front of the old school house on Cragg Road, was added in 1960. This resulted in Grade 7 and Grade 8 students attending the "yellow schoo house" on Old Simcoe Road and Conc. 8, being bussed to the new Greenbank Public School.

The birth of the consolidated school marked the closing of several other area schools, including Bethesda, Marsh Hill, Saintfield, Seagrave, and Victoria Corners. Children that attended those schools were bussed to Greenbank's new school.

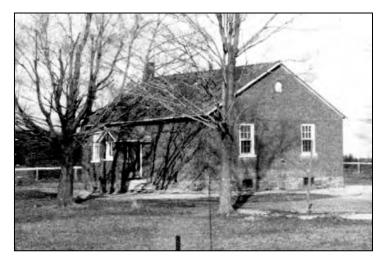
The next addition came in 1988 with the construction of the gymnasium, an office and a staff room. The final addition came in the early 1990s when the large kindergarten classroom was added.



The first frame school, built west of the village of Greenbank. The school was moved east of the village in 1865.



Greenbank SS #12 School, constructed in 1874.



The Greenbank Public School as it looked about 1972.

## Greenbank's Cottage Hotel

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 the mid-1860s it was being operated by Robert Murta, and in 1874 R. McCrae was the proprietor.

William Butson was the next owner, purchasing the hospital from Mr. Murta about 1870. There is some confusion as to whether "Butson's Hall" was in fact the Cottage Hotel, or a part of the hotel.

Mr. Butson only operated the hotel for a few years before moving from Greenbank. He continued to own the hotel, so it is assumed he leased it for about hour years before selling it.

In early 1880 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 once again 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.

There is no further information regarding the Cottage Hotel, although in 1892 Chester Vanlenvan 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 is desirous of informing the public that he has purchased the above premises, which he has renovated throughout. First class Liquors and Cigars, and the best accommodation with careful attention can always be found. Good stabling, enclosed yards, and attentive Ostlers.

R. A. MURTA. Greenbank, June 12, 1867.

### OTTAGE HOTEL.

#### GREENBANE R. MCRAE, PROPRIETOE.

The above hotel has undergone a thorough renovation, and has been fitted up with a view to the comfort and conventence of the traveling public. Strict attention paid to the table and the bar. Comfortable stables and an attentive ostler. Greenbank, March 25, 1874.

### **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 June 1867 and operated it until about 1870 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 innkeeper 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 1870 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. Butson's Hall may have been in the Cottage Hotel.

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.



44-1v

### J. V. Thompson Hotel Owner and Innkeeper

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.

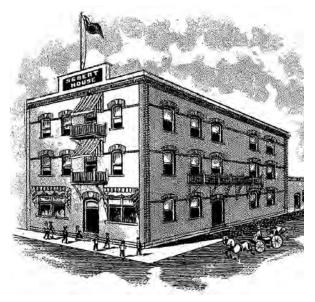
In addition to his hotel ventures in Port Perry, James Thompson and his family moved to Greenbank, where he rented and renovated the Cottage Hotel, opening it in May 1880.

Four years later James returned to Port Perry and opened the magnificent new Thompson House hotel. The new building was a threestory, 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.

GREENBANK. HE undersigned would inform the public that he has rented for a term of years the premises formerly known as the Cottage Hotel, Greenbank, and baving 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



Sketch of the Sebert House hotel, located on the northwest corner of Queen and Water Streets, Port Perry. This is now the location of the CIBC bank.

Below: James V. Thompson's tender for the construction of his new 3-storey brick hotel in Port Perry. The new hotel became known as the Sebert House in 1884.

### TENDERS WANTED! **TENDERS** will be received by the undersigned up till noon on SATURDAY, MARCH 1st, 1884 for the MASON WORK (Stone Work, Brick Work, and Plastering) for a BRICK RII First story 11 feet ceilings, second story 10 feet ceiling, third story 9 feet ceiling. One partition of the lower story to be of brick. The building to be erected on the ocrner of Queen and Water Streets, Port Perry. For further particulars apply at the OB-SERVER Office, Port Perry, where Plans, &c., may be seen. The lowest or any tender not necessarily accepted. Also tenders wanted for supply of 150 yards of sand.

Feb. 23, 1884.

## **Greenbank Places of Worship**

The Greenbank community at one time boasted four churches: Anglican, Methodist, Baptist and Presbyterian.

**THE FIRST CHURCH** and the first religious services in the area were held in a log barn on the property of Edward Bassingthwaite which also served as a schoolhouse. This facility was used until 1848, when a Primitive Methodist frame structure was constructed. The church, plastered inside, with neat doors and windows, and bench seats with backs, was erected in the Bethel Cemetery grounds and was the first place of worship of any denomination in the Township of Reach.

This original frame church was replaced in the early 1860s with a white, brick church east of the village on the north side of the road. The cement steps were later erected at the entrance of the cemetery to honour Mr. Bassingthwaite. There are over 85 individuals buried in the Bethel cemetery.

**THE ANGLICAN CHURCH** of St. Agnes at Greenbank held its first service on Sunday, Sept. 27, 1868. Many attending were disappointed on their arrival to find that all no room inside. The space in front of the Chancel, the aisles, the porch and even the vestry were fully occupied.

Prior to constructing the St. Agnes church, Anglican services were held in the Sons of Temperance Hall, on Cragg Road, just east of the Centre Road.

A few years later, lack of support, forced the closure of the church for a number of years. Joyfully, on Sunday, July 25, 1897 Church of England services resumed in St. Agnes Church, with a full house attending.

Once again, with it's small congregation unable to support the church, it was closed for the final time in 1920. The church bell tower was removed and assembled on the roof the Church



St. Agnes, Anglican Church, circa 1885.



Pimitive Methodist Church mid-1850s.

of Ascension in Port Perry, to symbolize the movement of the Greenbank congregation to that church.

The former church sat unused for many years before being selected as Reach Township's Centennial project for 1967. The church was renovated and officially reopened in June 1867. The building has been used as a community hall since that time.

**THE BAPTIST CHURCH** was the last denomination to build a church in Greenbank, but their parishioners did hold church services in the Greenbank Temperance Hall as early as 1896.

On February 28, 1899, at the residence of Robert Gregg, 18 residents of the community came together to charter the Greenbank Baptist Church under the leadership of Rev. J.P.McAwen, Rev. C.H.Schutt, and Rev. J.J.Ross.

The congregation constructed a church at the west entrance to the village later that year and the church held official opening services of the new Greenbank Baptist Church on Sunday, October 20, 1899, with Rev. D. Welton preaching. By the time the church opened for services, there were 31 memebers in the congregation.

Less than 30 years later, in 1927, the Baptists followers had declined to a point where the small church was unable to sustain itself, and was forced to close. It was then sold and renovated into a private residence.

## Wesleyan Methodist Church

Greenbank's Wesleyan Methodists opened a frame church on September 23, 1866 in the north end of the village. The Chapel was described as a neat little building 28'x36' capable of accommodating 126 people. Cost of the building was estimated at \$800.

About 30 years later, after outgrowing its small chapel, plans got underway to build a new house of worship. A new redbrick Methodist Church was constructed at the corner of Centre Road and King St., on the site of the former Cottage Hotel.

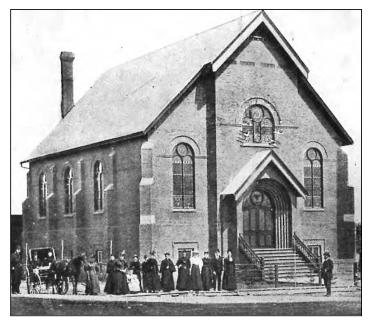
The cost of the building lot was \$450.00, the brick, drawn by teams and wagons from Uxbridge cost \$385.76 and the corner stone was \$20.00.

The contractors, Read and Thirsk of Uxbridge were paid \$3,700 and the architect, Mr.Nathan Forsythe received the munificent sum of \$15.

When the MethodistChurch was dedicated on December 13th and 14th, 1896, the amount of \$6,000 to cover all expenses had been pledged, together with an additional sum of \$200 for maintenance. This was done through a canvas and



Poster advertising the laying of the corner stone for the new Methodist Church in Greenbank, in 1896.



Methodist Church of Greenbank, 1900.

from collections and donations at three Sunday services and at the feast of dedication on Monday.

The Greenbank Methodist Church building is 44'x 60' with a five foot projection for the massive front door to the vestibule. There is a 16'x 22' choir loft in the rear, a full sized basement with all necessary compartments, elevated floor above and below. In rear of basement there are classrooms secluded with folding doors, glass, kitchen and fuel rooms in front, all seated with chairs.

The auditorium is seated with pews arranged in amphitheater style; gallery front in wrought iron and wainscotting in natural wood, antique teak panelled wood ceiling, cathedral glass windows, scriptural design. This modern building will seat about 450 people, which can be increased by 200 by using the aisles.

Two church sheds were built to shelter the horses and buggies or cutters according to the weather and road conditions. Whole families would arrive by sleight or democrat.

The Uxbridge Times-Journal reportd that all services over the two days were largely attended and a hot supper served on the Monday night netted \$200. The home choir consisting of 25 voices, assisted by Mr. Croxall of Uxbridge, provided an excellent program.

Up to Saturday night, before the official opening, \$3,414 had been raised and on Sunday another \$1,530 was subscribed.

## **Presbyterian Church**

The Presbyterian Church established itself in Greenbank, worshipping from a frame structure, opened in 1849 on the 12th concession of Reach Twp.

In August 1878, the village's Presbyterians began to a beautiful brick place of worship, on the brow of a hill, just east of the intersection on King Street (Cragg Road). Three months later, on Sunday, November 10, 1878, the Presbyterian congregation held a Dedication Day, with many hundreds of people assembled.

Three services were held on Sunday at 10:30 a.m., 2:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. The afternoon service turnout was so large that it was necessary to have service in the main auditorium and in the basement at the same time.

The Ontario Observer editor, James Baird, noted, "We very much question if there is another village in the Dominion with a population no greater than that of Greenbank, which contains so many churches."

He added, "The Presbyterians have erected a handsome, substantial brick church, which reflects the utmost credit on the liberality and enterprise of its promoters. The architecture, workmanship and fittings up are highly creditable to all concerned and will be a source of

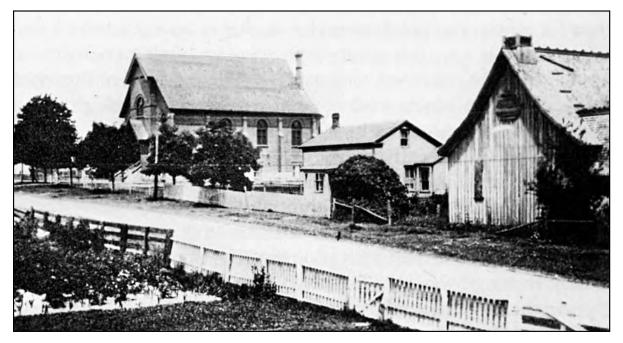


Pimitive Methodist Church mid-1850s.

satisfaction to the entire locality."

At this period in the Presbyterian church history, the minister divided his services between Wick and Greenbank. Morning and evening services in Wick and afternoon services in Greenbank.

By 1918 the Presbyterians and the Methodists began to hold joint services, alternating churches each week. This lasted until Presbyterian Church was closed in 1922 and their union with the Methodists was made final.



Greenbank looking north about 1920, shows the Methodist (United) Church, top left, on Centre Road (Hwy. 12), and the former St. Agnes Anglican Church, far right, with its tower removed. The Lee House, is located between the two churches.

## The Temperance Movement

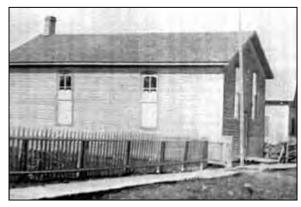
Alcohol, and specifically whiskey, was part of the social fabric of the life of the early settler. If a man was thirsty, he only had to find the nearest store, walk to the back, and find a pail to help himself to. Logging bees, barn raising, threshing, cornhusking and other social functions, were not well attended or considered complete without whiskey.

The importance of whiskey is outlined in the following article, published in the local newspaper in 1924:

"Joseph Lee, the founder of Methodism at Greenbank, decided to build a large log barn. Everybody was invited to the raising, and about 120 came. It was known that Lee had advanced temperance views, but no one supposed he would dare to disregard traditional custom.

The raising was fixed for a Monday. Soon after the help gathered it was noised around about that no liquor was provided. Lee was coaxed, threatened, etc., but of no use. He would not provide liquor even if the barn was never raised.

Despite this the large majority concluded to proceed, as they all had much work at home, but eight of the neighbour settlers, some of whom did not care for liquor, would not stand for such an innovation, declared the barn should not be raised until liquor was provided.



The Temperance Hall, located on King Street, (now known as Cragg Road, Greenbank.



The Greenbank Temperance Hall, as seen from the corner of Hwy. 12 and Cragg Road. Photo taken about 1900.

As soon as a log was put up those eight and their sympathizers pulled it down in no case allowing it to remain two logs high. This continued all day Monday and until 5 p.m. Tuesday, yet Lee would not yield. At that hour the eight held a caucus, and as they all had urgent work at home, and personally liked Lee, they decided to yield and so turned in and helped, and the barn was raised before they left that Tuesday night."

This environment provided the catalyst for the rise of the Temperance Union in Upper Canada. The Union, or Sons of Temperance, was a secret society with it's own set of oaths and pledges. Each branch had a hierarchy with the Grand Patriarch (President), Deputy Grand Worthy Patriarch (Vice-President), Deputy Grand Scribe (Secretary) and Deputy Grand Financial Scribe (Treasurer). It was one of the few societies which permitted women to join, vote and hold office.

One of the largest active unions in Upper Canada was found in Greenbank. Working in partnership with the Churches and School, Greenbank Division No. 131 of the Sons of Temperance was created in September 29, 1858 by Edward Bassingthwaighte, who owned and operated the first store and post office out of his home.

By 1864 the group had their own hall on the north side of the 11th Concession. The first meeting of the group was held at Edward's store and organized by Mr. Bugg from Markham.

The following men were charter members: Edward Bassingthwaighte, Richard Markham, Timothy Cragg, Joseph Ward, Robert Walker, Edmund Luke, John Phoenix, Joseph Lee, Jason Stone, Richard Houldershaw, William Watson, George Madison,



THE Ontario Union Division, No. 342, Sons of Temperance, intend holding a public Demonstration on Thursday, July 14th, in the GROVE adjoining the villages 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 ABRASS BAND, to the Grove north of the Brick School House, where a sumptuous Tea will be provided for the occasion.

TEA SERVED AT TWO O'CLOCK, P M.

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 that occasion who may oblige by their attendance.

TICKETS-18 3d. EACH, To be had at W. Tomlinson's, Prince Albert, J. W. Morris, Borelia, J. Bigelow, Port Perry, and on the ground. The public are respectfully invited to attend, Borelia July 6 1858 20. Edward Marr, James Scott, Edward Cragg.

The Greenbank Sons of Temperance took their war on alcohol very seriously. At one of the meetings, Edward Phoenix turned in his wife for enjoying a glass of sweet cider with her brother. Sweet cider was not specifically forbidden, but was to be avoided by all respectable citizens in case the person turned to more potent liquids in the future.

The Sons of Temperance also turned their attention on alcohol problems in the neighbouring town of Port Perry. Hickey's "whiskey still" on the Nonquon River had been brewing liquor for 40 years. Hickey supplied most of the hotels in Port Perry with his stock.

Hotel owners were not lawfully permitted to sell liquor but they managed to avoid this technicality by leasing the bar in their hotel to an outsider, or renting a room to an agent who would handle the alcohol sales. Mr. Doncaster, who ran the whiskey operations at the St. Charles Hotel in Port Perry, was one such person whom the Union members referred to as the "agent of the devil".

The original Cottage Hotel, the only hotel to ever exist in the Village (not including Isaac Craggs' original inn in Gimlet Town) was located where the United Church now stands. It was shut down by the Sons of Temperance, to the great delight of most of the community. There is a paving stone out front of the Church which refuses to lie level. The story is that the bad spirits are trying to rise back up from the old hotel days.

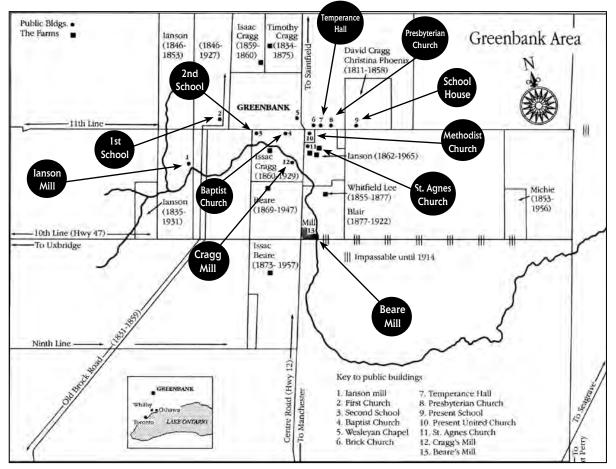
For many years the Greenbank division boasted the largest membership in all the province, at one time exceeding 300. Besides having a mandate of promoting the principles of total abstinence from alcohol, the group offered social activities for young and old alike.

An excursion to Sturgeon Falls aboard the steamship "Crandella" was organized for over 400 Temperance members and their friends, most likely including the Grove Division which met on Scugog Island.

Weekly meetings were usually held Saturday nights. During the first part of the meeting all members renewed their vows of abstinence from alcohol and tobacco. After their vows were received new business was discussed, marches and protests planned and vigilante committees established to parole events where alcohol was known to be used, such as at the Fall Fairs.

The entertainment was saved for the conclusion of the meeting, perhaps to encourage members to sit through the first half. Solo and choral singing, word contests, spelling matches and mock trials were all staged for the amusement of the members.

The group started to fade away in 1909 and in 1921 the hall was sold.



Map of the Greenbank area of Reach Township, from the book "Greenbank" by William Graham.



A view of the old St. Agnes Anglican Church, looking north, date unknown. The road, Hwy. 12, to the left of the church appears to be paved, suggesting the picture was taken after 1928, when the highway was paved from Manchester to Greenbank.

## The Beare Flour & Grist Mill

A small flour and saw mill was built circa 1840 by Elijah Johnson on the east side of the 10th concession of the Township of Reach. It operated for a number of years unsuccessfully before being sold to John Beare.

After purchasing the mill, the industrious John



Beare went to work expanding both the size and output capacity of the mill. Along with his sons John Jr., Isaac, Elijah, Tom the family developed it into one of the best equipped mills in Reach Township.

JOHN BEARE

John Beare's brother William, a miller by trade, was the first operator along with John's son Elijah as a helper and later as the owner.

The basement of the mill was about 10' high and built of stone. Above the basement was another floor 10' high which housed the grinders. The next level was also 10' feet in height and it housed the sieves. The top half section housed the fanning mills.

A large overshot water wheel fed by the force of water from the millrace gave the grind-wheel the ability to grind a minimum of 200 bags of grain per day.

The mill continued operating until one spring night, about 1925, a severe thunder storm caused the water to rise rapidly. The pressure on the waste gates was too great, causing the whole dam to wash out.



Beare's flour and grist mill was located on the 10th concession of Reach Township, south of Greenbank village.

### DIRECTORIES

From Gazetteers & Directories for the Province of Ontario.

### GREENBANK 1869 - 1886

GREENBANK 1869 - A village in the Township of Reach, 21 Miles north of Whitby, Population 80.

Anderson, William, photographer Asling, John, postmaster Bagsham, J., farmer Bailey & Hall, blacksmith Dusty, John, shoemaker Ferguson, W., butcher Hutchinson, T., tailor Lee, J., farmer Murtra, Robert, hotelkeeper McGerr, A., merchant Phoenix, J., gentleman Sanders, J., wagonmaker Smith, Rev. J., Primitive Methodist minister Wagnor, W., blacksmith Walker, R., seaman Williams, J., pedler

**GREENBANK 1871** - A village in the Township of Reach, County of Ontario. Distance from Whitby, the County town and station of the Grand Trunk railway, 21 miles, fare \$1; from Toronto 50 miles. Mail daily. Population about 100.

Anderson William, photographer Asling, John, postmaster Bagshaw, Jospeh, farmer Ree, Rev. William, Primitive Methodist Beer, John, grist mill owner Braund, Mrs. Elizabeth, widow Samuel Butson, William, hotelkeeper Church of England, Rev. R.S. Forneri Craig, Edward, carpenter Craig Isaac, saw mill owner Dustay, Edward, shoemaker Forneri, Rev. R.S., Church of England

#### GREENBANK 1876 - A village in the

Township of Reach, 20 Miles north of Whitby, Population 150.

Asling, Walter Beer, John Bagshaw, Joseph Dusty, Charles Dusty, Edward Flint, George Hall, Henry Harrington, R.T. Horn, Andrew Janson, John Janson, James Janson, Wiiliam Johnston, A.T. King, Richard Love, Henry Lee, Whitfield Matthews, V. Muller, James Manning, Samuel McLaren, John Phoenix, John Phoenix, John Phoenix, William Stilwell, William Till, Daniel Vasey, William Knowlys, Culling E., M.D. Lee, Joseph, farmer McGirr, Andrew, storekeeper Oliver, Jabez, M.D. Primitive Methodist Church, Rev. Wm. Bee Sanders, Joseph, waggonmaker Wagoner, William, blacksmith Walker, Robert, sailor Warren, William, H., blacksmith Williams, Joseph, trader.

Janson, John, farmer

King, Richard, laborer

**GREENBANK 1882** - A small village in the township of Reach, County of Ontario. Distance from Wick, a station of the Toronto and Nipissing railway, 6 miles; from Toronto 50 miles. Mail daily. Population about 200.

Bear, John, miller Bishop, Rev. Geo. J., Methodist Cragg, T.E., sawmill Dusty, Ed., shoemaker Glide, W. Henry, carriagemaker Gully, Thos., blacksmith Harrington, Robert T., gen. store Linton, John, saddler Perkins, David, gen. store, tailor Phoenix, Edward, postmaster Somerville, Ralph, blacksmith, Thompson, J.V., hotel Watson & Somerville, blackstmiths Whiteford, Wm., carriagemaker.

**GREENBANK 1886** - A village in Reach Township, Ontario County, 20 miles north of Whitby, the County seat, and six northwest of Port Perry, the nearest railway and banking point. Settled in 1839. It contains Methodist, Presbyterian and Episcopal churches and a public school, and ships livestock and produce. Stage to Saintfield and Wick daily, fares 15¢ and 25¢ respectively. Population 200, Mail daily, Edward Phoenix, postmaster.

Asling, Walte, carpenter Beare Elijah, flour mill Burnett, Leonard, justice of peace Dusty, Samuel, general store, shoemaker Gully Thomas, blacksmith Harrington, Robert T., general store Jack, Hugh, livestock Lee, Joseph, justice of peace Linton, John, harnessmaker Miller, James, carpenter Perkins, David, general store, tailor Phoenix, Edward, conveyancer Roe, Rev. E., Methodist Somerville, Ralph, blacksmith Washington, Rev. W.E. (Methodist) Watson & Somerville, blacksmiths Whiteford, Wm. carriagemaker. **GREENBANK 1892** - A village on a creek (which furnishes power), in Reach Twp., Ontario County, 20 mi. north of Whitby the County seat and 6 mi. n-w of Port Perry, the nearest railway and banking point. It contains saw and flour mills, Meth. Pres. and Anglican churches and a public school. Stage daily to Blackwater, fare 25¢. Population 200. Telephone connection. Mail daily. Edward Phoenix, postmaster.

Beare, Elijah, flour mill Brooks, Edward, general store Burnett, Leornard, justice of peace Burke, John, general store Dusty, Samuel, boots and shoes Everett, Arthur, tailor Gully, Thomas, blacksmith Helson, Mrs., dressmaker Jack, Hugh, livestock Lee, Joseph, justice of peace Linton, John, harness and telephone agent Love, Henry, stone mason Miller, James, carpenter Phoenix, Edward, conveyancer and post office Rahan, George, blacksmith Somerville, Ralph, blacksmith Thornley, Rev. Wm. (Methodist) Vanlenvan, Chester, hotel Whiteford, Wm., carriage manufacturer

BLACKSMITHING.-Wm. FERGUSON BEGS to announce to the inhabitant of GREENBANK, and the surrounding neighhood, that he is prepared to do all kinds of general Blacksmithing, on the shortest notice The best workmen employed and all, work warranted to give satisfaction.

Horse Shoening executed in the best manner. Charges Moderate.

WM. FERGUSON. Greenbank, June 27, 1860. 28-1f



Greenbank, Aug. 22. 1867.

**GREENBANK 1895** - A village on a creek - which furnishes power, in Reach Twp., Ontario County, north of Whitby the County seat and seven miles from Port Perry, the nearest town and bank point. It contains saw and flour mills, Methodist and Presbyterian churches and a public school. Stage daily to Blackwater, fare 25¢. Population 200. Telephone connection. Mail daily. Edward Phoenix, postmaster.

Ashton, James harness and trunks Beare, John, flour and saw mills Burnett, Leonard, justice of peace Burk, John, general store Dusty, Samuel, boots and shoes Everett, Arthur, tailor and clothier Cragg, Robert, saw and shingle mill Gully, Thomas, blacksmith, horseshoeing Hilson, Mrs. Jann, dressmaker Horne, Alexander, carpet weaver Jack, Hugh, livestock Lee, Joseph, justice of peace Love, Charles, staone mason, contractor Love, Henry, stone mason, contractor Millar, James, carpenter, contractor Olivor, Wm., agriculture implements agent Larkins, Trevin, general store Phoenix, Edward, convenyancer, post office Sommerville, Ralph, blacksmith, horseshoer Still, Ezra, hotel and livery Thornley, Rev. Wm. (Methodist) Till, Daniel, constable and general agent Ward, Walter, grain thresher, Watson, Joseph, livestock Watson, Robert, carpenter, contractor Whiteford, Wm. carriage manufacturer



GREENBANK, REACH.

# Strange, but true!

### Corpse found under stump at Greenbank

One of the strangest events ever to be reported in the early press took place in September 1877 when a gruesome discovery was made on the newly acquired property of William Byam, near Greenbank.

The Byams had been clearing their land of stumps in preparation for the planting of crops, when one large stump attracted his attention. The stump had been inverted and stood out somewhat notably from all the others.

Mr. Byams, being a superstitious man, became overwhelmed with fear and he could not face the prospects of handling the stump alone. So, he summoned his 15 yearold son John, and Edward Burton, a young lay preacher at the Manchester Methodist Church to take over the task.

By the time the two fearful souls made their way to the field, twilight was rapidly approaching, but they continued on their eerie trek and found their way to the mysterious stump as darkness gathered.

When they began to investigate the stump, in order to find a spot to apply leverage to move it, they discovered a glimpse of a human bone. With a little further investigation, it appeared that the bones were part of a whole corpse. The poor victim appeared to be a red-headed young man.

They quickly covered up their grisly discovery and rapidly made their way to Manchester to gather all the appropriate authorities and bring them to the site.

Along the way they stopped at various homestead to inform them of the ghastly find. By the time they arrived in Manchester, a large crowd had gathered. Like a shock of electricity the alarm spread over the entire village.

The local undertaker was summoned and he immediately suggested that they all return to the site of the poor victim. Even though it was almost 10 o'clock in the evening, some 25 souls joined in the expedition back to the Byam's property.

With the aid of lanterns and firebrand, they made their way through the field in silence, and arrived at the stump. No one had the courage to expose the corpse, but finally after a lengthy debate, a volunteer was found and given instructions about how to remove the soil gently so that the corpse would not be further disfigured.

While the crowd circled the stump, the volunteer with his spade gently and carefully removed one small clump of soil at a time.

A deathly hush pervaded the scene until hair and skin began to appear. A gasp! An exclamation of horror and disgust! A few more shovel fulls and there stretched before them, in all its serenity lay the remains of a used up horse, grinning back at them and seemingly somewhat annoyed at being disturbed.

At that point the entire crowd, sensing the embarrassment and the potential for ridicule at their gullibility, quickly disappeared. When the reporter from The Observer tried to interview citizens of Manchester the following Monday, everyone had an alibi for their absence from the morbid scene.

Everyone, that is, except poor William Byam and the young preacher Edward Burton.



Extensive research about Reach Township provides only shreds of history about Saintfield. The village is located in the northern extremities of Reach Township, about one mile south of the Brock Township border.

Saintfield is described as being settled in 1860, and is situated 23 miles north of Whitby and three miles south of Wick, on the Midland Division of the Grand Truck Railway, which was the village's nearest railway station. The nearest bank to the village was nine miles south in Port Perry.

How Saintfield derived its name is unknown, but it was likely named after a village of the same name in County Down, Northern Ireland, by one of the early setters in the area.

Not long after the plank road was constructed from Whitby to Manchester about 1850, it was extended north to link Greenbank, Saintfield and the Township of Brock. This road became known as Centre Road.

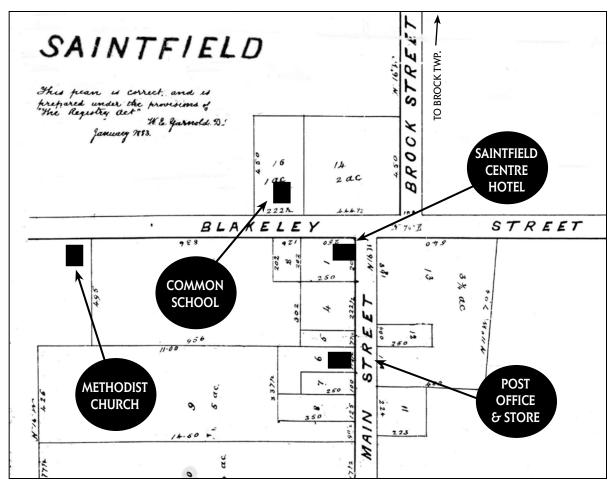
Brock. This road became known as Centre Road. Settlers were sparse in Saintfield until about 1862 when a post office established in July that year. Richard Wells was appointed the first postmaster for the village. His term was a short one, resigning just over a year later.

Following Mr. Wells as postmaster were Alexander Horne, William Sanders, Donald McKay, William McCrachen, William Storin, Samuel Baird and Robert Braden, before the post office was closed on May 31, 1914. Many of these men also operated a general merchandise store from the same site.

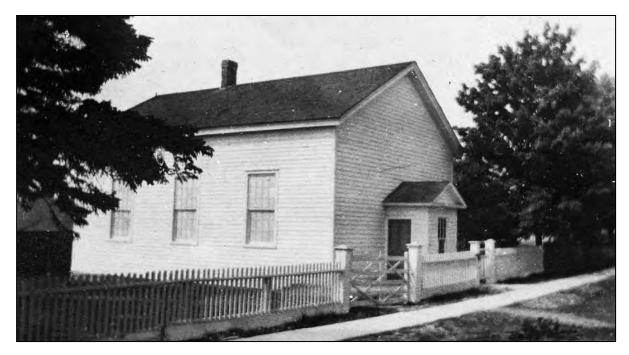
As early as 1869, this primarily farming district, had grown to a community of more than 125 persons, with a variety of commercial enterprises. The village boasted a hotel, blacksmith, butcher, general store, shingle maker, and even a shoe maker.

A village plan (page 31) of Reach Township in 1877, shows the prosperous little hamlet as having a number of buildings on both sides of the intersection

#### Continued on page 196



This Plan of the Village of Saintfield, 1888, identifies locations of school, church, hotel and post office. Street labled "Blakeley Street" is the 14th Concession. Main Street, was also known as Centre Road. Today it is now as Hwy. #12.



## Saintfield Methodist Church

The Methodist Church, in Saintfield, was located a few hundred yards west of the Centre Road (Hwy. 12), on the south side of Concession 14.

Although there is very little information about this small community church, it would have been very similar to a number of other Reach Township Methodist Churches of the day.

The Saintfield Methodist Church was of simple frame construction, circa 1850, and as can been seen from the above photo, was a very modest, with three rectangular windows along each side, a compact street entrance and white surrounded by a white picket fence.

Despite extensive research, the date the church was completed and dedicated is unknown; as is the year services were discontinued in the church.

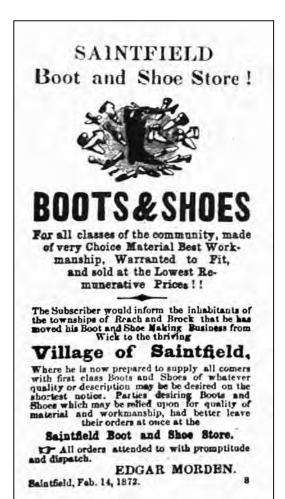
#### Saintfield - from page 195

of Main Street and the Blakeley Street.

Due to being isolated from larger centres to the south, Saintfield residents often complained about mail service. There were concerns there was no direct mail service between Manchester, Prince Albert and Port Perry, although they did enjoy stage service daily, south to Greenbank and north to Wick, at a cost of 15¢ to either location.

In February 1872 a new schoolhouse in Saintfield was opened. It was described as 32'x25' with the interior decidedly the best school room in the township. No record of an earlier school has been located, although there was certainly another school before this date.

The village also contained a Methodist Church and a Common School.



## Saintfield 'Centre Hotel'

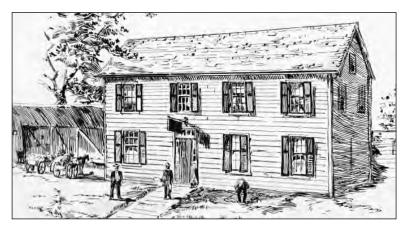


Illustration of a small village hotel from the 1860s. This is not the Centre Hotel in Saintfield.

As with 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 Duncan Campbell on the southwest corner of Centre Road (Simcoe St.) and Blakeley Street (Concession 14).

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 Duncan 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 James Cameron in the early 1870s and J. Jennings by May 1873.

Registry records show the property was later owned by Charles Stark prior to 1883, and that he sold it to Edward Newton in 1885. Mr. Newton operated the hotel until about 1903.

#### **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.

> JAS. CAMERON, Proprietor. February 1872

Centre Hotel, SAINTFIELD, J. JENNINGS, Proprietor. May 1873





### **Donald McKay**

Merchant, Post Master Donald McKay was born in the year 1837 in the County of Glengarry, Ontario, and was educated at Upper Canada College, in Toronto. He became a teacher in

**Donald McKay** 

Markham Township for a number of years before moving to Saintfield, in Reach Township. It was here he opened a

general store and served as postmaster for 20 years. His keen interest in the community lead him to politics and he was elected Reeve of Reach Township in 1888, 1889 and 1890. His final term was a short tenure as he resigned shortly after the election, after being appointed Treasurer for the County of Ontario, a position he filled

for almost 25 years. After suffering with an incurable disease for some time, Donald McKay, 77, passed away on May 13, 1914.

### William Sanders

Wagon Maker, Post Master

William Sanders was born in England in 1824 and immigrated to Canada. He settled in Saintfield, Reach Township during the 1860s. Here he began working as a wagon maker and later as a shoe maker.

He and his wife Elizabeth had six children.

In 1865 he was appointed the postmaster for Saintfield and he held this important position for about five years before resigning.

After more than 25 years in the village, William Sanders and his family moved to Fenlon, in Victoria County during the late 1880s.

### Samuel Baird

#### Merchant, Post Master

Samuel Baird was born on June 15, 1850, on the Reach Township farm of his parents, Robert and Mary, who had immigrated to Canada from Ireland. He worked on the family farm until the late 1870s when

he opened a general merchant shop in Saintfield. Here he also provided shoemaking services.

On February 24, 1881, he married Ellen Louisa Town, and they had two children, Joseph R., and May while living in Saintfield. Samuel and Ellen operated the general store in Saintfield for more than 35 years in the village.



Samuel Baird

Samuel served as the postmaster in Wick, about three miles north of Saintfield, from November 1888 to September 1893 before resigning. In February 1894 he became the postmaster for Saintfield. He provided postal services from his store until December 1910 when he resigned from the position

It appears as if Mr. Baird returned to farming, as a census report in 1911 shows him as a farmer.

Samuel Baird was 68 years old when he died on July 9, 1918 at Lot 15, Con 5, Reach Township. He was buried at Prince Albert.

### Edward Newton

#### Hotelkeeper

Edward (Edmund) Newton was the longest owner and innkeeper of the Centre Hotel in Saintfield, a period of 20 years, from at least 1882-1903.

Born in 1856 in England, Edward Newton immigrated to Canada about 1872 and settled in Ontario. The exact location has not been determined

He was living in Port Perry in the mid-1870s when he met Annie (Kight). They were married on September 29, 1879, in Port Perry.

Edward and Annie moved to Saintfield and raised five children while living there. Here he became a innkeeper at the Centre Hotel until 1885 when he purchased the business from Charles Stark.

He operated the hotel until about 1903, when he moved to the town of Uxbridge, where continued his profession as an innkeeper for a hotel in that town.

He died in Toronto on September 19, 1939.

Name of Postmaster	Date of Appointment	Date of Vacancy	Cause of Vacancy
Richard Wells	1862-07-01	1863-10-10	Resignation
Alexander Horne	1864-03-01	1864-07-05	Resignation
William Sanders	1865-02-01	1870-08-24	Resignation
Donald McKay	1871-01-06	1890-08-22	Resignation
William McCrachen	1890-11-01	1891-09-29	Resignation
William Storin	1892-01-01	1893-10-13	Resignation
S. Baird	1894-02-01	1910-12-30	Resignation
Robert Braden	1911-01-31	1914	Closed R.M.D.



This Saintfield School, opened in 1903, was located west of Centre Road, on the north side of Conc. 14.

## New School for Saintfield

The residents of Saintfield celebrated the opening of the hamlet's new School House in February 1872. It was constructed on the property, beside the old building, which had been used as a school for years.

The new school was described as being 32'x45' in size with a 14 foot ceiling in the classroom. It was constructed by Alvery Beecroft, a local builder.

The Ontario Observer newspaper reported, "It is cheerful, healthful and convenient and cannot fail in producing an increased attachment for school in the minds of the pupils." Others attending the opening suggested it was "decidedly the best school room in the township, and in North Ontario."

Saintfield and area children began using the school immediately after the interior was completed, although the exterior was not finished.

Work on the ground surrounding the school, including the demolition of the old school building, and completion of the exterior of the new school was completed the following spring.

Thirty years after being opened, a new brick school, above, was opened in 1903.

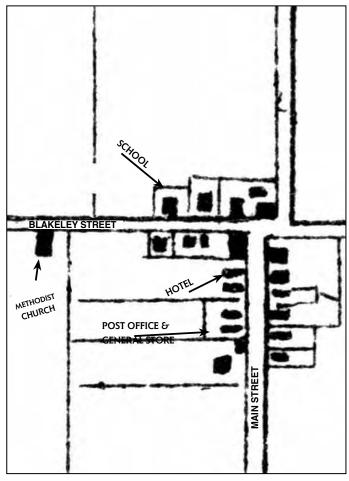


Diagram of the Village of Saintfield, similar to the map above, shows the number of buildings situated on lots in the settlement during 1877.

## 1869 - DIRECTORIES - 1898

Saintfield listings from copies of the County of Ontario Directory

#### SAINTFIELD 1869 - A village in the Township of Reach, County of Ontario, 26 miles north of Whitby. Population about 100.

Asling, E., gentleman Baird, R., farmer Baird, S., farmer Beecroft, Alvery, builder Blyth, John, sawyer Bunker, Amos, carpenter Campbell, Donald, hotelkeeper Craig, John, weaver Cronsberry, Elijah, farmer Eck. D.T., harnessmaker Graham, James, farmer Horne, Alexander, weaver Houck, N., farmer Houldershaw, Richard, farmer Hunter, Christopher, farmer Jones, W., farmer Kinally, John., farmer Kinally, J., gentleman Moffatt, W., farmer

Moffatt, J., farmer McKay, Donald, general merchant McLeod, J., farmer O'Connor, B., farmer Patterson, George, farmer, Peat, A., farmer Penhall, R., shoemaker Phillips, William, farmer Sanders, William, postmaster and shoemaker Scott, A., farmer Stone, Amos, butcher Thomson, Archibald, teacher Towns, C., farmer Vanzant, William, shinglemaker Wallace, G., farmer Watson, Alexander, blacksmith Watson, T., farmer.

**SAINTFIELD 1871** - A small village in the township of Reach, County of Ontario. Distance from Whitby, the County town and a station of the Grand Trunk Railway, 22 miles, fare \$1; from Toronto 52 miles. Mail daily. Population about 180.

Asling, Edward, farmer Beacroft, Alvery, joiner Brown, Luther, carpenter Cameron, Alexander, hotelkeeper Cutin, John, shoemaker Eck, Charles, saddler Eck, Daniel T., saddler Gibson, Thomas, laborer Graham, James, J.P., reeve Horn, Alexander, weaver McKay, Angus, tailor McKay, Donald, storekeeper Noble, harvey, farmer Philips, William, farmer Primitive Methodist Church, mission from Manchester

Richardson, George, farmer Sanders, William, postmaster, shoemaker Scott, Mrs. widow, Andrew Scott, Mrs. Clemima Stones, Amos, drover and butcher Thomas, Archibald, school teacher Town, Duncan, farmer Truax, Alexander, farmer Vesy, William, laborer Watson, Alexander, blacksmith Watson, Thomas, farmer Wilkinson, John

#### SAINTFIELD 1886 - A country post

office in Reach Township, Ontario County, 23 miles north of Whitby, the County seat, and three south of Wick, on the Midland div. Grand Trunk Railway. Nearest bank at Port Perry, 9 miles south. Settled in 1860. It containes a Methodist church and a common school, and ships grain, wood and produce. Stage daily to Greenbank and Wick, fare 15¢ to either place. Population 200. Mail daily. Donald McKay, postmaster.

Baird, Samuel, shoemaker McGill, D., tailor McKay, Donald, general store Moore, Wm., blacksmith Newton, Edward, hotel Park, John, physician

#### SAINTFIELD 1882 - A village in the

township of Reach, County of Ontario. Distance from Whtiby; the County town and a station of the Grand Trunk Railway, 22 miles. From Wick 3 miles. Mail daily. Population about 180. Baird, Sam, shoemaker

McClinton, Nathaniel, M.D., physician and surgeon.
McKay, Donald, postmaster, general store Newton, Edward, hotel
Perry, Wm. H., blacksmith
Woon, Jabes. B. waggonmaker
Young, Wm., blacksmith

**SAINTFIELD 1892** - A post office in Reach Twp., Ontario County, 25 miles north of Whitby, the County seat, and 2 miles south of Wick, on the Midland Div. GTR, its nearest railway point. It contains and Methodist church and a common school. Stage daily to Wick and Blackwater. Pop. 200. Telephone connections. Mail daily. Wm. Moore, postmaster.

McFarlane, D.D. general store Moore, Wm., blacksmith and Post Office Newton, Edward, hotel Park, John, physician and telephone agent Wallis, George H., tailor Whitefor, John, shoemaker and confy.

**SAINTFIELD 1895** - A post office in Reach Twp., Ontario County, 25 miles north of Whitby, the County seat, and 2 miles south of Wick, on the Midland Div. GTR, its nearest railway point. Nearest bank at Port Perrry, 9 miles south. It contains and Methodist church and a common school. Stage daily to Wick and Blackwater. Pop. 70. Telephone connections. Mail daily. Wm. Moore, postmaster.

Baird, Samuel, general store and post office Couperthwaite, James, grain thresher Harman, M., apiarist and shoemaker McKay, Stewart, horse dealer Moore, Wm., blacksmith Newton, Edward, hotel Park, John, physician Ward, Walter, grain thresher

**SAINTFIELD 1898** - A post office in Reach Township, Ontario County, Ontario 25 miles north of Whitby, the county seat, and 2 miles south of Wick, on the Midland Division G T R, its nearest railway point. Nearest bank at Port Perry. It contains a Methodist church and a common school. Stage daily to Wick and Blackwater. Pop 100. Telephone connection.

S Baird, Postmaster Baird S. general store Marshall H, shoemaker Moore Wm, blacksmith Newton Edward, hotel Park John, physician



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