

County of Brant



Heritage Driving Tour

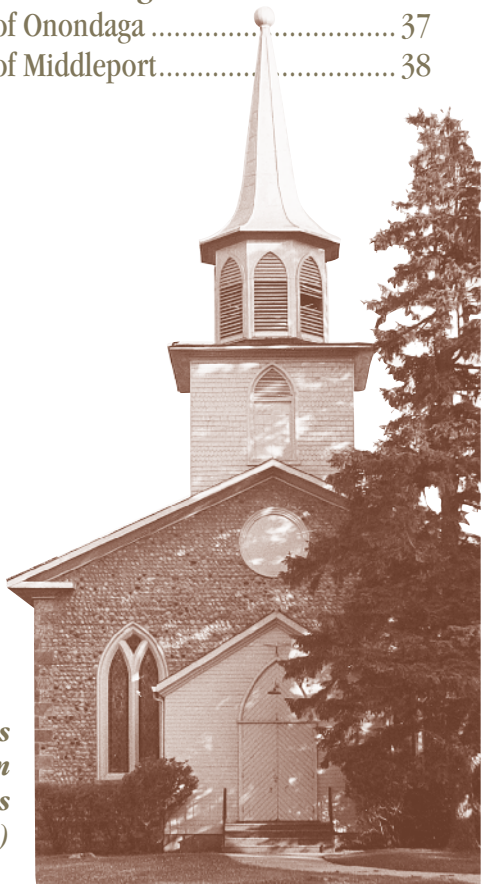


South Dumfries • Harrisburg • St. George • Glen Morris
• Paris • Bethel • Mount Vernon • Township of Burford •
Oakland Township • Scotland • Oakland • Township of
Brantford • Mount Pleasant • Hamlet of Burtch • Newport
• Cainsville • Langford • Township of Onondaga • Village
of Onondaga • Village of Middleport

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*St. James
Anglican
Church, Paris
(page 17)*





A Brief History of the County of Brant

The County of Brant is located at the mid-point of the Grand River as it flows south from Luther Marsh to Lake Erie. The Grand River is one of eleven designated heritage rivers in Ontario.

In Brant, the river flows through an area of rich farmland and Carolinian forest. It was this combination of the river for water power and transportation and land for farming that made the area so attractive to Native and European settlers. European settlers first arrived in Burford Township in 1793, and began to settle in the rest of the County soon after.

Brant, like the City of Brantford, is named after Joseph Brant, Chief of the Six Nations Confederacy. The Six Nations are a confederacy of Iroquoian Aboriginal people who originally lived in what is now upstate New York. They were granted land along the Grand River



This tour has been divided into sections that reflect the old political borders of the County before amalgamation in 1999. Each section takes one to two hours to complete. You may start and finish at any point, or follow the whole route as it is laid out on the maps. There is a lot to see in the County, so take your time and enjoy the ride.

in recognition of their loyalty to the British Crown after the American Revolution. They began settling along the Grand River in 1784. In the 1840s, they moved to their present day reservation at the south end of the County around Ohsweken.

Brant was part of the United Counties of Wentworth, Halton and Brant until 1852. In that year, the City of Brantford, the Village of Paris, and the Townships of Brantford, Oakland, Onondaga, South Dumfries, and Burford became Brant County. The City of Brantford left the County to become a separated city in 1877.

This political structure continued in place for the next 122 years until January 1, 1999, when Brant County and its six constituent municipalities restructured to become the single-tier city, the County of Brant.

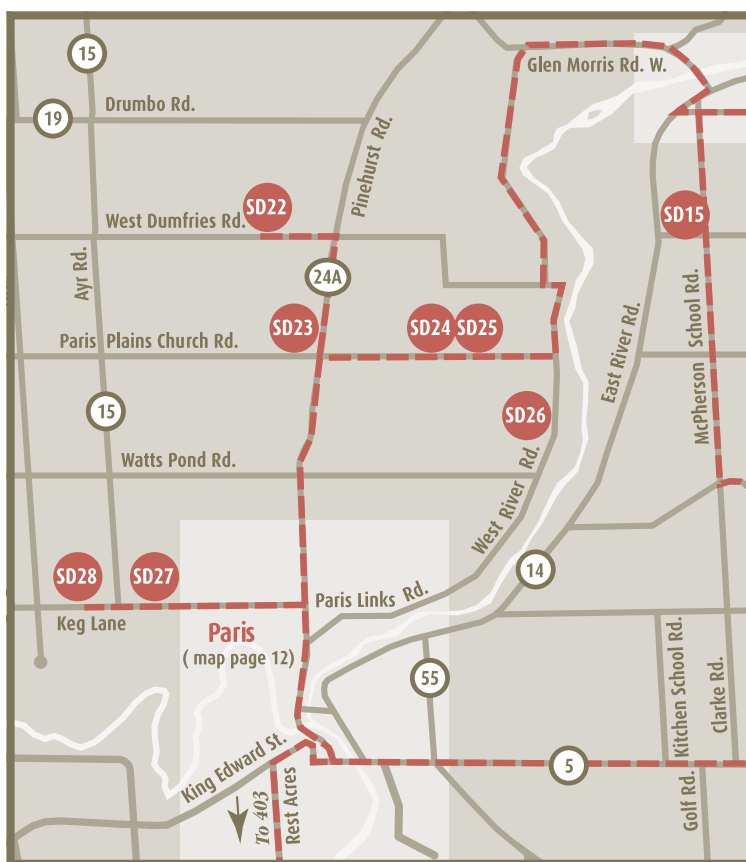
SOUTH DUMFRIES

The Township of South Dumfries is situated in the north part of the County of Brant. The earliest settlements were in and around the Village of St. George. Two vital factors of the area which caused settlers to locate here were flowing wells and excellent farm land.

The first establishments in the township were: a grist mill (1817), distillery (1818), grocery store (1820) log school (1823), and a post office in 1833. The first church was opened as a Baptist Church in 1824. The Village of Harrisburg was laid out in 1855, distinguished as being at the junction of the Wellington, Grey & Bruce and Great Western railways. Glen Morris was laid out in 1848, on the banks of the Grand River 12 miles from Brantford.

HARRISBURG

In the mid-1800s, Harrisburg was a stop on the Great Western Railway serving as a shipping point for St. George and area. About 1854, a branch line 12 miles long from Harrisburg to Galt opened, and Harrisburg got its first train station. In 1882, the Great Western Railway was absorbed by the Grand Trunk Railway which made for a stronger system to withstand American competition.



SD1

Harrisburg Cemetery

Harrisburg Rd. (behind Harrisburg Church Park)

At one time Harrisburg United Church was located in front of this cemetery. Two tombstones located in the northwest corner bear the names of Joseph Jones and Charles Larking who died July 1871 and May 1880, respectively, while working for the Grey, Wellington & Bruce Railway and the Great Western Railway. Mr. Jones fell off the trestle bridge over Fairchild's Creek and Mr. Larking was in the way of a train backing up at Harrisburg station. Their tombstones were erected by fellow employees.

SD1

Cherry's Hotel and Store, 1901

97 Harrisburg Rd.

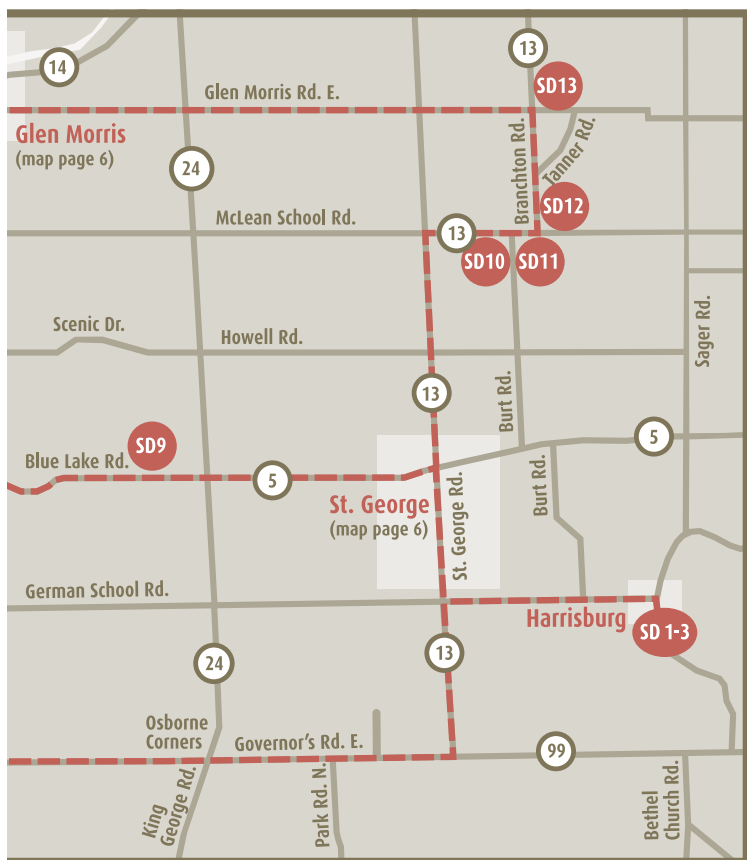
This two-storey brick hotel offered rooms, meals and a full service bar. By 1907, bartending services stopped but rooms were still rented up to the 1920s; shortly after, it was converted to a general store and the Harrisburg Post Office. Mr. & Mrs. A. Norman purchased and operated the store until 1978.

SD1

Residence, 1890

109 Harrisburg Rd.

One of the early houses of Harrisburg, this Georgian-style building has red brick with contrasting white brick accents, elliptical arched windows and doors, and white brick quoins. It is possible that the brick for this house was made by one of the two local brickyards in Harrisburg – Sinclair's Brick or Samuel Wood's Brickyard.



ST. GEORGE

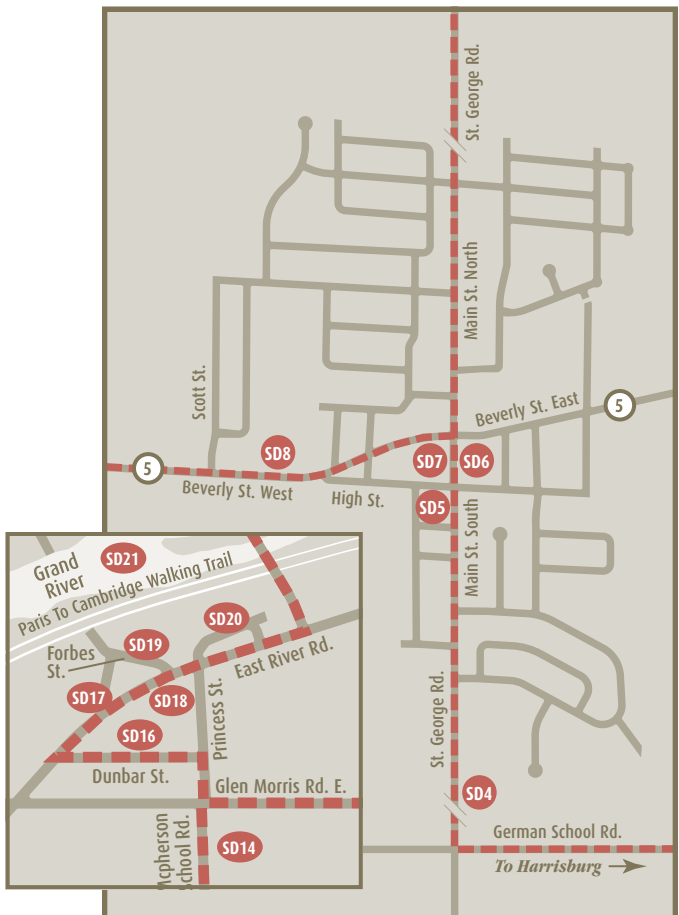
John and Peter Bauslaugh were among the earliest settlers in St. George and to them the credit is given of having founded the village. The village began as “Bauslaugh Mills”, in honour of John Bauslaugh who owned a sawmill near Highway #99. Main Street began to develop in the 1820s when Henry Moe began selling fish and dry goods from the first log building. By 1832, the village had three churches and several businesses operating in the vicinity of the present day Bank of Montreal site. Today, Main Street is still a thriving downtown with many of the original buildings from the 1800s attracting people to the antique shops, cafes and restaurants.

SD4

Train Wreck on Grand Trunk Rail Bridge, 1889

124 St. George Rd.

Notice the remaining concrete abutments of the bridge that upheld the Grand Trunk Railway carrying rail traffic over the main road. One of the drawing bars of the engine broke and separated the tracks, moving the ties and causing one of the coaches to fall down the viaduct. About 12 lives were lost and many were injured.



SD5**Snowball Grist Mill, 1871***41 Main St. S.*

William Snowball began construction of this cut and dressed stone flour mill in 1869. On the east side of the building there is a window keystone showing his initials W.S. Sometime after 1877, William Bruce Wood purchased the business for \$9,000. In the summer of 1885, steam power was added and alterations were made for \$8,000 that enabled the mill to turn out 200 barrels of flour per day. It operated as St. George Feed & Seed Mill from 1967 to 1993.

SD6**Howell Block, 1891 (Designated)***34 - 36 Main St. S.*

This block initially consisted of a series of frame buildings housing several businesses. The stone portion, which was added in 1891 by Jonathan Howell, provided a drugstore, dry goods/millinery shop, newspaper/printing office and a lawyer's office. In 1924, the stone building was purchased by a group of local people to hold in trust for a community hall. Since then, it has housed the post office, library and space for community groups. Presently, it is the home of the South Dumfries Historical Society.

SD7**Sunnyside, 1888 (Designated)***13 Main St. S.*

Constructed in 1887, this Romanesque Revival mansion was built as a residence and doctor's office. The

third floor contained a ballroom.

Dr. E. E. Kitchen and his wife had no children and lived here until Dr. Kitchen died in 1913.

It passed through the hands of several relatives and other owners until 1957 when it was converted to a nursing home.

It was purchased in 1979 by South Dumfries Township for its municipal office. After the township was amalgamated into the County of Brant, it

was sold by auction and has been extensively restored as a private residence.

**SD8****St. George School, 1893 (Designated)***39 Beverly St. W.*

The original school for boys only was a log building at the end of Lorimer Street in 1823. This one was built in 1893 - 1894 to replace a small red brick school building located on Thompson Street (formerly West Street). This building remained in use as a school until another one was built behind it in 1973. Today, a children's nursery school and day care centre operate here.

SD9**Adelaide Hunter-Hoodless Homestead, circa 1830** *(Designated)**359 Blue Lake Rd.*

Adelaide Hunter was born in this 19th century neo-Gothic-style farmhouse. She lived here until she married John Hoodless in 1881. Mrs. Hunter-Hoodless was the President of the Hamilton YMCA. She organized the second branch of the Hamilton VON and the world's first Women's Institute at Stoney Creek. She also introduced the teaching of domestic science in Ontario schools and secured funds for the building of Macdonald Institute, now part of University of Guelph. Today the homestead is owned by the Federation of Women's Institutes and operates as a museum.

SD10**Bruce's School S.S. No. 13, 1909***98 McLean School Rd.*

This school was named for a successful Dublin University graduate, James Bruce who taught here for ten years. The first two schools on this site were of log and white brick respectively. Like many other one-room schoolhouses, it closed in 1961. The 30 remaining children were transported to Glen Morris and German Schools. The land on which this school sits was once part of the farm property to the east.

SD11**Smith I. Wait House, circa 1875***86 McLean School Rd.*

In 1871 Mr. Wait purchased 10 acres of land from his brother George. The construction of this High Victorian and Italianate house was very labour-intensive: the main part of the house has three layers of brick and the stone foundation is two feet thick. In 1928, "Maple Grove Orchards" was started on the property and continued to flourish well into the 1970s.

SD12**Mayhill Villa/Lewis C. Cope Residence, circa 1867***380 Branchton Rd.*

Descendants of the Cope family, for which nearby Copetown was named, lived here. The outstanding features of this Italianate house are its windows. Notice also the two sets of original compound chimneys common in the Italianate period. Etched stained glass in the fanlight and sidelights provides an attractive entry.

SD13**Stone Railway Bridge, 1854** *(Designated)**Branchton and Glen Morris Rd. E.**(Pictured on brochure cover)*

This cut stone bridge was built by the Great Western Railway Company over Glen Morris Rd. E. to link Harrisburg with Galt. A beautiful example of masonry work, its double arches with keystones allow both the road and stream to pass under it.

GLEN MORRIS

Now we travel west to the village of Glen Morris. The village is on both sides of the Grand River but most of the historical buildings are on the east side along East River Road. Glen Morris was first known as Dawson's Bridge, as it was John Dawson who built a sawmill and bridge in 1833 across the Grand River. In 1840, the settlement was renamed Middleton. Samuel Latshaw laid out the village in 1848 and in 1851 it was named "Glen Morris" in honour of their Postmaster. See map on page 6 for locations.

SD14

Samuel Latshaw Residence, 1860

448 McPherson School Rd.

Built for Samuel Latshaw, the walls of this beautifully restored house are made of rubble and cut stone around the windows.

SD15

McPherson School, S.S. No. 10, 1870

(Designated)

283 McPherson School Rd.

This school was built on a lot purchased from Daniel McPherson. The nine-over-nine windows reflect the original style. The bell has been restored and placed on a large stone on the southwest corner of the property in dedication to the school's closing in 1961. Today, it is a unique private home.

SD16

Women's Institute, circa 1860

17 Dunbar St.

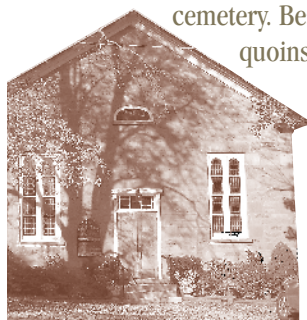
Originally built in 1859 as a Methodist Church, the building was purchased in 1913 for \$1. by the Glen Morris Women's Institute. It became known as 'Central Hall' and served as a meeting place. The South Dumfries Township Council paid \$40. a year to meet there on alternate months with St. George. In 1955, the South Dumfries School Division bought it from the Women's Institute for use as a school. It was closed in 1961 when a new multi-room school was opened on Glen Morris Rd. E. It reopened temporarily in 1963 while additional rooms were being built at the new school. Today it is still in use as a community centre.

SD17

Glen Morris United Church, 1849 and Manse, 1856

451 East River Rd.

Originally built as a Presbyterian Church, the Latshaw family donated land for the church, manse, the local school and cemetery. Beautiful stained-glass windows and side quoins adorn the church. Inside sits the original 1890 pump organ. To the immediate southwest is the cemetery where burials occurred as early as 1840. The huge size of the maple tree in front is a reminder of the many years Glen Morris Church has served its community. The fieldstone house



was built for the minister of Glen Morris Presbyterian Church, now the United Church, at a cost of \$2,500.

SD18

Glen Morris Hotel, 1844

474 East River Rd.

The hotel offered lodging and food, a bar and a livery stable. In 1888, through funds from the Penny Readings Society, a mechanic's institute was established. The old bar room became a reading and recreation room with books, magazines and board games. In 1910, owner Robert Rose bequeathed the building to the village that, through a bylaw, changed the Institute to a public library. In 1971, extensive renovations were done so that the library could remain part of the village heritage.

SD19

Residence, 1882

11 Forbes St.

This building was built by local architect and builder, Thomas Scott. It housed several businesses, one being the Imperial Bank of Canada. Its architectural interests are the ornate brackets, brickwork and brick hood mouldings over the windows. Thomas Scott was also one of the founding fathers of the Penny Readings Society.

SD20

Glen Morris School, S.S. No. 14, 1835

43 Princess St.

The school was built on land donated by Christopher Latshaw. In 1946, it became part of the South Dumfries Township School Division. Glen Morris Horticultural Society restored the bell that sits south of the school entrance. The school is now used by the Preston District Girl Guides.

SD21

Grand River

(under Glen Morris Bridge)

We now journey across the Grand River, one of eleven designated heritage rivers in Ontario.

SD22

Kelley Stone Barn, circa 1855

848 West Dumfries Rd.

Constructed in approximately 1855 by Scottish stonemasons, this unique structure features fieldstone from the foundation all the way to the roof, at the original cost of \$250.00. The only barn of this type in the County of Brant, this building has been owned by four generations of the settling family.

SD23

John Maus Residence, 1860

(Designated)

289 Pinehurst Rd.

This fieldstone house of Provincial Scottish Victorian architecture was built for one of the early settlers in this part of the former



Township. The stone for this farmer's residence and carriage house was drawn from local fields. This is one of six significant residential buildings featured in the 1875 Atlas of the County of Brant. Today it is a private residence with an antique shop.

SD24

Maus School, S.S. No. 11, 1847

(Designated)

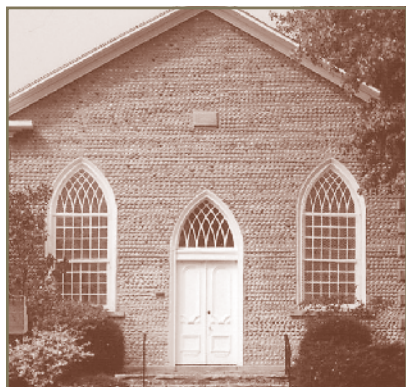
705 Paris Plains Church Rd.

The land for this school was donated by Henry Maus. After the government ended one-room schoolhouses, it was converted to a church and school museum in 1967 by an enthusiastic group of local residents who also restored the neighbouring church.

SD25

West Dumfries Chapel (Paris Plains Church), 1845 *(Designated)*

705 Paris Plains Church Rd.



The church is a fine example of cobblestone construction introduced to the Paris area by Levi Boughton. The church was built with the free labour of its own congregation using stones from nearby fields. Services were discontinued in 1921 but the building was restored in 1948 as a memorial to the pioneers of the community.

SD26

George Brown Residence, 1862

207 West River Rd.

Construction began in 1854, which suggests it took years to accumulate all the matching cobblestones. It is reflective of the traditional Ontario Cottage style in the Revival tradition.

SD27

Charles & Margaret O'Neil Residence, circa 1861 *(Designated)*

899 Keg Lane Rd.

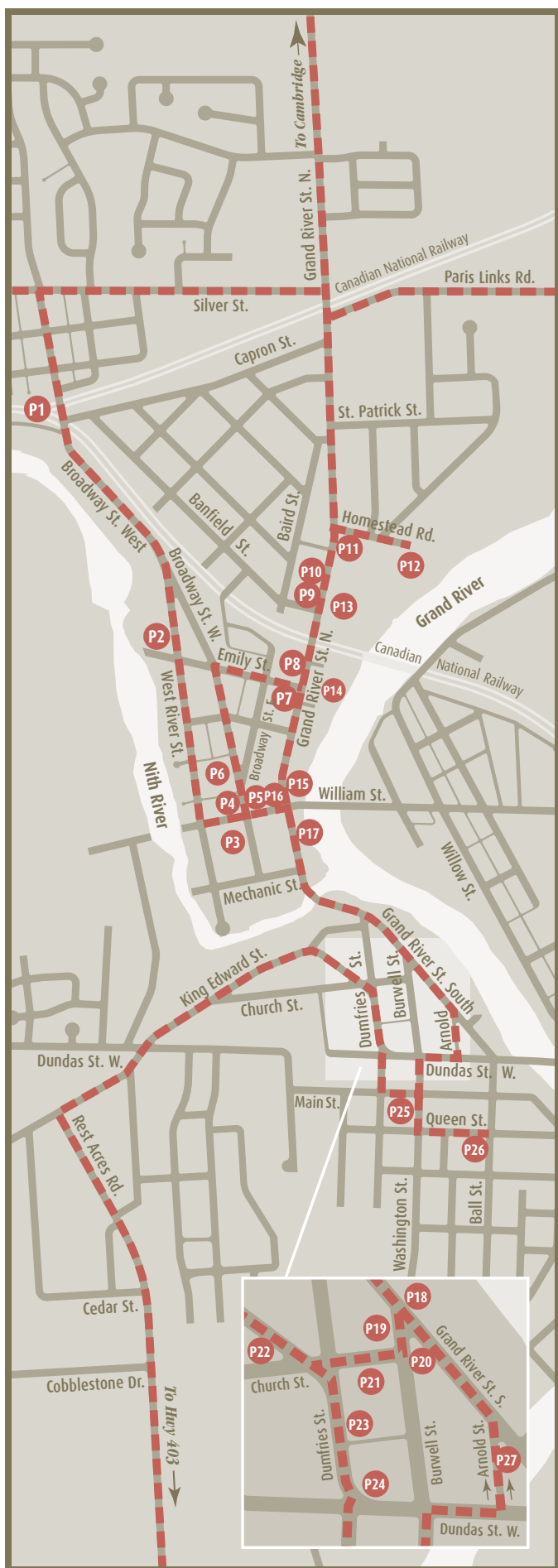
This 1 1/2 storey Regency-style house with rare four cobblestone walls was built for Charles by his father Daniel O'Neil who came to Canada from Ireland in 1830. Mr. O'Neil was the first President of the Paris Agricultural Society and his firstborn, Charles, also served as President in 1870 and in 1880. The O'Neils gave the southwest corner of their property for the building of Keg Lane School in 1868.

SD28

Matthew Deans Residence, 1858

963 Keg Lane Rd.

The Deans family of six first lived in a single-storey log cabin on the corner of this property. After seven more children joined the family, construction began on a house with cobblestone walls on three sides. The stone veranda closely matches the original one and all the shutters are original.



PARIS

Hiram Capron, the founder of Paris, was an American who first viewed the land at the junction of the Grand and Nith Rivers when he was a traveling salesman. He saw that the land was suitable for a town and that the two rivers would create ample power for mills. In 1829 he purchased the land and moved his family here. The first area developed was the "Upper Town," the area along Dundas Street. Mills and workers' cottages were soon built in the "Lower Town" between the two rivers.

Another American, master stonemason Levi Boughton, came to Paris and introduced cobblestone architecture to the citizens. He built two churches and fourteen houses plus fences, smoke houses and foundations, most of which have been carefully preserved.

Paris got its name because of the large deposits of gypsum that were mined locally to make plaster of Paris. Hiram Capron pushed for the name Paris over the objections of most of the community and eventually got his way.

P1

The Paris Junction

Market St. at Brydges St.

In the 1850s, the Great Western and Buffalo and Lake Huron railways were built through Paris. The area where the two lines crossed at the west end of town became known as Paris Station or Paris Junction. The trains stopped here for water and coal and to exchange passengers and freight. It became a very busy commercial district with a railway station, several hotels and many businesses. Today, although the Canadian National main line still runs through here, it is much quieter. Enough remains of the rail facilities and commercial buildings to give a sense of what a busy small town railway junction was like.

P2

Penman's No. 1 Mill, 1874

140 West River St.

This was the first of two large textile mills built by Paris industrialist John Penman.

Dependent on water-power in the beginning, a generating plant stood for many years beside the Nith River. Today the mill has been converted into residential units.



P3**Charles Mitchell House, 1840s** *(Designated)**16 Broadway St. W.*

A fine example of cobblestone masonry, this Greek Revival house of modest scale was designed by Mitchell and built largely by Levi Boughton. Note the cast iron grills covering “stomacher” windows beneath the eaves. A well-matched addition in 1885 housed a doctor’s office.

P4**Paris Public Library, 1904***12 William St.*

With the help of a grant from American philanthropist Andrew Carnegie, Paris built its public library in a central location. The building was designed by Paris-born architect A. Frank Wickson and originally opened onto William Street. A recent addition has created the Broadway Street entrance.

P5**Paris Baptist Church, 1885***25 Broadway St. W.*

This Gothic structure was the work of architect John Turner, designer of many churches in the area as well as County Court Houses in Brantford, St. Thomas and Simcoe.

P6**Gouinlock House, 1845** *(Designated)**42 Broadway St. E.*

Once the home of John Penman, this cottage displays rubble-stone walls with simulated ashlar parging, a metal roof and an enclosed veranda.

P7**Paris Presbyterian Church, 1893***164 Grand River St. N.*

Architect Thomas J. Rutley created the same Romanesque Revival church design for the Paris and Chatham congregations. This imposing red brick structure satisfied the late Victorian demand for large-scale church architecture. Note the round stained glass rose window and terra cotta detailing. This was the fourth Presbyterian Church in Paris and the only one still standing. This building was funded through donations from John Penman.

P8**Captain Cox House, 1886***184 Grand River St. N.*

This buff and red brick house was built for Captain Cox who was Postmaster of Paris. The Italianate style is seen in the square tower with half-round windows. Note the fine carriage house on the property.

P9**Whitlaw House, 1868***1 Banfield St.*

Best viewed from Baird St. (around the back), this is probably the largest private residence in Paris. Built about 1868 by miller Charles Whitlaw, it features compound chimneys.

P10**Baird House, 1870***194 Grand River St. N.*

French doors provide access to a beautifully detailed front veranda. The house is now separate from the carriage house that fronts onto Baird St.

**P11****Elmhurst, 1895***201 Grand River St. N.*

One buff brick wall of this home is adorned with a carved cherub face. The builder of the house lost a young daughter and a face was made and placed on the wall of the house in her remembrance. The porch, iron fence and old Paris street lamp create a pleasant corner site.

P12**Hiram Capron House, 1831 (Designated)***8 Homestead Rd.*

This plastered frame house was built by Hiram Capron who founded Paris in 1829. It was built on the site of early settler William Holmes' log cabin. There is a historic plaque commemorating Capron at the end of the drive.

P13**Penmarvian, 1845 (Rebuilt 1887)***185 Grand River St. N.*

This was a large stone house, simple in design, built by Hiram Capron and subsequently bought by John Penman who had it remodelled into a Victorian mansion. The carriage house is now a separate dwelling. Penmarvian was left to the Presbyterian Church as a retirement home for Presbyterian ministers. It is now a nursing home.

**P14****Hamilton Place, 1844 (Designated)***165 Grand River St. N.*

Norman Hamilton, a wealthy industrialist, brewer, and miller, commissioned architect Andrew J. Minney to design this three-storey, neo-Classical, cobblestone house. The veranda roof below the large belvedere conceals second storey windows. Later additions include dormers and a cobblestone wing to the left of the house. Hamilton's noted son-in-law, artist Paul Giovanni Wickson, also lived here. This property is recognized in the National Registry.

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P14**Downtown Paris
September 12, 1900**

A fire swept through the downtown, destroying all of the buildings for more than half a block on both sides of Grand River Street North and up to the south side of William Street, between Grand River and Broadway streets. By noon the next day, a temporary post office was set up and 15 businesses were back in operation.

P15**Arlington Hotel, 1850s (Designated)**
106 Grand River St. N. (at William St.)

Originally known as the O. D. Bradford Hotel, this wood frame and plaster building was later given a yellow brick addition and Romanesque arcades. It was renamed the Arlington.

P16**Alexander Graham Bell Plaque**
91 Grand River St. N.

On August 10, 1876 Alexander Graham Bell's first long distance telephone call was received from Brantford at what was the Robert White Shoe Store.

P17**Asa Wolverton House, 1851 (Designated)**
52 Grand River St. S.

This Greek Revival-style home was built for sawmill owner Asa Wolverton using wood frame construction covered in plaster of Paris. This was the first designated heritage property in Paris (1979).

P18**Dr. Sowden House & Dispensary,
1845 - 1851**
5 - 7 Burwell St.

This is a fine two-storey cobblestone house with a later constructed side addition. The rounded corner led to Dr. Sowden's office.

**P19****St. James Anglican Church, 1838**
8 Burwell St.

Levi Boughton's first cobblestone commission, St. James is now the oldest existing church in Paris. Additions include: chancel (1863), parish hall (1912) and a stone front entrance (1992).

P21**The Bawcutt Centre, 1854** *(Designated)**13 Burwell St.*

Designed by Architect John Maxwell, this building was one of the first Victorian public buildings to be designed in the Gothic Revival style and contained the town office, jail and a stunning second storey opera house. When the town offices were moved to the Lower Town in 1900 to a more central location, the building was occupied by Wheeler Needle Works.

The Paris Old Town Hall was renamed in 2015 to The Bawcutt Centre because of a generous donation from Linda Schuyler (nee Bawcutt), creator of the famed Degraasi television franchise. Ms. Schuyler's donation allowed the County of Brant to acquire the building and it was renamed after her father, former Paris mayor and community leader Jack Bawcutt.

P22**Rev. Thomas Henderson House, 1842-1845** *(Designated)**22 Church St.*

This Regency-style cobblestone cottage has original shutters and an Eastlake-style porch. Alexander Graham Bell was a guest in this house for several months in 1870, while his parents' home was under construction on Tutela Heights Road, near Brantford.

P23**Hugh Finlayson House, pre 1841***40 Dumfries St.*

Hugh Finlayson was the first mayor of Paris and also the first speaker of the Provincial parliament. He lived in this fine Georgian red brick house with neo-Classical features.

P24**Old Paris Inn, 1830s***40 Dundas St. W.*

This was one of the earliest hotels in Paris. French doors on the upstairs balcony led to a ballroom.

P25**Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church, 1857***17 Washington St.*

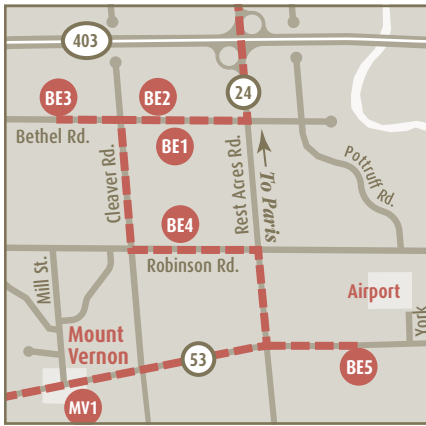
Stone, slate and stained glass are combined in a truly splendid Gothic fashion. The tower was completed in 1880 and the adjacent rectory in 1875.

P26**Levi Boughton House, 1852***19 Queen St.*

Built by the master stonemason Levi Boughton as his own home, this exemplary cottage design in cobblestone has the original porch and kitchen addition.

P27**Charles Arnold House, 1840s** *(Designated)**2 Arnold St.*

This stucco house has a cobblestone foundation and eyebrow windows. The remains of a beehive oven are in the basement.



This community, located around Bethel Rd. with Rest Acres Rd. to the east and Bishopsgate Rd. to the west, was settled in the 1830s. Among its first settlers were the Gurneys, McAllisters,

Aulsebrooks, Lovetts and Major Arnold Burrowes whose estate of 1000 acres was known as Strathmore. On his estate he constructed a mill dam, stock pens, hop mill, a distillery, a grist mill and a plaster mill. Part of this mill, which was opposite the present Five Oaks, existed until recently. John McAllister, a wagon maker, operated his shop at 232 Bethel Rd. The major industry in this area was farming.

BE1

Bethel Stone United Church, 1864

154 Bethel Rd.

Four stone houses and one stone church located in this area are built from local stone gathered from the fields. The stone used in building the Bethel Methodist Episcopal Church was gathered in the fields from the Gurney farm directly across the road. The church was built in Classical Revival style with elliptical arches over the windows which are 12 over 12.



BE2

Perley School, 1844

157 Bethel Rd. (Ghost Architecture)

The white school was built in Italianate style complete with quoins and elliptical arches over the windows. In 1844, the first school was built at the end of the lane on the farm of Charles Gurney Sr., east of the present building. Gurney was the school's second teacher. In 1875 the school was relocated and was named the Perley School after the family who donated

the land from the corner of their farm for the school. The frame school was bricked and the front entrance, complete with belfry, was built. The bell was placed on the cairn in front of the school when it was closed in 1966. The school was torn down in 2015 to make way for a parking lot.

BE3

Ameronto Post Office, 1900

213 Bethel Rd.

The post office operated here between 1909 and 1912. It was so named because it was located halfway between Buffalo, New York (America) and Toronto. Today it is a private home.

BE4

Apps Mill Nature Centre, 1846

308 Robinson Rd.

The mill was built in 1846 by the Apps family. It operated as a flour mill using Whiteman Creek for power until 1959 when hurricane Hazel flooded the complete bottom floor. The mill is located at the far west of the property and has six-over-six windows and horizontal wood siding. The surrounding forest contains many types of trees including oak and sycamore.

BE5

The Alexander Carlyle Cottage, circa 1840s

1030 Colborne St. W.

With his wife and family, Alexander Carlyle (1795 - 1881), grandson of Thomas Carlyle of literary fame, emigrated from Dumfrieshire, Scotland to New York state in June 1843. He came to Canada the following spring, settled on this site and named it the Bield Farm. The Georgian-style cottage was built by this family.

MOUNT VERNON

Mount Vernon was originally named Springfield and subsequently Chequered Sheds. According to oral history, the present name was given by a railway company in honour of the home of George Washington, the first president of the United States. Mount Vernon is the home of a beautiful country Gothic-style church. The church graveyard gives an account of the stalwart people who settled and lived here.

MV1

Colborne St. W.

(8 kilometres west of Brantford)

Mount Vernon was formerly named Chequered Sheds because the posts were painted in black and white checkerboard fashion to mark several parking spots for rigs at the hotel across from Kenny's Store. Kenny's was another hotel in Mt. Vernon. The front facade still resembles a hotel with its pediment and two-storey veranda. Thomas Perrin, who laid out the village, was an influential early settler who established the first store in 1835, built the first sawmill in 1840 and the first gristmill in 1845.

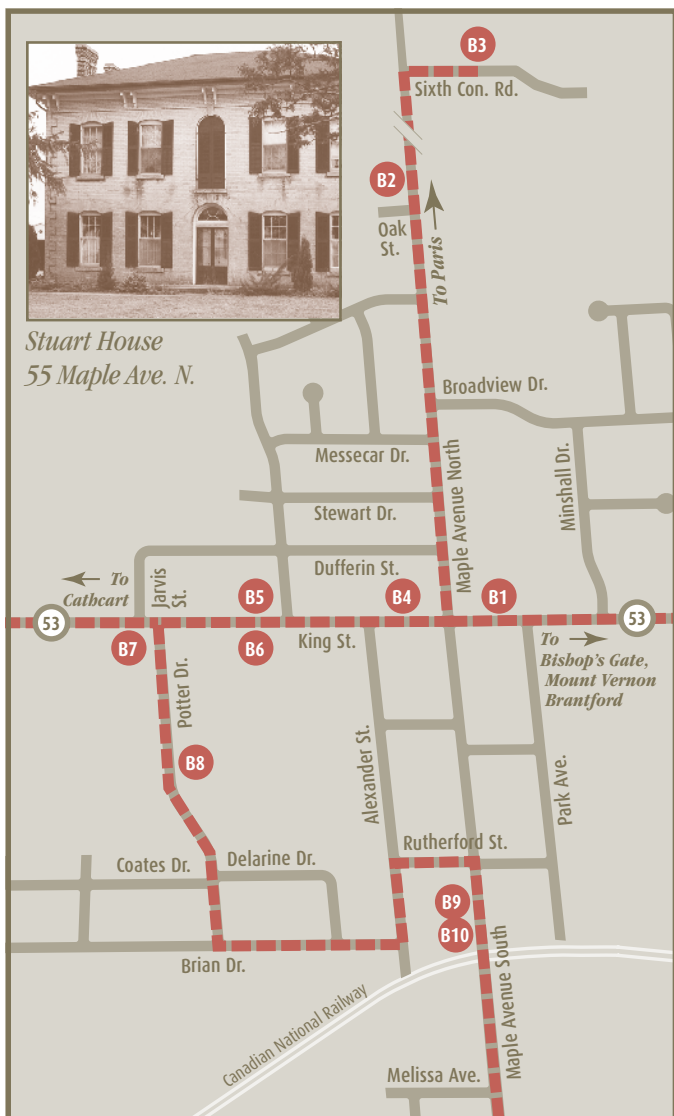
TOWNSHIP OF BURFORD

In 1793, Lieutenant-Governor Simcoe granted Abraham Dayton the entire Township of Burford. Dayton, a native of New Milford, Connecticut, settled just west of the present village. He was responsible for bringing approximately twenty-one families into the township by the spring of 1797. Abraham Dayton died March 1, 1797 after a prolonged illness.

As you travel the area you will notice a rich architectural heritage spanning over two centuries and see many architectural styles such as the Ontario Farm House, Classical, neo-Gothic, and neo-Classical as well as more grandiose styles such as Queen Anne, indicating a more affluent society. In between all this architectural history and heritage, one finds a vast array of natural heritage. In the ecological region of Carolinian Canada, this is the only former township in both the Grand River and Long Point watersheds.



Stuart House
55 Maple Ave. N.



B1**Dr. Hervey Ross House, 1851** (*Designated*)*110 King St.*

“The Miller House,” as it is usually called, is a rare example of a Regency winged temple building, which is a vanishing form. It is considered a “winged plan” because it has a one-and-a-half-storey central body with flanking one-storey wings. The Dr. Hervey Ross family built this house. Some of the decorative features of the building include fancy verge board along the front gable and French casement-style windows. It has been said that this form of architecture was modelled after the Kingston Court House. A report in 1985 by the Architecture Conservancy of Ontario stated “The Miller House is of very fine quality and would be an ornament to any Southern Ontario community.”

B2**Stuart House, 1886***55 Maple Ave. N. (see picture on page 20)*

Built by Elijah Stuart in the Georgian Symmetry style with Italianate features, segmental arched windows, double brackets under the eaves and quoining on the corners. The double-hung front door has a fanlight and the second floor door has a keystone arch linking the same colour detail line across the front of the house.

B3**Windrush Farm, circa 1850***38 6th Concession Rd.*

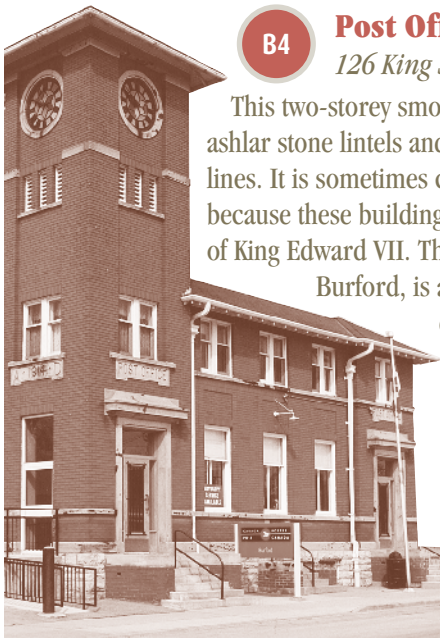
This red-bricked Regency cottage was featured on a map of the County published in 1858. It was built in the early 1850s to replace an earlier dwelling built by the Daniel family. Lawrence Daniel, born in New Brunswick in the year 1800, was the son of Joel Daniel, United Empire Loyalist. Lawrence came to Burford Township in 1819, at which time the County was a wilderness. He held the office of Magistrate for several years and was one of those elected to the Brock District Council who served from 1849 to 1850 when the Districts were abolished. This building is very similar to other Regency cottages on Bishopsgate Rd.

B4**Post Office 1915 - 1916***126 King St.*

This two-storey smooth red brick structure has ashlar stone lintels and stringcourses at the window lines. It is sometimes called Edwardian in style because these buildings were built during the reign of King Edward VII. The clock tower, unique to

Burford, is a landmark for the business

district. The building is considered one of Burford’s grandest buildings and is one of the few remaining buildings of its style. A post office in Burford first opened in 1819 and after nearly a century of being



located in general stores and private residences, the federal Government built this Post Office building on the site of what was originally a cooper shop. Construction began in April 1915 and the building was completed by December 1916.

B5

Burford Armoury, 1906 *(Designated)*

150 King St.

The central tower has a Roman arched window and Gothic detail. The double front doors have a stained glass transom. It was once used by the 1st Cavalry 2nd 10th Brant Dragoons for training and recreation. It also served as a hospital during the flu epidemic of 1918 and a temporary high school in 1921. During the war of 1812-14, Burford became an important post, being located between Ancaster and Detroit. The military parade ground was located on this property and occupied most of what is now the residential block between William Street and Jarvis Streets.

B6

Sprowl House, circa 1835

155 King St.



Doric columns support a sleeper veranda used on hot summer nights. The six over six windows are original. This is the former home of A.D. Muir who was active in the militia and joined the Burford Troop of Cavalry

in 1881. In 1813, following the defeat of the Canadians at the battle of Moraviantown (west of London), General Proctor persuaded a group of nearly 3000 native warriors and their families to retreat with him to a powerful fort, which he claimed to be at Burford. Some of this group encamped here (across from the military parade grounds) while the rest of the group was located west of the village, by the creek.

B7

Burford Pioneer Cemetery, 1799

King St. & Potter Dr.

The cemetery is located on one of the oldest plots in the area. John Fowler came here from Massachusetts in 1796. He offered this one acre parcel of land as a burial ground in 1799, and another acre on the east side where Potter Rd. is located, for a school. The first burial occurred in the year 1800, but the original marker no longer exists.

The oldest headstone is of Justus Stevens, who died Jan. 2, 1812, an original settler who came here before 1797 and a member of Burford's 1st Military organized in the year 1798. Other early markers include Capt. Daniel Bowen Sept. 4, 1819, Col. William D. Bowen Apr. 13, 1821. Other prominent historical County figures buried here are Lewis Burwell the pioneer land surveyor, who surveyed much of Brant County prior to his death in 1863, and Rev. Thomas Whitehead a saddlebag preacher and

the first President of the Methodist Conference. In 1929 the Pioneer Cemetery Board refurbished and regraded the grounds. The Women's Institute erected the brick columns and gate at the front, including two bronze plaques that commemorate the establishment of the cemetery in 1800 and a list of the names of the cemetery board of 1929.

B8

Oil Pump Jack, 1959

14 Potter Dr.

The first oil well in Gobles was drilled by Austin Smythe in late 1959. There were about 60 oil wells drilled in total. In the summer of 2001 this pump jack was restored by the Burford Historical Society and placed on a cement pad in front of the Burford Community Centre.

B9

Former Hall's Nursing Home, 1887

377 Maple Ave. S.

This home was built by Robert Cuthbertson Muir, a Major in the Burford Troop of Cavalry, who along with his brother William, also built the grain elevators in Burford. The house is an Ontario Gothic Revival farm house with "basket-handle" arched windows. From about 1931 until 1954 expectant mothers from Burford and the surrounding area came to this house where Mrs. Hall, a midwife, assisted in delivering over 1000 babies.

B10

Holt House, 1885

363 Maple Ave. S.

George Holt built this Queen Anne-style house with a wrap-around porch and wooden pillars. The upper storey has a bay window with one gable and cornice returns (return eaves) and rounded windows. Note the decorative fretting under the eaves.

B11

Metcalf Home, 1881

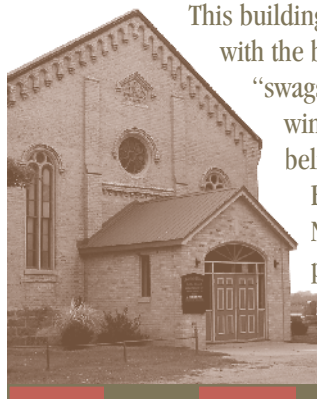
280 Maple Ave. S.

Built by W. H. Metcalf, this house is neo-Classic with some Gothic influence. The Metcalf family crest is over the front door. The house features double bracing along the cornice, and raised quoins at the corners. The two-storey bay window on the side of the home is reminiscent of a corner tower, common to Gothic-influenced buildings.

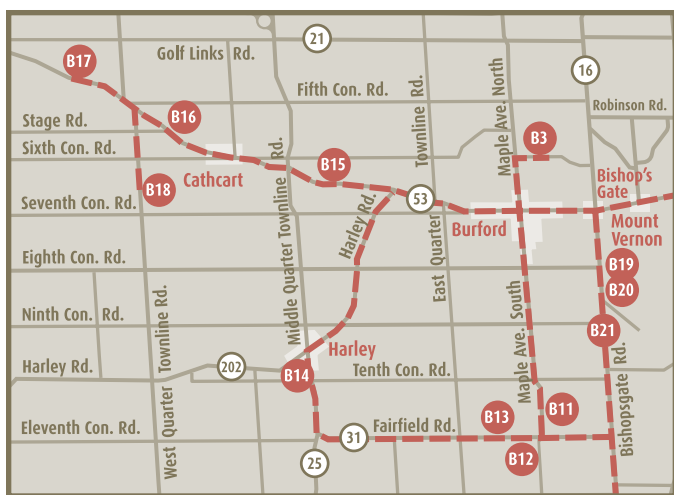
B12

Fairfield Plains United Church, 1868

187 Maple Ave. S.



This building features Italianate brickwork with the brick under the gable ends in "swags" and hooded Roman arched windows with stained glass. It is believed that William Mellish of Brantford was the architect. Note the stone plaque and bell placed in memory of teachers and students of Burford S.S. No. 15, 1855 to 1964.



B13

Williams House, 1891

114 Fairfield Rd.

Jacob Williams built this house of red brick with a slate roof, beautiful stained glass windows and decorative brickwork over and under the windows. The house still has the original front and side porches.

B14

Harley Museum, 1927

141 Harley Rd.

Until 1948, Burford Township Council meetings were held here. It then became a community hall and is now the Harley Museum. The Museum's collection consists of Burford Township artefacts, farm-related small tools, the Burford Institute Tweedsmuir histories, etc. It also houses the writings and photograph and book collections of the historian Mel Robertson. The museum is open by appointment only.

B15

Terryberry House, circa 1900

88 Hwy #53

Mac Terryberry constructed this Edwardian-style house with red brick and a unique gable. This home has the original slate roof. The full front veranda has shingles of steel stamp pressed with a maple leaf. All of the interior wood is chestnut from trees cut on the farm. The house sits on a portion of the original house that was destroyed by fire about the turn of the 19th century.

B16

Stage Road

Burford Township

The first road you come to from B9 is the Stage Rd., which is one of the oldest overland routes in the interior of Southern Ontario, dating from pre-contact period. It was used by the French and Aboriginals to avoid the lakes and waterways that were patrolled by the British. It was the route which Governor John Graves Simcoe took on his first expedition to Detroit in the winter of 1793 and fifty years later became part of the original stagecoach road that linked Hamilton, London and Detroit.

B17**Farrington House, 1883** *(Designated)**306 Hwy #53*

This house was built by James Farrington and was claimed to be one of the largest homes in Brant County at the time. It is an Italianate style with buff brick, decorative red stringcourse and arches over the Roman-style windows. The original front and side porches have gingerbread trim. James Farrington traveled to California during the gold rush and was involved in many successful business enterprises including ranching, gold and silver mining and high plains freighting.

B18**Pollard House, 1865-1868***378 West Quarter Townline Rd.*

This house has Roman influenced windows with alternating brick to simulate quoining and geometric shapes such as diamonds in the apex of the gable ends. This house has three gable ends and both a front and side porch.

B19**Residence, 1860***300 Bishopsgate Rd.*

The house has a beautiful field stone façade with extensive use of finely dressed limestone quoins, lintels and window labels.

**B20****Residence, 1870***270 Bishopsgate Rd.*

This Georgian house has elaborate porch arches and gingerbread with intricate fretwork. The windows are six-over-six panes frequently used in this time period.

B21**Bishopsgate Rd.***Burford Township*

Many of the homes on this road are built of red brick. There was a brickyard operated by Richard Andrews in the early 1850s north of Bishopsgate Rd. and it is also believed there once was a brickyard south of Bishopsgate where Donalyn Farms now stands. Some believe that these red-bricked Regency cottages were all designed and built by the same individual. You will notice that very few of these buildings have been covered with vinyl or painted.

As you are traveling, look to the east and notice the Carolinian forest just before the Town of Scotland. Parts of Southwestern Ontario form the northernmost edge of a rich and diverse deciduous forest that extends deep into Kentucky, Tennessee and the Carolinas from which this forest takes its name. Carolinian forests are home to the Redbud, Sycamore, Rose Magnolia, Tulip Tree, Flowering Dogwood, American Crab Apple and Sassafras to name just a few.

TOWNSHIP OF OAKLAND

While geographically the smallest of the former Townships, Oakland has a rich history, not only in the context of the County, but also of the nation. Oakland is the site of the Battle of Malcolm Mills, which is the last land battle on Canadian soil against an official foreign power and Scotland is the location of Duncombe's Uprising.

SCOTLAND



Scotland is situated on the Burford/Oakland township line. The village was surveyed and laid out by Eliakim Malcolm. The first hotel opened in 1830, the first store in 1836 and the first post office in 1855. Malcolm's Creek had enough waterpower

to sustain several industries such as a woollen mill, gristmill, tannery and foundry. Other early industries were a cooperage, a wagon, buggy and carriage works and a starch factory. Two doctors and a lawyer practiced in Scotland in the mid-1800s.

S1

Duncombe's Uprising, 1837

Simcoe & Talbot St.

See the Archaeological and Historic Site Board Plaque (Ontario Heritage Foundation) in commemoration of Dr. Charles Duncombe (1791-1867), prominent physician and politician, the organizer of the local reform movement and a leader of the rebellion of 1837

S2

Residence, 1891

27 Talbot St., 1891



This house is an early variant of the Queen Anne style, featuring a wrap-around veranda with elaborate scrollwork, spool work and patterned brick work with a stringcourse at the frieze. Rusticated

brick is used to ornament the principal window drip mould with eave returns around the dormer bulls-eye window.

53

Scotland United Church, 1850

10 Church St. W.

This church was originally known as the Congregational Church. The congregation, which consisted of 30 members, was founded in 1835 and they met in the local schoolhouse. The church was completed in 1850 using mainly volunteer labour, but the Gothic windows were specially ordered. The church's spire was added in 1859 where the bell rang for many years, morning, noon and night. The first organ was installed in 1863 and in 1871 the church was re-seated and renovated. In 1954 a church hall with stage and kitchen facilities were added. For the church's 150th anniversary there was an addition of a side entrance lobby, washrooms and three classrooms.

OAKLAND



The Village of Oakland is located 3 km. east of Scotland on the Oakland Rd. Oakland was named for a ridge of oak trees that ran through it. In 1850, the first municipal office was at the Oakland Post Office.

A town hall was built in 1854 and Council met there until the early 1900s. At one time Oakland had a grist mill (1806), saw

mill (1807), cheese factory, cider mill, three general stores, a shoemaker, harness maker, and one hotel.

01

Battle of Malcolm Mills, 1814

King St. S. (turn right on McKenzie Lane at Lion's Park)

This is the location of the last battle of the War of 1812 by Canadians on Canadian soil against an official foreign power. The confrontation took place at this stream that runs through Lion's Park. The historic plaque states "In October, 1814, an invading American force of about 700 men under Brigadier general Duncan McArthur advanced rapidly up the Thames Valley. He intended to devastate the Grand River settlements and the region around the head of Lake Ontario, which supplied British forces on the Niagara Frontier. McArthur reached the Grand, and after an unsuccessful attempt to force a crossing, attacked a body of some 150 militia here at Malcolm's Mills (Oakland) on November 6th. Canadian forces, comprising

elements of the 1st and 2nd Norfolk, 1st Oxford, and 1st Middlesex regiments, put up a spirited resistance but were overwhelmed.”

02

Malcolm's Mill/Vivian's (originally Vivian's) Mill

King St. S., West of Lion's Park

Just west of Lion's park was Vivian's Mill (removed in the 1990s). This mill replaced Malcolm's Mill that was burned down by the Americans on Nov. 7, 1814 during the battle of Malcolm's Mills. Americans also burned down mills in Waterford, just south of Oakland, and plundered and ravaged Simcoe and other communities on their return to Detroit. Malcolm's Mill was rebuilt and Vivian purchased this mill in 1840 after his marriage to Sarah Malcolm, John Malcolm's daughter. The creek running past the mill was also used to wash sheep before they were sheared in the spring. The Vivian's operated the mill for 125 of the 160 years it operated.

03

Mordecai Westbrook Home, circa 1860

129 Oakland Rd.

This house was built by Mordecai Westbrook, a member of one of the original families of Oakland. This is a Georgian-style house with the original double-hung, six-over-six windows and shutters. The walls are triple bricked with bricks that are said to have been made right on site. The widow's walk and rear stone coach house are both original.

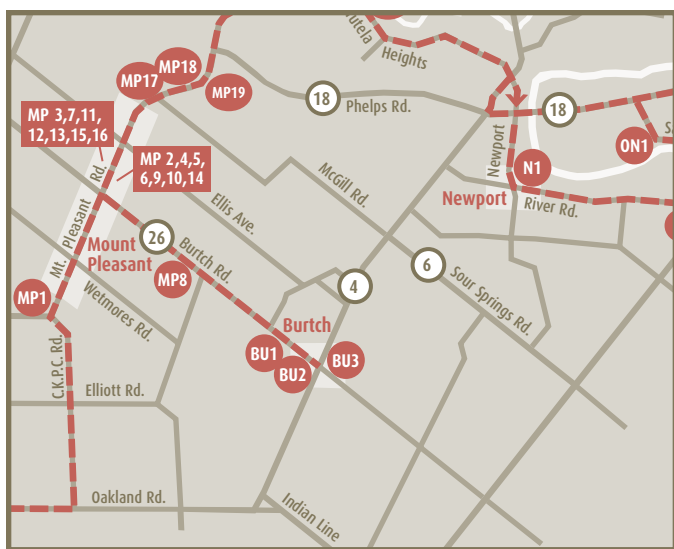
TOWNSHIP OF BRANTFORD

Brantford Township was the largest and most central township of Brant County. The first area settled was along Fairchild's Creek north west of Cainsville. The township was blessed with numerous creeks that ultimately were developed with mills. The first industrial operation in the township was a mill operated by James Percy in Mt. Pleasant. The township was equally blessed with fertile soil and land was quickly taken up, such that within 25 years of its earliest settlement, the township was well under cultivation and thriving.

Within the township, you will find the villages of Mt. Pleasant, Burtch, Newport, Cainsville and Langford, as well as the homes of Alexander Graham Bell and George Brown, a father of confederation.

| MOUNT PLEASANT |

Founded in 1799 by the Ellis and Sturgis families, Mount Pleasant was named after Ellis' birthplace in Wales. Joseph Brant ordered a survey of the 5000 acre tract in 1800. Mount Pleasant became a thriving aristocratic settlement.



MP1

McEwen House, circa 1850s

849 Mount Pleasant Rd.

Probably built in the 1850s, this is a superb buff-coloured example of a substantial Italianate home. Archibald McEwen, a prosperous farmer and merchant, had a store on the same property, slightly to the north.

MP2

Eadie-Wilson Home, 1850

756 Mount Pleasant Rd.

A very old property and apparently at one time a stagecoach stop for coaches to and from Port Dover.

MP3

Optimist Nature Park, circa 1920s

(Designated)

755 Mount Pleasant Rd.

The site of the former Haight Carding Mill in the 1840s, the property became the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources first fish hatchery in the 1920s. Now operated by the local Optimist Club, the park comprises 23 acres, has three large ponds and is open to the public.



MP4

Marquis House, circa 1870s

726 Mount Pleasant Rd.

Owned by Dr. Duncan Marquis, a highly-regarded local doctor, this charming frame house in the unusual dormer style was probably built in the 1870s. The house is essentially unaltered.

MP5**Grantham House, circa 1840***722 Mount Pleasant Rd.*

This is a wonderful example of a vernacular farmhouse from the 19th century. The house is noteworthy for its 18-inch thick walls composed of a clay, straw and mud mixture applied between horizontal planks.

MP6**Hardy Store/Devlin's Bistro, 1834***704 Mount Pleasant Rd.*

This neo-Gothic former general store and post office has been a landmark in the village since it was built in 1834. It is historically significant as the birthplace of Arthur Sturgis Hardy, a prominent lawyer and the fourth Premier of Ontario. It is the sole survivor of a once thriving commercial area.

MP7**Mount Pleasant Pioneer Cemetery, 1802***(Designated)**Mount Pleasant Rd. at Burtch Rd.*

Captain Joseph Brant set aside a grant of land in 1802 as a public burial place upon the death of Thomas Sturgis, an early pioneer. The cemetery contains the graves of a number of the pioneer settlers in the area.

MP8**Phelps House, circa 1860s***382 Burtch Rd.*

A magnificent unaltered circa 1860 Gothic Revival stone house with extensive stone rear sections.

MP9**All Saints' Anglican Church and Cemetery, 1845***688 Mount Pleasant Rd.*

Erected in 1845, All Saints is the oldest surviving ecclesiastical building in the village. It is an excellent example of simple, dignified early vernacular church architecture.

MP10**Bryning Manse, circa 1830 (Designated)***676 Mount Pleasant Rd.*

This circa 1830 Regency-Gothic cottage was the manse of the first Presbyterian and resident minister in the village, Reverend John Bryning. It is the only remaining example of board and batten construction in Mount Pleasant.

**MP11****United Church, 1863***669 Mount Pleasant Rd.*

This church was designed by architect John Turner and built in an Italianate style.

MP12**Brucefield, circa 1840***657 Mount Pleasant Rd.*

It was built for Abraham Cooke, a very successful merchant. The structure is an eclectic mix of Georgian, Greek Revival, and Regency styles. The home was named after Lord Elgin's visit to the village in 1846.

MP13**Lake Erie and Northern Railroad Station, 1916***649 Mount Pleasant Rd.*

This is a rare surviving example of a rural railway station. It was built to a standard C.P.R. pattern, probably in 1916, when passenger service was extended south from Brantford. This classic station was saved by the Merritt family and moved to its present site.

MP14**Tennant House, circa 1850s***646 Mount Pleasant Rd.*

This circa 1850s neo-Gothic-style, octagonal building is the sole survivor of three similar structures. This much-altered building is now a spa.

MP15**Phelps' House, circa 1860s***641 Mount Pleasant Rd.*

This substantial buff-coloured brick Regency-style house was built in the 1860s by a grandson of Epaphras Lord Phelps, Joseph Brant's secretary.

MP16**Emily Townsend House, circa 1860s***637 Mount Pleasant Rd.*

Alvah Townsend built this house for his daughter. It is a neo-Gothic-style home which has been meticulously maintained by its owners.

MP17**Townsend Mansion, 1848***597 Mount Pleasant Rd.*

This house is a pristine, classic Georgian Revival structure built circa 1848. This is the original home of prominent landholder and carriage builder Alvah Townsend.



MP18**Biggar Home, 1825***571 Mount Pleasant Rd.*

This split-level, hip-roofed classic Ontario Regency cottage is believed to be one of the oldest homes in The County of Brant. Herbert Biggar, the original owner of the house, was the first M.P.P. for Brant South (1854).

MP19**The Phelps-Guest Home, circa 1840s***538 Mount Pleasant Rd.*

Built in three stages, the original home was of stone construction with a board and batten addition to the rear and a buff brick Italianate addition added to the front. The front addition dates from the 1880s and the original stone structure from the 1840s.

MP20**The Bell Homestead, 1858***94 Tutela Heights Rd.*

Built in 1858, the original owner and builder of the house was Robert Morton. It was here on July 26, 1874, during his summer vacation, that Alexander Graham Bell discovered the fundamental concept for the telephone. He returned to Brantford from Boston, Massachusetts in September 1875 at which time he drafted the patent specifications for the device. In 1876 Bell set up and completed the world's first long distance telephone call between Brantford and Paris.

HAMLET OF BURTCH

(see map on page 29)

The Hamlet of Burtch was named for pioneer Stephen Burtch who owned farmland from Burtch to Mount Pleasant. A general store, wagon factory, and a blacksmith shop served the residents. On the cairn beside Burtch Baptist Church it states that the Burtch School, S.S. #7, Brantford Township was built in 1882.

BU1**Burtch Baptist Church, 1869***348 - 352 Cockshutt Rd.*

The white brick church is of Classical Revival style. The rounded arched windows have rounded drip rails over them. The foundation is of cut stone. A new porch has been added to the front of the church.

NEWPORT

Newport was once a thriving shipping port and received its name from the Grand River Navigation Company. At one time the village had a population of several hundred people and had two wagon and carriage shops, two blacksmith shops, brick yards, several general stores, a post office, two churches, a school, a sawmill, a grain and lumber company and facilities for handling general freight.

N1

The Newport School, 1872*(Ghost Architecture)**84 Newport Rd. (see map on page 34)*

Designed in Italianate style, it was closed in the 1960s and converted to the Newport Community Centre. In the early days, students from the Onondaga side of the Grand River came by boat in warm weather and walked across the ice in the winter to receive their education at this rural school. The school was torn down in 2007 because of slope failure of the riverbank on which it stood.

N2

Cockshutt Bridge Toll Gate House, circa 1915

Cockshutt Road was built by Ignatius Cockshutt and completed in 1859. Prior to that it was a very rough, winding trail with difficult passage. Cockshutt used planks from his sawmill and gravel from his pits to construct the road. He also built a bridge crossing the Grand River which still bears his name. In order to recoup his costs, Cockshutt opened a toll gate house beside the bridge. This was the last toll gate to operate in the County of Brant. The last toll collectors were John and Eva Mills and their children. For more information on Ignatius Cockshutt refer to the book "Merchants Exchange" by Wm. H. Cockshutt.

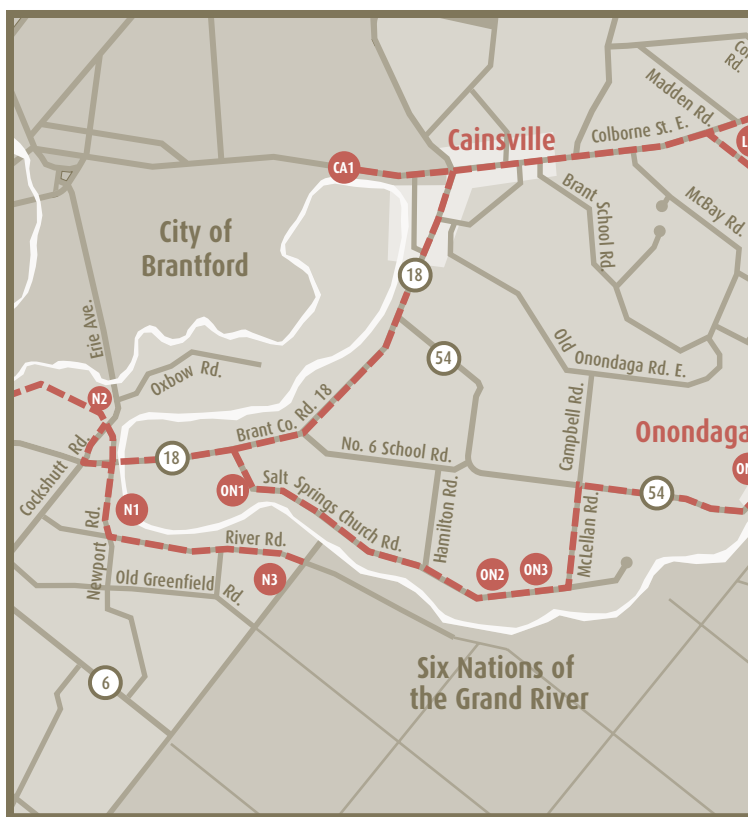


N3

Thomas House, 1835*255 River Rd.*

The Thomas House was first built in 1835 at 1030 Colborne St. E. by Captain Joseph Thomas, on land purchased by his father John Thomas, who helped build the Mohawk Chapel. John was a close friend of Captain Joseph Brant. The original plans for this historic house have survived. The walls are one foot thick and the double-





stud main frame is made of 12" by 12" beams. Massive fireplaces were built up from the lower level indicating that the masons did this work before the framers began. In 1993, to make way for development on Colborne St., the house was cut in half and moved to where it sits today on top of the small hill on River Rd. The owner has lovingly restored this home to its former glory.

| CAINSVILLE |

Junction of Brant Rd. 54 and Colborne St. E.

Cainsville was renamed from Cayuga Heights to Cainsville for Peter Cain who was one of the first settlers. He purchased land on the north side of the road and built the British American Hotel in 1836. The village was laid out in 1837 by the Grand River Navigation Company. In its heyday in the mid-1800s, Cainsville became a busy centre shipping large quantities of grain. The village had two hotels and a white brick schoolhouse, several stores, a match factory, four wagon shops, four blacksmith shops, a general store and a cheese factory.

CA1 **Bow Park Farm, circa 1860s** 136 - 140 Oxbow Rd.

Best viewing point is in Cainsville where the plaque is one of the features that can be seen from Cainsville on the opposite side of the Grand River. It is the prime piece of land known as Bow Park Farm. In the mid-1860s the Honourable George Brown purchased the farm after he left active politics at the Federal level. This model farm, containing 800 acres, had one



of the largest and finest herds of shorthorn cattle in the world. The best of buildings and machinery were found on this farm. The Honourable George Brown was elected to the Legislative Assembly in 1851 as a Reform member from the County of Kent. He became an outstanding Reform Leader in Canada West. He was a Father of Confederation when Canada became a country in 1867 and was founder of the newspaper The Toronto Globe (now The Globe & Mail).

| LANGFORD |

Located on Highways 2/53 east of Fairchild's Creek about three kms east of Cainsville, the village was named for Jacob Lang, an early settler who came from Pennsylvania to this area about 1807. United Empire Loyalists settled here in the late 1700s.

Several streams flowing south gave power to saw and grist mills in the area. A brickyard and a blacksmith shop were established here. The first post office was called Lang's Ford as all of the travelers had to ford the swampy stream in the hollow just east of Jacob Lang's farm. A short time later, the name was changed to Langford. Among the buildings left in Langford are the church and school.

LA1

Langford Church, 1868

1601 Colborne St. E.

The present church at the corner of Highways 2/53 was first known as the Plank Road Church and later changed to the Langford Wesleyan Methodist Church. In 1925 it became

Langford United Church and today it is Langford Community Church. The white brick church is in Classical Revival style with rounded arches above the windows and doors. A cairn in front of the church commemorates the 100th anniversary of this church on June 9, 1968.

LA2

Langford School, 1886

1694 Colborne St. E.

This former school was the fourth school to be built at Langford. It is in Classical Revival style with elliptical arches over the windows and a rounded arch over the door. In 1964 the school closed and the building was converted to a community hall and at one time was used as a nursery school.

TOWNSHIP OF ONONDAGA

The Township was named for the Onondagas, a nation within the Six Nations. They settled on land granted to the Six Nations under the Haldimand Proclamation of 1784. The Grand River, which forms the southern boundary of the County of Brant, was the main artery for transportation, communication, and economic sustenance. Today this river is primarily used for recreation. In the 1830s settlers began moving into this rich agricultural area.

ON1

Salt Springs Church (Grand River Mission), 1822

61 Salt Springs Church Rd.

The road and church were so named because saltwater springs were located near The Grand River Mission. Four churches have stood on this site. In 1822 the Grand River Mission was established here by Wesleyan Methodists to minister to the Six Nations people. A frame church was erected in 1828-1829. As the congregation increased in size, a brick church was built in 1860. The keystone for this church can be found to the right of the front door. The present Gothic structure was built in 1902.

ON2

Residence, circa 1880

360 Salt Springs Church Rd.

This house is made of white brick with a centre bricked-in, covered entranceway with side lights on either side of the door. A second dwelling, almost identical, can be found at 133 Brant School Rd.

ON3

James & Norma MacDonald, circa 1835

382 Salt Springs Church Rd.

This house has buff brick quoins and decorative brickwork. Note the recessed brick work around the front windows. Originally built for Judge Hamilton (McNaughton), the house

has been in the Hamilton family for five generations. The brick used for the house was manufactured on the site.

VILLAGE OF ONONDAGA

This village was first known as Smith's Corners for David Smith who operated a grocery store and a saloon. The name was later changed to Onondaga. The village became a thriving community in the mid-19th century because of the Buffalo, Brantford, and Goderich Railway station located here. Schools, churches, hotels and taverns, grist and sawmills, blacksmith shops, stores and small manufacturing shops developed.

ON4

Onondaga School, 1874

734 Highway #54

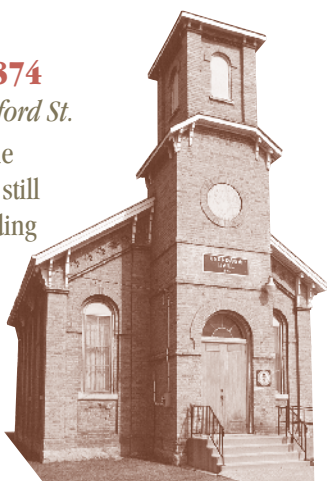
This building was originally School Section #5, Onondaga. In 1975, the Onondaga Municipal Office was set up here. Presently, the County of Brant Service Area Office and the Onondaga Fire Department are housed here. In front of the Service Area Office is a cairn celebrating the six school sections. A school bell from one of the rural schools sits appropriately on top of the cairn.

ON5

Onondaga Hall, 1874

(Designated) 42 Brantford St.

This Italianate structure served the needs of the community, which it still does today. This white brick building is an example of the many white brick buildings and farmhouses that are found in this area.



ON6

Six Nations of the Grand River

Highway #54

When you leave the Village of Onondaga you will see signs that indicate that you are entering the land of the Six Nations of the Grand River. There were originally seventeen lots between the Villages of Onondaga and Middleport that were part of a treaty with the Six Nations people in 1840. White settlers were allowed to settle on all but these specific lots in the former Township.

ON7

Chiefswood, 1853 - 1856

1037 Highway #54

This home was built by Chief George Johnson for his English wife Emily Howells. The two cultural traditions were blended in the construction of the house as Chiefswood has two front doors – one facing the Grand River and the other the highway. The large, stuccoed, two-storey mansion is symmetrical by design with matching French windows. One of George and Emily's children was E. Pauline Johnson, the famous Indian

poetess. Among her works are “The Song My Paddle Sings” and “Train Dogs”.

VILLAGE OF MIDDLEPORT

The Grand River Navigation Company played an important role in the establishment of this village. On November 7, 1848 navigation was opened on the Grand River from Brantford to Dunnville through a series of locks and dams. Middleport, founded by John Solomon Hager, was midway between the locks at Brantford and the Village of Caledonia making it an important port. The village faded with the decline of the Grand River Navigation Company.

ON8

Former Logan Hotel and Port Area, 1840

1150 Highway #54

This board and batten house was originally a hotel situated conveniently and directly across from the original port of the Grand River Navigation Company. Crews from the river vessels and workers of the lumbering industries often stayed at this hotel.

ON9

Middleport General Store, 1850

1154 Highway #54

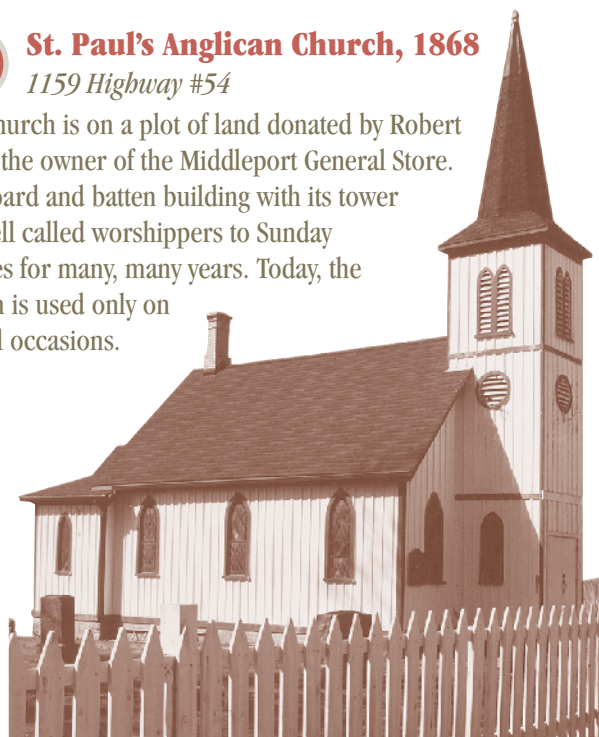
Built in 1850, the Middleport General Store is one of the oldest buildings in the area. It was constructed of lumber from the local sawmill and the walls were covered with wide pine boards about one-inch thick that were laid horizontally end to end over two by fours. This type of construction was uncommon. This store has been a focal point of Middleport for over 155 years. The first owner was Charles Baldwin who sold both groceries and liquor. Later it was used as a barbershop, post office, meat counter and grocery store. The doors of the store are open to this day.

ON10

St. Paul's Anglican Church, 1868

1159 Highway #54

This church is on a plot of land donated by Robert Wade, the owner of the Middleport General Store. The board and batten building with its tower and bell called worshippers to Sunday services for many, many years. Today, the church is used only on special occasions.



ON11**Italianate White Brick House,
circa 1880s***1218 Highway #54*

The white brick on this house was made at the Newport Brick Yard across the Grand River. During the winter when hauling one of the loads of brick for this house across the river, the back of the sleigh broke through the ice causing the bricks to slide out and sink. Fortunately, the horses were able to pull the sleigh free.

ON12**Large Barn, 1905***1302 Highway #54*

The large wooden barn on this property was moved to this site from farther down the Grand River. On the west side of the barn in the peak, a hex sign is visible. People have used these signs for centuries for the purpose of protection against misfortune.

ON13**Cherwell House, circa 1850s***301 Big Creek Rd.*

This is an example of the once common storey and a half brick farmhouse. Unique features include a Palladian window in the gable, buff brick quoins on the corners, buff brick highlights around windows and door and a frieze at the top of the first storey elevation. The bricks used to construct the house were manufactured nearby.

ON14**Howden Home and Barns, 1883***291 Baptist Church Rd.*

In 1856, Thomas Howden and his wife Jane came from Ireland and purchased this 100 acre farm. Their eleven children grew up here. A log house served as their first home. The original barn, which is now an implement shed, is still standing. An unusual feature on the current barn is the dormer over each of the two large doors. The present 14 room house contains three sets of stairs and over 50 windows and doors. Three gables trimmed with bargeboard contain Gothic windows. The front and side verandas are enclosed with pairs of rounded arched windows and the small gable on the front veranda contains a tiny Gothic window. Quoins accent the corners of the house. This farm still remains in the original family.

ON15**The Second Onondaga
Baptist Church, 1857***330 Baptist Church Rd. and Mulligan Rd.*

The Baptist community built the present clapboard-sided church with its rounded windows. The church and cemetery were presented to the church by Robert Mulligan and much of the timber came from Elder Hooper's woods. He served as the first minister here. Many members helped build the structure keeping costs to a minimum. As you walk around the grounds, think of the members who have faithfully supported this church community.

ON16

Octagonal Silo Octagonal Silo

*(at the County of Brant sign,
left hand side of Highway #54)*

This area is fortunate to have a rare octagonal silo. The square silo was the first type of tower silo to be built but it proved not to be the most practical design. The octagonal silo tried to combine the ease of square construction with the benefits of a circular design. The small house nearby was once the hired man's house.





The Brant Heritage Committee of the County of Brant

was established in November 2000

as an advisory committee of the

County of Brant Municipal Council.

It is made up of community volunteers

who have an interest in heritage

issues and have offered their time, talent

and energy to the work of preserving our

architectural heritage. A member of Council

and two staff representatives also serve

on the committee.





Brant Heritage Committee

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