



CAPTAIN SAMUEL EDISON HOMESTEAD MARKED—The part played by pioneer Captain Samuel Edison in the early history of Vienna was commemorated on Sunday when a plaque was unveiled marking the site of his original home. Here discussing the event are, left to right: Vienna Reeve K. C. Emerson, Mrs. Nora Coombe and Mrs. Myrtle Jackson, of Vienna, who unveiled the plaque, and Vienna Councillor Jerry Seghers, who did much of the work in preparation for the ceremony.—(T.-J. Aylmer Bureau Photo).

UNVEIL PLAQUE TO MARK VIENNA SITE OF EDISON HOMESTEAD.

A momentous occasion was held at Vienna on Sunday Sept. 17, 1961-- the unveiling of an historical plaque to commemorate the Edison homestead.

The plaque is one of a series being erected throughout the province by the Department of Travel and Publicity, acting on the advice of the Archaeological and Historic Sites Board of Ontario.

John Edison was a resident of Essex County, New Jersey, at the time of the revolution. He and his family remained loyal to the British Crown, and were subsequently forced to flee to Nova Scotia in 1783 where they settled on the Bay of Fundy, near Digby.

In 1811 the family moved to Upper Canada where they received a land grant of some 600 acres, along the banks of Otter Creek in what is now Elgin County. The land which was settled by John's son, Samuel Edison, constituted part of the site of a village, known initially as Shewsbury and later as Vienna. Tradition maintains that the change in the name of the village was made at the suggestion of Samuel Edison.

Samuel served in the War of 1812 as a captain in the 1st Middlesex Regiment and following his discharge from active service after the capture of Detroit, he returned to Bayham Township where he became one of the most influential and respected men in the area.

One of Samuel's sons, Samuel Jr., ran afoul of the law, however, when he committed himself to active support of the reform movement led by William Lyon Mackenzie, and after taking part in the Rebellion of 1837 he was forced to flee to the United States.

After crossing the international boundary near Sarnia, he roamed through the border states until he settled in Milan, Ohio. There, his wife, who had been left behind in Vienna, joined him, and on February 11, 1847, a son was born to them who was destined to become one of the great men of modern science--THOMAS ALVA EDISON.

Thus, it was only through the political activity of Thomas Edison's father that Vienna lost the honor of being the birthplace of the genius who invented or pioneered in the development of the automatic telegraph, the phonograph, the incandescent lamp, the storage battery and many improved methods of generating and distributing electricity.

As a boy, Thomas Edison visited his grandfather's home which stood on the site occupied by this plaque. The clapboard house which was built in the 1820's was bought in the 1930's by Henry Ford Sr., and it may now be seen at the Ford Greenfield Village Museum in Dearborn, Michigan.

The Vienna Council rushed plans to have the Edison Cemetery improved prior to the day of the event.





DEC 61

THOMAS ALVA EDISON.



My Most Unforgettable Character

BY CHARLES EDISON

SHUFFLING about his laboratory at Menlo Park, N. J., a shock of hair over one side of his forehead, sharp blue eyes sparkling, stains and chemical burns on his wrinkled clothing, Thomas Alva Edison never looked like a man whose inventions had revolutionized the world in less

than his lifetime. Certainly he never acted like it. Once when a visiting dignitary asked him whether he had received many medals and awards, he said, "Oh yes, Mom's got a couple of quarts of them up at the house." "Mom" was his wife, my mother.

Yet every day, to those of us who

THE EDEN METHODIST CHURCH.

Having been closed since the Methodist, Presbyterian and Congregational Churches were joined to form the United Church of Canada in 1925, it is very hard to obtain history pertaining to this congregation. The building, however, still stands on No.19 Highway in the village and has been converted into a Garage and Service Station with a living apartment above and in 1966 is operated by Mr. and Mrs. Harold Sawyer.

The Historical Society of Ontario has this to say about the beginning of Methodism in early Upper Canada:- Plans are now under way for restoring (1965) an historic Methodist home on a location 35 miles west of its original site.

The house has been revered as the last abode of Barbara Heck (1734- 1804) the mother of Methodism in North America. The story is that Barbara with her husband, Paul, influenced by the preaching of John Wesley, on emigrating to New York City, brought together in 1766 the first Methodist Church in this country. On moving to Canada as Loyalists, they settled in Augusta township in 1785. After the death of her husband, Barbara with her son's Samuel's family, moved to this house on the banks of the St. Lawrence River between Prescott and Maitland where, while reading her Bible, she passed on to her reward, Aug. 17, 1804.

The house has been described as being one of the finest rubble-stone houses of Georgian style in Ontario with floor-to-ceiling wall panelling of vertical, overlapping pine plank and fine Georgian joinery. Such prominent Methodists as Nathan Bangs, Francis Ashbury, Egerton Ryerson, and John Carroll have recorded visits there.

In the 1950's the Dupont Company of Canada bought the land on which it stood, carefully dismantled the house in 1963 and generously offered to transport the materials to any future reconstruction site. A non-profit company of Christian men has been formed to re-erect the house on Landon's Bay between Gananoque and the International Bridge at Ivy Lea. An architect, Mr. B. Napier Simpson of Toronto, one of the foremost authorities on the restoration of old Ontario buildings, has been commissioned to supervise the work.

The house is to become the centre of Tourist interest, a retreat for small groups and part of a larger development planned to create a park-land and Christian conference centre. Anyone who is interested further in this project or who wishes to support the work should contact the Rev. J. William Lamb, Cataraqui. Ont.

EDEN METHODIST CHURCH was known as the MacDowell's branch in 1854-55 .

Collectors-	Misses McDowell and Armstrong.		
	Henry Connor & family	7	\$ 6P
	A Friend	5"	6
	Wm. McDowell.....	5	0
	Joseph McDowell	5	0
	Harvey McDowell	5	0
	John Petch ,,,,,,.....	5	0
	Small sums		
	Total	L 2	12S 0

The above information is from the 1857-8 Directory lists for Eden which also says:-

The Mail came daily to Eden.
 John Mabee was Post-master and General Merchant.
 Israel Stilwell was Inn-Keeper
 W. English..... was Carriage Maker
 John Cook was Carpenter
 E. Clarkson ... was Blacksmith & Walter Sinden, Flour Mill.(1905)
 Population 150. Eden also had a Telegraph Office.

From the Centennial Report of Guysboro Church it is recorded:
 Guysboro was on a five-point charge about 1911 with Maple Grove, Eden, Straffordville & North Hall.
 Once a month a local preacher supplied for a Sunday service. Some of these were:

Mr. Isaac Hogarth, Tillsonburg,
 Mr. Robert Woulds, Tillsonburg,
 Mr. Levi J. Hatch, Maple Grove.
 Mr. Wm. McDowell,

Maple Grove Church was Dedicated Dec. 29, 1872.

- 1912- Mr. Love, Mr. Burgess and T.A. Grainger.
- 1913- Frederick Sypher
- 1914- Mr. Hann, T.A. Grainger (a probationer until College opened)
- 1915- 1917 Frederick Sypher (Under Corinth as a supply)
- 1917- Wm. S. Fagan
- 1919- Kinglake Circuit Supply
- 1922- Wallace J. Holley
- 1923- 24 Bertram E. Newnham, Straffordville.
- 1925- United Church was organized, and Eden Methodist Church was closed.

ONE HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY

1848



1948

Eden Baptist Church

Celebrates one hundred years of worship with

ONE WEEK OF SERVICES

Sunday, Sept. 26, 11:00 a.m.--Dr. H. H. Bingham of Toronto
3:00 p.m.--Band Concert on School Grounds
8:00 p.m.--Dr. H. H. Bingham

MUSIC BY EDEN CHOIR

Monday, Sept. 27, 8:00 p.m.--Reunion, Musical Program
Social Hour, Lunch for All Present

TUESDAY, SEPT. 28 -- SUNDAY, OCT. 3

PREACHING MISSION

Conducted by Rev. J. L. Barley of Toronto

Services each week night at 8:00 p.m.

Sunday, Oct. 3, 11:00 a.m.--Rev. J. L. Barley
8:00 p.m.--Rev. J. L. Barley

SPECIAL MUSIC PROVIDED AT ALL SERVICES

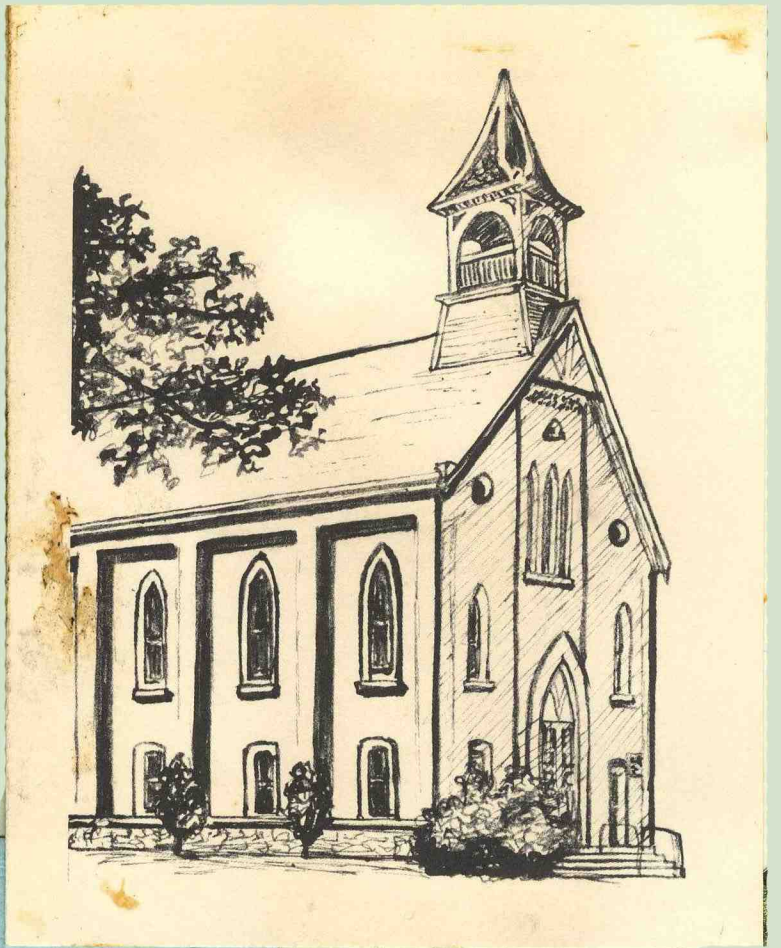
Visiting artists from London, St. Thomas, Tillsonburg and Eden

All Services Eastern Standard Time

You Are Invited



Rev. & Mrs. P. D. Augustine



SKETCH

By
MISS BARBARA
AUGUSTINE.

NORFOLK ASSOCIATION OF BAPTIST CHURCHES

Programme

Seventy-Fourth Annual Assembly

held in

EDEN BAPTIST CHURCH

WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY

OCTOBER 18 and 19th, 1961

(All sessions on E.D.S.T.)

ASSOCIATION THEME

"The World for Christ Today"

Verse: 2 Cor. 6: 2

"Now is the accepted time, behold, now is the day of salvation"

Moderator: Mr. Harry Danby, Hagersville, Ontario.

Vice Moderator: Rev. R. H. Costerus, Delhi, Ontario.

Clerk: Mr. James G. Webb, Box 628, Delhi, Ontario.



Dedication

Behold, I build an house
to the name of the Lord my
God, to dedicate it to Him.”

II CHRON. 2:4

Eden Baptist Church School
March 11, 1962