

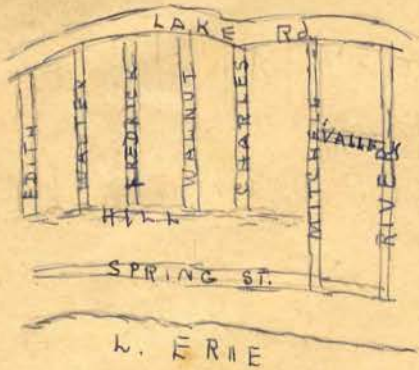
Erie Rest and Mitchell Heights

(Plan of streets on the reverse side of page.)

Article on "Erie Rest" in London News-Anniversary Number of 1906.



Erie Rest and Mitchell Heights



After Fraser Heights had been surveyed into lots about 25 acres of the farm belonging to Mr. Jno. Mitchell was surveyed ^{by} Mr. Jas. Bell. This section is known as Erie Rest and Mitchell Hts.

A rustic bridge was built to connect this section with Fraser Hts. This bridge still stands.

Plan 160- surveyed on Spring St. parallel to the Lake. Miss Hanson a teacher from London purchased the first lot in 1889.

Plan 173- took in the land from River Rd. which runs n&s through to the lake and one-half the distance between Walnut and Charles St.

Plan 212- was the last survey and took in balance of the section



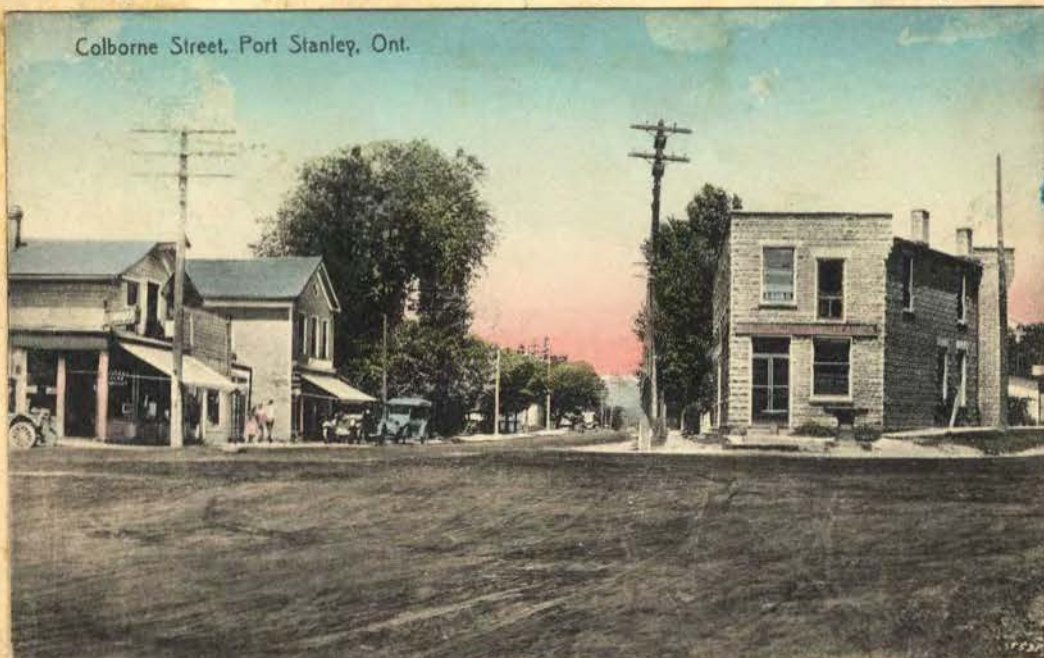
ABOUT TOWN-



George St-Franklin House- Wm. Berry's Ice-cream Parlour-Bowling Alley-
Herrick's Cafe-note-(meals 25¢)



Chas. Hough's Shop-at east of bridge-now -New Library is being erected.



Village Square-Bridge, Colborne, Joseph and Main Streets.

ABOUT TOWN



This building was built by the St. Mark's Masonic Lodge, the lower part to be used as a store and the upper part for their lodge rooms. The building was partially destroyed about 1893 by fire. It was rebuilt. The building passed into the possession of private ownership, but has again come into the hands of the Masonic Lodge, in 1946.

Some firms doing business here, -Chas Ead Sr.; Albert White; Mr. Mark Berry; Chas. Ead Jr.; Mr. Orme; Mr. McKenzie; Weir & Balkwell; Bert Day; Finlay, Glover & Nicholas; Mr. Bert. Nicholas; The Northwoods.



Bridge St.



x Used by Traction Co. for waiting room - also Post Office. before Bakery.



On the way to School.
Marion Scenario, P. Speirs, June Gilbert
Helen Moore, Mary, Parker

ABOUT TOWN/

From
Fraser
Heights



This picture shows
Warren St. Bridge and the section
known in early days as Selborne,
The old Plough works may be seen.
Then also, Prospect Heights, as
well as the old Bridge St. bridge.
The southern portion of Main St.
with Fish houses and the Old
town hall can also be seen.

From
Hill
Crest.



ABOUT TOWN.



Bridge Street. Port Stanley. Ont



Went

Corner of Bridge and Colborne Streets.
Notice the "Garden Inn."

Soldiers of World War I



Main St.
former
Russell House



1945

Police H. McIntosh



S. Main St.

Home of Mr.-Mrs. Harley Taylor-
Site of old Selborne House.



Bridge St.

1945

Don Yeo-Hugh Hyatt

ABOUT TOWN-

The Franklin House



MR. J. S. MARTIN.

it is always cool and pleasant for guests, of which there is accommodation for twenty-five or thirty. Mr. Martin is an old and experienced hotel man, having been in the business all his life. He has especial accommodation for bicyclists. The bar is supplied with the best wines, liquors and cigars. This spring the house was entirely papered and painted throughout. Mr. Martin's terms are reasonable to summer boarders.

The foundation of the Franklin House remains. The loss was caused by fire



The above shows George St. and the road to the Harbour. *also Hill to Carlow x*



Nominations for 1878 councillors, -Wm. Gough, Joe Mitchell, Wm. Edgecome, Wm. Ellison, Jas Hebblewaite, Jas. Begg, Joe Young, Sam Edgecome. It does not say which ones were elected but it later says that, Mr. M. Payne won for Reeve over Wm. Ellison by 13 votes. -January.

Father Flannery forwarded the embroidered housecoat which was contested at the R.C. bazaar New Years day, to Prime Minister Macenzie as being the most popular man in the Dom. of Canada.

Jan. 15/78-Interest at Merchants Bank-1%.

Jan. 4/78-Coroner Dr. Gustin held an inquest -Jas. Tucker found dead at Port.

Jan. 8/78-Remarkable experiments with Mr. Edison's phonograph.

Jan. 11/78-Concert in Town Hall, a great success-16 dollars realized.

The Journal costs \$1.50 per year.

Feb. 1/78 Hebblewaite & Goulding assign. (turning factory where Mr. Fahner does business.

Feb. 8/78-Reform Association meets in Toronto. Speakers Hon. Oliver Mowat and Hon. Geo. Brown.

Feb. --- County of Elgin Annual Orange Lodge. Bro. Ellison of Port acted as chairman. at Springfield

Mar. 19/78-Alma College broke the ground for foundation trench. Corner stone to be laid May 24th. by Hon. Adam Crook, Minister of Education.

Apr. 5/78-Capt. A Pollock leaves for Hamilton to fit out his boat for the season. He has been engaged all winter working up business for the Company and should freight be as lively as expected, it is not improbable that he will be appointed Gen. Manager of the Company's boats. Capt Alex Pollock is one of the most competent seamen on the lakes.

Apr. 19/78-The steamer Saginaw made her first trip from Cleveland to Port. Quite a no. of passengers and a full load of freight.

May 7/78-Mr. Wm. Gough's brick house burned-value \$1,200. Insurance \$800.

May 8th/78-The L&P.S.R. are building a bridge over Zavitz pond 2mi. north of Union. It is rumored that it is their intention to build an iron bridge at Port over Kettle C.

May 21/78- Elgin Medical students successful at Toronto University Exams.-

Harry Meek took 1st University medal and 1st Starr silver medal.

Note-Dr. Meek became an eminent surgeon. For his son, born here, he left an endowment fund to 'Victoria Hospital, London, Ont'. The son passed away in childhood.

May 31/78-on tollgates-

Can there be anything more vexatious than to be stopped in weather below zero? You spend 5min. hunting in your pocket for change and 5 more min. is spent getting change.

June 7/78-Excursion to Guelph Model Farm. Leaves Port 6p.m. and reaches Guelph at 11.30 with no change of cars. \$1.25 for round trip.

June 14/78-Death of Wm. Cullen Bryant.

July 12 /78-The call of the Port Stanley Presbyterian congregation in favour of Rev. G.H. Pardee sustained and accepted. Rev. Mr. Goldie appointed to preach. Rev. Sutherland is to address the minister, Rev. Cameron to address the people on Thurs. July 25th. The resignation of Mr. Baikie on account of ill health, was accepted.

Sept. 3/78- Suicide of a Mrs. Ball from a sail-boat. Body later found near Tryconel (a. B. Sutherland's girl)

Aug/78-Threshing by steam is coming into use-now being used at Union.

Sept. 3/78-Political Meeting, was held Wed eve. Mr. Brown in the chair. Speeches by Messrs. Casey, Munroe, Roe, Sheppard and Ermatinger. Mr. Sheppard's remarks on the grain question were clear and practical and had great effect. Sympathies seemed to be on the reform side.

Sept./78-The St. Thomas High School will be formally opened Sept. 14/78. J. Millar will be principal.

Members of Parliament at that time were, E. Elgin-Mr. Arkell
W. Elgin-Mr. Casey.

1896..



ALEX. C. BROWN, COUNCILLOR.



WM. STACEY, COUNCILLOR.



F. E. SHEPARD REE, VE.



C. CROMWELL, COUNCILLOR.



ALEX. TAYLOR, COUNCILLOR.

THE MEMBERS OF PORT STANLEY COUNCIL.

EDUCATION in PORT STANLEY

(through the years)

The first school in this village, was a one-room, frame building, facing Frances St. on the west side, on part of the site of our present school. The education of the children was paid by the parents each month.

The result was, some children received an education and others did not. I knew two elderly ladies, the same age who were raised in this village and one could neither read nor write while the other had a very good education and was ready for Normal School in Toronto. And there is much praise for these pioneer mothers. The mother of the lady who had the education had been left a widow with quite a large family to raise.

" I bow to you, women of times gone by,
Of your love and cheer,
To the memory dear
To the tales they tell of your courage high;
Herbines cast in an iron mould,
Enduring hardships manifold;
Of simple faith and reverent mind,
Fearless of heart, yet gentle, kind,
For your loved ones ready to do or die."

(Mable Burkholder)

The Second School

The second school was built on Frances St. opposite the first school. It was considered the finest when it was finished and ready in 1856. It had two rooms and was the Community Centre for the village as well as the school, until the first Town Hall was built. At the official opening of the L.&P.S.R.R. the dance was held there. The teaching in this school was free to all and had a Gov. School Inspector, Mr. W. Butler, and later Mr. W. Atkins.

From 1856 until 1909, all the boys and girls, who went out to fill positions of importance and trust, were educated in this building. After 1878, they were able to attend St. Thomas High School or Alma College, which many did.

From 1900, Inspector Atkins sent in reports to the School Boards of that time, impressing on them the need for a new school, but it fell on deaf ears. If you will excuse a personal note, I will try to describe the room I taught in for two years.

A box stove, large and rusty, stood near the centre (central heating). The ceilings were very high and grimey looking, windows high from the floor, double seats carved and worn, painted blackboards, and two paintings on the back wall that had been aimed at and not missed by marbles or sharp missiles. The average attendance was usually about seventy-two.

After attending Normal School, I became the teacher Room 3, of the Southward School, Barrie, which was opened that fall, 1907. Mr. Alex Taylor, who was then the chairman of the Port Stanley school, paid us a visit, and I left no stone unturned to compare my last school with the one in which I was then teaching.

It was through this strong-willed man that Port Stanley became stirred to action in striving for the new school. In the election of 1907, it was put to the voters but it didn't carry. But Mr. Taylor, once up and doing was not discouraged and at the election of 1908, it was again voted on and CARRIED.

Even after the permission was given by the rate payers, the members of the Board were not at first all in favour. There were two women on the Board at that time Mrs. Marta Lloyd and Miss Z. Berry. Mrs. Lloyd was very much in favour she having been a P.S. teacher, herself. At last it carried and plans and specifications were soon made available. The contractors were,

Dated October 9th/08,
Carpenter - J.M. Green & Sons.
Mason and Stone work - A.E. Ponsford.
Slate Roofing - Chas. Riddle
Painting and Glazing - Wm. Midforth
Architect - N.R. Darach.

Mr. Taylor gave his personal time to supervising the work, and altogether he deserves a lot of credit for his efforts in getting so fine a building erected. When it was built, there were two rooms below and a fine rest room furnished in keeping with the school. On the upper floor, two rooms and an office for the principal.

over

Education in Port Stanley
(continued)

Lot. 2

The land was bought from the Hugh Stevens estate, the same property on which the old pay school had stood. The school cost at the time about \$ 11,000.

When the village was incorporated, the first school board was, Jas. Stuart-chairman, Jno. Ellison Jr.; Irvin Livingston, Sam. Edgecombe and Jas. Gough (father of Mrs. Schario) Sect.

When the new school was built the members were, Alex Taylor-chairman; Mrs. Martha Lloyd, Miss. Z. Berry (Mrs. Southern of Detroit)

The teachers in the pay school were, McDonald, Hussie, Burnham, Street, Hamilton, and Malleck.

The principals in the free school were, -Armstrong, Grote, Cascaden, Brown, Penwarden, Fulton, Meek, Raymond, Broderick, G. Young, Fleckinstein, McRoberts, Witty, and Catherwood.

When the new school opened, the staff was made up of , -
Principal-Mr. Catherwood with Misses Dora Dredge and Agnes M. Hepburn, assistants. There were three of the four rooms opened at that time but later another room was opened. The present staff are, Principal A.W. Ney with Mr. C.G. McIver, Mrs. R.J. Lawrence, Mrs. Ruth Newlands and Miss A.M. Nichol.



A beautiful red brick building of modern design is provided for Port Stanley children. It was erected in 1908. Included in the equipment is a library of over 1,300 volumes for reference work and supplementary reading.

PUBLIC SCHOOL AT PORT STANLEY

The first school in Port Stanley was built on Lot 7 in 1837. Besides private schools, the nearest school to Port Stanley before this was Brayne's School.

The first teacher in Port Stanley was Mr. McDonald. The school was a frame building and stood on Lot 2, Francis Street. The brick school, two stories high, now used (1896) was built in 1856.

The teachers after Mr. McDonald and before the new school was built in 1856 were Messrs. Hussie, Burnham, Street, Hamilton, McNab and Malleck. The Principals of the school since 1856 have been Messrs. Armstrong, Grote, Cascaden, Brown, Penwarden, Fulton, Meek, Raymond, Broderick, Young, Fleckenstein and McRoberts.

The first school board, after Port Stanley was incorporated in 1874 consisted of James Stuart, Chairman; Wm. Gough, secretary-treasurer, and John Ellison, Jr., Burgess, Livingston and Samuel Edgecombe.

From essay by Neil J. Thomas (1896)

BRAYNE'S SCHOOL, SOUTHWOLD #2

James Turville, believed born in 1839, writes in an article concerning his first school experience with Mrs. Irwin who conducted a private school in the village of Selborne. Miss Jones, later becoming the wife of Dr. Wade, a druggist, conducted a similiar school thus ending school life in the village of Selborne. He then began attending Brayne's School in 1848.

The original school was built on property donated by a Mr. Brayne. The Brayne's School was built prior to the first school in Port Stanley, which was in the year 1837. The exact date that the first Brayne's School was built cannot be determined, but it must have been around the year 1800, as the village of Selborne was mostly phased out by the year 1855.

Brayne's School serviced an area known as Selborne (or Sucker-Town), and surrounding farm homes. This area was on the west side of Kettle Creek, and dated back prior to the founding of Port Stanley.

This small village or hamlet was comprised of the following: one woollen mill operated by a Mr. Earnshaw (the mill was dismantled in 1917); the grocery store and foundry were built and operated by John Wintermute; one drygoods store built and operated by James Turville; one hotel operated by David Anderson; a drug store operated by M. Hussie; a blacksmith shop; one grist mill; and one general store operated by two men, a Mr. Warren and a Mr. Ward.

In 1862, the school was moved from the southeast corner of the cemetery grounds to the present site, (copy of deed attached): "first and second range south of Union Road, comprising two (2) acres, more or less, on the northeast corner of lot fourteen (14). One and one-half ($1\frac{1}{2}$) acres of this land was purchased from James Begg, with the remaining one-half ($\frac{1}{2}$) acre being purchased from Daniel Ferguson, the purchase price being fifty dollars(\$50.00) lawful money of Canada.

This frame school burned in February 1924, and the present brick structure was built during the time between 1924 and September 1925. During the school year 1924-1925, school classes were held in a building belonging to Mr. Earnshaw.

Through the years, the school was used for many community functions, and Sunday School was operated under the leadership of Rev. W. N. Allworth.

During the school years, September 1947 until September 1949, the school population had decreased to seven pupils, causing the School Board to decide to transport the children to Port Stanley School. By September 1949, there were enough pupils to warrant the re-opening of the school, which continued to operate until June 1964. In September 1964, the children were transported to the six-room school on the Fingal Road.

The Brayne's School was sold in November 1964 to the present owners who have converted it into a very fine home.

Research by Stanley B. Cook, R. R. #5, St. Thomas, Ont. (1973)
and Mrs. Gordon Lemon, Southwick St., St. Thomas, Ont.(1973)

FROM DR. JAMES D. CURTIS' MEMORIES

1889 - 1890

"Now I was a school teacher. I was engaged to teach at Brayne's School, S.S. #2, Southwold at a salary of three hundred dollars a year (\$300.00 per annum). The school was situated on a road about eighty rods from the Union Road about one mile north (west) of Port Stanley. It was a frame structure and located in the corner of a graveyard. Mr. James Meek, father of Thos., Mervin and Katie was the trustee and the treasurer who paid my salary.

I boarded at the home of Captain May on the Union Road, just north of the long hill. He was retired but at one time he had been an ocean captain. Later he sailed as a captain on the Great Lakes. He and his wife had a large family, several boys and one girl. The two older boys were sailors like their father. One of them, Dan, spent winters at home. The other boys were Angus, Duncan, who with his brother-in-law George Moore kept a general store at the southwest corner of the main street at Port Stanley; Robert, a doctor in Michigan and William at home. Mrs. May, the mother, was a native of West Elgin and a very fine woman. My board and room cost 2 dollars and fifty cents a week. As I taught ten months a year, I received thirty dollars a month and with board and room costing 10 dollars a month, I had twenty dollars left.

The school opened January the third, 1889, and the pupils came and had a look at the new teacher. It must have been favourable because I never had to punish any of the girls and only one or two boys. The names on the register were numbered at about forty.

Amongst the pupils were Fred, May and Victor Meek; John Meek; Maggie and Neil Burton; Annie, Clemmie, Willie and Eva Coleman; Fergie, Edgar and Spenser Barnshaw; Jim and Ida Belle Ferguson; John Black; Will May; Jim Pollock; Arthur Goodhue; Bessie Wilson; Herb Hathaway; Bertie Jelly; the two Roe Girls adopted by Henry Jelly; Lomax and Ed Martin; Laura (Tot) Harris; three Dadson children; George Meek; Eva Farr; Edith Robb; Thos. and Mervin Meek; George and Edwin Turville.

The community possessed a large number of families who were above the average in culture and learning so we formed a Literary Society. I must have been the president because I remember presiding at the meetings. We had debates on the topics of the day and short plays. Some of the members taking part in these activities were John Burton, Dougal Ferguson, Robert Jelly, Edith Pollock, Rose Cameron, Christine Harris and many others. We also put on concerts to raise money and were able to replace the old seats in the schoolhouse with new ones. We also bought a large new dictionary.....

In the summer a baseball club was formed. It was called "The Stars of Southwold" but didn't always shine..... Before leaving at the end of June, the pupils presented me with an address and a present. My friend John Burton, finished the term for me although he didn't have a teacher's certificate. John Burton later married Christine Harris and was the father of Mrs. Mitchell Hepburn.

I was sorry to leave the May family. They had been very kind to me. They had a horse and buggy and Will May and I often drove to Port Stanley. I think I came to know almost everyone in that village. Captain May died suddenly of a heart attack while I was with them.....

Angus May, who was a carpenter went to St. Louis to get a winter job in that line. He came home with a severe cough.....About the time I left Mrs. May began to cough. Later Angus, Christine Moore, Mrs. May, Robert the doctor, Dan and the dog all died of the disease....The whole family was wiped out by tuberculosis."

By permission of Miss Carolyn Curtis, Southwick St., St. Thomas, Ont.
(Daughter of Dr. James D. Curtis) 1973.

BRAYNE'S CEMETERY

"Weep not for me my children
I am not dead but sleeping here"

Brayne's Cemetery which nestled beside the original Brayne's School (later S.S.#2 Southwold) contains the remains of many of the early settlers of this area.

In later years it became unattended and overgrown with brush, but in the summer of 1962 an effort was made to clean up the brush. Iron fences around some of the plots were removed and some of the markers that were broken repaired.

Among those whose names are chiseled on stone markers are:

Fred Dadson	-	July 27, 1813
Thomas Strong	-	Born Sept. 1, 1820 - D. Sept. 2, 1845
Richard Brayne	-	D. Aug. 1, 1854 - aged 96 yrs.
Maude Evalena	-	Infant Daug. Rossana and J. Meek D. Aug. 12, 1822, aged 5 mos.
Mary Ferguson	-	D. Jan. 7, 1853, aged 68 yrs.
William Mason	-	D. Aug. 22, 1860, in his 74th year Author of Lanitashio Arrived in Canada 1832
John Munn	-	1864 - 1875
Walter Munn	-	1869 - 1875
James Munn	-	1879 - 1883
William Munn	-	1867 - 1900
John Fulton	-	D. Jan. 27, 1855, aged 78 years
Mary Fulton	-	D. Jan. 15, 1860, aged 81 years
James Turville	-	Born at Hartley Hants, England 1809 D. at Selborne, March 1850
Meek - Margaret	-	Daug. of James & Margaret, D. May 4, 1859 - 17 years, 3 mos.
Elizabeth	-	Daug. of James & Margaret, D. July 30, 1858 - 20 years, 21 days.
Jane	-	Daug. of James & Margaret, D. Nov. 27, 1917 - aged 78 yrs.
Jelly - Robert T.	-	D. Apr. 18, 1918, aged 70 yrs. Native of Marlborough.
- Maria	-	Wife of Robert T. D. May 5, 1918, aged 69, Native of Slicco, Ireland.
Mason	-	In memory of Herbert E. - Son of John and Mary Mason May 15, 1877, aged 18 yrs. 5 mos.
Meek - John	-	D. Aug. 30, 1867, aged 55 yrs. 28 days.
- Judith	-	D. Mar. 20, 1885

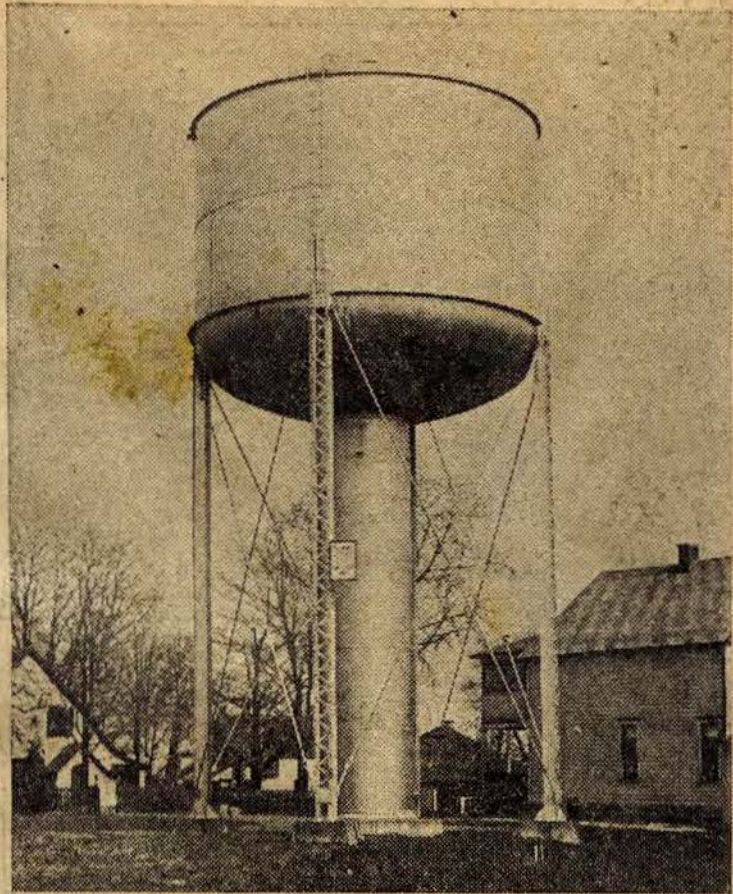
There are others too, and markers whose names have been erased by the wind, the sun and the rain.

Re- James Meek - In 1817 James Meek owned 1500 acres given to him by his friend, Col. Talbot. With the help of Muncey Indians a log cabin was built. Because of erosion another log cabin was erected. This was torn down on the Oldrieve farm.

The Meek's second house was two stories high and in the front drawing room was built an alcove where young couples were married when the travelling ministers made their rounds.

NO STINT OF 1912. PT. STANLEY'S PURE WATER

Storing Up Water Supply



THE new 62,500-gallon steel water tower atop Hillcrest Hill, is one of two towers which insure the whole of the village of a steady supply of water under 65-pound pressure. It was erected at the time of the installation of the new pumping station.

Taken from Lake, Filtered and Stored in Tanks on Heights Overlooking Village and Summer Cottage Areas; Never Fear of Shortage

Not many places in Ontario can boast of a water system and water supply as good as that of the village of Port Stanley. Nor can many of them, much larger than Port Stanley, compare with it in the matter of rates. For \$10 a year, a resident of Port Stanley could, if he took such a fancy, leave every tap in his house running twenty-four hours a day, week in and week out, and he would be charged no more. Of course, that sort of thing doesn't happen, but it shows that you can have all the water you want for next to nothing. There are no meters and the \$10 charged for each domestic service is based upon cost and supply on a non-profit-making scheme.

Three years ago, Port Stanley rebuilt its waterworks and now has a thoroughly modern system supplying water which has consistently tested Grade A. The annual consumption in the village runs between 35,000,000 and 37,000,000 gallons, pumped at the rate of about 250,000 gallons daily during summer months, and about 60,000 gallons daily during late fall, winter and early spring. The pumping station operates far below capacity. If it were required, the pumps there could fulfil a demand of over 425,000 gallons a day, and there is provision made for increasing this amount should it be needed.

Port Stanley water comes, of course, from the lake. Consequently, there is never any fear of a shortage there. When the new pumping station was built three

years ago this spring, an intake pipe extending out into the lake at a distance of 1,800 feet was laid down. It would bring in 1,000 gallons per minute on a gravity feeding system if that much were needed. When pumping, only about 300 gallons per minute are needed under present demands.

The system maintains a steady pressure of about 65 pounds, sustained by keeping two storage tanks, one on Fraser Heights, the other on Hillcrest, each about 160 feet above the level of Lake Erie, filled at all

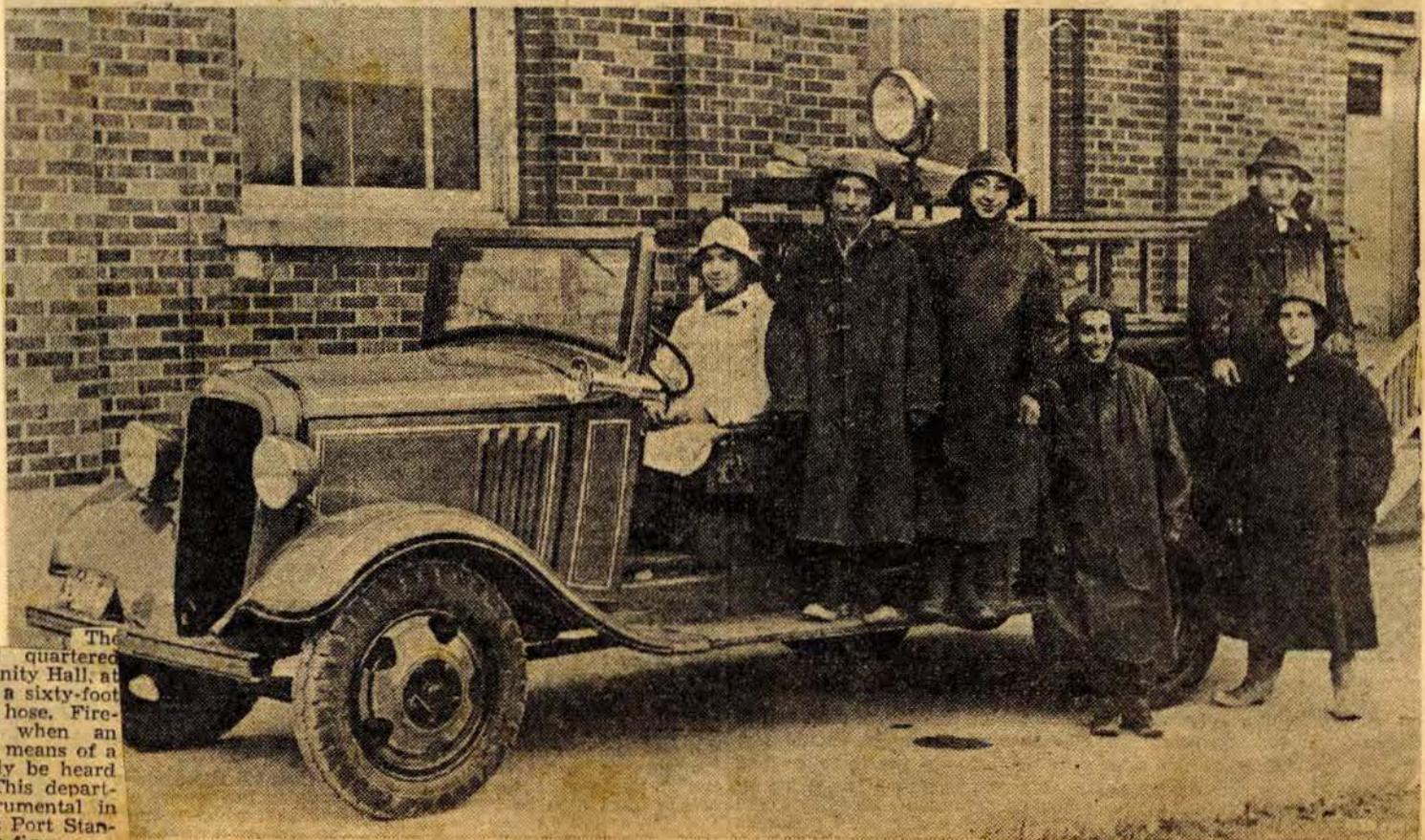
times. The tank on Fraser Heights is the older of the two. It holds about 60,000 gallons. The new steel tank on Hillcrest has a capacity of 62,500 gallons. The two storage tanks are required because of the spreading of the village over the hills on both sides of the harbor. With only one tank, it would prove difficult to maintain pressure for services on all the high lands within the village limits. In case of fires, water pressure can be stepped up to over 90 pounds at all hydrants. All told, there are seven hundred services in Port Stanley and there

are comparatively few homes or cottages which have not taken advantage of the benefits provided by the system, and the low water rates.

It might here be pointed out that the annual \$10 charge is the basic rate for a domestic service. Slightly higher rates are charged against industrial and commercial services, according to the class and size of the service. But even these are surprisingly low. The fisheries, which use large quantities of water, are only charged \$15 per year.

The valuation placed on Port Stanley's water system is \$74,846.

They Guard Port Stanley Against Fires



The fire department is quartered alongside the Community Hall, at the rear of which is a sixty-foot tower used for drying hose. Firemen are summoned when an alarm is received by means of a siren which can easily be heard three miles away. This department has been instrumental in keeping fire losses at Port Stanley at a very low figure.