

SHEDDEN PUBLIC LIBRARY

Compiled by Mrs. A. McIntyre

Shedden Mechanic's Institute opened November 13, 1890.

W. L. McKenzie	--	President
George E. Norman	--	Secretary
W. H. Morrison	--	Treasurer

DIRECTORS

Rev. Claris	Geo. Wride
W. H. Norman	Dan Hamilton
D. A. Cattanach	W. L. McKenzie
F. G. Ball	G. E. Norman
J. E. Morse	W. H. Morrison

A meeting of citizens of Shedden and vicinity was held in the hall to establish a Mechanic's Institute. Sydney Silcox, who later became principal of Stratfort Normal School, was called to the chair. He remarked on the demand of the times, that such an Institute be given consideration. Extracts from the act respecting such were read showing steps for incorporation and aid granted by the government. Short addresses were given and all agreed it would be a valuable means of education if the financial help were forthcoming.

A committee, G. E. Norman, W. H. Morrison and Sydney Silcox were appointed to make an estimate of expense.

First rooms engaged were rented from Wm. Orchard and checker playing was to be allowed in the rooms.

The St. Thomas Daily Times and Weekly Journal were ordered and later, Dutton Enterprise, Montreal Witness, Detroit Commercial Advertiser, London Free Press, Toronto Globe, Toronto New, Youth's Companion and Harper's Magazines were all subscribed to and readers could avail themselves of these in the Institute, which was kept open. John Neville was appointed caretaker.

Andrew Allison and Mr. Wheeler of Frome were appointed new directors; also Dr. F. Guest.

As the years rolled along, different means of raising money were tried as: guessing the number of beans in a jar, and the one nearest was presented with a razor. Also a pumpkin contest which netted \$3.50. New names were added, John Orchard, Ed Horton and W. Feethaw. Money was borrowed at different times.

In 1900, J. W. Brown was elected president, George Norman and W. H. Morrison still acting as secretary. Mr. Brown was principal of the school for a number of years, and later became manager of the Sterling Bank when it was opened in the village. Many of the citizens owe much of their education to Mr. Brown for he was an excellent teacher especially in history and literature.

Some of the presidents in later years were W. W. Farrah, C. D. Silcox and W. Hart, In 1912, G. E. Norman resigned as Sec. Lib., and Miss Annie Brown was appointed the books to be kept at her house.



L. D. Palmer

L. D. Palmer, 1898-1952, was proprietor of a general store here and postmaster for many years.

In World War I he served overseas with the 93rd Battalion.

Later Walter Miller also B. R. Brad were presidents and somen's names were added as directors in 1920. Mrs. C. D. Silcox and Mrs. A. E. Orchard.

Later the library was moved to its present site and 1922 Mrs. Mary Stafford, with Wesley Ross as President, was sec.lib. and Mr. Morrison continued as Treasurer from 1890 till 1938 when he resigned and Mrs. A. E. Orchard was appointed. Mrs. Stafford held office till 1933 when she resigned and the present librarian Miss Elsie Hamilton took her place.

The library is now on a good financial basis, receiving grants from the provincial treasury, the Elgin County Council, Southwold Township Council, Shedden Police Village, and for many years the Shedden Women's Institute has made a generous grant. We are affiliated with the school board and by the board paying a small amount each year, every school child may avail themselves of the juvenile reading material.

P. S. Croft, who was manager of the Bank of Commerce for several years took an interest in the library, re-arranging and spending much time on trying to bring the library up to date. The reading public owe much to those who started and maintained through the years this splendid form of education and pleasure. Many new books are added each year, the variety is good and general literature, fiction and education works are all to be found on the shelves.

The present slate of officers:

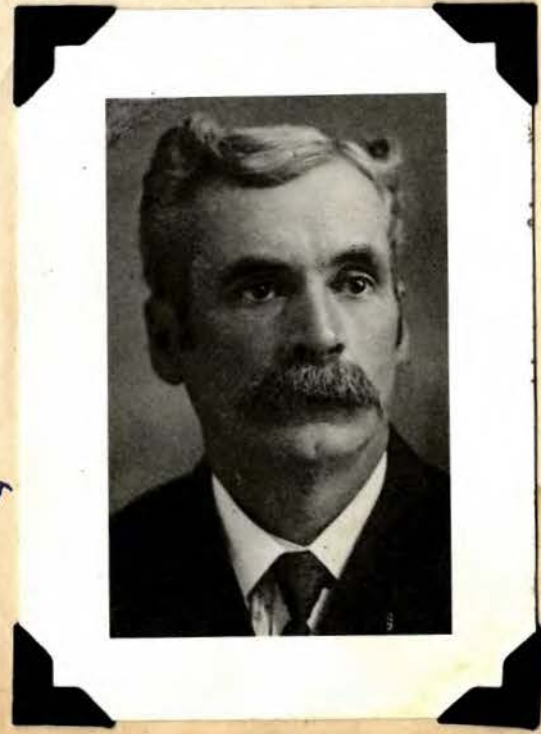
- Mrs. Arthur McIntyre --President
- Mrs. A. A. Silcox --1st Vice-President
- Mrs. A. E. Orchard --Treasurer
- Miss E. Hamilton --Librarian

Directors:

- Mrs. W. H. Turner
- Mrs. Lloyd Atkinson
- Mrs. E. McCall
- Rev. J. Bright
- Mr. Weselley Ross
- Miss Eva Morrison

W.H. Morrison

Mr. W.H. Morrison was treasurer of the library for 48 years. He operated a hardware store from 1886 to 1939. He died in 1941.



The introduction of the Elgin County Library Association with quarterly exchange of books and the Bookmobile service to the library did much to broaden the variety and type of reading material. By paying a service charge (\$25.00) much more reading material was available to more readers. Later event this charge was withdrawn, For many years the local school board paid a blanket charge which enabled school children to use the library services.

In 1950 the owner of the small library building forced the Library Board to find new quarters. As no building was available, Mr. L. D. Palmer, local merchant, offered the board a room in the rear of the store. Later the books were moved to another room (formerly used as a temporary post office) in the L. D. Palmer building, where the present library is housed in 1966.

Miss Elsie Hamilton was Librarian for thirty years, from 1933-1963. As no permanenet librarian could be found, Miss Carol Anne Waite (student) was hired as temporary librarian, the library being open on Saturdays only. Mrs Arthur McIntyre was President for over thirty years, until her death in Nov. 1963.

On January 1, 1966, Shedden Library joined with the Elgin County Library system, along with all the libraries in the county. The local board was dissolved and a Library Committee set up to work with the County Board. This new system has given the small library a big lift, and greatly improved service.

Negotiations are now proceeding for Southwold Township to purchase the small building (where the library was housed at one time) from the Dep't of Highways. It was purchased from the Bell Telephone Co., after they took over the Southwold & Dunwich Telephone Co., and introduced the Dial System in Jan. 1966. When this move becomes a reality we look forward to a continuing library service in Shedden Village.

LIBRARY COMMITTEE 1966

- Mrs. Hugh Silcox
- Mrs. Ralph Palmer
- Mrs. Alex Turner
- Mrs. Arthur Carder
- Mr. W. G. Elwett

- Mr. C. J. Orchard
- Mr. Hugh Silcox (deceased 1967)
- Mrs. Malcolm McArthur
- Mr. Arthur Carder (deceased 19
- Miss Eva Morrison (deceased Mar 24 1965)

LIBRARY SETTLED AT LAST

In February 1968 the Shedden Branch of the Elgin County Library was opened in the newly renovated quarters next to the fire-hall and owned by the Township of Southwold. The interior is attractively decorated and the new shelving and furniture installed. The bright new interior and new books make a most attractive room.

STAFF - Mrs. Alex Turner - Librarian
Mrs. Malcolm McArthur - Assistant
Mrs. Currie Oldham - Assistant

Several students act as helpers: Misses Mary Ellen Moore, Brenda Spicer, Lillian Lampman.

LIBRARY HOURS * Tues. - 3 - 5 p.m.
Fri. - 7 - 9 p.m.
Sat. - 3 - 5 p.m.

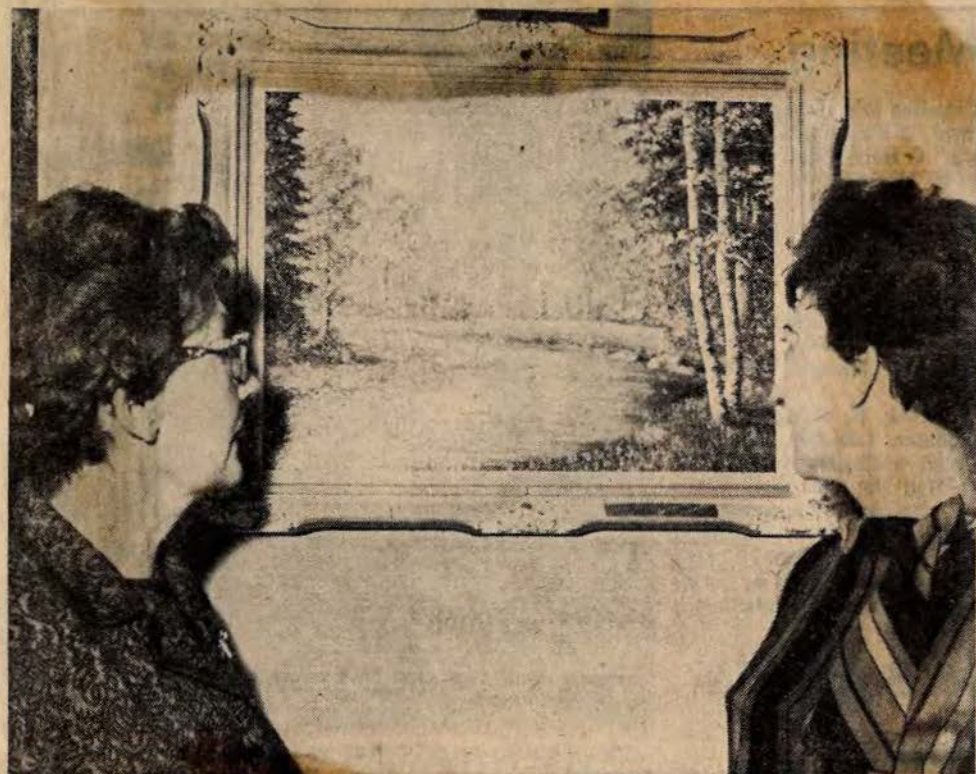
The membership and circulation has steadily increased since the new quarters have been set up.

MEMORIAL PAINTING HUNG

On January 1, 1969 a Memorial Painting was hung in the Library. A local artist, Mrs. E. S. Down, Shedden, painted the scenic picture. The Library Committee decided to use the money from a Memorial Trust Fund in this way. It is inscribed with the names of three late Shedden Library Board members, for many years of service to the Library, when it was a struggle to carry on financially. Each served for over thirty years and one for over forty.

These names are as follows: Mr. W. H. Morrison, treasurer. Mrs. Arthur McIntyre, president, Miss Elsie Hamilton, librarian.

Without members such as these and many other faithful interested people, the village would long since have been without a Library.



MEMORIAL PAINTING—A painting in memory of three Shedden area persons, who devoted more than 30 years each to the Shedden Branch of the Elgin County Library—is now on display at the library. From left, librarians Mrs. Alex Turner of RR 3, Shedden, and Mrs. Currie Oldham of Shedden.—(T.-J. Photo)

Shedden Branch Library Memorial Painting Hung

SHEDDEN.—A memorial to three persons has been placed in the Shedden Branch of the Elgin County Library.

The memorial is a scenic painting in memory of two former board members, the late W. H. Morrison and the late Miss ~~Ellen~~ ^{Ellie} Hamilton, and a former librarian, the late Mrs. Arthur McIntyre. Each served the library for more than 30 years.

Mrs. E. S. Down painted the scene at the request of the Shedden Library Committee.

Membership and circulation of the library has steadily increased since it was moved into newly decorated quarters, almost a year ago.

Book circulation was more than 1,000 in November. The library staff is made up of Mrs. Malcolm McArthur, Mrs. Currie Oldham, Mrs. Alec Turner and Miss Mary Ellen Moore.

Library hours are Tuesdays and Saturdays 3 to 5 p.m. and Fridays 7 to 9 p.m.

HISTORY OF THE FARMS

In S. S. No. 9 Shedden As Recorded Since 1860

Compiled by Mrs. A. A. Silcox

School Section No. 9, Shedden, West
(North and South Branch Talbot Road)

At the intersection of the village, near the year 1860, four men took land to start a new settlement.

"Thomas Orchard and Timothy Shaw,
Levi Sutton and Abram Waugh,"

The original townsite was taken off these four farms. One of these farms still is in possession of a descendant, and one recently was sold by a descendant of Levi Sutton, by Mrs. E. K. Patterson to Lynn Stafford which is Lot 15 South of the N. B. Talbot Rd. This lot has been held by Sutton, Horton, Patterson, Stafford.

Lot 14, present owner Richard Stafford has been owned by Ernest Stafford, William and Wesley Stafford, Cyrus and Ralph Stafford and in 1860 the owner was Calvin Sutton.

Part of lots 11 - 12 - 13. Present owner Leonard Moore, This farm has been owned by many families, one of which was Louis Russell. It has the name, in the community of the old Fowler place, due no doubt to the fact that the owner in 1857 was William Fowler and in 1865 Catherine Fowler.

Part of lot 13. Charles L. Stafford and Son present owners, this parcel of land was held in 1857 by William and Catherine Fowler. It has had various owners, of whom there is no clear record.

Part of lots 12 - 13. (North) Glenn Jackson present owner. This parcel of land was owned in 1860 by Albert Gilbert, and by William Fowler. In 1872 Thomas Tanner is stated at the owner. This farm remained in the Tanner family till about 1940.

Part of lots 12 - 13 (South). In 1872 we find ninety square acres in possession of Watson Wride. This has been sold to owners east and west except small lots and homes owned at present by Joseph and Melvin Wride and Jas. Wride

Farms North of N. B. Talbot Road. Lots 11 -- part of 12. Present owner Charles E. Moore. This land has been in possession of two families William and Charles Moore and John and Isaac Schultz, and the present owner is a descendant of both families. The earliest recording of owner ship

at the present time is 1860 Wm. and Charles Moore.

Lot 13. In 1860 it was divided. John and William Orchard and Hiram Vail. At present the owners are Clarence Orchard and Adna Orchard, who are sons of brothers, sons of John Orchard.

Lot 14. In 1860 we find the owner to be John and Caleb Stafford. This farm has remained in the Stafford family, the present owners being Walter Stafford and Son.

Lot 15 (West part). Present owner Leslie Wood. This farm has had many owners. It was originally owned by Timothy Shaw.

Farms East of Shedden on No. 3 Highway, Formerly North Talbot Road.

Lots 16 and 19. John Orchard farm formerly owned by John and William Orchard.

Lot 17. Douglas Orchard farm former owners Eliza Wallace and Wm. McMullen, later as a Burwell.

Lot 18. Wilfred Sells farm former owners John H. Sells, Margaret Sells and Abraham Sells.

Lot 19. James Milligan Service.

Rest of Lot 19. Mrs. Fred Willoughby farm, former owners Jeremiah Annett, James Ball, Philip Green and Margaret Sells

South of Talbot Road and East of Shedden now No. 3 Highway

Lot 17. Nelson Bautenheimer and Harold Koyl owners formerly Lawrence Bainard and Thomas Lawrence.

Lot 18. Albert Bawtenheimer farm former owners John Crosby and Henry Sutton. South Pt. Stewart Brown.

Lot 19. Everend Orchard farm former own Richard Howarth.

South Pt. Lot 19. Chas. Caswell.

Lot 20. William Clubb farm formerly James and Thomas Birtch and Joseph Young.

South Pt Lot 20. Gordon Eastlake farm former owners Joseph Young and James Silcox.

Lot 17, South Pt. Alice Vicary farm former owner her grandfather Andrew McDiarrnid.

Lot 16. Fred Teetzel farm former owner William Waugh. South east corner of Shedden is part of this farm.

Farms North on Union Road

Lots 7 and 8. Gordon Plain farm formerly owned by his father James Plain, earlier by William Sutton and Dugald McArthur.

Pt. Lot 7. Wm. G. O'Hara, formerly owned by Robert Plain, earlier Sutton and McArthur.

Lot 5 and 6. Mervin Jackson, farm owned by Matthew Jackson and Thomas Montgomery.

Lot 17. George Morrow farm owned by Elijah Wallace, later John McGregor.

Lot 8. Morley Stafford farm formerly owned by M. B. Stafford, earliest Alex McKillop, later Christian Heidt.

Pt. Lot 7. Arthur McIntyre farm formerly owned by Charles Heidt.

Lots 15 and 18. William K. Sells farm formerly owned by his father William H. Sells, earlier Timothy Shaw. Northwest corner of Shedden is put off this farm.

Lot 16. William White farm formerly owned by Thomas Orchard.

Oft did the harvest to their sickle yield,
Their furrow oft the stubborn glebe has broke:
How jocund did they drive their team afield!
How bow'd the woods beneath their sturdy stroke!

Grey.

SHEDDEN CEMETERY

Compiled by Mrs. C. E. Moore and Mrs. A. McIntyre

On the top of the hill, west of the village, there is a beautiful spot that marks the graves of many of those who laid the foundation of this community.

"They rest from their labours, and their works do follow them."

We have no record of the early days of the cemetery but the land was taken from the farm now occupied by Richard Stafford. This spot has always had a neat appearance and the beauty has been added to in the last few years.

A public meeting of the plot owners was held on May 28th, 1942 with new trustees appointed. These were W. Blake Horton, A. A. Silcox, W. E. Sells, C. R. Hamilton, Mrs. C. E. Moore and Mrs. E. K. Patterson. Later Blake Horton was appointed president and Mrs. C. E. Moore, Secretary-Treasurer.

The perpetuity plan was adopted, new plots under this plan to be \$50.00, present plot owners to \$40.00 or an annuity of \$2.00.

Five years later at the end of 1947, the Shedden cemetery was a place of beauty, the grass was well mowed, the trees and shrubs pruned, and a gravel drive way laid on the west side of the cemetery.

Twenty-seven hundred dollars is invested in Dominion of Canada bonds. One thousand dollars was the gift of Mrs. Mabel Bailey, Mrs. Margaret Orchard, and John A. Orchard.

Much credit is due to the energetic president, Blake Horton, who has given much of his time in levelling, mowing and pruning free.

Among the early settlers and their families laid to rest were John Andrews, Duncan Atkinson, Thomas Armstrong, D. Blasdale, Jude Burwell, Lawrence Bainard, Thomas Brown, V. Case, Robert Currie, Robert Francis, John Francis, Jeremiah Hamilton, Samuel Ham, C. Heidt, Frank Howard, William Johnston, John Murphy, W. E. Moore, Thomas Orchard, William Orchard, Robert Plain, James Plain, Ralph Stafford, L. Shaw, John Schultz, A. Spencer, John Sells, Caleb Stafford, Richard Stafford, Abraham Sells, William J. Sells, W. H. Sells, Louis Stafford, Ezra Shaw, John Wride, Jeston Warner, W. Wallis, W. H. Morrison, M. B. Stafford.

"For them no more, the blazing hearth shall burn,
And busy housewife ply her evening care,
No children run to lisp their sires' return
Or climb his knee, the envied kiss to share."

Grey



The Cemetery Shelden, Ont.

1923

Shedden Fair Grounds (Wm. Francis Property)



They're off