

Wallacetown

In 1847 Wallacetown was a thriving hamlet with shops of many types and more than one hotel. Donald Currie, who purchased land in the village in 1833 is said to have been the one who decided on the name "Wallacetown" after the national Scottish hero, Sir William Wallace.

Like Tyrconnell, it too was affected by the coming of the railroad in 1871.

Eagle

On a direct route in the war of 1812 from Niagara to Detroit, Eagle boasted a post office, before West Lorne. It derived its name from the fact that a bald-headed eagle built its nest in a tall tree at the corners for many years, adding more sticks each year. Eagle, too had a number of shops and hotels.

West Lorne

I am told that in 1873 Mr. A.C. Schleihaufer donated 18 acres of land to the Canadian Southern Railroad on condition that a station be built on it and named Bismark. Mr. Schleihaufer was associated with a lumber company and being of German descent named it Bismark. Mr. Archibald McKillop ran a rival lumber mill called The Lorne Mill, taking its name from the letters of Lord Elgin's name. The McKillop sisters kept the post office and called it West Lorne. For a time the village had two names but in 1907 Hugh McKillop had it officially named West Lorne. A law suit was entered but the gentleman died and nothing was done.

Dutton

Dutton owes its existence to the coming of the Canada Southern Railway in 1872.

Early settlers on the west side of the village called it "Lisgar" after the then governor-general. But those on the east side insisted on the name "Bennetville" in honor of George Bennett, who surveyed the area. The railway settled the matter by erecting a station on the new line and designating it "Dutton" after the chief engineer of the Canada Southern Railway.

Largie

Was named from Argyleshire on the west coast of Scotland. Campbellton and Largie in the old land being situated about the same distance apart as in Canada. In the early days before Dutton was known there was plenty of action at Largie. Here, too, were hotels, one on the farm now known as the Charlie Shaw farm and a little farther in on the opposite side another known as the "Auger Hole."

Cowal

Named from a district in Scotland, near Inverary Castle and Lock Fynne. It was first a post office on Gordon Little's farm. Later, the post office was moved to the corners and called New Montreal. Neil McBride operated the post office. He came from Cowal in Scotland and he renamed it "Cowal".

Mention may be made of the names of roads. Talbot Road came through St. Thomas to the back lane of the late Stuart Pearce farm joining No. 3 Highway and named for Col. Talbot.

Currie Road

Starting at the Lake Road, between John S. Pearce's farm and Morley Page's, it ran through Wallacetown to the river and was named for the Currie family, two sisters and Bob, who ended their days in Dutton. The paved section out of Dutton is known as the new Currie Road.

Coyne Road

This road takes its name from one, Henry Coyne, Esq., who lived at the corners. A relative and perhaps a descendant is a noted historian and was guest speaker at one of Col. Talbot anniversary dinners in St. Thomas a few years ago. This road starts a half mile in toward Whitesides or Duttona Beach as it is called now and it also runs north to the river.

Clay Street

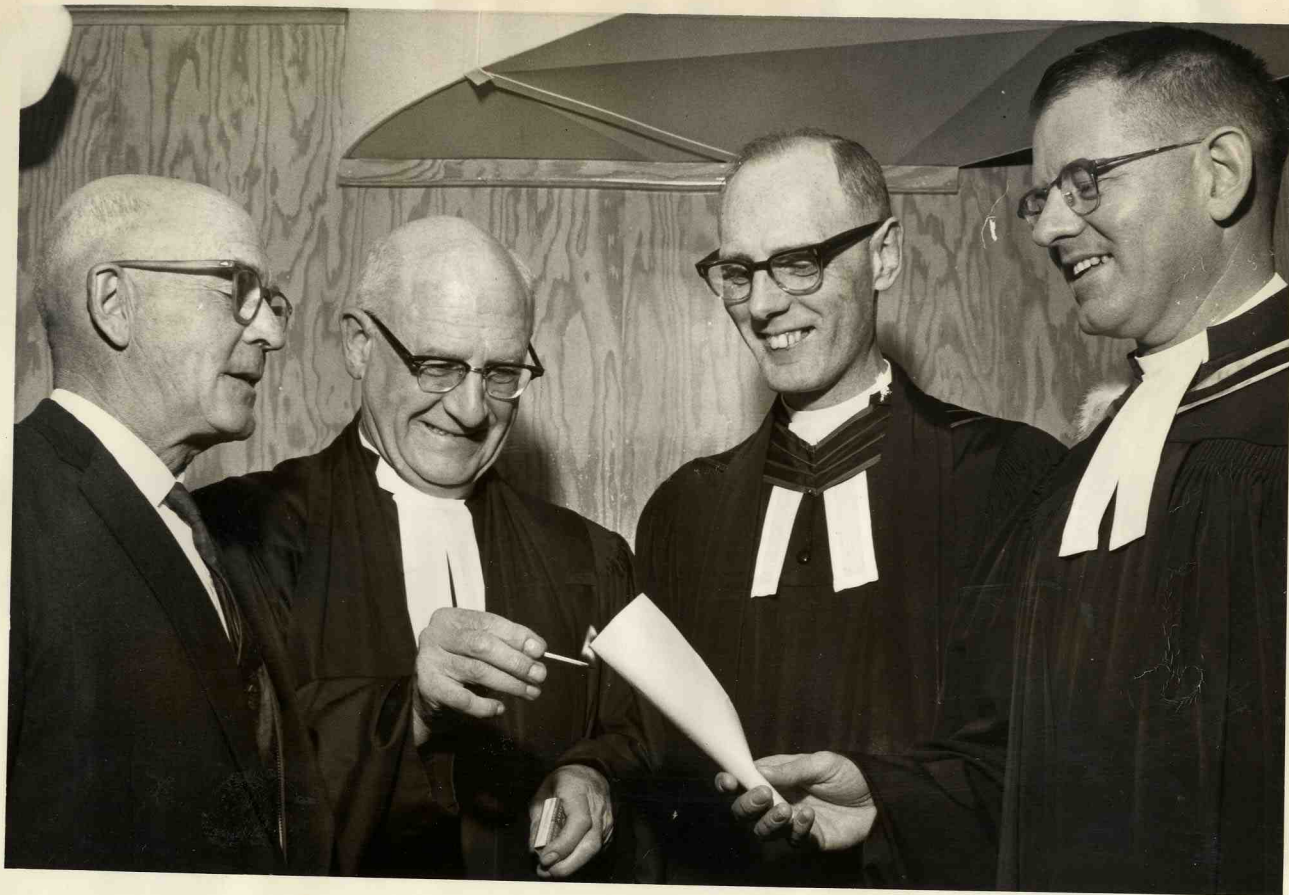
Named from the clay land bordering it.

Hogg Street

At the time of naming, Hogg Street got its name from the fact that the farmers along it at that time of naming kept many hogs. It runs from Southwold townline to Aldborough townline. Then in Aldborough takes the name of Middle Street.

Shackleton Street

It is believed to have been named for the man who surveyed it, a Mr. Shackleton.



Taking part in the mortgage burning service were, from left to right, Morley Page, treasurer of the trustees; Rev. C. E. Beacom of Arva, Rev. Lloyd Brown of St. Mary's church, St. Thomas, and Rev. J. W. Shaver, minister of the church. April 9th-1967

Mortgage-Burning Held at Wallacetown Church 1967

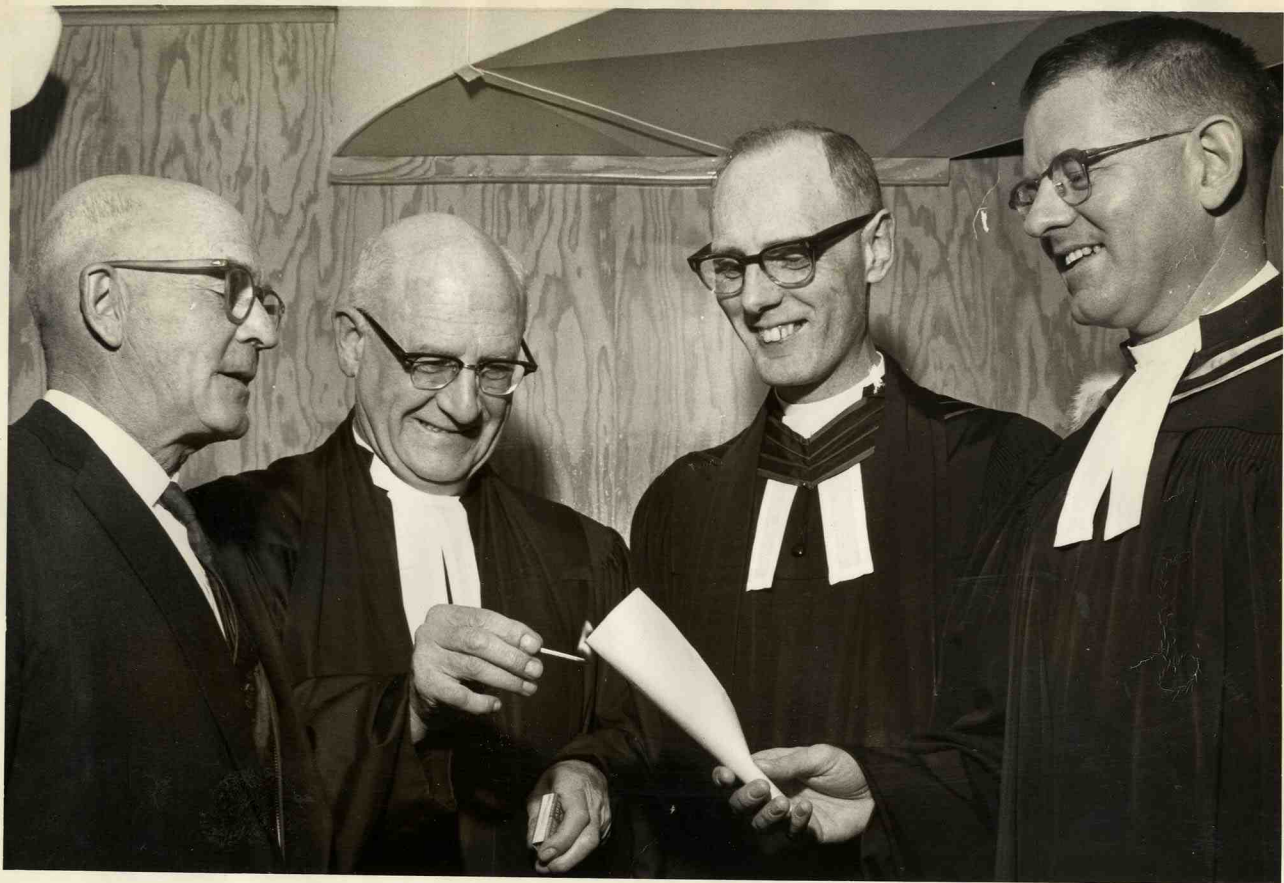
A mortgage taken out eight years ago on the Wallacetown United Church was burned during celebrations held Sunday.

The mortgage, which paid for expanded meeting facilities and class rooms, was taken out in 1959. Previous improvements since the church was built in 1875 were brick-veneering and the addition of a basement and anterooms, all in 1928.

Cost of the mortgage was \$24,500. Speaker for the occasion was Rev. M.J. Boyd, of Preston, Superintendent of Home Missions for Ontario.

Assisting at the ceremony were Rev. C.E. Beacom, Arva, during whose pastorate the mortgage was taken out, and Rev. Lloyd Brown, St. Andrew's and St. Mark's United Churches of St. Thomas.

Rev. J.W. Shaver conducted the service. Greetings were brought from Township Council by Reeve A. Bruce McCallun.



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West Elgin Girls Junior Institute Club History

On April 8, 1946, thirty-five interested girls met in the Memorial Hall, Dutton to organize a Junior Institute. Miss Eadie and Miss Scott were guest speakers.

The first slate of officers was as follows:

President - Catherine Carrell (Mrs. Dean Bogart)
Vice President- (Mrs) Muriel Lackey (Mrs. Murray Lackey)
Sec. Treas. - Helen Pattersen (Mrs. James Orchard)
District Director - Lois Pattersen (Mrs. Lorne Carrell)
Program, Lunch and Social Committees also.

The club meetings were rotated between Dutton and West Lorne Halls, commencing with a separate business meeting concluding with a joint social program with the boys group.

The "Self Help and Community Betterment" motto was always kept in mind through the years by presenting many of their own programs and contributing with both cash and material donations to various worthy organizations.

In 1947, four members presented a skit at the C.N.E. winning first place in the clothing project.

At the close of the war the girls collected used clothing to send to Europe.

In 1948, the Jr. Institute Pres.- Tena Campbell (Mrs. Grant Calwell) was chosen as one of the Ontario delegates to attend the Rural Youth conference in West Virginia.

A "Hush" Paper was compiled by different members each month and mimeographed copies were distributed at the joint meeting. In this paper any club gossip was revealed, reports from County meetings were given and club events.

The Jr. Institute paid their of 1/3 of \$500.00 donated to the new St. Thomas Elgin General Hospital by the County organization over a three year period.

In 1950, an Italian child was adopted. The members sponsored this adoption for three years during which time a box was sent every other month. Many members attended a Jr. Institute Training School held in the Dept. of Agriculture Office with Jean Scott and Agnes Turnbull acting as leaders.

In 1957, the club was forced to disband. However, it was reorganized in Nov. 1958. Under instructions from their Pres. - Pamela Campbell (Mrs. Jerry Kirshner), the girls hooked a rug and sold tickets on it.

For some time two members visited the children's ward of the St. Thomas Elgin General Hospital each month taking toys. Stuffed toys and yarn dolls have been made in past years and sent to the Children's Hospital in Cedar Springs.

The club has sponsored a 4-H Homemaking Club at different times with its members participating.

Mother and daughter banquets have always been a popular feature of the Elgin Jr. Institute programs. The first mother and daughter banquet ever held in the Junior Institute Organization took place in Fremont. It was a splendid success. Mrs. McMillam, of Crinan, then president of the Women's Institute, proposed the toast to the Elgin County Jr. Institute. Belva Lewis, first vice-president, responded. Miss Gretta Suttan proposed the toast to "Our Mothers". Mrs. E. C. Gilbert replied.

It was in 1921 that the girls of Elgin County decided that there was room in the Jr. Farmer movement for them also and the organization was given the stimulus that launched it on its long and successful career after a visit from Miss Ethel Chapman, then assistant director of Women's Institutes, who came from Toronto and met with interested people at Bert Stanley's Invererie Heights.

An important branch of the work was the coaching of the girls in wardrobe selection, sewing, and menu planning. The first local judging competition was held in St. Thomas in 1924. A home economics instructor was sent to Elgin by the Dept. of Agriculture and after a series of lectures and demonstrations, judging contests were held. The three high girls were chosen to represent the county in the provincial judging held during the Toronto Exhibition.

In the wardrobe selection they were shown the importance of simplicity in their clothing, avoidance of color clashes, extravagance of over-dressing for any occasion. They were especially taught to select the best costume for attending church on Sunday morning. Sometimes they judged live models rather than just pictures which definitely added interest.

The classes in sewing included instruction in the making of button-holes, hemming, patching and darning.

The menu planning was also interesting. They were expected to put in order of their nutritional value, four menus submitted to them for judging. The choice of menus depended on their suitability to a family of four, including a school-age child, a pre-schooler and parents.

The girls also judged canned goods in connection with their home economics course and learned the importance of proper cooking of vegetables to preserve their nutritional food value.



In Toronto at the Canadian National Exhibition 1924, this Dunwitch Township Judging Team won first place in the Household Science Judging Competition. From left to right - Alice Galbraith, Grace Farr Amy McCallum, won over seventy teams taking part in the judging. They judged cakes, bread, school lunches, and house dresses, they received a silver cup and individual plaques. All teams were guests of the Exhibition for one day and had free seats on the grandstand at night.

PAST PRESIDENTS

ELGIN COUNTY

JUNIOR FARMERS

JUNIOR INSTITUTE

1922	Stewart Brown, Shedden	1922	
1923	Hugh Carroll, R. 1, Iona Station,	1923	(Margaret Brown) Mrs. C. W. Sinclair, Gylmer,
1924	Duncan Turner, R. 2, Shedden,	1924	
1925	Donald Begg, R. 1, St. Thomas,	1925	(Muriel Styles) Mrs. William Carson, 2008 Altmar St., Pittsburg, Pa.
1926	James Campbell, R. 1, Iona Station,	1926	(Alice Galbraith) Miss Alice Galbraith, 1602 Bathurst St., Toronto,
1927	George E. Sileox, R. 2, Shedden,	1927	(Margaret Cole) Mrs. Roy McNeill, R. 2, Dutton,
1928	D. Alex Turner, R. 2, Shedden,	1928	(Lylla Walker) Mrs. Murray McLean, R. 2, Rodney,
1929	Vermont Pow, R. 7, St. Thomas,	1929	(Agnes Jean McCallum) Mrs. Philip Campbell, R. 1, Iona Station,
1930	William Galbraith, Mount Bridges,	1930	(Greta Sutton) Mrs. R. Allen, Talbottle (deceased)
1931	Albert Orchard, Shedden	1931	(Belva Lewis) Mrs. Lyle Cook, R. 3, St. Thomas.
1932	Donald M. Ferguson, R. 6, St. Thomas,	1932	(Jean McKenzie) Mrs. Delbert Lale, R. 2, St. Thomas.
1933	Cecil McKenzie, R. 2, St. Thomas,	1933	(Kay Galbraith) Mrs. N. J. Denholm, St. George.
1934	Fred Begg, R. 3, Shedden, (deceased)	1934	(Elda Mae Horton) Mrs. E. K. Patterson, 37 Stanley St., St. Thomas,
1935	Mason Tansley, R. 5, St. Thomas.	1935	(Winifred Randall) Mrs. Winifred Faulkner, 41 Arthur St., St. Thomas.

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