

St. Helen's Roman Catholic Church Anniversary

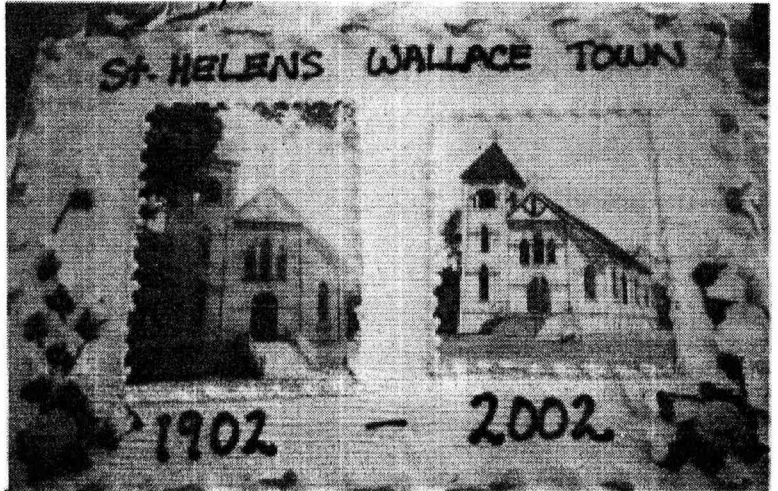
The Chronicle

Sept 2002

A salute with swords by the 4th Degree Knights of Columbus and "Hail Mary" sung by Lori (Van Bree) Holden, started the 100th Anniversary Celebrations of St. Helen's Roman Catholic Church on Sunday, August 11, in Wallacetown.

Bishop John Sherlock, Deacon Stillwell and Pastor (Father) Joe Nevett, celebrated Mass in Latin and English with 250 guests present. A closed circuit television system was set up outside under tents, to accommodate the extra guests. The special Mass included Cantor Laura Wilkins, soloists Jennifer Ford and Lori Holden; organists Jeanne Dupuis and Lorna Van Bree, with 10 children bearing the Eucharistic gifts, our 100th Anniversary Banner, as well as a beautiful picture of St. Helen, the Patroness of our Church.

After the liturgical celebrations, guests were invited to "Walk through History" in the church hall. Displays included photos of families, past and present, as well as priests, bishops and various celebrations from 1902 until the present. Artifacts and history of the first Roman Catholic Church,



This cake, donated by Erie McCaffery consists of a sketch of the church in 1902, by Jenny Phillips and a photo by a parishoner. Guests for the anniversary came from different parts of Southwestern Ontario.

St. Columkill, were on display. Matt Pfeifer organized a computer slide presentation with appropriate hymns, featuring weddings, baptisms, first communions and confirmations, ending with a farewell collage of photos of Father Nevett.

Tents and patio sets decorated the lawn where a reception tea was held. Former and present CWL Presidents poured tea and coffee to guests who enjoyed a variety of baked goods and fruit trays. Guests came from

Windsor to Sarnia to Trenton and as far away as Ireland, to enjoy reminiscing and socializing.

The Chronicle

Dec 11 / 2003

Genealogical society learns about Eva Pearce from account of interview

West Elgin Genealogical and Historical Society heard an account of an interview with Eva Pearce (1881-1965) describing life at "Fairwood". Elaine Brown, a great niece, explained that William Peace, Eva's grandfather, settled on Lot 11, Concession 8, Dunwich in ca. 1826.

He chose the lot because it was said that an Indian camp had been located there, indicating a source of available water. The farm, consisting of 300 acres was covered with forest. Through the years, land was cleared to make way for crops such as flax. Other agricultural pursuits were syrup making and bee keeping and, of course, livestock. As the farm passed from generation to

generation, many additions were made to the home and to the property. Barns and a bee house were built and many different species of trees were planted on the grounds surrounding the house.

Some of these trees still remain today. Huge fruit, vegetable and flower gardens were created, both for necessity and for beauty. The farm remained in the Pearce name until 1967 when it was given to the Canadian Bible Society.

The fairgrounds and part of Wallacetown occupy part of the farm today. Elaine displayed many examples of family memorabilia. After a refreshment break, society business was handled.



This is one of the photos that may appear in 'Early Years of Dunwich Township'. If you have additional information about this photo, feel free to contact the Banner office. **The BANNER/Al Kirk**

Early timber trade key to growth

by Colin McGugan

The Banner Nov 26/2003

DUNWICH - Timber! The outstanding hardwood forests that covered Dunwich at the time of settlement provided the basis for many wood related industries. The photo shows a squared timber being removed from what is thought to be a Dunwich farm. The names of the persons are not known, however it is thought that the man in the fur coat, who was likely the timber buyer, was a Crawford. Angus McIntyre was a well known lumber merchant in Southern Ontario. He owned the first bank in Dutton, and built himself a beautiful house, which would later become the Bobier Convalescent Home. The timber was made into building frames, lumber, barrel staves, window sashes, and wagon and carriage parts. In the very early days, before transportation was developed, the trees cleared from the land were burned and

the ashes used to make potash. Trees along the Thames River were cut and floated down the river to markets as far away as Chicago.

When the port at Tyrconnell developed, lumber and cordwood could be sent by ship to cities such as Buffalo and Detroit. Sawmills, stave mills and sash factories were all active throughout the 1800's in various locations in the township including Wallacetown, Tyrconnell, Iona, Cowal and Dutton. Local builders such as the Lumleys used the timbers to construct many of the early township buildings. The Wallacetown Carriage Company, Cowal Carriage Works and wagon makers in Iona grew from the integration of the blacksmith and wood working trades. Dunwich timber men also went off to Michigan to apply their skills to the logging industry there.

YESTERDAY AND TODAY

12 — St. Thomas Times-Journal, Friday, May 30, 2003



This undated photo shows an Imperial Oil station in Wallacetown.
(Photo from the Scott-Sefton Collection courtesy of the Elgin County Archives. Anyone with information, questions about the photo or seeking reprints, please call the archives at 631-1460, ext. 138.)

Steve Peters, M.P.P.

542 Talbot St. St. Thomas, ON N5P 1C4

april 2004



A woman bakes bread in 1907. The outside oven was used in warmer weather to bake products made from ingredients often harvested and processed directly on the farm.

Looking Back . . .



Archives from the Dutton Advance, November-December 1961

Compiled by Tami Sabo

Wallacetown Mill Changes Hands-Norman Sutton has sold the business to E.B. McQuigan.

While hunting in the Kirkland Lake area with Ivan Little of Wardsville, Ray Bradden of Coynes Corners was successful in shooting a moose weighing better than 1000 pounds.

For the eighth consecutive year, Dr. J.R. McPherson, Dunwich native was re-elected reeve of Highgate on December 4th.

Much of the drudgery of wash-day for Dutton and district housewives has been eliminated by the opening of an automatic coin-operated laundry here this week.

Disappointment was expressed here last week at the announcement that 401 Highway through this area will consist of only one two-lane ribbon in its early stages.

Aldborough council for 1962

has been elected by acclimation.

Susan Campbell, Duncan McAlpine, and Mrs. Earl McIntosh were double winners at the turkey bingo held in the Memorial Hall on Friday evening.

According to the West Lorne Sun, a new \$30,000.00 post office is to be built in West Lorne by the Dept. of Public Works whether the residents of that village want it or not. It will end seven years of wrangling over suitable post office quarters.

A warning not to eat windfall apples found in Elgin County orchards has been issued by the Department of Agriculture in St. Thomas. Donald Martin, assistant agricultural representative said that the growers are now spraying their trees with a deadly poison called endrin.

An all time record production of Ontario soybeans has been estimated for the 1961 crop. The concentrated growing area

which includes Esses, Kent, Lambton, Middlesex, and Elgin Counties has harvested an estimated 7,749,064 bushels of top quality soybeans this season.

To mark their golden anniversary which is coming up on December 19th, officials of the Union Gas Co. are holding a party here on Wednesday, December 6th. Coffee and cake will be served and there will be a display of appliances, including a radio that operates solely on energy from the gas flames. The Fox Theatre in Glencoe is showing "Ma and Pa Kettle in Waikiki" and "Green Helmet" for a "Buck a Pair". Two adult tickets just \$1.00 every Thursday Night.

Local residents are benefiting in the way of lower insurance rates as a result of the purchase of improved fire-fighting equipment last year. The Insurance Underwriters' Association has reclassified the community with the result it is now in Grade 2, the same as London and other larger centres.

Carmen Lyons and Sons will show their Herefords, Angus Campbell his sheep, and Erie Trothen hogs at the Royal Winter Fair which opens on Friday, November 10th.

Quick action on the part of Ivan Patterson, superintendent of Elgin Manor, and his brother-in-law, Colin Ferguson of R.R. 8 St. Thomas may have prevented a blaze at the home for the aged

early Saturday morning from developing into a major fire.

Robert Cole of R.R. 1 Southwold was awarded two of the top trophies at the Shedden 4-H Club achievement night held at the Country Club in Shedden on Wednesday night, November 8th. Mr Cole received the Independent Order of Oddfellows trophy.

Minor Hockey-The Bantams got off on the right foot in their first game on Tuesday evening when they defeated Rodney 6-4. Glen Wall pulled the hat trick by notching three of the locals' goals. Gord Ross, Phil Corneil, and Tom Lamb had one each.

At the Royal Winter Fair being held in Toronto Earl S. Bobier gained fifth place with

A Hereford steer in the section for those calved on or after December first 1960.

R.E. Trothen received two second prizes-bean, any other variety including broad bean, and flint ear corn: third, field bean, white, small and medium: fourth place in the ear corn section. He also won the championship Empire Challenge Cup for Berkshire swine and captured first, second, third, and fourth in classes. Jack McKillop won honors in the ear corn class, in which he was third, and a seventh place in the class for sweet ear corn of the eight row variety. Showing in the sheep section, Angus Campbell took sixth place in the fleeces

wool section for Canada three-eighth staple.

J.D. Galbraith of Iona Station has been successful in his bid to obtain North Country Chevolot breeding stock as an addition to his flock. Since the announcement of the price increase in the Advance in last weeks issue a large number have taken advantage of the opportunity to save 50 cents by renewing. Several others have placed new subscriptions and we welcome them to our steadily increasing number of readers. Two and a half weeks remain in which to renew or to subscribe at the \$2.50 rate. After the beginning of 1962, the rate in Canada will be \$3.00, to the United States \$4.00, and single copies 10 cents.

Seen Mercury April 9th 2005

Harvest Tea at the Robertville
on Oct 3rd 2003 from 2pm to 4pm



Kay Waite and Marjorie Ripley -
serving tea.

The Chronicle

Sept 2nd 2002

Knox/St. Andrews celebrate amalgamation

The congregation of Knox-St. Andrews Church, Dutton, is celebrating the second anniversary of the amalgamated congregations of Knox, Dutton and St. Andrew's, Wallacetown. They are also recognizing the 150th anniversary of St. Andrews Church, Wallacetown, that was built and opened in 1852.

Prior to the opening of the first Church, the Presbyterian settlers in Wallacetown area were given spiritual nourishment by missionaries who occasionally came through the area. These devotional services were

held outdoors. The church was rebuilt in 1902 under the ministry of Reverend Donald Kelso.

Reverend Robert Bruce was pastor in 1952 when the church was remodelled and a divine service was held to celebrate the 100th anniversary on May 25, 1952. Rev. K.D. Andrews of Knox College officiated.

Presbyterianism in Dutton dates back to March 1877 when the first service was held in a building kindly offered to the Presbyterians for their services that were held fortnightly.

A Presbyterian church

was erected in Dutton with the first service taking place in 1884 conducted by Reverend William McLaren of Knox College. The church was rebuilt in 1920 on the same site.

In April 2000, a recommendation was made to the Presbytery of London by St. Andrew's, Wallacetown and Knox, Dutton to become a single point charge, worshipping in the Dutton building, as it was wheel chair accessible. Permission was granted.

A congregational meeting was held on May 20, 2000. "Presbyterian Church" was chosen as

the "new" name for the congregation. A service of Recommissioning and Dedication was held on November 5, 2000 at the regular hour of worship.

An anniversary service will be held on Sunday, September 8, 2002 starting with special music at 1:30 pm. The service will be conducted by our interim lay minister, Robert Karn. An invitation is extended to family, friends and the community to join us on this special occasion. A social time to visit and reminisce will follow the service.

*Knox - St. Andrew's
Presbyterian Church*



2nd Anniversary

HISTORY

of

ST. STEPHEN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH

BURWELL PARK

The origin of Anglican Christian Witness in this area was largely due to Colonel Mahlon Burwell, who was the son of a United Empire Loyalist father. He came to the Talbot Settlement in 1809. He had been educated as a surveyor and on recommendation of Colonel Talbot, he surveyed much of the area as far west as Essex and east to Haldimand. He lived in a brick house at the corner where the Townline crossed the Talbot Road.

The Burwell families were devout Anglicans and donated land in the Village of Port Burwell and also in Caradoc Township for the building of churches. In 1843 he donated six acres of land in the rapidly growing Village of Fingal to be used as the site of a church, a burial ground, a rectory and the remaining land as glebe land for use of the rector. The rector of St. Peter's Church Tyrconnell carried on the services at the Fingal Church.

St. Stephen's Church was built at Burwell's Corners in 1871 and was opened for service on January 28th, 1872. Services were then discontinued at the Fingal Church which was eventually sold to Charles Edmonds for the sum of \$450. Colonel Burwell had set aside 200 acres for church purposes and it was the proceeds of the sale of these lands which provided the money to build St. Stephen's. The members of the building committee were Hannibal Burwell, Thomas Pearce, Rev. W. B. Rally and Edward Burwell. The building contractors were Samuel Hawridge and James Cole of St. Thomas. The original contract is still in possession of Church members.

The first recorded vestry meeting was held in April 1872, those present being Rev. A. E. Miller, Messrs. Edward Burwell, Robert Brown, John Brown Sr., Thomas Meek, Fred Sanders, Thomas Pearce, and George Nott. The consecration of the Church took place on June 15th, 1873.

Colonel and Mrs. Burwell are buried in St. Stephen's Cemetery, their unique tombstones being huge flat stones held erect by pillar-like columns.

In 1903, the interior of the Church was painted and frescoed at a cost of \$150. The exterior painting, roofing and eavestroughing were also undertaken at a cost of \$62. In 1911, a new organ (still in use) was purchased. Special services marking the 50th anniversary were conducted by Bishop David Williams in 1922. The Church bell, donated by W. G. Nott, was dedicated at Easter, 1925 in memory of his parents. Over the years several bequests have been made to the Endowment Fund and the Burwell Trust. The Communion Silver and Alms Plates still in use were believed to have been presented to the Fingal Church.

In 1927 money was collected for a Perpetual Care Fund for the cemetery. This has continued through the years, the money being invested with the Diocese of Huron now amounting to \$2,000.